

CS 105: DIC on Discrete Structures

Graph theory

Applications of Hall's theorem

Lecture 36

Oct 28 2024

Last Topic: Graph theory

Basic definitions and concepts

- ▶ Basics: graphs, paths, cycles, walks, trails, ...
- ▶ Cliques and independent sets.
- ▶ Graph representations, isomorphisms and automorphisms.
- ▶ Matchings: perfect, maximal and maximum.

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Characterizations

1. **Eulerian graphs:** Using degrees of vertices.
2. **Bipartite graphs:** Using odd length cycles.
3. **Connected components:** Using cycles.

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5. **Perfect matchings in bipartite graphs:** Using neighbour sets. – **Hall's theorem**

Recap: Matchings

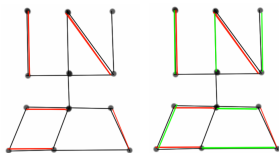
Definitions

- ▶ **Matching:** set of edges with no shared end-points.
- ▶ The vertices incident to edges in a matching are called **saturated**. Others are **unsaturated**.
- ▶ **Perfect matching:** saturates every vertex in graph.
- ▶ **Maximum matching:** matching of maximum size (# edges).
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Theorem

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

Recap: Perfect matchings in bipartite graphs

Theorem (Hall'35)

A bipartite graph G with bipartitions X, Y has a matching that saturates X iff for all $S \subseteq X$, $|N(S)| \geq |S|$.

- ▶ For $v \in V$, its neighbour-set $N(v) = \{u \in V \mid (u, v) \in E\}$.
- ▶ For $S \subseteq V$, $N(S) = \{u \in V \mid (u, v) \in E \text{ for some } v \in S\}$.

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Proof: (\implies) is straightforward:

- ▶ Let M be a matching.
- ▶ Then for any $S \subseteq X$, each vertex of S is matched to a distinct vertex in $N(S)$
- ▶ So $|N(S)| \geq |S|$.

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- ▶ If G does not have any matching that saturates X , then surely any maximum matching of G does not saturate X .
- ▶ Let M be such a maximum matching. Then, we will construct $S \subseteq X$ s.t. $|N(S)| < |S|$.

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Proof: (\Leftarrow) Thus, starting from a maximum matching M which does not saturate X , we construct $S \subseteq X$, $|N(S)| < |S|$.

- Let $u \in X$ be any unsaturated vertex of M .

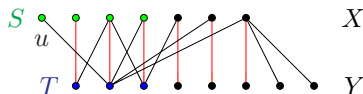
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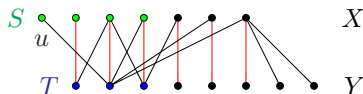
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Claim: M matches T with $S \setminus \{u\}$ and $|N(S)| = |T|$.

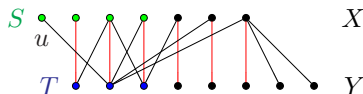
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- Every vertex of $S \setminus \{u\}$ has an edge in M to a vertex in T .

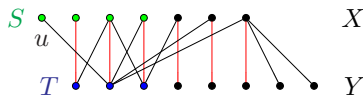
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- Every vertex of T extends via M to a unique vertex of S .

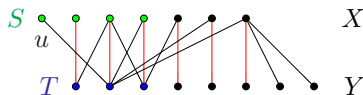
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- ▶ Every vertex of $S \setminus \{u\}$ has an edge in M to a vertex in T .
- ▶ Every vertex of T extends via M to a unique vertex of S .
- ▶ Thus, there is a bijection between T and $S \setminus \{u\}$.

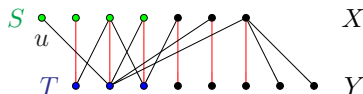
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- $T \subseteq N(S)$ (from T any M -alternating path will reach S).

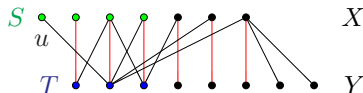
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- $T \subseteq N(S)$ (from T any M -alternating path will reach S).
- Conversely, if $v \in S$ has edge to $y \in Y \setminus T$, then path from u to v via M to y is an M -alternating path, implies $y \in T$.

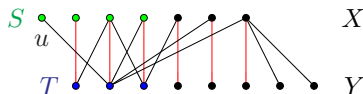
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Thus, $|N(S)| = |T| = |S| - 1 < |S|$

□.

Applications of Hall's condition

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Application 1: The Marriage Theorem (1917)

- ▶ In a group of n women and n men, if every woman is compatible with k men and every man compatible with k women, then a perfect matching must exist!
- ▶ What is the formal statement?

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- ▶ In a group of n women and n men, if every woman is compatible with k men and every man compatible with k women, then a perfect matching must exist!
- ▶ For $k > 0$, every k -regular bipartite graph (i.e, every vertex has degree exactly k) has a perfect matching. Ex. Prove this!

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- ▶ If G is a k -regular X, Y bipartite graph, then $|X| = |Y|$. (why?)

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- ▶ Can you now verify Hall's condition?

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 - ▶ Since G is k -regular, $m = k|S|$. And since they touch $N(S)$, $m \leq k|N(S)|$.

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Let's play a game

A two player game on a graph

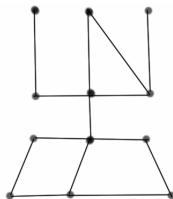
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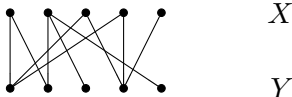


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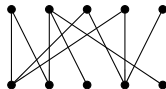
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Appl2: Theorem (H.W: Qn 3.1.18 from Douglas West)

If G has a perfect matching, then player 2 has a winning strategy; otherwise, player 1 has a winning strategy.

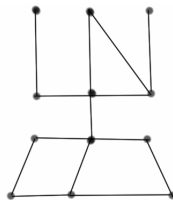
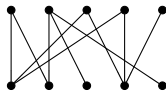
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Consider the graph of a road network in a city. When a minister is visiting, the Chief of Police wants to place a policeman to watch every road. What is the minimum number of policemen required?



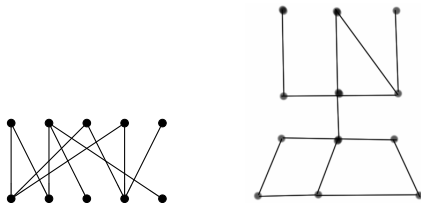
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Definition

A **vertex cover** of a graph G is a set $Q \subseteq V$ that contains at least one endpoint of every edge. Vertices in Q are said to **cover** E .

Matchings and vertex covers

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Questions

1. What is the size of the minimum vertex cover in K_m , $K_{m,n}$?
2. If ℓ is size of maximum matching and k is size of vertex cover,
 - 2.1 how are ℓ, k related?
 - 2.2 Give an example of a graph where $k \neq \ell$

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Let's consider bipartite graphs...

A min-max theorem

Theorem (Konig '31, Egervary '31)

If G is a bipartite graph, then the size of the maximum matching of G equals the size of the minimum vertex cover of G .

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Proof.

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- ▶ Take min vertex cover Q , partition into $R = Q \cap X$ and $T = Q \cap Y$.

A min-max theorem

Theorem (Konig '31, Egervary '31)

If G is a bipartite graph, then the **size of the maximum matching** of G equals the **size of the minimum vertex cover** of G .

Proof.

- ▶ Suffices to show that we can achieve a matching which has size equal to min vertex cover.
- ▶ Take min vertex cover Q , partition into $R = Q \cap X$ and $T = Q \cap Y$.
- ▶ Consider subgraphs H, H' induced by $R \cup (Y \setminus T)$, $T \cup (X \setminus R)$.

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- ▶ Together this forms the desired matching (since H, H' are disjoint).

