

HW10 out later today (due next Tue 8pm)

HW11

→ SO FAR

Part 1 : MODELS OF COMPUTATION

Part 2 : DESIGN EFFICIENT ALGORITHMS

Part 3 : Problems for which NO ALGORITHMS exist

Problems for which NO EFFICIENT ALGORITHMS exist.

How To ARGUE THAT SOLUTIONS ARE UNLIKELY TO EXIST?

TEMPLATE

- Suppose you're trying to figure out if there exists an efficient algorithm for problem Y.
- You have a channel to God.
- God will only tell you whether a DIFFERENT PROBLEM X is hard.  
(no solutions)

If Y has a solution, then so does X.

God told you X is hard.

⇒ Y is also hard.

## CONDITIONAL RESULTS

### DECISION PROBLEMS

PROBLEM.  $\Pi$  : Collection of instances (strings)  
for each instance, answer is YES or NO

Answer function  $f_\Pi : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  where

$$f_\Pi(I) = 1 \text{ iff } I \text{ is YES instance}$$

$$f_\Pi(I) = 0 \text{ iff } I \text{ is NO instance}$$

$$L_\Pi = \{ I \mid f_\Pi(I) = 1 \}$$

$\langle x \rangle$  refers to an encoding of  $x$  in some format

Graph  $G$ .  $\langle G \rangle$  is an encoding of the graph  
as a string.

$G = (V, E)$ ,  $s, t, B$  length of shortest path from  
 $s$  to  $t$  in  $G$

Instance =  $\langle G, s, t, B \rangle$ .

### REDUCTION BETWEEN LANGUAGES.

For two languages  $L_x, L_y$

A reduction **FROM**  $L_x$  **TO**  $L_y$  is an algorithm:

input :  $w \in \Sigma^*$

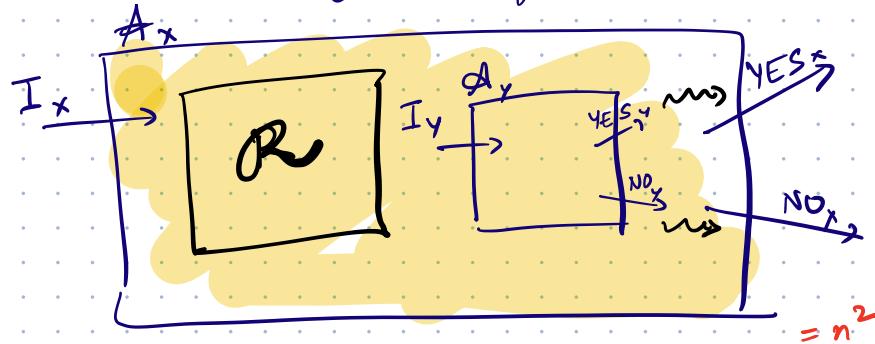
output :  $w' \in \Sigma^*$

such that  $w' \in L_y \iff w \in L_x$ .

$R$ : Reduction (from)  $X \xrightarrow{(to)} Y \quad X \leq Y$

Given  $\mathcal{A}_y$ : Algorithm for  $Y$ .

Build  $\mathcal{A}_x$ : Algorithm for  $X$ . (that uses  $\mathcal{A}_y$ )



$R$  has running time  $R(n)$  where  $n$  is size of input to  $R$

$\mathcal{A}_y$  has running time  $\Theta(n)$  where  $n$  is size of input to  $\mathcal{A}_y$

$\mathcal{A}_x$  has running time?  $\boxed{R(n) + \Theta(R(n))}$   $\Theta(R(n)) = n^3$

Suppose  $|I_x| = n$ . First run  $R$ , takes  $R(n)$ .

Next run  $\mathcal{A}_y$ , which takes  $\Theta(|I_y|) \leq \Theta(R(n))$

If  $R$  is polynomial-time and  $\mathcal{A}_y$  is also polynomial time,  
then  $\mathcal{A}_x$  is polynomial time.

If  $R$  is polynomial time and makes polynomially many accesses to  $\mathcal{A}_y$ , and  $\mathcal{A}_y$  is also polynomial time,  
then  $\mathcal{A}_x$  is polynomial time.

Lemma (1) If  $X \leq Y$  and  $Y$  has an algorithm,  
then  $X$  has an algorithm.

(2) If  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $Y$  has a polynomial-time algorithm,  
poly-time reduction then  $X$  has a polynomial-time algorithm.

(3) If  $X \leq Y$  and  $X$  does not have an algorithm  
 $Y$  does not have an algorithm.

(4) If  $X \leq_p Y$  and  $X$  does not have a poly-time algorithm  
 $Y$  does not have a polynomial-time algorithm.

$$X \leq Y, Y \leq Z \Rightarrow X \leq Z$$

$$X \leq_{(p)} Y, Y_{(p)} \leq Z \Rightarrow X \leq_{(p)} Z$$

$$X \leq Y \not\Rightarrow Y \leq X$$

PROVE HARDNESS OF NEW PROBLEM  $Y$ ,

BASED ON KNOWN HARDNESS OF  
WELL-KNOWN PROBLEM  $X$ .

$$X \leq Y$$

$$Y \leq X$$

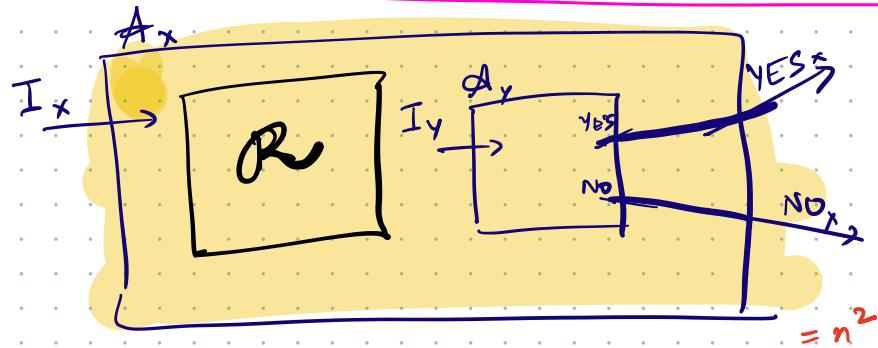
You know:  $X$  is hard.  
and  $X \leq Y$   
 $\Rightarrow Y$  is hard.

How to prove  $X \leq Y$ .

Given  $R(I_x) \rightarrow I_y$

Such that  $I_x$  is YES instance of  $x$

$\Leftrightarrow I_y$  is YES instance of  $y$



$I_x$  is YES<sub>x</sub>  $\Rightarrow I_y$  is YES<sub>y</sub>

$I_y$  is YES<sub>y</sub>  $\Rightarrow I_x$  is YES<sub>x</sub>

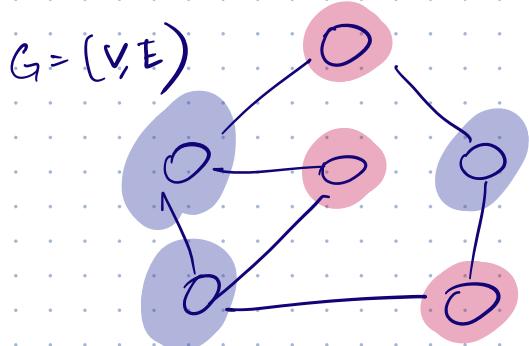
How to prove  $X \leq_p Y$ ?

In addition to proving that

$I_x$  is YES<sub>x</sub>  $\Leftrightarrow I_y$  is YES<sub>y</sub>

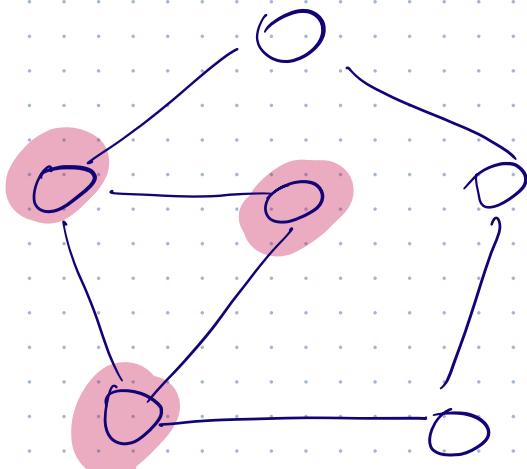
also prove that  $R$  is polynomial-time.

## EXAMPLES OF REDUCTIONS



$\langle G, k \rangle$   
Does  $G$  have  
an INDEPENDENT SET  
of size  $\geq k$ ?

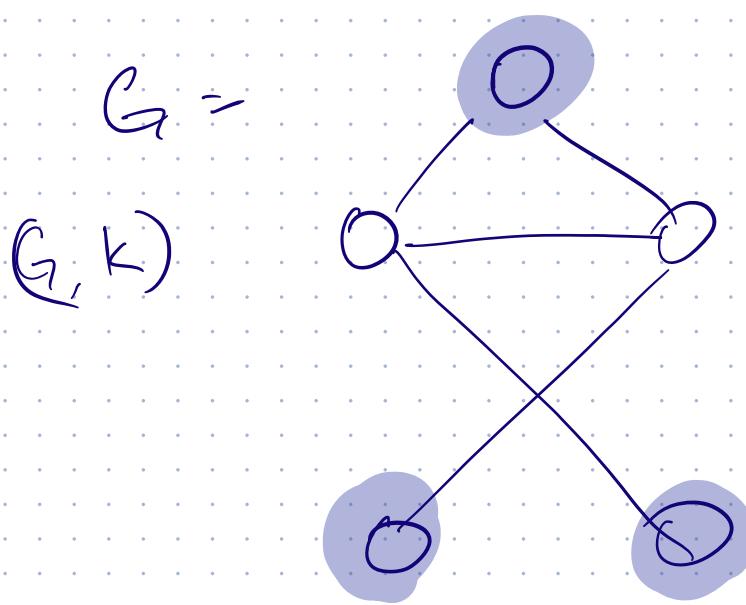
INDEPENDENT SET:  $S \subseteq V$  such that no 2 vertices  
in  $S$  are connected by an edge.



$\langle G, k \rangle$

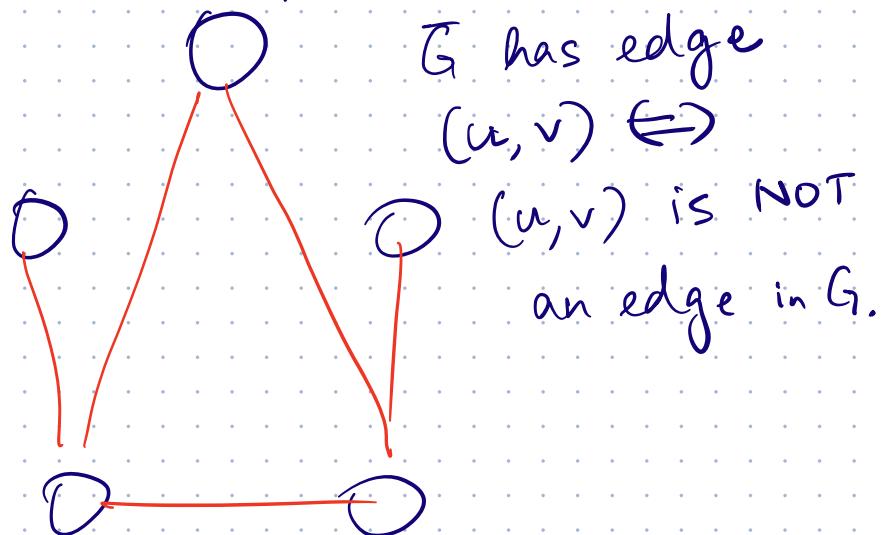
$G$  has a clique  
of size  $\geq k$ ?

CLIQUE: Set  $S \subseteq V$  s.t. every pair of  
vertices in  $S$  is connected by  
an edge



Does  $G$  have ind. set of size  $\geq k$ ?

R : given  $G$ , computes  $\overline{G}$



To prove :  $I_x$  is a YES instance of INDEPENDENT SET  
 $= (G, k)$

$\Leftrightarrow I_y = (\overline{G}, k)$  is a YES instance of CLIQUE.

$G$  has an independent set of size  $\geq k$

$\Leftrightarrow \overline{G}$  has a clique of size  $\geq k$ .

A set  $S$  is an independent set in  $G$

$\Leftrightarrow$  no 2 vertices in  $S$  have an edge between them in  $G$

$\Leftrightarrow$  every pair of vertices in  $S$  have an edge between them in  $\overline{G}$

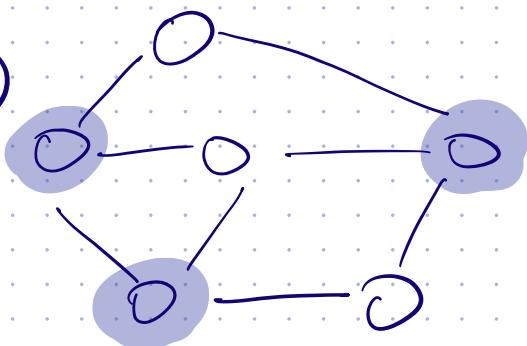
$\Leftrightarrow S$  is a clique in  $\overline{G}$ .

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### VERTEX COVER

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$$G = (V, E)$$



Set of vertices  
 $S$  is V.C.

if every edge  
in  $E$  has at  
least 1 endpoint  
in  $S$ .

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph

$S$  is an independent set  $\Leftrightarrow V \setminus S$  is a vertex cover.

INDEPENDENT SET  $\leq$  VERTEX COVER

Consider any  $uv \in E$

$u \notin S$  or  $v \notin S$  ( $S$  is indep set)

$\Rightarrow u \in V \setminus S$  or  $v \in V \setminus S$

$\Rightarrow V \setminus S$  is a vertex cover.

$V \setminus S$  is V.C.

Consider any  $u, v \in S$ .

$\Rightarrow uv$  is not an edge of  $G$  else  
 $V \setminus S$  does not cover  $uv$

$\Rightarrow S$  is an independent set.

$(G, k) \in_{\text{INDSET}}^{\text{YES}} \Leftrightarrow (G, n-k) \in_{\text{VCOV}}^{\text{YES}}$

VCOV  $\leq_p$  INDSET