

PSPACE Complete Problems

QSAT

QSAT = Set of *Quantified CNF Expressions* which evaluate to *true*

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists \dots Q_n x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow \text{true?}$$

Is it true, that we can chose a truth - value for x_1 such that for all truth - values for x_2 , we can choose a such that $\varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ evaluates to true?

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Membership (I)

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists \dots Q_n x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow \text{true?}$$

The idea is to implicitly traverse the tree of all possible truth assignments to x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n .

However, this tree has linear depth and exponential size. Therefore, we can only store our position in the tree -- similar to the idea of Savich's Theorem.

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Membership (II)

$$\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \exists \dots Q_n x_n \varphi(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \Leftrightarrow \text{true?}$$

$\text{eval}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, Q_{m+1} x_{m+1}, \dots, Q_n x_n \varphi)$

1. if $Q_{m+1} = \exists$ then
2. return $\text{eval}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, \text{true}, Q_{m+2} x_{m+2}, \dots, Q_n x_n \varphi)$
3. or $\text{eval}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, \text{false}, Q_{m+2} x_{m+2}, \dots, Q_n x_n \varphi)$;
4. else
5. return $\text{eval}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, \text{true}, Q_{m+2} x_{m+2}, \dots, Q_n x_n \varphi)$;
6. and $\text{eval}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m, \text{false}, Q_{m+2} x_{m+2}, \dots, Q_n x_n \varphi)$;
7. endif

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (I)

We use the Reachability Method:

$\langle G_x^M, s, t \rangle$ is a *REACH* instance with $C_M^{\log n + f(n)}$ nodes.

$\langle G_x^M, s, t \rangle \in \text{REACH}$ iff $M(x) = 1$

$f(n) = n^k$ give us :

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$\langle G_x^M, s, t \rangle \in \text{REACH}$ iff $M(x) = 1$

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (II)

$\langle G_x^M, s, t \rangle$ is a *REACH* instance with $C_M^{n^k}$ nodes.

$\langle G_x^M, s, t \rangle \in \text{REACH}$ iff $M(x) = 1$

$\text{PATH}[i](U, V) \Leftrightarrow$ there is a path in G_x^M from u to v of length $\leq 2^i$

$\text{PATH}[0](U, V) \Leftrightarrow (U = V) \vee \langle U, V \rangle \in G_x^M$

$\text{PATH}[i+1](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists Z (\text{PATH}[i](U, Z) \wedge \text{PATH}[i](Z, V))$

$\text{PATH}[n^k](S, T) \Leftrightarrow G_x^M \in \text{REACH}$

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (III)

$$PATH[0](U, V) \Leftrightarrow (U = V) \vee \langle U, V \rangle \in G_x^M$$

We can express $PATH[0]$ as circuit of polynomial size
(we will get rid of the circuit later)

$$PATH[i+1](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists Z (PATH[i](U, Z) \wedge PATH[i](Z, V))$$

$PATH[i+1](U, V)$ would become exponentially large --
we have to reuse $PATH[i]$...

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (III)

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We can express $PATH[0]$ as circuit of polynomial size
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$$PATH[i+1](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists Z (PATH[i](U, Z) \wedge PATH[i](Z, V))$$

$$PATH[i+1](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists Z \forall X \forall Y [(X = U \wedge Y = Z) \vee (X = Z \wedge Y = V)] \Rightarrow PATH[i](X, Y)$$

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (IV)

$$PATH[i+1](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists Z \forall X \forall Y [(X = U \wedge Y = Z) \vee (X = Z \wedge Y = V)] \Rightarrow PATH[i](X, Y)$$

We can bring the quantifiers to the front (used only locally)

$$PATH[n^k](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists X_1 \exists X_2 \dots \exists X_m C(U, V, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m)$$

We have to represent the above expression as a polynomially sized quantified CNF-expression.

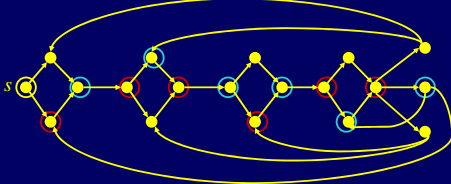
$$PATH[n^k](U, V) \Leftrightarrow \exists X_1 \exists X_2 \dots \exists X_m \exists H \phi(U, V, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m, H)$$

QSAT is PSPACE-complete Hardness (V)

$PATH[n^k](U, V)$ is expressible as polynomially sized quantified CNF-expression in prenex form.

Thus, $QSAT$ is $PSPACE$ -hard, using $PATH[n^k](S, T)$ as result of the reduction.

Geography



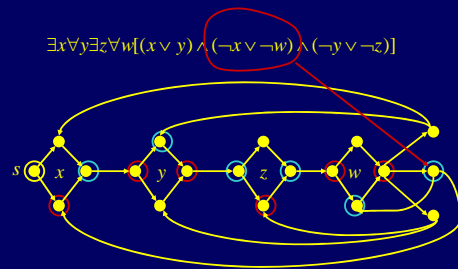
$Geography = \text{Set of } \langle G, s \rangle \text{ with } G = \langle V, E \rangle \text{ directed and } s \in V$
where player A has a winning strategy,
i.e., can force player B into a dead end.

Geography

$$\exists x \forall y \exists z \forall w [(x \vee y) \wedge (\neg x \vee \neg w) \wedge (\neg y \vee \neg z)]$$

false

true



Proving Hardness & Completeness Summary

REACH	NL-complete	Reachability Method
CIREVAL	P-complete "Inherently Sequential"	Time-Table Method
CIRSAT	NP-complete "Guess and Check -- Optimization"	Time-Table Method
QSAT	PSPACE-complete "Games -- Optimal Strategies"	Reachability Method