

Since the problem does not mention about reduction, we'll assume that it's under \leq_k . By definition of **NP**-hard, a decision problem p is **NP**-hard if for all $q \in \text{NP}$, $q \leq_k p$. Hence, in order to prove that f is not **NP**-hard, just need to find a problem $x \in \text{NP}$ such that $x \leq_k f$ is not possible. So, by choosing the HAMPATH problem, we want to see if $\text{HAMPATH} \leq_k f$.

However, for HAMPATH, when there exists a Hamilton path within the input graph, it would output true, and false otherwise. But for problem f , no matter what the input is, it would always output false. Hence, there does not exist a polynomial time computable function m such that it can provide the same instance output for both HAMPATH and f . Therefore, the decision problem f is not **NP**-hard.