STEMS 2021 CS Cat B



## **AoPS Community**

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by kapilpavase

**Q1** We are given *k* colors and we have to assign a single color to every vertex. An edge is **satisfied** if the vertices on that edge, are of different colors.

-Prove that you can always find an algorithm which assigns colors to vertices so that at least  $\frac{k-1}{k}|E|$  edges are satisfied where |E| is the cardinality of the edges in the graph.

-Prove that there is a poly time deterministic algorithm for this

- **Q2** Given two forests *A* and *B* with V(A) = V(B), that is the graphs are over same vertex set. Suppose *A* has **strictly more** edges than *B*. Prove that there exists an edge of *A* which if included in the edge set of *B*, then *B* will still remain a forest. Graphs are undirected
- **Q3** Let  $\Sigma$  be a finite set. For  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$ , define

 $x \preceq y$ 

if x is a sub-string (not necessarily contiguous) of y. For example,  $ac \preceq abc$ . We call a set  $S \subseteq \Sigma^*$  good if  $\forall x, y \in \Sigma^*$ ,

 $x \leq y, y \in S \Rightarrow x \in S.$ 

Prove or disprove: Every good set is regular.

**Q4** A set *M* of natural numbers is called a *spectrum* if there is a first-order language *L* and a sentence  $\phi$  over *L* such that:

 $M = \{n \mid \phi \text{ has a model containing exactly } n \text{ elements} \}$ 

For example, consider a sentence  $\phi = \exists e.(\forall x.x = e)$  in a first order language with no relation symbol, no function symbol, and no constant symbol. The formula  $\phi$  only admits a model containing exactly 1 element. Therefore, the set  $\{1\}$  is a spectrum.

Show that:

- Every finite subset of  $\mathbb{N}\setminus\{0\}$  is a spectrum

- The set of even numbers, i.e.,  $\{2k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a spectrum

- For any fixed  $m \ge 1$ , the set of numbers greater than 0 that are divisible by m, i.e.,  $\{m \cdot k \mid k \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a spectrum

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Q5 Let's say a language  $L \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$  is in  $\mathbf{P}_{angel}$  if there exists a polynomial  $p : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ , a sequence of strings  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  with  $\alpha_n \in \{0,1\}^{p(n)}$ , and a deterministic polynomial time Turing Machine M such that for every  $x \in \{0,1\}^n$ 

$$x \in L \Leftrightarrow M(x, \alpha_n) = 1$$

Let us call  $\alpha_n$  to be the *angel string* for all x of the length n. Note that the *angel string* is **not** similar to a *witness* or *certificate* as used in the definition of **NP** For example, all unary languages, even UHALT which is undecidable, are in **P**<sub>angel</sub> because the *angel string* can simply be a single bit that tells us if the given unary string is in UHALT or not.

A set  $S \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is said to be **sparse** if there exists a polynomial  $p : \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  such that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the number of strings of length n in S is bounded by p(n). In other words,  $|S^{=n}| \le p(n)$ , where  $S^{=n} \subseteq S$  contains all the strings in S that are of length n.

- Given  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  sparse sets  $S_1, S_2 \dots S_k$ , show that there exists a sparse set S and a deterministic polynomial time TM M with oracle access to S such that given an input  $\langle x, i \rangle$  the TM M will accept it if and only if  $x \in S_i$ .

Define the set S (note that it need not be computable), and give the description of M with oracle S.

Note that a TM M with oracle access to S can query whether  $s \in S$  and get the correct answer in return in constant time.

- Let us define a variant of  $\mathbf{P}_{angel}$  called  $\mathbf{P}_{bad-angel}$  with a constraint that there should exists a polynomial time algorithm that can **compute** the angel string for any length  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . In other words, there is a poly-time algorithm A such that  $\alpha_n = A(n)$ .

Is  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{P}_{bad-angel}$ ? Is  $\mathbf{NP} = \mathbf{P}_{bad-angel}$ ? Justify.

- Let the language  $L \in \mathbf{P}_{angel}$ . Show that there exists a sparse set  $S_L$  and a deterministic polynomial time TM M with oracle access to  $S_L$  that can decide the language L.

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