

IP = PSPACE.

First step: prove  $coNP \subseteq IP$ .

Recall randomness is needed for full power of IP and one of few problems in BPP but not P is PIT. Let us try converting  $\overline{3SAT}$  into a problem about polynomials.

We think of T/F as 1/0. Then  $v \rightarrow +$   
 $\wedge \rightarrow \cdot$   
 $\neg \rightarrow (1 - )$ .

$$e.g. (x_3 \vee \overline{x_5} \vee x_{17}) \wedge (x_5 \vee x_9) \wedge (\overline{x_3} \vee \overline{x_4})$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$(x_3 + (1-x_5) + x_{17}) \cdot (x_5 + x_9) \cdot ((1-x_3) + (1-x_4)).$$

obs  $F(\alpha)$  true  $\rightarrow p(\alpha) > 0 \quad \forall \alpha$ .

$F(\alpha)$  false  $\rightarrow p(\alpha) = 0$

hence  $\sum_{\alpha \in \{0,1\}^n} p(\alpha) = \begin{cases} 0 & F \text{ unsat} \\ > 0 & F \text{ sat.} \end{cases}$

obs  $\deg(p) = m = |F|$  // i.e. #clauses.

obs  $p(\alpha) \leq 3^m$ . (hence  $\sum_{\alpha} p(\alpha) \leq 2^n \cdot 3^m$ )  
 $\downarrow$   
 poly many bits.

so we'd like to distinguish  $p(\alpha)=0$  or  $\in [1, 2^n \cdot 3^m]$ , convenient to work on a field  $\mathbb{F}_\ell$ ,  $\ell$  prime  $> 2^n \cdot 3^m$ .

(prover can choose  $\ell$  and verifier check deterministically).

then can do PIT and eval  $\sum_{\alpha} p(\alpha)$  on a random point  $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_\ell^n$ . Obs  $\mathbb{F}_\ell$  and not  $\{0,1\}$  helps a lot:

if  $\alpha \in \{0,1\}^n$  there could be a unique sat.  $\alpha$  and we'd only catch it with pr.  $2^{-n}$ . But in  $\mathbb{F}_\ell$  we can use Schwartz-Zippel-DeMillo-Lipton-....

Except not really because  $\sum p$  is too large. Instead, we'll replace variables one by one.

Plan: iteratively certify  $\sum_{x_1=0}^1 \dots \sum_{x_n=0}^1 p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = v_{i-1}$ .

def  $a_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) = \sum_{x_{i+1}} \dots \sum p(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ .

obs.  $a_i(-) = a_{i+1}(-0) + a_{i+1}(-1)$ .

so our plan is: prove that

$$\exists \{a_i\}_i \text{ st } a_i = a_{i+1}(-0) + a_{i+1}(-1).$$

and  $a_0 = 0$

and  $a_n = p$ . but  $a_i$  too expensive to send,

instead we'll prove

$$a_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) = a_{i+1}(x_1, \dots, x_i, 0) + a_{i+1}(x_1, \dots, x_i, 1).$$

i.o.w.  $\exists q_{i+1}(z) = a_{i+1}(x_1, \dots, x_i, z)$

st  $q_{i+1}(0) + q_{i+1}(1) = a_i(x_1, \dots, x_i) = v_i$ .

obs  $q(z)$  single-variable and degree  $m$ , hence P can compute  $q$  and send to V.

then V evals  $q$  on  $0,1$ ; randomly picks  $r_i$  and sends to prover; and both set  $v_i = q(r_i)$ .

First test is  $q(0) + q(1) = 0$ .

Last test is  $q(r_n) = p(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ .

Formally:

$v_0 = 0$ .

for  $i=1 \dots n$ : P sends  $q'$   
 V checks  $q'(0) + q'(1) = v_{i-1}$  and  $\deg q' \leq m$ .  
 V samples & sends  $r_i$   
 $v_i = q'(r_i)$ .

V checks  $v_n = p(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ .

If  $\sum_{\alpha} p(\alpha) = 0$  then exists  $q'$  st P always accepts (pick  $q' = q$ ).

claim: If  $\sum_{\alpha} p(\alpha) \neq 0$  then P rejects whp.

Assume wlog in  $i$ -th round P sends  $q'$  of deg  $\leq m$ , and st  $q'(0) + q'(1) = v_{i-1}$  (o/w V notices).

If fail then there is some round where

$$v_{i-1} = a(r_1, \dots, r_{i-1}) \text{ but } v_i = a(r_1, \dots, r_i).$$

we have  $q'(0) + q'(1) = v_{i-1} \Rightarrow q' \neq q$ .

Then  $q' - q$  is a poly of deg  $\leq m$  and has  $\leq m$  roots;  $\Pr[r_i \text{ root}] \leq (1 - \frac{m}{\ell})$ .

this proves  $coNP \subseteq IP$ . Now let us see  $PSPACE \subseteq IP$ .

Like before, translate QBF  $\exists x_1 \forall x_2 \dots F(\cdot)$  into

$$\sum_{x_1=0}^1 \prod_{x_2=0}^1 \dots p(\cdot); \text{ want to know if } 0 \text{ or } > 0.$$

Problem: each  $\Pi$  may square the polynomial, so  $q$  could have degree  $m^{n/2}$ , too expensive for prover to send.

Recall even if we're evaluating  $p(\cdot)$  on weird points, we only care about 0/1.

So we are allowed to evaluate any polynomial  $p' \equiv p \pmod{(x_1=0 \vee x_1=1, x_2=0 \vee x_2=1, \dots, x_n=0 \vee x_n=1)}$ .

iow mod ideal  $I = \langle x_1(x_1-1), x_2(x_2-1), \dots, x_n(x_n-1) \rangle$ .

iow we can replace  $x_i^2 \mapsto x_i$ , and more generally  $x_i^d \mapsto x_i$ .

let us define  $L_i$  as the multilinearization operator.

$$L_i(p) = (1-x_i) \cdot p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) + x_i \cdot p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n).$$

$$S_i(p) = p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) + p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n).$$

$$P_i(p) = p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 0, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n) \cdot p(x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_n).$$

We want to know if

$$S_1 P_2 \dots p = 0 \text{ or } > 0.$$

equiv.

$$S_1 L_1 P_2 L_1 L_2 \dots p = 0 \quad \text{// obs } n^2 \text{ operators.}$$

we can run same protocol as before.

$v_0 = 0$ .

for  $i=1 \dots n^2$ : P sends  $q'$   
 V checks  $\deg q' \leq m^2$ .  
 if op is  $S_i$ : check  $q'(0) + q'(1) = v_{i-1}$ .  
 if op is  $P_i$ : check  $q'(0) \cdot q'(1) = v_{i-1}$ .  
 if op is  $L_i$ : check  $r_i \cdot q'(0) + (1-r_i)q'(1) = v_{i-1}$ .  
 V samples & sends  $r_i$  (replaces previous  $r_i$  if needed).  
 $v_i = q'(r_i)$

V checks  $v_{n^2} = p(r_1, \dots, r_n)$ .