# *NP* CSCI 338

*P* is the set of languages that are decidable in polynomial time on a deterministic single-tape TM.

To show something is in *P*, build a polynomial time decider for it.

NP - Set of languages that have polynomial time verifiers.

#### Vertex Cover (VC)

Vertex Cover = { $\langle G, k \rangle$ : G = (V, E) is a graph and k is an integer  $\leq |V|$  such that there exists some  $V' \subseteq V$  with  $|V'| \leq k$ , such that each edge in E contains an end point in V'}

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Claim:  $VC \in NP$ 

Proof:

Build a polynomial time verifier.

|V| = n.  $M = \text{ on input } \langle \langle G, k \rangle, V' \rangle$ , where V' is a subset of V.  $O(1) \longrightarrow 1.$  Test if  $|V'| \le k$ , reject if not.  $O(n^2) \longrightarrow 2.$  For each edge e = (a, b) in E,  $O(n) \longrightarrow 2.1$  Test if  $a \in V'$  or  $b \in V'$ , reject if neither.  $O(1) \longrightarrow 3.$  accept.

For |V| = n, M runs in  $O(n^3)$  time, therefore  $VC \in NP$ .

Independent Set: Given a graph G = (V, E) and integer  $k \leq |V|$ , is there a subset V' of size  $\geq k$ , such that no two vertices  $\in V'$  are adjacent?



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Yes! Any vertex by itself is an IS!

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What is the optimal (i.e., largest) independent set?

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Nondeterministic polynomial time decider:

- 1. Pick a potential solution.
- 2. Verify its correctness.

Vertex Cover (VC)

Claim:  $VC \in NP$ Proof:

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- 1. Test if  $|V'| \leq k$ , reject if not.
- 2. For each edge e = (a, b) in E, 2.1 Test if  $a \in V'$  or  $b \in V'$ , reject if neither.
- 3. <u>accept</u>.

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 $M = \text{on input } \langle G, k \rangle.$ 

- 1. Nondeterministically select a subset V' of V of size k.
- 2. For each edge e = (a, b) in E, 2.1 Test if  $a \in V'$  or  $b \in V'$ , reject if neither.
- 3. <u>accept</u>.

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To show something is in *P*, build a polynomial time decider for it.

NP - Set of languages that have polynomial time verifiers. Set of languages that are decidable by nondeterministic polynomial time TMs.

To show something is in NP, build a polynomial time verifier (or nondeterministic decider) for it.

#### P versus NP

# $P \stackrel{?}{=} NP$

Solvable in polynomial time

Verifiable in polynomial time





Can all problems that are verifiable in polynomial time be solved in polynomial time?