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Topological arguments and Kolmogorov complexity

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- ► task: given string *x* and number *n*, find *y* such that C(x|y) = n + O(1) and C(y|x) = n + O(1)
- not always possible: C(x) should be at least n

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- So C(x) ≥ n + O(log n) is enough, but two essentially different arguments are needed at both ends

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- discrete intermediate value theorem guarantees that C(x|y) = n + O(1) for some y on the way

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- ► O(1) cannot be obtained in this way (since all the arguments about random and independent bits work with O(log n) precision only)

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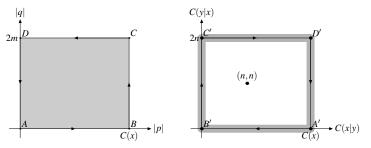
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Putting pieces together

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Alternative: repeat the proof for discrete case

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- an open problem in the general case

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- and finally show how to win the game

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 - ► $\leq 2N^3$ hopeless elements; all others in X are ultimately connected to some $y \in Y$ and this connection lasts forever

Why computable winning strategy is enough

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- but both complexities are at least n, otherwise refused

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- invariant: in all pairs people have matching experiences (#sent = #received for the other)

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- ► there are N² experience classes; if class reaches 2N, it stops growing since y can be always found in the class (< 2N are tried earlier with given x), so O(N³) hopeless

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- to the audience for following the talk to that point :-)