

1). Let X and Y be two decision problems. Suppose we know that X reduces to Y in polynomial time. Which of the following can we infer? Explain.

A). If Y is NP-complete then so is X .

False, it cannot be inferred because X does not necessarily in NP-Complete and it could be just in NP

B). If X is NP-complete then so is Y .

False, it cannot be inferred because Y could be in any harder NP classes.

C). If Y is NP-complete and X is in NP then X is NP-complete.

False, it cannot be inferred because X can just be in NP.

D). If X is NP-complete and Y is in NP then Y is NP-complete.

True, it can be inferred because Y is in NP and if X is NP-complete then so is Y because Y must be at least as hard as X .

E). If X is in P, then Y is in P.

False, it cannot be inferred because Y is at least as hard as X , so it can still in NP and not necessarily in P.

F). If Y is in P, then X is in P.

True, it can be inferred because knowing that Y is at least as hard as X , so if Y is in P then so does X .

2). Consider the problem COMPOSITE: given an integer y , does y have any factors other than one and itself? For this exercise, you may assume that COMPOSITE is in NP, and you will be comparing it to the well-known NP-complete problem SUBSET-SUM: given a set S of n integers and an integer target t , is there a subset of S whose sum is exactly t ? Clearly explain whether or not each of the following statements follows from that fact that COMPOSITE is in NP and SUBSET-SUM is NP-complete:

A). SUBSET-SUM \leq_p COMPOSITE.

No. Since SUBSET-SUM is NP-complete, it may only be reduced to any other NP-complete problem. We only know that COMPOSITE is in NP but we don't know if it's in NP-complete.

B). If there is an $O(n^3)$ algorithm for SUBSET-SUM, then there is a polynomial time algorithm for COMPOSITE.

Yes. If SUBSET-SUM has an polynomial time, hence we can prove that $P=NP$, which means that if NP-complete can be solved in polynomial time then every problem in NP, including NP-complete like COMPOSITE, can be solved in polynomial time.

C). If there is a polynomial algorithm for COMPOSITE, then $P = NP$.

No. This is not true because COMPOSITE is only in NP but we don't know if it is in NP-complete.

D). If P not equals to NP, then **no** problem in NP can be solved in polynomial time.

No. Since P is the subset of NP, hence all the problems in P are also in NP and they can be solved in polynomial time.

3). A Hamiltonian path in a graph is a simple path that visits every vertex exactly once. Prove that HAM-PATH = $\{ (G, u, v) : \text{there is a Hamiltonian path from } u \text{ to } v \text{ in } G \}$ is NP-complete. You may use the fact that HAM-CYCLE is NP-complete.

To prove that HAM-PATH is NP-complete, we need to show that 1). HAM-PATH is in NP and 2). C can reduce to HAM-PATH for some C in NP-complete.

1). Showing that HAM-PATH is in NP

Given a graph G with n vertices with a path from u to v , we can verify the certificate in polynomial time that the path is a simple path with n vertices, by checking the adjacency list or matrix to verify the vertices are adjacent, and that there are n vertices.

2). Show that C can reduce to HAM-PATH for some C in NP-complete

- We can first choose C to be HAM-CYCLE because the structure between these two is similar and since we know that HAM-CYCLE is NP-complete, therefore it is in NP.
- Let's name $HC = \text{HAM-CYCLE}$ and $HP = \text{HAM-PATH}$. $HC(u-v)$ reduces to $HP(u-u')$. Given a graph $G(u-v)$ with having a Hamiltonian Cycle, where $(u-v)$ is a set of vertices, we can create a new graph $G'(u-u')$ where we duplicate the vertex u with all its connecting edges and name it u' . This new graph, $G'(u-u')$ now has a Hamiltonian Path from u to u' . This reduction can happen in polynomial time by transformation: adding the list of edges for u' to the edge list of G .
 - For graph $G(u-v)$ to contain a Hamiltonian Cycle, all the vertices connect to each other, can transform to graph $G'(u-u')$ that contains Hamiltonian Path for all vertices connect to each other include u' since its edges are duplicated from u .
 - If graph $G(u-v)$ has some missing edges like from u to y and y to u (let's say that the $G(u-v)$ has vertices of u, v, x, y) in which that the Hamiltonian Cycle will not exist, through transformation, graph $G'(u-u')$ will have missing edges just like $G(u-v)$ but with the additional missing edges from u' (again, it's a duplicate of u from $G(u-v)$) in which that the Hamiltonian Path will not exist in $G'(u-u')$.
- If G has a Hamiltonian Cycle, then G' has a Hamiltonian Path, and if G doesn't have Hamiltonian Cycle then so does G' .

Since both step 1 and 2 are true, in this case we can confirm that HAM-PATH is NP-complete.

4). K-COLOR. Given a graph $G = (V, E)$, a k -coloring is a function $c: V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ such that $c(u) \neq c(v)$ for every edge $(u, v) \in E$. In other words the number 1, 2, ..., k represent the k colors and adjacent vertices must have different colors. The decision problem K-COLOR asks if a graph can be colored with at most K colors.

A). The 2-COLOR decision problem is in P. Describe an efficient algorithm to determine if a graph has a 2-coloring. What is the running time of your algorithm?

This is like the bipartite problem that we've done in couple assignments ago. We can use BFS or DFS to check whether a given graph is 2 colored or not.

- We can start with BFS on an arbitrary vertex
- The coloring on the vertices at the first level would be color A, then second level with color B, then third with color A, and so on.
- For each edge, check whether two ends have different color or not.
- If any edge has the same colorings, return false because the graph has no 2-coloring, else true.

The BFS runs from vertex a
Mark a as visited and insert a into queue.

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C=1
Level[a] = 0
Color[a] = 0
While queue is not empty:
    U = queue.remove()
    C=(c%2)+1
    For all of the unvisited neighbors v of u:
        Mark v as visited
        Color[v] = c
        Level[v] = level[u]+1
        Queue.insert(v)

    For each vertex u of G:
        For each vertex v in adjacent[u]
            If Color[u] == Color[v]
                Return false

Return true

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- BFS takes $O(V+E)$ time and traversing adjacency list takes $O(V+E)$ time
- The algorithm is $O(V+E)$ and it's linear

B). It is known that the 3-COLOR decision problem is NP-complete by using a reduction from SAT. Use the fact that 3-COLOR is NP-complete to prove that 4-COLOR is NP-complete.

It is obvious that 4-COLOR is NP because since we know that 3-COLOR is NP-complete and 4-COLOR derived from the structure of 3-COLOR except we add an extra node that is connected with the base graph.

Proving 4-COLOR is NP-Hard (reducing 4-COLOR from 3-COLOR)

It is already given that 3-COLOR is NP-complete, hence 3-COLOR is also NP. To prove 4-COLOR, we need to reduce this NP problem, 3-COLOR, to 4-COLOR.

Take a graph G and reduce it to a new graph G' such that if G belongs to 3-COLOR if and only if G' belongs to 4-COLOR.

Generate G' by adding a new node v to G and connecting v to all the nodes in the graph. For which graph G can be obtained if node v is removed from G' .

- Consider G belongs to 3-COLOR
- G' is obviously belongs to 4-COLOR with the added new node v with new color, since G only has 3 colors and only node v has the fourth color.

Then if G belongs to 3-COLOR then G' belongs to 4-COLOR.

- Consider G' belongs to 4-COLOR
- G is obviously 3-colorable since only G' has the fourth color with node v which makes G' 4-colorable.

Thus, if G' belongs to 4-COLOR then G belongs to 3-COLOR.

Therefore, it is proved that if G belongs to 3-COLOR if and only if G' belongs to 3-COLOR.

This also proved that 4-COLOR is NP-complete, since 4-COLOR is NP and NP-hard.