

Problem Reduction Terminology. For two problems X and Y we will often ask,

“Show that a polynomial time algorithm solving X implies a polynomial time algorithm solving Y .”

If we can do this, then we write “ $Y \leq X$.”

1. Write down in your own words what “ $Y \leq X$ ” means here.
2. Write down the contrapositive of what you wrote in (1).
3. For some problem X , suppose we can show that X has a poly-time algorithm.
 - (True/False) $3SAT \leq X$
 - (True/False) $X \leq 3SAT$
 - (True/False) $2SAT \leq X$
 - (True/False) $X \leq 2SAT$
4. Write down the CNF formula for “ $x = y$ ”

Problem $4\text{SAT} \leq 3\text{SAT}$. Show that a polynomial time algorithm for 3SAT implies a polynomial time algorithm for 4SAT .

How would you format your answer on an exam?

Problem . Let the HALFSAT problem be defined as follows.

HALFSAT: Given a formula in CNF form with $2n$ variables and no negations, determine whether the formula can be satisfied by setting at most n variables to TRUE.

Here is an example of a HALFSAT instance:

The formula

$$X = (x_1 \vee x_5) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee x_6) \wedge (x_1 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_4) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_5)$$

can be satisfied by setting x_2, x_4, x_5 to TRUE (and x_1, x_3, x_6 to FALSE).

Thus, X is an instance of HALFSAT.

Prove that a poly time algorithm for HALFSAT would imply a poly time algorithm for 3SAT (That is, $3SAT \leq HALFSAT$).