Computational Complexity

Lecture 6 NL-Completeness and NL=co-NL



Time/Space Hierarchies



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- Relations across complexity measures



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 - An NL-complete language:
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 - NSPACE = co-NSPACE (one less kind to worry about!)



There are two (non-trivial) languages L_1 , L_2 in P, $L_2 \leq_p L_1$

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■ Interesting NLC language: PATH

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Note: w is scanned only once

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Log-space reducing any NL language L₁ to PATH

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- Note: in fact O(S)-space reduction from $L \in NSPACE(S)$ to PATH

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If Y ⊆ X, then co-Y ⊆ co-X. Consider X = NL, Y = co-NL.

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 PATH^c ∈ NL implies an NTM that decides if the instance is in PATH^c in NSPACE(log N) = NSPACE(S)

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- Then L' ∈ co-NSPACE(S) is also in NSPACE(S), by composing
 space-bounded computations. So, co-NSPACE(S) ⊆ NSPACE(S)

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 - Hence co-NSPACE(S) = NSPACE(S)

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There is a (polynomial sized) certificate that can be verified in log-space, that there is no path from s to t in a graph G

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Log-space, one-scan verification of certified C (believing |C|): scan list, checking certificates, counting, ensuring order, and that t not in the list. Verify count.

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So List has |C| many $v \in C$, without repeating

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Base case: |C₀|=1

Believing |C_{i-1}| verify |C_i|: for each vertex v certificate that v ∈ C_i or that v ∉ C_i (these certificates are poly(N) long)

It is the constraint of th Tail recursion to verify $|C_N|$: Read $|C_{N-1}|$, believing it verify $|C_N|$, forget $|C_N|$; Read $|C_{N-2}|$, believing it verify $|C_{N-1}|$, forget $|C_{N-1}|$; ... \oslash Base case: $|C_0|=1$ ^(a) Believing $|C_{i-1}|$ verify $|C_i|$: for each vertex v certificate that $v \in C_i$ or that $v \notin C_i$ (these certificates are poly(N) long) • Certificate that $v \notin C_i$ given (i.e., believing) $|C_{i-1}|$: list of all vertices in C_{i-1} in order, with certificates. As before verify C_{i-1} believing $|C_{i-1}|$ (scan and ensure list is correct/complete), but also check that no node in the list has v as a neighbor

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