

Math 239 Tutorial 7

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1) Prove or Disprove

A) The union of the edges of two distinct u,w -walks contains a cycle.

False

Graph:

$V(G)$ u,w

$E(G)$ $\{u,w\}$

Walk1: u,w

Walk2: u,w,u,w

No cycle since there cannot be a cycle in a graph with only two vertices

B) The union of the edges of two distinct u,w -paths contains a cycle

True

Path1: $u = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r = w$

Path2: $u = y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s = w$

Let i be the smallest index in $\{1, \dots, r\}$ so that $x_i = y_i$ but $x_{i+1} \neq y_{i+1}$ (i exists because Path1 is distinct from Path2)

Let j be the first index in $\{i+1, i+2, \dots, s\}$ so that $y_i = x_k$ for some $k \geq i+1$. (j exists because s is a candidate)

By choice of j , every vertex in $y_{i+1}, y_{i+2}, \dots, y_{j-1}$ is not in Path1

Now $C := x_i = y_i, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_{j-1}, y_j = x_k, x_{k-1}, \dots, x_i$

**2) G graph, every vertex has degree at least 3
 $\implies G$ contains a cycle of even length**

Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k be the longest path in G . All the neighbours of x_1 are in this path, otherwise we can augment it. Since $\deg(v_1) \geq 3$, there exists two

neighbours v_i, v_j , of v_1 with $2 < i < j \leq k$

Since either i, j or $j-i$ is even, then either one of the cycles:

$C_1 = x_1, \dots, x_i, x_1$

$C_2 = x_1, \dots, x_j, x_1$

$C_3 = x_i, \dots, x_j, x_1, x_i$

has even length

4) Let $X, Y \subseteq V(G)$ where $X \cap Y = \emptyset$. Prove that if the cuts induced by X and Y has an even number of edges

$E(X, \bar{X})$ cut induced by X

$E(Y, \bar{Y})$ cut induced by Y

$E(X \cup Y, \overline{X \cup Y})$ cut induced by $X \cup Y$

$|E(X \cup Y, \overline{X \cup Y})| = |E(X, \bar{X})| + |E(Y, \bar{Y})| - 2|E(X, Y)|$

The LHS is even since the $2|\dots|$ is even.