

## 8.7 Applications of Formal Languages and Grammars as well as Automata Theory

1. Compiler architecture uses context-free grammars
2. Parsers - recognise if commands comply with the syntax of a language
3. Pattern matching and data mining - guess the language from a given set of words (applied in CS, genetics, etc.)
4. Natural language processing - example in David Wilkins' notes pp.40-44
5. Checking proofs by computers/automatic theorem proving - simpler example of this kind in David Wilkins' notes pp.45-57 that pertains to propositional logic
6. The theory of regular expressions enables
  - (a) grep/awk/sed in Unix
  - (b) More efficient coding (avoiding unnecessary detours in your code)
7. Biology - John Conway's game of life is a cellular automaton
8. Modelling of AI characters in games uses the finite state automation idea. Our character can choose among different behaviours based on stimuli - like a finite state automation reacting to input

9. Strategy and tactics in games - teach the opposition to recognise certain patterns, then suddenly change them to gain an advantage and score - used in football, fencing, etc.
  10. Learning a sport/a numerical instrument/a new field or subject - split the information into blocks and learn how to combine them into meaningful patterns - uses notions from context-sensitive grammars.
  11. Finite state automata and probability - chaos theory, financial mathematics.
- etc...

## 9 Graph Theory

**Task:** Introduce terminology related to graphs; understand different types of graphs; learn how to put together arguments involving graphs.

An undirected graph consists of:

1. A finite set of points  $V$  called vertices
2. A finite set  $E$  of edges joining two distinct vertices of the graph.

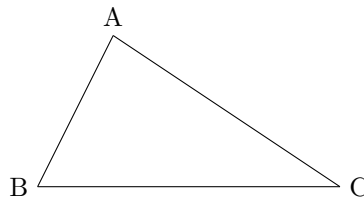
**Understand the meaning of an edge better:** Let  $V$  be the set of vertices.

Consider  $P(V)$ , the power set of  $V$ . Let  $V_2 \subseteq P(V)$  consist of all subsets of  $V$  containing exactly 2 points, **i.e.**  $V_2 = \{A \in P(V) \mid \#(A) = 2\}$

Identify each element in  $V_2$  with the edge joining the two points. In other words, if  $\{a, b\} \in V_2$ , then we can let  $ab$  be the edge corresponding to  $\{a, b\}$ .

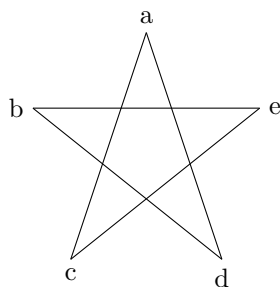
**Examples:**

1. A triangle is an undirected graph.  
 $V = \{A, B, C\}$



3 possible 2 element subsets of  $V$ :  $\{A, B\} \rightarrow AB$   
 $\{A, C\} \rightarrow AC$   
 $\{B, C\} \rightarrow BC$   
 $E = \{AB, AC, BC\}$

2. A pentagon is an example of an undirected graph.  
 $V = a, b, c, d, e$   
 $E = \{ac, ad, be, ce, bd\}$



**Convention:** The set of vertices cannot be empty, **i.e.**  $V \neq \emptyset$ .

**Q:** If  $V \neq \emptyset$ , what is the simplest possible undirected graph?

**A:** A graph consisting of a single point, **i.e.** with one vertex and zero edges.

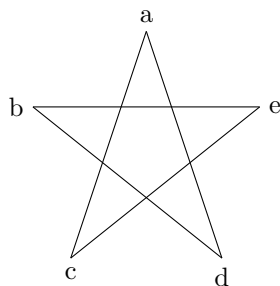
**Definition:** A graph is called trivial if it consists of one vertex and zero edges.  
Next, study how vertices and edges relate to each other.

**Definition:** If  $v$  is a vertex of some graph, if  $e$  is an edge of that graph, and it  $e = vv'$  for  $v'$  another vertex, then the vertex  $v$  is called incident to the edge  $e$  and the edge  $e$  is called incident to the vertex  $v$ .

**Example:**

$b$  is incident to edges  $be$  and  $bd$

$be$  is incident to vertices  $b$  and  $e$



**Definition:** Let  $(V, E)$  be an undirected graph. Two vertices  $A, B \in V$   $A \neq B$  are called adjacent if  $\exists$  edge  $AB \in E$ .

We represent the incidence relations among the vertices  $V$  and edges  $E$  of an undirected graph via:

1. An incidence table
2. An incidence matrix

**Legend:**

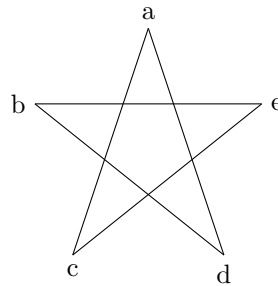
1 an incidence relation holds

0 an incidence relation does not hold

From the pentagram:

$$V = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$$

$$E = \{ac, ad, be, bd, ce\}$$



The incidence table is:

	ac	ad	be	bd	ce
a	1	1	0	0	0
b	0	0	1	1	0
c	1	0	0	0	1
d	0	1	0	1	0
e	0	0	1	0	1

Correspondingly, the incidence matrix is:

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

Note that for the incidence matrix to make sense, we need to know that vertices were considered in the order  $\{a, b, c, d, e\}$  and edges in the order  $\{ac, ad, be, bd, ce\}$ . If we shuffle either set, the incidence matrix changes.

With this in mind, we can now rigorously define the incidence matrix:

**Definition:** Let  $(V, E)$  be an undirected graph with  $m$  vertices and  $n$  edges.

Let vertices be ordered as  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$ , and let the edges be ordered

$e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$ . The incidence matrix for such a graph is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} & a_{m2} & \dots & a_{mn} \end{pmatrix},$$

where the entry  $a_{ij}$  in row  $i$  and column  $j$  has the value 1 if the  $i^{th}$  vertex is incident to the  $j^{th}$  edge and has value 0 otherwise.

Similarly, we can define the adjacency table and the adjacency matrix of a graph: