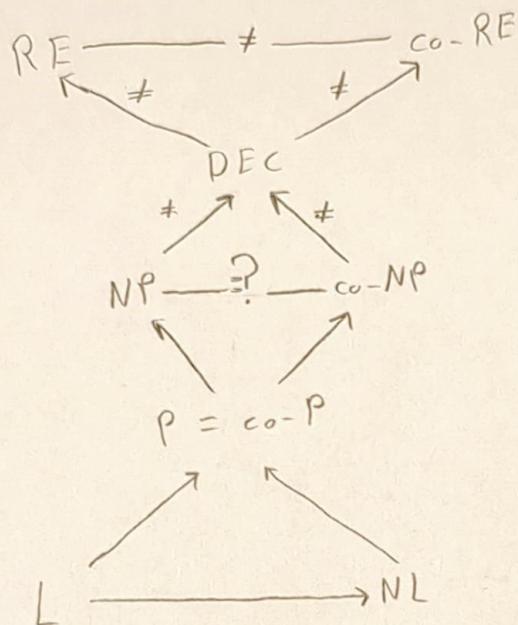We've looked at a number of complexity classes so far.
Let's organize them by set inclusion (up to our current
knowledge of the field).

$$RE \xrightarrow{\quad \neq \quad} co\text{-}RE$$

Diagram:

RE ———— ≠ ———— co-RE

RE ←—≠— DEC —≠—→ co-RE

DEC ←—≠— NP, DEC ←—≠— co-NP

NP ——?=?—— co-NP

NP ← P = co-P → co-NP

P = co-P ← L, P = co-P ← NL

L ————————→ NL

We can get some additional results from what we've already
done. It turns out PATH $\in$ NL-COMPLETE, and $\overline{PATH} \in NL$,
hence NL = co-NL. This result generalizes the same way
Savitch's theorem generalized from PATH, so we get that
NSPACE complexities are closed under complimentation. That is
for $f \in \Omega(\log n)$, NSPACE$(f) =$ co-NSPACE(f). No similar general
result is known for time complexities. The same result does,
however, follow for deterministic spaces. That is SPACE$(f) =$ co-SPACE(f).
If we define some more complexity classes, we
can get more results about useful classes.

$$PSPACE = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} SPACE(n^k)$$

$$NPSPACE = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} NSPACE(n^k)$$

From Savitch's Theorem, we have that $NPSPACE \subseteq PSPACE$, but in general $SPACE(f) \subseteq NSPACE(f)$, so we have that $PSPACE = NPSPACE!$

We also have a general result relating time and space.

$$TIME(f) \subseteq SPACE(f)$$
$$NTIME(f) \subseteq NSPACE(f).$$

This is because in order to use $f(n)$ memory, you must scan each cell, which requires 1 step per cell, hence $\Omega(f)$-time. This gives us that

$$P \subseteq PSPACE = NPSPACE,$$
$$NP \subseteq NPSPACE = PSPACE.$$

We do not know if these inclusions are proper, however. But there is a time class strictly bigger than P.

$$EXPTIME = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} TIME\left(2^{n^k}\right).$$

A TM which runs in $f \in \Omega(\log n)$ space has at most $f \cdot 2^{O(f)}$ unique configurations, so to halt, it must run in time at most $f \cdot 2^{O(f(n))}$, hence $PSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME$. This gives us

$$P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE = NPSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME,$$

and since $P \neq EXPTIME$ (see below), at least one of these inclusions must be proper. Which one, we do not know.

Now how did we know that $P \neq EXPTIME$? There are actually four useful heirarchy theorems that prevent time and space complexities from collapsing into smaller ones.

<u>Def</u> A function $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ with $f \in \Omega(\log n)$ is <u>time constructible</u> if the function which maps $1^n \to f(n)$ is computable in $O(f(n))$-time. Similarly, f is <u>space constructable</u> if $1^n \to f(n)$ is computable in $O(f(n))$-space.

<u>Thm</u> For any time constructable function $f(n)$,

$$TIME\left(o\left(\frac{f(n)}{\log(n)}\right)\right) \subset TIME(f(n)).$$

<u>Thm</u> For any time constructable function $g(n)$ with $f(n+1) \in o(g(n))$,

$$NTIME(f(n)) \subset NTIME(g(n)).$$

<u>Thm</u> For any space constructable function $f(n)$,

$$SPACE(o(f(n))) \subset SPACE(f(n)).$$

<u>Thm</u> For any space constructable function $f(n)$,

$$NSPACE(o(f(n))) \subset NSPACE(f(n)).$$

These theorems immediately yield $NL \subset PSPACE$, so since

$$NL \subseteq P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE,$$

at least one of these inclusions must be proper. Similarly, if

$$EXPSPACE = \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} SPACE\left(2^{n^k}\right),$$

then since

$$PSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME \subseteq EXPSPACE,$$

at least one inclusion must be proper.