

# Homework 6

**Problem 1.** Which of the following statements about graph  $G$  and  $H$  are true?

1.  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic if and only if for every map  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  and for any two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$ , we have  $\{u, v\} \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow \{f(u), f(v)\} \in E(H)$ .
2.  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists a bijection  $f : E(G) \rightarrow E(H)$ .
3. If there exists a bijection  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that every vertex  $u \in V(G)$  has the same degree as  $f(u)$ , then  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic.
4. If  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic, then there exists a bijection  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that every vertex  $u \in V(G)$  has the same degree as  $f(u)$ .
5. If  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic, then there exists a bijection  $f : E(G) \rightarrow E(H)$ .
6.  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists a map  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that for any two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$ , we have  $\{u, v\} \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow \{f(u), f(v)\} \in E(H)$ .
7. Every graph on  $n$  vertices is isomorphic to some graph on the vertex set  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .
8. Every graph on  $n \geq 1$  vertices is isomorphic to infinitely many graphs.

*Solution.* The right statements are 4, 5, 7, 8. The rest statements are wrong for following reasons.

- For statement 1 it is not “for every map  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$ ”.
- For statement 2 “there exists a bijection  $f : E(G) \rightarrow E(H)$ ” can not guarantee  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic, otherwise, any two graphs with the same number of edges are isomorphic.
- For statement 3, it is easy to find a counterexample if we treat two triangles as  $G$  and treat a hexagon as  $H$ .
- For statement 6,  $f$  should be a bijection.

□

**Problem 2.** Two simple graphs  $G = (V, E)$  and  $G' = (V', E')$ . A map  $f : V \rightarrow V'$ . Now if  $f$  satisfies:

- i) It is a bijective function;
- ii)  $\{x, y\} \in E$  if and only if  $\{f(x), f(y)\} \in E'$ ;

Then we say that graph  $G$  and  $G'$  are isomorphic to each other. We use  $G \cong G'$  to stand for the isomorphism relation.

Consider the following questions:

1.  $G = K_n$  (Recall:  $K_n$  is a clique with  $n$  vertices),  $g : V \rightarrow V'$  is a function which only satisfies requirement ii). Prove that  $G'$  must contain a subgraph which is a clique with  $n$ -vertices.
2.  $G = K_{n,m}$  (Recall:  $K_{n,m}$  is the so-called complete bipartite graphs),  $g$  is the same as in question 1. What will be the simplest  $G'$  that is related to  $G$  under the new relation.

*Solution.*

1. We first prove that  $g$  is an injective function, that is for any  $v_1 \in V, v_2 \in V$ , if  $v_1 \neq v_2$ , then  $g(v_1) \neq g(v_2)$ . Suppose it is not that case, then there exist two vertices, say  $v_1, v_2$  such that  $v_1 \neq v_2$  but  $g(v_1) = g(v_2)$ . Since  $v_1 \neq v_2$ , we can have the edge  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  in  $G$ , however  $g(v_1) = g(v_2)$ , then we can not have the edge  $\{g(v_1), g(v_2)\}$ . This contradicts ii). Thus, we have that  $g$  is an injective function. Since  $g$  is an injective function, then the  $n$  vertices in  $G$  are mapped to  $n$  different vertices in  $G'$ , and by ii) we have  $\{x, y\} \in E$  if and only if  $\{f(x), f(y)\} \in E'$ . Since  $G = K_n$ , every two vertices have an edge between them, thus there must be  $n$  different vertices in  $G'$  that every two vertices in them are connected by an edge. So  $G'$  must contain a subgraph which is a clique with  $n$ -vertices.
2. Since  $g$  only satisfies requirement ii), we can let all the vertices on one side of  $G$  be mapped to a vertex and all the vertices on the other side be mapped to another vertex. Thus the simplest  $G'$  that is related to  $G$  under the new relation is  $K_{1,1}$ .

□

**Problem 3.** How many graphs on the vertex set  $\{1, 2, \dots, 2n\}$  are isomorphic to the graph consisting of  $n$  vertex-disjoint edges (i.e. with edge set  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{3, 4\}, \dots, \{2n-1, 2n\}\}$ )?

*Solution.* To do this, we need to divide the  $2n$  vertices into  $n$  groups and each group has 2 vertices. We can do this by inserting a plank every two elements in a permutation of the  $2n$  vertices, thus create  $n$  boxes, however the order of the  $n$  boxes does not matter, and the order of the two elements in the box also does not matter. Thus, we can calculate the answer is  $\frac{2n!}{n! \cdot 2^n} = (2n-1)!!$ .  $\square$

**Problem 4.** Construct an example of a sequence of length  $n$  in which each term is some of the numbers  $1, 2, \dots, n-1$  and which has an even number of odd terms, and yet the sequence is not a graph score. Show why it is not a graph score.

*Solution.* I find it hard to give a general format, I just come up with a specific counterexample that is  $1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5$  for the case that  $n = 6$ . By **Score Theorem** we have  $1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5$  is a graph score if and only if  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4$  is a graph score. And  $0, 1, 2, 3, 4$  is a graph score if and only if  $-1, 0, 1, 2$  is a graph score, since  $-1, 0, 1, 2$  is not a graph score, so  $1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 5$  is not a graph score.  $\square$

**Problem 5.** Let  $G$  be a graph with 9 vertices, each of degree 5 or 6. Prove that it has at least 5 vertices of degree 6 or at least 6 vertices of degree 5.

*Solution.* Let  $n$  denote the number of vertices of degree 6. If  $n \geq 5$ , then the statement is already true. Now, consider that  $n \leq 4$ , we say that actually  $n \leq 3$ . If  $n = 4$ , then there will be  $9 - 4 = 5$  vertices of degree 5. Since the graph has 9 vertices, each of degree 5 or 6, thus this results in that the graph has an odd number of vertices, which have odd degree, this contradicts the **hand-shake lemma**. Thus, we have the number of vertices of degree 5 is greater than or equal to  $9 - 3 = 6$ . So the statement is true.  $\square$

**Problem 6.** Given a sequence  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$  of positive integers (where  $n \geq 1$ ):

(i) There exists a tree with score  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ .

(ii)  $\sum_{i=1}^n d_i = 2n - 2$ .

Prove that (i) and (ii) are equivalent.

*Solution.*

1. (i)  $\rightarrow$  (ii). If there exists a tree with score  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ , then we know that the tree has  $n$  vertices and by Euler's formula we know the tree has  $n - 1$  edges. Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^n d_i = 2n - 2$ .
2. (ii)  $\rightarrow$  (i). We prove this statement by induction on  $n$ .

**Basis step.** When  $n = 2$ , the statement is true.

**Induction hypothesis.** Assume that when  $n = k$  the statement is true, that is given a sequence  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k)$ , if  $\sum_{i=1}^k d_i = 2k - 2$ , then there exists a tree with score  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k)$ .

**Proof of induction step.** When  $n = k + 1$ , assume that we write the sequence in nondecreasing order, that is  $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_{k+1}$ . Since  $\sum_{i=1}^{k+1} d_i = 2(k + 1) - 2$ , we can say that there must exist a vertex whose degree is 1, assume that  $d_1 = 1$ . We can also say that there must exist some vertices whose degree are greater than or equal to 2. Assume that  $d_j$  is the first number in the sequence such that  $d_j \geq 2$ . Now consider the following sequence  $(d_2, d_3, \dots, d_j - 1, \dots, d_{k+1})$ , its length is  $k$  and the sum of its items is  $2(k + 1) - 2 - 1 - 1 = 2k - 2$ . Thus, by induction hypothesis, we know that there exists a tree with the score sequence  $(d_2, d_3, \dots, d_j - 1, \dots, d_{k+1})$ , then we add a vertex  $v_1$  and an edge  $(v_1, v_j)$  to it, this gives us a tree with exactly the score sequence  $(d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n)$ , where  $d_1 = 1$ . Thus, the statement that (ii)  $\rightarrow$  (i) is true.

□