

$IP = PSPACE$

Graph Isomorphism has a 2-round Interactive Proof.

GraphIsomorphism $\in CoNP$ (not known to be in NP):

Input G_1, G_2

? is $G_1 \cong G_2$

Although we know of no short way to “prove” that two graphs are not isomorphic, it is possible to *interact* with a powerful oracle, so that the oracle can convince you with overwhelming confidence that two graphs are not isomorphic. In this example, let’s call the oracle “Endre”.

Repeat 90 times

Flip a coin $c \in \{1, 2\}$

Compute a random permutation of G_c and call it G

ask Endre: Is $G \cong G_1$ or $G \cong G_2$

If G_1 and G_2 are not isomorphic, Endre will answer

$G \cong G_c$ (with correct value of c)

If they are isomorphic Endre will answer $G \cong G_c$?

with $1/2$ chance for c

An Interactive Proof consists of a verifier V .

V is a proof system for a language A if:

$X \in A \Rightarrow \exists \text{ prover}(P) \text{ Prob}(V(\text{accepts } X \text{ when interacting with } P))=1$

$X \notin A \Rightarrow \forall \text{ prover}(P) \text{ Prob}(V(\text{accepts } X \text{ when interacting with } P)) \leq 1/4$

The protocol can be modified so that the prover sees the random coin flips.

Interactive protocols where all coin flips are public are called

“Arthur-Merlin’ games. Arthur-Merlin games are used to define the class AM .

Thus, Graph Isomorphism $\in CoAM \subseteq CoNP/Poly$

Thus, Graph Isomorphism is not NP-complete, unless PH collapses.

For the proof of $IP = PSPACE$, (this is *NOT* the actual interactive protocol which will be presented in a later lecture, but instead is a first

attempt at an interactive protocol, to show some of the main ideas.) Here is a complete problem for $PSPACE$:

Input: Arithmetic sequence ψ of the form:

$$\sum_{X_1 \in \{0,1\}} \prod_{X_2 \in \{0,1\}} \dots \sum_{X_n \in \{0,1\}} \psi(X_1 \dots X_n)$$

Question: Is $\psi \neq 0$?

We will give an interactive proof for this problem:

Prover sends a prime P , a proof that P is prime and a number C and we claim $\psi \equiv C \pmod{P}$

If $\psi = \sum_{X_1 \in \{0,1\}} \psi'$

Note that $\psi = \psi'(1) + \psi'(0)$

We will guarantee (inductively) that $\psi'(X_1)$ is polynomial of degree $n^{O(1)}$ in X_1 .

The prover will send coefficients d_0, d_1, \dots, d_r , s.t. $\psi'(X_1) = \sum_{i=0}^r d_i X_1^i$.

The verifier checks that $Q(0) + Q(1) \equiv C \pmod{P}$,

if so, then verifier picks a random Z and asks prover to prove that

$\psi'(Z) \equiv Q(Z) \pmod{P}$

Reference: [Shen], J. ACM. vol 39, Oct 92, 878-880