## Directed Euler walks COMS20010 2020, Video 3-1

John Lapinskas, University of Bristol

## Last week...

One piece of new notation: For all integers  $n \ge 1$ ,  $[n] := \{1, \ldots, n\}$ .

A walk from u to v in a graph G = (V, E) is a sequence of vertices  $w_0 \dots w_k$  with  $w_0 = u$ ,  $w_k = v$ , and with  $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \in E$  for all  $i \leq k-1$ .

A path is a walk with no repeated vertices.

An Euler walk is a walk containing every edge in G exactly once.

A vertex's degree is the number of edges intersecting ("incident to") it.

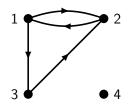
A graph is **connected** if any two vertices are joined by a path.

We showed that a connected graph has an Euler walk if and only if either all, or all but two, of its vertices have even degree.

## Directed graphs

A directed graph (or digraph) is a pair G = (V, E), where V is a set of vertices and E is a set of edges contained in  $\{(u, v): u, v \in V, u \neq v\}$ .

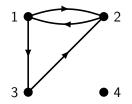
E.g. V = [4] and  $E = \{(1,2), (2,1), (1,3), (3,2)\}$  looks like:



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We use directed graphs when we want to model asymmetric relations.

For example, a software dependency graph: "vi depends on the kernel" shouldn't imply "the kernel depends on vi"!

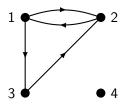
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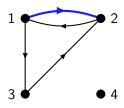
A walk in a digraph G is defined in (almost) the same way as in a graph: a sequence of vertices  $w_0 \dots w_k$  with  $(w_i, w_{i+1}) \in E$  for all  $i \leq k-1$ .



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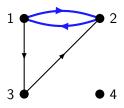
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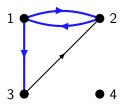
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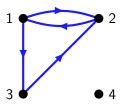
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*G* is **strongly connected** if for all  $u, v \in V$ , there is a path from u to v and a path from v to u.

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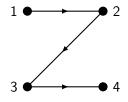
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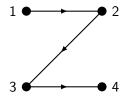
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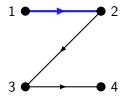
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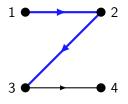
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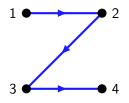
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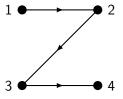
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So we need another notion of connectivity as well. G is **weakly** connected if for all  $u, v \in V$ , there is a path from u to v or from v to u.

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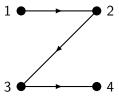
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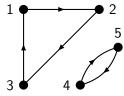
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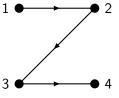
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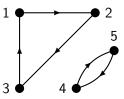
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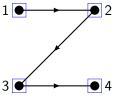


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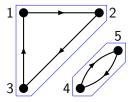
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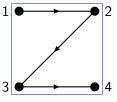


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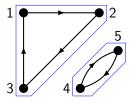
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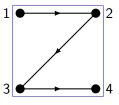


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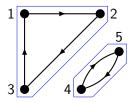
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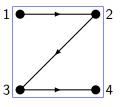
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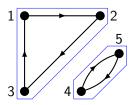
A digraph definitely can't have an Euler walk if it's not weakly connected! And it can't have one **with equal endpoints** if it's not strongly connected.

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A digraph definitely can't have an Euler walk if it's not weakly connected! And it can't have one **with equal endpoints** if it's not strongly connected. (At least if there are no isolated vertices...)

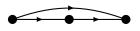
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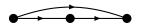
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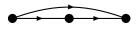
We define the in-neighbourhood  $N^-(v)$  and the out-neighbourhood  $N^+(v)$  of a vertex v by

$$N^-(v) = \{u \in V(G) : (u, v) \in E(G)\},\$$
  
 $N^+(v) = \{w \in V(G) : (v, w) \in E(G)\}.$ 

The in-degree  $d^-(v)$  is  $|N^-(v)|$ , and the out-degree  $d^+(v)$  is  $|N^+(v)|$ .

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Note that  $d(v) = d^{-}(v) + d^{+}(v)$ .

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If W is Euler, it contains  $d^-(x)$  edges into x and  $d^+(x)$  edges out of x.

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If W is Euler, it contains  $d^-(x)$  edges into x and  $d^+(x)$  edges out of x.

So if 
$$x \notin \{w_0, w_k\}$$
, or  $x = w_0 = w_k$ , then  $d^+(x) = d^-(x)$ .  
 If  $x = w_0 \neq w_k$ , then  $d^+(x) = d^-(x) + 1$ .  
 And if  $x = w_k \neq w_0$ , then  $d^-(x) = d^+(x) + 1$ .

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We have shown that if W is an Euler walk, for any vertex x, either:

- $x = w_0 = w_k$  and  $d^+(x) = d^-(x)$ ; or
- $x \notin \{w_0, w_k\}$  and  $d^+(x) = d^-(x)$ ; or
- $x = w_0 \neq w_k$  and  $d^+(x) = d^-(x) + 1$ ; or
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- $x = w_k \neq w_0$  and  $d^-(x) = d^+(x) + 1$ .

**Theorem:** Let G be a digraph with no isolated vertices containing an Euler walk  $W = w_0 \dots w_k$ . Then G is weakly connected and either:

- $d^+(v) = d^-(v)$  for all  $v \in V$ , and  $w_0 = w_k$ ; or
- $d^-(v) = d^+(v)$  for all  $v \notin \{w_0, w_k\}$ ,  $d^+(w_0) = d^-(w_0) + 1$ , and  $d^-(w_k) = d^+(w_k) + 1$ . (So also  $w_0 \neq w_k$ .)

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- $d^-(v) = d^+(v)$  for all  $v \notin \{w_0, w_k\}$ ,  $d^+(w_0) = d^-(w_0) + 1$ , and  $d^-(w_k) = d^+(w_k) + 1$ . (So also  $w_0 \neq w_k$ .)

As with undirected graphs, this turns out to be sufficient!

**Theorem:** Let G = (V, E) be a digraph with no isolated vertices, and let  $u, v \in V$ . Then G has an Euler walk from u to v if and only if G is **weakly** connected and either:

- (i) u = v and every vertex of G has equal in- and out-degrees; or
- (ii)  $u \neq v$ ,  $d^+(u) = d^-(u) + 1$ ,  $d^-(v) = d^+(v) + 1$ , and every other vertex of G has equal in- and out-degrees.

It's surprising that weak connectedness turns out to be good enough!

It turns out that weak connectedness implies strong connectedness when every vertex has equal in- and out-degrees.