

COL 351 Lecture 42 2023/04/27

Topic : Leftover from last class

Context: Prove that DHC is NP-hard.

Claim: $3SAT \leq_{\text{Karp}} \text{DHC}$

Reduction: Formula φ
with n vars \longrightarrow
 m clauses

Graph $G =$
Backbone graph of size
 $\Theta(mn) + m$ extra vertices
encoding clauses

We proved: φ satisfiable $\Rightarrow G$ has a directed Hamiltonian cycle

We also proved: Let T' be a directed Hamiltonian cycle of G .

$\forall j$ and i :

If T' visits l_{ij} before c_j , then it visits r_{ij} after c_j , and
if T' visits r_{ij} before c_j , then it visits l_{ij} after c_j .

Claim: G has a directed Hamiltonian cycle $\Rightarrow \varphi$ is satisfiable.

Proof: Let T' be a directed Hamiltonian cycle of G .

Bypassing the vertices C_j in T' , we get a directed Hamiltonian cycle, say T , of the backbone graph $B(n, m)$.

T is of the following form:

1. Start from s .
2. For $i = 1$ to n , traverse row i from left to right or right to left.
3. Visit t and return to s .

Let x_i^* be true if T traverses row i from left to right

Let x_i^* be False if T traverses row i from right to left.

We claim (x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*) satisfies φ .

Consider an arbitrary clause C_j in φ .

T' visits C_j between l_{ij} and r_{ij} for some i .

Case 1: T' visits l_{ij} followed by C_j followed by r_{ij}

$\therefore (l_{ij}, C_j)$ and (C_j, r_{ij}) are edges of G .

$\therefore x_i$ is a literal in C_j

T traverses l_{ij} before $r_{ij} \therefore T$ traverses row i from left to right

$\therefore x_i^* = \text{true} \therefore C_j$ is satisfied by (x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*) .

Case 2: T' visits r_{ij} followed by C_j followed by l_{ij}

Symmetric argument implies C_j is satisfied by (x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)

$\therefore (x_1^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ satisfies φ .

A summary of Karp reductions done in class / tutorials to prove NP-hardness

