

From NP-completeness to DP-completeness: A membrane computing perspective

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Presumably efficient computing model: ability to provide polynomial-time solutions for **NP-complete** problems.

- If $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{NP}$ then every presumably efficient computing model is an efficient one.

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\mathcal{R} : class of recognizer membrane systems

$\text{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$: time complexity class of problems solvable by families from \mathcal{R} .



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This lower bound for $\text{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$ can be **improved**.

The complexity class **DP** (difference class)

Introduced by C.H. Papadimitriou and M. Yannakis¹

- ★ A language L is in the class **DP** iff there are two languages L_1 and L_2 such that $L_1, L_2 \in \mathbf{NP}$ and $L = L_1 \setminus L_2$.


Then, $L \in \mathbf{DP}$ iff there are $L_1 \in \mathbf{NP}$ and $L_2 \in \mathbf{co-NP}$ such that $L = L_1 \cap L_2$.

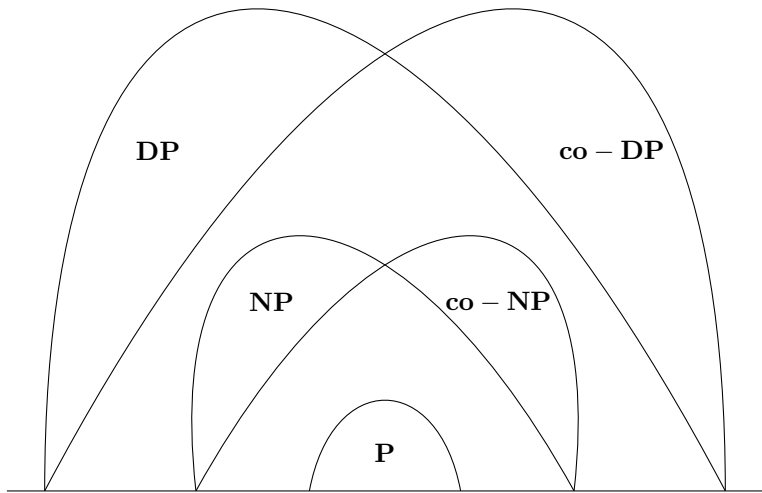
Class **DP**:

- * lies between the first two levels of the **polynomial hierarchy**.
- * is the second level in the **Boolean hierarchy**.

$$\mathbf{NP} \subseteq \mathbf{DP} \subseteq \mathbf{P}^{\mathbf{NP}}.$$

$$\mathbf{NP} \cup \mathbf{co-NP} \subseteq \mathbf{DP} \cap \mathbf{co-DP}.$$

¹C.H. Papadimitriou, M. Yannakis. The complexity of facets (and some facets of complexity). **Proceedings of the 24th ACM Symposium on the Theory of Computing**, 1982, pp. 229-234. 



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- $\theta_{X_1 \otimes X_2}(u_1, u_2) = 1 \Leftrightarrow \theta_{X_1}(u_1) = 1 \wedge \theta_{X_2}(u_2) = 1$.

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Proposition: If X_1 is an **NP** complete problem and X_2 is a **co-NP** complete problem then $X_1 \otimes X_2$ is a **DP** complete problem.

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Proposition: If X_1 is an **NP** complete problem and X_2 is a **co-NP** complete problem then $X_1 \otimes X_2$ is a **DP** complete problem.

Corollary: If X is an **NP** complete problem, then $X \otimes \bar{X}$ is a **DP** complete problem.



Main result

Let \mathcal{R} be a computing model of recognizer non-cooperative P systems allowing **dissolution**, **object evolution** and **communication** rules.

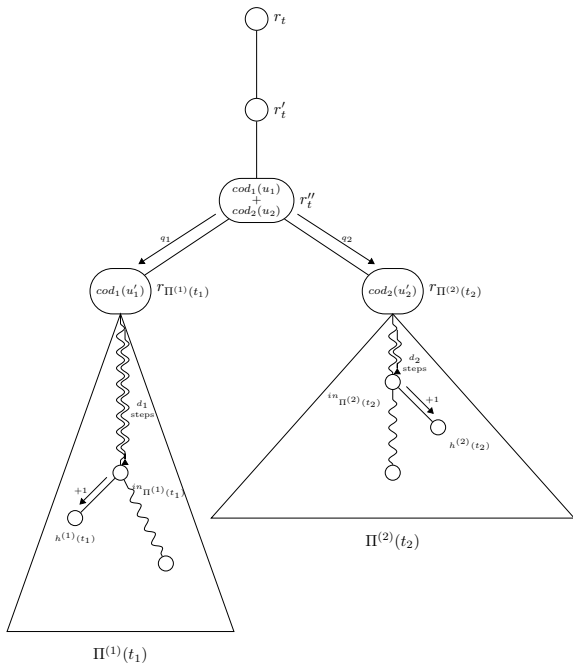
- If $X_1 \in \mathbf{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$ and $X_2 \in \mathbf{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$ then $X_1 \otimes X_2 \in \mathbf{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$.

Sketch:

For $i = 1, 2$,

- Let $\Pi^{(i)} = \{\Pi^{(i)}(t) \mid t \in \mathbf{N}\}$ a family of systems from \mathcal{R} solving X_i in polynomial-time.
- Let (cod_i, s_i) be a polynomial encoding from X_i into $\Pi^{(i)}$.

A family $\Pi = \{\Pi(t) \mid t \in \mathbf{N}\}$ of membrane systems from \mathcal{R} will be defined from $\Pi^{(1)}$ and $\Pi^{(2)}$, providing a uniform and polynomial-time solution to $X_1 \otimes X_2$.



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- Then, $\text{DP} \cup \text{co-DP} \subseteq \text{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$.

Proof: If X is an **NP**-complete problem such that $X \in \text{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$, then $X \otimes \overline{X}$ is a **DP**-complete problem such that $X \otimes \overline{X} \in \text{PMC}_{\mathcal{R}}$.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION!**

