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Reduction and Parallel Problems
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19. Show by reduction that if the decision version of the SAT-CNF problem has a polynomial time algorithm then the decision version of the 3-coloring problem has a polynomial time algorithm.

20. In the dominating set problem the input is an undirected graph G, the problem is to find the smallest dominating set in G. A dominating set is a collection S of vertices with the property that every vertex v in G is either in S, or there is an edge between a vertex in S and v. Show that the dominating set problem is NP-hard using a reduction from the vertex cover problem.
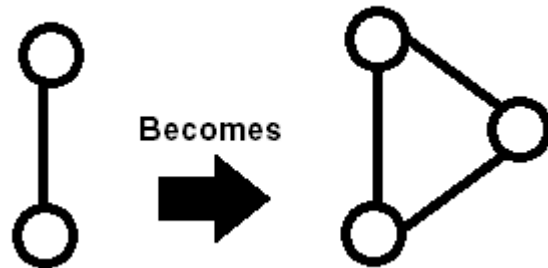
VERTEX COVER $\leq$ DOMINATING SET

Program Vertex Cover:

  Read graph G.

  $G' = $ G + an additional vertex for every edge, such that, the vertex is connected to the nodes that create the edge.

  Ouput DominatingSet(G')

The following figure more clearly shows how G is transformed to G'. Since Vertex Cover is concerned

with the vertices including the edges and dominating set is interested specifically in the vertices, adding these new vertices as representations of the edges ensures that the resulting dominating set is a vertex cover. Additionally, none of these new additional vertices should be selected as one of the dominating set, due to how they are connected into the graph. If one is selected there will always be a smaller dominating set that does no include that outside connection.

23. In the disjoint paths problem the input is a directed graph G and pairs $(s_1, t_1), \ldots, (s_k, t_k)$ of vertices. The problem is to determine if there exist a collection of vertex disjoint paths between the pairs of vertices (from each s_i to each t_i). Show that this problem is NP-hard by a reduction from the 3SAT problem. Note that this problem is not easy.

HINT: Construct one pair (s_i, t_i) for each variable x_i in your formula F. Intuitively there will be two possible paths between s_i and t_i depending on whether x_i is true or false. There will be a component/subgraph D_j of G for each clause C_j in F. There will be three possible paths between the (s_i, t_i)'s pairs for each D_j. You want that it is possible to route any two of these paths (but not all three) through D_j.

2. You know that lots of famous computer scientists have tried to find a fast efficient parallel algorithm for the following Boolean Formula Value Problem:

INPUT: A Boolean formula F and a truth assignment A of the variables in F.

OUTPUT: 1 if A makes F true, and 0 otherwise.

Moreover, most computer scientists believe that there is no fast efficient parallel algorithm for the Boolean Value Problem. You want to find a fast efficient parallel algorithm for some new problem N. After much effort you can not find a fast efficient parallel algorithm for N, nor a proof that N does not have a fast efficient parallel algorithm. How could you give evidence that finding a fast efficient parallel algorithm for N is at least a hard of a problem as finding a fast efficient parallel algorithm for Boolean Formula Value problem? Be as specific as possible, and explain how convincing the evidence is.

Note that "fast and efficient" means poly-log time with a polynomial number of processors. The term "poly-log" means bounded by $O(log^k n)$ for some constant k.

With a standard reduction problem we create a polynomial time mapping from the input of Boolean Formula Value problem to the input of N.

In parallel, we construct a parallel polynomial time mapping for the input of Boolean Formula Value to the to the input of N and demonstate that the Boolean Formula Value algorithm returns a given result if and only if N returns a certain result.

This shows that the Boolean Forumla Value algorithm will take at least the amount of time that N takes. Since, we do not have a fast efficient parallel algorithm for the Boolean Formula Value Problem we must not have one for N.

3. Consider the problem of taking as input an integer n and an integer x, and creating an array A of n integers, where each entry of A is equal to x.

Give an algorithm runs in time O($log\ n$) on a EREW PRAM using n processors. What is the efficiency of this algorithm?

The algorithm works as follows:
Assign$(1, \ldots, n/2, n/2)$, Assign$(n/2 + 1, \ldots, n, n/2)$
where Assign us a recursive call to assign x to the ith location in the array.
The resulting call tree has a height of $log\ n$, and n leaves.
T(n, p) calls two parallel calls requiring T$(n/2, p/2)$. From this we determine the efficiency to be: $n/n(1 + lg\ n) = 1/(1 + lg\ n)$, since the time spent in an individual leaf will be 1 time unit performing the assignment.

Give an algorithm that runs in time O($log\ n$) on a EREW PRAM using $n/log\ n$ processors. What is the efficiency of this algorithm?

The recurrence relation is the same as the previous problem, but the value of p has changed.
The height of this tree is $log\ p = log(n/log\ n)$ and the time spent in an individual leaf is $log\ n$.
Using the same algorithm as above we calculate the efficiency as:

$$E(n, p) = \frac{log(n)}{log(n) + log(\frac{n}{log(n)})}$$

Give an algorithm that runs in time O(1) on a CRCW PRAM using n processors. What is the efficiency of this algorithm?
In one time step, each processor reads x and writes to a location in A. This algorithm requires a CREW machine. T(n,p) calls n parallel calls requiring O(1) time, with a call tree of height one. The efficiency is:
$\frac{S(n)}{p\ \ T(n,p)} = \frac{n}{n\ \ 1} = 1$.