

12/4/18

NP-COMPLETE

undirected weight
graph

→ Travelling Salesman: Given a set of distances on 'n' cities and a bound D , is there a ~~town~~^{tour} of length $\leq D$

Start, visit all cities, and come back.

→ To show your problem X is NP-Complete:

(1) $X \in NP$ Argue that it has efficient verifies

(2) [some known NP-Complete Problem] $\leq_p X$

ie, your problem can be used to solve a known NP-Complete problem.

• Common Mistake: Instead of [some known NP-Complete problem] $\leq_p X$

people do $X \leq_p$ [some known NP-Complete problem] → THIS IS WRONG!

→ For problem X and Y , we write $Y \leq_p X$ if \exists poly-time algo R taking instance of Y to instances of X such that if:

(1) S_Y is a yes-instance of $Y \iff R(S_Y)$ is a yes-instance of X
input to Y

(2) S_Y is a no-instance of $Y \iff R(S_Y)$ is a no-instance of X

logically redundant to prove both parts, we can prove only for first part.

→ Set Cover: Give a set U of n elements, and a collection S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m of subsets of U , and a number k , does there exist at most k of these sets whose union is equal to all of U ?

Example of Set Cover:

$$U = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$$

$$S_1 = \{a, b\}$$

$$S_2 = \{b, c, d\}$$

$$S_3 = \{b, d, e\}$$

$$S_4 = \{a, b, c\}$$

$$k = 2$$

$$\rightarrow S_3 \cup S_4 = U$$

$$\rightarrow$$

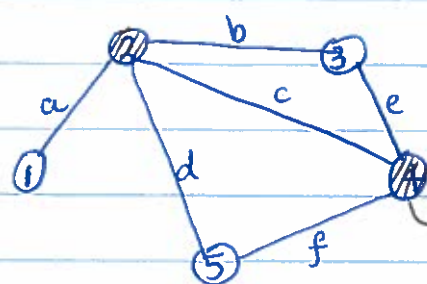
→ Claim: Set Cover is NP-Complete.

1. Set Cover \in NP because the collection of subsets that covers U is the certificate which can be checked in poly time $\leq k$ a.k.a "witness" "y"

2. $\underbrace{[\text{Known NP-Complete problem}]}_{\text{VERTEX COVER}} \leq_p [\text{Set Cover}]$

◦ Vertex Cover: Given undirected graph G and integer k , is there a subset M of at most k nodes such that

every edge has at least one endpoint in M ?



→ Example of Vertex Cover

$k = 2$

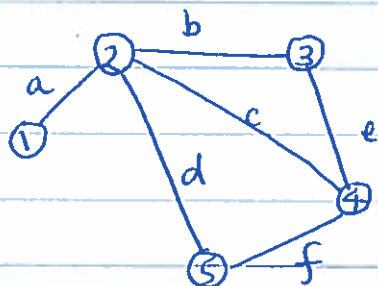
Solution → witness = $\{2, 4\}$

- Given instance (G, k) of vertex cover, construct instance of set cover as follows:

U = set of all edges

for each node i , let S_i = all edges incident to i .

Number k for set cover = k for vertex cover.



EXAMPLE INSTANCE
OF VERTEX COVER

INSTANCE OF SET COVER:

$U = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$

$S_1 = \{a\}$

→ $S_2 = \{a, b, c, d\}$

$S_3 = \{b, e\}$

→ $S_4 = \{c, e, f\}$

$S_5 = \{d, f\}$

Then (G, k) is a yes-instance of vertex cover

$\iff (U, \{S_1, \dots, S_n\}, k)$ constructed as above
is a yes-instance of Set Cover.

★ You don't have to map instances the other way
around [i.e., set cover to vertex cover] → not clear
how to do so.

