



CS21  
Decidability  
and  
Tractability

Lecture 21  
February 26,  
2025

1

## Outline

- 3-SAT is NP-complete
- NP-complete problems: independent set, vertex cover, clique...
- NP-complete problems: Hamilton path and cycle, Traveling Salesperson Problem
- NP-complete problems: Subset Sum
- NP-complete problems: NAE-3-SAT, max cut

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

2

## Clique

- Definition: given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a **clique** in  $G$  is a subset  $V' \subseteq V$  such that for all  $u, v \in V'$ ,  $(u, v) \in E$
- A search problem:  
given  $G$ , find the **largest** clique
- corresponding language (decision problem):  
 $\text{CLIQUE} = \{(G, k) : G \text{ has a clique of size } \geq k\}$ .

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

3

## Clique is NP-complete

**Theorem:** the following language is NP-complete:

$\text{CLIQUE} = \{(G, k) : G \text{ has a clique of size } \geq k\}$

- Proof:
  - Part 1:  $\text{CLIQUE} \in \text{NP}$ . Proof?
  - Part 2:  $\text{CLIQUE}$  is NP-hard.
    - reduce from?

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

4

## Clique is NP-complete

- We are reducing **from the language:**

$\text{IS} = \{(G, k) : G \text{ has an IS of size } \geq k\}$

**to the language:**

$\text{CLIQUE} = \{(G, k) : G \text{ has a CLIQUE of size } \geq k\}$ .

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

5

## Clique is NP-complete

- How are IS, CLIQUE related?
- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , define its **complement**  $G' = (V, E' = \{(u, v) : (u, v) \notin E\})$ 
  - if  $V' \subseteq V$  is an independent set in  $G$  of size  $k$
  - then  $V'$  is a clique in  $G'$  of size  $k$
- Proof:
  - Every pair of vertices  $u, v \in V'$  has no edge between them in  $G$ . Therefore they have an edge between them in  $G'$ .

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

6

## Clique is NP-complete

- How are IS, CLIQUE related?
- Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , define its **complement**  $G' = (V, E' = \{(u,v) : (u,v) \notin E\})$ 
  - if  $V' \subseteq V$  is a clique in  $G'$  of size  $k$
  - then  $V'$  is an independent set in  $G$  of size  $k$
- Proof:
  - Every pair of vertices  $u,v \in V'$  has an edge between them in  $G'$ . Therefore they have no edge between them in  $G$ .

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

7

## Clique is NP-complete

The reduction:

- given an instance of IS:  $(G, k)$   $f$  produces the pair  $(G', k)$
- $f$  poly-time computable?
- YES maps to YES?
  - IS of size  $\geq k$  in  $G \Rightarrow$  CLIQUE of size  $\geq k$  in  $G'$
- NO maps to NO?
  - CLIQUE of size  $\geq k$  in  $G' \Rightarrow$  IS of size  $\geq k$  in  $G$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

8

## Hamilton Path

- Definition: given a directed graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a **Hamilton path** in  $G$  is a directed path that touches every node exactly once.
- A language (decision problem):  
 $HAMPATH = \{(G, s, t) : G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

9

## HAMPATH is NP-complete

**Theorem:** the following language is NP-complete:

$HAMPATH = \{(G, s, t) : G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

- Proof:
  - Part 1:  $HAMPATH \in NP$ . Proof?
  - Part 2:  $HAMPATH$  is NP-hard.
    - reduce from?

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

10

## HAMPATH is NP-complete

- We are reducing **from the language:**

$3SAT = \{ \varphi : \varphi \text{ is a 3-CNF formula that has a satisfying assignment} \}$

**to the language:**

$HAMPATH = \{(G, s, t) : G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

11

## HAMPATH is NP-complete

- We want to construct a graph from  $\varphi$  with the following properties:
  - a satisfying assignment to  $\varphi$  translates into a Hamilton Path from  $s$  to  $t$
  - a Hamilton Path from  $s$  to  $t$  can be translated into a satisfying assignment for  $\varphi$
- We will build the graph up from pieces called **gadgets** that “simulate” the clauses and variables of  $\varphi$ .

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

12

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

- The variable gadget (one for each  $x_i$ ):

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

13

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

- path from  $s$  to  $t$  translates into a truth assignment to  $x_1 \dots x_m$
- why must the path be of this form?

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

14

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

$$\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_4 \vee x_3) \wedge \dots \wedge (\dots)$$

- How to ensure that all  $k$  clauses are satisfied?
- need to add nodes
  - can be visited in path if the clause is satisfied
  - if visited in path, implies clause is satisfied by the assignment given by path through variable gadgets

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

15

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

$$\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_4 \vee x_3) \wedge \dots \wedge (\dots)$$

- Clause gadget allows “detour” from “assignment path” for each true literal in clause

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

16

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

- One clause gadget for each of  $k$  clauses:

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

17

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

$$\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_4 \vee x_3) \dots$$

- $f(\varphi)$  is this graph (edges to/from clause nodes not pictured)
- $f$  poly-time computable?
- # nodes =  $O(km)$

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

18

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

$\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_4 \vee x_3) \dots$

“C<sub>1</sub>” • YES maps to YES?  
 • first form path from satisfying assign.  
 • pick true literal in each clause and add detour

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

19

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

$\varphi = (x_1 \vee x_2 \vee \neg x_3) \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee x_4 \vee x_3) \dots$

“C<sub>1</sub>” • NO maps to NO?  
 • try to translate path into satisfying assignment  
 • if path has “intended” form, OK.

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

20

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

• What can go wrong?  
 – path has “intended form” unless return from clause gadget to **different** variable gadget

we will argue that this cannot happen:

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

21

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

Case 1 (positive occurrence of  $v$  in clause):

• path must visit  $y$   
 • must enter from  $x, z,$  or  $c$   
 • must exit to  $z$  ( $x$  is taken)  
 •  $x, c$  are taken. can't happen

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

22

### HAMPATH is NP-complete

Case 2 (negative occurrence of  $v$  in clause):

• path must visit  $y$   
 • must enter from  $x$  or  $z$   
 • must exit to  $z$  ( $x$  is taken)  
 •  $x$  is taken. can't happen

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

23

### Undirected Hamilton Path

• HAMPATH refers to a directed graph.  
 • Is it easier on an undirected graph?

• A language (decision problem):  
 $UHAMPATH = \{(G, s, t) : \text{undirected } G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

February 26, 2025 CS21 Lecture 21

24

## UHAMPATH is NP-complete

**Theorem:** the following language is NP-complete:

UHAMPATH =  $\{(G, s, t) : \text{undirected graph } G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

- Proof:
  - Part 1: UHAMPATH  $\in$  NP. Proof?
  - Part 2: UHAMPATH is NP-hard.
    - reduce from?

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

25

## UHAMPATH is NP-complete

- We are reducing from the language:

HAMPATH =  $\{(G, s, t) : \text{directed graph } G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

to the language:

UHAMPATH =  $\{(G, s, t) : \text{undirected graph } G \text{ has a Hamilton path from } s \text{ to } t\}$

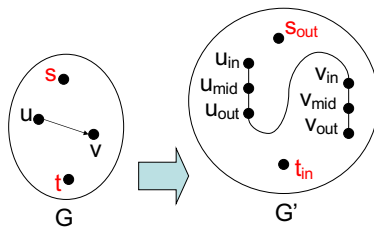
February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

26

## UHAMPATH is NP-complete

- The reduction:



- replace each node with three (except s, t)
- $(u_{in}, u_{mid})$
- $(u_{mid}, u_{out})$
- $(u_{out}, v_{in})$  iff G has  $(u, v)$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

27

## UHAMPATH is NP-complete

- Does the reduction run in poly-time?

- YES maps to YES?

– Hamilton path in G:  $s, u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k, t$

– Hamilton path in G':

$s_{out}, (u_1)_{in}, (u_1)_{mid}, (u_1)_{out}, (u_2)_{in}, (u_2)_{mid}, (u_2)_{out}, \dots, (u_k)_{in}, (u_k)_{mid}, (u_k)_{out}, t_{in}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

28

## UHAMPATH is NP-complete

- NO maps to NO?

– Hamilton path in G':

$s_{out}, v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6, \dots, v_{k-2}, v_{k-1}, v_k, t_{in}$

–  $v_1 = (u_1)_{in}$  for some  $i_1$  (only edges to ins)

–  $v_2 = (u_1)_{mid}$  for some  $i_1$  (only way to enter mid)

–  $v_3 = (u_1)_{out}$  for some  $i_1$  (only way to exit mid)

–  $v_4 = (u_2)_{in}$  for some  $i_2$  (only edges to ins)

– ...

– Hamilton path in G:  $s, u_{i_1}, u_{i_2}, u_{i_3}, \dots, u_{i_k}, t$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

29

## Undirected Hamilton Cycle

- Definition: given a undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a **Hamilton cycle** in G is a **cycle** in G that touches every node exactly once.

- Is finding one easier than finding a Hamilton path?

- A language (decision problem):

UHAMCYCLE =  $\{G : G \text{ has a Hamilton cycle}\}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

30

## UHAMCYCLE is NP-complete

**Theorem:** the following language is NP-complete:

UHAMCYCLE = {G: G has a Hamilton cycle}

• **Proof:**

- Part 1: UHAMCYCLE ∈ NP. Proof?
- Part 2: UHAMCYCLE is NP-hard.
  - reduce from?

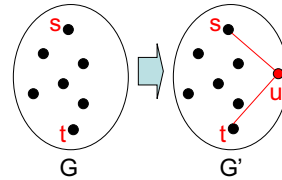
February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

31

## UHAMCYCLE is NP-complete

- The reduction (from UHAMPATH):



- H. path from s to t implies H. cycle in G'
- H. cycle in G' must visit u via red edges
- removing red edges gives H. path from s to t in G

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

32

## Traveling Salesperson Problem

- Definition: given n cities  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  and inter-city distances  $d_{i,j}$  a **TSP tour** in G is a permutation  $\pi$  of  $\{1 \dots n\}$ . The tour's length is  $\sum_{i=1}^n d_{\pi(i), \pi(i+1)}$  (where  $n+1$  means 1).
- A search problem: given the  $\{d_{i,j}\}$ , find the **shortest** TSP tour
- corresponding language (decision problem): TSP =  $\{\{d_{i,j} : 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}, k\} : \text{these cities have a TSP tour of length } \leq k\}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

33

## TSP is NP-complete

**Theorem:** the following language is NP-complete:

TSP =  $\{\{d_{i,j} : 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}, k\} : \text{these cities have a TSP tour of length } \leq k\}$

• **Proof:**

- Part 1: TSP ∈ NP. Proof?
- Part 2: TSP is NP-hard.
  - reduce from?

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

34

## TSP is NP-complete

- We are reducing **from the language:**

UHAMCYCLE = {G : G has a Hamilton cycle}

**to the language:**

TSP =  $\{\{d_{i,j} : 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}, k\} : \text{these cities have a TSP tour of length } \leq k\}$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

35

## TSP is NP-complete

- The reduction:

- given  $G = (V, E)$  with n nodes

produce:

- n cities corresponding to the n nodes
- $d_{u,v} = 1$  if  $(u, v) \in E$
- $d_{u,v} = 2$  if  $(u, v) \notin E$
- set  $k = n$

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21

36

## TSP is NP-complete

- YES maps to YES?
  - if  $G$  has a Hamilton cycle, then visiting cities in that order gives TSP tour of length  $n$
- NO maps to NO?
  - if TSP tour of length  $\leq n$ , it must have length exactly  $n$ .
  - all distances in tour are 1. Must be edges between every successive pair of cities in tour.

February 26, 2025

CS21 Lecture 21