

MCF-ASSIGNMENT 2

- PRISHA

- 2021101075

(Q1) Suppose a given X is NP complete
→ time complexity of problem X?

Solution

If we have been provided following information,

- (1) Reduction function $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ works in polynomial time
hence it means we have polynomial p such that reduction can be performed in $p(x)$, where x as input
- (2) Problem X can be reduced to SAT in polynomial time and due to this reduction size of instance of X after reduction is X^3 .
- (3) It is required known SAT requires $\Omega(c^n)$ time for some constant $c > 1$. This implies that solving SAT instances grow exponentially with respect to input size

now we need to analyze time complexity of X, denoted by $T(X)$

$$T(X) = \underbrace{\text{Time Complexity of Reduction}}_{\text{poly}(X)} + \underbrace{\text{Time complexity of SAT after reduction}}_{c^{X^3}}$$

hence $T(X) = \text{poly}(X) + c^{X^3}$
(polynomial term) (Exponential term)

note now when input is large then exponential term dominates

$$T(X) \in \Omega(c^{X^3})$$

This means that Problem X requires exponential-time to solve if reduced to SAT!

(Q2) An oracle is a language $d \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$

NP = CONP.

1) Proof of Existence of an Infinite Sequence

We are assuming (\leq) to $d \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$. without any loss of generality we will represent any 3-SAT instance in binary $\{0,1\}$.

First, we prove that if $P \neq NP$, then $P \cap NP$ would have no complete problem. If there exist an NP-complete problem d , that is also in P , we can Karp reduce NP problem to d (since d is NP-complete). Since d is also in P , it can be solved in P !

Since Karp reduction also works in polynomial time, any problem in NP can be solved in polynomial time which implies $P=NP$ (contradiction!)

Hence all NP-complete problem lie in $(NP - P)$. — ①

Since 3SAT is NP-complete, it will belong to $(NP - P)$ from ①.

Let S be the infinite set.

Let $S_i = 3\text{-SAT}$, accept all binary string that have satisfying assignment.

$$S_i = S_{i-1} \cup \{x \mid x \text{ is multiple of } i \text{ in binary}\}$$

Now S_i can be Karp reduced to S_{i-1} because we can check if x is multiple of i in polynomial time (polynomial time in length of input). If yes we map to "yes" instance of S_{i-1} , otherwise we use identity function and map x of S_i to x of S_{i-1} . Hence polynomial time many-one (Karp reduction) from S_i to S_{i-1} !

s_i cannot be many-reducible to s_{i+1} . Consider input to turing machine s_i assuming it's a multiple of $(i+1)$, but not $i!$. There would be infinite number of such binary strings. Since it's a multiple of $(i+1)$, s_{i+1} will accept the string even if it is not 3-SATISFIABLE.

However we know that it is not multiple of i so s_i should accept if and only if it is 3-SAT!

Nence input to s_i and s_{i+1} . We knew there exist infinite numbers. Note that because 3SAT is NP-complete and since $P \neq NP$, hence no polynomial time algorithm for it!

→ Thus we could not find a mapping. Existence of mapping would imply 3SAT is in P that would be contradiction to $P \neq NP$!

∴ Set S is many-reducible to some set in NP if and only if S is in NP

Proof: let us assume S is many-reducible to S' in NP.

⇒ assume S is many-reducible to some set in NP, which means there exist polynomial time function f that map 'yes' instance of S to 'yes' instance of problem in NP! and no-instance of S to 'no' instance of problem in NP.

To prove this we can construct a non-deterministic turing machine for S as follows,

- Given an input x for S , compute $f(x)$. Existence of $f(x)$ guaranteed by many reduction from S to S' .
- Simulate the NDTM for $H \# S$ on input $f(x)$. Evidence of halting
NDTM is guaranteed because it belongs to NP!

Thus we constructed NDTM for the set S . Since first part runs in polynomial time and second one works in polynomial time hence we can decide S in polynomial time using NDTM hence S is in NP.



We know that every problem in NP can be reduced to NP-complete problem. If a set is in NP, it is always reducible to some other set in NP. Eg say 3SAT is NP-complete problem, R-clique problem is also one example! - We can always reduce S' in NP to some set in NP. (Eg we can reduce S' to 3-SAT).

Since we proved either direction hence proved

3. If every set in NP can be many-reduced to some set in $NP \cap coNP$ then $NP = coNP$!

Now the statement that "if every set in NP can be reduced to some set in $NP \cap coNP$ " is definition of completeness. First we have that there can't exist NP complete problem (defined w.r.t many reduction) in $NP \cap coNP$ unless $NP = coNP$,

We will use fact that since every many reduction is Cook reduction by definition that don't exist NPC problem in $NP \cap coNP$ under many.

Claim: If some NP complete problem is in CONP, then $NP = CONP$!

Proof: Suppose \mathcal{L} is some NP-complete problem which is in CONP. Let A be problem in NP, then since \mathcal{L} is NP complete problem hence there is polynomial time reduction from A to $\mathcal{L}^!$ which means $x \in A \iff b \in \mathcal{L}$.

Since \mathcal{L} (NP-complete Problem) is itself in CONP this implies A is in CONP because we would have many reduction from \mathcal{L} to problem in CONP for yes/no instances.

Above we can generalize \mathcal{L} to any problem in NP. hence $NP \subseteq CONP$ — (1)

→ Now because \mathcal{L} is NP-complete, $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ is co-NP-complete. Consider any problem in CONP, say C . Since C is in co-NP, \bar{C} is in NP, thus there exist many reduction from \bar{C} to \mathcal{L} , and no this reduction maps yes instances of \bar{C} to yes instance of \mathcal{L} , and no instance of \bar{C} to no instance of \mathcal{L} . we apply the same reduction function from \bar{C} to \mathcal{L} (since it preserves that 'yes' instances are mapped to yes and 'no' to no).

Thus, by providing existence of many reduction function, we proved that CONP problem C can be many reduced to $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$, hence $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ is co-NP complete problem.

Since \mathcal{L} and $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ both lie in $NP \cap CO-NP$. This can be seen by using fact that if any T in NP, then \bar{T} will be in CONP. Applying same for \mathcal{L} and $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$, give us result that it lie in intersection!

Now take B be any problem in CONP . Then there is a polynomial time reduction δ such that $x \in B \iff \delta(x) \in \mathcal{L}$ (I proved that \mathcal{L} is co-NP complete). Since \mathcal{L} is in NP as well, this shows that B can be reduced to NP problem, proving B is in NP.

Since we can generalize B to many CONP problem thus $\text{CONP} \subseteq \text{NP}$ --- (iii)

Using conclusion from (iii) that $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{CONP}$ and $\text{CONP} \subseteq \text{NP}$ hence $\text{NP} = \text{CONP}$ hence proved!

(Q3) If $NP \neq coNP$, then show that $NP \cap coNP \setminus P$ is subset of NPI where NPI is class of problem which are not P nor NP complete.

Solution

Given: $\& NP \neq coNP$.

To show: $NP \cap coNP \setminus P$ is subset of NPI .

PROOF:

We would use 'proof by contrapositive': if some NP -complete problem is in $coNP$, then $NP = coNP$.

→ Suppose L is some NP -complete problem which is in $coNP$. Let A be any problem in NP .

→ There would exist polynomial time reduction from $A \rightarrow L$ (since L is NP complete) i.e. $A \leq_p L$ (A is polynomial time reducible to L)

$$A \leq_p L \Rightarrow \forall x \in A, f(x) \in L \quad \text{--- (I)}$$

Since L is in $coNP$ this shows that A is in $coNP$ (from (I))
hence NP is a subset of $coNP$! — (II)

Now let B be any problem in $coNP$. Then there is polynomial time reduction g such that $x \in B \iff f(x) \in \bar{L}$ (since L is NP -complete and \bar{L} is in NP). — (III)

Since \bar{L} is in NP hence this shows B is in NP from (II) hence $coNP$ is subset of NP ! — (III)

Using (II) and (III) we can conclude that $NP = coNP$!

Hence we did proof by contradiction

Way-2 Proof by contradiction
let us assume $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P \neq \text{NPI}$ (that means it either belongs to P or NP-complete)

$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P}_{\text{C I}} \subseteq P$ or $\underbrace{\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P}_{\text{C II}} \subseteq \text{NP-Complete}$

let us consider element $x \in \text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P$ that means,

$x \in \text{NP}$ and $x \in \text{coNP}$ and $x \notin P$ — (1)

from (1) $\Rightarrow \text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P \neq P$ (hence C I is discarded)

now let's consider for the NP-complete set, according to our assumption

if $x \in \text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P$ then $x \in \text{NP-Complete}$ — (II)

\therefore from (II) if $x \in \text{NP} \wedge x \in \text{coNP}$, then $x \in \text{NP-Complete}$

$\therefore \forall y \in \text{NP}, y \leq_P x$ — (III)

Since we have said $x \in \text{coNP}$ hence from (III) $y \in \text{coNP}$ hence

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{NP} \subseteq \text{coNP}}$$

$y \in \text{NP}$ — (IV)

but from (IV) since $y \in \text{NP}$, $y \in \text{NP}$.

hence $\boxed{\text{coNP} \subseteq \text{NP}}$

from drawn conclusions that are $\text{NP} \subseteq \text{coNP}$, $\text{coNP} \subseteq \text{NP}$ we

have $\text{NP} = \text{coNP}$ which is a contradiction to given statement
hence our assumption

$\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P \neq \text{NPI}$ is false instead
 $\text{NP} \cap \text{coNP} \setminus P \subseteq \text{NPI}$ hence proved

Q4) Given $\text{NEXP} = \bigcup_{K \in \mathbb{N}} \text{NTIME}(2^{n^K})$. Show that following problem is NEXP-complete. Given $\langle M, x, N \rangle$ consisting of description of NTM M input x, integer n in binary, does M have an accepting computation of x in n steps.

Solution

To prove: Step I: we will demonstrate that A is in NEXP where

$$A = \{\langle M, x, N \rangle \mid \text{NTM } M \text{ accepts input } x \text{ in } n \text{ steps}\}$$

Proof:

- 1) we can simulate NTM M on input x for n steps, in polynomial time in size of input
- 2) Time complexity of this simulation is at most polynomial in $|M|$ (description of m), $|x|$ (length of input x), $\log(n)$ (binary representation of n)
- 3) Time complexity is at worst exponential in output size $(|M| + |x| + \log n)$

Since it runs in exponential time in output size, so

A is in NEXP

Step 2: Reduction to A

To prove that A is NEXP-complete, we need to show that any language L in NEXP can be reduced to A.

$L \leq_p A$

Let L be language in NEXP, by definition there exist a nondeterministic TM M^* running in time $2^{|x|^K}$ where K is some constant

Now we want to decide whether given input $x \in \Sigma$, we can reduce it to A .

→ construct the input $\langle M^*, x, 2^{|x|^K} \rangle$ for A

→ we are determining whether M^* accept input x in $2^{|x|^K}$ steps.

Hence we establish claim,

Claim: x belongs to Σ if and only if $\langle M^*, x, 2^{|x|^K} \rangle$ belongs to A

To prove this claim:

① If $x \in \Sigma$, it means NTM M^* exist that accept x in $2^{|x|^K}$ steps
hence it means $\langle M^*, x, 2^{|x|^K} \rangle$ belongs to A . (and vice versa)

hence from step ① and step ② we have shown that A is in NEXP and any language in NEXP can be reduced to A hence A is NEXP-complete.

Q5) Show that for every fom time constructible $t: N \rightarrow N$, if $t \in \text{TIME}(t(n))$, then there is an oblivious TM that decides L in $O(t(n)\log t(n))$ time.

Deduction

Given: A time constructible $t: N \rightarrow N$

$\vdash t \in \text{TIME}(t(n))$.

To prove: There is an oblivious turing machine that decides L in $O(t(n)\log(t(n)))$ time

We know that function $f(n)$ is called time constructible if there is a deterministic turing machine that, on input 1^n , can compute $f(n)$ in $O(f(n))$ time.

• Oblivious Turing Machine add constraint on how the tape is used during computation. In oblivious turing machine, head of machine moves in predetermined manner regardless of input state of machine.

It does not have ability to adapt head movement based on content of tape!

1) we would try to describe simpler version that proves time bound in $O(t^2(n))$ time. We take turing machine O with tape alphabet Γ .

Let M be another turing machine such that O simulates M on input x .

The algorithm proceeds by

- (1) sweeping across the occupied region of the work tape left to right to find the symbol currently scanned, and hence to moves to execute using M_1 .
- (2) sweeping right to left to execute those moves for which head / write head move left or stay in place
- (3) sweeping left to right to execute rightward head moves of M
- (4) move back to left end of tape

This number of occupied cells on work tape of M is at most $T(|x|)^{20}$
each step cost at most $O(T|x|)$ steps i.e. $O(T^2|x|)$ in total

To improve time bound for $O(tn\log(tn))$, we modify the machine O so it has extra tape! Key idea would be to use dummy character which is ignored when we simulate tape content you need to then spread content of tape to have sufficient space (in form of dummy symbol) so that left and right shift only need to move small portion of tape content at each step.

→ we change the original tape of O to be a two way infinite tape with consecutive zones z_0, z_1, \dots where z_i has 2^i cells and this would represent content of both left and right of Head head (l_i, r_i)

- This invariant ensures that 2^i values in $d_i \cup R_i$ will contain dummy symbol.
 - balance between d_i and R_i changes over time and after 2^i simulated steps it is possible that either of d_i or R_i will be broken so that there is no room for further shifting.
 - Every 2^i steps the algorithm will spread its content so that each of $d_0, R_0, d_1, R_1, \dots, d_i, R_i$ have half the dummy symbol
 - ↳ Requires shifting $\Theta(2^i)$ element upto $\Theta(2^i)$ positions. Single tape would have lead to $O(T^2(n))$ running time, however using second tape these shifts can be done in $O(2^i)$ time by copying content using second tape.
 - ↳ since algorithm run only for $T(n)$ steps and $T(n) \geq n$ time $\log_2 T(n)$ zones are required.
 - ↳ Total cost = $\sum_{i=0}^{\log_2(T(n))} c \cdot 2^i \cdot \frac{T(n)}{2^i} = O(T(n) \log(T(n)))$
- hence proved.

Q6) For any real numbers M_1, M_2 $n^{M_1} < n^{M_2}$

Solution

for solving this question we would need to prove a theorem.

Theorem: if f and g are running time satisfying $f(n) = o(g(n))$
then $\text{NTIME}(f(n)) \subseteq \text{NTIME}(g(n))$

Proof

→ we would take the case $\text{NTIME}(n) \equiv \text{NTIME}(n^2)$ to prove it

→ we use the concept of 'easy diagonalization' because for a non deterministic machine than runs in $O(n)$ time it may have $\Theta(2^{O(n)})$ branches hence its not clear how would we determine in $O(n^2)$ if it accepts/rejects hence we need easy diagonalization

→ for pair of integers i, j we would define $f(i, j) = 2^{2^{i+j}}$
since function f is one to one function, hence $(i, j) \in (K, l)$ if $f(i, j) \leq f(K, l)$.

→ define \leq as linear ordering. We define that for any integer n there would be one largest pair (i, j) and smallest pair (K, l) such that $f(i, j) \leq n \leq f(K, l)$ say $d_n = f(i, j)$, $H_n = f(K, l)$

→ we can easily compute d_n, H_n for given n in $O(n^2)$ time,
hence $H_n > d_n^2$ so interval $[d_n, H_n]$ is large

→ Determination machine tries to find the answer in such long interval

→ let $M_1, M_2, M_3 \dots$ be enumeration of all NDTM's. We construct following NDTM D_1 .

(1) On input x , if $x \in \Gamma^*$, accept.

(2) if $x = 1^n$, then compute $d_n \cdot H_n$. If $n = \frac{1}{H_n}$, accept 1^{n+1}

M_i reject 1^{dn+1} in $H_n^{1/5}$ time. (This means going through all possible $2^{\lfloor dn \rfloor^{1/5}}$ nondeterministic branches of M_i on input 1^{dn+1})

(3) otherwise, simulate M_i on input 1^{n+1} using non-determinism in $n^{1/5}$ time and output its answer

→ clearly D_1 runs in $O(n^2)$ time. We show that D_1 accepts different language from any NDTM M_i^* that runs on input Γ^* using non-determinism in $n^{1/5}$ time and output the answer in $O(n)$ time. For contradiction sake assume M_i^* run in $c n + d$ time and accept the same language as D_1 .

→ from the construction of M_i^* , we know that for all inputs given such that $f(n) = dn$ some j for some j and $dn \leq H_n$, D_1 accept 1^n (and hence M_i^* accept 1^{n+1}).

→ now if M_i^* and D_1 accept same language, we conclude that M_i^* accepts 1^n iff M_i^* accept 1^{n+1} . This chain of implication lead to conclusion that M_i^* accept 1^{dn+1} iff it accept 1^{An} .

→ but this leads to contradiction since when j is large enough (specifically larger than $c+d$), machine D_1 accept 1^{H^n} iff M_i rejects $1^{d_{n+1}}$. Hence M_i and D_1 cannot accept the same language.

→ We have shown that for any j large enough ($j > c+d$), machine D_1 accepts 1^{H^n} iff M_i rejects $1^{d_{n+1}}$. We will consider implication of this now.

→ Since $f(n) = o(g(n))$, we can choose j sufficiently large such that $2^{2^{2^{2^{(c+3j)f(n)}}}}$ grows much faster than $g(n)^2$. Specifically we choose j such that $2^{2^{2^{2^{(c+3j)f(n)}}}} > g(n)^2$ for all n .

→ Therefore when j is chosen large enough, machine D_1 will accept 1^{H^n} but M_i will not accept $1^{d_{n+1}}$, leading to contradiction.

→ This establishes that there exist a language accepted by D_1 (and hence language in $\text{NTIME}(g(n))$) that is not accepted by any M_i running in $\text{NTIME}(f(n))$.

→ Since $f(n) = o(g(n))$ and we can choose sufficiently large j , this argument hold for any $f(n)$ and $g(n)$ satisfying condition of theorem.

This completes proof of the nondeterministic time hierarchy theorem for general function $f(n), g(n)$ where $\boxed{f(n) = o(g(n))}$

Proof by limits

for any real numbers μ_1, μ_2 such that $1 \leq \mu_1 < \mu_2$ we aim to construct a set of strings with non deterministic time n^{μ_2} but not n^{μ_1}

Claim: There exist a set S such that $\text{NTIME}(n^{\mu_2}) \subseteq \text{NTIME}(n^{\mu_1})$

Proof:

(1) By the Time Hierarchy Theorem (proved above) we know if $f(n) = o(g(n))$, then $\text{NTIME}(f(n)) \subseteq \text{NTIME}(g(n))$.

(2) Let's consider the function $f(n) = n^{\mu_1}$ and $g(n) = n^{\mu_2}$ where $1 \leq \mu_1 < \mu_2$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$$

(3) we need to show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(n)}{g(n)} = 0$ for this claim to hold

(4) taking the limit,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n^{\mu_1}}{n^{\mu_2}} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\mu_1 - \mu_2}$$

(5) since $\mu_1 < \mu_2$ we have $\mu_1 - \mu_2 \leq 0$

(6) Therefore, $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{\mu_1 - \mu_2} = 0$ which implies $f(n) = o(g(n))$

(7) Applying the time hierarchy theorem there exist a set S such that $\text{NTIME}(n^{\mu_2}) \subseteq \text{NTIME}(n^{\mu_1})$

hence we proved that for any real numbers μ_1, μ_2 such that $1 \leq \mu_1 < \mu_2$ there exist a set of strings with non deterministic time n^{μ_2} but not n^{μ_1} .

Q7) Prove that if a unary language is NP Complete then P=NP.

Solution Suppose a unary language L is NP-complete. That is there exist polynomial time reduction f such that given a SAT formula ϕ as input produces $f(\phi)$ as output where $\phi \in \text{SAT}$ if $f(\phi) \in L$. We will show how we can solve SAT in polynomial time.

To show : SAT can be solved in polynomial time

Proof: Let L be an NP-complete unary language. Since L is NP-complete there is polynomial time reduction f from SAT to L . Since f is polytime $|f(x)| \leq C|x|^d$ for some C, d . We will now describe polytime algorithm for SAT.

→ Denote input by ϕ that is formula on n variable x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n (assuming $|\phi| \leq n^k$)

→ The algorithm proceed in n stages creating sequence of list d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n .

→ The list d_k consist of pair $\{f(\psi_i), \psi_i\}$ where ψ_i is formula that we obtain by substituting value for x_{k+1}, \dots, x_n in ϕ .

We now maintain invariant that ϕ is satisfiable iff one of ψ_i is satisfiable !

Now we will see more on construction of list . Initial list d_n consist of pair $(f(\phi), \phi)$. Given the list d_K we can construct d_{K-1} in below way :

1) for each $((f(\psi), \psi) \in d_K)$, add to d_{K+1} the two pairs
 $(f(\psi|_{x_K=T}), \psi|_{x_K=T})$ and $(f(\psi|_{x_K=\perp}), \psi|_{x_K=\perp})$.

2) for each m , out of all pairs (l^m, ψ) (if any) we retain only one.

It is now not hard to check that invariant is maintained.
Notice that final set do could potentially contain $(f(T), T)$ and $(f(\perp), \perp)$, formula is satisfiable if and only if it contain former!

Each list d_K would now have size almost $c(\emptyset)^d$ hence we have solved SAT in polynomial time.

hence proved, if unary language is NP-complete then $P = NP$.

Q8) Imagine you and your prob

MINE SWEeper

NP Complete you would show your superior

Solution

Claim: minesweeper consistency is NP complete

Proof

→ Minesweeper consistency is in NP

we begin by showing that Minesweeper consistency is in NP - Approach
we are given a potential solution to an arbitrary Minesweeper grid
(basically revealed board, no hidden squares)

→ In order to verify that the solution is consistent, Computer
algorithm would step through grid, one square at time verifying
that every number has exactly that number's indicated value
of mines as neighbours

→ Since each square has a maximum of 8 adjacent squares to
check hence given minesweeper grid with n nodes, Runtime will
be almost $8t \cdot n$ (t : amount of time necessary to check one square's
adjacent partners !)

→ Since this verifying algorithm runs in polynomial time - since
this problem has polynomial time verifier hence this problem is
NP!

Minesweeper consistency is NP-hard

Proof: assume we are given an arbitrary boolean circuit that takes the variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and output the value y .

→ This circuit will have series of AND, OR, NOT configuration which eventually assign either true/false to y depending on initial value of variables.

→ We need to assign initial boolean values to each variable in such a way that results in true value of y (circuit satisfiability).

→ We can create wire, AND, OR, NOT gates then creating corresponding Minesweeper grid that represent our circuit. At end of minesweeper grid we place mine to represent output value y (mining y is true).

→ Assuming we have algorithm for determining Minesweeper grid consistency in polynomial time hence we can find boolean assignment for our initial variable that remain consistent with hearing mine only!

→ Using Minesweeper consistency we can determine the circuit satisfiability provided we have polynomial time algo. Since circuit satisfiability is NP-hard hence we conclude by this relation Minesweeper is also NP-hard.

Since Minesweeper consistency is shown to be NP and NP-hard hence NP-complete !!

(q9) The last mission was easy. This time thought -----
----- complete the mission.

To prove that Phutball is NP complete we need to prove it

- (i) Phutball is NP
- (ii) Phutball is NP-hard

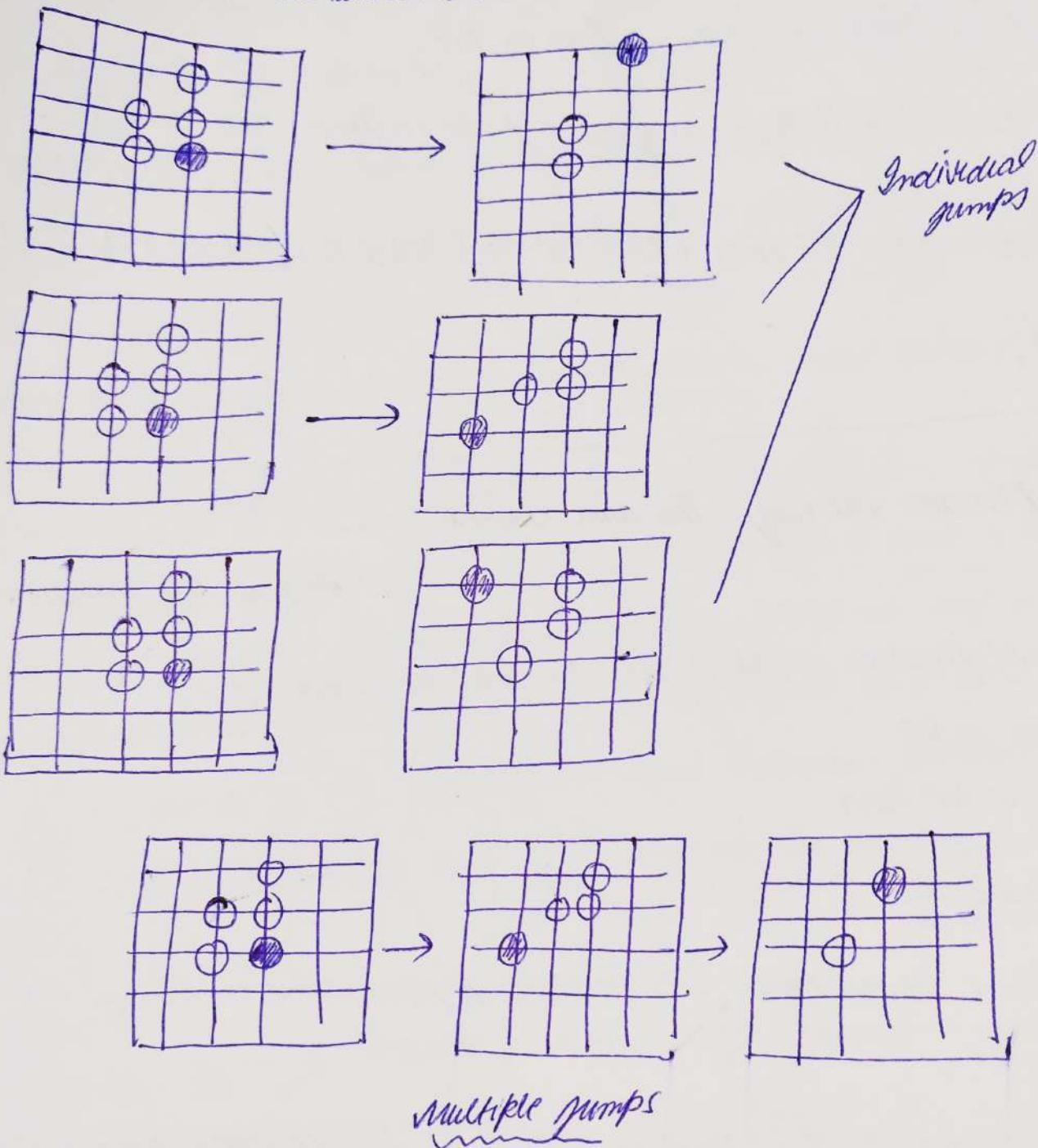
→ Phutball is NP

we know that players would take turns to perform action. During the turn player can:

- place new white stone on playing surface or execute move using using black stone
- moving black stone would be possible only if it is next to white stone.
then it can jump over one/more white stone to reach first empty spot
possible direction being horizontal / vertical / diagonal.
- After jump white stone that were jumped over are removed. If there

there are still viable jumps, current player can continue moving on the black stone.

- Repeat the sequence until no moves are available.



ultimately leading to winning sequence!

To demonstrate that problem is NP, we can do that by establishing its unsolvability in polynomial time. Given an configucate we can efficiently verify by simulating moves on provided board configuration.

Since each jump lead to removal of white stone so number of moves would be almost count of white stone on table. Hence we can say that certificate can be verified in $O(n)$ time complexity affirming problem is NP!

Solving this problem algorithmically:

Let V be the algorithm:

Given input $\langle b, m \rangle$, where b represent checkers board with specific configuration and m is move order

1) for each jump in m , perform

- (a) Check if it is a legal move.
- (b) Execute the jump by updating position ~~of~~ of black stone
- (c) Remove any white stone that black stone jumped over by eliminating them from board configuration!

2) If the board attain winning configuration (black stone reaches opponent goal line / removed from board), accept; otherwise reject!!

NP-Hard: Proving that problem is NP-hard.

We organise horizontal line into pair and group vertical line into set of clause. We interpret horizontal line as binary value that variable can assume while vertical line would serve as clauses! More ~~precisely~~ precisely indicate which of three value within clauses would have true values

Construction:

To reduce 3SAT into Nattale we would need following gadgets:

Fan-In and Fan-out gadget :

This would help in movement at extremities of both horizontal & vertical lines. When stone reaches end, fan-in-fan-out gadget allows stone to alter direction and proceed to valid position!
Along horizontal axis, gadget interconnect two line within horizontal pair.
On vertical axis, gadget interconnect the clauses!

Non Interacting line Crossing Element :

This would help crossing at the intersection of horizontal & vertical line without interference. It works by removing central segment allowing for jump in alternate direction!

Final Construction using gadgets :

White stones are arranged in two horizontal line for each variable & three vertical line for each clause

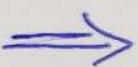
→ for each occurrence of variable in 3SAT formula:

- if i^{th} variable appears in j^{th} position for K^{th} clause we place intersection gadget where bottom line of i^{th} horizontal line have intersect with j^{th} line in K^{th} vertical set
- if negation of variable appears we place it intersection gadget on left line of horizontal pair
- for remaining remaining crossing, non interacting line crossing gadget is used.
- add extra white stone to form on gadget allowing back stone to exit after reaching that point

→ 3 unit of separation are required between gadget and variable except for adjacent gadget which require 4 units of separation. Formula is rearranged such that last variable in clause is different from first variable in next clause!

→ Time Complexity: Resulting grid hence has $3n + O(1)$ rows and $3m + O(1)$ columns (where $n = \text{variables}$, $m = \text{clauses}$). $O(1)$ = constant number of gadgets used!. Grid hence has polynomially bounded size. Transformation can be executed in polynomial time by examining variable.

Having constructed we will now prove that: 3SAT is satisfiable if and only if Nutball instance created has winning move sequence.



- Black stone is initially placed to left of first variable ensuring every variable is assigned a value.
- We want a solution that can assign truth value to variable in hexagonics line equivalent to assigning value to variable.
- When 3SAT is satisfiable atleast one variable in each clause would be 1 making clause 1. During vertical movement we select vertical line corresponding to that value since there will be a proper path up or down the board such that interaction gadget remain intact.

Hence if formula is satisfiable a winning move sequence exist and path provides satisfying assignment to variable.

Conversely if there is a clause that evaluate to 0, all intersection gadget on vertical line will be open and a vertical pass won't be available.

If there are clauses that cannot be satisfied under any variable value assignment, intersection gadget will be open and solution to phutball won't exist indicating unsatisfiability.

Thus in all cases phutball problem can simulate 3-SAT instance hence since we proved that it is NP and also NP-hard (or $3SAT \leq P$ phutball) so it is NP-complete!

Thanks!