6.5440: Algorithmic Lower Bounds, Fall 2023 Prof. Erik Demaine, Josh Brunner, Lily Chung, Jenny Diomidova

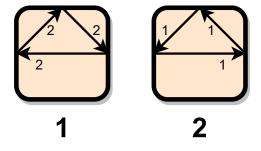
Problem Set 6

Due: Monday, October 23, 2023 at noon

Problem 6.1 [3-spinner hardness].

A k-spinner is a deterministic gadget with k locations and two states, 1 and 2. When the gadget is in state 1, the agent can enter at any location and exit at the clockwise next location, while switching the gadget to state 2. When the gadget is in state 2, the agent can enter at any location and exit at counterclockwise next location, while switching the gadget to state 1.

For example, here is the state diagram of a 3-spinner:



You can also see an example of a 4-spinner in action in this video: https://youtu.be/QjfiRNrAmIo?t=1097. Prove PSPACE-completeness of reachability (one-player motion planning) with 3-spinners.

You must include a drawing or diagram in your submission.