

# Graph Theory

Judith Stumpp

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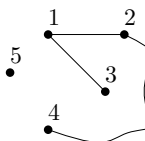
Bei dem folgenden Skript handelt es sich um einen Mitschrieb der Vorlesung Graph Theory vom Wintersemester 2011/2012. Sie wurde gehalten von Prof. Maria Axenovich Ph.D. . Der Mitschrieb erhebt weder Anspruch auf Vollständigkeit, noch auf Richtigkeit!

# Kapitel 1

## Definitions

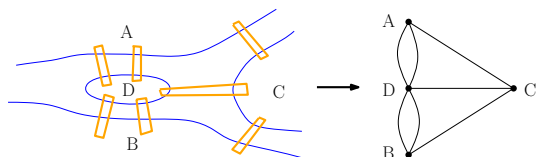
The **graph** is a pair  $V, E$ .  $V$  is a finite set and  $E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$  a pair of elements in  $V$ .  $V$  is called the set of vertices and  $E$  the set of edges.

Visualize:  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $V = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$ ,  $E = \{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 3\}, \{2, 4\}\}$



**History:** word: Sylvester (1814-1897) and Cayley (1821-1895)  
Euler - developed graph theory

Königsberg bridges (today Kaliningrad in Russia):

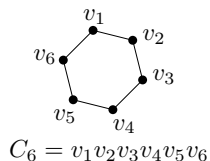
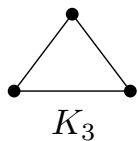
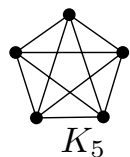


*Problem:* Travel through each bridge once, come back to the original point.

Impossible!

**Notations:**

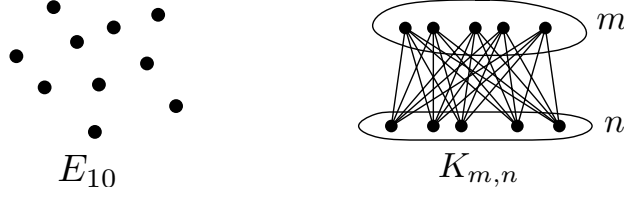
- $K_n = (V, \binom{V}{2})$  - complete graph on  $n$  vertices  $|V| = n$



- $C_n$  - cycle on  $n$  vertices  
 $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $E = \{\{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \dots, \{v_{n-1}, v_n\}, \{v_n, v_1\}\}$
- $P_n$  - path on  $n$  vertices (Note:  $P^n$  . path on  $n$  edges (Diestel))  
 $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $E = \{\{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \dots, \{v_{n-1}, v_n\}\}$

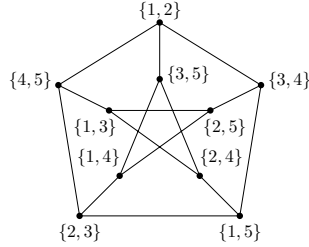
- Let  $P$  be a path from  $v_1$  to  $v_n$ . The subpath of  $P$  from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  is  $v_i P v_j$  and the subpath from  $v_{i+1}$  to  $v_j$  is  $\overset{\circ}{v_i} P v_j$ .

- $E_n = (V, \emptyset)$ ,  $|V| = n$  isolated vertices

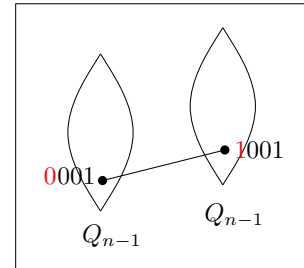
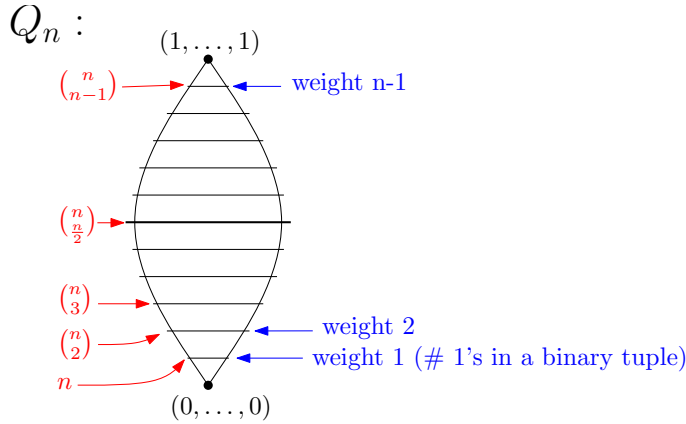
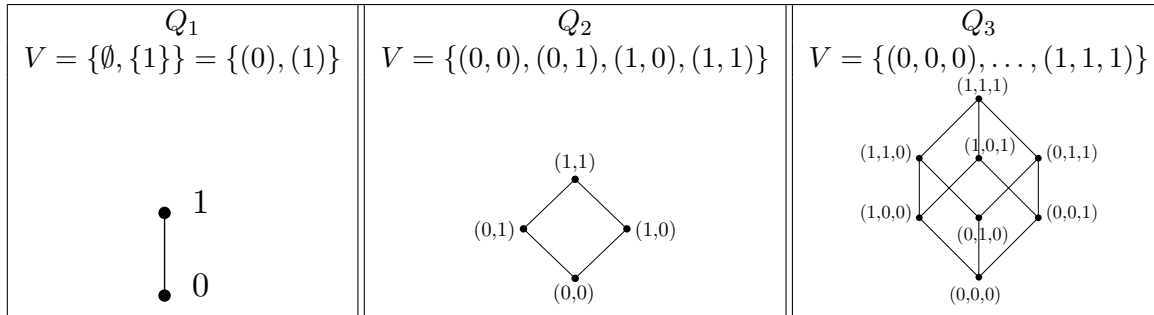


- $K_{n,m} = (A \cup B, A \times B)$ ,  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  complete bipartite graph

- Peterson graph*:  $V = (\{1,2,3,4,5\})_2$ ,  $E = \{\{\{i,j\}, \{k,l\}\} : \{i,j\} \cap \{k,l\} = \emptyset\}$



- Kneser Graph*  $K(n,k) = ((\binom{V}{k}), E)$   
 $|V| = n$ ,  $E = \{\{A, B\} : A, B \in \binom{V}{k} \text{ and } A \cap B = \emptyset\}$ .  
 $\binom{V}{k}$  is the set of  $k$ -element subsets of  $V$ ,  $|\binom{V}{k}| = \binom{|V|}{k}$
- $Q_n$  - hypercube of dimension  $n$ .  
 $Q_n = \{2^{\{1,2,\dots,n\}}, E\}$ ,  $E = \{\{A, B\} : |A \Delta B| = 1\}$  ( $A \Delta B := (A \cup B) - (A \cap B)$ )  
 $V$  - set of binary  $n$ -tuples  $E$  - pairs of binary tuples different in 1 position

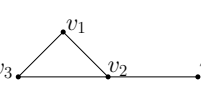


**Parameter:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. The *order* of  $G$  is the number of vertices ( $|V|$ ) and the *size* of  $G$  is the number of edges ( $|E|$ ).

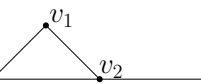
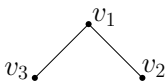
If the order of  $G$  is  $n$ , then  $0 \leq \text{size}(G) \leq \binom{n}{2}$ .

If  $e = \{x, y\} \in E$ ,  $x$  is *adjacent* to  $y$  and  $x$  is *incident* to  $e$ .

There is a  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  of  $G = (\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}, E)$  which is called the *adjacent matrix*.

For  $v_3$    $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

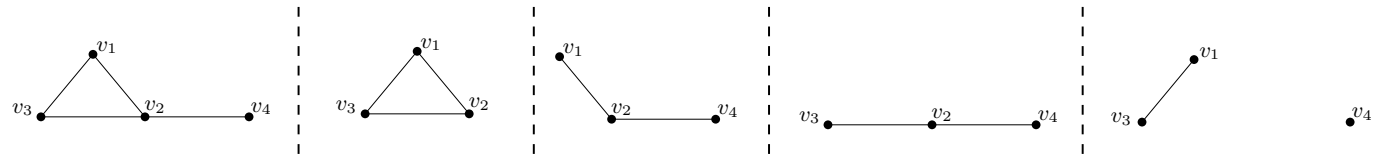
**Subgraph:**  $H \subseteq G$ ,  $H = (V', E')$ ,  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $V' \subseteq V$ ,  $E' \subseteq E$

$v_3$    $\subseteq$   $v_3$  

$H \subseteq_{\text{ind}} G$  is an *induced subgraph* of  $G$  if  $H \subseteq G$  and for  $v_1, v_2 \in V(H)$ :  $\{v_1, v_2\} \in E(H) \Leftrightarrow \{v_1, v_2\} \in E(G)$ .

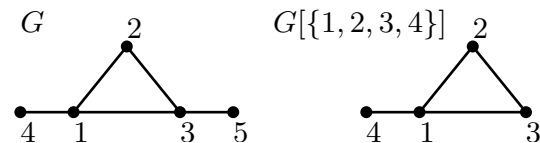
In the upper example it is no induced subgraph.

An induced subgraph is obtained from  $G$  by deleting vertices. E.g.:

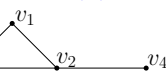


Let  $G = (V, E)$  and  $G' = (V', E')$  be graphs. Then we define  $G \cup G' := (V \cup V', E \cup E')$  and  $G \cap G' := (V \cap V', E \cap E')$ .

$G[X] := (X, \{\{x, y\} : x, y \in X, \{x, y\} \in E(G)\})$  is called the subgraph of  $G$  *induced* by a vertex set  $X \subseteq V(G)$ . E.g.:



A *degree*  $d(v) = \deg v$  of a vertex is the number of edges incident to that vertex.

$v_3$    $\deg v_1 = 2, \deg v_2 = 3, \deg v_3 = 2, \deg v_4 = 1$

In this example the *degree sequence* is  $(2, 3, 2, 1)$ , the *minimum degree*  $\delta(G)$  is 1 and the *maximum degree*  $\Delta(G)$  is 3.

Apparently  $|E(G)| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \deg v_i$  is true.

Thus  $\sum_{i=1}^n \deg v_i$  is even and therefore the number of vertices with odd degree is even.

$d(G) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \deg v_i$  is called the *average degree* of  $G$ .

**Extremal graph theorem:** We'll prove that if  $G$  has  $n$  vertices and  $> \left\lceil \frac{n^2}{4} \right\rceil$  edges  $\Rightarrow G$  has a triangle.

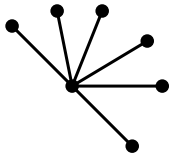
Let  $A, B \subseteq V$ ,  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .  $P$  is an ***A-B-path*** if  $P = v_1 \dots v_k$ ,  $V(P) \cap A = \{v_1\}$  and  $V(P) \cap B = \{v_k\}$ .

A graph is ***connected*** if any two vertices are linked by a path. A maximal connected subgraph of a graph is a ***connected component***.

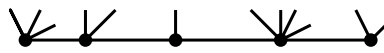
A connected graph without cycles is called a ***tree***. A graph without cycles (***acyclic*** graph) is called a ***forest***.

Other „special named“ graphs:

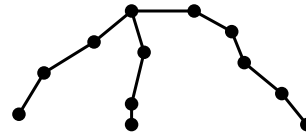
star



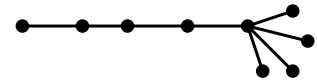
caterpillar



spider



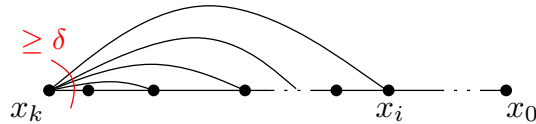
broom



**Proposition:** If a graph  $G$  has a minimum degree  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  then  $G$  has a path of length  $\delta(G)$  and a cycle with at least  $\delta(G) + 1$  vertices.

**proof:** Let  $P = (x_0, \dots, x_k)$  be a longest path in  $G$ . Then all neighbors of  $x_k$  are in  $V(P)$  ( $y$  is a neighbor of  $x$  if  $\{x, y\} \in E$ ). In particular  $k \geq \delta(G)$ .

Let  $i = \min\{j \in \{0, \dots, k\} : \{x_k, x_j\} \in E\}$ . Then  $x_i x_k x_{k-1} \dots x_i$  is a cycle of length at least  $\delta + 1$ .



The ***girth*** of a graph  $G$  is the length of a smallest cycle in  $G$ .

The ***distance***  $d_G(v, w)$  of  $v, w \in G$  is the length of the smallest path between them ( $\min \emptyset = \infty$ ).

The ***diameter*** of  $G$  is  $\max\{d_G(v, w) : v, w \in G\}$ .

**Proposition:** Every nontrivial tree  $T$  has a leaf.

**proof:** Assume  $T$  has no leaves.  $T$  has no isolated vertices  $\Rightarrow \delta(T) \geq 2 \Rightarrow C_n \subseteq T \nsubseteq$  ■

- A tree  $T$  of order  $n \geq 1$  has  $n - 1$  edges.

**proof:**  $T = K_1$  ✓

Assume it holds for all trees of order  $< n$ .

Let  $v$  be a leaf of  $T$ ,  $T' := T - v$ .

$\Rightarrow |T'| = n - 1 < n$ .

$T'$  is acyclic.

Let  $v', w \in T'$ .  $\exists P$   $v' = v_0, v_1, \dots, v_n = w \subseteq T$ .

To show:  $v_i \neq v$  for all  $i = 0, \dots, n$

$v_0, v_n \neq v$  because  $v_0, v_n \in T'$ ,  $v \notin T'$

$v_i \neq v$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ ) because  $d_T(v_i) \geq 2$ ,  $v_i$  is not a leaf.

$\Rightarrow P \subseteq T'$  connecting  $v_0$  and  $w \Rightarrow T'$  connected  $\Rightarrow T$  is a tree.

With induction hypothesis  $T'$  has  $(n-1)-1$  edges. Thus  $T$  has  $(n-1)-1+2 = n-1$  edges. ■

A **walk** is an alternating sequence  $v_0 e_0 v_1 e_1 \dots v_n$  of vertices and edges so that  $e_i = v_i v_{i+1}$  for all  $n = 0, \dots, n-1$ . Compared to a path it is allowed to pass edges and vertices more than once. If  $v_0 = v_n$ , then the walk is a **closed walk**.

- If  $G$  has a  $u$ - $v$ -walk (between vertices  $u, v$ )  $\Rightarrow G$  has a  $u$ - $v$ -path.

**proof:** Consider the shortest walk between  $u$  and  $v$  is  $W$ . Then  $W$  is a path. If not,  $W$  has a repeated vertex  $W = \underbrace{u e_0 v_1 e_1 \dots v_i}_{=: W_1} \dots \underbrace{v_i}_{=: \tilde{W}} \dots \underbrace{v_i e_i \dots v_n}_{=: W_2}$ , then  $W' = W_1 W_2$  is a shorter  $u$ - $v$ -walk.  $\nexists$  ■

- If  $G$  has an odd closed walk (i.e. odd # edges) then  $G$  has an odd cycle.

**proof:** If there are no repeated vertices (except for first and last)  $\Rightarrow$  we have an odd cycle.


If there is a repeated vertex  $v_i$ ,  $W = \underbrace{v_0 e_0 v_1 \dots}_{\text{1'st part of } W_2} \underbrace{v_i \dots v_i}_{W_1} \dots \underbrace{v_i e_i \dots v_n = v_0}_{\text{2'nd part of } W_2}$ .

$W$  is a union of two closed walks  $W_1$  and  $W_2$ . Either  $W_1$  or  $W_2$  is an odd closed walk

$\Rightarrow$  by induction it contains an odd cycle. ■

- If  $G$  has a closed walk with a non-repeated edge  $W = v_0 e_0 v_1 \dots e_i \dots$   $e_i$  is unique, then  $G$  contains a cycle.

**proof:** Induction on # vertices.

**Basis:** 

**Step:**  $W = \underbrace{v_0 e_0 v_1 \dots}_{\text{1'st part of } W_2} \underbrace{v_i \dots v_i}_{W_1} \dots \underbrace{v_i e_i \dots v_n = v_0}_{\text{2'nd part of } W_2}$

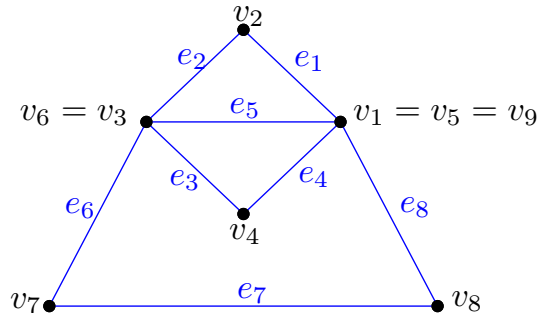
(note, there is a repeated vertex  $v_j$ , otherwise  $W$  is a cycle)

So,  $W$  is a union of two closed walks  $W_1$  and  $W_2$  and either  $W_1$  or  $W_2$  has a non-repeated edge.

By induction, that walk contains a cycle. ■

**Definition:** An **Eulerian tour** is a closed walk containing all edges of a graph and repeating no edge.

e.g.: Eulerian tour  $v_1 e_1 v_2 e_2 \dots e_8 v_9 = v_1$  in



**Theorem:** A connected graph  $G$  has an Eulerian tour iff (i.e. if and only if) each degree of vertex in  $G$  is even.

### proof:

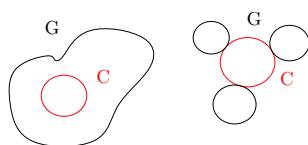
„ $\Rightarrow$ “: If there is an Eulerian tour then clearly the number of edges entering the vertex is the number of edges leaving the vertex.

„ $\Leftarrow$ “: Assume that each degree is even.

Consider a walk with longest number of edges and no repeated edge,  $W = v_0 \dots v_k$ . Thus, there is no edge incident to  $v_0$  that is not in  $W$ . Since  $\deg v_0$  is even,  $v_0$  must be  $v_n$ , i.e.  $W$  is a closed walk.

If all edges are in  $W$ , done. Otherwise, there is an edge  $e$ , not in  $W$ . Since  $G$  is connected, there is such  $e$  incident to a vertex in  $W$ . Say  $e = v_i u$ . Then  $W' = uev_i W v_i$  is a longer walk with no repeated edges.  $\nmid$

Other idea: all edges in  $G$  are even,  $\delta(G) \geq 2 \Rightarrow G$  has a cycle  $C$ . Delete  $C$  from  $G$  (problem:  $G - C$  maybe isn't connected).



■

### **Connectivity:**

We say that a Graph  $G$  is vertex  *$k$ -connected* if  $|V(G)| > k$  and deleting any  $(k - 1)$  vertices does not disconnect the graph.

Any connected graph is 1-connected. If a graph is 2-connected then there exists no *cut-vertex* which is a vertex whose deletion disconnects a graph. Trees are not 2-connected.

If  $G$  is connected,  $X \subseteq V$ ,  $G - X$  disconnected  $\Rightarrow X$  is called a *cut-set*.

$$\kappa(G) = \max\{k : G \text{ is } k\text{-connected}\}$$

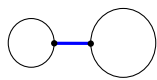
e.g.:  $\kappa(\text{triangle}) = 1$ ,  $\kappa(C_n) = 2$ ,  $\kappa(K_{n,m}) = \min\{m, n\}$ .

$G$  is called  *$l$ -edge connected* if  $G \neq E_n$  and  $G$  does not become disconnected after deleting any  $(l - 1)$  edges.

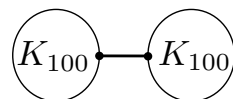
$$\lambda(G) (= \kappa'(G)) = \max\{l : G \text{ is } l\text{-edge-connected}\}$$

e.g.:  $\lambda(\text{tree}) = 1$ ,  $\lambda(C_n) = 2$ .

If  $\lambda(G) = 1$  there exists a so called *bridge* (cut edge)



Clearly  $\lambda(G) \leq \delta(G)$ . But it could be that  $1 = \lambda(G) \ll \delta(G) = 99$

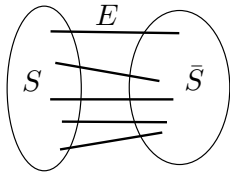


**Lemma:** For any connected  $G$ :  $\kappa(G) \leq \lambda(G) \leq \delta(G)$ .

proof: Idea: want to find the set of at most  $\lambda := \lambda(G)$  vertices that disconnects the graph.



Let  $\tilde{E}$  be a set of  $\lambda$  edges disconnecting  $G$ . Then  $\tilde{E}$  is a cut, i.e.  $\exists S \subseteq V : \forall e \in \tilde{E}$ , one endpoint of  $e$  is in  $S$ , another is in  $\bar{S} := V - S$ .



If in  $G$  there are all edges between  $S$  and  $\bar{S}$ .  $\lambda = |\tilde{E}| = |S| \cdot |\bar{S}| \geq |V(G)| - 1 \geq \kappa(G)$ .

Otherwise  $\exists x \in S, y \in \bar{S}, x \not\sim y$  (i.e.  $xy \notin E(G)$ ).

$$T := (N(x) \cap \bar{S}) \cup (\{z \in S : z \sim \bar{S}\} - \{x\})$$

$T$  is a vertex cut, in particular after deleting  $T$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are in different connected components. We have  $|T| \leq |\tilde{E}| = \lambda$  because

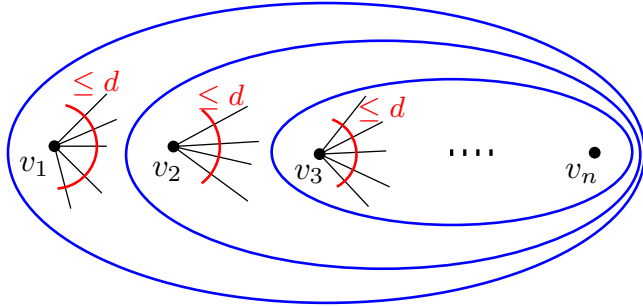
$$|N(x)| \leq \#(\text{edges incident to } x) \text{ and } |\{z \in S : z \sim \bar{S}\} - \{x\}| \leq \#(\text{edges incident to this set}).$$

■

**Definition:** A graph  $G$  is *d-degenerate* if there is a vertex order  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ :

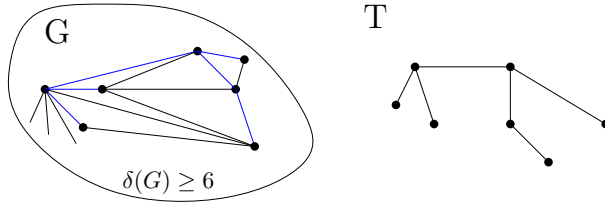
$$|N(v_i) \cap \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}| \leq d.$$

I.e. we eliminate the graph by deleting a vertices sequence, s.t. at most  $d$  edges are gone at a time.



Let  $T$  be a graph.  $T$  is a *tree* if it is connected and acyclic.

- $T$  is a tree iff  $T$  is connected and has  $|V(T)| - 1$  edges.
- $T$  is 1-degenerate.
- A *leaf* in a nontrivial tree is a vertex of degree 1.
- If  $G$  is a graph with  $\delta(G) \geq |V(T)| - 1$  ( $T$  tree) then  $G$  contains  $T$  as a subgraph.



**Lemma:** A graph is bipartite if and only if it has no odd cycles.

proof:

„ $\Rightarrow$ “: Let  $G$  be a bipartite graph, then any cycle has a form  $u_1v_1u_2v_2 \dots u_kv_ku_1$ , where  $u_i \in U$ ,  $v_i \in V$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $U, V$  are partite sets of  $G$ .

„ $\Leftarrow$ “: Assume that  $G$  is connected and has no odd cycles. We shall prove that  $G$  is bipartite with partite sets  $U, V$  defined as follows.

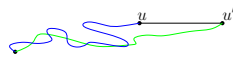
Fix  $x \in V(G)$ .

Let  $U = \{u : \text{dist}(x, u) \text{ is even}\}$ ,  $V = \{v : \text{dist}(x, v) \text{ is odd}\}$

We need to verify that  $G[U], G[V]$  are empty graphs.

Assume that  $u, u' \in U$  and  $\{u, u'\} \in E(G)$ .

Consider a walk formed by shortest  $x$ - $u$ -path, shortest  $x$ - $u'$ -path and  $u, u'$ .



This is an odd closed walk that contains an odd cycle, a contradiction.

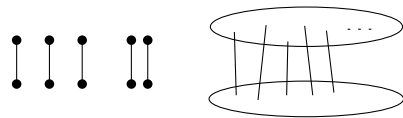
Thus  $G[U]$  is an empty graph.

Similarly  $G[V]$  is an empty graph.

■

**Matchings:**

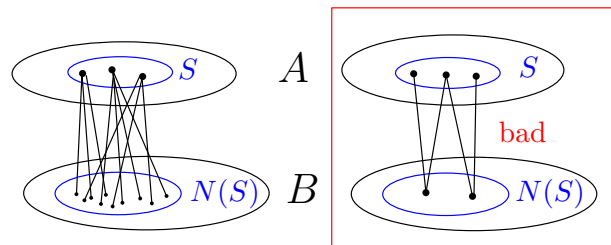
A *matching* is a graph that is a disjoint (vertex) union of edges.



Philip Hall (Apr. 1904 - Dec. 1982) Cambridge, UK

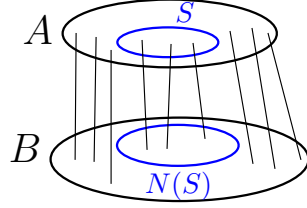
Recall that  $N(S)$  for a set  $S$  of vertices is a set of neighbors of vertices in  $S$ .

**Hall's matching theorem 1935:** Let  $G$  be a bipartite graph with partite sets  $A, B$ . Then  $G$  has a matching containing all vertices of  $A$  if and only if  $|N(S)| \geq |S|$  for any  $S \subseteq A$ .



proof:

„ $\Rightarrow$ “: obvious



„ $\Leftarrow$ “: Assume that  $|N(S)| \geq |S|$  for any  $S \subseteq A$ .

We shall prove that there is a matching containing all elements of  $A$  by induction on  $|A|$ .

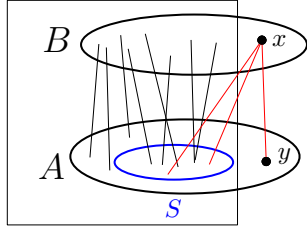
If  $|A| = 1$ , clear.

Assume that  $|A| > 1$

Case 1:  $|N(S)| \geq |S| + 1$ , for any  $S \subset A$ ,  $S \neq A$ .

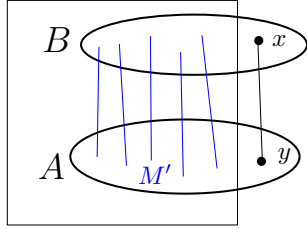
Let  $\{x, y\} =: e \in E(G)$ . Consider  $G' = G - \{x, y\}$ .

$|N_{G'}(S)| \geq |N_G(S)| - 1 \geq |S| + 1 - 1 = |S|$ , for any  $S \subseteq A - \{y\}$ .

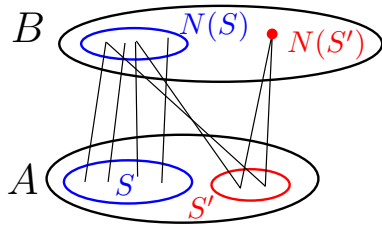


Thus, Hall's condition is true for  $G'$ , and there is a matching  $M'$ , containing all elements of  $A - \{y\}$ , by induction.

So,  $M' \cup \{x, y\}$  is a matching saturating  $A$  in  $G$ .



Case 2:  $\exists S \subset A$ ,  $S \neq A$  such that  $|N(S)| = |S|$ .



By induction, there is a matching containing all vertices of  $S$ . Let apply induction to  $G[A - S, B - N(S)]$ .

Assume that there is  $S' \subseteq A - S$  such that  $|N(S') \cap (B - N(S))| < |S'|$ .

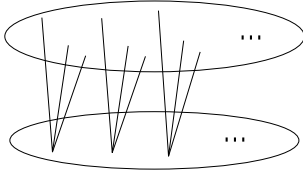
Then  $|N(S' \cup S)| = |N(S) \cup (N(S') \cap (B - N(S)))| < |S| + |S'|$ .

A contradiction to Hall's condition applied to  $S \cup S'$ .

Thus for any  $S' \subseteq A - S$ ,  $|N(S') \cap (B - N(S))| \geq |S'|$ , and there is a matching saturating  $A - S$  in  $G[A - S, B - N(S)]$ . Together with a matching between  $S$  and  $N(S)$ , it gives a matching saturating  $A$ .

### Corollaries of Hall's theorem:

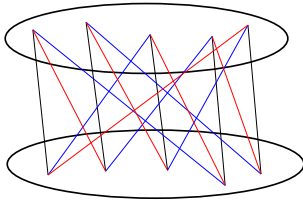
- 1) Let  $G$  be bipartite with partite sets  $A, B$ , such that  $|N(S)| \geq |S| - d$  for all  $S \subseteq A$ , and some fixed positive integer  $d$ .  
Then  $G$  contains a matching of size at least  $|A| - d$ .
- 2) A  $k$ -regular bipartite graph has a **perfect** matching, i.e. matching containing all vertices of a graph. Here  **$k$ -regular** is a graph with all degrees equal to  $k$ .



$G$  has partite sets  $A, B$  :

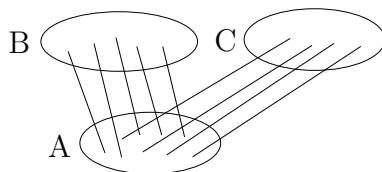
$$\begin{aligned}
 |E(G)| &= \# \text{edges incident to } A = |A| \cdot k \\
 &= \# \text{edges incident to } B = |B| \cdot k \\
 \Rightarrow |A| &= |B|
 \end{aligned}$$

- 3) A  $k$  regular bipartite graph has a proper  $k$ -edge coloring.



### proof:

- 1) Construct  $G'$ .



$|C| = d$ , add all edges between  $A$  and  $C$ .

In  $G'$   $|N_{G'}(S)| \geq |N_G(S)| + d \geq |S| - d + d = |S|$ .

By Hall's theorem, there is a matching in  $G'$  saturating  $A$ , with at most  $d$  edges not in  $G$ .

- 2) Let's verify Hall's condition.

Is it true that  $|N(G)| \geq |S|$  for any  $S \subseteq A$ ?

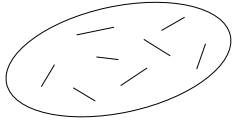
#edges from  $S$  to  $B$  is  $|S| \cdot k = \# \text{edges between } S \text{ and } N(S) = q$

#edges from  $N(S)$  to  $A$  is  $|N(S)| \cdot k \geq \# \text{edges between } S \text{ and } N(S) = q$ .

$|N(S)| \cdot k \geq q = |S| \cdot k \Rightarrow |N(S)| \geq |S|$ .

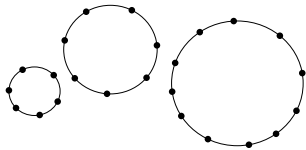


**Non-bipartite graphs:**



A  $k$ -factor in a graph is a *spanning* (containing each vertex) subgraph in which each vertex has degree  $k$ .

perfect matching = 1-factor

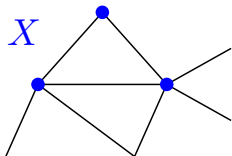


2-factor

Denes König (Sep. 1884 - Oct. 1944)

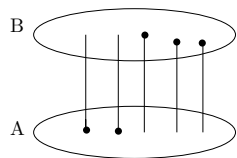
Gyula König (Dec. 1849 - Apr. 1913)

Let  $\nu(G)$  be the size of largest matching in  $G$  and  $\tau(G)$  be the size of smallest *vertex cover*, i.e. set of vertices such that each edge is incident to some of this vertices, i.e. a set  $X$  of vertices such that  $G - X$  is an empty graph.



**König's theorem '31:** If  $G$  is a bipartite graph, then  $\nu(G) = \tau(G)$ .

**Classical approach:** Given a maximal matching  $M$  and want to find a vertex cover of size  $|M|$



alternating path: starts with an unmatched vertex of  $M$  (alternating one point in  $A$  and one in  $B$ ). Take the longest alternating path.

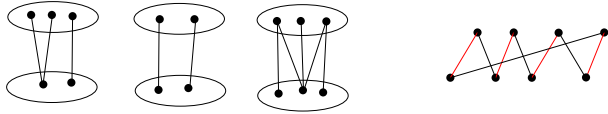
vertex cover: for any element of  $\{a, b\} \in E(M)$ ,  $a \in A, b \in B$  pick  $b$  if there is an alternating path ending in  $b$ , otherwise pick  $a$ .

**proof:** (by Romeo Rizzi '2000)

We want to prove that  $\tau(G) \leq \nu(G)$  ( $\tau(G) \geq \nu(G)$  trivial).

Assume that  $G$  is the smallest counterexample (#edges, #vertices).

Observe that  $G$  is connected, not a path, not a cycle, i.e.  $\exists v : \deg(v) \geq 3$



Let  $v : \deg v \geq 3$ .  $u \in N(v)$ ,

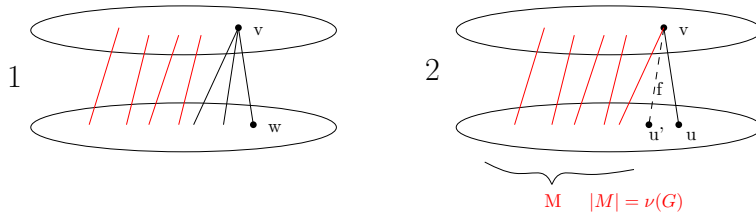
**Case 1:**  $\nu(G \setminus u) < \nu(G)$ :

Take a vertex cover  $X$  by König's theorem of  $G - u$  of size  $\leq \nu(G) - 1$ . Then  $X \cup \{u\}$  is the vertex cover of  $G$  of size  $\leq \nu(G)$ .

**Case 2:**  $\nu(G \setminus u) = \nu(G)$ :

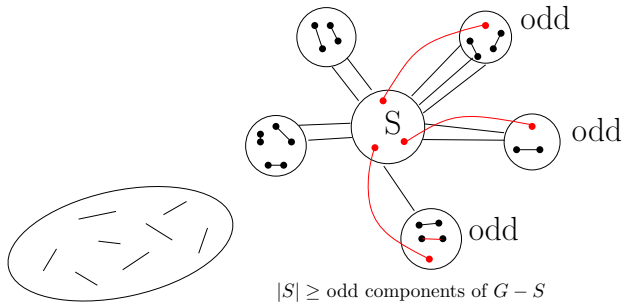
Then, in  $G$  there is a maximal matching,  $M$ , not containing  $u$ . There is  $u' \in N(v) - \{u\}$ , such that  $f := \{v, u'\} \notin E(M)$ .

Let  $W'$  be a cover of  $G - f$  of size  $\nu(G - f) = \nu(G)$ . Then  $W'$  does not contain  $u$  ( $W'$  contains vertices of  $M$  only and  $u \notin V(M)$ ). Thus  $W'$  contains  $v$ . So,  $W'$  covers  $f$  too. Thus  $W'$  covers  $G$ .



■

## Tutte's theorem



For a subset  $S$  of vertices of  $G$ , let  $q(S) = \# \text{odd components of } G - S$ .

**Theorem:** (Bill Tutte May 1917- May 2002)

A graph  $G$  has a perfect matching (1-factor) if and only if  $\forall S \subseteq V(G) \quad q(S) \leq |S|$ .

## proof:

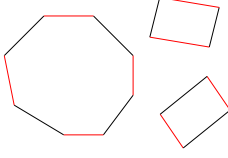
„ $\Rightarrow$ “: trivial.

„ $\Leftarrow$ “: Consider  $G$ , such that  $\forall S \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $q(S) \leq |S|$ , and assume that  $G$  has no 1-factor. Add edge one-by-one, so the resulting graph  $G'$  is no 1-factor.

We shall show that in  $G'$  is a „bad“ set  $S$ ,  $q(S) > |S|$ .

We shall show that  $S$  is also a bad set in  $G$ .

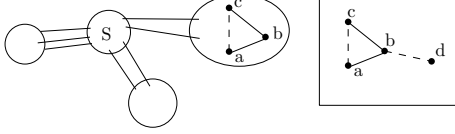
**Observation:** If  $M_1, M_2$  are perfect matchings in  $G$ ,  $M_1 \triangle M_2 = (M_1 \cup M_2) - (M_1 \cap M_2)$  are only cycles.



Let  $S$  be a set of vertices of degree  $|V(G)| - 1$ . We shall show that  $S$  is bad in  $G'$ .

Claim: All components of  $G' - S$  are complete.

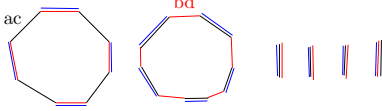
Assume not, i.e. there is a non-complete component in  $G' - S$ .



Then there is an induced path  $a, b, c$  in this component. Since  $b \notin S$ ,  $\deg b < |V(G')| - 1$ , there is  $d \notin \{a, b, c\}$ , such that  $b \not\sim d$ .

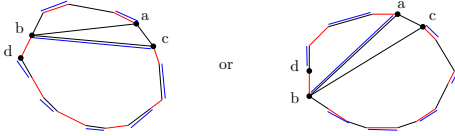
By maximality of  $G'$ , there is a perfect matching  $M_1$  in  $G' \cup \{\{a, c\}\}$ , there is a perfect matching  $M_2$  in  $G' \cup \{\{b, d\}\}$ . Note  $ac \in E(M_1), bd \in E(M_2)$ . We shall create a perfect matching of  $G'$ .

Consider  $M_1 \Delta M_2$ ,  $ac, bd \in E(M_1 \Delta M_2)$ . If  $ac, bd$  belong to different cycles of  $M_1 \Delta M_2$ :

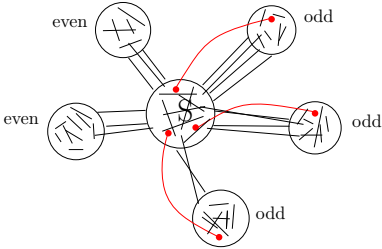


Take the edges of  $M_2$  in a component containing  $ac$ , take edges of  $M_1$  in a component with  $bd$ , otherwise take edges of  $M_1$ .

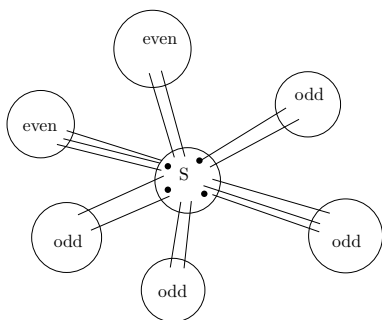
If  $ac, bd$  belong to the same cycle of  $M_1 \Delta M_2$ , then



A contradiction, since  $G'$  has no 1-factor, so all components of  $G' - S$  are complete.  $\square$  *Claim*

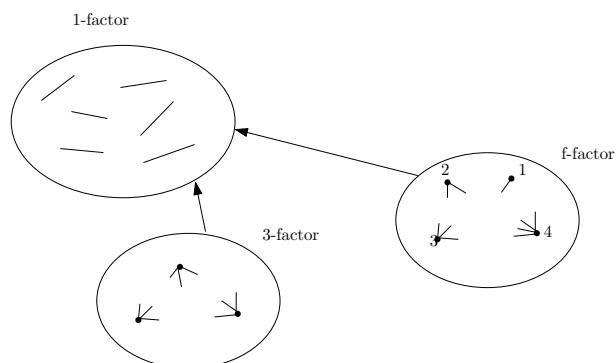


If  $S$  is not bad, i.e.  $|q(S)| \leq |S|$ , we can construct a perfect matching, a contradiction to the fact that  $G'$  has no perfect matching. Thus  $S$  is bad in  $G'$ .



$G$  is obtained from  $G'$  by deleting edges, so  $q_G(S) \geq q_{G'}(S) > |S|$ .

■

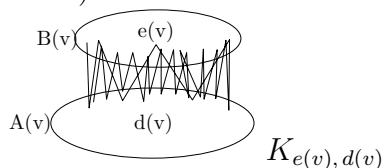


$k$ -factor - spanning subgraph,

all degrees =  $k$

$f$ -factor: If  $f : V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , an  $f$ -factor is a spanning subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $\deg_H(v) = f(v)$ .

Let  $e(v) = \deg(v) - f(v) \geq 0$  (*excess*).

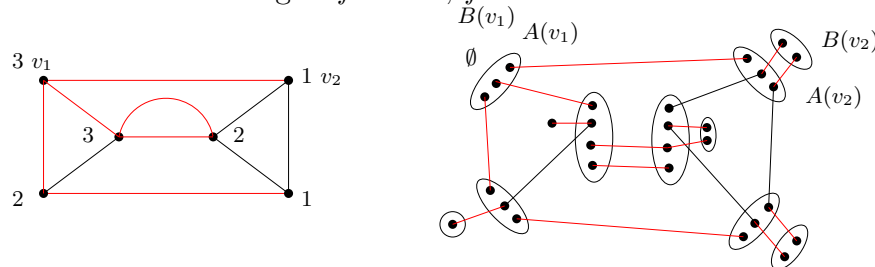


Replace each vertex of  $G$  with

For adjacent  $u$  and  $v$ , put an edge between  $A(u)$  and  $A(v)$ , such that these edges form a matching.

An  $f$ -factor, in a graph  $G$ , for  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , such that  $\forall v \in V$   $f(v) \leq \deg(v)$ , is a spanning subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  such that  $\deg_H(v) = f(v)$ .

1-factor or matching  $\approx f$ -factor,  $f \equiv 1$ .



$$f(v_1) = 3, f(v_2) = 1.$$

For a graph  $G$  and a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$ , construct an auxiliary graph  $T(G, f)$  by replacing each vertex  $v$  with vertex sets  $A(v) \cup B(v)$ ,  $|A(v)| = \deg(v)$ ,  $|B(v)| = \deg(v) - f(v)$ , and for adjacent vertices  $u, v$  placing an edge between  $A(u)$  and  $A(v)$ , so that these edges are disjoint, and placing a



complete bipartite graph between  $A(u) \triangle B(u)$  for each vertex  $u$ .

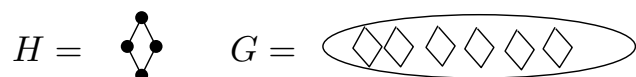
**Claim:**  $G$  has an  $f$ -factor if and only if  $T(G, f)$  has 1-factor.

proof:

- Assume that  $M$  is an  $f$ -factor of  $G$ , to create a 1-factor in  $T$ , take the edges corresponding to  $M$ , and take missing edges between  $A(u)$  and  $B(u) \forall u \in V$ .
- Assume that  $M$  is a 1-factor in  $T$ , create an  $f$ -factor in  $G$  by deleting  $B(u)$ ,  $u \in V(G)$ , contracting  $A(u)$  into a single vertex,  $u \in V(G)$ .

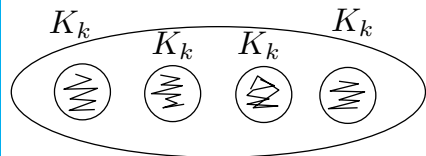
■

**$H$ -factor:** Given a graph  $G$ , and a graph  $H$ , such that  $|V(G)| : |V(H)|$  ( $:$  = divisible). An  $H$ -factor of  $G$  is a spanning subgraph of  $G$  that is a vertex-disjoint union of copies of  $H$ .

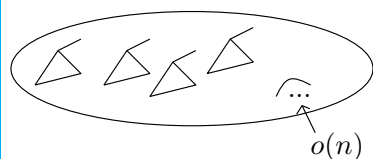


$H = K_2$   $H$ -factor  $\approx$  perfect matching.

**Hajnal & Szemerédi '70:** If  $G$  satisfies  $\delta(G) \geq \frac{k-1}{k}n$ ,  $n : k$ , then  $G$  has a  $K_k$ -factor.

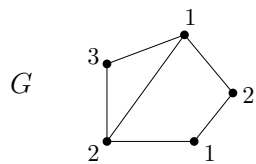


**Alon-Yuster '95:** If  $G$  satisfies  $\delta(G) \geq \frac{\chi(H)-1}{\chi(H)}n$ . Then  $G$  contains at least  $(1 - o(1)) \frac{n}{|V(H)|}$  ( $H$  is fixed,  $G$  is large,  $n = |V(G)|$ ) copies of  $H$  vertex-disjoint.



$\chi(H)$ -chromatic number of a graph  $H := \min \#$  parts into which vertex sets can be partitioned, so that no two adjacent vertices are in same part.

$\chi(G) := \min \#$  colors assigned to  $V(G)$  such that no two adjacent vertices get the same color.

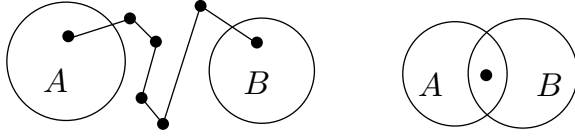


$\chi(G) = 3$

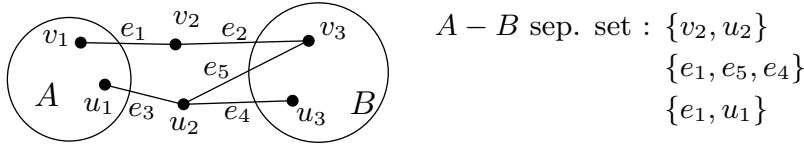
$\chi(K_k) = k$ ,  $\chi(C_3) = 3$ ,  $\chi(C_4) = 2$ ,  $\chi(K_{m,n}) = 2$ ,  $\chi(C_{2k+1}) = 3$

There are graphs with large  $|V(G)|$  and small  $\chi(G)$ .

**Connectivity:**  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $A$ - $B$ -path  $P$  is a path  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_k$  such that  $V(P) \cap A = \{v_0\}$ ,  $V(P) \cap B = \{v_k\}$ .  
 $C \subseteq V \cup E$ , we say that  $X$  separates  $A$  and  $B$  if each  $A$ - $B$ -path contains an element of  $X$ .

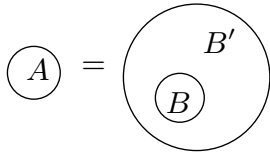


$v \in A \cap B \Rightarrow v$  is an  $A - B$  path



Note that a separating set must contain  $A \cap B$ .

Note  $B' \supseteq B$  and  $X$  separates  $A$  and  $B' \Rightarrow X$  separates  $A$  and  $B$ .



**Menger's theorem (1927):** (Karl Menger Jan. 1902 - Oct. 1985)

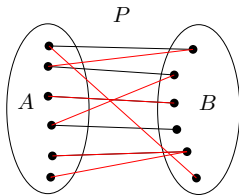
Let  $G$  be a graph,  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$ . Min #vertices separating  $A$  and  $B$  = Max #vertex-disjoint  $A$ - $B$ -paths.

**proof:** Assume that  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .

Let  $k = k(G; A, B) = \min \# \text{vertices separating } A \text{ and } B$ ,  $k(G; A, B) \geq \max \# \text{ vertex-disjoint } A$ - $B$ -path (easy).

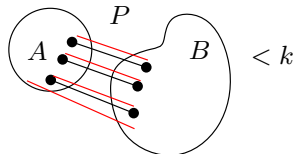
We shall prove that  $\max \# \text{ vertex-disjoint } A$ - $B$ -path  $\geq k(G; A, B) = k$  by stronger induction:

If  $P$  is any set of less than  $k$  disjoint  $A$ - $B$ -paths then there is a set  $Q$  of disjoint  $A$ - $B$ -paths that includes the endpoints of  $P$  and  $|Q| = |P| + 1$ .



Lets prove this by induction on  $|V(G) - B - A|$ .

**Basis:**  $|V(G) - B - A| = 0$ .

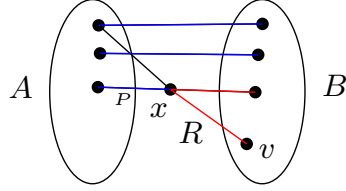


There is an edge between  $A$  and  $B$ , not adjacent to vertices of  $P$ , otherwise  $|V(P) \cap A| < k$  is

a vertex separating  $A$  and  $B$ .

**Step:** We have  $P$ , a set of less than  $k$   $A$ - $B$ -path, vertex disjoint.

There is an  $A$ - $v$ -path for  $v \in B \setminus (V(P))$ , otherwise  $V(P) \cap B$  is a set of less than  $k$  vertices separating  $A$  and  $B$ , call it  $R$ .



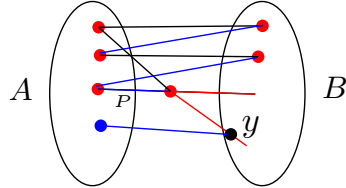
Let  $x$  be the last vertex of  $R$  that also belongs to a path in  $P$  call it  $P$ .

Let  $B' = B \cup (V(xP) \cup V(xR))$ .

$P' = P \setminus \{P\} \cup \{Px\}$ .

note  $k(G; A, B') \geq k(G; A, B)$ .

By induction, there is a larger set of  $A$ - $B'$ -paths,  $Q'$ ,  $|Q'| \geq |P'| + 1$ ,  $Q'$  contains endpoints of  $P'$ .

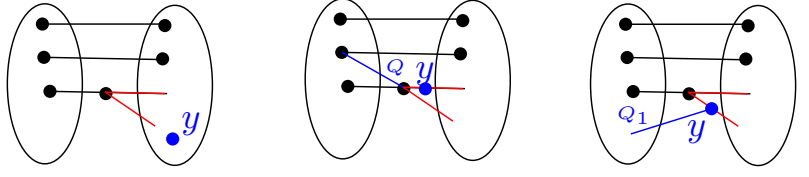


Let  $y$  be an endpoint of a path in  $Q'$  in  $B'$  that is not an endpoint of  $P'$ .

Case : 1

Case: 2

Case: 3



**Case 1:**  $y \in B$ :

Take  $Q = Q' - \underbrace{\{Q\}}_{\text{path containing } x} \cup \{Q \cup xP\}$ .

**Case 2:**  $y \in xP$ :

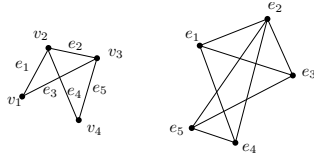
Take  $Q = Q' - \{Q\} \cup \{Q \cup xR\} - \underbrace{\{Q_1\}}_{\text{path containing } y} \cup \{Q_1 \cup yP\}$ .

**Case 3:**  $y \in xR$ :

Take  $Q = Q' - \{Q\} \cup \{Q \cup xP\} - \{Q_1\} \cup \{Q_1 \cup yR\}$ .

■

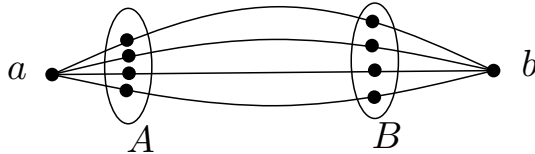
If  $G = (V, E)$  a graph, then a *line graph*  $L(G)$  of  $G$  is a graph  $L(G) = (E, E')$ ,  $E' = \{\{e, \tilde{e}\} : e, \tilde{e} \in E \text{ and } e, \tilde{e} \text{ are adjacent}\}$ .



**Corollary 1:** If  $a, b \in V(G)$ ,  $\{a, b\} \notin E(G)$ .

$$\min \# \text{vertices separating } a \text{ and } b = \max \# \text{independent } a\text{-}b\text{-paths}$$

(here **independent** means that they share only  $a$  and  $b$ )



Apply Menger's theorem to  $A = N(a)$  and  $B = N(b)$ .

**Corollary 2:** (Global version of Menger's theorem)

Any graph  $G$  is  $k$ -connected if and only if for any two vertices  $a, b$  there are  $k$  independent paths between  $a$  and  $b$ .

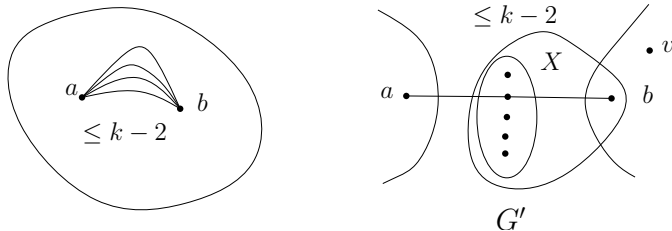
### outline of proof:

Suppose  $G$  contains  $k$  independent paths between any two vertices, thus we need  $\geq k$  vertices to separate  $G$ . So  $\kappa(G) \geq k$ .

Let  $\kappa(G) = k$ , in particular  $|V(G)| > k$ .

Assume that  $a$  and  $b$  are not connected by  $k$  independent paths. By corollary 1  $a$  adjacent to  $b$ .

Let  $G' = G - \{a, b\}$ , then  $G'$  contains  $\leq (k - 2)$  independent  $a$ - $b$ -paths.



By corollary 1, we can separate  $a$  and  $b$  in  $G'$  by  $\leq k - 2$  vertices,  $X$ .

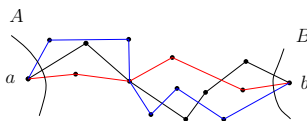
Since  $|V(G)| > k$ , there is  $v \notin \{a, b\}$  and  $v \notin$  component of  $a$  in  $G' - X$ .

Observe that  $v$  and  $a$  are separated by  $X \cup \{b\}$  in  $G$ .

So,  $v$  and  $a$  are separated by  $\leq k - 1$  vertices, a contradiction to the fact that  $\kappa(G) = k$ . ■

### Edge-connectivity

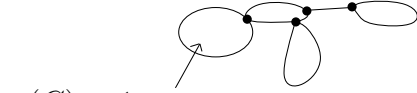
1)  $\min \# \text{edges separating } a \text{ and } b \text{ in } G = \max \# \text{edge-disjoint } a\text{-}b\text{-paths.}$



Apply Menger's theorem to  $L(G)$  with  $A = \{\text{edges incident to } a\}$ ,  $B = \{\text{edges incident to } b\}$ .

## 2) Global Menger's theorem (edge-connected)

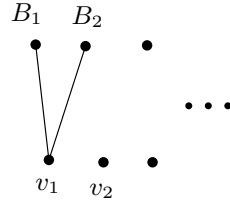
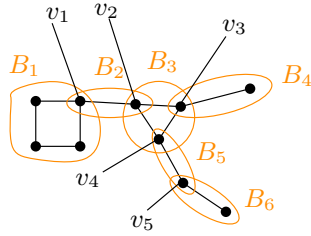
A graph is  $k$ -edge-connected if and only if there are  $k$  edge-disjoint paths between any two vertices.



$\kappa(G) = 1$  blocks

*block-cut-vertex tree.*

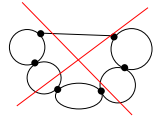
A block - either a bridge or maximal 2-connected subgraph.



$B_i \sim v_j$  if  $v_j \in V(B_i)$ .

Any two block intersect by at most 1 vertex.

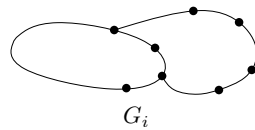
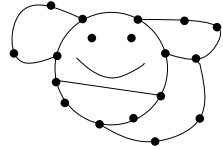
Block-cut-vertex graph is a tree.



A block that is a leaf in a block-cut-vertex tree is a *block leaf*.

$\kappa(G) \geq 2 \Leftrightarrow G$  can be constructed using *ear-decomposition*

$G$  is created using ear-decomposition if there is a sequence of graphs  $G_0 \subseteq G_1 \subseteq \dots \subseteq G$ , such that  $G_0$  is a cycle,  $G_{i+1}$  is created from  $G_i$  by adding a  $G_i$ -path (*ear*) (i.e. a path with endpoints in  $G_i$  and no other vertices in  $G_i$ ).



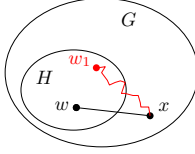
### outline of proof:

„ $\Rightarrow$ “:  $\kappa(G) = 2$ : We have that  $G$  has a cycle. Consider the largest subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  that is built as ear-decomposition.

Observe  $H \subseteq G$ . If  $u, v \in V(H)$ ,  $v \not\sim_H u$ ,  $v \sim_G u$ , then add  $uv$  as a ear. If  $H \neq G \Rightarrow \exists x \in V(G) - V(H)$ , such that  $x$  is adjacent to a vertex  $w \in V(H)$ .

$G - w$  is connected, so in  $G - w$  there is a path from  $x$  to  $H$ , call it  $P$ , call the first vertex of  $P$  in  $H$ ,  $w_1$ .

So  $wx \cup xPw$  is an  $H$ -ear. A contradiction to maximality of  $H$ , so  $G = H$ .

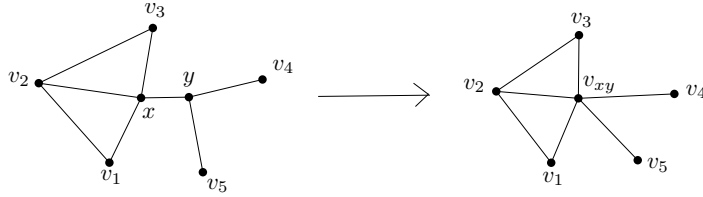


„ $\Leftarrow$ “: Show that an ear-decomposition is 2-connected ...

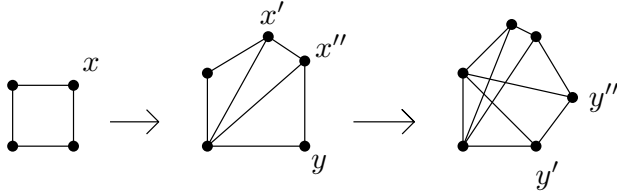
$$\kappa(G) = 3 : |V(G)| \geq 5.$$

**Observation:** If  $\kappa(G) = 3$  then there is an edge  $e$  of  $G$  such that  $\kappa(G \circ e) \geq 3$ .

Let  $e = \{x, y\} \in E(G)$ ,  $G \circ e$  is obtained from  $G$  by identifying  $x$  and  $y$ , removing (if necessary) loops and multiple edges.

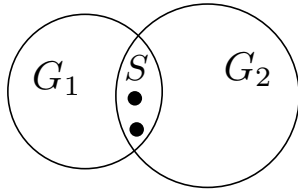


**Tutte's theorem 1961:** A graph  $G$  is 3-connected if and only if it exists a sequence of graphs  $G_0, G_1, \dots, G_n$ , such that  $G_0 = K_4$ ,  $G_n = G$ ,  $G_{i+1}$  is obtained from  $G_i$ :  $G_{i+1}$  has two vertices  $x, y$  of degree  $\geq 3$ ,  $x \sim y$  and  $G_i = G_{i+1} \circ \{x, y\}$ .

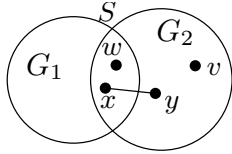


**Lemma:** If  $G$  is 3-connected, then there exists an edge  $e$  such that  $G \circ e$  is 3-connected. (without proof)

**proof:** We want to prove that if  $G_i$  is 3-connected, then  $G_{i+1}$  is also 3-connected. Assume not, i.e.  $G_i = G_{i+1} \circ \{x, y\}$  and  $G_{i+1}$  is not 3-connected, i.e. there exists a cut-set  $S$  with  $|S| \leq 2$ .



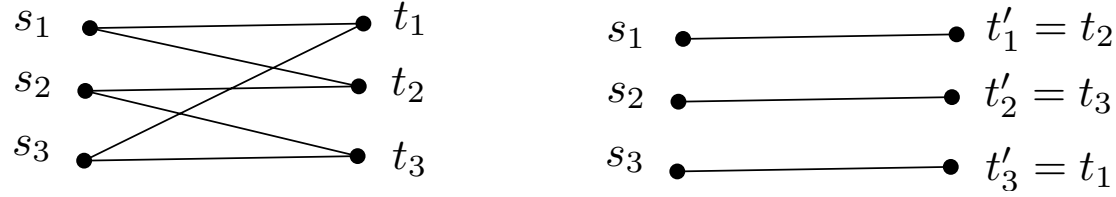
Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be connected components of  $G_{i+1} - S$ . Observe,  $\{x, y\} \neq S$ , otherwise  $G_i$  is not 3-connected. But  $\{x, y\} \cap S \neq \emptyset$ , otherwise  $G_i$  is not 3-connected (disconnected by  $S$ ). So, w.l.o.g. (without loss of generality)  $x \in S$ ,  $y \in V(G_2)$ .



$$|G_{i+1}| > |G_i|$$

Assume that there exists a vertex  $v \in V(G_2) \setminus \{y\}$ , then in  $G_i$   $\{w, v_{xy}\}$  separates  $v$  from  $V(G_1)$ , a contradiction. So  $V(G_2) = \{y\}$ , so  $\deg(y) \leq 2$ , a contradiction. ■

A graph  $G$  is  *$k$ -linked*, if for any distinct vertices  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_k, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k$ , there are vertex-disjoint  $s_i$ - $t_i$ -paths,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .



$G$  is  $k$ -linked  $\Rightarrow G$  is  $k$ -connected (Menger's theorem)

$G$  is  $\underbrace{f(k)}_{22k}$ -connected  $\Rightarrow G$  is  $k$ -linked. (Bollobás-Thomason '96)