

Introduction to Algorithms and Data Structures

Tutorial 9

your tutor

University of Edinburgh

10th-14th March, 2025

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$

Q1(a) Show that SAT and 3-SAT are in NP

- ▶ “solution/certificate” for a SAT instance $\phi = C_1 \wedge \dots C_m$ will be an assignment to the logical variables $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$
- ▶ Assignment can be written as binary string $b_1 \dots b_n$ of length n (so polynomial in the size of the input formula ϕ).
- ▶ To verify $b_1 \dots b_n$ against ϕ , verify each C_j in turn
 - ▶ For each literal $\ell = x_i$ in C_j , check whether $b_i = 1$?
For each literal $\ell = \bar{x}_i$ in C_j , check whether $b_i = 0$?
As long as one of these tests passes, C_j is satisfied by $b_1 \dots b_n$.
 - ▶ It takes $O(|C_j|)$ “lookups” to check C_j .
- ▶ To check *all* C_j are satisfied takes $O\left(\sum_{j=1}^m |C_j|\right)$ lookups in total, which is polynomial-time, in the size of our input instance ϕ .

Hence SAT is in NP.

Same argument works for 3-SAT.

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$

Q1(b) Show that $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$.

Instance $\Phi = C_1 \wedge \dots \wedge C_m$ of SAT, over boolean variables $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$.

Assume that no C_j includes any *complementary pair* of literals $x_i, \bar{x}_i$ (these would be trivially satisfied - just delete the clause).

Will convert Φ to an equivalent 3-SAT formula “clause by clause”.

Take into account the **size** of each C_j .

4 cases:

- ▶ $|C_j| = 1$
- ▶ $|C_j| = 2$
- ▶ $|C_j| = 3 \dots$ *just leave these exactly as they are!*
- ▶ $|C_j| > 4$

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$

Q1(b) $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$ cont'd.

$|C_j| = 1$: Suppose $C_j = (\ell_{j,1})$ for that specific literal $\ell_{j,1}$. Create two dummy variables $y_{j,1}, y_{j,2}$, then we will replace C_j by the following four clauses:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{j,1} &= (\ell_{j,1} \vee y_{j,1} \vee y_{j,2}) & C_{j,2} &= (\ell_{j,1} \vee \overline{y_{j,1}} \vee y_{j,2}) \\ C_{j,3} &= (\ell_{j,1} \vee y_{j,1} \vee \overline{y_{j,2}}) & C_{j,4} &= (\ell_{j,1} \vee \overline{y_{j,1}} \vee \overline{y_{j,2}}) \end{aligned}$$

Claim: The “ $\wedge$ ” of these 4 clauses is equivalent to $C_j = (\ell_{j,1})$.

Why? Note that *no matter what* values get assigned to $y_{j,1}, y_{j,2}$, there will be one pairing (from the options $\{y_{j,1}, \overline{y_{j,1}}\} \times \{y_{j,2}, \overline{y_{j,2}}\}$) that has *both* of the $y_{j,\cdot}$ literals fail. So this clause will force $\ell_{j,1}$ to be true, equivalent to C_j .

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$

Q1(b) $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$ cont'd.

$|C_j| = 2$: Suppose $C_j = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2})$ for its two specific literals. Use *one* dummy variable y_j to replace C_j by the following two clauses:

$$C_{j,1} = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_j), C_{j,2} = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee \bar{y}_j).$$

For similar reasons to the $|C_j| = 1$ case,

$$(\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_j) \wedge (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee \bar{y}_j)$$

is true in exactly the same circumstances as the original C_j .

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$

Q1(b) $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$ cont'd.

$|C_j| = 2$: Suppose $C_j = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2})$ for its two specific literals. Use *one* dummy variable y_j to replace C_j by the following two clauses:

$$C_{j,1} = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_j), C_{j,2} = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee \bar{y}_j).$$

For similar reasons to the $|C_j| = 1$ case,

$$(\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_j) \wedge (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee \bar{y}_j)$$

is true in exactly the same circs as the original C_j .

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$

Q1(b) $\text{SAT} \leq_P 3\text{-SAT}$ cont'd.

$|C_j| > 3$: We will add $|C_j| - 3$ new dummy variables $y_{j,2}, \dots, y_{j,|C_j|-2}$ (so 1 dummy variable if $|C_j|$ was 4, two dummy variables if $|C_j|$ was 5, ...)

Suppose $C_j = (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee \dots \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|})$.

We then replace C_j with the following clauses $C_{j,1}, \dots, C_{j,|C_j|-2}$ defined as follows:

$$C_{j,i} = \begin{cases} (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_{j,2}) & i = 1 \\ (\overline{y_{j,i}} \vee \ell_{j,i+1} \vee y_{j,i+1}) & i, 1 < i < |C_j| - 2 \\ (\overline{y_{j,|C_j|-2}} \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|-1} \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|}) & i = |C_j| - 2 \end{cases}$$

Claim: $C_{j,1} \wedge \dots \wedge C_{j,|C_j|-2}$ is satisfiable $\Leftrightarrow C_j$ is satisfiable.

Q1: SAT $\leq_P$ 3-SAT

Q1(b) SAT $\leq_P$ 3-SAT cont'd.

$$C_{j,i} = \begin{cases} (\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2} \vee y_{j,2}) & i = 1 \\ (\overline{y_{j,i}} \vee \ell_{j,i+1} \vee y_{j,i+1}) & i, 1 < i < |C_j| - 2 \\ (\overline{y_{j,|C_j|-2}} \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|-1} \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|}) & i = |C_j| - 2 \end{cases}$$

Claim: $C_{j,1} \wedge \dots \wedge C_{j,|C_j|-2}$ is satisfiable $\Leftrightarrow C_j$ is satisfiable.

$\Rightarrow$ **direction:** Suppose $C_{j,1} \wedge \dots \wedge C_{j,|C_j|-2}$ is satisfiable.

Let i^* be the first such that $y_{j,i^*} = 0$. If $i^* = 2$, then $\ell_{j,1} \vee \ell_{j,2}$ must be true ... if $2 < i^* \leq |C_j| - 2$, then ℓ_{j,i^*} must be true ... if $y_{j,i} = 1$ for all i , then $\ell_{j,|C_j|-1} \vee \ell_{j,|C_j|}$ must be true.

$\Leftarrow$ **direction:** Choose any literal ℓ_{j,i^*} of C_j made true by the satisfying assignment. Set $y_{j,i} = 1$ for $i < i^*$ and $y_{j,i} = 0$ for $i \geq i^*$, this satisfies all $C_{j,i}$

Note: Need “fresh” dummy variables for each C_j with $|C_j|$.

Q1: $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$

Q1(b) $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$ cont'd.

We argued “equivalence” on a **clause-by-clause** basis.

By using “fresh” dummy variables for each C_j , this equivalence extends to the entire logical formula (no interdependence except among the original variables).

We have created an instance of 3-SAT of total size at most 12 times our original problem (if size is counted in “total number of literals”).

Each of the conversions to 3-CNF are methodological, and can be done in time linear in the size of C_j .

Hence $\text{SAT} \leq_P \text{3-SAT}$.

Q3 (a): derandomization for 3-SAT

Want specific assignment to satisfy $Y \geq \frac{7}{8}9$, ie at least 8, of the clauses in the following Φ .

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi = & (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge \\ & (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_3 \vee x_4).\end{aligned}$$

variable x_1 : Two options: $x_1 \leftarrow 0$ and $x_1 \leftarrow 1$.

To compute $Exp_0 = E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0]$, the expected number of satisfied clauses *conditional on x_1 being 0*, we notice that Φ has

- ▶ 4 clauses containing the negative literal $\bar{x}_1$
- ▶ 3 clauses containing the positive literal x_1
- ▶ 2 clauses not involving this variable at all.

Q3 (a): derandomization for 3-SAT

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi = & (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge \\ & (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_3 \vee x_4).\end{aligned}$$

variable x_1 : Two options: $x_1 \leftarrow 0$ and $x_1 \leftarrow 1$.

If we set $x_1 \leftarrow 0$, we satisfy all clauses with $\bar{x}_1$, we delete the x_1 literal from the clauses containing it (probability drops to $\frac{3}{4}$) ... the two other clauses still have probability $\frac{7}{8}$. This gives

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0] = 4 + 3 \cdot \frac{3}{4} + 2 \cdot \frac{7}{8} = 8.$$

To compute $Exp_1 = E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 1]$, the circles for positive literals (3) and negative literals (4) are reversed, hence the value Exp_1 can be computed as

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 1] = 3 + 4 \cdot \frac{3}{4} + 2 \cdot \frac{7}{8} = 7.75.$$

Verdict: $x_1 \leftarrow 0$

Q3 (a): derandomization for 3-SAT

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi' = & (\neg x_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\neg x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (x_2 \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge \\ & (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_3 \vee x_4)\end{aligned}$$

4 clauses already satisfied. Only 5 “active” clauses remain.

Variable x_2 :

$x_2 \leftarrow 0$: we have $\bar{x}_2$ in 3 active clauses (satisfied by $x_2 \leftarrow 0$), x_2 in one length-2 clause (length-1 after $x_2 \leftarrow 0$), one length-3 clause (becomes length 1). Hence

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0] = 4 + 3 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} + 1 \cdot \frac{3}{4} = 8.25$$

(the 4 is from the previously satisfied clauses).

$x_2 \leftarrow 1$: For $E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 1]$, just observe

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0] = \frac{E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0] + E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 1]}{2}.$$

By $E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0] = 8$ and $E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0] = 8.25$, we know $E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 1] < E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0]$.

Verdict: $x_2 \leftarrow 0$

Q3 (a): derandomization for 3-SAT

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi' = & (\cancel{x_1} \vee \cancel{x_2} \vee x_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_2 \vee x_3) \wedge \\ & (\cancel{x_1} \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3) \wedge (\cancel{x_1} \vee \bar{x}_2 \vee x_4) \wedge (\cancel{x_2} \vee x_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge \\ & (\bar{x}_1 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee \bar{x}_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_2 \vee \bar{x}_3 \vee x_4) \wedge (\bar{x}_1 \vee x_3 \vee x_4)\end{aligned}$$

7 clauses satisfied, just 2 active clauses.

Variable x_3 : Both remaining clauses have x_3 as a positive literal. Hence:

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0, x_3 \leftarrow 1] = 7 + 2 = 9$$

$$E[Y \mid x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0, x_3 \leftarrow 0] = 7 + 0 + 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2} = 7.5$$

Verdict: $x_3 \leftarrow 1$

Choose either value for x_4 , doesn't matter which.

Overall assignment is $x_1 \leftarrow 0, x_2 \leftarrow 0, x_3 \leftarrow 1, x_4 \in \{0, 1\}$.

Q3 (b): derandomization for general SAT

Suppose we want to do the same process for general CNF?

Obs 1: $E[Y] = \frac{7}{8}m$ no longer fits.

- ▶ Can use *linearity of expectation* for $E[Y]$, but clauses have variable length
 - ▶ Let m_k be the number of clauses of length k in Φ (each $k = 1, \dots, n$)
 - ▶ Then $E[Y]$ is

$$E[Y] = \sum_{k=1}^n m_k \left(1 - \frac{1}{2^k}\right)$$

Obs 2: Can do a derandomization to achieve at least $E[Y]$ satisfied clauses.

- ▶ While calculating the $E[Y \mid x_1 = b_1, \dots, x_j = b_j]$ values, we will be working with a Φ' formula with clauses of varying sizes.
- ▶ Probability is $(1 - \frac{1}{2^k})$ for clauses with $k > 3$ active literals.
- ▶ Calculations are still feasible.

Won't necessarily satisfy $\geq \frac{7}{8}m$ clauses, because $E[Y]$ might have been smaller (especially if Φ has a lot of 1-literal and/or 2-literal clauses).

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

proof: By definition, the set $\mathcal{I}$ is an Independent set if (and only if) for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

proof: By definition, the set $\mathcal{I}$ is an Independent set if (and only if) for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.

This is the case if and only if for every $(u, v) \in E$, at least one of u, v is *not* in $\mathcal{I}$.

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

proof: By definition, the set $\mathcal{I}$ is an Independent set if (and only if) for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.

This is the case if and only if for every $(u, v) \in E$, at least one of u, v is *not* in $\mathcal{I}$.

This is the case if and only if if for every $(u, v) \in E$, either $u \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$ or $v \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$.

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

proof: By definition, the set $\mathcal{I}$ is an Independent set if (and only if) for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.

This is the case if and only if for every $(u, v) \in E$, at least one of u, v is *not* in $\mathcal{I}$.

This is the case if and only if if for every $(u, v) \in E$, either $u \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$ or $v \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$.

This is the case (by definition) if and only if $V \setminus \mathcal{I}$ is a Vertex Cover for G .

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

- ▶ $\mathcal{I}$ is an *Independent Set* of G if for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.
- ▶ $\mathcal{K}$ is a *Vertex Cover* of G if for every $e = (u, v) \in E$, either $u \in \mathcal{K}$ or $v \in \mathcal{K}$.

proof: By definition, the set $\mathcal{I}$ is an Independent set if (and only if) for every $u \in \mathcal{I}, v \in \mathcal{I} \setminus \{u\}$, that $(u, v) \notin E$.

This is the case if and only if for every $(u, v) \in E$, at least one of u, v is *not* in $\mathcal{I}$.

This is the case if and only if if for every $(u, v) \in E$, either $u \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$ or $v \in V \setminus \mathcal{I}$.

This is the case (by definition) if and only if $V \setminus \mathcal{I}$ is a Vertex Cover for G .

Q4 (a): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

Implications for the two decision problems:

$$\begin{aligned} &G \text{ has an Independent Set } \mathcal{I} \text{ of size } |\mathcal{I}| \geq k \\ \Leftrightarrow &G \text{ has a Vertex Cover } V \setminus \mathcal{I} \text{ such that } |\mathcal{I}| \geq k \\ \Leftrightarrow &G \text{ has a Vertex Cover } \mathcal{K} \text{ such that } |\mathcal{K}| \leq (n - k). \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Very straightforward “reduction” from INDEPENDENT SET to VERTEX COVER, *and vice versa*.
- ▶ Really simple reduction, graph doesn't change, just flip between k and $n - k$ for size parameter.

Therefore, INDEPENDENT SET is NP-complete $\Leftrightarrow$ VERTEX COVER is NP-complete.

Rare to have “reductions” which work in both directions.

Q4 (b): VERTEX COVER and INDEPENDENT SET

Implications for the approximation problems:

Hypothesis: We have an *approximation algorithm* for VERTEX COVER with approximation ratio of α , for $\alpha > 1$.

So the algorithm will return ℓ satisfying $\ell \leq \alpha \cdot OPT_{VC}(G)$, where $OPT_{VC}(G)$ is the optimum/minimum size of a VC for G .

What does $n - \ell$ mean in relation to the maximum Independent Set for G ? (remember maximum has size $n - OPT_{VC}(G)$). We **know** that

$$n - \ell \geq n - \alpha \cdot OPT_{VC}(G) = (n - OPT_{VC}(G)) - (\alpha - 1)OPT_{VC}(G)$$

We **would like** $n - \ell \geq \frac{1}{\beta} (n - OPT_{VC}(G))$ for some $\beta > 1$

But imagine α of the Vertex Cover is $\alpha = 2$. Then taking $n - \ell$ for Independent Set gives the bound

$$n - \ell \geq (n - OPT_{VC}(G)) - OPT_{VC}(G)$$

However, there may be graphs where $OPT_{VC}(G)$ is $n/2$ or even greater.

So $n - \ell$ may be arbitrarily close to 0.

Problem is the $-$ in the conversion between the two problems: subtraction does not preserve approximation.