

15-453

FORMAL LANGUAGES,
AUTOMATA AND
COMPUTABILITY

TIME COMPLEXITY AND
POLYNOMIAL TIME;
NON DETERMINISTIC TURING
MACHINES AND NP

THURSDAY Mar 20

COMPLEXITY THEORY

Studies what can and can't be computed under limited resources such as time, space, etc

Today: Time complexity

MEASURING TIME COMPLEXITY

We measure time complexity by counting the elementary steps required for a machine to halt

Consider the language $A = \{ 0^k 1^k \mid k \geq 0 \}$

On input of length n :

1. Scan across the tape and **reject** if the string is not of the form $0^i 1^j$
2. Repeat the following if both 0s and 1s remain on the tape:
Scan across the tape, crossing off a single 0 and a single 1
3. If 0s remain after all 1s have been crossed off, or vice-versa, **reject**. Otherwise **accept**.

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- $\sim n^2$ 2. Repeat the following if both 0s and 1s remain on the tape:
Scan across the tape, crossing off a single 0 and a single 1
- $\sim n$ 3. If 0s remain after all 1s have been crossed off, or vice-versa, **reject**. Otherwise **accept**.

Definition: Let M be a TM that halts on all inputs. The **running time or time-complexity** of M is the function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, where $f(n)$ is the maximum number of steps that M uses ***on any input of length n .***

ASYMPTOTIC ANALYSIS

$$5n^3 + 2n^2 + 22n + 6 = O(n^3)$$

BIG-O

Let f and g be two functions $f, g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$. We say that **$f(n) = O(g(n))$** if there exist positive integers c and n_0 so that for every integer $n \geq n_0$

$$f(n) \leq cg(n)$$

When $f(n) = O(g(n))$, we say that $g(n)$ is an **asymptotic upper bound** for $f(n)$

f asymptotically NO MORE THAN g

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If $c = 6$ and $n_0 = 10$, then $5n^3 + 2n^2 + 22n + 6 \leq cn^3$

$$2n^{4.1} + 200283n^4 + 2 = O(n^{4.1})$$

$$3n \log_2 n + 5n \log_2 \log_2 n = O(n \log_2 n)$$

$$n \log_{10} n^{78} = O(n \log_{10} n)$$

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$$\log_{10} n = \log_2 n / \log_2 10$$

$$O(n \log_2 n) = O(n \log_{10} n) = O(n \log n)$$

Definition: $\text{TIME}(t(n)) = \{ L \mid L \text{ is a language decided by a } O(t(n)) \text{ time Turing Machine } \}$

$$A = \{ 0^k 1^k \mid k \geq 0 \} \in \text{TIME}(n^2)$$

$$A = \{ 0^k 1^k \mid k \geq 0 \} \in \text{TIME}(n \log n)$$

Cross off every other 0 and every other 1. If the # of 0s and 1s left on the tape is odd, **reject**

00000000000000001111111111111111

x0x0x0x0x0x0xx1x1x1x1x1x1x

xxx0xxx0xxx0xxxx1xxx1xxx1x

xxxxxxxx0xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx1xxxx

xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

**We can prove that a TM cannot
decide A in less time than $O(n \log n)$**

We can prove that a TM cannot decide A in less time than $O(n \log n)$

***7.49 Extra Credit. Let $f(n) = o(n \log n)$. Then $\text{Time}(f(n))$ contains only regular languages.**

where $f(n) = o(g(n))$ iff $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f(n)/g(n) = 0$

ie, for all $c > 0$, $\exists n_0$ such that $f(n) < cg(n)$ for all $n \geq n_0$

f asymptotically LESS THAN g

Can $A = \{ 0^k 1^k \mid k \geq 0 \}$ be decided in time $O(n)$ with a two-tape TM?

Scan all 0s and copy them to the second tape. Scan all 1s, crossing off a 0 from the second tape for each 1.

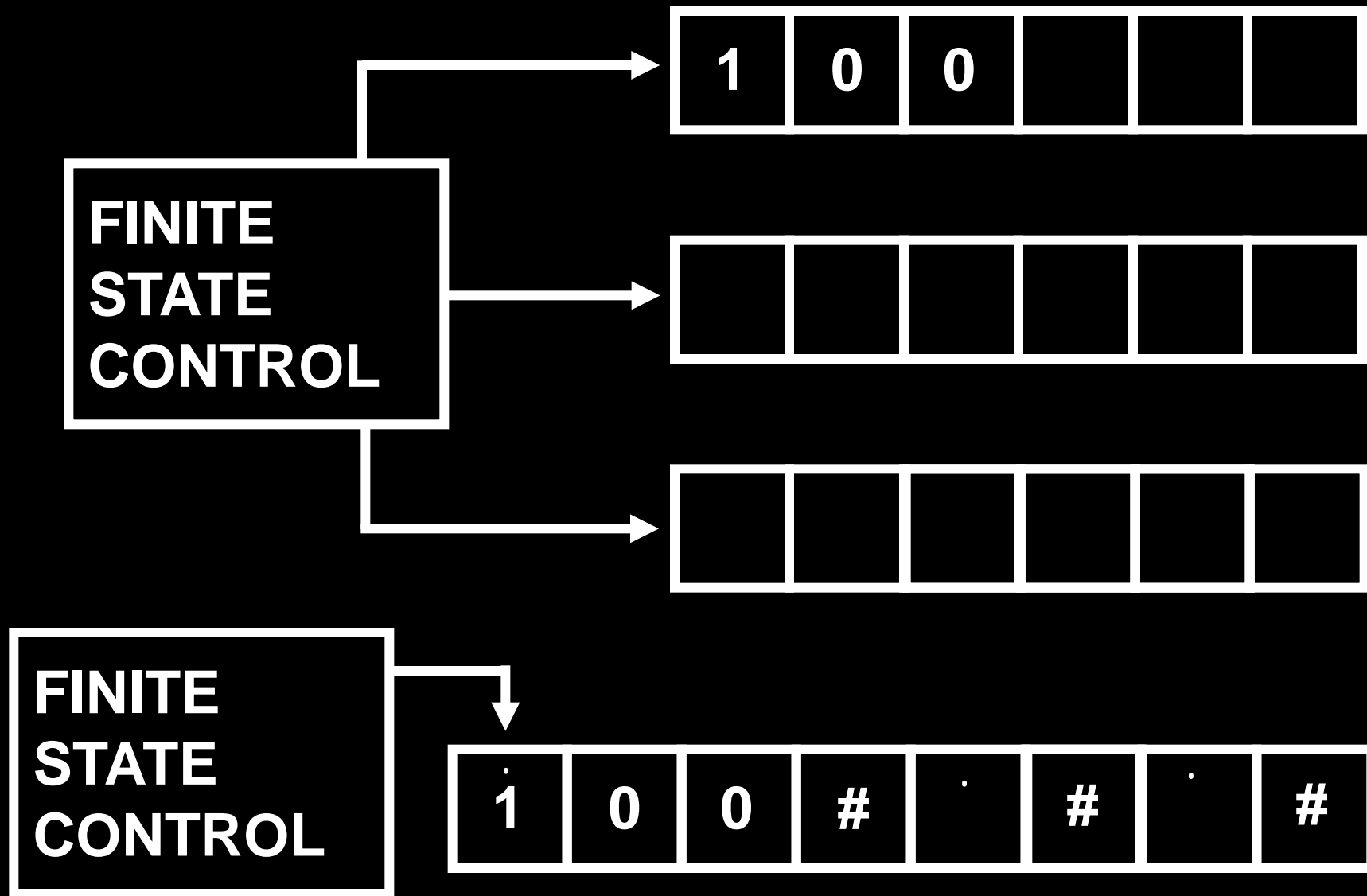
**Different models of computation
yield different running times for
the same language!**

Theorem: Let $t(n)$ be a function such that $t(n) \geq n$. Then every $t(n)$ -time multi-tape TM has an equivalent $O(t(n)^2)$ single tape TM

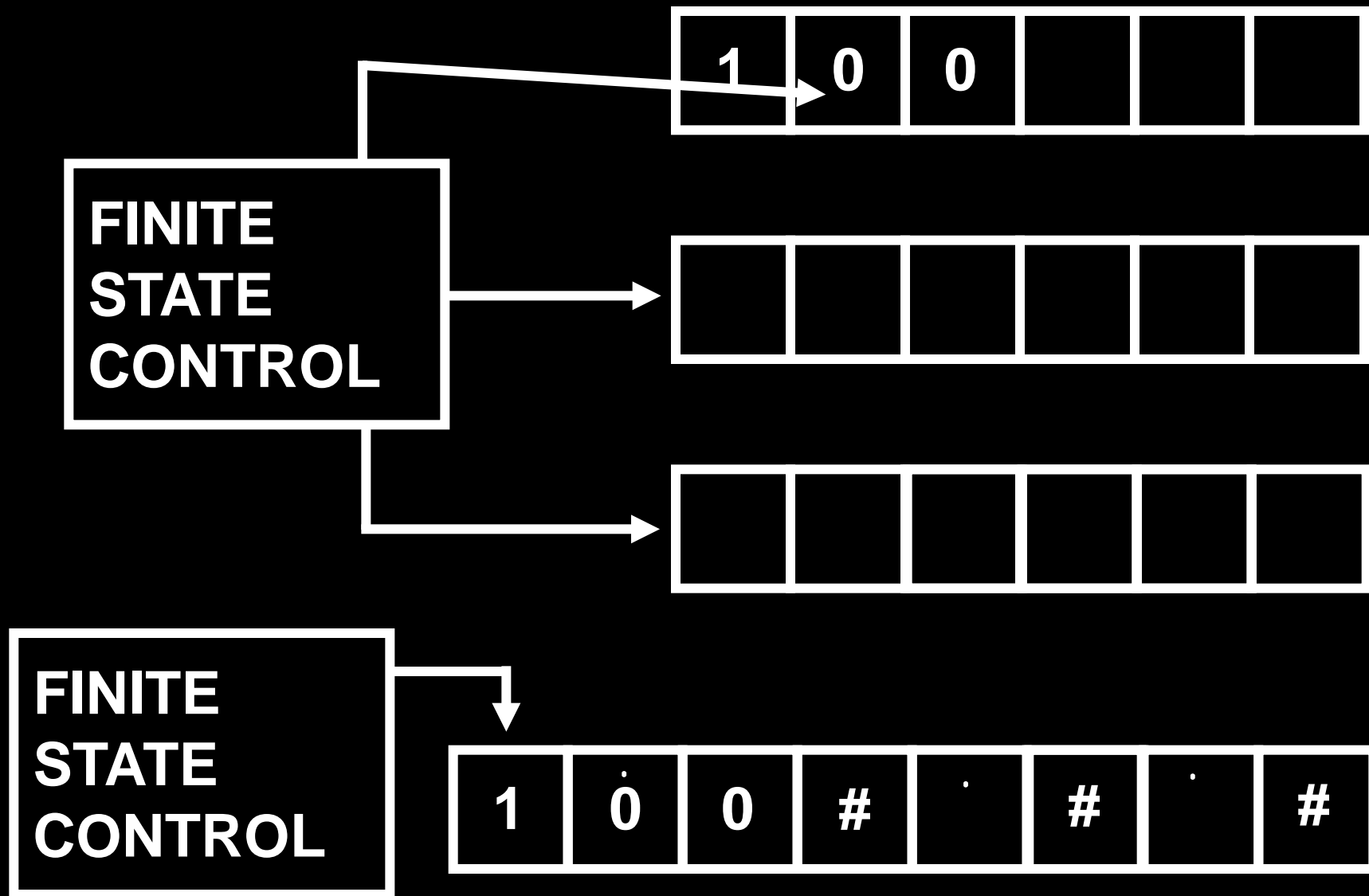
Claim: Simulating each step in the multi-tape machine uses at most $O(t(n))$ steps on a single-tape machine.

Hence total time of simulation is $O(t(n)^2)$.

Theorem: Every Multitape Turing Machine can be transformed into a single tape Turing Machine



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Analysis: (Note, k , the # of tapes, is fixed.)

Let S be simulator

- Put S 's tape in proper format: $O(n)$ steps
- **Two scans** to simulate one step,
 1. to obtain info for next move $O(t(n))$ steps, **why?**
 2. to simulate it (may need to shift everything over to right possibly k times): $O(t(n))$ steps, **why?**

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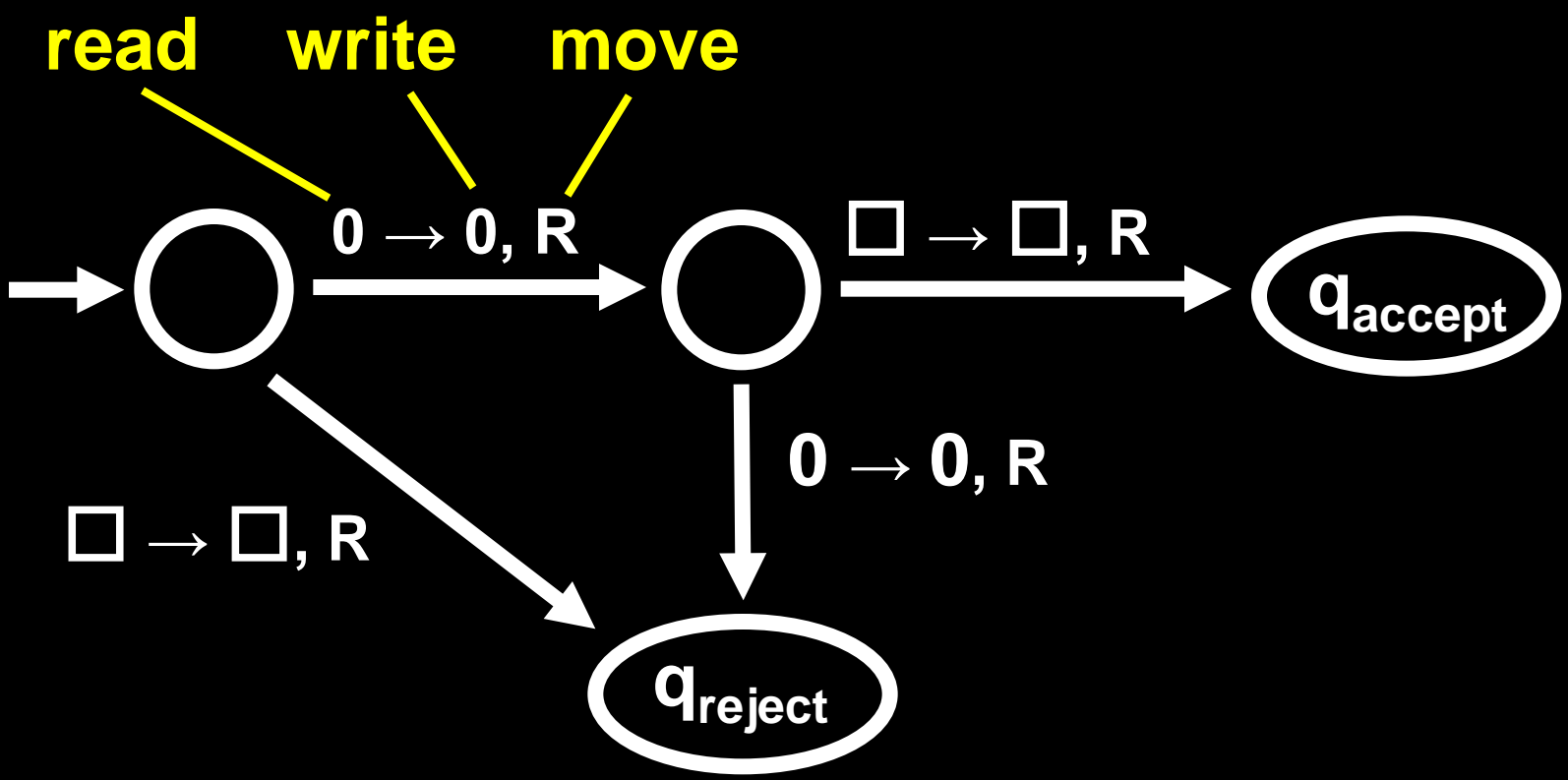
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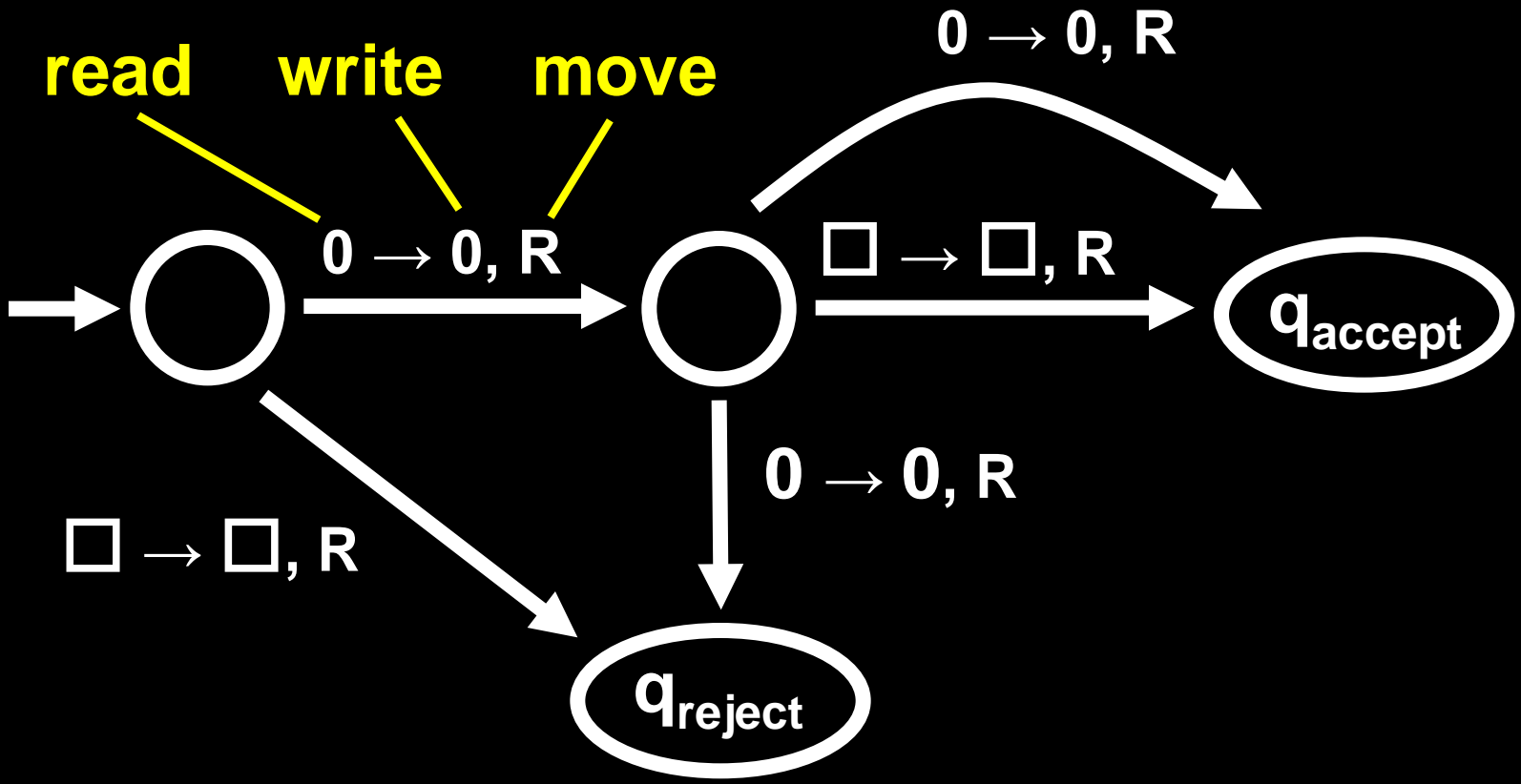
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Therefore, $O(n) + t(n) O(t(n)) = O(t(n)^2)$ steps in simulation.

$$P = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{TIME}(n^k)$$

NON-DETERMINISTIC TURING MACHINES AND NP





Definition: A Non-Deterministic TM is a 7-tuple $T = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{accept}}, q_{\text{reject}})$, where:

Q is a finite set of states

Σ is the input alphabet, where $\square \notin \Sigma$

Γ is the tape alphabet, where $\square \in \Gamma$ and $\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$

$\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow 2^{(Q \times \Gamma \times \{L,R\})}$

$q_0 \in Q$ is the start state

$q_{\text{accept}} \in Q$ is the accept state

$q_{\text{reject}} \in Q$ is the reject state, and $q_{\text{reject}} \neq q_{\text{accept}}$

NON-DETERMINISTIC TMs

...are just like standard TMs, except:

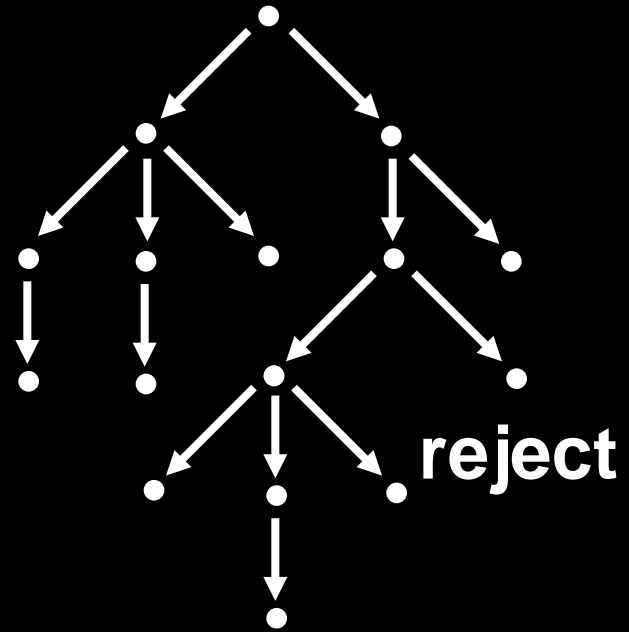
1. The machine may proceed according to **several possibilities**
2. The machine accepts a string if there **exists a path** from start configuration to an accepting configuration

Deterministic Computation



accept or reject

Non-Deterministic Computation



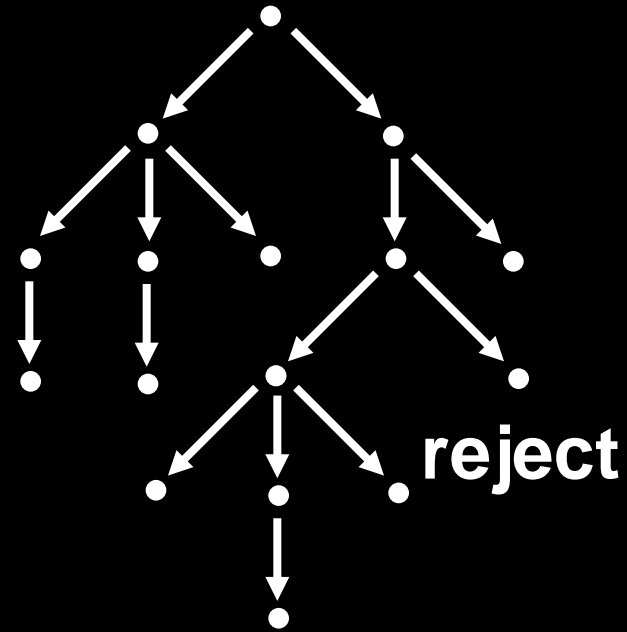
accept

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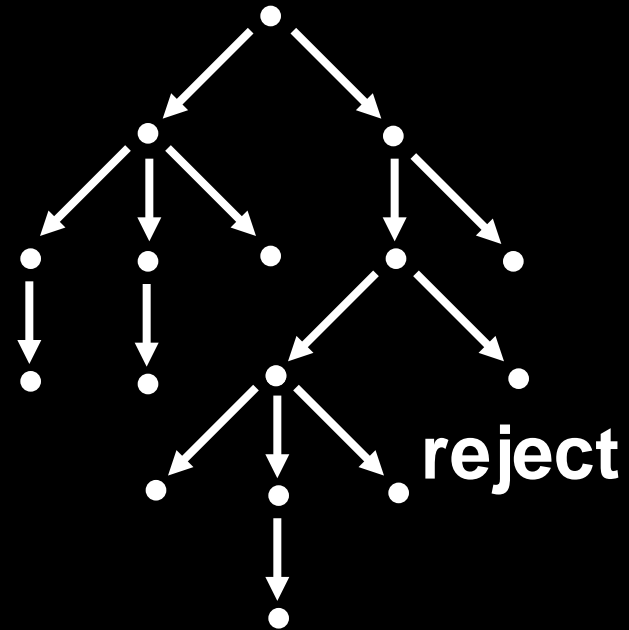
Definition: Let M be a NTM that is a decider, i.e. on all inputs, all branches halt (with accept or reject). The **running time or time-complexity** of M is the function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, where $f(n)$ is the maximum number of steps that M uses *on any branch of its computation on any input of length n .*

Deterministic Computation



accept or reject

Non-Deterministic Computation



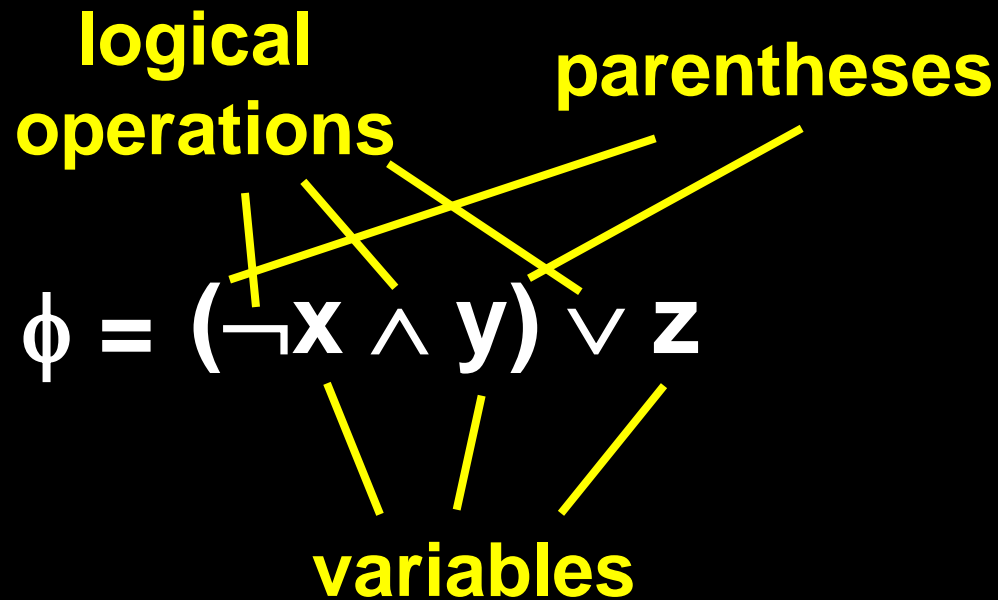
accept

Theorem: Let $t(n)$ be a function such that $t(n) \geq n$. Then every $t(n)$ -time nondeterministic single-tape TM has an equivalent $2^{O(t(n))}$ deterministic single tape TM

Definition: $\text{NTIME}(t(n)) = \{ L \mid L \text{ is decided by a } O(t(n))\text{-time non-deterministic Turing machine} \}$

$$\text{TIME}(t(n)) \subseteq \text{NTIME}(t(n))$$

BOOLEAN FORMULAS



A **satisfying assignment** is a setting of the variables that makes the formula true

$x = 1, y = 1, z = 1$ is a satisfying assignment for ϕ

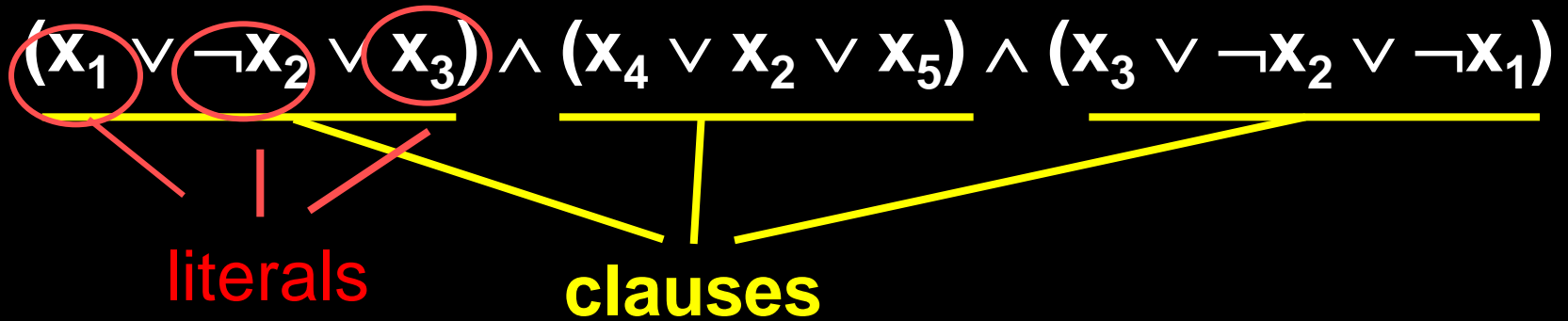
A Boolean formula is **satisfiable** if there exists a satisfying assignment for it

YES $a \wedge b \wedge c \wedge \neg d$

NO $\neg(x \vee y) \wedge x$

$\text{SAT} = \{ \phi \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula} \}$

A **3cnf-formula** is of the form:



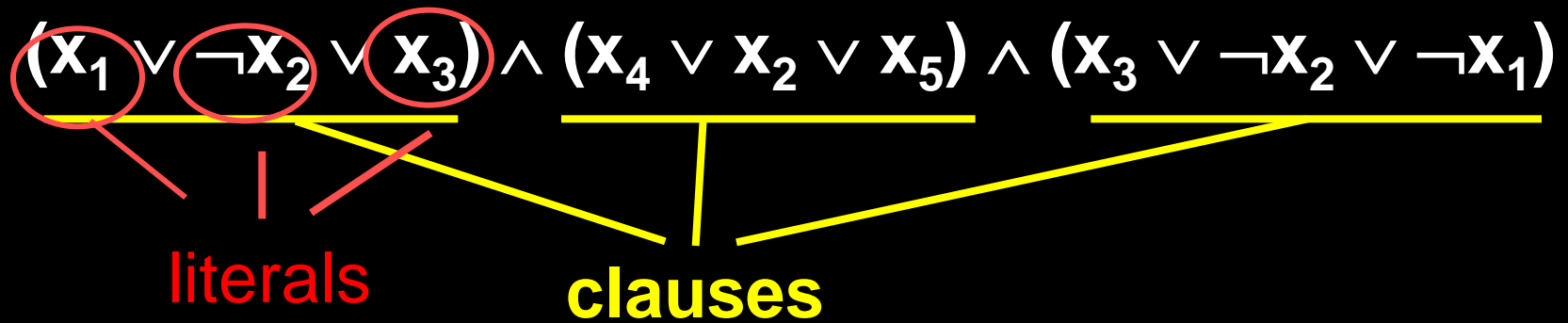
$$(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_1)$$

$$(x_3 \vee x_1) \wedge (x_3 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_1)$$

$$(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_4 \vee x_2 \vee x_1) \vee (x_3 \vee x_1 \vee \neg x_1)$$

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A **3cnf-formula** is of the form:



YES $(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_1)$

NO $(x_3 \vee x_1) \wedge (x_3 \vee \neg x_2 \vee \neg x_1)$

NO $(x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\neg x_4 \vee x_2 \vee x_1) \vee (x_3 \vee x_1 \vee \neg x_1)$

NO $(x_1 \vee \neg x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (x_3 \wedge \neg x_2 \wedge \neg x_1)$

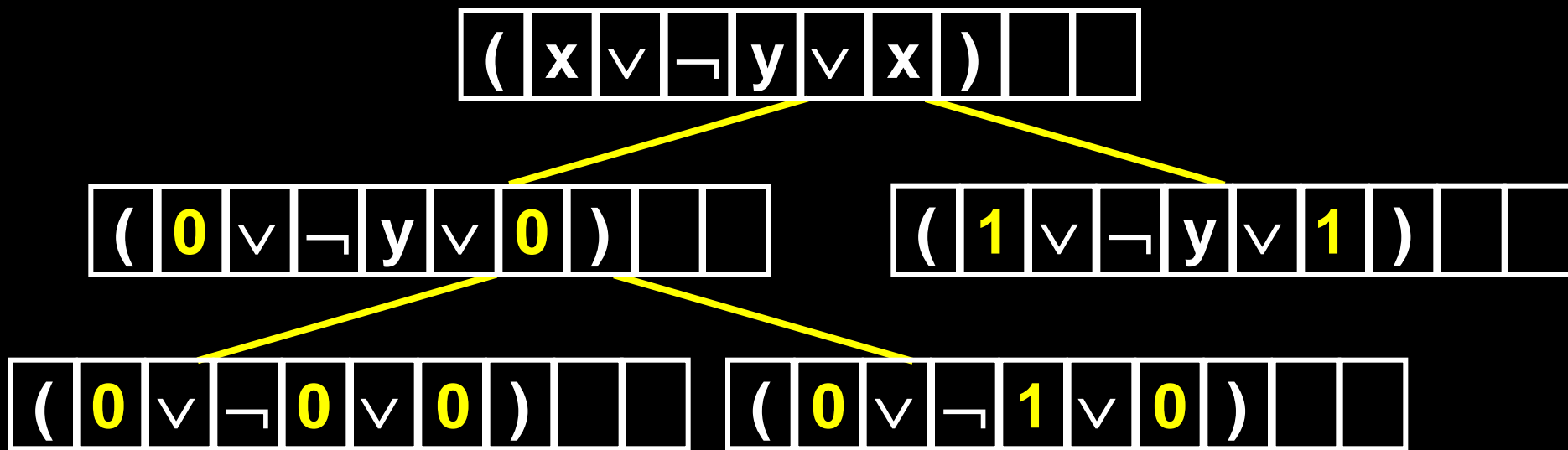
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Theorem: $3SAT \in NTIME(n^2)$

On input ϕ :

1. Check if the formula is in 3cnf
2. For each variable, non-deterministically substitute it with 0 or 1



3. Test if the assignment satisfies ϕ

$$\text{NP} = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \text{NTIME}(n^k)$$

Theorem: $L \in NP \Leftrightarrow$ if there exists a poly-time Turing machine V (**erifier**) with

$L = \{ x \mid \exists y$ (**witness**) $|y| = \text{poly}(|x|)$ and $V(x,y)$ accepts }

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$L = \{ x \mid \exists y(\text{witness}) \ |y| = \text{poly}(|x|) \text{ and } V(x,y) \text{ accepts} \}$

Proof:

(1) If $L = \{ x \mid \exists y \ |y| = \text{poly}(|x|) \text{ and } V(x,y) \text{ accepts} \}$
then $L \in \text{NP}$

(2) If $L \in \text{NP}$ **then**
 $L = \{ x \mid \exists y \ |y| = \text{poly}(|x|) \text{ and } V(x,y) \text{ accepts} \}$

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Because we can guess y and then run V

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(2) If $L \in NP$ **then**
 $L = \{ x \mid \exists y \mid y| = \text{poly}(|x|)$ and $V(x,y)$ accepts $\}$

Let N be a non-deterministic poly-time TM that decides L and define $V(x,y)$ to accept if y is an accepting computation history of N on x

3SAT = { ϕ | $\exists y$ such that y is a satisfying assignment to ϕ and ϕ is in 3cnf }

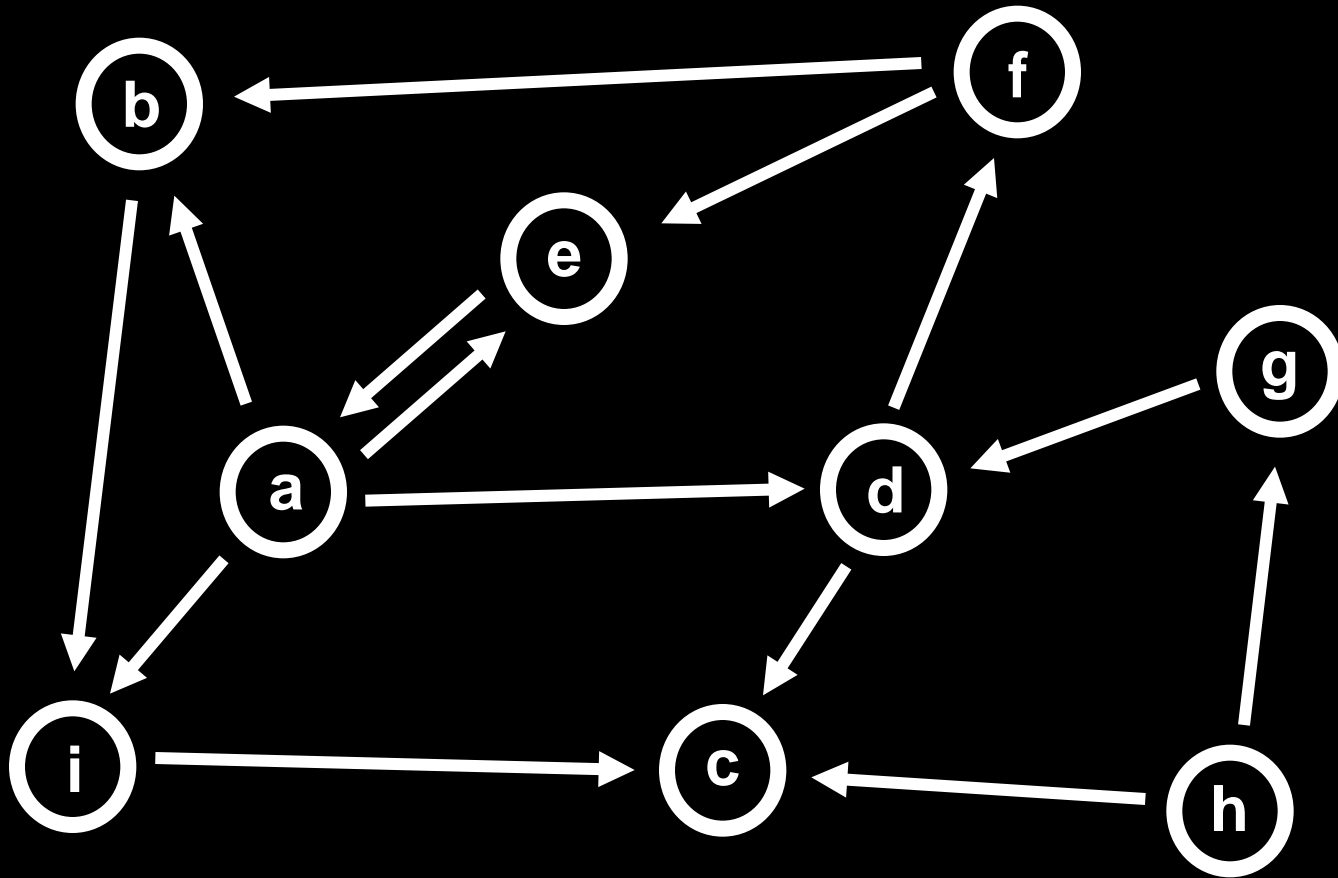
SAT = { ϕ | $\exists y$ such that y is a satisfying assignment to ϕ }

A language is in NP if and only if there exist **polynomial-length certificates*** for membership to the language

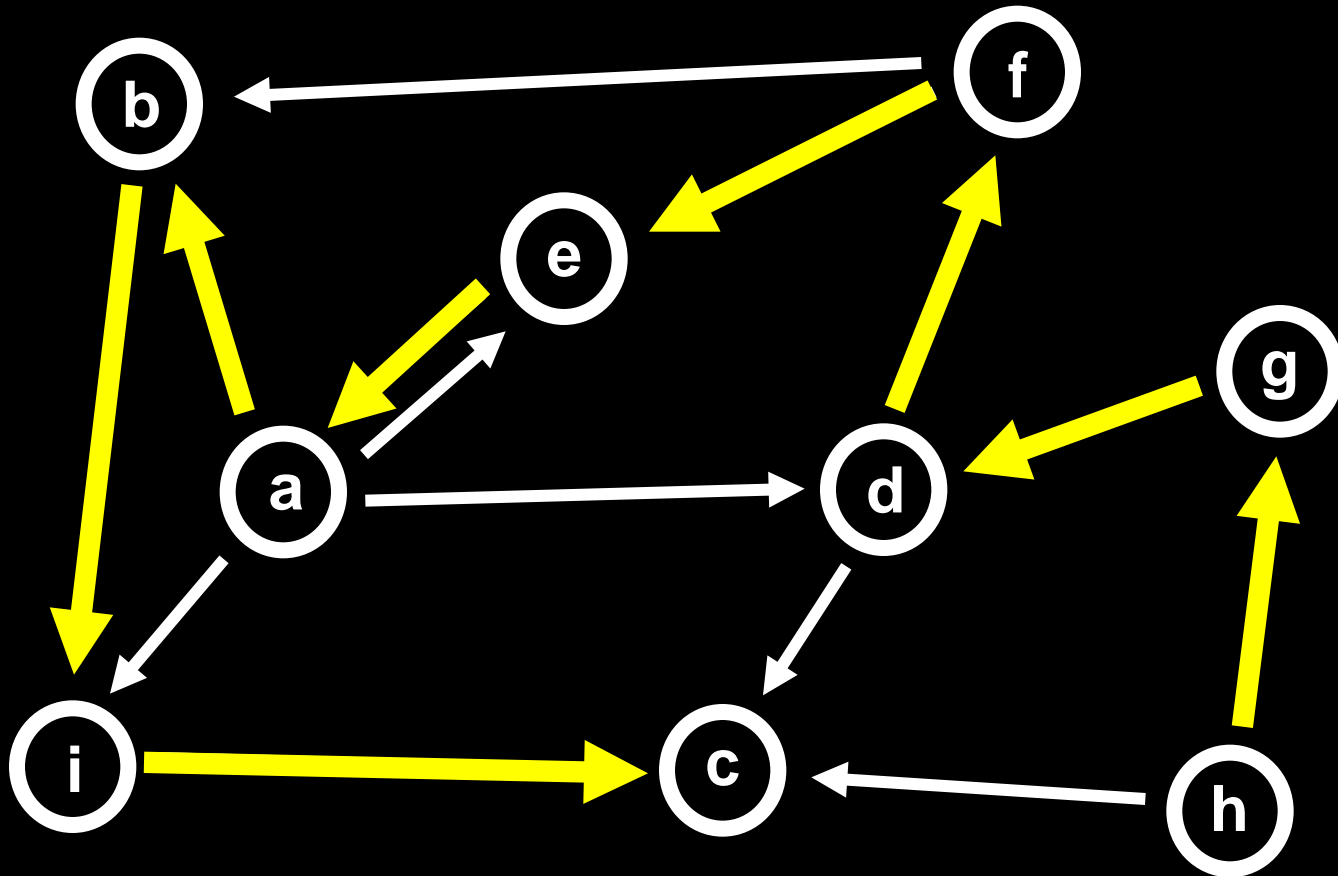
SAT is in NP because a satisfying assignment is a polynomial-length certificate that a formula is satisfiable

* that can be verified in poly-time

HAMILTONIAN PATHS



HAMILTONIAN PATHS

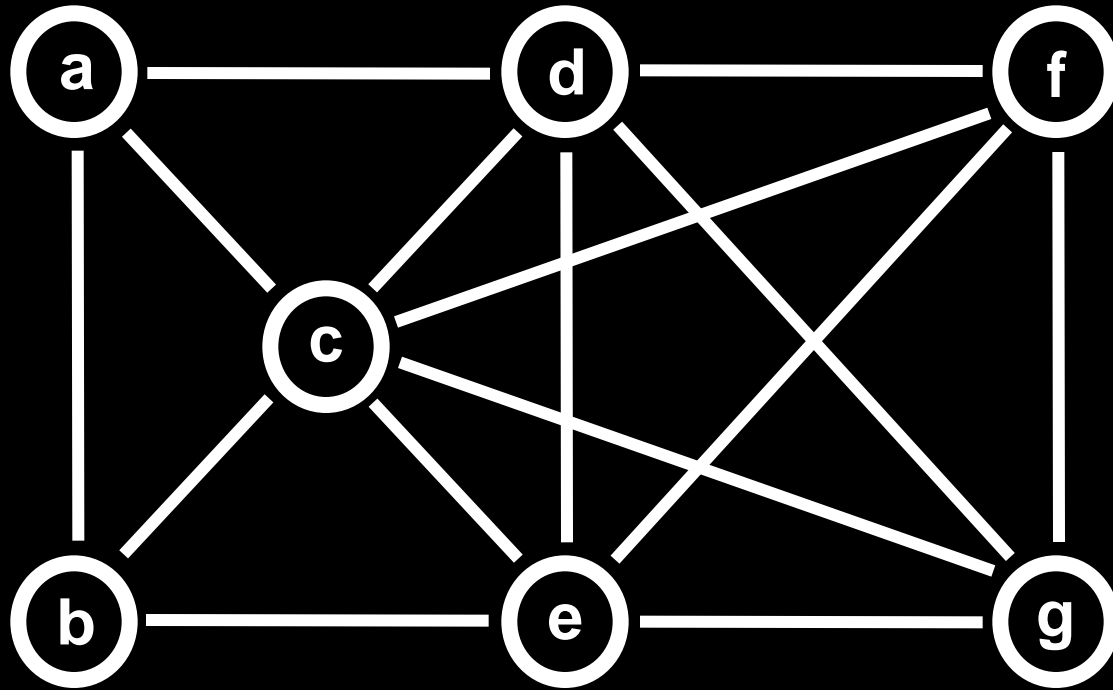


**HAMPATH = { (G,s,t) | G is a directed graph
with a Hamiltonian path from **s** to **t** }**

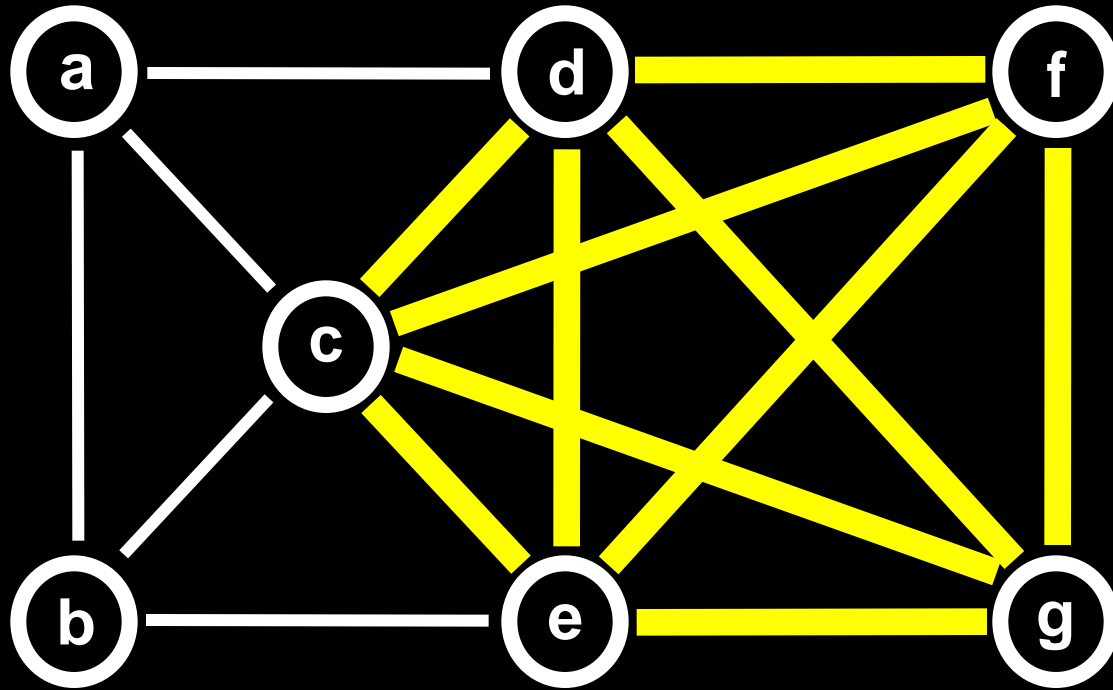
Theorem: HAMPATH \in NP

The Hamilton path itself is a certificate

K-CLIQUE



K-CLIQUE



**CLIQUE = { (G,k) | G is an undirected graph
with a k-clique }**

Theorem: CLIQUE \in NP

The k-clique itself is a certificate

**NP = all the problems for which
once you have the answer it is easy
(i.e. efficient) to verify**

P = NP?

P = NP?

\$ \$ \$

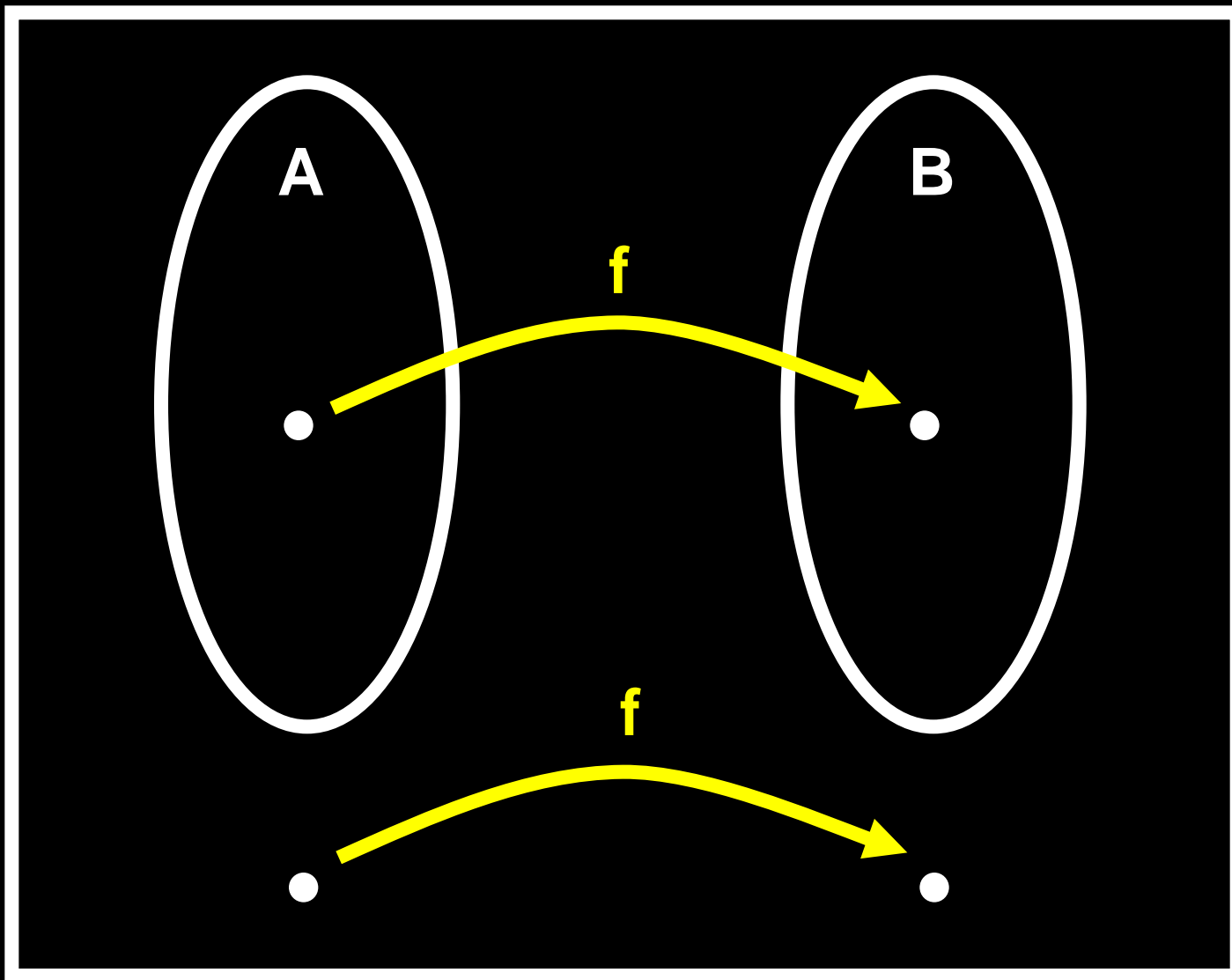
POLY-TIME REDUCIBILITY

$f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is a **polynomial time computable function** if some poly-time Turing machine **M**, on every input w , halts with just **$f(w)$** on its tape

Language **A** is polynomial time reducible to language **B**, written **$A \leq_p B$** , if there is a poly-time computable function **$f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$** such that:

$$w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$$

f is called a **polynomial time reduction of A to B**



Theorem: If $A \leq_p B$ and $B \in P$, then $A \in P$

Proof: Let M_B be a poly-time (deterministic) TM that decides B and let f be a poly-time reduction from A to B

We build a machine M_A that decides A as follows:

On input w :

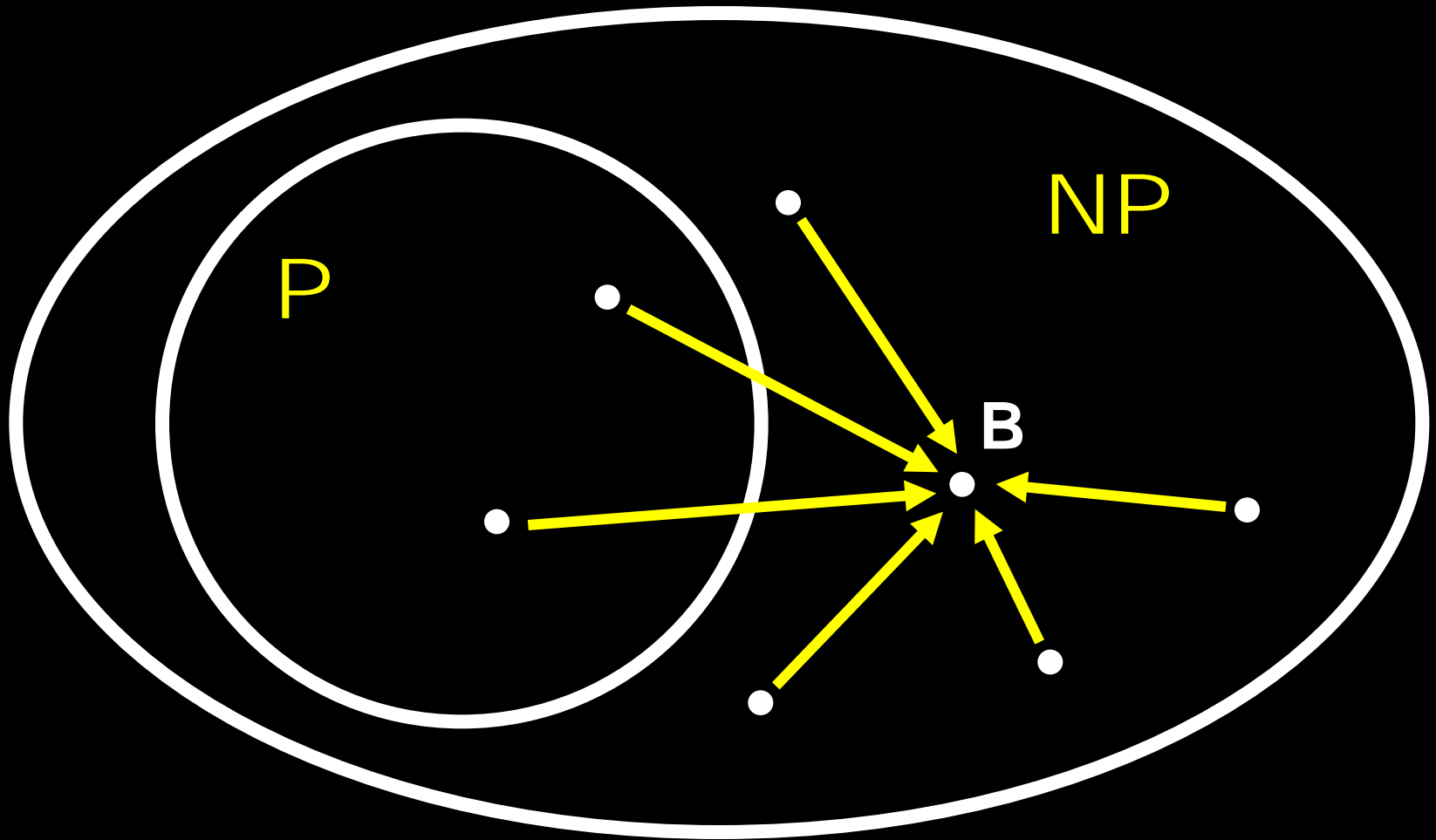
1. Compute $f(w)$
2. Run M_B on $f(w)$

Definition: A language **B** is **NP-complete** if:

1. **$B \in NP$**

2. Every **A in NP** is **poly-time reducible to B**
(i.e. **B is NP-hard**)

Suppose B is NP-Complete



So, if B is NP-Complete and $B \in P$ then $NP = P$. **Why?**

Theorem (Cook-Levin): SAT is NP-complete

Corollary: SAT \in P if and only if P = NP

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Read Chapter 7.3 of the book for next time