

CSC 341 - Fall 2022

Problem Set 10

Due Monday, December 5

Problem 1. Let U be a universe (a collection of stuff) and let F be a family of subsets of U . A *set cover* of U given F is an $F' \subseteq F$ such that

$$\bigcup_{E \in F'} E = U.$$

The corresponding language for the decision problem is

$$SC = \{\langle F, k \rangle \mid F \text{ contains a set cover of size } k\}.$$

Notice that U is implicit from F as the union of every set in F . Moreover, this is a minimization problem, as you can always add extra sets from F .

Prove that $SC \in NP\text{-COMPLETE}$.

Problem 2. Let U be a universe, and let F be a family of subsets of U . A *hitting set* of F is a $U' \subseteq U$ such that for each $E \in F$, there is a $e \in U'$ such that $e \in E$.

The corresponding language for the decision problem is

$$HS = \{\langle F, k \rangle \mid \text{There is a hitting set covering } F \text{ of size } k\}.$$

Notice that U is implicit from F as the union of every set in F . Moreover, this is a minimization problem, as you can always add extra elements from U .

Prove that $HS \in NP\text{-COMPLETE}$.

Problem 3. Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected graph. A *dominating set* is a $V' \subseteq V$ such that for every vertex $u \in V \setminus V'$, there is a vertex $v \in V'$ such that $(u, v) \in E$.

The corresponding language for the decision problem is

$$DS = \{\langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph with a dominating set of size } k\}.$$

Notice that this is a minimization problem, as you can always add extra vertices from V .

Prove that $DS \in NP\text{-COMPLETE}$.

Problem 4. Let $G = (V, E)$ be an undirected graph. A *edge cover* of G is an $E' \subseteq E$ such that for each vertex $u \in V$, there is an edge $e \in E'$ incident with u .

The corresponding language for the decision problem is

$$EC = \{\langle G, k \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph that contains an edge cover of size } k\}.$$

Notice that this is a minimization problem, as you can always pick extra edges from E .

Prove that $EC \in NP\text{-COMPLETE}$.

Problem 5. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph. A *coloring* of G is an assignment of colors to each vertex such that no two adjacent vertices are the same color. A *k-coloring* of G is a coloring that uses at most k distinct colors.

The corresponding language for the decision problem is

$$kC = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is an undirected graph with a } k \text{ coloring}\}$$

This can be made into a minimization problem by asking for the minimum k -coloring of a graph. Curiously, however, this problem is hard for all but 2 choices of k .

Prove that $2C \in P$.