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P vs. NP

P (stands for "Polynomial")

The set of all decision problems that have an algorithm that runs in time $O(n^k)$ for some constant k.

NP (stands for "nondeterministic polynomial")

The set of all decision problems such that if the answer is YES, there is a proof of that which can be verified in polynomial time.

Claim: $P \subseteq NP$ (do you see why?)

EXP

EXP (stands for "Exponential")

The set of all decision problems that have an algorithm that runs in time $O(2^{n^k})$ for some constant k.

3-COLOR is in EXP (we just saw why on the last slide)

So is

Claim: NP \subseteq EXP (do you see why?)

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