

1. (a) Assume $A, B \in NL$, i.e., there exist NDTMs M_A, M_B deciding A, B respectively in logarithmic space. We describe a NDTM deciding $A \cup B$ in logarithmic space:

Algorithm 1 DECIDE-A-OR-B(x)

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guess  $m \in \{0, 1\}$ 
if  $m = 0$  then
    return  $M_A(x)$ 
else
    return  $M_B(x)$ 

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Correctness:

(\Rightarrow) If $x \in A \cup B$, then either $x \in A$ or $x \in B$. If $x \in A$, there's an execution path of M_A that returns *true*, so by guessing $m = 0$ and following that path, DECIDE-A-OR-B returns *true*. The case $x \in B$ is analogous.

(\Leftarrow) If DECIDE-A-OR-B returned *true*, it has found an execution path in either M_A or M_B that returns *true*, hence $x \in A$ or $x \in B$. In any case, $x \in A \cup B$.

Space Complexity: Only constant space more than $M_A, M_B \Rightarrow$ logarithmic space.

- (b) Using $NL = \text{co-}NL$ and Question 1a,

$$A, B \in NL \Rightarrow \overline{A}, \overline{B} \in NL \Rightarrow \overline{A \cup B} \in NL \Rightarrow A \cap B = \overline{\overline{A \cup B}} \in NL$$

2. (a) $\text{SAME-SCC}(G, u, v) = (\text{S,T-CON}(G, u, v) \wedge (\text{S,T-CON}(G, v, u))$. Since $(\text{S,T-CON}) \in NL$, a reasoning similar to the one used in Question 1 leads to $\text{SAME-SCC} \in NL$.
- (b) $NL = \text{co-}NL$, hence $\text{DIFFERENT-SCC} = \overline{\text{SAME-SCC}} \in \text{co-}NL$. For some fixed k , let $L_{\geq k} = \{ \langle G \rangle \mid \text{the directed graph } G \text{ contains } \geq k \text{ SCCs} \}$. Consider the following algorithm:

Algorithm 2 AT-LEAST- k -SCCs(G)

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for  $i = 1$  to  $k$  do
    guess  $v_i \in V$ 
    for  $j = 1$  to  $i - 1$  do
        if  $\text{DIFFERENT-SCC}(v_i, v_j) = \text{false}$  then
            return false
return true

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Correctness:

(\Rightarrow) If G has $< k$ SCCs, then for every choice of v_1, \dots, v_k , there exist $j < i$ such that v_i, v_j are in the same SCC, and for that pair, every execution path of DIFFERENT-SCC returns *false*. Thus, all execution paths return *false*.

(\Leftarrow) If G has $\geq k$ SCCs, then when choosing v_1, \dots, v_k from distinct SCCs, for all $1 \leq j < i \leq k$ some execution path of $\text{DIFFERENT-SCC}(v_i, v_j)$ returns *true*. Thus, there exists an execution path that returns *true*.

Space Complexity:

AT-LEAST- k -SCCs has to remember k vertices ($k \log n$) and DIFFERENT-SCC uses logarithmic space \Rightarrow logarithmic space.

AT-LEAST- k -SCCs accepts $L_{\geq k}$ in logarithmic space, so $L_{\geq k} \in NL$ for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, esp. for $k = 2006$, $L_{\geq 2006} \in NL$.

(c) Using $NL = \text{co-}NL$, Question 1b and Question 2b,

$$L_{=k} = L_{\geq k} \cap L_{<(k+1)} = L_{\geq k} \cap \overline{L_{\geq(k+1)}} \in NL$$

3. Let $L_2 = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is bipartite}\}$. G is bipartite if and only if G contains no odd cycles, therefore $\overline{L_2} = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ contains an odd cycle}\}$. A simple modification of Question 1 from Exercise 2 shows $\overline{L_2} \in NL$, hence $L_2 \in \text{co-}NL = NL$.

4. Let $A \in NP$ and let M_A be a NDTM deciding A in polynomial time. Fix an input x . M_A runs $\leq \text{poly}(|x|)$ steps, so at most $\text{poly}(|x|)$ non-deterministic decisions are made throughout any execution path. Each decision has a constant number of alternatives ($\leq 2|Q||\Gamma|$), so encoding all decisions taken during some (specific) execution path as y takes $\text{poly}(|x|)$ space.

Given (x, y) as input, the DTM M will simulate $M_A(x)$ where decisions are made based on y 's contents (if y ends prematurely then M returns *false*). M accepts $x \Leftrightarrow$ for some $y, |y| = \text{poly}(|x|)$ $M(x, y)$ returns *true* \Leftrightarrow some execution path of $M_A(x)$, encoded by y , returns *true*. We've shown $A \in NP^*$, hence $NP \subseteq NP^*$.

5. Let $A \in P$. Since $CVAL$ is P -complete, $A \leq_L CVAL$ using some logarithmic reduction f . Assuming $CVAL \in L$, we can simulate the TM solving $CVAL$ on $f(x)$ without precomputing $f(x)$ (same process used in logarithmic reductions chaining), hence deciding A in logarithmic space. Thus $P \subseteq L$. Together with the known result $L \subseteq P$, we get $L = P$.

6. • $|\{f : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}\}| = 2^{|X|}$; n input bits $\Leftrightarrow 2^n$ input values $\Rightarrow |X| = 2^n$. Thus, the number of boolean functions on n bits is 2^{2^n} .
- For each of the $m = c \frac{2^n}{n}$ gates we have to choose its type (3 options), its first input ($\leq m + n$ options) and its second (if exists) input ($\leq m + n$ options). Therefore, the number of circuits with m gates and n inputs is at most $3^m (m + n)^{2m}$.
- We presume $c < 1$ and compare the log of the two numbers: $\log_2 2^{2^n} = 2^n$;

$$\begin{aligned} \log_2 (3^m (m + n)^{2m}) &= m \log_2 3 + 2m \log_2 (m + n) \\ &< 2m + 2m(\log_2 m + \log_2 n) \\ &< 2c2^n + 2c \frac{2^n}{n} (\log_2 c + n - \log_2 n) + 2c \log_2 n \\ &< 2c(2^n + 2^n + \log_2 n) < 5c \cdot 2^n \end{aligned}$$

For $c \leq \frac{1}{5}$ we can see that there're more possible boolean functions on n bits than circuits of size $\frac{2^n}{5n}$, hence some function cannot be computed by a circuit of size $\frac{2^n}{5n}$.