


# Probability and Computing – Randomised Complexity Classes

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## The Second Half of the Semester

- Randomised Complexity Classes  
↔ full lecture notes by Thomas Worsch 
- Game Theory and Yao's Principle  
↔ some lecture notes by Thomas Worsch
- Randomised Approximation  
↔ full lecture notes by Thomas Worsch
- Streaming Algorithms
- Randomised *Data Structures*
  - Hash Functions
    - application: linear probing hash table
    - application: linear chaining hash table
  - Bloom Filters
  - Cuckoo Hashing
  - The Peeling Algorithm
  - Applications of Peeling

### What are you missing?

The lecture by Thomas Worsch also covered

- routing in hypercubes
- an expected  $\mathcal{O}(n)$ -time randomised MST algorithm
- online algorithms
- random walks
- Markov chains and Metropolis-Hastings
- pseudorandom number generation

# Today: Decision Problems Only

- ~~approximation algorithms~~
- ~~average case analysis~~
- ~~data structures~~
- ~~function problems~~
- **decision problems**
  - for some language  $L$  such as  $L = \text{PRIMES}$
  - decide for input  $x$  the question “is  $x \in L$ ?”
  - can you do it in polynomial time?
  - does randomisation help?

## (Non-) deterministic Turing machine

- $S$ : finite state set
- $B$ : finite tape alphabet including blank symbol  $\square$
- $A \subseteq B - \{\square\}$ : input alphabet
- one tape, one head
- transition functions
  - *deterministic*: one  
 $\delta : S \times B \rightarrow (S \cup \{\text{YES, NO}\}) \times B \times \{-1, 0, 1\}$
  - *non-deterministic* two (or more)  
 $\delta_0, \delta_1 : S \times B \rightarrow (S \cup \{\text{YES, NO}\}) \times B \times \{-1, 0, 1\}$   
(alternatively: general transition *relation*)
  - in states YES and NO: “ $T$  halts”
- accepted language  
 $L(T) = \{w \in A^+ \mid \exists \text{YES-computation for } w\}$

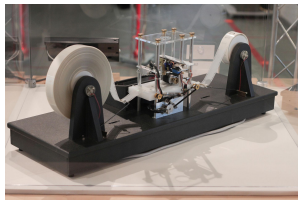


Photo: Rocky Acosta

## Probabilistic Turing machine

- definition like non-deterministic TM
- uses  $\delta_0$  or  $\delta_1$  with probability 1/2 in each step
- output  $T(w)$  is random variable
- difference to NTM:
  - *quantified* non-determinism
  - can study e.g. *probability* of acceptance

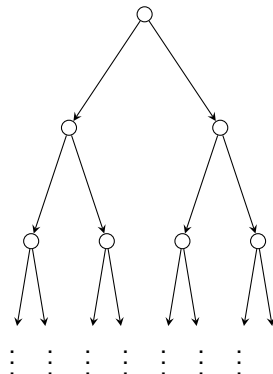
# When is a PTM polynomial time?

## Annoying

Running time for input  $x$  is random variable  $T(x) \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ .

## Simplification for Today: PTM in normal form

- For all inputs of length  $n$ , the PTM *halts* and does so after the *same number of steps*  $t(n)$ .  $\leftrightarrow$  this is without loss of generality under weak conditions
- computation tree of a PTM in normal form is complete binary tree of depth  $t(n)$ .
- call  $t(n)$  the *running time*
- PTM runs in *polynomial time*, if  $t(n) \leq p(n)$  for a polynomial  $p(n)$ .
- acceptance probability is the number of accepting computations, divided by  $2^{t(n)}$ .



# “Classic” Complexity Classes

class $\mathcal{C}$	requirement for $L \in \mathcal{C}$
<b>P</b>	polynomial time DTM can decide $L$
<b>NP</b>	polynomial time NTM can decide $L$
<b>PSPACE</b>	polynomial space TM can decide $L$

## Complement Classes

For class  $\mathcal{C}$  let  $\text{co-}\mathcal{C} = \{L \mid \bar{L} \in \mathcal{C}\} = \{\bar{L} \mid L \in \mathcal{C}\}$ , e.g.

- $\mathbf{P} = \text{co-P}$
- $\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{NP} \cap \text{co-NP}$
- relationship between **NP** and **co-NP** unknown
- $\mathbf{NP} \cup \text{co-NP} \subseteq \mathbf{PSPACE}$

## Polynomial time reduction from $L_1$ to $L_2$

- in polynomial time computable function  $f : A^+ \rightarrow A^+$ , such that
- $\forall w \in A^+ : w \in L_1 \iff f(w) \in L_2$ .




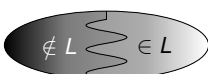
$\hookrightarrow$  then e.g.  $L_2 \in \mathbf{NP}$  implies  $L_1 \in \mathbf{NP}$ .

## Hardness

- A language  $H$  is  **$\mathcal{C}$ -hard**, if every language  $L \in \mathcal{C}$  can be reduced to  $H$  in polynomial time.
- A language is  **$\mathcal{C}$ -complete**, if it is  $\mathcal{C}$ -hard and in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

# Probabilistic Complexity Classes

A language  $L$  is in class **P/RP/BPP/PP**, if there exists a probabilistic polynomial time turing machine  $T$  such that...

class	name	requirement	visualisation
<b>P</b>	polynomial time	$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] = 0$ $\forall w \in L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] = 1$	 no error
<b>RP</b>	randomised polynomial time	$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] = 0$ $\forall w \in L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] \geq 1/2$	 one-sided error
<b>BPP</b>	bounded-error probabilistic polynomial time	$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] < 1/4$ $\forall w \in L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] > 3/4$	 two-sided error
<b>PP</b>	probabilistic polynomial time	$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] \leq 1/2$ $\forall w \in L : \Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] > 1/2$	 two-sided error

**ZPP** := **RP**  $\cap$  **co-RP**. zero error probabilistic polynomial time  
 $\leftrightarrow$  requires *two* Turing machines, one for **RP**, one for **co-RP**.

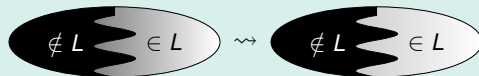


We say a polynomial time PTM is an **RP-PTM**, **BPP-PTM** or **PP-PTM** if it is of the corresponding form.

# Probability Amplification

## Theorem

Instead of “ $1/2$ ” we can use “ $1 - 2^{-q(n)}$ ” in the definition of **RP** without affecting the class.



## Proof.

Let  $T$  be the Turing machine witnessing  $L \in \mathbf{RP}$ .  
By running  $T$  independently  $q(n)$  times the error probability is  $2^{-q(n)}$ .  
Running time increases by polynomial factor  $q(n)$ .  $\square$

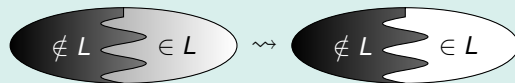
```
for  $i = 1$  to  $q(n)$  do
  if  $T(w) = \text{YES}$  then
    return YES
return NO
```



# Probability Amplification (2)

## Theorem

Instead of “ $1/4$ ” and “ $3/4$ ” we can use “ $2^{-q(n)}$ ” and “ $1 - 2^{-q(n)}$ ” in the definition of **BPP** without affecting the class.



## Proof.

Recommended (Bonus) Exercise.

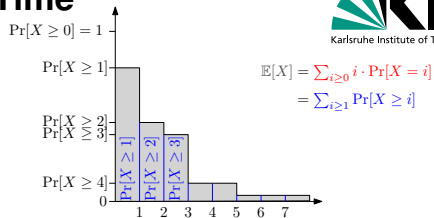
↔ solution in lecture notes by Thomas Worsch

# ZPP: Zero-Error-Probabilistic Polynomial Time

**Theorem:**  $L \in \text{ZPP} \Rightarrow$  Las-Vegas Algorithm for  $L$

If  $L \in \text{ZPP} := \text{RP} \cap \text{co-RP}$  then there exists a PTM that

- decides  $L$  with no error
- has *expected* polynomial running time  
 $\hookrightarrow$  this PTM is not in normal form



## Proof

Let  $T$  be an **RP**-PTM for  $L$  with running time  $p(n)$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  never errs for  $x \notin L$

Let  $\bar{T}$  be an **RP**-PTM for  $\bar{L}$  with running time  $p(n)$ .

$\hookrightarrow$  never errs for  $x \notin \bar{L}$

- $T$  and  $\bar{T}$  never *both* answer incorrectly  $\Rightarrow$  we always answer correctly.
- Every round gives  $r_1 = r_2$  with probability  $\geq 1/2$ .



**repeat**

$r_1 \leftarrow T(w)$

$r_2 \leftarrow \text{not } \bar{T}(w)$

**until**  $r_1 = r_2$

**return**  $r_1$

$$\mathbb{E}[\text{running time}] \leq 2p(|w|) \cdot \mathbb{E}[\#\text{rounds}] \leq 2p(n) \cdot \sum_{i \geq 1} \Pr[\#\text{rounds} \geq i] \leq 2p(n) \cdot \sum_{i \geq 1} 2^{-(i-1)} = 2p(n) \cdot \sum_{i \geq 0} 2^{-i} = 4p(n). \quad \square$$

## Remark

The classes **RP**, **co-RP** and **BPP** are not believed to have complete problems unless, e.g. **BPP = P**.  
Underlying issue: “ $T$  is a **BPP**-PTM” is undecidable.

## 1. Preliminaries

## 2. Probabilistic Turing Machines

## 3. Complexity Classes

## 4. Relationships between Complexity Classes

Preliminaries

○○

Probabilistic Turing Machines

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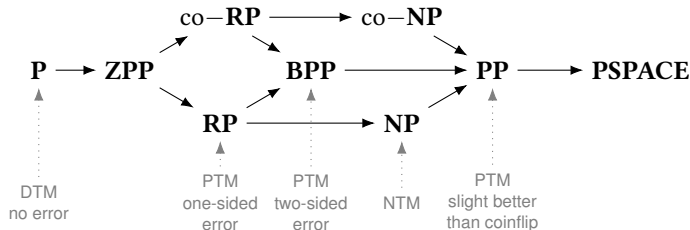
Complexity Classes

○○○○○

Relationships between Complexity Classes

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# Beziehungen zwischen Komplexitätsklassen



## Theorems

- $P \subseteq ZPP$
- $ZPP \subseteq RP$  and  $ZPP \subseteq \text{co-RP}$
- $RP \subseteq NP$  and  $\text{co-RP} \subseteq \text{co-NP}$
- $RP \subseteq BPP$  and  $\text{co-RP} \subseteq BPP$
- $BPP \subseteq PP$

proved in the following (rest is exercise):

- $NP \subseteq PP$  and  $\text{co-NP} \subseteq PP$
- $PP \subseteq PSPACE$

## DTM as NTM

Given DTM  $T$  with transition function  $\delta$ , consider NTM  $T'$  with transition functions  $\delta_0 = \delta_1 = \delta$ .  
 $\hookrightarrow$  No change in behaviour:  $T(w) = \text{YES} \Leftrightarrow T'(w) = \text{YES}$ .

## NTM as PTM

Given NTM  $T$ , we can reinterpret it as a PTM  $T'$ :

$$T(w) = \text{YES} :\Leftrightarrow \exists \text{YES-computation for } T \text{ and } w \Leftrightarrow \Pr[T'(w) = \text{YES}] > 0$$

$$T(w) = \text{NO} :\Leftrightarrow \nexists \text{YES-computation for } T \text{ and } w \Leftrightarrow \Pr[T'(w) = \text{YES}] = 0$$

## PTM as DTM

Given PTM  $T$ , we can view it as DTM  $T'$  with random bitstring  $b = b_1 b_2 \dots$  as additional input.  
In step  $i$  transition function  $\delta_{b_i}$  is used.

$$\Pr[T(w) = \text{YES}] = \Pr_{b_1, b_2, \dots \sim \text{Ber}(1/2)} [T'(w, b) = \text{YES}].$$

# Theorem: $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{PP}$ (analogously $\text{co-NP} \subseteq \text{PP}$ )

i.e. show that each  $L \in \text{NP}$  satisfies  $L \in \text{PP}$

Have: NTM  $T$  certifying that  $L \in \text{NP}$

$w \in L \Leftrightarrow \exists$  YES-computation for  $T$  and  $w$

Use the NTM  $T$  as a PTM  $T'$ :

$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T'(w) = \text{YES}] = 0$

$\forall w \in L : \Pr[T'(w) = \text{YES}] > 0$



Want: PTM  $T''$  certifying that  $L \in \text{PP}$



$\forall w \notin L : \Pr[T''(w) = \text{YES}] \leq 1/2$

$\forall w \in L : \Pr[T''(w) = \text{YES}] > 1/2$

$T''$  achieves this shift with a simple trick

$r \leftarrow T'(w)$  //  $T'$  is  $T$  as PTM

**if**  $r = \text{YES}$  **then**

**return** YES

**else**

    sample  $b \sim \mathcal{U}(\{\text{YES}, \text{NO}\})$  // coinflip

**return**  $b$

# Theorem: $PP \subseteq PSPACE$

i.e. show that each  $L \in PP$  satisfies  $L \in PSPACE$

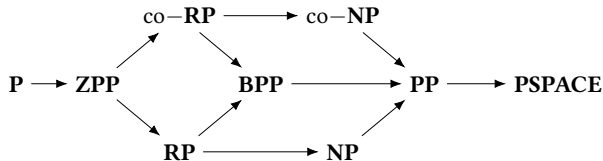
## Proof

- Let  $T$  a PP-PTM for  $L$  with running time  $p(n)$ .
- Consider DTM  $T'$  that simulates  $T$  for given  $w$  and random choices  $b_1 b_2 \dots b_{p(n)}$ .
- Consider DTM  $T''$  that for input  $w$  runs  $T'(w, b_1 b_2 \dots b_{p(n)})$  for all  $2^{p(n)}$  possible  $b_1 b_2 \dots b_{p(n)}$ . Return YES if  $T'$  returns YES in majority of cases.
- space complexity:
  - $p(n)$  bits for counter  $a$
  - $p(n)$  bits for  $b_1, \dots, b_k$
  - $\mathcal{O}(p(n))$  space for simulating  $T$   
(can only use  $p(n)$  space in its  $p(n)$  steps)

$\Leftrightarrow T''$  decides  $L$  in space  $\mathcal{O}(p(n))$  (and time  $\Omega(2^{p(n)})$ ).  $\square$

```
n ← |w|
k ← p(n)
a ← 0 // k-bit counter
for b1 ... bk ← 00 ... 0 to 11 ... 1 do
  r ← T'(w, b1 ... bk)
  if r = YES then
    a ← a + 1
if a > 2k-1 then
  return YES
else
  return NO
```





## What we learned – not much

- Only “obvious” inclusions known  
↪ e.g. one-sided error vs. two-sided error
- since  $P \stackrel{?}{=} PSPACE$  is unsolved, none of the inclusions are known to be strict.
- Remark: History of PRIMES:
  - obviously: in  $co-NP$ .
  - 1976: in  $co-RP$  (Rabin).
  - 1987: in  $RP$ , hence in  $ZPP$  (Adleman, Huang).
  - 2002: in  $P$  (Agrawal, Kayal, Saxena).

## A boring topic?

- People believe  $BPP = P$   
↪ “each  $BPP$  algorithm can be fully derandomised”
- $PP$  is somewhat esoteric  
↪ no interesting randomised classes remain?
- quantum computing may change the story.  
People suspect  $NP \not\subseteq BQP \not\subseteq NP$   
↪ <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/BQP>

- Definiere: Was ist eine PTM? Was ist der Unterschied zu einer NTM?
- Definiere die Komplexitätsklassen **RP**, **co-RP**, **BPP**, **PP**, **ZPP**.
- Inwiefern spielen die Konstanten von  $\frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{3}{4}$ , die in den Definitionen vorkommen, eine Rolle? Inwiefern sind sie egal?
- Inwiefern steht die Klasse **ZPP** mit dem Konzept eines Las-Vegas Algorithmus in Verbindung? Wie sehen die Umwandlungen in die eine Richtung (Vorlesung) und in die andere Richtung (Übung) aus?
- Welche Inklusionsbeziehungen zwischen diesen Komplexitätsklassen sind bekannt?
- Begründe jede dieser Inklusionsbeziehungen. (In der tatsächlichen Prüfung würde man sich aus Zeitgründen nur eine oder zwei herausgreifen.)
- Gibt es Inklusionsbeziehungen von denen man weiß, dass sie strikt sind? Gibt es Klassen, von denen Experten vermuten, dass sie in Wirklichkeit identisch sind?