

Problem set 9  
Computational Complexity.

1. Consider the Steiner tree problem:

Input: A number  $q$ , a complete graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a non-negative weight function  $W : E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$  and a subset  $R \subseteq V$  of required vertices.

Question: Is there a Steiner tree of weight at most  $q$ ? i.e., is there a subtree  $T$  of  $G$  that includes all the vertices in  $R$  (and may include other vertices as well) so that the sum of the weights of the edges in the subtree  $T$  is at most  $q$ ?

- Show that this problem is NP-Hard.

Hint: consider the Vertex-Cover problem. Start with creating a bipartite graph  $H$  with  $V(G)$  on one side and  $E(G)$  on the other side, connecting  $v \in V$  to  $e \in E$  if  $v$  is a vertex of  $e$ . Give these edges one weight. Now make  $H$  complete, and decide what weights should be given to each of the three types of new edges.

- Show that your reduction works even when all weights are 1 and 2. Conclude that the Steiner tree problem remains NP-Hard even if triangle inequality holds.
- Use the hardness of approximation proof we saw for bounded degree Vertex-Cover. Conclude that there exists a constant  $c > 1$  such that approximating Steiner Tree (with triangle inequality) to within  $c$  is NP-Hard.

2. Let  $2-O-3SAT$  be the problem of  $3SAT$  where each variable appears exactly twice. Prove that  $2-O-3SAT \in P$ .

(Hint: consider the bipartite graph where one side corresponds to the clauses, the other side corresponds to variables, and there is an edge between a clause and a variable iff the variable appears in the clause. Then consider Hall's Theorem).

3. Solve question 4 from exam cc04c-a regarding Min-Un-Cut.

4. Prove the following claims:

- (a)  $P^{PSPACE} = PSPACE$
- (b)  $NP^{PSPACE} = NPSPACE$
- (c)  $PSPACE = NPSPACE$
- (d)  $P^{EXP} = EXP$
- (e)  $NP^{EXP} = EXP$