

Discrete Mathematics PS4

1. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph where  $V$  is the set of vertices and  $E$  is the set of edges. We denote the number of vertices by  $n := |V|$  and the number of edges by  $m := |E|$ . For a vertex  $a \in V$ , we denote the degree of vertex  $a$  by  $d(a)$ . Furthermore, denote the minimum degree of all vertex degrees by  $\delta$  and the maximum degree by  $\Delta$ . Please prove the statements below.

(a) The number of vertices that have odd degrees must be even;

(b)  $m \leq \binom{n}{2}$ ;

(c)  $\delta \leq \frac{2m}{n} \leq \Delta$ ;

(d) The length of a path is defined to be the number of edges in the path. Assume  $n > 0$ . Let  $k \geq 0$  be an integer. If  $\delta \geq k$ , then  $G$  has a path with length  $k$ .

2. Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n - 1$  edges where  $n$  is the number of vertices of  $G$ . Show the following three statements are equivalent:

(a)  $G$  is connected; (b)  $G$  has no cycles; (c)  $G$  is a tree.

**(Remark:** You could prove the equivalence by proving (a)  $\rightarrow$  (b), (b)  $\rightarrow$  (c) and (c)  $\rightarrow$  (a).)

3. A *walk* in a graph  $G$  is a sequence  $W := v_0 e_1 v_1 \dots v_{l-1} e_l v_l$ , whose terms are alternately vertices and edges of  $G$  (not necessarily distinct), such that  $v_{i-1}$  and  $v_i$  are the ends of  $e_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq l$ . A *closed walk* is a walk that starts from and ends on the same vertex. So an Eulerian cycle is a closed walk that traversed each edge exactly once and we also call it *Eulerian tour*. (Be cautious that an Eulerian cycle is not a cycle. Recall that, by definition, a cycle should be a connected (sub)graph whose vertices are all of degree 2.)

We say that a graph is *Eulerian* if it contains an Eulerian tour. So we know an Eulerian graph has no vertices of odd degree. Let  $G$  be Eulerian.

(a) Prove that  $G$  contains a cycle;

(b) For two cycles with no edges in common, we call they are edge-disjoint. Please show that the edge set of  $G$  can be partitioned into edge sets corresponding to edge-disjoint cycles in the graph.

4. A  $k$ -regular graph is a graph in which every vertex is of degree  $k$ . The girth of a graph is the length of the shortest cycle of the graph. Prove that
- A  $k$ -regular graph of girth four has at least  $2k$  vertices;
  - A  $k$ -regular graph of girth five has at least  $k^2 + 1$  vertices.
5. Please use Gale-Shapley's algorithm to find one stable matching for the preference lists below.

Boys	1 <sup>st</sup>	Girls	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
A	X	X	B	A	C
B	Y	Y	A	B	C
C	X	Z	A	B	C

6. Let  $M$  be a matching for a graph  $G$ . (Recall that a matching in a graph is a set of edges that do not have common vertices.) An alternating path is a path that begins with an unmatched vertex and whose edges belong alternately to the matching  $M$  and not to the matching. An  $M$ -augmenting path is an alternating path that starts from and ends on unmatched vertices. Show that  $M$  is a maximum matching if and only if  $G$  has no  $M$ -augmenting path.

**(Remark:** This theorem is the principle of an algorithm for finding a maximum matching.)

**(Hint:** For necessity, consider the symmetric difference of the matching and an  $M$ -augmenting path, and for sufficiency, prove by contradiction: assume there is another maximum matching and analyse the subgraph induced by the symmetric difference of this maximum matching and the original matching.)

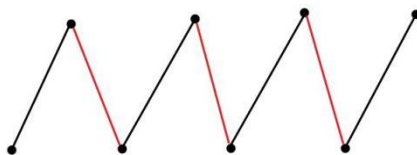


Figure 1: An illustration of  $M$ -augmenting path, the red edges are in the matching  $M$ .