

Math 239 - Lecture #22

Theorem: If there exists $u \in V(G)$ such that a u,v -path exists for all $v \in V(G)$, then G is connected.

Proof: Let $x, y \in V(G)$. By assumption, there exists an xu -path and a u,y -path. Joining them together yields an x,y -walk. By a previous theorem, there exists an x,y -path. So G is connected. \square

Theorem: The n -cube is connected.

Proof: Let v_0 be the string of n 0's, let x be any string of length n . Suppose x has K 1's, located at positions i_1, \dots, i_K

$n=5$
 $v_0 = 00000$
 00001
 01001
 01101

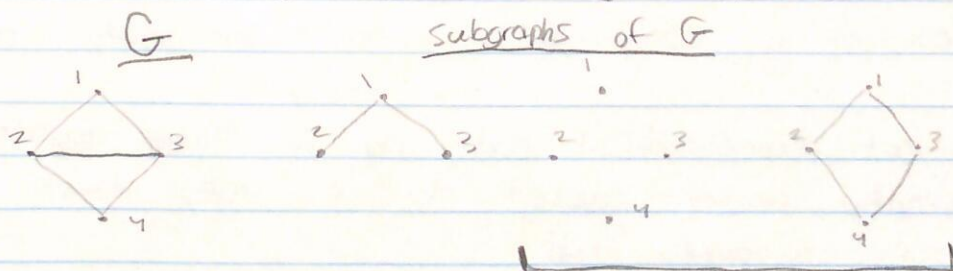
how to
achieve
any
vertex!
1-bit at
a time

Produce K strings v_1, \dots, v_K where v_j is the string with exactly j 1's, located at positions i_1, \dots, i_j . Notice that v_j and v_{j+1} differ in exactly one bit at position i_{j+1} , so $v_j v_{j+1}$ is an edge. So $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_K = x$ is a v_0, x -path. So the n -cube is connected. \square

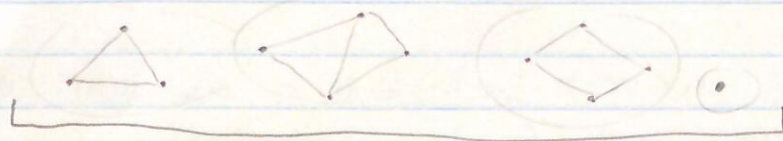
Components: H is a subgraph of G if $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$, $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$, and every edge in $E(H)$ joins two vertices in $V(H)$.

& cuts

Ex:



A subgraph is spanning if $V(H) = V(G)$.



○ = comp
onent

A component of G is a maximally connected nonempty subgraph of G .

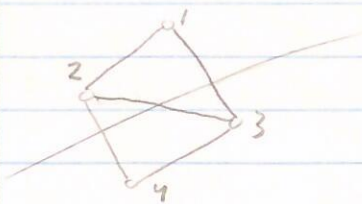
Maximally means there is no other connected nonempty subgraph that contains it.

A connected graph has one component; disconnected graphs have at least two components.

In a component, there is no edge joining a vertex in the component with a vertex outside of a component, due to maximality.

Defⁿ: Let $x \subseteq V(G)$. The cut induced by x is the set of all edges with exactly one end in x .

Ex:



$x = \{1, 2\}$, the cut induced by x is $\{13, 23, 24\}$.

$y = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ cut is \emptyset

$z = \{1, 4\}$ cut is $\{12, 13, 24, 34\}$

A component induces an empty cut, i.e. the set of vertices of a component induces an empty cut.

Theorem: G is not connected if and only if there exists a non-empty proper subset x of $V(G)$ that induces an empty cut.

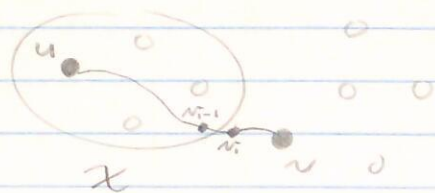
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Proof:

(\Rightarrow) Suppose G is not connected. Then G contains at least 2 components, let H be one of them. Then $V(H)$ is a nonempty proper subset of $V(G)$. That is non-empty by defⁿ, proper because another component exists.

Due to maximality, $V(H)$ induces an empty cut.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose X is a nonempty proper subset of $V(G)$ that induces an empty cut. Let $u \in X$, $v \notin X$.



contradiction
illustration

Suppose there exists a u, v -path v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k . Since v_0 is in X and v_k is not in X , we can pick the smallest index i such that $v_i \notin X$. Then $v_{i-1} \in X$, and $v_{i-1}v_i$ is an edge in the cut induced by X . Contradiction.

So no u, v -path exists, and G is not connected. \square