

HOW MUCH DOES A TYPICAL SET KNOW ABOUT EXPONENTIAL TIME?

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Overview

- Basic concepts from complexity theory
 - ▶ The exponential time classes E and EXP
 - ▶ Resource-bounded measure and pseudo-randomness (what are typical sets?)
 - ▶ Weak hardness notions for exponential time (some views on the nonnegligible parts of E)
- Are typical sets weakly hard for E ?
 - ▶ Typical sets among all sets
 - ▶ Typical sets in E
 - ▶ Typical sets in EXP
 - ▶ Typical elementarily recursive sets (i.e., sets in EL)
 - ▶ Typical computable sets (i.e., sets in REC)

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(theoretically) solvable problems

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In complexity theory we consider sets of binary strings and measure the complexity in the length of the strings. We may identify the number n with the n th string z_n in the canonical ordering (NB: $|n| := |z_n| \approx \log(n)$).

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By the time hierarchy theorem:

$$P \subset E_1 (= \text{EXP}_1) \subset E_2 \subset E_3 \cdots \subset E$$

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- A **$t(n)$ -martingale** d is a rational valued martingale $d : \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, \infty)$ such that, for the underlying strategy s_d , $s_d \in \text{DTIME}(t(n))$.

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- Measures on EXP, EL and REC are defined correspondingly, and there are corresponding characterizations in terms of time bounded randomness.

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- Now we can define that a property \mathcal{P} is
 - typical (untypical) for E** if $\{A \in E : \mathcal{P}(A)\}$ has measure 1 (0) in E
 - typical (untypical) for EXP** if $\{A \in \text{EXP} : \mathcal{P}(A)\}$ has measure 1 (0) in EXP
 - typical (untypical) for EL** if $\{A \in \text{EL} : \mathcal{P}\}$ has measure 1 (0) in EL
 - typical (untypical) for the computable sets** if $\{A \in \text{REC} : \mathcal{P}(A)\}$ has measure 1 (0) in REC
 - typical (untypical) for the sets in general** if $\{A : \mathcal{P}(A)\}$ has (classical) measure 1 (0)

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- Intermediate cases are provided by the **weak hardness** notions for E , a concept originally proposed by Lutz (1995).

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- One obtains alternative weak hardness notions by giving different interpretations of the nonnegligible parts of E . E.g. this has been done in terms of Baire category / genericity in place of measure / randomness (A-S 1996).

Here we consider other interpretations in terms of complexity theory due to A-S und Bakibayev (ICALP 2010):

Fractions of \mathbb{E} : hardness and weak hardness

Fractions of E: hardness and weak hardness

- A set A is **strongly nontrivial** for E if, for any $k \geq 1$, there is an **almost everywhere 2^{kn} -complex** set (i.e., a $\text{DTIME}(2^{kn})$ -bi-immune set) in E which can be reduced to A :

$$\forall k \geq 1 \exists A_k \in E (A_k \text{ } E_k\text{-bi-immune} \ \& \ A_k \leq_m^P A)$$

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Note that

hard \Rightarrow measure-hard \Rightarrow strongly nontrivial \Rightarrow nontrivial \Rightarrow useful

holds. Moreover, all implications are strict (even on E).

What weak hardness notions are typical?

Our goal is to complete the following table by filling in the corresponding (resource-bounded) measures:

	E	EXP	EL	REC	ALL
hard	?	?	?	?	?
measure hard	?	?	?	?	?
strongly non-trivial	?	?	?	?	?
nontrivial	?	?	?	?	?
useful	?	?	?	?	?

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In fact, by a similar padding argument (Book, see A-S 1987), one can show that any set $A \in EL \setminus P$ has a predecessor in $E \setminus P$. So typical sets in EL are useful too.

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nontrivial	?	?	?	?	?
useful	1	1	1	?	?

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By countable additivity of μ this implies:

COROLLARY. $\mu(\{A : \text{P} \subset \text{P}_m(A) \cap \text{REC}\}) = \mu(\{A : \text{P} \subset \text{P}_m(A) \cap \text{E}\}) = 0$. I.e., the class of E-useful sets has measure 0.

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(The question whether the full analog of Sacks's theorem holds in complexity theory is equivalent to the $\text{BPP} =? \text{P}$ -Problem (Bennet and Gill 1981, A-S 1986), hence one of the fundamental open problems in this area!)

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The corollary can be effectivized as follows:

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PROOF (IDEA). If a computable set $B \notin P$ is P-m-reducible to a set A via f then $f(B)$ is an infinite c.e. subset of A , hence A is not REC-immune (whereas *rec-random* sets are REC-(bi-)immune).

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Mayordomo's Theorem 2 and Corollary has been rephrased in terms of randomness as follows.

THEOREM (A-S, Terwijn, Zheng, 1997). Any n -random set is P-biimmune hence not E-hard.

By Mayordomo's results:

	E	EXP	EL	REC	ALL
hard	0	0	0	0	0
measure hard	?	?	?	?	0
strongly non-trivial	?	?	?	?	0
nontrivial	?	?	?	?	0
useful	1	1	1	?	0

We next look at the question of typicalness of the weak hardness notions in E (i.e., typicalness of the weak completeness notions).

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RANDOMNESS EXPANSION LEMMA (A-S, Terwijn, Zheng, 1997). Let $A \in \mathbf{E}$ be n^2 -random. Then, for $k \geq 1$, there are sets A_k and A'_k such that

- A_k is n^k -random, $A_k \leq_m^P A$, and $A_k \in \mathbf{E}$
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By Juedes and Lutz (1995):

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This leaves for EXP the question whether the E-strongly nontrivial sets and the E-nontrivial sets are typical or untypical in EXP. As we will show **neither is the case**.

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We first show that the strongly E-nontrivial sets are not untypical in EXP, i.e., do not have measure 0 in EXP. By the characterization of the measure in EXP in terms of randomness, it suffices to show.

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- Then, by the Randomness Expansion Lemma, $A'_k = \{x : 0^{|x|^{k+1}}x \in A\}$ is $2^{(\log n)^k}$ -random and $A'_k \in \text{EXP}$.

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We first show that the strongly E-nontrivial sets are not untypical in EXP, i.e., do not have measure 0 in EXP. By the characterization of the measure in EXP in terms of randomness, it suffices to show.

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- In fact, by a Biimmunity Expansion Lemma, it suffices to give an E_1 -biimmune set $B_1 \in \text{E}$ such that $B_1 \leq_m^P A'_k$.
- $B_1 = \{yx : |x|^{k+1} \leq |y| < |x+1|^{k+1} \text{ \& } x \in A'_k\}$ will do.

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We come back to the proof later! A direct proof of the Theorem can be given along the same lines (only the notation and some of the calculations are more tedious). In fact, the proof can be modified, in order to build for elementary recursive (time-constructible) $t(n)$ an E-trivial $t(n)$ -random set $A \in \text{EL}$ ($A \in \text{REC}$). So the E-trivial sets in the classes EL and REC are not untypical either.

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hard	0	0	0	0	0
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For EL and REC we have argued already that the nontrivial sets (hence the strongly nontrivial sets) are **not typical**. This leaves the question whether they are **untypical** or **neither typical nor untypical**.

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PROOF (IDEA). By $\text{DTIME}(\exp_5(n))$ -biimmunity a reduction f must be very strongly compressing. So, for infinitely many x there are much shorter x' with $f(x) = f(x')$ (hence $B(x) = B(x')$) which makes the computation of $B(x)$ easy on such strings x .

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We show this for REC. The proof for EL is similar. It suffices to show:

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- The claim follows since any tally set in $E \setminus E_1$ is E-nontrivial (and since E-nontriviality is inherited upwards).

What weak hardness notions are typical in EL and REC? - Conclusion

By the preceding results we can almost complete the diagram:

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It only remains to classify the E-useful sets in REC. Since E-nontrivial sets are E-useful, we already know that the E-useful sets are **not untypical in REC**. But are they typical? The answer is NO!

E-useful sets are not typical in REC

It suffices to show:

THEOREM (A-S and Bakibayev). Let B be E-complete. For any strictly increasing time-constructible function $t(n)$ there is a computable $t(n)$ -random set A such that A and B are a minimal pair (i.e., A is E-useless).

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The proof of the theorem combines the minimal pair technique of Ambos-Spies (1987) (which uses a speed-up-argument) with the construction of a pseudo-random set in the style of Ambos-Spies and Kräling (2009). The technical features are similar to the proof of the MAIN LEMMA. So we sketch the proof of the latter.

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Since there is an (normed) n^6 -martingale d which is universal for the n^2 -martingales, it suffices to ensure

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We say we use the **safe randomness strategy** at stage $s + 1$ if we let $A(z_s) = i$ for the least $i \leq 1$ such that $d(A \upharpoonright z_s)i \leq d(A \upharpoonright z_s)$ (such an i exists by the fairness condition).

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$$\mathcal{R}_e : E_{e_0} \leq_m^p A \text{ via } f_{e_1} \Rightarrow \forall^\infty x \ (|x| > \frac{1}{2^e} \cdot |f_{e_1}(x)|^2)$$

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If f_{e_1} is not sufficiently compressing then \mathfrak{R}_e is met by diagonalization. (Time required for doing so: about $2^{\frac{1}{e} \cdot n^2}$, i.e., **decreasing for growing e** . Since the requirements are finitary, this is consistent with $(* * *)$!)

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- **Potential conflicts.** Meeting a requirement \mathfrak{R}_e by appropriately setting $A(z_s) = j$ (some j) may not be compatible with the safe randomness strategy and may result in an increase of d yielding $d([A \upharpoonright z_s]j) > 1$ which is not compatible with $(*)$.

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So, at the beginning, $d(A \upharpoonright z_0) + \sum_{e=0}^{\infty} b_e(0) = 1 + 0 \leq 1$. And this bound will be preserved throughout the construction.

(So $(*)$ is satisfied.)

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- Now, if \mathfrak{R}_e is elected to act at stage $s + 1$ and the current balance $b_e(s)$ suffices to compensate the increase in d , i.e., if

$$d([A \upharpoonright z_s]j) \leq d(A \upharpoonright z_s) + b_e(s)$$

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Note that in this case $b_e(s + 1) > 2 \cdot b_e(s)$ by the fairness condition. So, eventually, \mathfrak{R}_e has enough money in its account in order to pay for the desired diagonalization step. (Again, by the fairness condition, \mathfrak{R}_e has never to pay more than 1 while if \mathfrak{R}_e would be prevented from acting infinitely often, the balance $b_e(s)$ would go to infinity.)

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So (i), (ii) and (iv) are optimal whereas (iii) is not optimal (due to very generous estimates of the required upper bounds). We do not not know the optimal bound here.

THANK YOU !