



## 3 Graph Theory

### 3.1 Undirected Graphs

An *undirected graph* can be thought of as consisting of a finite set  $V$  of points, referred to as the *vertices* of the graph, together with a finite set  $E$  of *edges*, where each edge joins two distinct vertices of the graph.

We now proceed to formulate the definition of an undirected graph in somewhat more formal language.

Let  $V$  be a set. We denote by  $V_2$  the set consisting of all subsets of  $V$  with exactly two elements. Thus, for any set  $V$ ,

$$V_2 = \{A$$





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Then the adjacency matrix for this graph is the matrix

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

### 3.4 Complete Graphs

**Definition** A graph  $(V; E)$



Let  $(V; E)$  be a graph, and let  $V^0$  be a subset of  $V$ . Let

$$E^0 = \{a; b \in E : a \in V^0 \text{ and } b \in V^0\};$$

(so that



**Corollary 3.4** *Let  $(V; E)$  be a  $k$ -regular graph. Then  $k|V| = 2|E|$ , where  $|V|$  denotes the number of vertices and  $|E|$  denotes the number of edges of the graph.*

**Proof** If the graph is  $k$ -regular then the sum of the degrees of all vertices is  $k|V|$ . Since each edge contributes to the degree of two vertices, the sum of the degrees is also  $2|E|$ . Therefore,  $k|V| = 2|E|$ .



if and only if there exists a walk in the graph from  $a$  to  $b$ .

**Lemma 3.7** *Let  $(V; E)$  be an undirected graph. Then the relation  $\sim$  on the set  $V$  defined by  $a \sim b$  if and only if there exists a walk in the graph from  $a$  to  $b$  is an equivalence relation.*

These subgraphs are *disjoint* since  $V_i \cap V_j = \emptyset$  and  $E_i \cap E_j = \emptyset$  if  $i \neq j$ . Moreover the graph  $(V_i; E_i)$  is the restriction of the graph  $(V; E)$  to  $V_i$  (also describable as the graph induced on  $V_i$  by  $(V; E)$ ) for  $i = 1; 2; \dots; k$ .

The subgraphs  $(V_i; E_i)$  of  $(V; E)$  are referred to as the *components* (or *connected components*) of the graph  $(V; E)$ .

individually. Moreover properties of any one component do not affect those of any other, since no edge of the graph passes from any one component of the graph to any other.

### 3.12 Circuits

**Definition** Let  $(V; E)$  be a graph. A *walk*  $v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_n$  in the graph is said to be *closed* if  $v_0 = v_n$ .

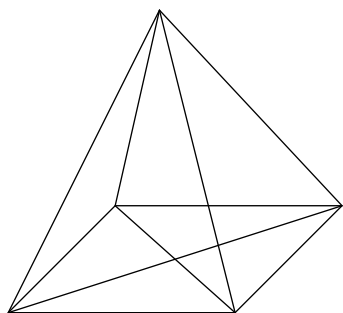
Thus a walk in a graph is closed if and only if it starts and ends at the same vertex.

**Definition** Let  $(V; E)$  be a graph. A *circuit* in the graph is a non-trivial closed trail in the graph.

least one of the vertices  $v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{m-2}$  is incident to  $v_m$ ; let that vertex be  $v_k$ , where  $0 \leq k \leq m-2$ . Then  $v_k, v_{k+1}, \dots, v_m, v_k$  is a simple circuit in the graph. Thus a graph with no isolated or pendant vertices always contains a simple circuit. ■

**Theorem 3.11** *Let  $u$  and  $v$  be vertices of a graph, where  $u \neq v$ . Suppose that there exist at least two distinct paths in the graph from  $u$  to  $v$ . Then the graph contains at least one simple circuit.*

**Proof** Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots, a_m$  and  $b_0, b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  be two distinct paths in the graph with  $a_0$



If  $v = v_0$ , and if the trail is not closed (i.e., if  $v_m \notin v_0$ ), then the edges of the trail incident to  $v$  are the edge  $v_0 v_1$  together with the edges  $v_{i-1} v_i$  and  $v_i v_{i+1}$



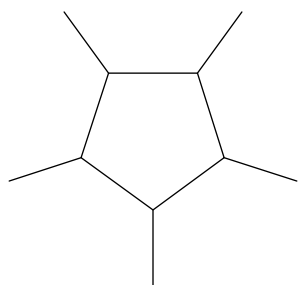
**Lemma 3.16** *Let  $v w$*

Now any vertex belonging to  $V_1$  is incident to at least one edge traversed by the trail. But then all edges incident to a vertex belonging to  $V_1$  must be traversed by the trail. But then any vertex of  $V$  adjacent to a vertex in  $V_1$  must itself belong to  $V_1$ , and thus no edge can join a vertex in  $V_1$  to a vertex in  $V_2$ . If the set

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**Theorem 3.22** *Every forest contains at least one isolated or pendant vertex.*

**Proof**

**Theorem 3.25** *Given two distinct vertices of a tree, there exists a unique*

consist of the remaining edges of the circuit traversing the edge  $vw$ .) Moreover every vertex in  $V$  could be joined to  $v$  by a walk whose edges belong to  $E'$ , and could therefore be joined either to  $v$  or to  $w$  by a walk whose edges belong to  $E''$



the  $m \times m$  matrix ( $b$