

# Discrete Mathematics: Lecture 25

Matching, path, connected, disconnected, connected component,  
cut vertex, vertex cut, nonseparable, vertex connectivity,  $k$ -connected,  
cut edge, edge cut, edge connectivity

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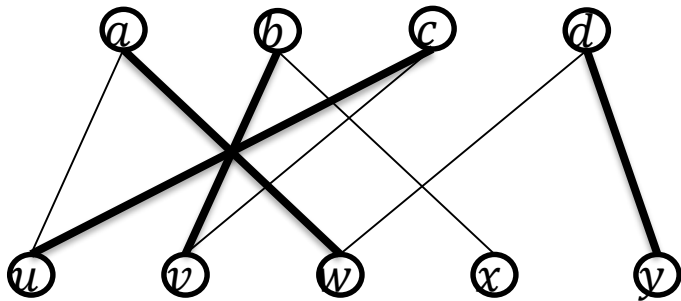
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Notes by Prof. Liangfeng Zhang

# Matching

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph.  $M \subseteq E$  is a **matching**<sub>匹配</sub> if  $e \cap e' = \emptyset$  for every  $e, e' \in M$ . A vertex  $v \in V$  is **matched** in  $M$  if  $\exists e \in M$  such that  $v \in e$ , otherwise,  $v$  is **not matched**.

- **maximum matching**<sub>最大匹配</sub>: a matching with largest number of edges.
- In a bipartite graph  $G = (A \cup B, E)$ ,  $M \subseteq E$  is a **complete matching**<sub>完全匹配</sub> from  $A$  to  $B$  if every  $u \in A$  is matched.



- $M = \{au, bv\}$  is a matching
  - $a, b, u, v$  are matched in  $M$
  - $c, d, x, y$  are not matched in  $M$
  - $M$  is not a maximum matching
- $M' = \{aw, bv, cu, dy\}$  is a maximum matching
- $M'$  is a complete matching from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$
- $V = \{a, b, c, d, u, v, w, x, y\}$
- $V_1 = \{a, b, c, d\};$
- $V_2 = \{u, v, w, x, y\}$
- $E = \{au, aw, bv, bx, cu, cv, dw, dy\}$

# Hall's Theorem

## EXAMPLE: Marriage on an Island

- There are  $m$  boys  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $n$  girls  $Y = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$
- $G = (X \cup Y, E = \{\{x_i, y_j\} : x_i \text{ and } y_j \text{ are willing to get married}\})$
- What is the largest number of couples that can be formed?

**THEOREM (Hall 1935):** A bipartite graph  $G = (X \cup Y, E)$  has a complete matching from  $X$  to  $Y$  iff  $|N(A)| \geq |A|$  for any  $A \subseteq X$ .

- $\Rightarrow$ : Let  $\{\{x_1, y_1\}, \dots, \{x_m, y_m\}\}$  be a complete matching from  $X$  to  $Y$ 
  - For any  $A = \{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_s}\} \subseteq X$ ,  $N(A) \supseteq \{y_{i_1}, \dots, y_{i_s}\}$ 
    - $|N(A)| \geq s = |A|$
- $\Leftarrow$ : suppose that  $|N(A)| \geq |A|$  for any  $A \subseteq X$ . Find a complete matching  $M$ .
  - By induction on  $|X|$
  - $|X| = 1$ : Let  $X = \{x\}$ .
    - $|N(X)| \geq 1$ 
      - $\exists y \in Y$  such that  $e = \{x, y\} \in E$ .
        - $M = \{e\}$  is a complete matching from  $X$  to  $Y$

# Hall's Theorem

- **Induction hypothesis:** “ $\forall A \subseteq X, |N(A)| \geq |A| \Rightarrow \exists$  complete matching” is true when  $|X| \leq k$
- Prove that “ $\forall A \subseteq X, |N(A)| \geq |A| \Rightarrow \exists$  complete matching” when  $|X| = k + 1$ 
  - Let  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_k, x_{k+1}\}$ .
  - **Case 1:**  $\forall A \subseteq X$  with  $1 \leq |A| \leq k, |N_G(A)| \geq |A| + 1$ 
    - $N_G(A)$ :  $A$ 's neighborhood in  $G$
    - Say  $y_{k+1} \in N_G(\{x_{k+1}\})$ .
    - Let  $V' = (X \setminus \{x_{k+1}\}) \cup (Y \setminus \{y_{k+1}\})$ ;  $E' = \{e \in E : e \subseteq V' \times V'\}$
    - Let  $G' = (V', E') = G - \{x_{k+1}\} - \{y_{k+1}\}$ .
      - $\forall A \subseteq \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}, |N_{G'}(A)| \geq |N_G(A)| - |\{y_{k+1}\}| \geq |A| + 1 - 1 = |A|$ 
        - $\exists$  a complete matching  $M'$  from  $X - \{x_{k+1}\}$  to  $Y - \{y_{k+1}\}$  in  $G'$  (IH)
    - $M = M' \cup \{\{x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}\}\}$  is a complete matching from  $X$  to  $Y$  in  $G$

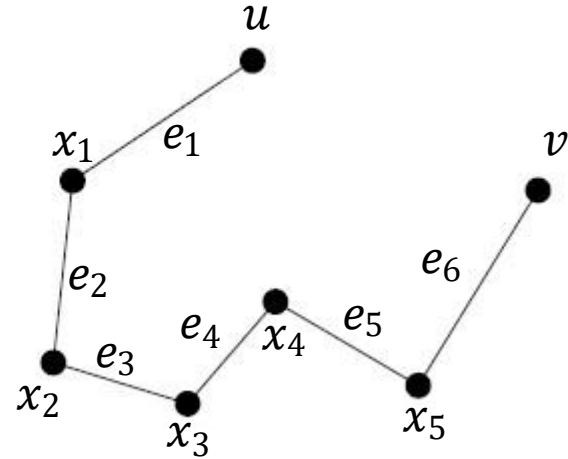
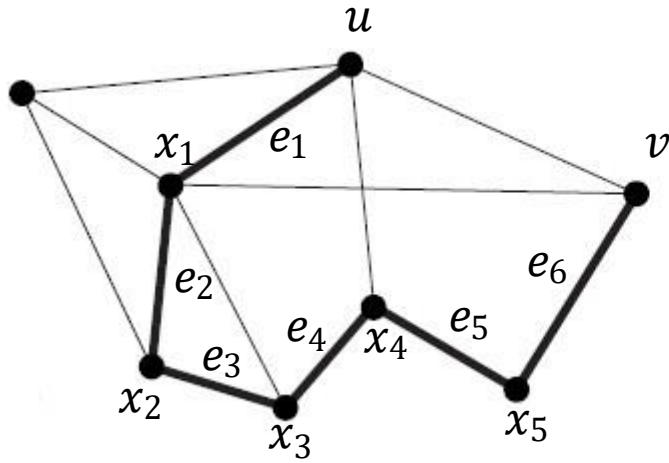
# Hall's Theorem

- **Case 2:**  $\exists A \subseteq X, 1 \leq |A| \leq k$  such that  $|N_G(A)| = |A|$ 
  - Say  $A = \{x_1, \dots, x_j\}$  and  $N_G(A) = \{y_1, \dots, y_j\}$ , where  $1 \leq j \leq k$
  - Let  $V' = A \cup N_G(A)$ ,  $E' = \{e \in E : e \subseteq V' \times V'\}$  and  $G' = (V', E')$ 
    - $\forall A' \subseteq A, |N_{G'}(A')| = |N_G(A')| \geq |A'|$
    - There is a complete matching  $M'$  from  $A$  to  $N_G(A)$  in  $G'$  (IH)
  - Let  $V'' = (X \setminus A) \cup (Y \setminus N_G(A))$ ,  $E'' = \{e \in E : e \subseteq V'' \times V''\}$ ,
  - Let  $G'' = (V'', E'') = G - A - N_G(A)$ 
    - Then  $\forall A'' \subseteq X \setminus A, |N_{G''}(A'')| \geq |A''|$ .
      - Otherwise,  $|N_G(A'' \cup A)| = |N_{G''}(A'')| + |N_G(A)| < |A''| + |A|$ 
        - $\exists$  a complete matching  $M''$  from  $X \setminus A$  to  $Y \setminus N_G(A)$  (IH)
  - $M = M' \cup M''$  is a complete matching from  $X$  to  $Y$

# Path (Undirected)

- DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . A **path**<sub>路径</sub> **of length  $k$**  from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $G$  is a sequence of  $k$  edges  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  of  $G$  for which there exist vertices  $x_0 = u, x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, x_k = v$  such that  $e_i = \{x_{i-1}, x_i\}$  for every  $i \in [k]$ .
- The path is **circuit**<sub>回路</sub> if  $u = v$  and  $k > 0$
  - The path **passes through**<sub>经过</sub>  $x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}$
  - The path **traverses**<sub>遍历</sub>  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k$
  - The path is **simple**<sub>简单</sub> if it doesn't contain an edge more than once.
  - If  $G$  is simple, the path can be denoted as  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_k$

# Example



- The right-hand side graph is a path from  $u$  to  $v$
- The path is  $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6$
- The path is simple
- The path can be denoted by  $u, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, v$
- The path passes through  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$
- The path traverses  $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6$
- $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5, e_6, e_7 = \{v, u\}$  is a (simple) circuit

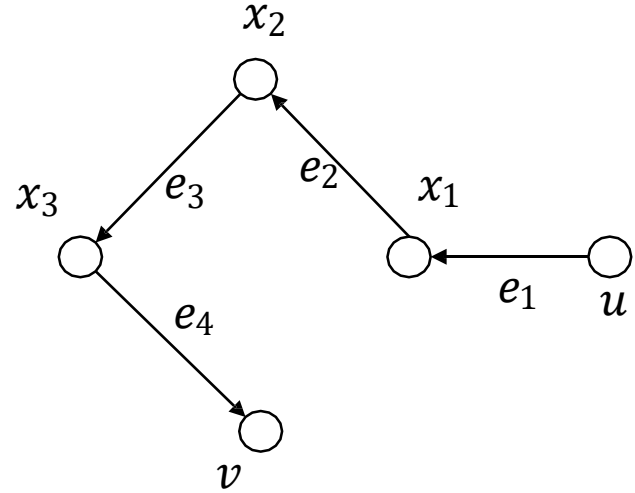
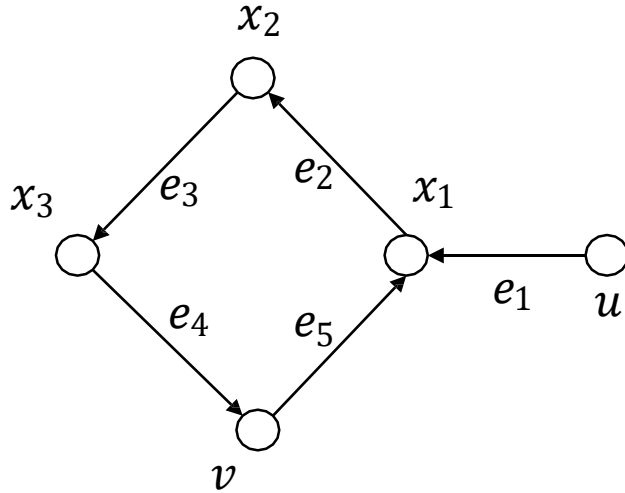
# Path (Directed)

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . A **path of length  $k$**  from  $u$  to  $v$  in  $G$  is a sequence of  $k$  edges  $e_1, \dots, e_k$  of  $G$  for which there exist vertices  $x_0 = u, x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, x_k = v$  such that  $e_i = (x_{i-1}, x_i)$  for every  $i \in [k]$ .

- The path is a **circuit** if  $u = v$  and  $k > 0$
- The path **passes through**  $x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}$
- The path **traverses**  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k$
- The path is **simple** if it doesn't contain an edge more than once.
- If  $G$  has no multiple edges, the path can be denoted as  $x_0, \dots, x_k$



# Example

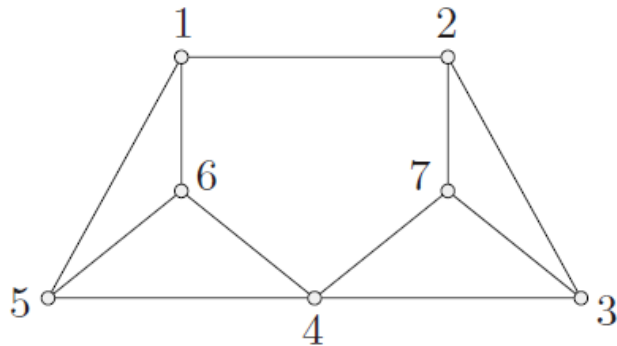


- $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4$  is a path
- The path is simple
- The path can be denoted by  $u, x_1, x_2, x_3, v$
- The path passes through  $x_1, x_2, x_3$
- The path traverses  $e_1, e_2, e_3, e_4$
- $e_2, e_3, e_4, e_5$  is a (simple) circuit

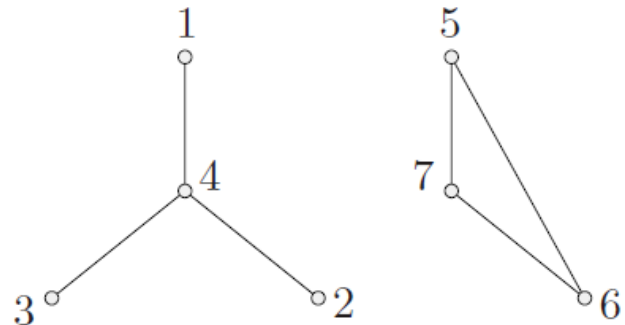
# Connectivity

**DEFINITION:** An undirected graph  $G$  is said to be **connected**<sub>连通的</sub> if there is a path between any pair of distinct vertices.

- Graph of order 1 is connected; the complete graph  $K_n$  is connected
- **disconnected**<sub>非连通的</sub>: not connected
- **disconnect**  $G$ : remove vertices or edges to produce a disconnected subgraph



A Connected Graph



A Disconnected Graph

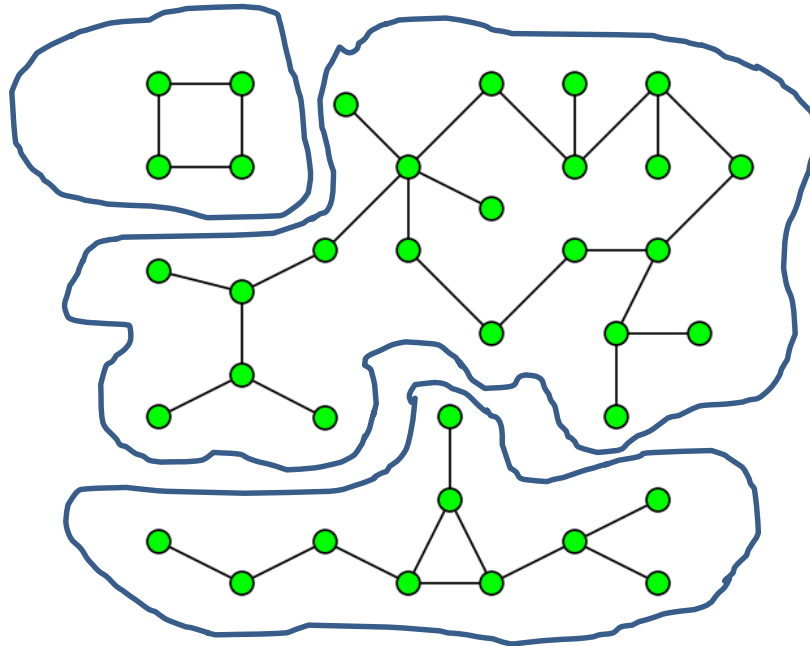
# Connectivity

**THEOREM:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected undirected graph. Then there is a simple path between any pair of distinct vertices.

- Let  $u, v \in V$  and  $u \neq v$ . Find a simple path from  $u$  to  $v$ .
- $G$  is connected  $\Rightarrow$  there are paths from  $u$  to  $v$ .
  - Let  $x_0 = u, x_1, \dots, x_{k-1}, x_k = v$  be one that has least length  $k$ .
    - This path must be simple.
      - otherwise, the path contains some edge more than once
        - $\exists i, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$ , say  $i < j$ , such that  $x_i = x_j$ 
          - $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_j, \dots, x_k$  is a shorter path from  $u$  to  $v$
- The contradiction shows that the path must be simple

# Connected Component

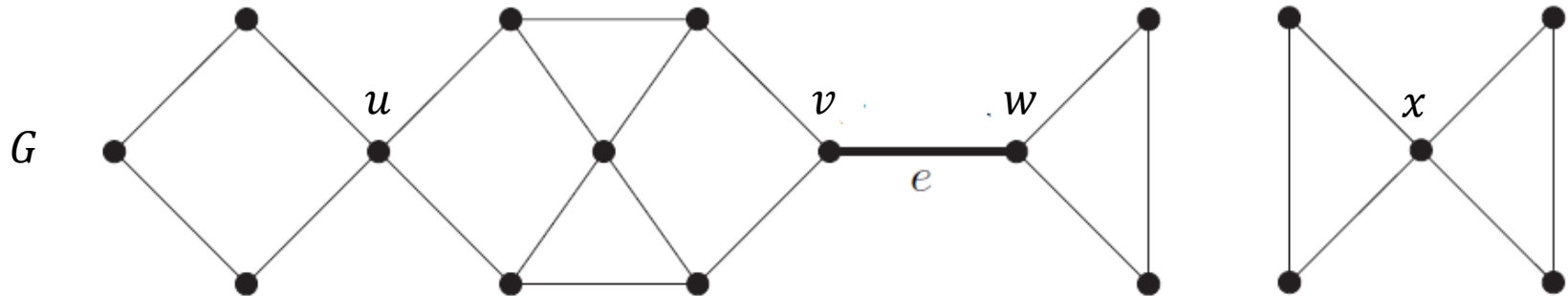
**DEFINITION:** A **connected component**<sub>连通分支</sub> of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a connected subgraph of  $G$  that is not a proper subgraph of a connected subgraph of  $G$ . //i.e., maximal<sub>极大</sub> connected subgraph



# Connected Component

**DEFINITION:** A **connected component**<sub>连通分支</sub> of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a connected subgraph of  $G$  that is not a proper subgraph of a connected subgraph of  $G$ . //i.e., maximal<sub>极大</sub> connected subgraph

- $v \in V$  is a **cut vertex**<sub>割点</sub> if  $G - v$  has more connected components than  $G$
- $e \in E$  is a **cut edge**<sub>割边</sub>, **bridge**<sub>桥</sub> if  $G - e$  has more connected components than  $G$



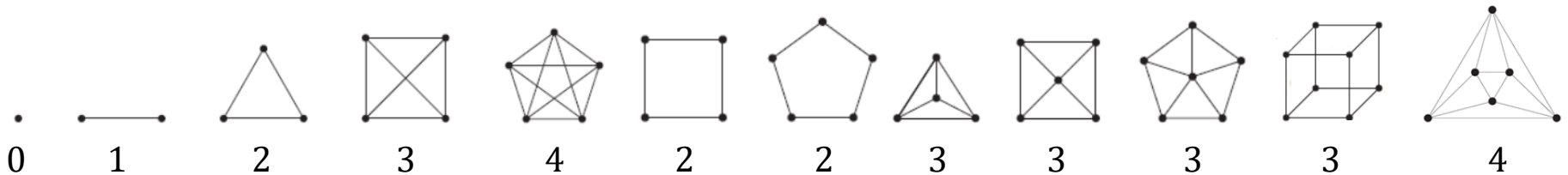
- There are 2 connected components in the graph  $G$
- cut vertices:  $u, v, w, x$
- cut edge:  $e$

# Vertex Connectivity

**DEFINITION:** A connected undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is said to be **nonseparable**<sub>不可分的</sub> if  $G$  has no cut vertex.

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected simple graph.

- **vertex cut**<sub>点割集</sub>: A subset  $V' \subseteq V$  such that  $G - V'$  is disconnected
- **vertex connectivity**<sub>点连通度</sub>  $\kappa(G)$ : the minimum number of vertices whose removal disconnect  $G$  or results in  $K_1$ ; equivalently,
  - if  $G$  is disconnected,  $\kappa(G) = 0$ ; //additional definition
  - if  $G = K_n$ ,  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$  //  $K_n$  has no vertex cut
  - else,  $\kappa(G)$  is the minimum size of a vertex cut of  $G$



These graphs are all nonseparable

# Vertex Connectivity

**THEOREM:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph of order  $n$ . Then

- $0 \leq \kappa(G) \leq n - 1$ 
  - Removing  $n - 1$  vertices gives  $K_1$ 
    - $\kappa(G) \leq n - 1$
- $\kappa(G) = 0$  iff  $G$  is disconnected or  $G = K_1$ 
  - trivial
- $\kappa(G) = n - 1$  iff  $G = K_n (n \geq 2)$ 
  - If: obvious
  - Only if:
    - $n = 2: \kappa(G) = 1 \Rightarrow G = K_2$
    - $n \geq 3$ : Prove by contradiction. Suppose that  $G \neq K_n$ .
      - There exist distinct  $u, v \in V$  such that  $u \neq v$  and  $\{u, v\} \notin E$ 
        - Let  $X = V - \{u, v\}$ . Then  $G - X$  is disconnected.
          - $\kappa(G) \leq |X| = n - 2 < n - 1$ .

# Vertex Connectivity

**DEFINITION:** A simple graph  $G = (V, E)$  is called  **$k$ -connected** <sub>$k$ 点连通的</sub> ( **$k$ -vertex-connected**) <sub>$k$ 点连通的</sub> if  $\kappa(G) \geq k$ .

**THEOREM:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph of order  $n$ . Then

- $G$  is 1-connected iff  $G$  is connected and  $G \neq K_1$ .
  - **Only if:**  $G$  disconnected or  $G = K_1 \Rightarrow \kappa(G) = 0$
  - **If:**  $G \neq K_1 \Rightarrow n \geq 2$ ;  $G$  is connected  $\Rightarrow$  removing 0 vertex cannot disconnect  $G$  or give  $K_1 \Rightarrow \kappa(G) \geq 1$
- $G$  is 2-connected iff  $G$  is nonseparable and  $n \geq 3$ .
  - **Only if:**  $n \leq 2 \Rightarrow \kappa(G) \leq 1$ ;  $G$  not nonseparable  $\Rightarrow G$  has cut vertex  $\Rightarrow \kappa(G) \leq 1$ .
  - **If:**  $n \geq 3 \Rightarrow$  removing  $\leq 1$  vertex cannot result in  $K_1$ ;  $G$  nonseparable  $\Rightarrow$  removing  $\leq 1$  vertex cannot disconnect  $G$ ; Hence.  $\kappa(G) \geq 2$ .
- $G$  is  $k$ -connected iff  $G$  is  $j$ -connected for all  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$ 
  - **Only if:**  $\kappa(G) \geq k \Rightarrow \kappa(G) \geq j$  for all  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\} \Rightarrow G$  is  $j$  connected
  - **If:**  $G$  is obviously  $k$ -connected



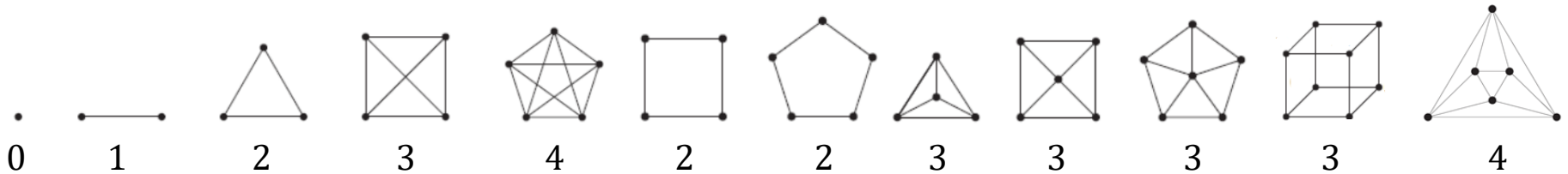
# Edge Connectivity

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected simple graph.  $E' \subseteq E$  is an **edge cut**<sub>边割集</sub> of  $G$  if  $G - E'$  is disconnected.

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph.

The **edge connectivity**<sub>边连通度</sub> ( $\lambda(G)$ ) of  $G$  is defined as below:

- $G$  disconnected:  $\lambda(G) = 0$
- $G$  connected:
  - $|V| = 1$ :  $\lambda(G) = 0$
  - $|V| > 1$ :  $\lambda(G)$  is the minimum size of edge cuts of  $G$ .



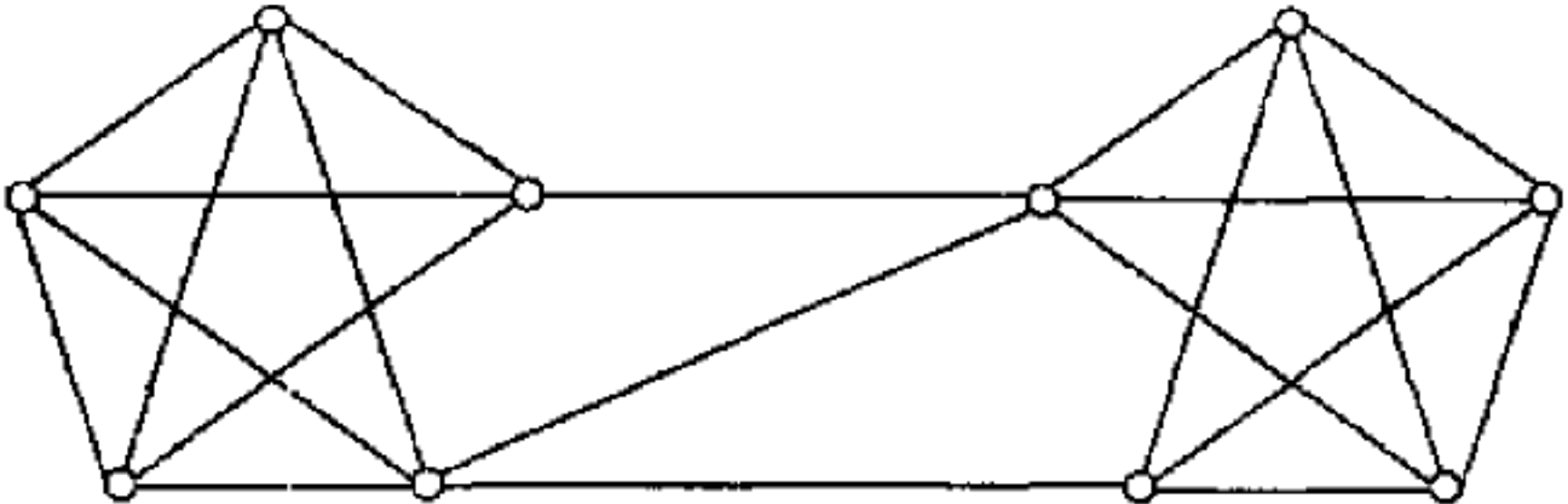
# Edge Connectivity

**THEOREM:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph of order  $n$ . Then

- $0 \leq \lambda(G) \leq n - 1$ 
  - $n = 1$ :  $G = K_1$  and  $\lambda(G) = 0$
  - $n > 1$ :  $\deg(u) \leq n - 1$  for every  $u \in V$ 
    - By removing  $\{\{u, x\} : \{u, x\} \in E\}$ , we can disconnect  $G$ .
      - Hence,  $\lambda(G) \leq n - 1$ .
- $\lambda(G) = 0$  iff  $G$  is disconnected or  $G = K_1$ 
  - Only if:  $n > 1$  and  $G$  connected  $\Rightarrow \lambda(G) \geq 1$ ;
  - If: definition
- $\lambda(G) = n - 1$  iff  $G = K_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ )
  - Only if: if  $G \neq K_n$ , then  $\deg(u) < n - 1$  for some  $u \in V$ .
    - Remove  $\{\{u, x\} : \{u, x\} \in E\}$ . Then  $G$  is disconnected.  $\lambda(G) < n - 1$
  - If:  $\lambda(K_n) \geq \kappa(K_n) = n - 1$ . (see the next theorem)

# Connectivity

**THEOREM:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph. Then  $\kappa(G) \leq \lambda(G) \leq \delta(G)$ , where  $\delta(G) = \min_{v \in V} \deg(v)$  is the least degree of  $G$ 's vertices.



- $\kappa(G) = 2$
- $\lambda(G) = 3$
- $\delta(G) = 4$

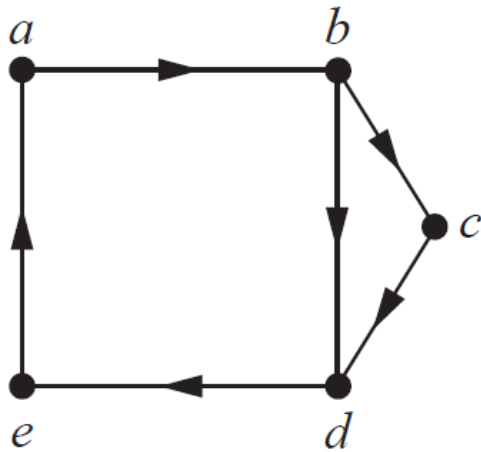
[https://cp-algorithms.com/graph/edge\\_vertex\\_connectivity.html](https://cp-algorithms.com/graph/edge_vertex_connectivity.html)

<http://www.math.caltech.edu/~2014-15/2term/ma006b/05%20connectivity%201.pdf>

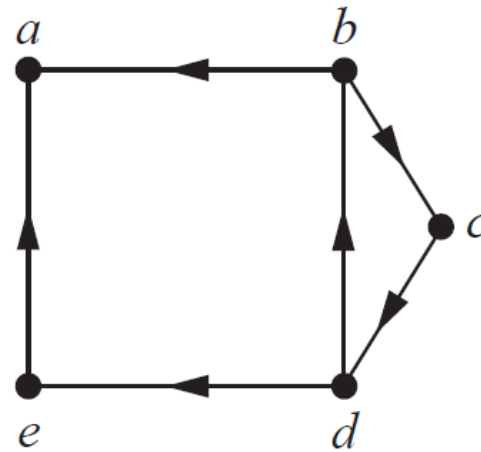
# Connected Directed Graphs

**DEFINITION:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a directed graph.  $G$  is said to be **strongly connected** if there is a path from  $u$  to  $v$  and a path from  $v$  to  $u$  for all  $u, v \in V$  ( $u \neq v$ ).

- **weakly connected:** the graph is connected if we remove the directions of all direct edges.



Strongly connected

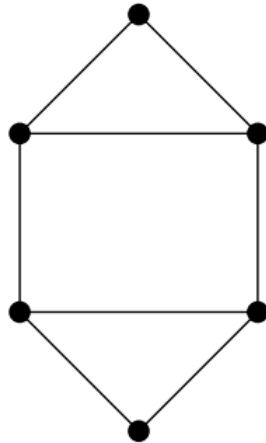


Weakly connected

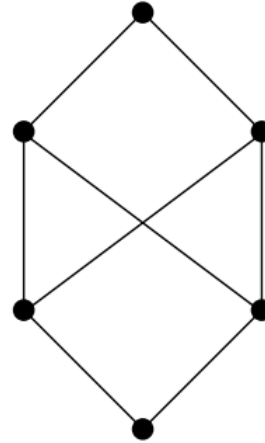
# Paths and Isomorphism

## Theorem

*The existence of a simple circuit of length  $k$ ,  $k \geq 3$  is an isomorphism invariant for simple graphs.*



$G_1$



$G_2$

6 vertices, 8 edges

Degree sequence: 3, 3, 3, 3, 2, 2

# Paths and Isomorphism\*

## Theorem

*The existence of a simple circuit of length  $k$ ,  $k \geq 3$  is an isomorphism invariant for simple graphs.*

**Proof:** Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be isomorphic graphs: there is a bijective function  $f : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  respecting adjacency conditions.

Assume  $G_1$  has a simple circuit of length  $k$ :  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k = u_0$ , with  $u_i \in V_1$  for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ . Let's denote  $v_i = f(u_i)$ , for  $0 \leq i \leq k$ .

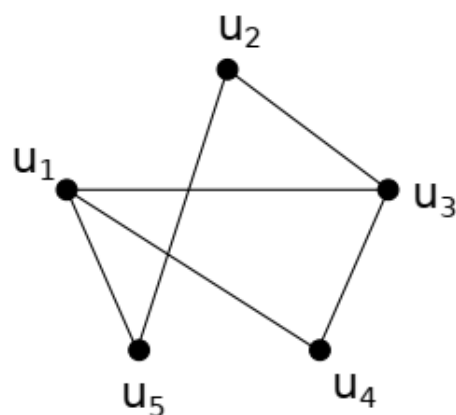
$(u_i, u_{i+1}) \in E_1 \Rightarrow (f(u_i), f(u_{i+1})) = (v_i, v_{i+1}) \in E_2$ , for  $0 \leq i \leq k - 1$ .

So  $v_0, \dots, v_k$  is a path of length  $k$  in  $G_2$ .

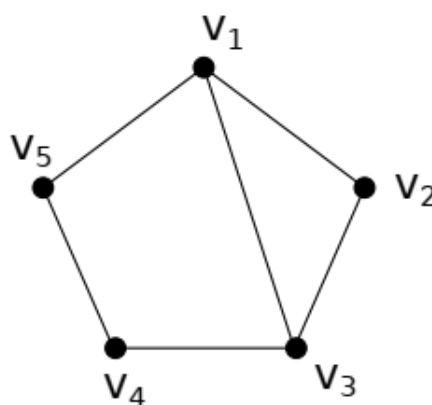
It is a circuit because  $v_k = f(u_k) = f(u_0) = v_0$ .

It is simple: if not, at least one edge is traversed more than once, so it would mean that there exist  $0 \leq i \neq j \leq k - 1$  such that

$(v_i, v_{i+1}) = (v_j, v_{j+1})$ . But this implies  $(u_i, u_{i+1}) = (u_j, u_{j+1})$  by bijectivity of  $f$ . This is impossible because  $u_0, u_1, \dots, u_k$  is simple.



G



H

5 vertices, 6 edges

Degree sequence: 3, 3, 2, 2, 2

1 simple circuit of length 3,

1 simple circuit of length 4,

1 simple circuit of length 5.

Isomorphic graphs ?

If there is an iso  $f : V_G \rightarrow V_H$ , the simple circuit of length 5

$u_1, u_4, u_3, u_2, u_5$  must be sent to the simple circuit of length 5 in H, respecting the degrees of vertices.

Check that  $f(u_1) = v_1, f(u_4) = v_2, f(u_3) = v_3, f(u_2) = v_4, f(u_5) = v_5$  is an isomorphism by writing adjacency matrices.

# Counting Paths Between Vertices

## Theorem

*Let  $G$  be a graph with adjacency matrix  $A$  with respect to the ordering of vertices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ . The number of different paths of length  $r \geq 1$  from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  equals the  $(i, j)$  entry of the matrix  $A^r$ .*

**Proof:** By induction

- $r = 1$ : the number of paths of length 1 from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  is equal to the  $(i, j)$  entry of  $A$  by definition of  $A$ , as it corresponds to the number of edges from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$ .



- Assume the  $(i, j)$  entry of the matrix  $A^r$  is the number of different paths of length  $r$  from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$ .

We can write  $A^{r+1} = A^r A$

Let's denote  $A^r = (b_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ , and  $A = (a_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ . The  $(i, j)$  entry of  $A^{r+1}$  is given by:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n b_{ik} a_{kj} = b_{i1} a_{1j} + b_{i2} a_{2j} + \cdots + b_{in} a_{nj} \quad (1)$$

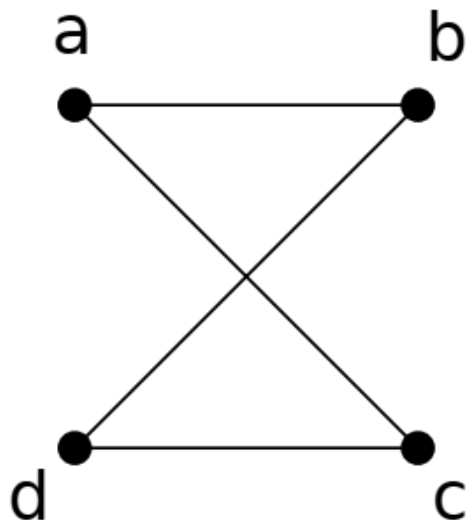
By hypothesis:  $b_{ik}$  equals the number of paths of length  $r$  from  $v_i$  to  $v_k$ .

"Path of length  $r + 1$  from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  = path of length  $r$  from  $v_i$  to any vertex  $v_k$  + an edge from  $v_k$  to  $v_j$ ."

This is equal to the sum (1).

# Example

How many paths of length four are there from  $a$  to  $d$  in the simple graph  $G$



G

with ordering of vertices  $(a, b, c, d, e)$ :

$$A_G = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_G^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_G^3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_G^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 8 & 8 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 & 8 & 0 \\ 8 & 0 & 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$