

NP-Complete Problems

T. M. Murali

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Proving Problems \mathcal{NP} -Complete

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 3. Prove that $Y \leq_P X$.
- ▶ If we use Karp reductions, we can refine the strategy:
 1. Prove that $X \in \mathcal{NP}$.
 2. Select a problem Y known to be \mathcal{NP} -Complete.
 3. Consider an arbitrary instance s_Y of problem Y . Show how to construct, in polynomial time, an instance s_X of problem X such that
 - (a) If $s_Y \in Y$, then $s_X \in X$ and
 - (b) If $s_X \in X$, then $s_Y \in Y$.

3-SAT is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

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- ▶ $\text{CIRCUIT SATISFIABILITY} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$.
 1. Given an instance of $\text{CIRCUIT SATISFIABILITY}$, create an instance of SAT , in which each clause has *at most* three variables.
 2. Convert this instance of SAT into one of 3-SAT.

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- ▶ Constants at sources: single-variable clauses.
- ▶ Output: if o is the output node, use the clause (x_o) .

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 - ▶ If a clause has a two terms t and t' , replace the clause with $t \vee t' \vee z_1$.

More \mathcal{NP} -Complete problems

- ▶ CIRCUIT SATISFIABILITY is \mathcal{NP} -Complete.
- ▶ We just showed that CIRCUIT SATISFIABILITY \leq_P 3-SAT.
- ▶ We know that

3-SAT \leq_P INDEPENDENT SET \leq_P VERTEX COVER \leq_P SET COVER

- ▶ All these problems are in \mathcal{NP} .
- ▶ Therefore, INDEPENDENT SET, VERTEX COVER, and SET COVER are \mathcal{NP} -Complete.

Hamiltonian Cycle

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Hamiltonian Cycle

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- ▶ Another type of computationally hard problem involves searching over the set of all permutations of a collection of objects.
- ▶ In a directed graph $G(V, E)$, a cycle C is a *Hamiltonian cycle* if C visits each vertex exactly once.

HAMILTONIAN CYCLE

INSTANCE: A directed graph G .

QUESTION: Does G contain a Hamiltonian cycle?

Hamiltonian Cycle is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ Why is the problem in \mathcal{NP} ?

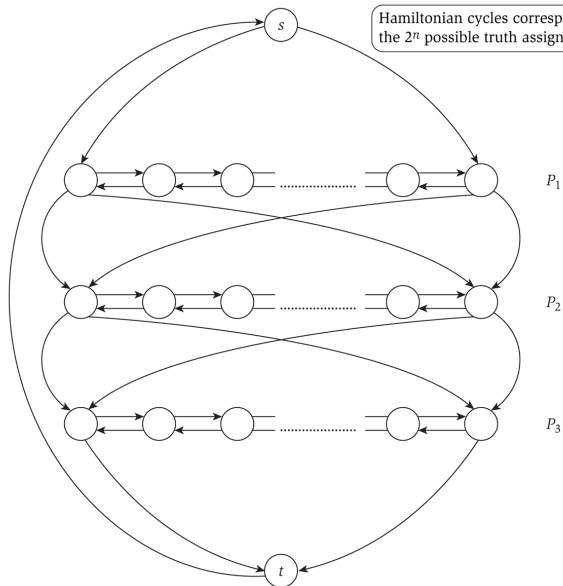
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- ▶ Why is the problem in \mathcal{NP} ?
- ▶ Claim: $3\text{-SAT} \leq_P \text{HAMILTONIAN CYCLE}$.
- ▶ Consider an arbitrary instance of 3-SAT with variables x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n and clauses C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k .
- ▶ Strategy:
 1. Construct a graph G with $O(nk)$ nodes and edges and 2^n Hamiltonian cycles with a one-to-one correspondence with 2^n truth assignments.
 2. Add nodes to impose constraints arising from clauses.
 3. Construction takes $O(nk)$ time.
- ▶ G contains n paths P_1, P_2, \dots, P_n .
- ▶ Each P_i contains $b = 3k + 3$ nodes $v_{i,1}, v_{i,2}, \dots, v_{i,b}$.

3-SAT \leq_P Hamiltonian Cycle: Constructing G



3-SAT \leq_P Hamiltonian Cycle: Modelling clauses

- Consider the clause $C_1 = x_1 \vee \overline{x_2} \vee x_3$.

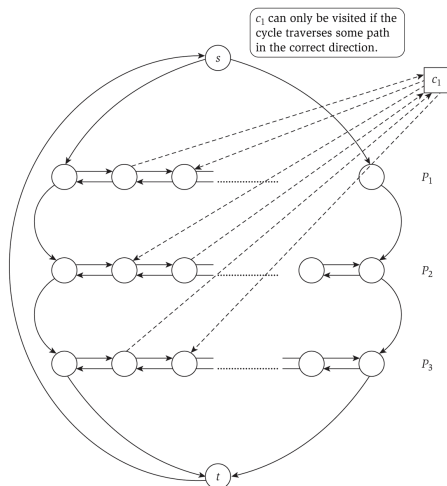


Figure 8.8 The reduction from 3-SAT to Hamiltonian Cycle: part 2.

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 - ▶ Construct a Hamiltonian cycle \mathcal{C} as follows:
 - ▶ If $x_i = 1$, traverse P_i from left to right in \mathcal{C} .
 - ▶ Otherwise, traverse P_i from right to left in \mathcal{C} .
 - ▶ For each clause C_j , there is at least one term set to 1. If the term is x_i , splice c_j into \mathcal{C} using edge from $v_{i,3j}$ and edge to $v_{i,3j+1}$. Analogous construction if term is \bar{x}_i .

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- ▶ G has a Hamiltonian cycle $\mathcal{C} \rightarrow$ 3-SAT instance is satisfiable.
 - ▶ If \mathcal{C} enters c_j on an edge from $v_{i,3j}$, it must leave c_j along the edge to $v_{i,3j+1}$.
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 - ▶ Nodes immediately before and after c_j in \mathcal{C} are themselves connected by an edge e in G .
 - ▶ If we remove all such edges e from \mathcal{C} , we get a Hamiltonian cycle \mathcal{C}' in $G - \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_k\}$.
 - ▶ Use \mathcal{C}' to construct truth assignment to variables.
 - ▶ Argue that the assignment is a satisfying assignment.

The Traveling Salesman Problem

- ▶ A salesman must visit n cities v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n starting at home city v_1 .
- ▶ Salesman must find a *tour*, an order in which to visit each city exactly once, and return home.
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- ▶ For every pair of cities v_i and v_j , let $d(v_i, v_j) > 0$ be the distance from v_i to v_j .
- ▶ A *tour* is a permutation $v_{i_1} = v_1, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_n}$.
- ▶ The *length* of the tour is $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} d(v_{i_j}, v_{i_{j+1}}) + d(v_{i_n}, v_{i_1})$.

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TRAVELLING SALESMAN

INSTANCE: A set V of n cities, a function $d : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$, and a number $D > 0$.

QUESTION: Is there a tour of length at most D ?

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 - ▶ Create a city v_i for each node $i \in V$.
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- ▶ Claim: G has a Hamiltonian cycle iff the instance of Travelling Salesman has a tour of length at most n .

Special Cases and Extensions that are \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ HAMILTONIAN CYCLE for undirected graphs.
- ▶ HAMILTONIAN PATH for directed and undirected graphs.
- ▶ TRAVELLING SALESMAN with symmetric distances (by reducing HAMILTONIAN CYCLE for undirected graphs to it).
- ▶ TRAVELLING SALESMAN with distances defined by points on the plane.

3-Dimensional Matching

BIPARTITE MATCHING

INSTANCE: Disjoint sets X , Y , each of size n , and a set $T \subseteq X \times Y$ of pairs

QUESTION: Is there a set of n pairs in T such that each element of $X \cup Y$ is contained in exactly one of these pairs?

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- ▶ Easy to show 3-DIMENSIONAL MATCHING \leq_P SET COVER and 3-DIMENSIONAL MATCHING \leq_P SET PACKING.

3-Dimensional Matching is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ Why is the problem in \mathcal{NP} ?

3-Dimensional Matching is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ Why is the problem in \mathcal{NP} ?
- ▶ Show that $3\text{-SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-DIMENSIONAL MATCHING}$.
- ▶ Strategy:
 - ▶ Start with an instance of 3-SAT with n variables and k clauses.
 - ▶ Create a gadget for each variable x_i that encodes the choice of truth assignment to x_i .
 - ▶ Add gadgets that encode constraints imposed by clauses.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Variables

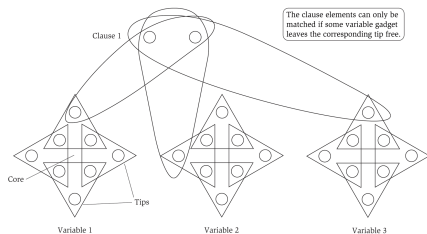


Figure 8.9 The reduction from 3-SAT to 3-Dimensional Matching.

- ▶ Each x_i corresponds to a *variable gadget* i with $2k$ *core* elements $A_i = \{a_{i,1}, a_{i,2}, \dots, a_{i,2k}\}$ and $2k$ *tips* $B_i = \{b_{i,1}, b_{i,2}, \dots, b_{i,2k}\}$.
- ▶ For each $1 \leq j \leq 2k$, variable gadget i includes a triple $t_{ij} = (a_{i,j}, a_{i,j+1}, b_{i,j})$.
- ▶ A triple (tip) is *even* if j is even. Otherwise, the triple (tip) is *odd*.
- ▶ Only these triples contain elements in A_i .

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Variables

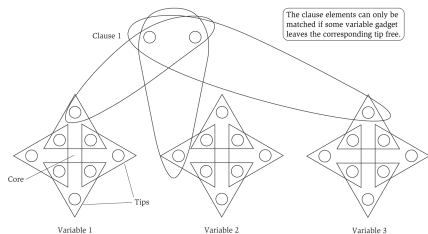


Figure 8.9 The reduction from 3-SAT to 3-Dimensional Matching.

- ▶ Each x_i corresponds to a *variable gadget* i with $2k$ *core* elements $A_i = \{a_{i,1}, a_{i,2}, \dots, a_{i,2k}\}$ and $2k$ *tips* $B_i = \{b_{i,1}, b_{i,2}, \dots, b_{i,2k}\}$.
 - ▶ For each $1 \leq j \leq 2k$, variable gadget i includes a triple $t_{ij} = (a_{i,j}, a_{i,j+1}, b_{i,j})$.
 - ▶ A triple (tip) is *even* if j is even. Otherwise, the triple (tip) is *odd*.
 - ▶ Only these triples contain elements in A_i .
- ▶ In any perfect matching, we can cover the elements in A_i

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Variables

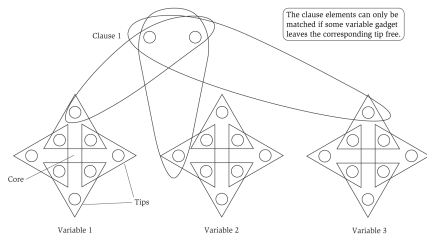


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 - ▶ A triple (tip) is *even* if j is even. Otherwise, the triple (tip) is *odd*.
 - ▶ Only these triples contain elements in A_i .
- ▶ In any perfect matching, we can cover the elements in A_i either using all the even triples in gadget i or all the odd triples in the gadget.
 - ▶ Even triples used, odd tips free $\equiv x_i = 0$; odd triples used, even tips free $\equiv x_i = 1$.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Clauses

- Consider the clause $C_1 = x_1 \vee \overline{x_2} \vee x_3$.

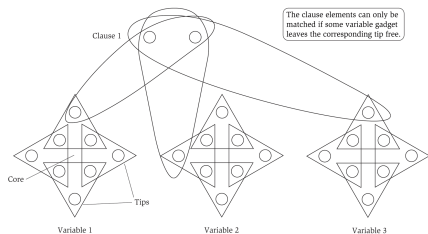


Figure 8.9 The reduction from 3-SAT to 3-Dimensional Matching.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Clauses

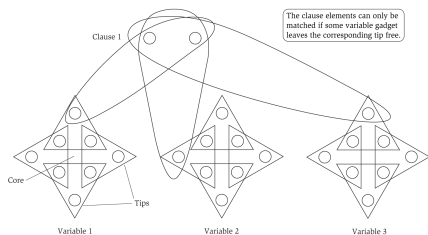


Figure 8.9 The reduction from 3-SAT to 3-Dimensional Matching.

- ▶ Consider the clause $C_1 = x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3$.
- ▶ C_1 says "The matching on the cores of the gadgets should leave the even tips of gadget 1 free; or it should leave the odd tips of gadget 2 free; or it should leave the even tips of gadget 3 free."

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Clauses

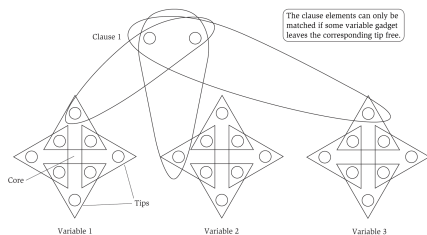


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- ▶ Consider the clause $C_1 = x_1 \vee \overline{x_2} \vee x_3$.
- ▶ C_1 says “The matching on the cores of the gadgets should leave the even tips of gadget 1 free; or it should leave the odd tips of gadget 2 free; or it should leave the even tips of gadget 3 free.”
- ▶ *Clause gadget j* for clause C_j contains two core elements $P_j = \{p_j, p'_j\}$ and three triples:
 - ▶ C_j contains x_i : add triple $(p_j, p'_j, b_{i,2j})$.
 - ▶ C_j contains $\overline{x_i}$: add triple $(p_j, p'_j, b_{i,2j-1})$.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Example

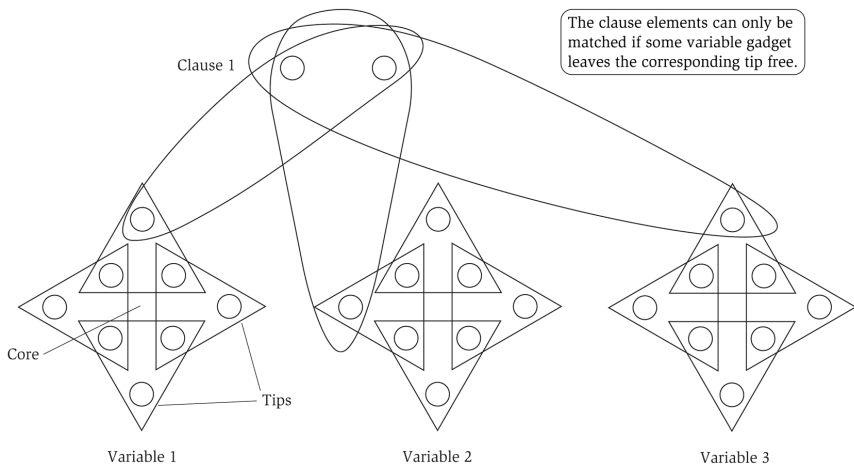


Figure 8.9 The reduction from 3-SAT to 3-Dimensional Matching.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Proof

- ▶ Satisfying assignment \rightarrow matching.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Proof

- ▶ Satisfying assignment \rightarrow matching.
 - ▶ Make appropriate choices for the core of each variable gadget.
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 - ▶ We have not covered all the tips!

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 - ▶ **We have not covered all the tips!**
 - ▶ Add $(n - 1)k$ *cleanup gadgets* to allow the remaining $(n - 1)k$ tips to be covered: cleanup gadget i contains two core elements $Q = \{q_i, q'_i\}$ and triple (q_i, q'_i, b) for **every** tip b in variable gadget i .

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 - ▶ Matching chooses all even a_{ij} ($x_i = 0$) or all odd a_{ij} ($x_i = 1$).

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 - ▶ Is clause C_j satisfied?

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Proof

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- ▶ Matching \rightarrow satisfying assignment.
 - ▶ Matching chooses all even a_{ij} ($x_i = 0$) or all odd a_{ij} ($x_i = 1$).
 - ▶ Is clause C_j satisfied? Core in clause gadget j is covered by some triple \Rightarrow other element in the triple must be a tip element from the correct odd/even set in the three variable gadgets corresponding to a term in C_j .

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Dimensional Matching: Finale

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- ▶ Did we create an instance of 3-DIMENSIONAL MATCHING?
- ▶ We need three sets X , Y , and Z of equal size.
- ▶ How many elements do we have?
 - ▶ $2nk$ a_{ij} elements.
 - ▶ $2nk$ b_{ij} elements.
 - ▶ k p_j elements.
 - ▶ k p'_j elements.
 - ▶ $(n-1)k$ q_i elements.
 - ▶ $(n-1)k$ q'_i elements.

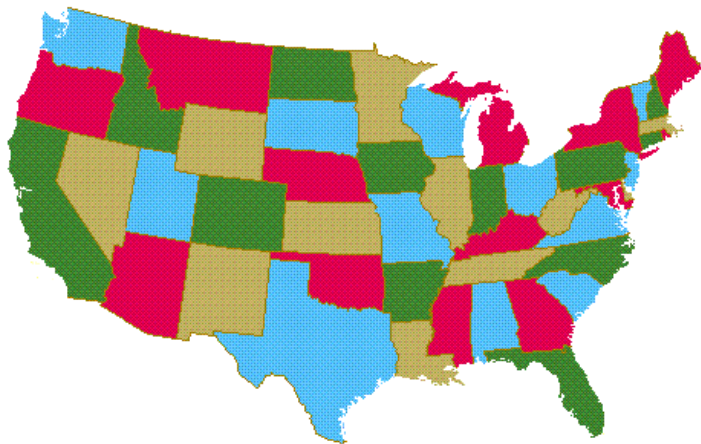
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 - ▶ k p'_j elements.
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 - ▶ $(n-1)k$ q'_i elements.
- ▶ X is the union of a_{ij} with even j , the set of all p_j and the set of all q_i .
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- ▶ Z is the set of all b_{ij} .

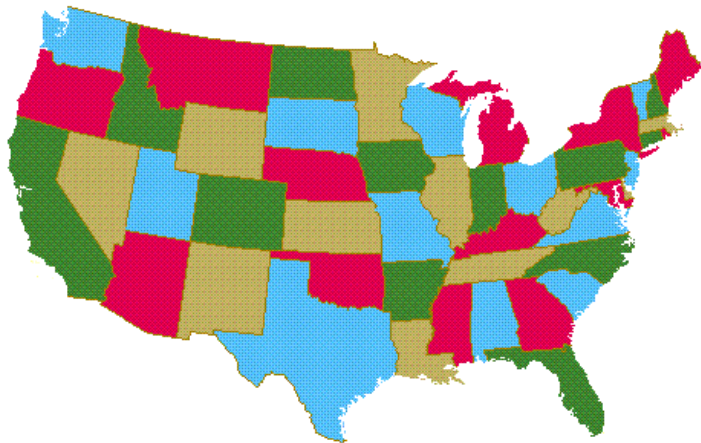
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- ▶ Y is the union of a_{ij} with odd j , the set of all p'_j and the set of all q'_i .
- ▶ Z is the set of all b_{ij} .
- ▶ Each triple contains exactly one element from X , Y , and Z .

Colouring maps



Colouring maps



- ▶ Any map can be coloured with four colours (Appel and Hakken, 1976).

Graph Colouring

- ▶ Given an undirected graph $G(V, E)$, a *k-colouring* of G is a function $f : V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ such that for every edge $(u, v) \in E$, $f(u) \neq f(v)$.

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GRAPH COLOURING (k -COLOURING)

INSTANCE: An undirected graph $G(V, E)$ and an integer $k > 0$.

QUESTION: Does G have a k -colouring?

Applications of Graph Colouring

1. Job scheduling: assign jobs to n processors under constraints that certain pairs of jobs cannot be scheduled at the same time.
2. Compiler design: assign variables to k registers but two variables being used at the same time cannot be assigned to the same register.
3. Wavelength assignment: assign one of k transmitting wavelengths to each of n wireless devices. If two devices are close to each other, they must get different wavelengths.

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- ▶ How hard is 2-COLOURING?

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2-Colouring

- ▶ How hard is 2-COLOURING?
- ▶ Claim: A graph is 2-colourable if and only if it is bipartite.
- ▶ Testing 2-colourability is possible in $O(|V| + |E|)$ time.
- ▶ What about 3-COLOURING? Is it easy to exhibit a certificate that a graph *cannot* be coloured with three colours?

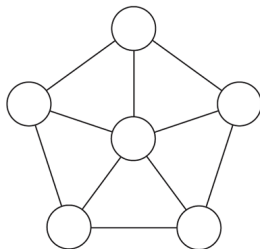


Figure 8.10 A graph that is not 3-colorable.

3-Colouring is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ Why is 3-Colouring in \mathcal{NP} ?

3-Colouring is \mathcal{NP} -Complete

- ▶ Why is 3-Colouring in \mathcal{NP} ?
- ▶ $3\text{-SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-COLOURING}$.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Colouring: Encoding Variables

- ▶ x_i corresponds to node v_i and \bar{x}_i corresponds to node \bar{v}_i .

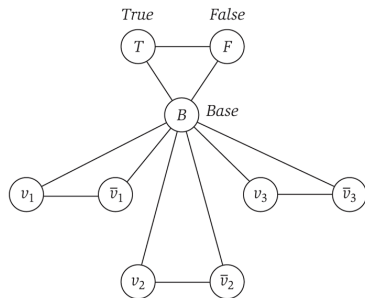


Figure 8.11 The beginning of the reduction for 3-Coloring.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Colouring: Encoding Variables

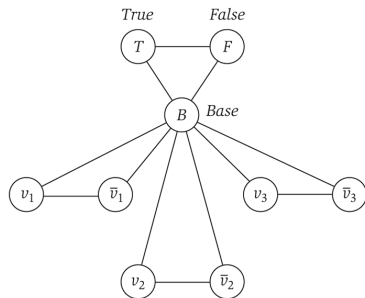


Figure 8.11 The beginning of the reduction for 3-Coloring.

- ▶ x_i corresponds to node v_i and \bar{x}_i corresponds to node \bar{v}_i .
- ▶ In any 3-Colouring, nodes v_i and \bar{v}_i get a colour different from $Base$.
- ▶ *True colour*: colour assigned to the *True* node; *False colour*: colour assigned to the *False* node.
- ▶ Set x_i to 1 iff v_i gets the *True* colour.

3-SAT \leq_P 3-Colouring: Encoding Clauses

- ▶ Consider the clause
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3-SAT \leq_P 3-Colouring: Encoding Clauses

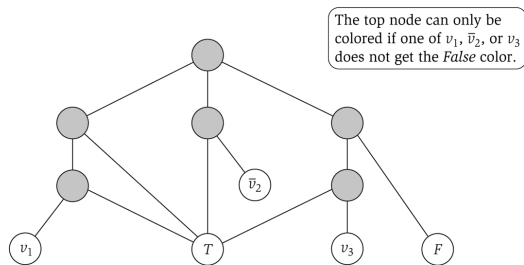


Figure 8.12 Attaching a subgraph to represent the clause $x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3$.

- ▶ Consider the clause $C_1 = x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_3$.
- ▶ Attach a six-node subgraph for this clause to the rest of the graph.

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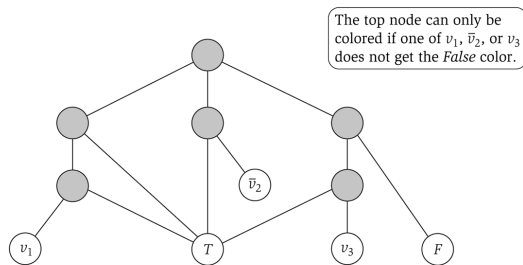


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3-SAT \leq_P 3-Colouring: Encoding Clauses

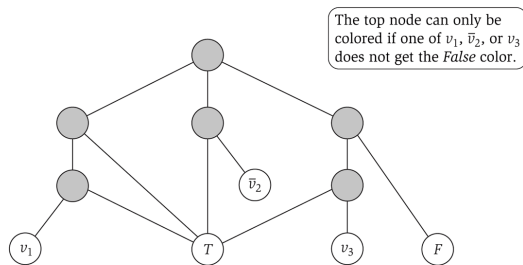


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- ▶ Claim: Graph is 3-colourable iff instance of 3-SAT is satisfiable.

Subset Sum

SUBSET SUM

INSTANCE: A set of n natural numbers w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n and a target W .

QUESTION: Is there a subset of $\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ whose sum is W ?

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- ▶ **Claim:** SUBSET SUM is \mathcal{NP} -Complete,
3-DIMENSIONAL MATCHING \leq_P SUBSET SUM.
- ▶ **Caveat:** Special case of SUBSET SUM in which W is bounded by a polynomial function of n is **not** \mathcal{NP} -Complete (read pages 494–495 of your textbook).

Asymmetry of Certification

- ▶ Definition of efficient certification and \mathcal{NP} is fundamentally asymmetric:
 - ▶ An input string s is a “yes” instance iff there exists a short string t such that $B(s, t) = \text{yes}$.
 - ▶ An input string s is a “no” instance iff *for all* short strings t , $B(s, t) = \text{no}$.

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The definition of \mathcal{NP} does not guarantee a short proof for “no” instances.

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- ▶ For a decision problem X , its *complementary problem* \bar{X} is the set of strings s such that $s \in \bar{X}$ iff $s \notin X$.

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- ▶ Claim: If $\mathcal{NP} \neq \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ then $\mathcal{P} \neq \mathcal{NP}$.

Good Characterisations: the Class $\mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$

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- ▶ Claim: $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$.

Good Characterisations: the Class $\mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$

- ▶ If a problem belongs to both \mathcal{NP} and $\text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$, then
 - ▶ When the answer is yes, there is a short proof.
 - ▶ When the answer is no, there is a short proof.
- ▶ Problems in $\mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$ have a *good characterisation*.
- ▶ Example is the problem of determining if a flow network contains a flow of value at least ν , for some given value of ν .
 - ▶ Yes: construct a flow of value at least ν .
 - ▶ No: demonstrate a cut with capacity less than ν .
- ▶ Claim: $\mathcal{P} \subseteq \mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$.
- ▶ Open problem: Is $\mathcal{P} = \mathcal{NP} \cap \text{co-}\mathcal{NP}$?