



# Graph Theory :

Lecture 2 :

Degree Summation, Path, Cycle,  
Walk, Special Type of Graphs

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>





# Graph Theory :

Recap :

Basic of Graph Theory

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>



# 1 Basic Definitions and Concepts in Graph Theory

A **graph**  $G(V, E)$  is a set  $V$  of **vertices** and a set  $E$  of **edges**. In an **undirected** graph, an edge is an unordered pair of vertices. An ordered pair of vertices is called a **directed** edge. If we allow **multi-sets** of edges, i.e. multiple edges between two vertices, we obtain a **multigraph**. A self-loop or **loop** is an edge between a vertex and itself. An undirected graph without loops or multiple edges is known as a **simple** graph. In this class we will assume graphs to be simple unless otherwise stated.

If vertices  $a$  and  $b$  are endpoints of an edge, we say that they are **adjacent** and write  $a \sim b$ . If vertex  $a$  is one of edge  $e$ 's endpoints,  $a$  is **incident** to  $e$  and we write  $a \in e$ . The **degree** of a vertex is the number of edges incident to it.

## 1.1.1 Graphs and Their Relatives

A *graph* consists of two finite sets,  $V$  and  $E$ . Each element of  $V$  is called a *vertex* (plural *vertices*). The elements of  $E$ , called *edges*, are unordered pairs of vertices. For instance, the set  $V$  might be  $\{a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h\}$ , and  $E$  might be  $\{\{a, d\}, \{a, e\}, \{b, c\}, \{b, e\}, \{b, g\}, \{c, f\}, \{d, f\}, \{d, g\}, \{g, h\}\}$ . Together,  $V$  and  $E$  are a graph  $G$ .

Graphs have natural visual representations. Look at the diagram in Figure 1.2. Notice that each element of  $V$  is represented by a small circle and that each element of  $E$  is represented by a line drawn between the corresponding two elements of  $V$ .

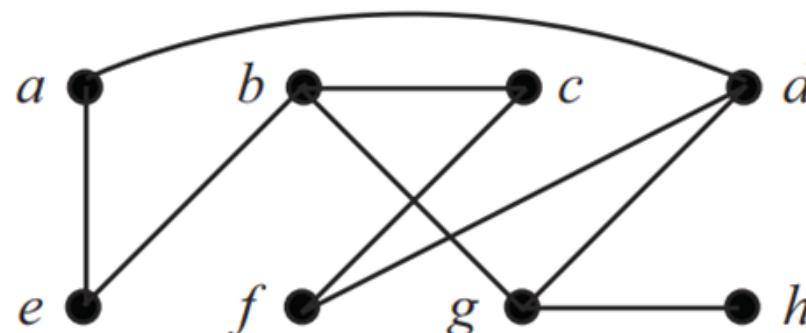


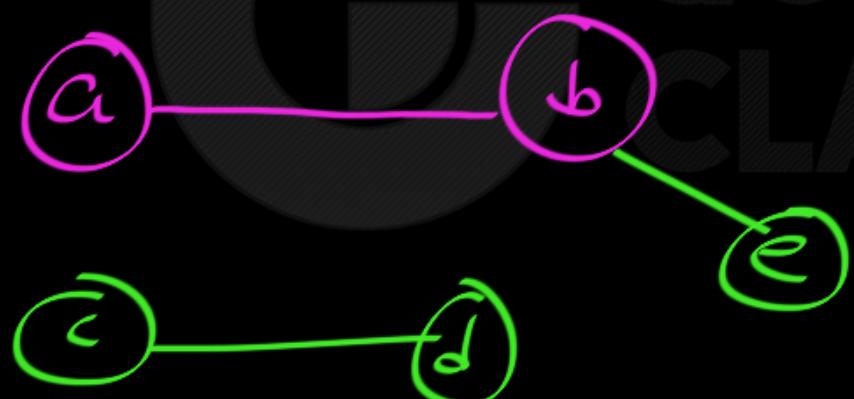
FIGURE 1.2. A visual representation of the graph  $G$ .



# Find Type of Graph?

Facebook Friendship: → Undirected Edges ✓

Simple  
Graph



No self loop ✓

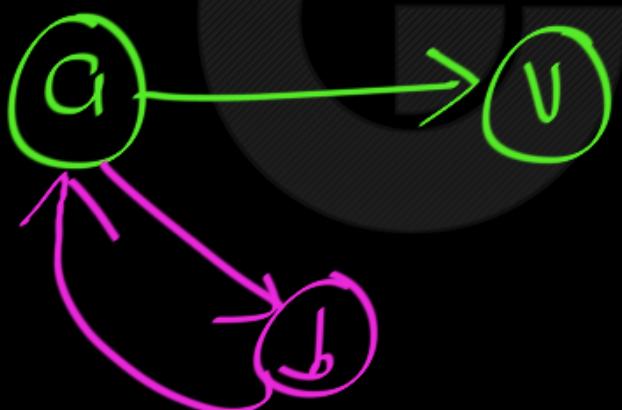
No multi Edges ✓



# Find Type of Graph?

Instagram Following: → Directed Edges ✓

Simple  
Dj-  
graph



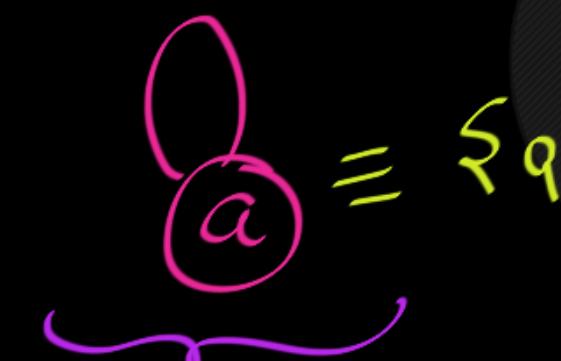
No self loops

No multi edges

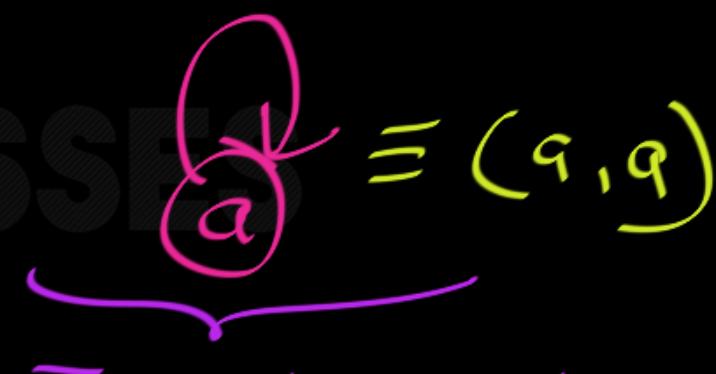


We can write  $\{a, a\}$  to denote a loop in an undirected graph, but  $\{a, a\}$  is considered the same as  $(a, a)$ .

In general, if a graph  $G$  is not specified as directed or undirected, it is assumed to be undirected. When it contains no loops it is called loop-free.

  
In Undirected Graph

self-loop

  
In Di-graph



# Order, Size of a Graph:

The **order** of a graph  $G$  is the cardinality of its vertex set, and the **size** of a graph is the cardinality of its edge set.

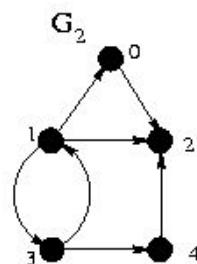
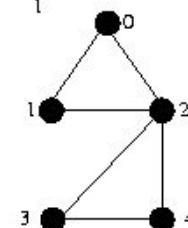
$$\text{order}(G) = |V| = n(G)$$

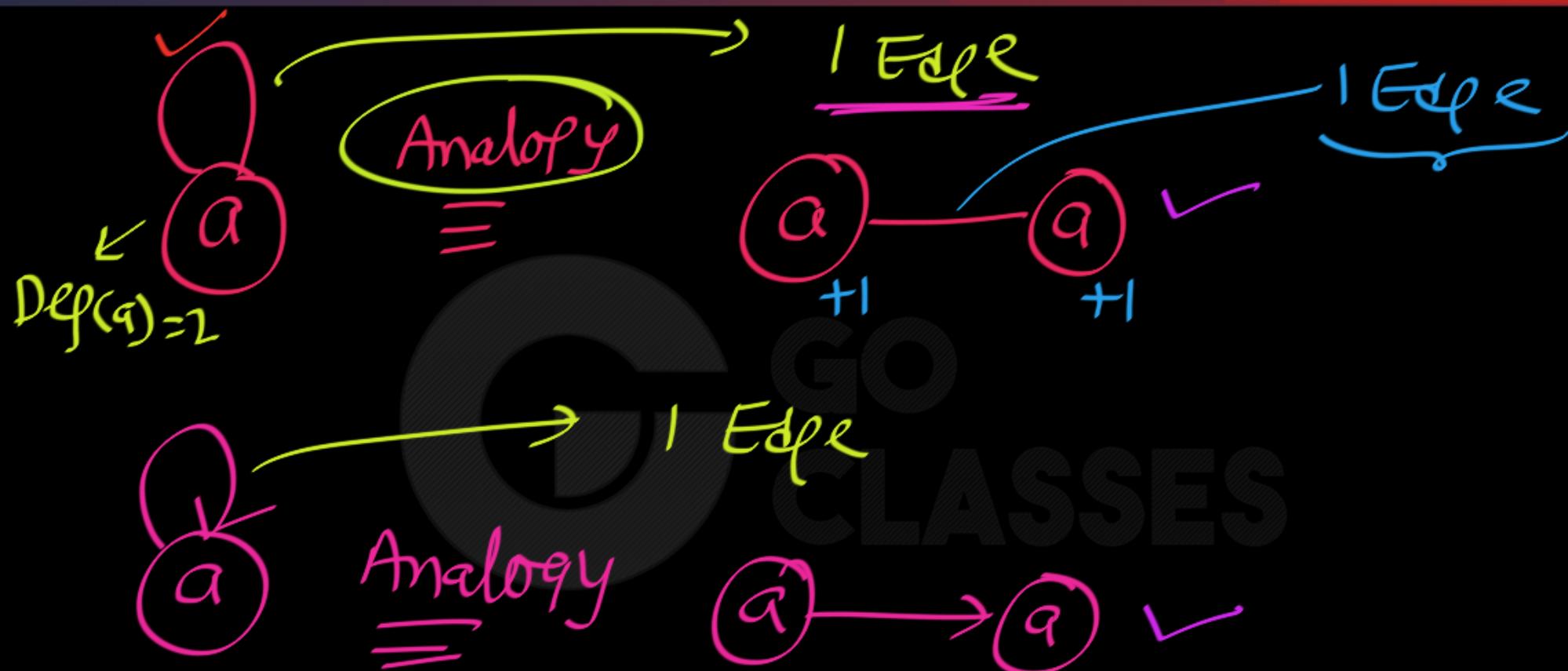
$$\text{size}(G) = |E|$$

# Example

- G1 is a graph of order 5
- G2 is a digraph of order 5
- The size of G1 is 6 where  $E(G_1) =$ 
  - $\{(0, 1), (0, 2), (1, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (3, 4)\}$
- The size of the digraph G2 is 7 where  $E(G_2) =$ 
  - $\{(0, 2), (1, 0), (1, 2), (1, 3), (3, 1), (3, 4), (4, 2)\}.$

vn Directed





C

Let  $G$  be an undirected graph or multigraph. For each vertex  $v$  of  $G$ , the *degree of  $v$* , written  $\deg(v)$ , is the number of edges in  $G$  that are incident with  $v$ . Here a loop at a vertex  $v$  is considered as two incident edges for  $v$ .

For the graph in Fig. 11.32,  $\deg(b) = \deg(d) = \deg(f) = \deg(g) = 2$ ,  $\deg(c) = 4$ ,  $\deg(e) = 0$ , and  $\deg(h) = 1$ . For vertex  $a$  we have  $\deg(a) = 3$  because we count a loop twice. Since  $h$  has degree 1, it is called a pendant vertex.

$$\underline{\min\text{-}\mathrm{Deg}(G)} = 0$$

$$\underline{\max\text{-}\mathrm{Deg}(G)} = 4$$

 $\Delta$ 

$$\underline{\underline{\text{Total Deg}}} = \sum \mathrm{Deg}(v) = 16$$

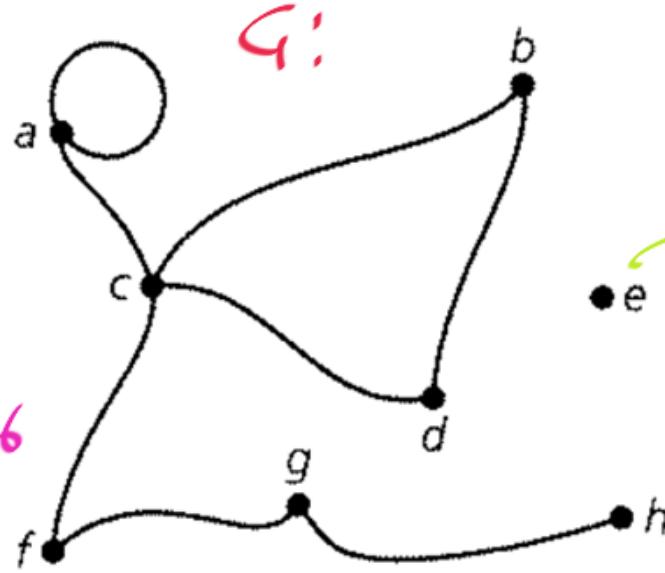


Figure 11.32

$$\mathrm{Size}(G) = 8$$

$$\mathrm{Order}(G) = 8$$

Isolated

$$\underbrace{\text{Avg-Deg}}_{= 2} = \frac{\text{Total Deg}}{\# \text{ vertices}}$$

$$\text{order}(G) = 8$$

$$\text{size}(G) = 9$$

Degree:

$$a = 2$$

$$b = 3$$

$$c = 2$$

$$d = 3$$

$$e = 2$$

$$f = 2$$

$$g = 3$$

$$h = 1$$

$$\delta(G) = 1$$

$$\Delta(G) = 3$$

$$\text{Total Deg} = \sum_{v \in V} \text{Deg}(v) = 18$$

$$\text{Avg-Deg}(G) = \frac{18}{8} = 2.25$$

$$\begin{aligned} \#\text{Even-Deg vertices} &= 4 \\ \#\text{Odd-Deg vertices} &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

pendant

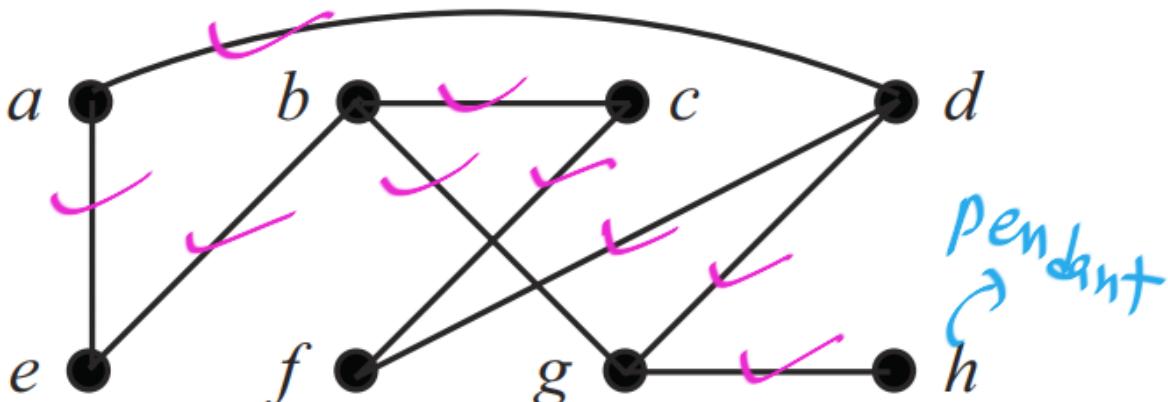


FIGURE 1.2. A visual representation of the graph  $G$ .



The *degree* of  $v$ , denoted by  $\deg(v)$ , is the number of edges incident with  $v$ . In simple graphs, this is the same as the cardinality of the (open) neighborhood of  $v$ . The *maximum degree* of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\Delta(G)$ , is defined to be

$$\Delta(G) = \max\{\deg(v) \mid v \in V(G)\}.$$

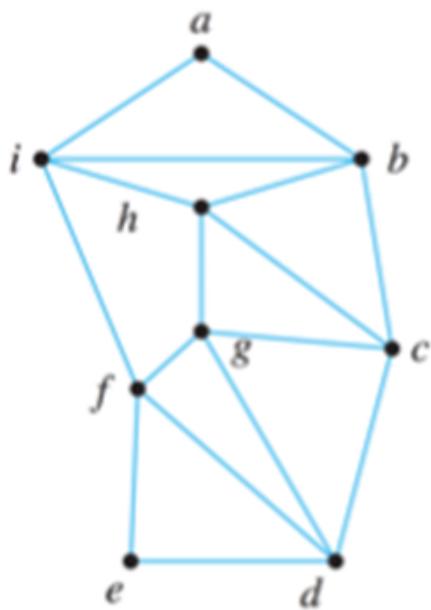
Similarly, the *minimum degree* of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\delta(G)$ , is defined to be

$$\delta(G) = \min\{\deg(v) \mid v \in V(G)\}.$$

The degree sequence of a graph of order  $n$  is the  $n$ -term sequence (usually written in descending order) of the vertex degrees.

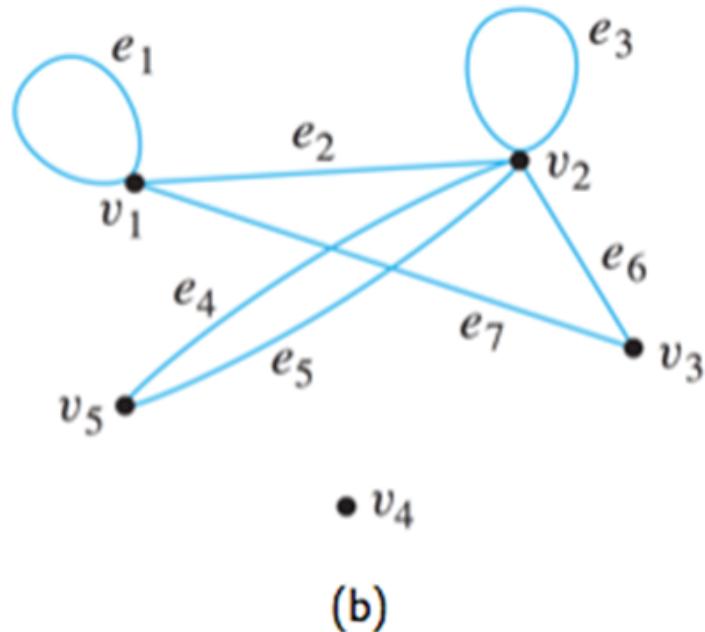


**Concept 8.1 (Graph Descriptors).** For each graph below, determine: the vertex set, the edge set, the order, the size, the minimum degree, the maximum degree, the total degree, the average degree, and the degree sequence.



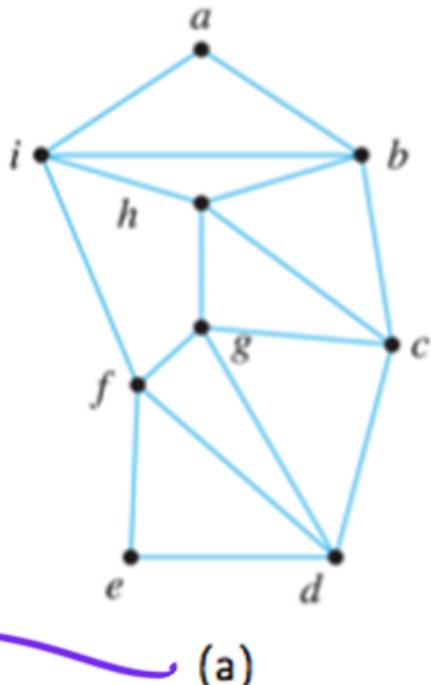
HW

← (a)

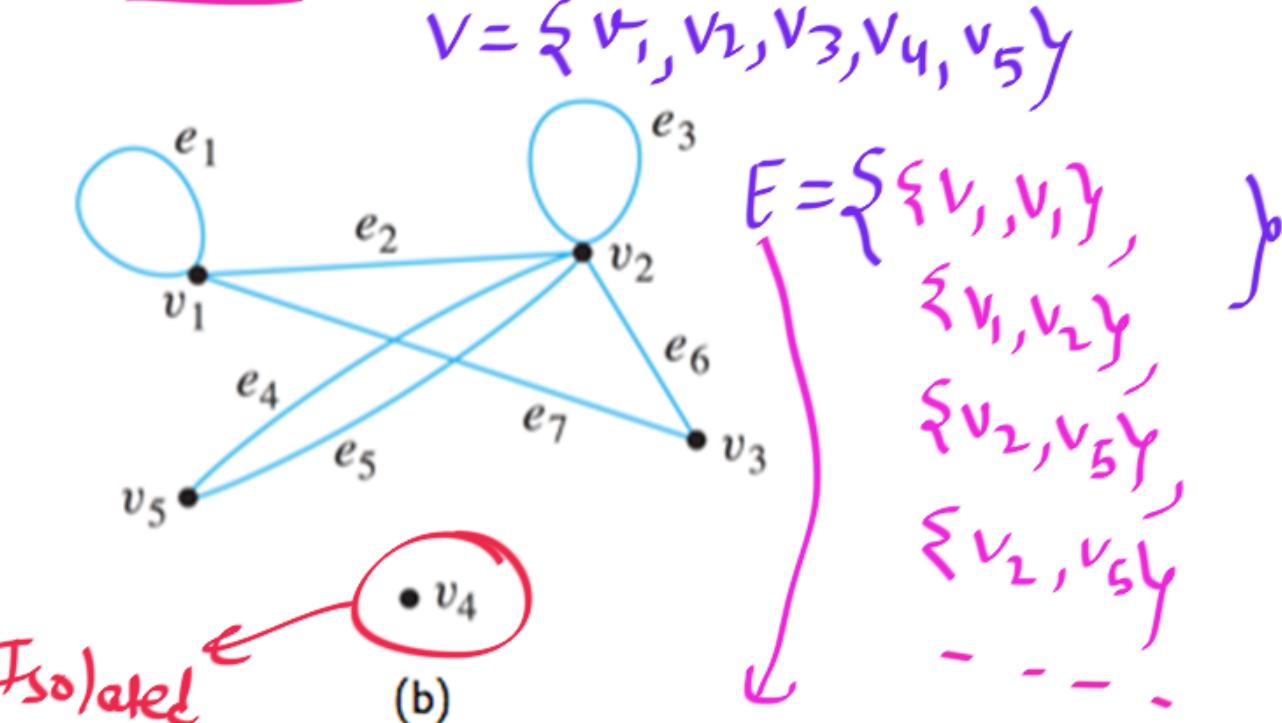


(b)

**Concept 8.1 (Graph Descriptors).** For each graph below, determine: the vertex set, the edge set, the order, the size, the minimum degree, the maximum degree, the total degree, the average degree, and the degree sequence.



(a)



(b)

Simple Graph

Pseudograph

Multiset

$$V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$$

$$E = \{\{v_1, v_1\}, \{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_5\}, \{v_2, v_5\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \dots\}$$

(b)  $\sigma \text{deg}(\varsigma) = 5$  ;  $\text{size}(\varsigma) = 7$  ;

$\text{Dep}(v_2) = 6$  ;  $\text{Dep}(v_1) = 4$  ;  $\text{Dep}(v_5) = 2$  ;  $\text{Dep}(v_4) = 0$

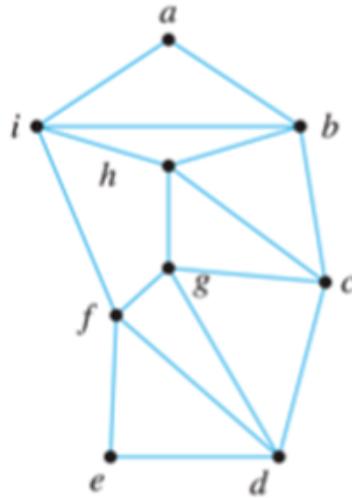
$\text{Dep}(v_3) = 2$       Total Dep =  $\sum \text{Dep}(v) = 14$

$\delta(\varsigma) = 0$  | Avg Dep =  $\frac{14}{5}$  | Dep sequence :

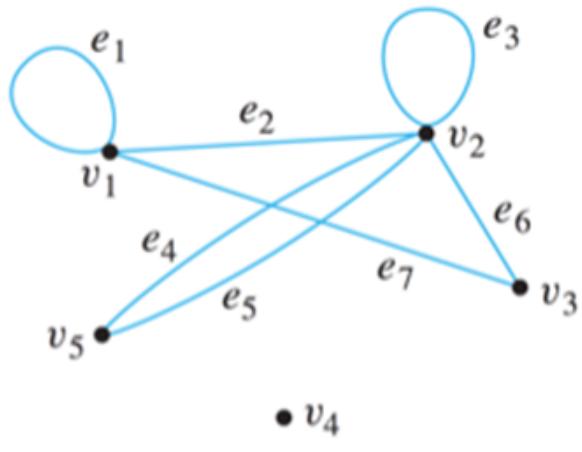
$\Delta(\varsigma) = 6$  |

6, 4, 2, 2, 0

#Total-Dep Vertices = 0



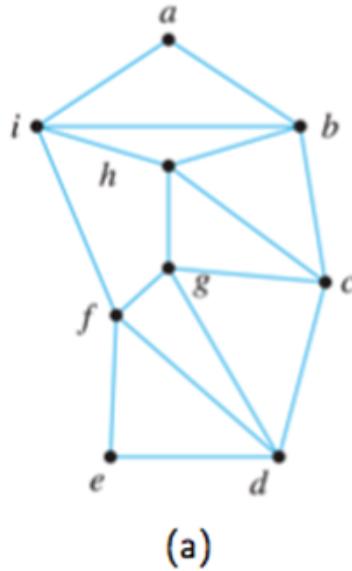
(a)



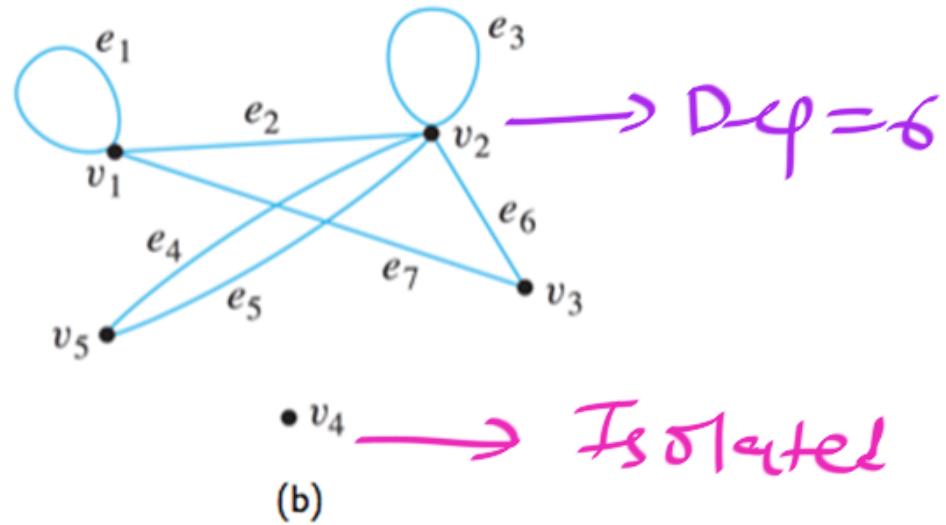
(b)

**Concept 8.2 (Adjacency & Incidence).** Answer the following questions about the graph (b) show on the right in the previous problem.

- (a) Find all edges that are incident on  $v_1$ .
- (b) Find all vertices that are adjacent to  $v_2$ .
- (c) Find all edges that are adjacent to  $e_2$ .
- (d) Find all loops.
- (e) Find all parallel edges.
- (f) Find all isolated vertices.
- (g) Find the degree of  $v_2$ .



(a)



(b)

**Concept 8.2 (Adjacency & Incidence).** Answer the following questions about the graph (b) show on the right in the previous problem.

- (a) Find all edges that are incident on  $v_1$ .  $\rightarrow e_1, e_2, e_7$
  - (b) Find all vertices that are adjacent to  $v_2$ .  $\rightarrow v_2, v_3, v_1, v_5$
  - (c) Find all edges that are adjacent to  $e_2$ .
  - (d) Find all loops.  $\rightarrow \{v_1, v_1\}, \{v_2, v_2\}$
  - (e) Find all parallel edges.
  - (f) Find all isolated vertices.
  - (g) Find the degree of  $v_2$ .
- $N(v_3) = \{v_2, v_1\}$



## Graph Theory :

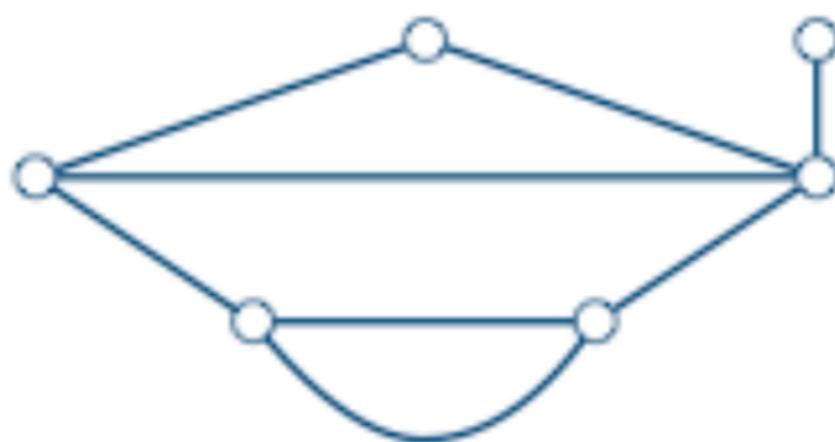
Next Topic :

Degree Summation

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>



Q: The sum of the degrees of all the vertices in the network below is:



A 6

B 7

C 8

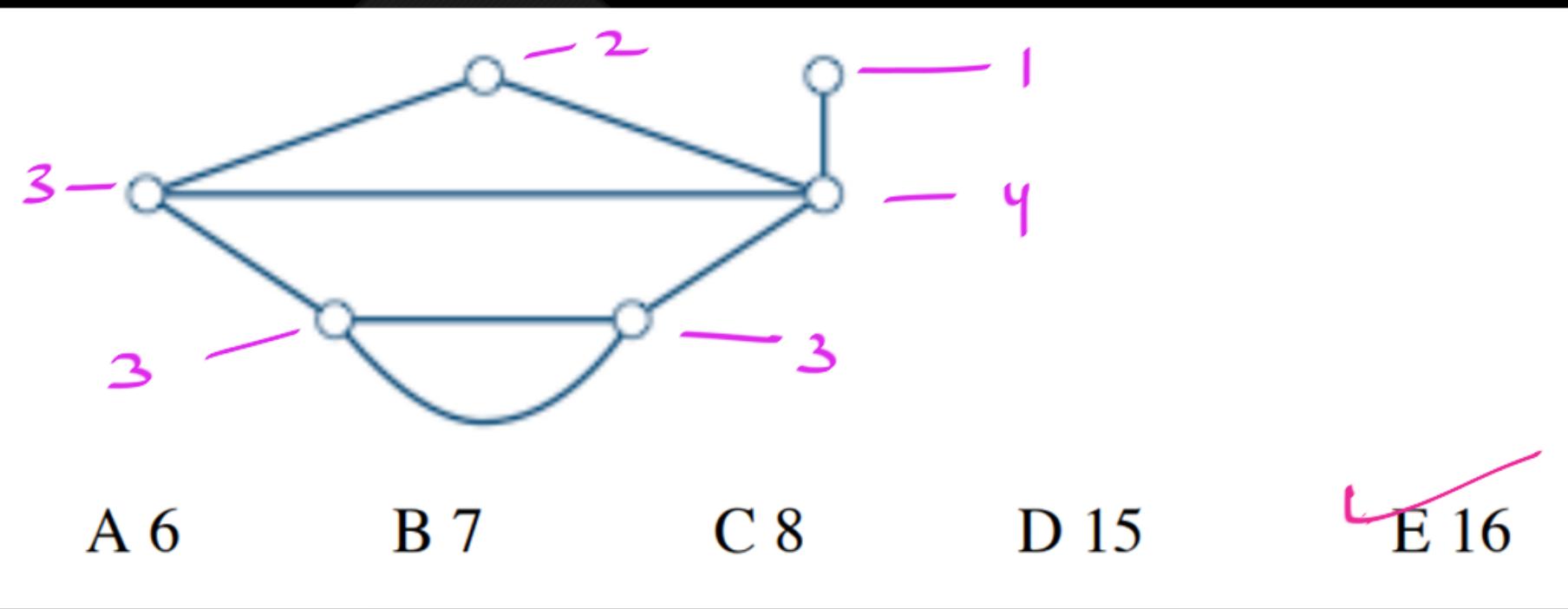
D 15

E 16



Q: The sum of the degrees of all the vertices

in the network below is:





Total Degree = Degree Summation

$$= \sum_{v \in V} \text{Deg}(v)$$

---

$$\text{Avg. Deg} = \frac{\text{Total Deg}}{|V|}$$



①

$$\min \leq \text{Avg} \leq \max$$

②

$$\delta \leq \text{Avg Deg} \leq \Delta$$

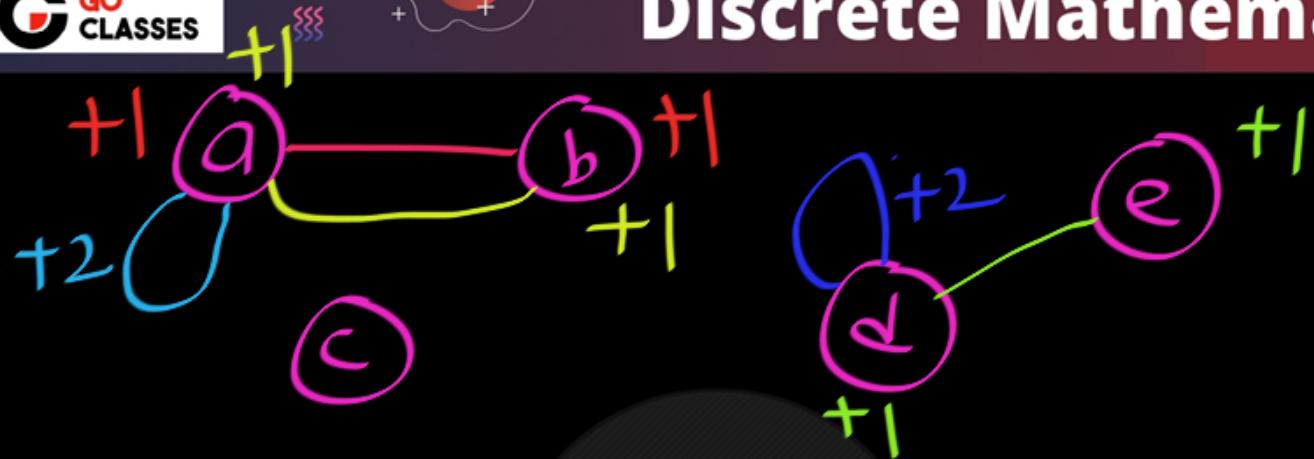
---

for graph with  $n$  vertices

$$n\delta$$

$$\leq \underbrace{\text{Total Deg}}$$

$$\leq n\Delta$$



#Edges = 0

Total Deg = 0

0	1	2	3	4	5
2	4	6	8	10	



$$\text{Total Deg} = 2 * |E|$$

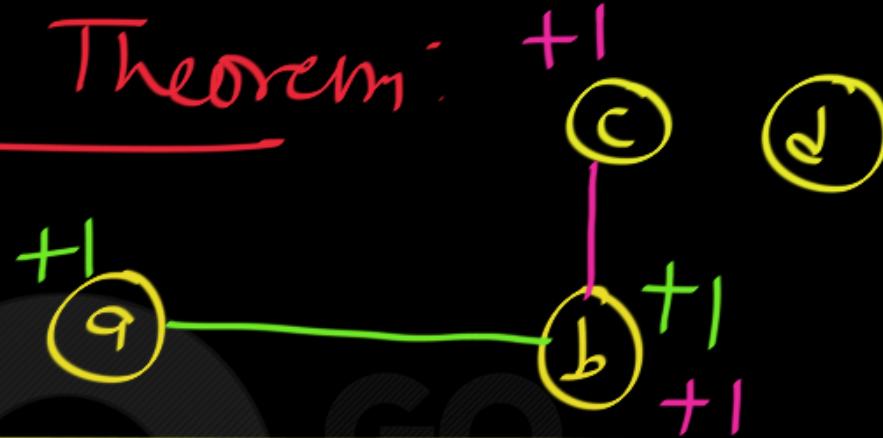
Why? Every Edge contributes a value of 2 in Total Deg

$$\sum \text{Deg}(v) = 2|E|$$



## Handshaking Theorem:

People:



#Handshakes =

Total Deg =  $\sum_{\text{persons } p} \text{Handshakes}(p)$



**THE HANDSHAKING THEOREM** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph with  $m$  edges. Then

$$2m = \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v).$$

(Note that this applies even if multiple edges and loops are present.)

*Proof.* In counting the sum  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$ , we count each edge of the graph twice, because each edge is incident to exactly two vertices. □



**EXAMPLE 3** How many edges are there in a graph with 10 vertices each of degree six?





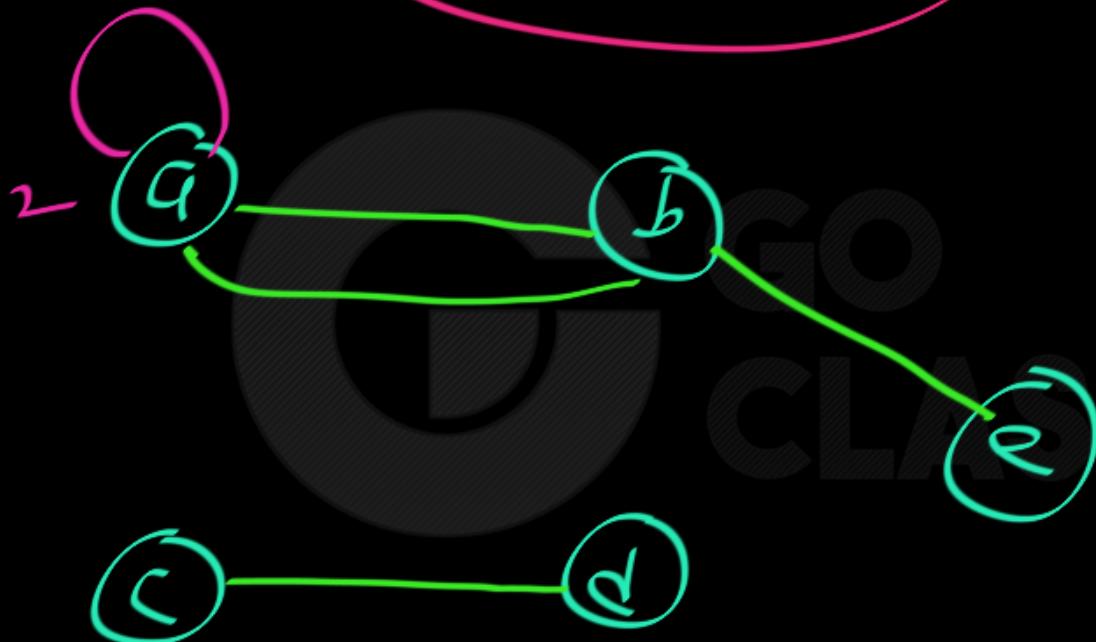
**EXAMPLE 3** How many edges are there in a graph with 10 vertices each of degree six?

*Solution:* Because the sum of the degrees of the vertices is  $6 \cdot 10 = 60$ , it follows that  $2m = 60$  where  $m$  is the number of edges. Therefore,  $m = 30$ . 

$$2|E| = \text{Total Deg} = 10 \times 6 = 60$$
$$|E| = 30$$

Try to create

Odd number of odd-Deg Vertices!

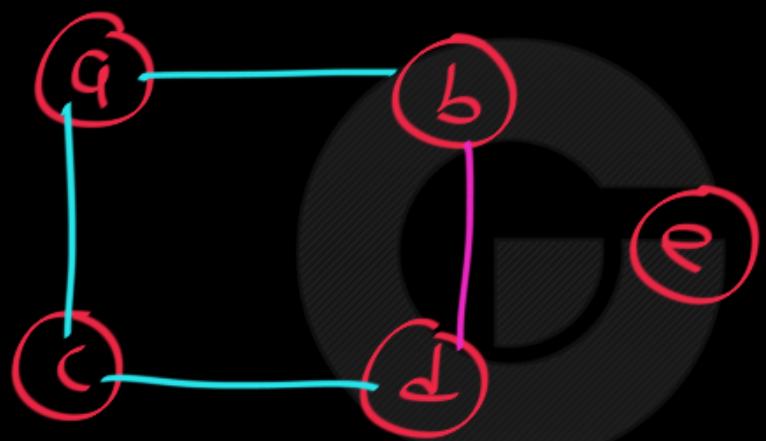


#Deg-DegVertices

= 0 0 2 0  
2 2 2 2  
y



Try to create Odd number of Even-Deg Vertices!



#Even-Deg Vertices

$$= 5$$

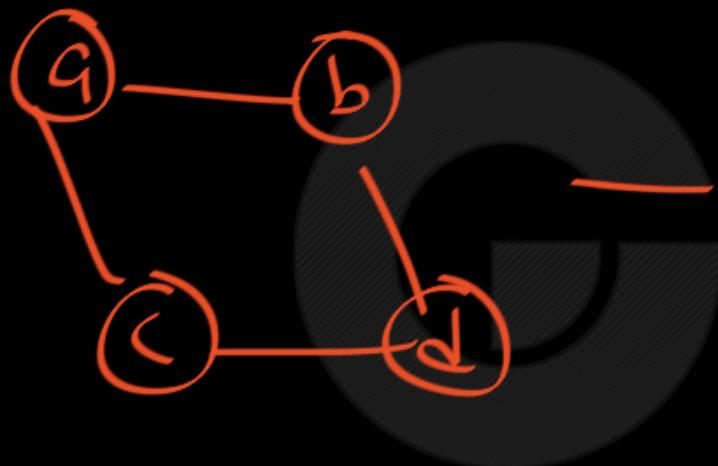
~~$$= 3$$~~

~~$$+ 3$$~~

~~$$5$$~~

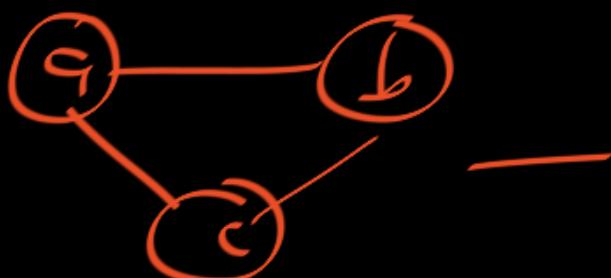


Try to create Even number of Even-Deg Vertices!



#Even-Deg Vertices = 4

CLASSES



#Even-Deg Vertices = 3

Even + Even = Even

Odd + Even = Odd

Odd + Odd = Even

Odd + Odd + Odd + Odd + ... + Odd = Even

Even Number  
of Odd Values

Theorem: In any Graph, number of odd-Def vertices is Always Even.

Proof: Total Def =  $2|E|$  = Even ✓

Total Def  
of Even-Def  
vertices + Total Def  
of Odd-Def  
vertices = Even

Total Dep of  
Even-Deg vertices

→ Even

Total Dep of  
Odd-Deg  
vertices

= Even

must be  
Even

$$( \text{odd} + \text{odd} + \dots + \text{odd} ) = \text{Even}$$

# Odd-Deg vertices = Even



An undirected graph has an even number of vertices of odd degree.

**Proof:** Let  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be the set of vertices of even degree and the set of vertices of odd degree, respectively, in an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$  with  $m$  edges. Then

$$2m = \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = \sum_{v \in V_1} \deg(v) + \sum_{v \in V_2} \deg(v).$$

Because  $\deg(v)$  is even for  $v \in V_1$ , the first term in the right-hand side of the last equality is even. Furthermore, the sum of the two terms on the right-hand side of the last equality is even, because this sum is  $2m$ . Hence, the second term in the sum is also even. Because all the terms in this sum are odd, there must be an even number of such terms. Thus, there are an even number of vertices of odd degree. 



If  $G = (V, E)$  is an undirected graph or multigraph, then  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2|E|$ .

**Proof:** As we consider each edge  $\{a, b\}$  in graph  $G$ , we find that the edge contributes a count of 1 to each of  $\deg(a)$ ,  $\deg(b)$ , and consequently a count of 2 to  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$ . Thus  $2|E|$  accounts for  $\deg(v)$ , for all  $v \in V$ , and  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2|E|$ .

---

This theorem provides some insight into the number of odd-degree vertices that can exist in a graph.

---

For any undirected graph or multigraph, the number of vertices of odd degree must be even.



**Theorem 1.1.** *In a graph  $G$ , the sum of the degrees of the vertices is equal to twice the number of edges. Consequently, the number of vertices with odd degree is even.*

*Proof.* Let  $S = \sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$ . Notice that in counting  $S$ , we count each edge exactly twice. Thus,  $S = 2|E|$  (the sum of the degrees is twice the number of edges). Since  $S$  is even, it must be that the number of vertices with odd degree is even.  $\square$



## Graph Theory :

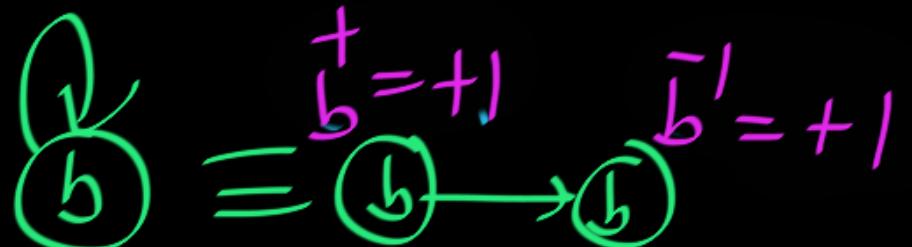
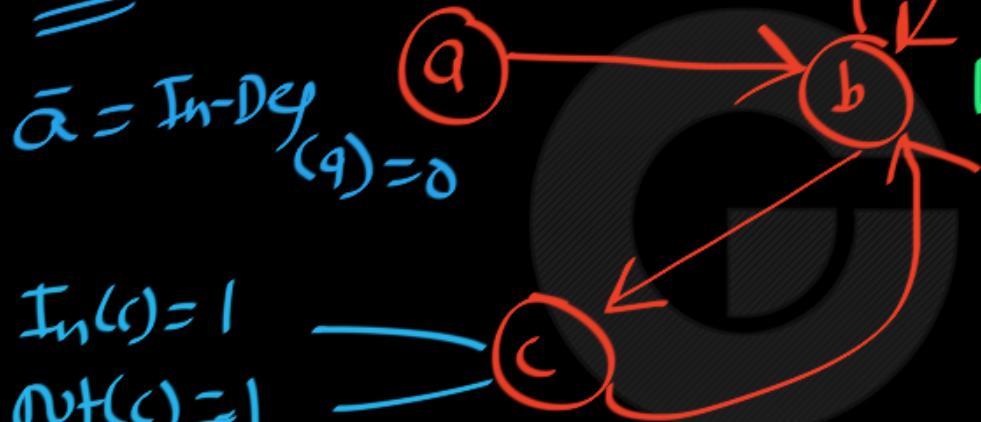
Next Topic : Directed Graphs

In-Degree, Out-Degree of a vertex

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>

Directed Graph:

$$\bar{a}^+ = \text{out-Deg}(a) = 1$$



out-Deg(b)

Undirected  
Graph

Concept  
of  
Degree

Degree  
of  
Vertex

Directed  
Graph

Degree X

In-Degre,

Out-Degre

Terminology for graphs with directed edges reflects the fact that edges in directed graphs have directions.

#### DEFINITION 4

When  $(u, v)$  is an edge of the graph  $G$  with directed edges,  $u$  is said to be *adjacent to*  $v$  and  $v$  is said to be *adjacent from*  $u$ . The vertex  $u$  is called the *initial vertex* of  $(u, v)$ , and  $v$  is called the *terminal* or *end vertex* of  $(u, v)$ . The initial vertex and terminal vertex of a loop are the same.

Because the edges in graphs with directed edges are ordered pairs, the definition of the degree of a vertex can be refined to reflect the number of edges with this vertex as the initial vertex and as the terminal vertex.

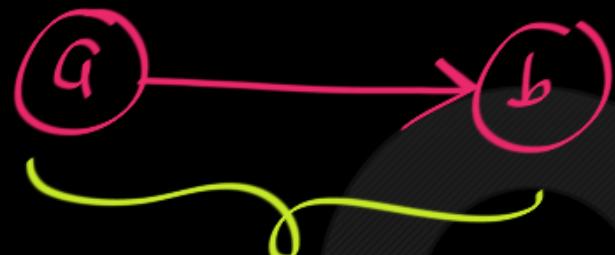
#### DEFINITION 5

In a graph with directed edges the *in-degree of a vertex*  $v$ , denoted by  $\deg^-(v)$ , is the number of edges with  $v$  as their terminal vertex. The *out-degree of  $v$* , denoted by  $\deg^+(v)$ , is the number of edges with  $v$  as their initial vertex. (Note that a loop at a vertex contributes 1 to both the in-degree and the out-degree of this vertex.)



Directed:

( $a, b$ ) Edge



means

$a$  is adj   $b$

$b$  is adj   $a$

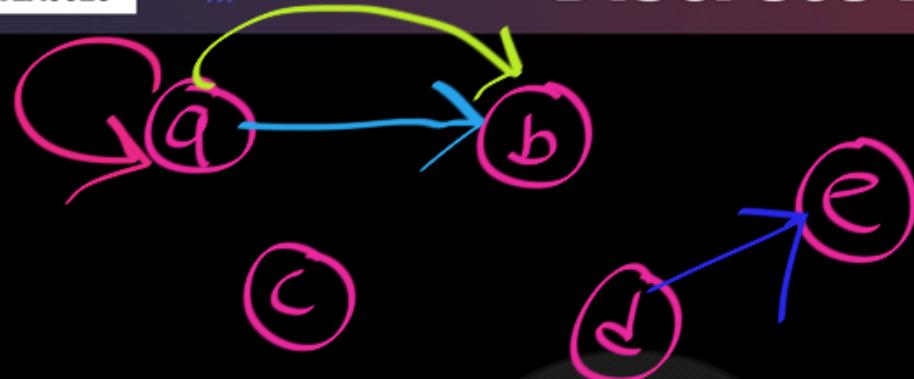
 ( $b, b$ ) Edge  
 $b$  is adj to  $b$ .

X   $a, b$  are adjacent



$$\text{Total - In-Deg} = \sum_{\forall v \in V} \text{In-Deg}(v)$$

$$\text{Total - Out-Deg} = \sum_{\forall v \in V} \text{Out-Deg}(v)$$



#Edges

0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4

Total In-Deg

0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4

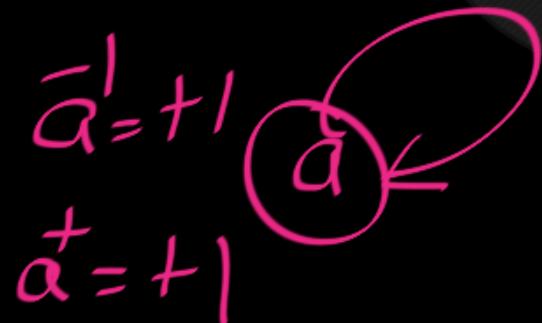
Total Out-Deg

0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4

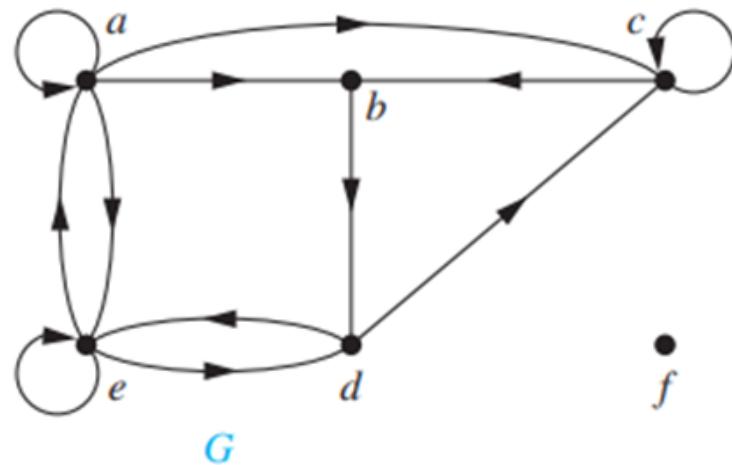


Total InDef = Total outDef = |E|

Why?



Find the in-degree and out-degree of each vertex in the graph  $G$  with directed edges shown in Figure 2.



**FIGURE 2** The Directed Graph  $G$ .

*Solution:* The in-degrees in  $G$  are  $\deg^-(a) = 2$ ,  $\deg^-(b) = 2$ ,  $\deg^-(c) = 3$ ,  $\deg^-(d) = 2$ ,  $\deg^-(e) = 3$ , and  $\deg^-(f) = 0$ . The out-degrees are  $\deg^+(a) = 4$ ,  $\deg^+(b) = 1$ ,  $\deg^+(c) = 2$ ,  $\deg^+(d) = 2$ ,  $\deg^+(e) = 3$ , and  $\deg^+(f) = 0$ . ◀



Because each edge has an initial vertex and a terminal vertex, the sum of the in-degrees and the sum of the out-degrees of all vertices in a graph with directed edges are the same. Both of these sums are the number of edges in the graph. This result is stated as Theorem 3.

**THEOREM 3**

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with directed edges. Then

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg^-(v) = \sum_{v \in V} \deg^+(v) = |E|.$$

**CLASSES**



Now, Back  $\rightarrow$  "Simple Graphs"

Undirected ✓  
No self loop ✓  
No multi edges ✓





# Graph Theory :

Next Topic :

(For Simple Graph) Walk, Trail, Path

Cycle, Circuit

Website : <https://www.goclasses.in/>





<sup>†</sup>Since the terminology of graph theory is not standard, the reader may find some differences between terms used here and in other texts.



## DISCRETE AND COMBINATORIAL MATHEMATICS

An Applied Introduction

FIFTH EDITION

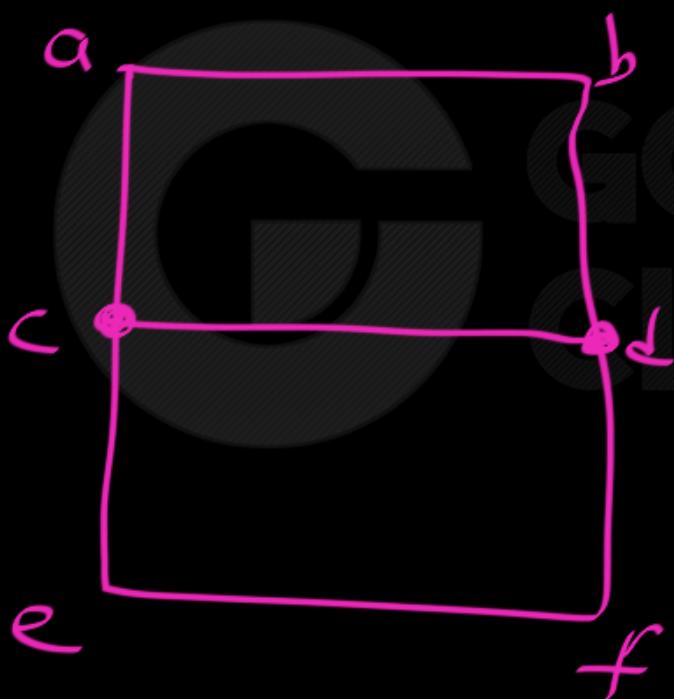
**RALPH P. GRIMALDI**

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology



Walk; Trail; Path:

Walk:



Walk:

a — b walk

a — b ✓

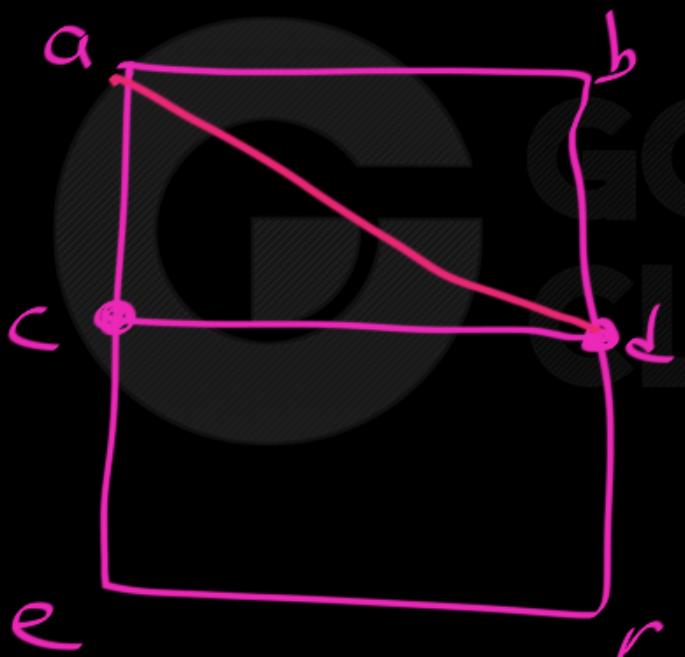
a — c — d — b ✓

a — b — d — b ✓

a — c — d — b — a — c — d — b  
\_\_\_\_\_

Walk; Trail; Path:

Walk:



a - c - d - a - b ✓

Trail  $\Rightarrow$  No Edge repetition

a - b Trail

a - b ✓

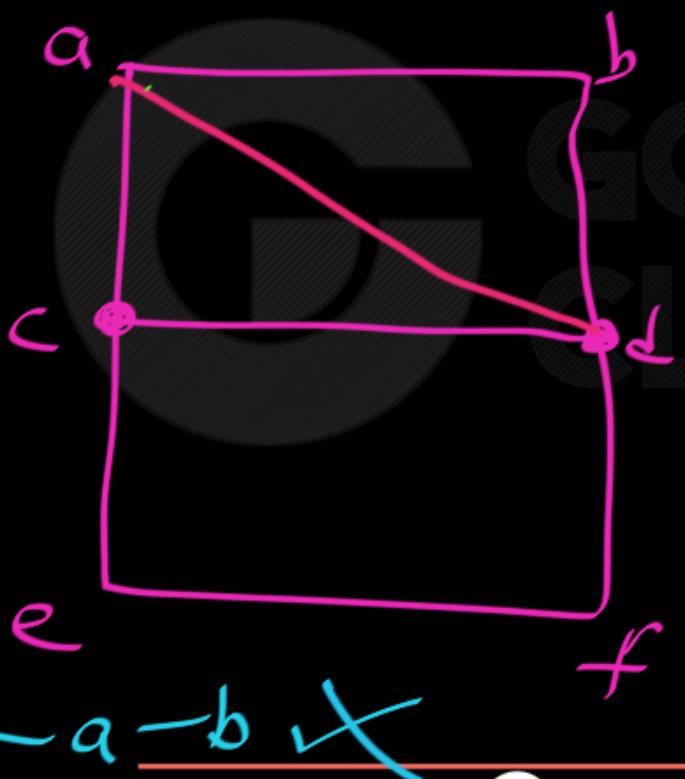
a - c - d - b ✓

a - b - d - b X

a - c - d - b - a - c - d - b X

Walk; Trail; Path:

Walk:



a-c-d-a-b X

Path  $\Rightarrow$

No repetition

a-b Path

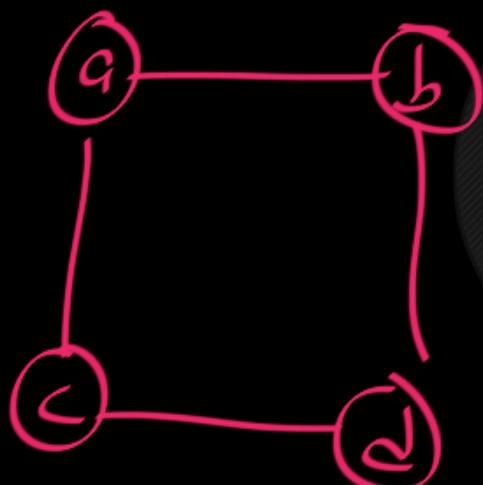
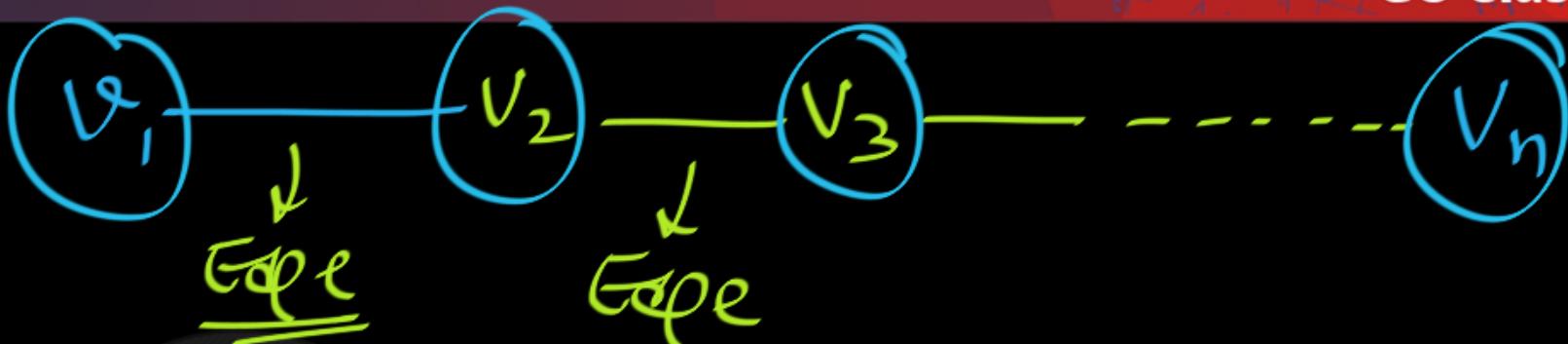
a-b ✓

a-c-d-b ✓

a-b-d-b X

a-c-d-b-a-c-d-b X

WALK



$a - b$  walk  $\rightarrow$  No such Edge

$a - d - b$  X

$a - c - b$  X



Walk:

+ open walk:  $v_1 \neq v_n$

Closed walk:

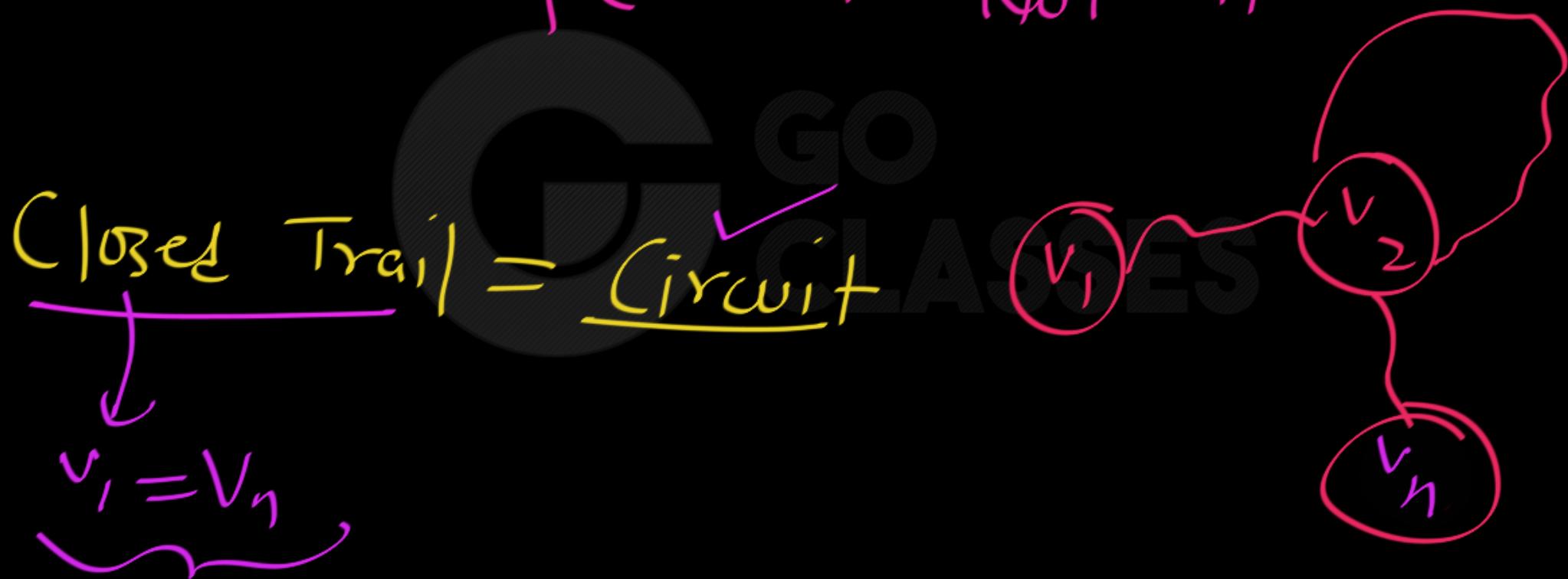
$v_1 = v_n$



GO  
CLASSES



Trail  $\rightarrow$  Vertex Repetition Allowed  
Edge " " NOT "



Path:  $\rightarrow$  No Repetition at all.



$$v_1 \neq v_n$$

Cycle:  $\rightarrow$  At least 3 vertices  
like a Path BUT  $v_1 = v_n$  ; No Vertex  
No Edge Repetition; Except 1st, last

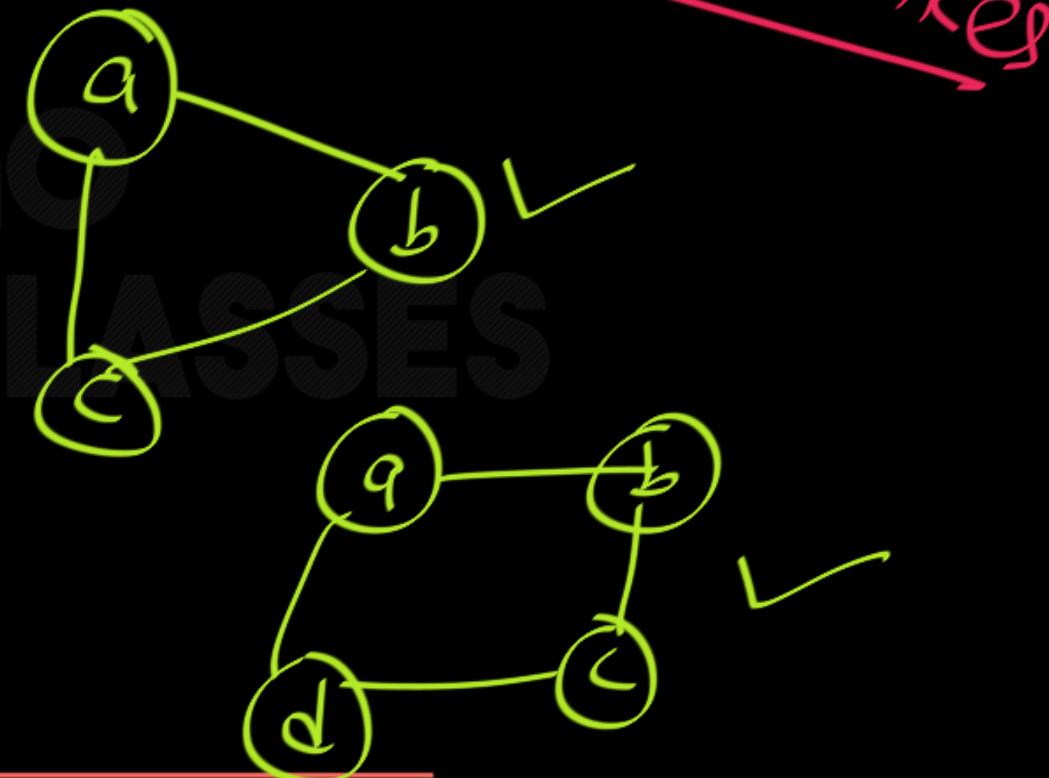


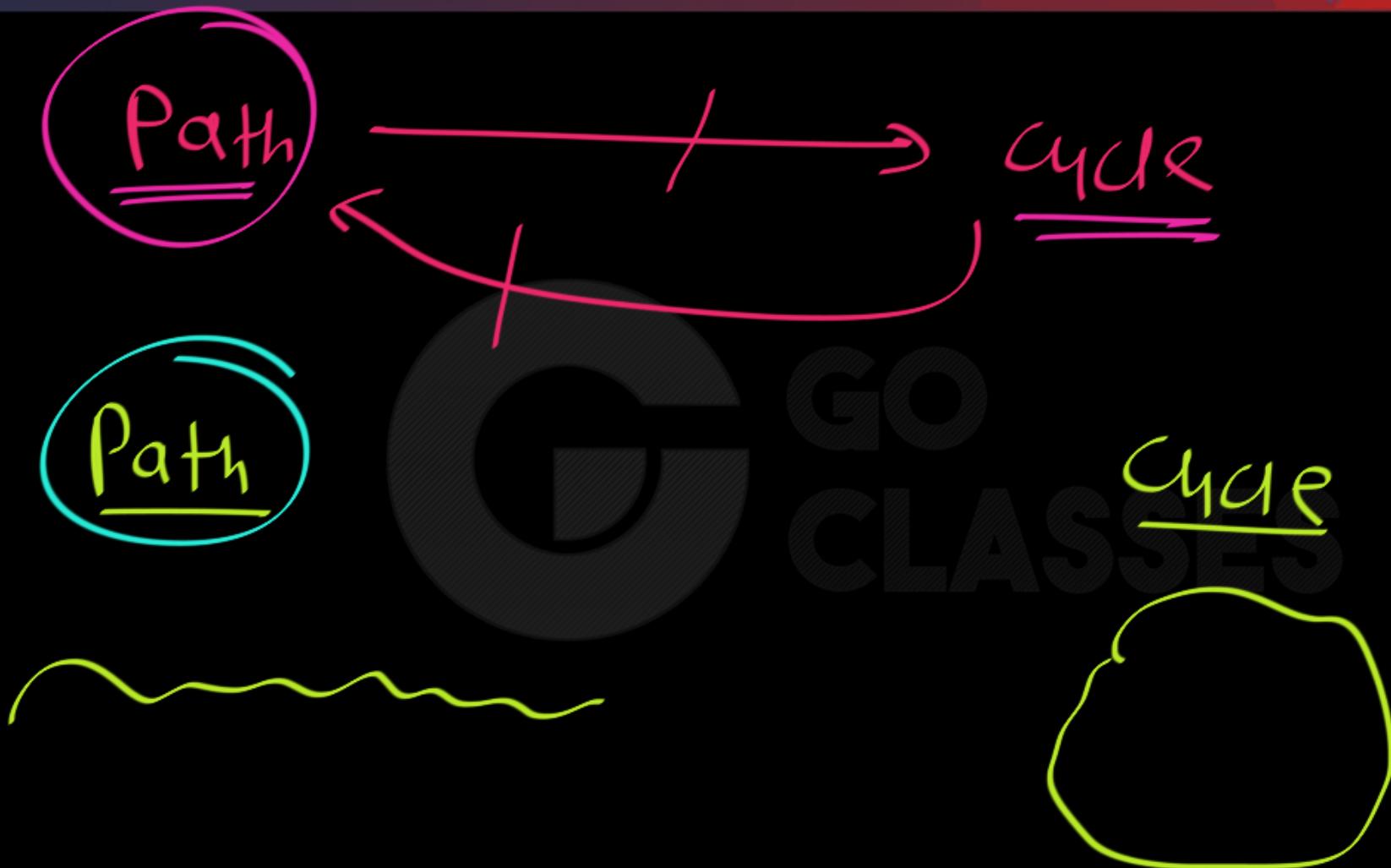
Path ✓



$$v_1 \neq v_n$$

Cycle →  $\geq 3$  vertices



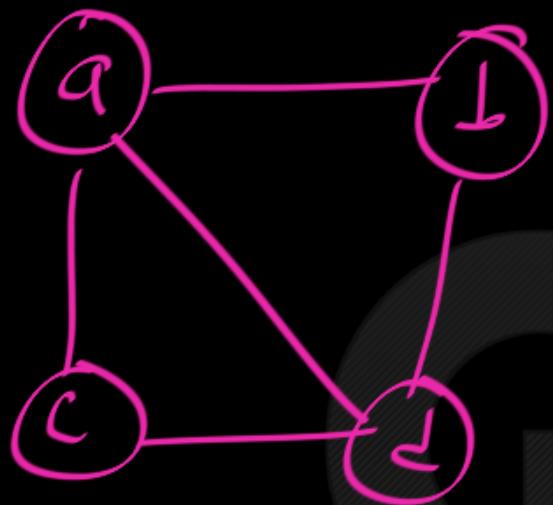




## Walks, trails and paths

### Definition

A **walk** in a graph is a sequence of alternating vertices and edges  $v_1 e_1 v_2 e_2 \dots v_n e_n v_{n+1}$  with  $n \geq 0$ . If  $v_1 = v_{n+1}$  then the walk is **closed**. The **length** of the walk is the number of edges in the walk. A walk of length zero is a **trivial walk**.



$a - a$

walk

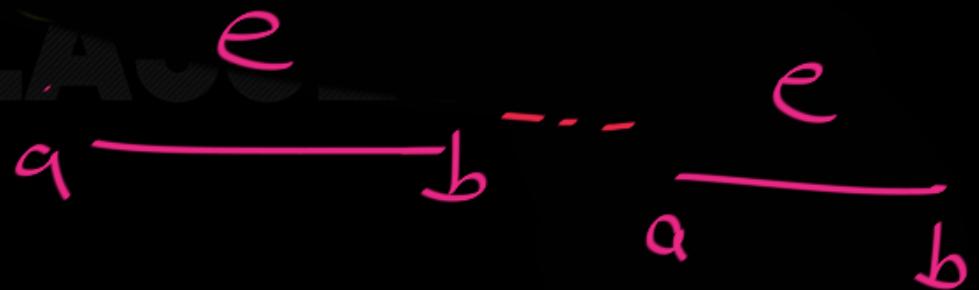
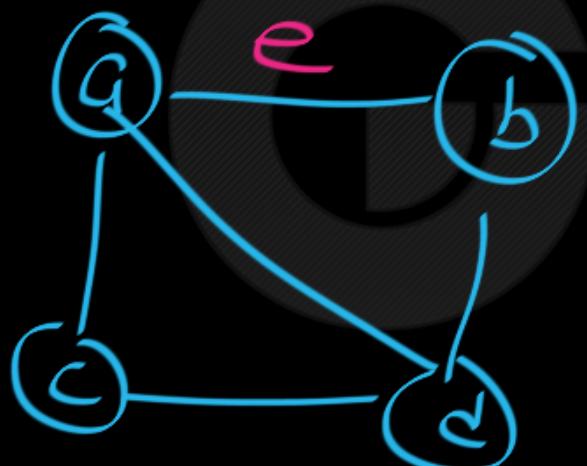
①  $a$  = Trivial walk

②  $a - c - a - b - d - q$

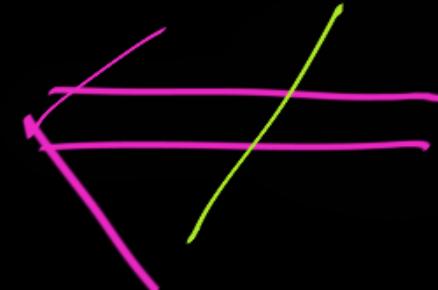




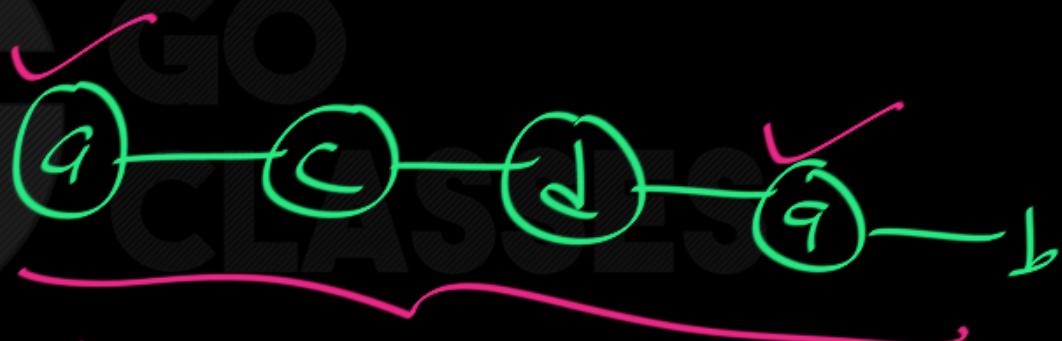
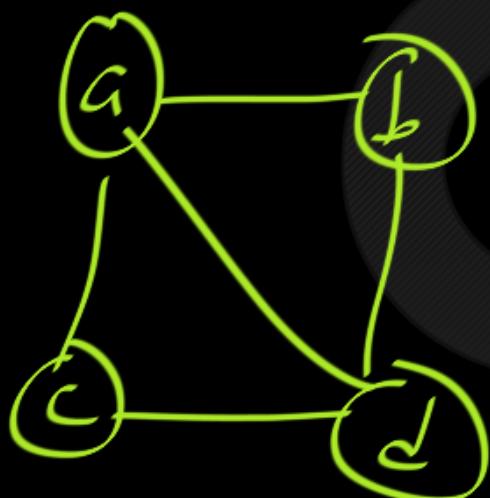
No vertex Repetition  $\Rightarrow$  No Edge Repetition



No vertex Repetition



No Edge Repetition



No Edge Repetition  
But vertex repeating



## Definition

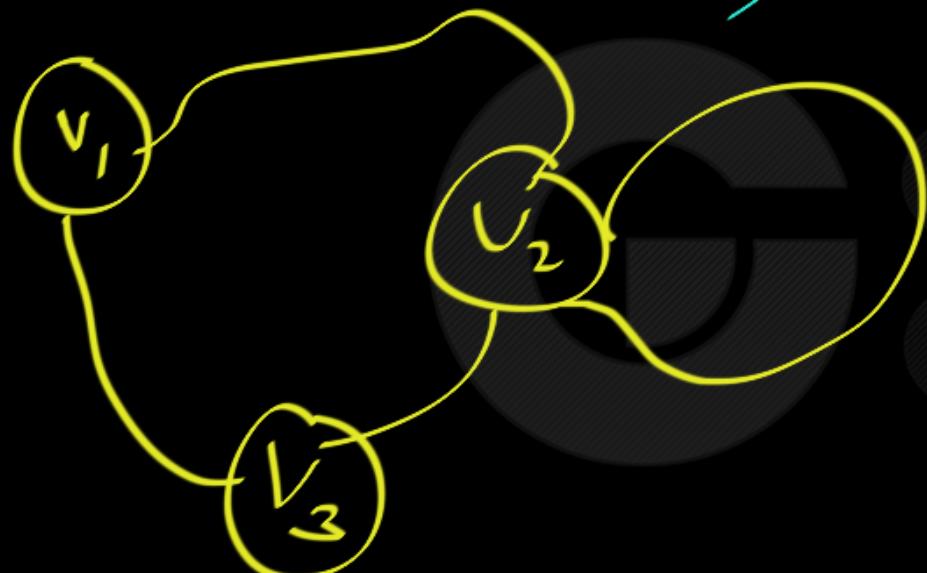
A **trail** is a walk with no repeated edges. A **path** is a walk with no repeated vertices. A **circuit** is a closed trail and a **trivial circuit** has a single vertex and no edges.

## Definition

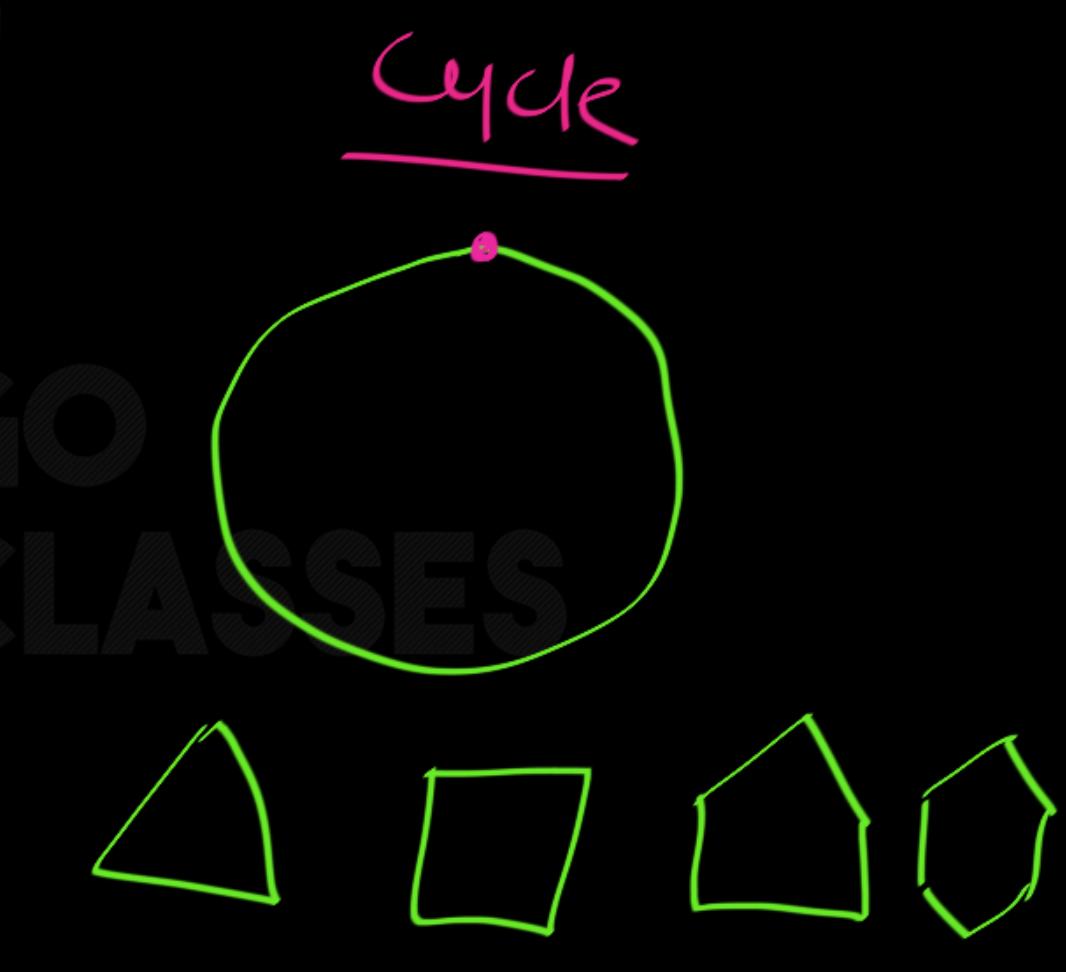
at least three vertices

A **cycle** is a nontrivial circuit in which the only repeated vertex is the first/last one.

Circuit ((closed Trail))



Cycle





A **walk** is a sequence of vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  such that  $\forall i \in 1, 2, \dots, k - 1$ ,  $v_i \sim v_{i+1}$ . A **path** is a walk where  $v_i \neq v_j$ ,  $\forall i \neq j$ . In other words, a path is a walk that visits each vertex at most once. A **closed walk** is a walk where  $v_1 = v_k$ . A **cycle** is a closed path, i.e. a path combined with the edge  $(v_k, v_1)$ . A graph is **connected** if there exists a path between each pair of vertices.





Let  $x, y$  be (not necessarily distinct) vertices in an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ . An  $x$ - $y$  walk in  $G$  is a (loop-free) finite alternating sequence

$$x = x_0, e_1, x_1, e_2, x_2, e_3, \dots, e_{n-1}, x_{n-1}, e_n, x_n = y$$

of vertices and edges from  $G$ , starting at vertex  $x$  and ending at vertex  $y$  and involving the  $n$  edges  $e_i = \{x_{i-1}, x_i\}$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

The *length* of this walk is  $n$ , the number of edges in the walk. (When  $n = 0$ , there are no edges,  $x = y$ , and the walk is called *trivial*. These walks are not considered very much in our work.)

Any  $x$ - $y$  walk where  $x = y$  (and  $n > 1$ ) is called a *closed walk*. Otherwise the walk is called *open*.

---

Note that a walk may repeat both vertices and edges.

For the graph in Fig. 11.4 we find, for example, the following three open walks. We can list the edges only or the vertices only (if the other is clearly implied).

- 1)  $\{a, b\}, \{b, d\}, \{d, c\}, \{c, e\}, \{e, d\}, \{d, b\}$ : This is an  $a$ - $b$  walk of length 6 in which we find the vertices  $d$  and  $b$  repeated, as well as the edge  $\{b, d\}$  ( $= \{d, b\}$ ).
- 2)  $b \rightarrow c \rightarrow d \rightarrow e \rightarrow c \rightarrow f$ : Here we have a  $b$ - $f$  walk where the length is 5 and the vertex  $c$  is repeated, but no edge appears more than once.
- 3)  $\{f, c\}, \{c, e\}, \{e, d\}, \{d, a\}$ : In this case the given  $f$ - $a$  walk has length 4 with no repetition of either vertices or edges.

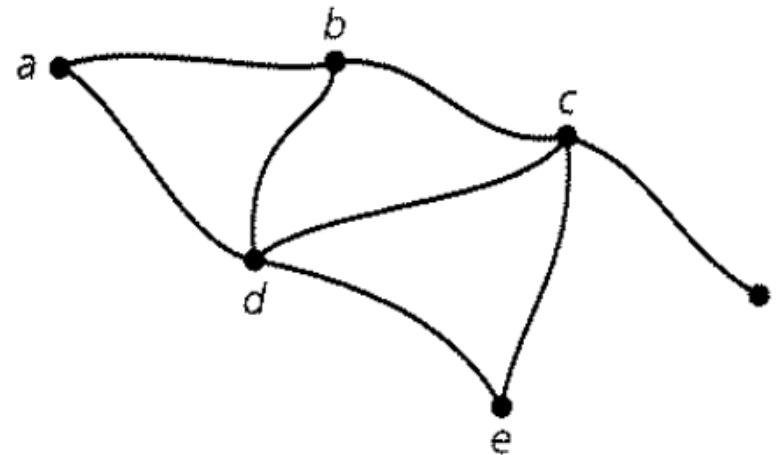
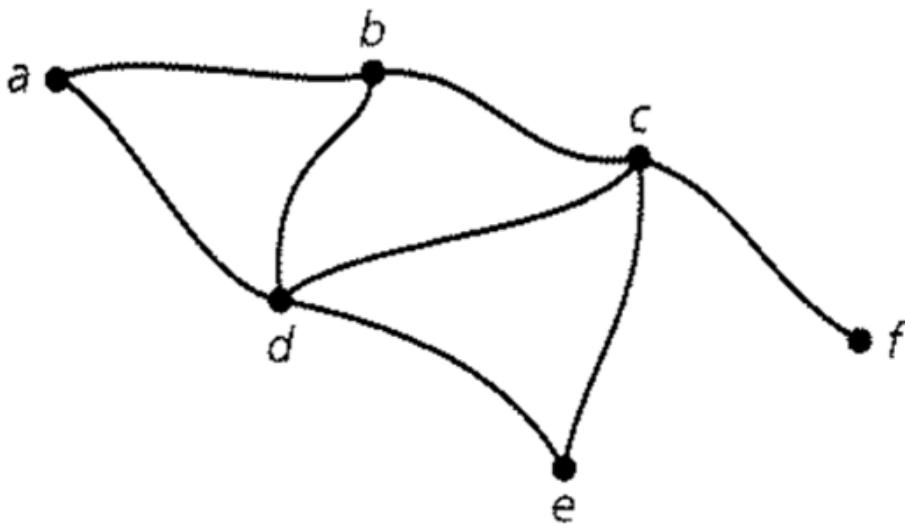
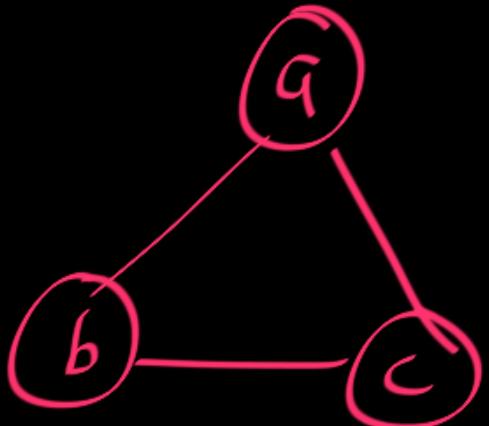


Figure 11.4

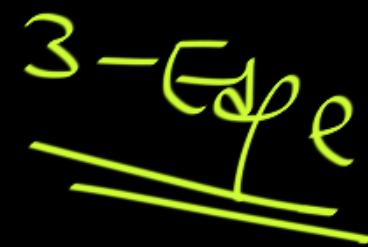
**Figure 11.4**

Since the graph of Fig. 11.4 is undirected, the  $a$ - $b$  walk in part (1) is also a  $b$ - $a$  walk (we read the edges, if necessary, as  $\{b, d\}$ ,  $\{d, e\}$ ,  $\{e, c\}$ ,  $\{c, d\}$ ,  $\{d, b\}$ , and  $\{b, a\}$ ). Similar remarks hold for the walks in parts (2) and (3).

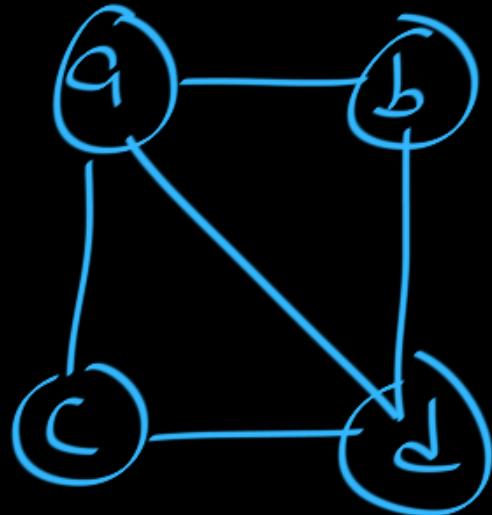
Finally, the edges  $\{b, c\}$ ,  $\{c, d\}$ , and  $\{d, b\}$  provide a  $b$ - $b$  (closed) walk. These edges (ordered appropriately) also define (closed)  $c$ - $c$  and  $d$ - $d$  walks.



How many 3-length cycles?  
= 1 ✓

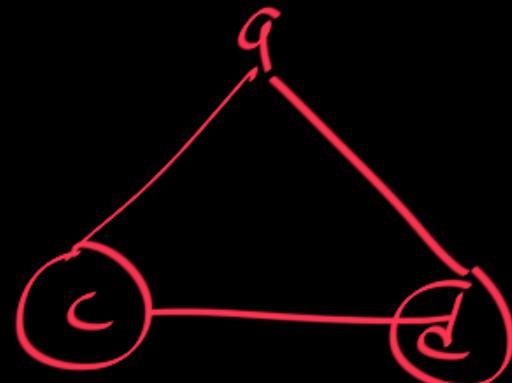
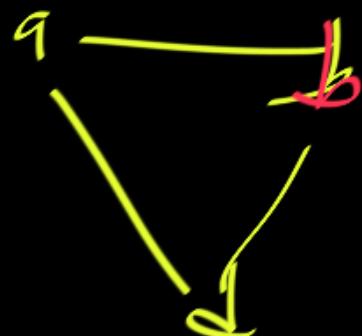


↙ How many 6-length cycles  $\Rightarrow 0$



How many 3-length cycles?

2





- a) The  $b\text{-}f$  walk in part (2) of Example 11.1 is a  $b\text{-}f$  trail, but it is not a  $b\text{-}f$  path because of the repetition of vertex  $c$ . However, the  $f\text{-}a$  walk in part (3) of that example is both an  $f\text{-}a$  trail (of length 4) and an  $f\text{-}a$  path (of length 4).
- b) In Fig. 11.4, the edges  $\{a, b\}$ ,  $\{b, d\}$ ,  $\{d, c\}$ ,  $\{c, e\}$ ,  $\{e, d\}$ , and  $\{d, a\}$  provide an  $a\text{-}a$  circuit. The vertex  $d$  is repeated, so the edges do *not* give us an  $a\text{-}a$  cycle.
- c) The edges  $\{a, b\}$ ,  $\{b, c\}$ ,  $\{c, d\}$ , and  $\{d, a\}$  provide an  $a\text{-}a$  cycle (of length 4) in Fig. 11.4. When ordered appropriately these same edges may also define a  $b\text{-}b$ ,  $c\text{-}c$ , or  $d\text{-}d$  cycle. Each of these cycles is also a circuit.

Important:

Cycle

most Imp and Universal

Path

walk

Trail

NOT universally  
Defined

NOT at all Imp

Path:

$v_i \neq v_n$

$v_1 \circ \text{---} \circ v_n$



Now let us examine special types of walks.

Consider any  $x$ - $y$  walk in an undirected graph  $G = (V, E)$ .

- a) If no edge in the  $x$ - $y$  walk is repeated, then the walk is called an  $x$ - $y$  *trail*. A closed  $x$ - $x$  trail is called a *circuit*.
- b) If no vertex of the  $x$ - $y$  walk occurs more than once, then the walk is called an  $x$ - $y$  *path*. When  $x = y$ , the term *cycle* is used to describe such a closed path.

The term cycle will always imply the presence of at least three distinct edges (from the graph).

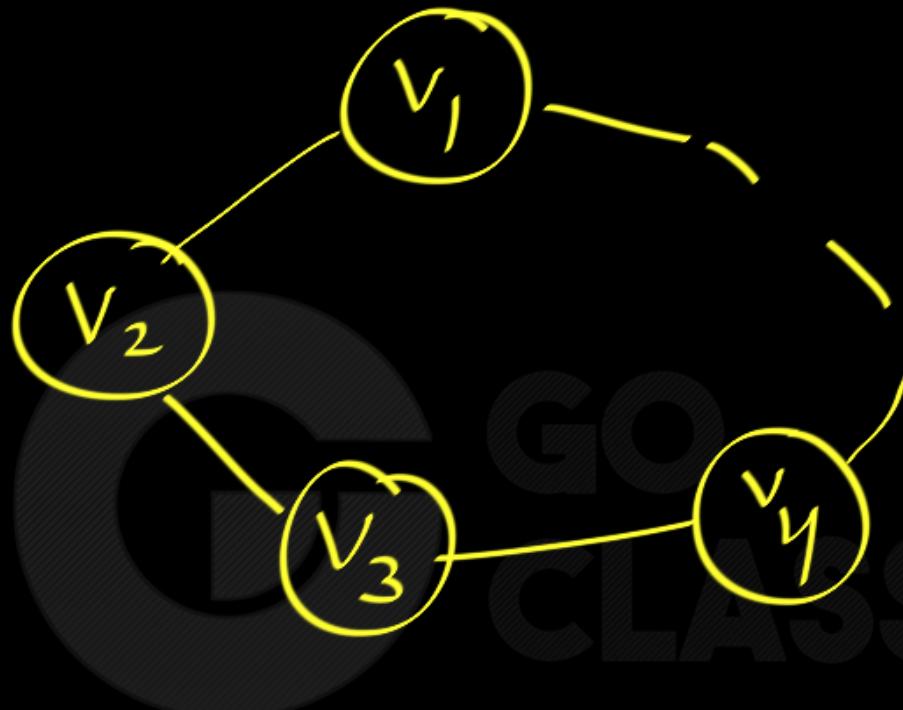
Before continuing, we summarize (in Table 11.1) for future reference the results of Definitions 11.2 and 11.3. Each occurrence of “Yes” in the first two columns here should be interpreted as “Yes, possibly.” Table 11.1 reflects the fact that a path is a trail, which in turn is an open walk. Furthermore, every cycle is a circuit, and every circuit (with at least two edges) is a closed walk.

**Table 11.1**

Repeated Vertex (Vertices)	Repeated Edge(s)	Open	Closed	Name
Yes	Yes	Yes		Walk (open)
Yes	Yes		Yes	Walk (closed)
Yes	No	Yes		Trail
Yes	No		Yes	Circuit
No	No	Yes		Path
No	No		Yes	Cycle



Cycle's

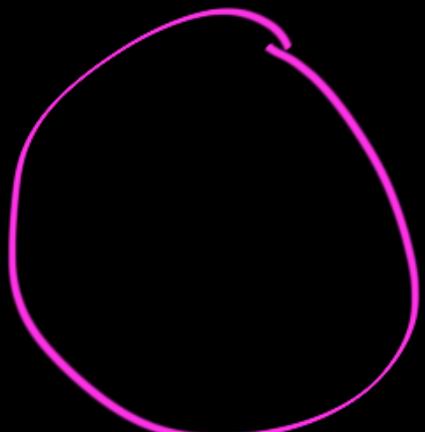


$$\boxed{v_i \neq v_j}$$

must have  $\geq 3$  vertices ✓



Cycle



Path

