

DTIME, P, EXP, and of Course NP

Exposition by William Gasarch—U of MD

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We first look at some problems of interest.

Problems of Interest

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Graphs

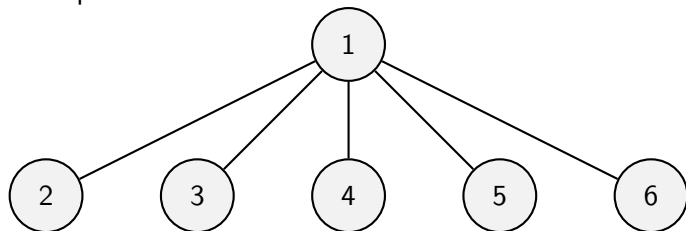
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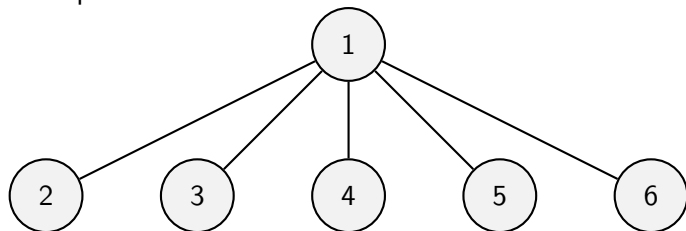
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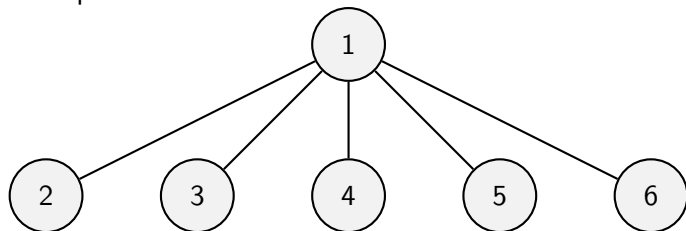


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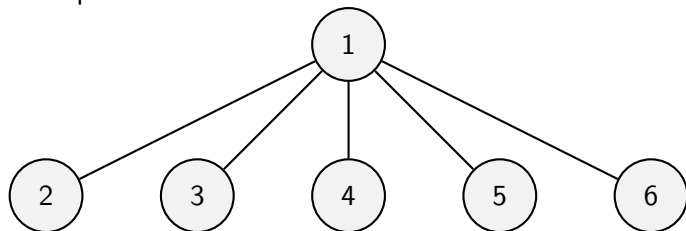
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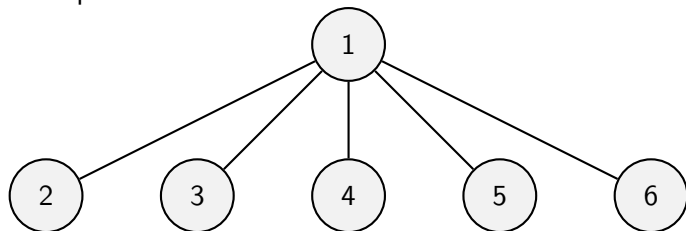
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In the above graph $\text{deg}(1) = 5$ and

$$\text{deg}(2) = \text{deg}(3) = \text{deg}(4) = \text{deg}(5) = \text{deg}(6) = 1.$$

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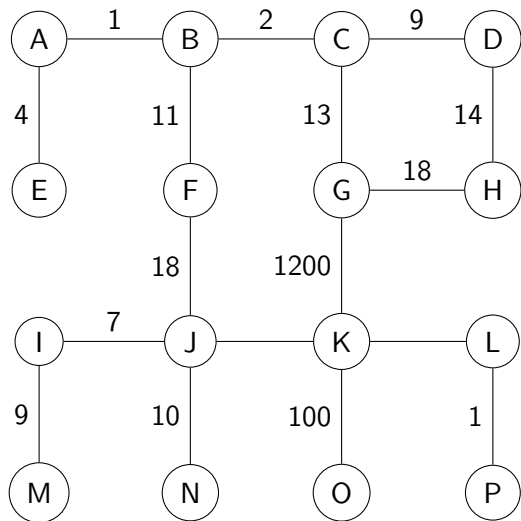
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Weight of (x, y) is price of the flight. (Cost is symmetric.)

Another Example of a Weighted Graph



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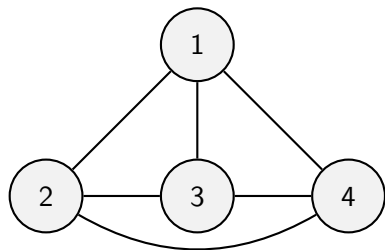
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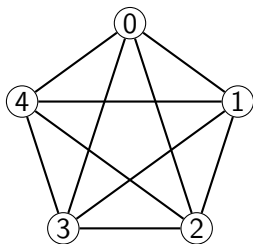
Example of a Clique on 4 Vertices

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2. A model of Computation. A statement like **EUL can be solved in time $O(n)$** needs to say what device we are computing on.

Formalizing Representation and Computation

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Speed for Engineers

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Representing Elements of Sets

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2. A graph is represented by an adjacency matrix. An n -node graph is an n^2 -long string.
3. A **set of graphs** (like HAMC) is a set of strings, all of square length, all interpreted as an adjacency matrix for a graph.

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We Sometimes Cheat We may take the length of a graph to be the number of vertices. These notions of length are poly-related to the actual length and hence is fine for our purposes.

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2. Turing machines compute with discrete steps so one can talk about how many steps a computation takes.

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The Question HAM $\in P$? The other problems in P?

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Not practical. But that cleverness can probably be exploited to get a practical algorithm.

Back to our Problems

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Note HAM, EUL, CLIQ are all in NP.

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So Why Is This Important

Def of NP-Complete

Def A set Y is **NP-complete (NPC)** if the following hold:

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Cook and Levin in the early 1970's showed that SAT, a problem in logic, was NPC. They coded TM's into formulas. We won't do that here.

NP-Complete Problems in Graph Theory

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2. HAM
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The good money says that None are in Poly Time.

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8. Others

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They didn't have the notion of algorithms to state what they wanted more rigorously.

The theory of NP-completeness enabled mathematicians to **state** what they wanted rigorously ($HAM \in P$) and also gave the basis for proving likely it **cannot** be done (since HAM is NP-Complete).

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3. $P \neq NP$ has great explanatory power. See next slide.

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3. These two proofs have nothing to do with each other yet give matching upper and lower bounds.
4. There are many other approx problems where $P \neq NP$ explains why they cannot be improved.

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1. 1.1 IF $P = NP$ that might be proven in the next decade.
1.2 IF $P \neq NP$ this will not be proven until the year 2525.
2. $P \neq NP$. In fact, SAT requires $2^{\Omega(n)}$ time.

What Do Theorists Think of P vs NP?

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I have done three polls of what theorists think of P vs NP and other issues.

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	$P \neq NP$	$P = NP$	Ind	DK	other
2002	61 (61%)	9 (9%)	4 (4%)	22 (22%)	7 (7%))
2012	126 (83%)	12 (9%)	5 (3%)	1 (0.66%)	8 (5.1%)
2019	109 (88%)	15 (12%)	0	0	0