

1. (a) Assume we have an oracle for $\text{CLIQUE}(G, k)$. Let $\omega = \omega(G)$ be the size of the maximal clique in G ; note that $1 \leq \omega \leq n$.

Algorithm 1 FIND-MAX-CLIQUE(G)

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 $\omega \leftarrow \omega(G)$  {use any search algorithm (naive, linear, binary)}  
 $K \leftarrow V$   
for  $v \in K$  do  
  if  $\text{CLIQUE}(G[K - \{v\}], \omega) = \text{true}$  then  
     $K \leftarrow K - \{v\}$   
return  $K$ 
```

Correctness:

The algorithm erases all vertices not crucial so the survival of the largest clique, so at the end we have $|K| = \omega(K) = \omega(G)$ and K is the requested clique.

Time Analysis:

The oracle is queried $\leq 2n$ times.

- (b) The interesting case is of course $G_1 \sim G_2$. Denote G_1 's vertices by $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ and G_2 's vertices by $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$, with the isomorphism being $v_i \sim u_{\pi(i)}$.

We need a set of n distinguishable gadgets $\{H_i\}_{i=1}^n$ that haven't appeared in G_1, G_2 , for instance $H_i = K_{n+i}$.

Algorithm 2 FIND-ISOMORPHISM(G_1, G_2)

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for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
  connect  $H_i$  to  $u_i$  in  $G_1$   
  for  $k \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$  do  
     $G'_2 \leftarrow G_2$   
    connect  $H_i$  to  $v_k$  in  $G'_2$   
    if  $\text{ISOMORPHIC}(G_1, G'_2)$  then  
       $\pi(i) \leftarrow k$   
       $G_2 \leftarrow G'_2$   
      break from the  $k$  for-loop  
  if we got here not by breaking from the loop (can only happen for  $k = 1$ ), return false  
return  $\pi$ 
```

Correctness:

In step i we recover $\pi(i)$ assuming we know $\pi(j)$ for $j < i$ by checking all possibilities. Any isomorphism $G_1 \sim G_2$ must have $\pi(j) = \pi(j)$ for $j < i$ due to the gadget H_j . By the end of step n , we know π entirely.

Time Analysis:

The oracle is queried $\leq n^2$ times.

Note that by erasing vertices (instead of marking them) we might get the wrong permutation (e.g., consider a path of length 3).

2. We show that a c -approximation algorithm B can be used to solve $\text{GAP}_{[\alpha, \beta]}-\text{A}$, so B cannot be polynomial unless $P = NP$.

Algorithm:

Given an instance x of $\text{GAP}_{[\alpha, \beta]}-\text{A}$, we return *true* if and only if $B(x) < \beta$.

Correctness:

If $x \in YES$, then there is a solution for x of size $< \alpha$, hence $B(x) \leq cOPT(x) < c\alpha \leq \beta$ and we return *true*;

If $x \in NO$, then any solution for x , including $B(x)$, is of size $\geq \beta$, hence we return *false*.

3. We know that E3-SAT is NP -hard to approximate within any $c > \frac{7}{8}$;
However, $\text{GAP}_{[\epsilon, \frac{1}{2}]}-\text{E3-SAT} \in P$ since $NO = \emptyset$ as $\geq \frac{7}{8}$ of the clauses can be always satisfied.
Now select ϵ small enough such that $2\epsilon < \frac{7}{8} < c$.
4. Bounded-degree $\text{GAP}_{[\alpha, \beta]}-\text{MAX-IS}$ is known to be NP -hard for some $0 < \alpha < \beta < 1$. Since a vertex cover is always the complement of an independent set, MIN-VC is the complement of a MAX-IS. We conclude that bounded-degree $\text{GAP}_{[1-\beta, 1-\alpha]}-\text{MIN-VC}$ is NP -hard as well (use the trivial reduction) hence bounded-degree MAX-VC is NP -hard to approximate within $c = \frac{1-\alpha}{1-\beta} (> 1)$.