

NP search problem: (\approx NP-relation)

- goal: instance \rightarrow solution (any)
- for each instance, set of (valid/feasible) solutions
- can recognize instances & their solutions in P
- every NP problem \rightarrow NP search problem
(for every choice of YES certificates \rightarrow solutions)

Counting version #A of NP search problem A
count number of solutions for given instance

- e.g. #SAT: find # satisfying assignments
- #Shakashaka: find # solutions to puzzle

#P = { #A | NP search problem A } [Valiant-TCS 1979]
= { problems solved by polynomial-time
nondeterministic counting algorithms }

- \hookrightarrow makes guesses, at end says YES or NO
(just like an NP algorithm)
- \hookrightarrow output = #guess paths leading to YES

#P-hard = as hard as all problems in #P
via multicall (Cook-style) reductions

\Rightarrow #P unless $P=NP$

\hookrightarrow technically, FP = poly-time computable functions

Parsimonious reduction for NP search problems

instance x of $A \xrightarrow{f}$ instance x' of B

- computable in polynomial time (like NP reduction)
- #A solutions to $x =$ #B solutions to y
 - \Rightarrow decision problems (\exists solution?) same answer
 - \Rightarrow NP reduction too

- #A is #P-hard \Rightarrow #B is #P-hard
(& A is NP-hard \Rightarrow B is NP-hard)

c-monious reduction: uniform scaling

$c \cdot$ #A solutions to $x =$ #B solutions to y

- preserves 0 \Rightarrow NP reduction too
- #A is #P-hard \Rightarrow #B is #P-hard

#P-complete SAT problems:

- #3SAT

- planar #3SAT

[Hunt III, Marathe, Radhakrishnan, Stearns - SICOMP 1998]

- planar monotone rectilinear #3SAT

- planar positive rectilinear #1-in-3SAT

- planar positive #2SAT-3

[Xia, Zhang, Zhao - TCS 2007]

- Schaefer-style dichotomy:

- #SAT \in FP \Leftrightarrow system of linear equations (mod 2)

- #SAT #P-complete otherwise

[Creignou & Hermann - I&C 2006]

see [Creignou, Khanna, Sudan - SIGACT 2001]

} as in L7

Shakashaka: parsimonious \Rightarrow #P-hard
[Demaine, Okamoto, Uehara, Uno - CCCG 2013]

Hamiltonian cycles:

- old proofs not parsimonious [Lichtenstein] [Plesnik]
- parsimonious reduction from 3SAT to planar max-degree-3 Hamiltonian cycle
[Sato - senior thesis 2002]
- nonplanar case solved earlier [Valiant 1974]

Slitherlink: parsimonious \Rightarrow #P-hard [Yato 2000]

- here can't use grid graphs
 \Rightarrow optional vertex gadgets

Determinant of $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ EP

$$= \sum_{\text{permutation } \pi} (-1)^{\text{sign}(\pi)} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i, \pi(i)}$$

product of permutation matrix within A

Permanent = $\sum_{\text{permutation } \pi} \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i, \pi(i)}$

→ weighted directed n -node graph $w(i, j) = a_{ij}$:
 = $\sum \{ \text{product of edge weights} \mid \text{cycle cover} \}$
 vertex-disjoint directed cycles hitting all vertices

- #P-complete [Valiant-TCS 1979]
- C-monious reduction from #3SAT
- weight-1 edges in variable & clause gadgets
- special weight matrix X in junctions
 - $\text{perm } X = 0 \Rightarrow$ not alone in nonzero cycle cover
 \Rightarrow entered & exited by bigger cycle
 - $\text{perm}(X - \text{row \& col. 1}) = \text{perm}(X - \text{row \& col. 4}) = 0$
 \Rightarrow can't enter & leave immediately
 \Rightarrow enter at one end (1 or 4), leave at other
 - $\text{perm}(X - \text{rows \& cols. 1 \& 4}) = 0$
 \Rightarrow can't leave interior 2×2 separate
 \Rightarrow must be visited between enter & exit
 - $\text{perm}(X - \text{row 1 - col. 4}) = \text{perm}(X - \text{row 4 - col. 1}) = 4$
 factor for each traversal
 \Rightarrow acts as forced edge in var. & clause gadgets
- $\Rightarrow \text{perm} = 4^{\# \text{clauses}} \cdot \# \text{satisfying assignments}$

Permanent mod r also #P-hard: [Valiant-TCS 1979]

- multicall reduction from Permanent
- set $r=2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots$ until product $> M^n \cdot n!$

largest absolute entry in matrix \leftarrow

- $\Rightarrow O(n \lg M + n \lg n)$ calls & max $r = O(\text{that} \ln \text{that})$
- use Chinese Remainder Theorem [Prime # Theorem]

\rightarrow encoded in unary

0/1-permanent mod r: [Valiant-TCS 1979]

- parsimonious reduction from permanent mod r
- \Rightarrow all edge weights (effectively) nonnegative
- replace weight- k edge ($k > 1$) with gadget with k loops
 - unique solution if original edge unused
 - exactly k solutions if original edge used (using exactly 1 loop)

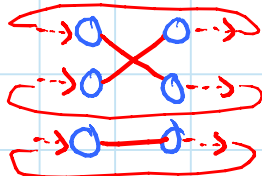
0/1-permanent: [Valiant-TCS 1979]

- one-call reduction from 0/1-permanent mod r
- call with same input
- return output mod r

= # cycle covers in given directed graph

= # perfect matchings in given bipartite graph

($V_1 = \text{rows}, V_2 = \text{columns}, (i, j) \in E \Leftrightarrow a_{ij} = 1$)



\uparrow
 V_1 \uparrow
 V_2

(balanced: $|V_1| = |V_2|$)

Bipartite # maximal matchings: [Valiant - SICOMP 1979]

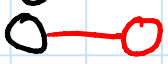
- one-call reduction from bipartite # perfect matchings
- replace each vertex with n copies ($n=|V|$)
& each edge with biclique $K_{n,n}$
⇒ old matching of size i
→ $(n!)^i$ distinct matchings of size ni
(& preserves maximality)
- # maximal matchings in this graph
= $\sum_{i=0}^{n/2} (\# \text{orig. maximal matchings size } i) \cdot (n!)^i$
≤ $(n/2)!$ e.g. $K_{n/2, n/2}$

⇒ can extract # perfect matchings ($i=n/2$)
incorrect (actually a reduction to another problem) fix:

Bipartite # matchings: [Valiant - SICOMP 1979]

- multicall reduction from bipartite # perfect matchings
- $G \rightarrow G_k$: for each vertex: add k adjacent leaves
- M_r matchings of size $n/2 - r$ in G
contained in $M_r (k+1)^r$ matchings in G_k
⇒ # matchings in $G_k = \sum_{r=0}^{n/2} M_r (k+1)^r$
- evaluate this polynomial for $k=1, 2, \dots, n/2+1$
- ⇒ can extract coefficients M_0, M_1, \dots
- $M_0 =$ desired # perfect matchings in G

Bipartite # maximal matchings: [Vadhan - SICOMP 2001]

- one-call reduction from bipartite # matchings
- for each vertex: add 1 adjacent leaf 
- matching → unique maximal matching

Positive #2SAT

[Valiant - SICOMP 1979]
(cf. old VC reduction)

= # vertex covers

⇒ # cliques in complement graph

- parsimonious reduction from bipartite # matchings
- edge → variable: true = not in the matching
- 2 incident edges e & f → clause $e \vee f$
⇒ satisfying assignment = matching

Minimal Vertex Covers

[Valiant - SICOMP 1979]

= # maximal cliques in complement graph

= # minimal truth settings for positive 2SAT

- parsimonious reduction from bipartite # maximal matchings, as above

- minimal satisfying assignment = maximal matching

$|E| - i$ true variables \Leftarrow size i

3-regular bipartite planar #Vertex Cover

= planar positive 2SAT-3

where each clause has 1 red & 1 blue variable

- #P-complete [Xia, Zhang, Zhao - TCS 2007]

(2,3)-regular bipartite # Perfect Matchings

- #P-complete [Xia, Zhang, Zhao - TCS 2007]

(note: decision versions easy)

Another Solution Problem (ASP) [Ueda & Nagao - TR 1996]

- for NP search problem A:
ASP A: given one solution, is there another?
- useful in puzzle design: want unique solution
- e.g. ASP k -coloring $\in P$ (rotate colors)
& ASP 3-regular Hamiltonian cycle $\in P$
(always another solution)

ASP reduction: parsimonious reduction $A \rightarrow B$
& poly.-time bijection between solutions_A(x)
& solutions_B(x')

- includes every parsimonious reduction we've seen

\Rightarrow ASP $A \rightarrow$ ASP B via NP reduction
(can map given solution to $A \rightarrow$ sol. to B)

- ASP $B \in P \Rightarrow$ ASP $A \in P$

- ASP A NP-hard \Rightarrow ASP B NP-hard

ASP-hard = ASP reducible from every NP search prob.

\Rightarrow NP-hard & (c-)ASP problem is NP-hard

#solutions given,
want another

[Yato & Seto 2003]

ASP-complete = ASP-hard NP search problem

- includes planar 3SATs & Hamiltonicity today,
Shakashaka, Slitherlink

- not c-monious reductions e.g. 2SAT, matchings, permanent