

Computational complexity – Homework

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October 26, 2014

1 NP-Hardness

1.1 Halting problem

Let be φ an instance of SAT problem. We denote by n the number of variables.

Let be M a TURING machine which tests in a cycle all the 2^n possible assignments of the previous formula : when M has tested all assignments, it starts again. This machine halts if and only if φ is satisfiable. This reduction is polynomial, therefore $SAT \leq_p HALT$, ie. $HALT$ is NP -hard since SAT is NP -hard.

$HALT$ is not NP -complete otherwise it was decidable by a TURING-machine, but $HALT$ is unsatisfiable.

1.2 TQBF

All instance of SAT problem is an instance of $TQBF$. Without transformation, we have a polynomial reduction, ie. $SAT \leq_p TQBF$ so $TQBF$ is NP -hard.

This problem is known for being PSPACE-complete. It's not NP-complete.

1.3 NAE – 3 – SAT

Let be φ an instance of $NAE - 3 - SAT$.

$$\varphi = \bigwedge_{i=1}^n (x_{i,1} \vee x_{i,2} \vee x_{i,3})$$

We will describe the "not all equal" condition in term of formula.

$$\bigwedge_{i=1}^n \neg(x_{i,1} \wedge x_{i,2} \wedge x_{i,3}) \wedge \neg(\neg x_{i,1} \wedge \neg x_{i,2} \wedge \neg x_{i,3})$$

using DE MORGAN's law:

$$\psi := \bigwedge_{i=1}^n (\neg x_{i,1} \vee \neg x_{i,2} \vee \neg x_{i,3}) \wedge (x_{i,1} \vee x_{i,2} \vee x_{i,3})$$

$$|\psi| \sim 2|\varphi| \Rightarrow |\psi| = \mathcal{O}(|\varphi|).$$

Let $\omega := \varphi \wedge \psi$. ω is an instance of SAT and the reduction is polynomial. If there is a solution to the SAT problem ξ , then φ is satisfied and, thanks to ψ , the "not all equal" condition is true.

Reciprocally, if there is a solution of the $NAE - 3 - SAT$ problem φ , then this assignation makes ζ true.

Consequently, $SAT \leq_p NAE - 3 - SAT$ and $NAE - 3 - SAT$ is NP -hard.

Moreover, $NAE - 3 - SAT$ is clearly NP : a valid assignation is a sufficient witness. We can check in polynomial time if this assignation makes the formula true and if the "not all equal" condition is satisfied. Then $NAE - 3 - SAT$ is NP -complete.

1.4 MAXCUT

Let F be an instance of $NAE - 3 - SAT$

$$F = \bigwedge_{i=1}^m C_i$$

We produce a graph $G = (V, E)$ which has a vertex for each literal of F . There is a edge between two vertices if there is a clause which contains this two literals. So each clause is described by a triangle. Moreover, we add $|F|_{x_i}$ (the number of occurrences of x_i in F) edges between x_i and $\neg x_i$. The size of the cut we search is at least $5m$.

If we have an assignment of the $NAE - 3 - SAT$, we take the vertices which are true in S and the other in \bar{S} . So, we have $2m$ from the triangles due to the clauses and $3m$ from the edges between all pair $(x_i, \neg x_i)$.

Reciprocally, if we have a cut of size $\geq 5m$.

If we have no pair $(x_i, \neg x_i)$ on the same size, we have a valid assignment.

If there is a such pair, we can move one of them on the opposite side without decreasing the size of the cut. Let n_i the number of edges between x_i and $\neg x_i$. We note a the number of edges which x_i is an extremity and which the other is in the opposite side. We note b the number of edges between b and a vertex of the opposite size. We know that $a + b \leq 2n_i$. If we move x_i in the opposite size, the cut gains $n_i - a$ edges. If $\neg x_i$ go to the opposite side, it gains $n_i - b$. $\max(n_i - a, n_i - b) \geq 0$, so we can move one of these vertices to the opposite side without decreasing the size of the cut. We redo this transformation until we reach a cut of the first case (at most m times).

We proved that $NAE - 3 - SAT \leq_p \text{MAXCUT}$.

Moreover, MAXCUT is in NP . Indeed, a witness is the list of the vertices of S (or \bar{S}). The size is actually polynomial with respect of the size of G and we can check the solution in a polynomial time : we check easily that the cut has a size $\geq k$ in a quadratic time.

So, $\text{MAXCUT} \in NP$.

2 Reductions

3 Difference of NP problems

Proposition 1. EXACTINDSET is in DP .

Proof. Let A be the set of all pairs (G, k) such that G has an independent set of size at least k , and let B be the set of all pairs (G, k) such G has a independent set of size at least $k + 1$. Then $\text{EXACTINDSET} = A \setminus B$ and A is in NP and B is in NP . Hence by definition of DP , EXACTINDSET is in DP . \square

Proposition 2. $\forall L \in DP$, L is polynomial-time reducible to EXACTINDSET .

Proof.

Lemma 3. $\text{INDSET} \geq_p 3 - \text{SAT}$

Proof. Suppose we have an instance F of $3 - \text{SAT}$ problem where $F = \bigwedge_{i=1}^m C_i$ where C_i is the disjunction of 3 variables. We note x_1, \dots, x_n the variables. We create the graph G as follows:

- For each variable in each clause, create a vertex, which we will label with the name of the variable. Therefore there may be multiple vertices with the label x_i or $\neg x_i$, if these variables appear in multiple clauses.
- For each clause, add an edge between the three vertices corresponding the variables from that clause.
- For all i , add an edge between every pair of vertices with one is labelled with x_i and the other labelled with $\neg x_i$.

There is a independent set of size m in G if and only if F is satisfiable. \square

We note that this reduction from $3 - \text{SAT}$ to INDSET took an instance φ of $3 - \text{SAT}$ consisting of m clauses each of three literals and produced a graph G_φ with $3m$ vertices such that if φ is satisfiable then the largest independent set in G has m vertices, and if G is unsatisfiable then the largest independent set of G has at most $m - 1$ vertices.

Now suppose that A is in DP . We want to show that $A \leq_p \text{EXACTINDSET}$. By definition of DP , $A = L_1 \setminus L_2$ for $(L_1, L_2) \in NP^2$. Since $3 - \text{SAT}$ is NP -complete, there are polytime functions f_1, f_2 such that for $i = 1, 2$ and for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ we have $x \in L_i \Leftrightarrow f_i(x) \in 3\text{SAT}$. Hence for each fixed $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$, setting $\varphi_i = f_i(x)$, we have $x \in L_i \Leftrightarrow \varphi_i$ is satisfiable. Thus from the above reduction to INDSET , there is a polytime function which takes x to a pair of graphs G_1, G_2 such that if m_i is the number of clauses in φ_i , then for $i = 1, 2$, no independent set in G_i has more than m_i vertices, and $x \in L_i \Leftrightarrow$ the largest independent set in G_i has size m_i .

Now we use the notation $G \sqcup H$ for the disjoint union of graphs G and H . That is, the vertices in $G \sqcup H$ are the disjoint union of those in G and H , and similarly for the edges. Now let $G'_1 = G_1 \sqcup G_1$. Then a maximum independent set in G'_1 is the union of maximum independent sets in the two copies of G_1 . Thus $x \in L_1 \Rightarrow$ maximum independent set of G'_1 is $2m_1$ and $x \in \overline{L_1} \Rightarrow$ maximum independent set of G'_1 is $\leq 2m_1 - 2$. Now define G'_2 so that its vertices are those of G_2 together with $m_2 - 1$ new vertices, and the edges consist of those of G_2 together with an edge from each of the new vertices to every vertex of G_2 . Then we have designed G'_2 so that no independent set can contain both vertices of G_2 and new vertices, so $x \in L_2 \Rightarrow$ maximum independent set of G'_2 is m_2 , $x \in \overline{L_2} \Rightarrow$ maximum independent set of G'_2 is $m_2 - 1$. Now let $G_3 = G'_1 \sqcup G'_2$ and let $k = 2m_1 + m_2 - 1$. To finish the proof that $A \leq_p DP$, it suffices to show that

Lemma 4.

$$x \in A \Leftrightarrow (G_3, k) \in DP$$

(\Rightarrow): Suppose $x \in A$. Then by (2) $x \in L_1 \cap L_2$, so by (3) and (6) we conclude the maximum independent set of $G_3 = G'_1 \sqcup G'_2$ is $2m_1 + m_2 - 1 = k$.

(\Leftarrow): Suppose $x \notin A$. There are three cases:

- $x \in L_1 \cap L_2 \Rightarrow \text{maxindset}(G_3) = 2m_1 + m_2 > k$.
- $x \in L_1 \cap \overline{L_2} \Rightarrow \text{maxindset}(G_3) \leq 2m_1 + m_2 - 2 < k$
- $x \in \overline{L_1} \cap L_2 \Rightarrow \text{maxindset}(G_3) = 2m_1 + m_2 - 3 < k$

\square

Theorem 5. EXACTINDSET is DP -complete.

Proof. EXACTINDSET is in DP (proposition 1) and it is DP -hard (proposition 2). \square

4 Classes with exponential resources

We name **BOUNDEDHALT** the language of 3-tuples $\langle M, x, k \rangle$ where the machine M halts on input x in k steps.

Theorem 1. **BOUNDEDHALT** is EXP-complete.

Proof.

Lemma 2. **BOUNDEDHALT** \in EXP.

Proof. Let $\langle M, x, k \rangle$ an instance of **BOUNDEDHALT**.

We simulate M on x for k steps and accepts if and only if M halts and rejects otherwise. The running time is $m^{O(1)}$. Let $n = |\langle M, x, k \rangle| \geq \log k$. Therefore, the running time $\leq m^c = 2^{c \log m} \leq 2^{cn}$. \square

Lemma 3. **BOUNDEDHALT** is EXP-hard.

Proof. For each language $\mathcal{L} \in \text{EXP}$, we need to give polytime reduction from \mathcal{L} to **BOUNDEDHALT**. For a given language $\mathcal{L} \in \text{EXP}$, we know there is a TURING MACHINE $M_{\mathcal{L}}$ that decides \mathcal{L} in time $g(n) \leq 2^{n^c}$ for a $c \in \mathbb{N}$.

Let f such that $f(w) = \langle M_{\mathcal{L}}, w, m \rangle$ where $m = 2^{|w|^c}$.

f is polytime computable and $w \in \mathcal{L} \Rightarrow \langle M_{\mathcal{L}}, w, m \rangle \in \text{BOUNDEDHALT}$ and $w \notin \mathcal{L} \Rightarrow \langle M_{\mathcal{L}}, w, m \rangle \notin \text{BOUNDEDHALT}$ \square

BOUNDEDHALT is in EXP (lemma 2) and it is EXP-hard (lemma 3). \square

Theorem 4.

$$\text{L} = \text{P} \Rightarrow \text{PSPACE} = \text{EXP}$$

Proof. Take an arbitrary $\mathcal{L} \in \text{EXP}$, decided by a TURING machine in time 2^{n^c} .

Let $L_{\text{pad}} := \{x \diamond^{2^{|x|^c}} \mid x \in \mathcal{L}\}$. We have $L_{\text{pad}} \in \text{P}$ and, by the assumption $\text{P} = \text{L}$, we found that $L_{\text{pad}} \in \text{L}$. So, there is some TURING machine M_0 deciding L_{pad} in space $\log n$. M_0 can be used to decide \mathcal{L} : on input x , simulate M_0 on the padded input $x \diamond^{2^{|x|^c}}$ accept if and only if M_0 accepts.

The space we used on input x ($|x| = n$) is the space used by M_0 on the padded input $x \diamond^{2^{|x|^c}}$ of size $n + 2^{n^c}$, which is at most $\log(2^{n^c} + 1) = n^c + 1$, a polynomial. Hence, we have that $\mathcal{L} \in \text{PSPACE}$.

If we actually write the padded input $x \diamond^{2^{|x|^c}}$ on the work tape, this would make the space usage exponential in n . But, we don't need to write entirely this padded input. We know what it looks like to the right of x . So we can simulate M_0 on the virtual padded input $x \diamond^{2^{|x|^c}}$ by using a counter which tells the position on the tape of M_0 . If M_0 enquires about the position to the right of x , we respond with the symbol \diamond (or the blank, if M_0 goes to the right of the entire padded input). Since the counter can assume the value at most 2^{n^c} , we need at most n^c bits for the counter. Thus, this new TURING machine uses space at most polynomial in n . \square

5 Downward self-reducibility

6 Space hierarchy theorem

7 Polynomial hierarchy