Homework Spring

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Practical tasks

Repo

Instructions:

- install sagemath
- sage --python -m pip install -r requirements.txt
- if you want to reload data: sage --python util.py
- sage -n
- in this jupyter session open provided .ipynb

An html export of the notebook is also provided.

Theorem 1 (Triangle Inequality)

Statement

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For any connected graph G = \langle V, E \rangle:
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\forall x, y, z \in V : dist(x, y) + dist(y, z) \ge dist(x, z)
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Definitions

We define dist(x, y) as $min(|x \leadsto y|)$

Proof

Since G is connected, $\forall x,y,z\in V: \exists x\leadsto y,y\leadsto z,x\leadsto z$

Let's say that $dist(x,y) = |P_1|, dist(y,z) = |P_2|, dist(x,z) = |P_3|$, where P_1, P_2, P_3 are paths $x \rightsquigarrow y, y \rightsquigarrow z, x \rightsquigarrow z$ respectively.

Then we have a concatenation walk $W = P_1 + P_2$

$$|W| = |P_1| + |P_2|$$

If W is a path (has no repeating vertices), then by our definition of distance $|W| \ge dist(x, z)$, and thus $dist(x, y) + dist(y, z) \ge dist(x, z)$

Otherwise, we remove all edges in W between pairs of repeating vertices recursively until it's a path, which we will call W'

Since W' was obtained from W by removing edges, $|W| \ge |W'|$

At the same time, by the same logic as shown above, $|W'| \ge dist(x, z)$, and thus, once again $dist(x, y) + dist(y, z) \ge dist(x, z)$

Theorem 2

Statement

For any connected graph $G: rad(G) \leq diam(G) \leq 2rad(G)$

Definitions:

$$\begin{split} \varepsilon(v) &= \max_{u \in V} dist(v, u) \\ rad(G) &= \min_{v \in V} \varepsilon(v) \ diam(G) = \max_{v \in V} \varepsilon(v) \end{split}$$

Proof:

 $rad(G) \leq diam(G)$ by definition.

Let's choose $v, u, w \in V$ such that $\varepsilon(v) = rad(G)$, dist(u, w) = diam(G).

Per theorem 1: $dist(u, w) \leq dist(u, v) + dist(v, w)$.

Since $\varepsilon(v) = rad(G)$, $dist(u, v) \leq rad(G)$ and $dist(v, w) \leq rad(G)$.

Thus $diam(G) = dist(u, w) \le dist(u, v) + dist(v, w) \le 2rad(G)$.

Theorem 3

Statement

A connected graph $G = \langle V, E \rangle$ is a tree iff |E| = |V| - 1

Lemma 1

Statement

For any connected graph $G = \langle V, E \rangle$: $|E| \ge |V| - 1$

Proof

Let's start with graph $G' = \langle V, \emptyset \rangle$, and add edges from E that reduce the number of connected components one by one. G' has |V| connected components, and each added edge reduces that number 1, so we will need to add |V| - 1 edges with this process to get a connected graph. Since G is connected, $|E| \geq |V| - 1$.

Proof

First, let's assume |E| = |V| - 1 and prove that G is a tree.

Suppose G contains a cycle C.

Per lemma 1, if we remove any one edge from G, it will cease to be connected.

Let's remove an edge $e \in C$, calling the resulting graph G'

Since G is connected, $\forall v, u \in V : \exists P = v \leadsto u \text{ in } G$. We can replace all occurrences of e in these paths with $C \setminus \{e\}$, getting equally valid paths.

But since the only difference between G and G' is the edge e, these new paths exist in G' as well, which means G' is connected. The contradiction means our assumption was incorrect, and G contains no cycles, making it a tree by definition.

Now, let's prove that for any tree $T\langle V, E \rangle$: |E| = |V| - 1

Let's build a minimal connected subgraph G' as in lemma 1. If we add another edge v, u from T, we create a cycle, as G' was already connected, thus having a path between v and u, and our newly added edge is another. But since T is a tree it by definition can't contain any cycles, which means there is no such edge, T = G' and thus |E| = |V| - 1.

Theorem 4

Statement

Given a connected graph $G = \langle V, E \rangle$ with n vertices, if $\delta(G) \geq \lfloor n/2 \rfloor$, then $\lambda(G) = \delta(G)$.

Proof

Let
$$k = |n/2|$$

 $\lambda(G) \leq \delta(G)$, since we can remove all edges incident to a vertex with minimum degree to detach it from the rest of the graph.

Let's look at a minimum edge cut, and consider the smallest connected component produced by such a cut, calling it $H\langle V', E' \rangle$.

Let
$$m = |V'|, l = |E'|$$
.

Note that $m \geq 1$

Since there have to be at least 2 components, $m \le k$.

Each vertex in V' can have at most m-1 incident edges in H, while in G it must have had at least $\delta(G)$ incident edges.

This means at least $m(\delta(G) - (m-1))$ edges must have been removed.

This is a quadratic function with a peak at $\frac{\delta(G)+1}{2}$, so its minimum on our interval $1 \leq m \leq k$ will lie at either m=1 or m=k depending on which is further from the peak.

Since $\delta(G) \ge k$, $\frac{\delta(G)+1}{2} - 1 \ge k - \frac{\delta(G)+1}{2}$, so we can use the value at m = 1, which is $\delta(G)$.

Thus we have $\delta(G) \geq \lambda(G) \geq \delta(G)$, and so $\lambda(G) = \delta(G)$.

Theorem 5

Statement

Every block of a block graph is a clique.

Proof

We'll be looking at a graph G, its block graph H and a block J of H.

Suppose J is not a clique of H, meaning $\exists v, u \in V(J)$ that are not adjacent.

Since J is a block, v and u lie on a cycle, but since they are not adjacent, this cycle must be at least of length 4. Let's call the shortest such cycle C.

Since H is the block graph of G, each vertex in V(C) corresponds to a block in G, and each edge in E(C) corresponds to a cut vertex in G.

For each $z \in V(C)$ we can find a path in the corresponding block of G connecting the cut vertices of G corresponding to edges incident to z in C.

Note that each pair of paths corresponding to adjacent vertices in V(C) share an endpoint - the cut vertex corresponding to the edge connecting them.

Moreover, the only vertex intersections any pair of these paths can have are cut vertices, since each lies in a separate block of G.

But there are no intersections other than those already discussed, since otherwise 2 vertices in V(C) are connected by an edge in E(J) that is not in E(C), which would mean we can shorten C by replacing several edges with that one.

All of this means we can chain these paths to produce a cycle in G that passes through several blocks.

This is a contradiction, since any 2 vertices on an cycle must lie in the same block, which means our assumption was incorrect and every block of H is a clique.