

You CANNOT consult any other person or online resource for solving the homework problems. You can definitely ask the instructor or TAs for hints and you are encourage to do so (in fact, you will get useful hints if you ask for help at least 1-2 days before the due date). If we find you guilty of academic dishonesty, penalty will be imposed as per institute guidelines.

(a) Prove that *convert1()* is a valid reduction from *3SUM* to *PARTITION* or show a counterexample.

Solution: Lemma: If *A* is YES instance of algorithm *3SUM*, then set *B* is YES instance of algorithm *PARTITION*

Lemma: If *A* is NO instance of algorithm *3SUM*, then set *B* is NO instance of algorithm *PARTITION*

The counterexample to show that *convert1()* is not a valid reduction is:

If the given input set *A* to the *3SUM* has all the positive numbers, let *a*, *b*, *c*, be all positive numbers given as input to *3SUM*. Then, *convert1(A)*, inserts all the numbers of the set *A* to the output set along with the sum of the numbers in the set *A*. That is, the output set of *convert1* has numbers *a*, *b*, *c*, and *a + b + c*. Let's call this set as *B*.

By the definition of *3SUM*, it returns *True* only if there are 3 numbers in the input set that has sum equal to 0. Since, all the positive numbers are greater than 0, (i.e. $a > 0, b > 0, c > 0$), then $a + b + c = 0$ can never hold *True*. Therefore, this is a "NO" instance of the problem *3SUM*.

Whereas, set *B* has numbers *a*, *b*, *c*, *a + b + c*. The *PARTITION* divides the input set *B* into two subsets with equal sums. The elements of the set *B* can be divided into two subsets of equal sum with first set having elements *a*, *b*, *c* and the second subset element has element *a + b + c*. Therefore, this is a "YES" instance of *PARTITION*.

For set *A* which is NO instance of algorithm *3SUM*, set *B* is YES instance of algorithm *PARTITION*
∴ *convert1* is not a valid reduction from *3SUM* to *PARTITION*

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(b) Prove that *convert2()* is a valid reduction of 3SUM to EQUALDIFF or show a counterexample.

Solution: 3SUM: Given three sets A, B, C containing numbers between 0 and 1 (and not equal to 0 and 1), is there a number $a \in A$, $b \in B$, and $c \in C$ such that $a + b = c$?

EQUALDIFF: Given two sets P and Q of numbers, are there p_1 and p_2 in P and q_1 and q_2 in Q such that $p_1 - p_2 = q_1 - q_2$?

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def convert2(A, B, C) :  $\langle\langle$ three arrays  $A, B, C$  containing numbers between 0 and 1 (and not equal to 0 and 1) $\rangle\rangle$ 
    P = {} and Q = A
    for i=1 ... n:  $\langle\langle$   $n$  denotes the number of elements in C $\rangle\rangle$ 
        add 100i to P
        add 100i - ci + 3 to P // ci is the i-th element of C
    for every b in B:
        add 3-b to Q
    return (P, Q)
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convert2 adds elements of the form $100i$ and $100i - ci + 3$ to set P . In set Q , it adds all the elements of A , and $3 - b$. Let p_1 and p_2 be two numbers in set P . Let q_1 and q_2 be two numbers in set Q .

Let $i, j \in 1 \dots n$. Then, $p_1 - p_2$ can be $100(j - i)$ (difference between $100i$ and $100j$), or $ci - 3$ (difference between $100i$ and $100i - ci + 3$) and $100(j - i) + cj - ci$ (difference between $100i - ci + 3$ and $100j - cj + 3$).

Lemma: If I_2 is YES instance of algorithm PARTITION, then set I_1 is YES instance of algorithm 3SUM

Let m be the number of elements in B . Let $i, k \in 1 \dots m$. Then, elements of I_2 can be:

- $ai - ak$ (difference between elements from set A),
- $3 - bi - ak = 3 - (bi + ak)$ (difference between $3 - bi$ and ak), or
- $ak - 3 + bi = (ak + bi) - 3$ (difference between ak and $3 - bi$).

For a YES instance of EQUALDIFF,

$$p_1 - p_2 = q_1 - q_2 \quad (1)$$

$$p_1 - p_2 = cj - 3 \quad (2)$$

$$q_1 - q_2 = ak + bi - 3 \quad (3)$$

$$cj - 3 = ak + bi - 3 \quad (4)$$

$$cj = ak + bi \quad \dots \text{from (3, 4)} \quad (5)$$

Thus, if $p_1 - p_2 = q_1 - q_2$ holds for I_2 , then I_1 $c = a + b$ holds for sure.

Lemma: If I_1 is YES instance of algorithm 3SUM, then set I_2 is YES instance of algorithm PARTITION

Conversely, if $a + b = c$ holds in 3SUM, then *convert2* will add numbers of the form $100i - ci + 3$ and $100i$ in P and all the elements of A and $3 - b$ in Q . Thus, differences of the form explained above will surely exist between the numbers. Let $a + b = c$ holds true. Corresponding to a, b, c that satisfies this assignment, there will surely exist numbers $100j, 100j - cj + 3$ in P that gives the difference $cj - 3$ and $ak, 3 - bi$ in Q that gives the difference $ak + bi - 3$ from the numbers between set Q . Therefore, p_1, q_1, p_2, q_2 exists such that $p_1 = 100j, p_2 = 100j - cj + 3, q_1 = ak$ and $q_2 = 3 - bi$ and $\therefore p_1 - p_2 = q_1 - q_2$ holds true.

\therefore *convert2* is a valid reduction from 3SUM to EQUALDIFF. ■