

CS 105: DIC on Discrete Structures

Graph theory Matchings!

Lecture 30
Oct 30 2023

Topic 3: Graph theory

Recap:

1. **Basics:** graphs, paths, cycles, walks, trails.
2. **Eulerian graphs:** characterization using degrees of vertices.
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1. Consider an “interesting” problem.
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2. Model it as a “special” class of graphs.
3. Characterize them using properties on vertices, cycles etc.
4. **Not done in this course:** Build algorithms based on the characterization, analyze and implement them!

This lecture, we will consider a new problem:

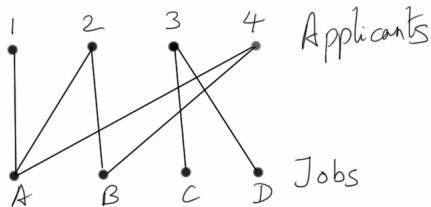
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- ▶ Suppose m people are applying for n different jobs. But not all applicants are qualified for all jobs, and each can hold at most one job.
- ▶ Then can you find a unique way to match jobs to applicants?

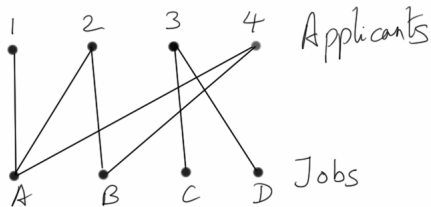
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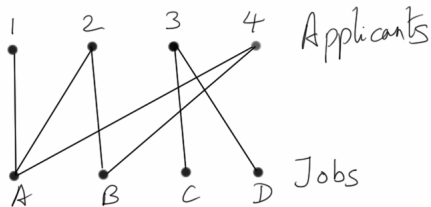
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- ▶ What are the properties of such an assignment?
- ▶ Another practical example: the dating scene!

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Definitions

- ▶ A **matching** in a graph G is a set of (non-loop) edges with no shared end-points.
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- ▶ Is there a perfect matching if everyone is fully qualified/likes everyone?
 - ▶ How many perfect matchings are possibly in $K_{n,n}$?

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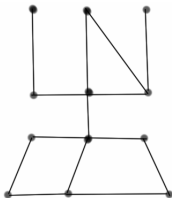
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Alternating and Augmenting paths

When do we know there must be a larger matching?

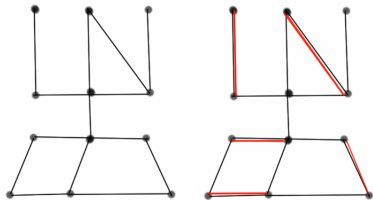
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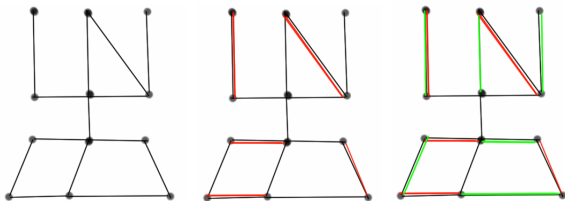
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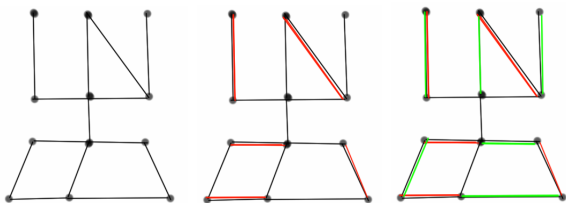
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If a matching has an M -augmenting path, then can it be a maximum matching?

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Theorem

A matching M in G is a maximum matching iff G has no M -augmenting path.