

UNIT-V NP-Hard and NP-Complete Problems.

SYLLABUS:-

NP-Hard and NP-Complete problems:
Basic concepts, nondeterministic algorithms,
The classes - NP-Hard and NP complete,
Cook's theorem, Reduction source problems,
Reductions: Reductions for some known problems.

BASIC CONCEPTS:-

→ The problems has best algorithms for their solutions have "computing times", that cluster into two groups.

Group 1

1. Problems with solution time bound by a polynomial of a small degree
2. It also called "Tractable Algorithms"
3. Most searching and sorting algorithms are polynomial time algorithms.

Group 2

1. Problems with solution times not bound by polynomial (simply non polynomial).
2. These are hard or intractable problems.
3. None of the problems in this group has been solved by any

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time algorithm

Eg:-

Ordered search
($O(\log n)$),
polynomial evaluation
($O(n)$)
Sorting ($O(n \cdot \log n)$)

Eg:-

Traveling Sales
Person ($O(n^2 2^n)$)
Knapsack ($O(2^{n/2})$).

→ No one has been able to develop a polynomial time algorithm for any problem in the 2nd group (i.e. group 2).

→ So, it is compulsory and finding algorithms whose computing times are greater than polynomial very quickly because such vast amounts of time to execute that even moderate size problems cannot be solved.

Theory of NP completeness:-

→ There are two classes of Non-polynomial time problems.

1. NP-Hard

2. NP-Complete.

NP-Complete problem:- A problem that is NP-complete can be solved in polynomial time if and only if all other NP-complete problems can also be solved in polynomial time.

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NP Hard:- problem can be solved in polynomial time then all NP-complete problems can be solved in polynomial time.

→ All NP-complete problems are NP-Hard but some NP-Hard problems are not known to be NP-complete.

NONDETERMINISTIC ALGORITHMS:-

→ Algorithms with the property that the result of every operation is uniquely defined are termed as deterministic algorithms.

→ Such algorithms agree with the way programs are executed on a computer.

→ Algorithms which contain operations whose outcomes are not uniquely defined but are limited to specified set of possibilities. such algorithms are called nondeterministic algorithms.

→ The machine executing such operations is allowed to choose any one of these outcomes subject to a termination condition to be defined later.

→ To specify nondeterministic algorithms, there are 3 new functions.

choice(S) - arbitrarily chooses one of the elements of sets S .

Failure() - signals an unsuccessful completion.

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success() - signals a successful completion.

Example for Non Deterministic algorithms:-

Algorithm Search(x) {

//problem is to search an element x

//output J, such that $A[J] = x$; or $J = 0$ if x is not in A.

J := choice(1, n);

if ($A[J] := x$) then {

Write(J);

Success();

}

else {

write(0);

failure();

}

→ Whenever there is a set of choices that leads to a successful completion then one such set of choices is always made and the algorithm terminates.

→ A Nondeterministic algorithm terminates unsuccessfully if and only if there exists no set of choices leading to a successful signal.

Nondeterministic knapsack algorithm

Algorithm DKPC(p, w, n, m, r, x) {

$W := 0$;

$P := 0$;

 for $i := 1$ to n do {

$x[i] := \text{choice}(0, 1)$;

$W := W + x[i] * w[i]$;

$P := P + x[i] * p[i]$;

 }

 if ($W > m$) or ($P < r$) then Failure();

 else success();

}

$p \rightarrow$ given profit, $w \rightarrow$ given weights

$n \rightarrow$ Number of elements (number of p or w)

m - Weight of bag limit.

P - Final profit

W - Final weight.

THE CLASSES NP-HARD & NP-COMplete:-

$\rightarrow$ For measuring the complexity of an algorithm, we use the input length as the parameter.

For example, an algorithm A is of polynomial complexity $p()$ such that the computing time of A is $O(p(n))$ for every input of size n .

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Decision problem / Decision algorithm:-

→ Any problem for which the answer is either zero or one is decision problem.

Any algorithm for a decision problem is termed a decision algorithm.

Optimization problem / optimization algorithm:-

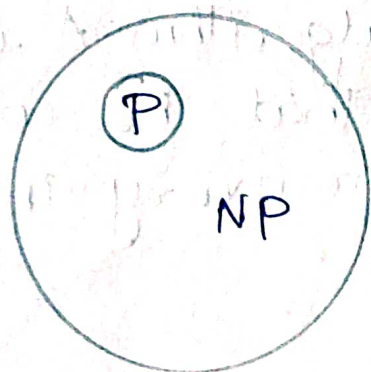
→ Any problem that involves the identification of an optimal (either minimum or maximum) value of a given cost function is known as an optimization problem.

An optimization algorithm is used to solve an optimization problem.

P → is the set of all decision problems solvable by deterministic algorithms in polynomial time.

NP → is the set of all decision problems solvable by nondeterministic algorithms in polynomial time.

Since deterministic algorithms are just a special case of nondeterministic, by this we concluded that P, NP



commonly believed relationship between P and NP .

→ The most famous unsolvable problems in computer science is whether $P=NP$ or $P \neq NP$. In considering this problem, S. Cook formulated the following question.

→ If there any single problem in NP, such that if we showed it to be in 'P' then that would imply that $P=NP$.

→ Cook answered this question with Theorem: satisfiability is in P if and only if $P=NP$.

(-) Notation of Reducibility.

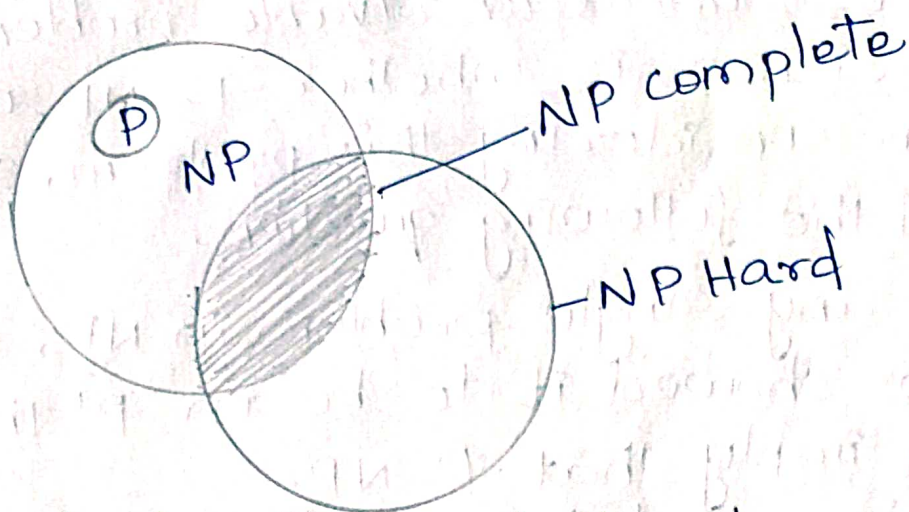
Let L_1 and L_2 be problems, problem L_1 reduces to L_2 (written $L_1 \leq L_2$) iff there is a way to solve L_1 by a deterministic polynomial time algorithm using a deterministic algorithm that solves L_2 in polynomial time.

→ This implies that, if we have polynomial time algorithm for L_2 , then we can solve L_1 in polynomial time.

Here $\leq$ is a transitive relation i.e., $L_1 \leq L_2$ and $L_2 \leq L_3$ then $L_1 \leq L_3$.

→ A problem L is NP-Hard if and only if satisfiability reduces to L i.e., satisfiability $\leq L$.

→ A problem L is NP-complete if and only if L is NP-Hard and $L \in NP$.



commonly believed relationship among P , NP , NP -complete and NP -Hard.

Most natural problems in NP are either in P or NP -complete.

Examples of NP -complete problems:-

- Packing problems: SET-PACKING, INDEPENDENT SET.
- Covering problems: SET-COVER, VERTEX-COVER.
- Sequencing problems: HAMILTONIAN-CYCLE, TSP.
- Partitioning problems: 3-COLOR, CLIQUE.
- constraint satisfaction problems: SAT, 3-SAT
- Numerical problems: SUBSET-SUM, PARTITION, KNAPSACK.

COOK'S THEOREM:-

→ states that satisfiability is in P if and only if $P=NP$ If

$P=NP$ then satisfiability is in P.

If satisfiability is in P, then $P=NP$.

To do this

→ A → Any polynomial time nondeterministic decision algorithm.

I → Input of that algorithm.

Then formula $Q(A, I)$, such that Q is satisfiable iff 'A' has a successful termination with Input I.

→ If the length of 'I' is 'n' and the time complexity of A is $p(n)$ for some polynomial $p()$ then length of Q is $O(p^3(n) \log n) = O(p^4(n))$

The time needed to construct Q is also $O(p^3(n) \log n)$.

→ A deterministic algorithm 'Z' to determine the outcome of 'A' on any input 'I'. Algorithm Z computes 'Q' and then uses a deterministic algorithm for the satisfiability problem to determine