

MCS 441 – Theory of Computation I
Spring 2013
Problem Set 9

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Due: 4/19/13 at the beginning of class

Related reading: Chapter 7

Instructions: Atop your problem set, write your name, clearly list your collaborators¹ (see syllabus for the collaboration policy), and indicate whether you are an undergraduate or graduate student.

1. [5 pts] Prove that if $A, B \in P$ then $A \cup B \in P$.

2. [5 pts] Show that the language $K4 \in P$, where

$$K4 = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ contains a 4-clique}\}.$$

3. [6 pts] Assume that $P = NP$.

a. Show that this implies that the language

$$\text{RELPRIME} = \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid x \text{ and } y \text{ are relatively prime integers}\}$$

is NP-Complete.

b. Does it imply that every language in NP is NP-Complete? Why or why not?

4. [4 pts] Why does definition 7.18 not restrict the length of the certificate c ? Informally, what prevents the verifier from cheating and checking a certificate that encodes all possible solutions?

5. [6 pts] Consider the problem of making a conference schedule. There are talks T_1, \dots, T_k to be scheduled and participants P_1, \dots, P_ℓ attending the conference. Each participant gives you a list of the talks he is interested in attending. You must schedule times for these talks so that no participant is interested in two talks that are scheduled for the same time. The problem is to determine if a schedule exists that uses only h slots. Formulate this problem as a language and show it is NP complete.

Hint: reduce from graph 3-COLORING.

¹If you did not have any collaborators, please say so.

6. [5 pts] Assume that $\text{SAT} \in \text{P}$, where

$$\text{SAT} = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ is a satisfiable Boolean formula.}\}$$

Show how to use this fact to find, in polynomial time, an assignment of the variables in ϕ such that ϕ evaluates to *true*.

7. [8 pts] Define the class coNP-Complete (analogously to NP-Complete) to be the set of languages A s.t. $A \in \text{coNP}$ and $\forall B \in \text{coNP}, B \leq_{\text{P}} A$.

a. Let the language

$$\text{TAUTOLOGY} = \{\langle \phi \rangle \mid \phi \text{ always evaluates to } \textit{true}\},$$

e.g. $\phi = (x_1 \vee \bar{x}_1) \in \text{TAUTOLOGY}$. Prove that TAUTOLOGY is coNP-Complete.

b. What would be an important consequence of proving $\text{TAUTOLOGY} \in \text{NP}$? Why? (To answer this question, you may assume the statement from part a.)