

(1) DPV Problem 8.4. Note that for part (d), while you will receive partial credit for an algorithm with running time $O(|V|^4)$, to receive full credit you must give an algorithm with time $O(|V|)$.

Consider the CLIQUE problem restricted to graphs in which every vertex has degree at most 3. Call this problem CLIQUE-3.

(a) Prove that CLIQUE-3 is in NP.

If given a solution S to the problem consisting of vertices in the graph, we can prove that S forms a clique by looping through each pair of vertices in $O(|V|^2)$ time so it is NP.

(b) What is wrong with the following proof of NP-completeness for CLIQUE-3?

We know that the CLIQUE problem in general graphs is NP-complete, so it is enough to present a reduction from CLIQUE-3 to CLIQUE. Given a graph G with vertices of degree ≤ 3 , and a parameter g , the reduction leaves the graph and the parameter unchanged: clearly the output of the reduction is a possible input for the CLIQUE problem. Furthermore, the answer to both problems is identical. This proves the correctness of the reduction and, therefore, the NP-completeness of CLIQUE-3.

The proof has CLIQUE-3 reducing to CLIQUE. This implies that CLIQUE-3 is not harder than CLIQUE. However, this is wrong as the reduction is backwards. The proof should instead reduce CLIQUE to CLIQUE-3.

(c) It is true that the VERTEX COVER problem remains NP-complete even when restricted to graphs in which every vertex has degree at most 3. Call this problem VC-3. What is wrong with the following proof of NP-completeness for CLIQUE-3?

We present a reduction from VC-3 to CLIQUE-3. Given a graph $G = (V, E)$ with node degrees bounded by 3, and a parameter b , we create an instance of CLIQUE-3 by leaving the graph unchanged and switching the parameter to $|V| - b$. Now, a subset $C \subseteq V$ is a vertex cover in G if and only if the complementary set $V - C$ is a clique in G . Therefore G has a vertex cover of size $\leq b$ if and only if it has a clique of size $\geq |V| - b$. This proves the correctness of the reduction and, consequently, the NP-completeness of CLIQUE-3.

The proof states, "a subset $C \subseteq V$ is a vertex cover in G if and only if the complementary set $V - C$ is a clique in G ". This statement is false and must be changed to show that C is a vertex cover if and only if the complementary set is an independent set in G .

(d) Describe an $O(|V|^4)$ algorithm for CLIQUE-3.

The algorithm should take in a graph G with a number k representing the number of vertices.

Use a series of if statements to evaluate whether the graph satisfies CLIQUE-3.

If $k > 4$ then it cannot satisfy CLIQUE-3.

If $k == 4$ then iterate through all the vertices and check if they all have a degree of three, if not, then it does not satisfy CLIQUE-3.

If $k == 3$ then iterate through all the vertices and check if they all have a degree of two, if not, then it does not satisfy CLIQUE-3.

If $k == 2$ then iterate through all the vertices and check if they all have a degree of one, if not, then it does not satisfy CLIQUE-3.

If $k == 1$ then it satisfies CLIQUE-3.

This algorithm will be $O(|V|)$ because it uses a conditional and the maximum it can ever be on any of the paths is $O(|V|)$.

(2) DPV Problem 8.10 (a) and (b). Give a clear reduction (i.e., an algorithm solving one problem using the other as a black box) and show that the problem is NP-Complete; it is not enough to just say that A is a generalization of B, you must provide a reduction.

Proving NP-completeness by generalization. For each of the problems below, prove that it is NP-complete by showing that it is a generalization of some NP-complete problem we have seen in this chapter.

(a) **SUBGRAPH ISOMORPHISM:** Given as input two undirected graphs G and H , determine whether G is a subgraph of H (that is, whether by deleting certain vertices and edges of H we obtain a graph that is, up to renaming of vertices, identical to G), and if so, return the corresponding mapping of $V(G)$ into $V(H)$.

This problem can be solved using a generalization of clique which takes an input $CLIQUE(G, k)$ where G is a graph and k is the number of strongly connected components in graph H . We can say that G is a subset of H if and only if H has a subset of size k with which you can create a subset of G . Therefore, using $CLIQUE$, we obtain a complete graph of size k . This graph will be a subset of G if there is a clique of size k in G . If this clique exists, it will be proven as NP-complete.

(b) **LONGEST PATH:** Given a graph G and an integer g , find in G a simple path of length g .

This problem is a generalization of $RUDRATA - PATH$ problem with an input $RUDRATA - PATH(G, g)$ where G has g vertices. Additionally, we would want to make sure G is undirected. The $RUDRATA - PATH$ with these inputs will find the longest path by itself so, as $RUDRATA - PATH$ is NP-complete, longest path will be NP-complete.

(3) DPV Problem 8.10 (d) and (e). Give a clear reduction (i.e., an algorithm solving one problem using the other as a black box) and show that the problem is NP-Complete; it is not enough to just say that A is a generalization of B, you must provide a reduction.

(d) DENSE SUBGRAPH: Given a graph and two integers a and b , find a set of vertices of G such that there are at least b edges between them.

This problem can be solved using a generalization of clique. If we assume n represents the number of vertices, take $a = n$ and $b = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$. Then take the input as $CLIQUE(G, n)$. This will leave a subgraph with the original number of vertices and $\frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ edges. This will imply that there must be an edge between each pair of vertices and it forms a clique so the graph will be NP-complete.

(e) SPARSE SUBGRAPH: Given a graph and two integers a and b , find a set of vertices of G such that there are at most b edges between them.

This is a generalization of the vertex cover problem with an input taken as (G, a) where a represents the maximum number of vertices in the cover. Such a vertex cover will create a sparse subgraph with a representing the number of vertices. The problem would be phrased like $sparseSubGraph(V = (G, a), b = |E|)$. Thus, since vertex cover is NP-complete, sparse subgraph will be NP-complete.

(3) DPV Problem 8.14.

Prove that the following problem is NP-complete: given an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ and an integer k , return a clique of size k as well as an independent set of size k , provided both exist.

To show the problem is NP, if there is a solution of size k which is a clique inside of G as well as an independent set of size k , the problem will be shown to be NP if both of these statements are true.

Next, show we can solve independent set if this is true. If given a graph G and number k , we must determine if an independent set of size k exists in G .

We will implement a new algorithm that evaluates the clique problem and the independent set problem. First take G and k as inputs and first adds k new vertices to G with all these k vertices are connected to each other in a clique and not connected to other vertices in G . This new graph trivially has a clique of size k . If we run the algorithm to evaluate the previous problems on the modified graph, it being true represents G has an independent set of size k while false represents that it does not. This will show the problem is NP-complete as it is formed through generalizations of clique and independent set.