

Today

## Arithmetic Models of Computing

- Non-uniform Models
- Some connections
- toward lower bounds.



Problems:

I.  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

$$\phi = (\phi_1, \dots, \phi_m), \quad \phi_i \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

II.  $\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^l$

Given  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , find  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  s.t.  $\phi(x, y) = \bar{0}$

# Models of Computing

## Algebraic Circuit / Straight-line Program:

SLP on  $x_1 \dots x_n$

$$V_1 \leftarrow \text{~~~~~}$$

$$V_2 \leftarrow \text{~~~~~}$$

⋮

$$V_j \leftarrow A \diamond B$$

$$A, B \in \{x_1 \dots x_n, V_1 \dots V_{j-1}\} \cup \mathbb{R}$$

$$\diamond \in \{+, \times, -, \div\}$$

- ① Formula = every  $V_j$  appears in LHS at most once.

## Complexity measures

- Size = # operations
  - Depth = longest chain
  - Memory =  $\max_i \{ \# v_j \text{'s defined before } i \text{ \& used after } i \}$
- x ————

## Valiant's Classes

$$VP = \{ \underline{\Phi} = \{ \Phi_n : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r_n \} \text{ s.t. } \deg \phi_n \leq \text{poly}(n) \\ \forall n \exists \text{ circuit of size } \text{poly}(n) \}$$

Computing  $\underline{\Phi}_n$  }

$$VNP = \{ \underline{\Phi} = \{ \Phi_n \}_n \exists \Psi = \{ \Psi_n : \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^{k(n)} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \} \\ \text{s.t. } \phi_n^{(x)} \leq \sum_{w \in \{0,1\}^{t(n)}} \Psi_n(x, w); \Psi \in VP \}$$

## Main Results / Beliefs

①  $\text{Det}_{n \times n}(M) \in \text{VP}$

②  $\text{Perm}_{n \times n}(M) \in \text{VNP}$

$$\text{Perm}(M) = \sum_{\tau \in [n]} (-1)^{n-|\tau|} \prod_{i \in I} \sum_{j \in T} M_{ij}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{15em}}_{\in \text{VP}}$   
 $\underbrace{\hspace{25em}}_{\in \text{VNP}}$

Reducibility :  $\phi(x_1 \dots x_n) \leq_p \psi(y_1 \dots y_m)$

if  $\exists$  projection

$$y_i \leftarrow x_j \text{ or } c \in F$$

[projective reductions]

③  $\text{Perm}_{n \times n}$  is VNP-complete!

④  $\text{Det}_{n \times n}$  is V-Quasi-P-complete.

## Beliefs

Ⓐ  $\text{VP} \neq \text{VNP}$

in fact

Ⓑ  $\text{VQP} \neq \text{VNP}$

(do hope  $\forall c$ )

$\text{Perm}_n \not\leq \text{Det}_m$   
for  $m \leq 2^{(\log n)^c}$

## Some Connections

I. Can get rid of division

Theorem: if  $\phi$  is of deg  $r$  & can be computed by circuit of size  $s$  over  $\{+, -, *, \div\}$  gates, then  $\phi$  can be computed with  $\text{poly}(r, s, n)$  gates over  $\{+, -, *\}$

Proof uses Homogenization Lemma

Homogenization Lemma:

$\psi$  computed by size  $s$  circuit over  $\{+, *, -\}$

$\Rightarrow \{\text{Hom}_0(\psi), \dots, \text{Hom}_r(\psi)\}$  computed by  $O(r \cdot s)$  sized circuit.

## Proof of H.L.:

By induction on gates of circuit.

$$\bullet \psi^{(1)} = \psi^{(2)} + \psi^{(3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Hom}_i(\psi^{(1)}) = \text{Hom}_i(\psi^{(2)}) + \text{Hom}_i(\psi^{(3)})$$

$$\bullet \psi^{(1)} = \psi^{(2)} \star \psi^{(3)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Hom}_i(\psi^{(1)}) = \sum_{j \leq i} \text{Hom}_j(\psi^{(2)}) \cdot \text{Hom}_{i-j}(\psi^{(3)})$$

□

## Proof of Theorem:

Step 1: Compute numerators & denominators of every gate separately.

$$\text{At end } \phi = f \div g$$

$g \neq 0 \Rightarrow \exists d_1 \dots d_n, \beta \neq 0$  s.t.

$$g(d_1 \dots d_n) = \beta$$

w.l.o.g.  $d_1 \dots d_n = \bar{0}$  &  $\beta = 1$

$$\text{So } \phi = \frac{f}{g} = \frac{f}{1 - (1-g)}$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} f (1-g)^i$$

Note  $(1-g)^i$  has terms of deg  $\geq i$

$$\text{Hom}_k(\phi) = \text{Hom}_k \left( \sum_{i=0}^k f (1-g)^i \right)$$

↑

Can be computed in poly( $r$ ) size

□



## Memory vs. Depth

Depth  $d \Rightarrow$  Memory  $\leq 3$   
& Size  $\leq 4^d$  [Ben-Or + Cleve]

### Inductive Claim:

$\forall f$  of depth  $d$ ,

can compute the map

$$(U, V, W) \mapsto (U + f(x)N, V, W)$$

Base Case:  $f(x) = x_i \dots$  obvious

Induction:  $f = g + h$

$$4^{d-1} \{ (U, V, W) \mapsto (U + fV, W, W)$$

$$4^{d-1} \{ (U + fV, V, W) \mapsto (U + (f+g)V, V, W)$$

$$f = g * h$$

$$(U, V, W) \mapsto (U + fV, V, W) \quad \text{good!}$$

$$(U + fV, V, W) \mapsto (U + fV, V, W + gU + fgV)$$

not good

not good

not good

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (U + f \cdot V, V, W + gU + fgV) & \xrightarrow{-f \cdot V} & (U, V, W + gU + fgV) \\ & \searrow & \uparrow \\ & & (U, V, W + fgV) \end{array}$$



Gives alternate, very intuitive proof that

log-depth circuits have  $O(1)$ -width branching programs

[Barrington]

## Some surprising connections

① if  $\phi : \mathbb{F}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^m$  is "super-linear"

then so is

$\hat{\phi} : \mathbb{F}^n \times \mathbb{F}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{F}$  given by

$$\hat{\phi}(\bar{x}, y_1, \dots, y_m) = \sum_{i=1}^m \phi_i(\bar{x}) \cdot y_i$$

[Baur - Strassen]

②  $\phi$  has size  $s$ , degree  $r$

$\Rightarrow \phi$  has circuit of size  $\text{poly}(s, r)$

& depth  $\text{polylog}(s, r)$

# Partial Derivatives

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}$  'as usual.'

## Theorem

[Baur-Strassen]  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  has size  $s$  ckt

$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_n} \right)$  has size  $O(s)$  ckt.

Proof: (1) Can't afford to compute derivatives of all gates wrt all inputs.

(2) So will compute derivative of output wrt all gates.

so, we view circuit top-down rather than bottom-up.  
= series of substitutions.

Initially

$$\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_s) = y_s$$

Substitute

$$y_s \leftarrow y_{s-1} * y_{s-2}$$

$$\Leftarrow \phi(\quad) = y_{s-1} * y_{s-2}$$

⋮

Initially:  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} = 0$ ,  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y_i} = 0$  except  $\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y_s} = 1$

At intermediate stage

have  $\phi(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_i) = \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i}, \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y_i} \dots$

$$y_i \leftarrow x_j + y_k$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi(x_j, y_k, y_i(x_j, y_k))}{\partial x_j}$$

$$= \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y_i} \cdot \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial x_j}$$

$$= 1 \quad \text{if} \quad y_i = x_j + y_k$$

$$= y_k \quad \text{if} \quad y_i = x_j * y_k$$

= etc.

Updates =  $O(1)$  steps per gate!



Next lecture: Depth reductions ...

(Notes for this lecture mostly from  
[Amir & Amir])