

# Introduction to Graph Theory

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- Bondy & Murty
- Diestel
- Combinatoria (Botler)
- SageMath

### 1.1 Basic Concepts

**Definition 1.1 (Grid).** The grid  $G_{m,n}$  is the graph  $(V,E)$  such that:

- $V = [m] \times [n] = \{(x, y) \mid x \in [m], y \in [n]\}$
- $E = \{(u, v), (x, y) : (u = x, \text{ and } |v - y| = 1) \text{ or } (v = y \text{ and } |u - x| = 1)\}$

**Definition 1.2 (Cycle).** The cycle  $G_{m,n}$  is the graph  $(V,E)$  such that:

- $V = [n]$
- $E = \{(x, (x \bmod n) + 1) : x \in [n]\}$

**Definition 1.3 (Order).** The order of a graph  $G$  is its number of vertices.

- $v(G) = |V|$

**Definition 1.4 (Size).** The size of a graph  $G$  is its number of edges.

- $e(G) = |E|$

### 1.2 Adjacency and Incidency

If  $e = uv$ , we say that  $e$  links  $u$  and  $v$ . We also say:

- $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent
- $u$  and  $v$  are neighbors
- $e$  is incident to  $u$  and  $v$
- We also say that two edges that share the same vertex are adjacent.
- Two edges that share both vertices are parallel or multiple
- An edge that links a vertex to itself is called a lasso
- A pair of vertices or edges that are not adjacent are called independent
- A set of vertices such that every pair of two vertices are independent is called an independent set or stable

### 1.3 Degrees of a Vertex

The degree of a vertex, denoted by  $d_G(v)$  is the number of edges (of  $G$ ) incident to  $v$ .

- The minimum degree of  $G$  is  $\delta(G) = \min\{d(v) : v \in V(G)\}$
- The maximum degree of  $G$  is  $\Delta(G) = \max\{d(v) : v \in V(G)\}$
- The average degree of  $G$  is  $\bar{d}(G) = \frac{1}{v(G)} \sum_{v \in V} d(v)$

## 2 February 27th, 2025

- Entregar lista no overleaf
- Monitoria as quintas (13h)

$$- E \subseteq \binom{V}{2}$$

**Proposition 1** (Lema do Aperto de Mao). *For every graph  $G$ , the sum of the degrees of its vertices is equal to twice its number of vertices:*

$$\sum_{v \in V(G)} d_G(v) = 2e(G) = 2|E(G)| \quad (1)$$

**Proof: Contagem Dupla**

$$S = \{(e, u) \in E \times V : u \in e\} \quad (2)$$

As every edge is at precisely two elements of  $S$ , then  $|S| = 2e(G)$ . Furthermore, if  $u \in V$ , then  $u$  is at  $d(v)$  elements of  $S$ . Then  $S =$

**Corolary 1.** *Every graph has an even number of odd degreed vertices*

**Proof**

Using the handshake lemma, we can do induction in  $e(G)$

**Definition 2.1.** If  $d_G(u) = 0$ , we say that  $u$  is an isolated vertex

**Proposition 2.** *If  $G$  does not have any isolated vertex and  $e(G) < v(G)$ , then  $G$  has at least two vertices with degree 1.*

**Proof** We know  $e(G) \leq v(G) - 1$ . Using the handshake lemma, we have:

$$2(v(G) - 1) \geq 2e(G) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} d(u) \quad (3)$$

$$= x + \sum_{u \in V(G), d(u) \geq 2} d(u) \quad (4)$$

$$\geq x + \sum_{u \in V(G)} 2 \quad (5)$$

$$= x + 2(v(G) - x) \quad (6)$$

$$= \quad (7)$$

**Proposition 3.** *If  $e(G) \geq v(G) + 1$ , then  $G$  has at least one vertex with degree  $\geq 3$ .*

**Proof** Suppose, by contradiction, that  $d(u) \leq 2$  for every  $u \in V(G)$ .

$$e(G) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_V d(u) \leq \frac{1}{2} \sum_V 2 = \frac{1}{2} 2V(G) = V(G) \quad (8)$$

$$\implies e(G) \leq V(G), \text{ which is a contradiction.} \quad (9)$$

$$(10)$$

### 3 Special Types of Graphs

- A graph is **simple** if it does not contain "arestas multiplas nem lacos"
- A graph is **complete** if it is a simple graph such that  $G = (V, E) : E = \binom{V}{2}$
- A complete graph with  $n$  vertices is denoted by  $K_n$
- $G$  is **empty** if  $V(G) = E(G) = \emptyset$
- $G$  is **trivial** if  $E(G) = \emptyset$
- We say that  $G$  is  $K$  - regular if  $d(u) = k$  for all and every  $u \in V(G)$
- $G$  is regular if it is  $K$  - regular for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$
- Every complete graph is regular
- $K_n$  is  $(n - 1)$  - Regular
- $G$  is **bipartite** if  $V(G)$  can be partitioned into two distinct sets  $X$  and  $Y$  such that every edge has a vertex in  $X$  and another one in  $Y$ . Such partition is the bipartition of  $G$ .
- The bipartite complete graph with a bipartition  $(X, Y)$  is the graph  $G$  such that  $V(G) = X \cup Y$  and  $E(G) = X \times Y$ . There is no way for a graph to be complete bipartite, just the other way around. The notation for a bipartite complete graph is  $K_{n,m}$ , with  $|X| = n$  and  $|Y| = m$ .
- The complement of  $G$ , denoted by  $\bar{G}$ , is the graph such that  $V(\bar{G}) = V(G)$  and  $E(\bar{G}) = \{xy \in \binom{V}{2} : xy \notin E(G)\}$ .  $\bar{G}$  is basically the graph that has all the edges that  $G$  does not have.

**Proposition 4.** Every graph  $G$  such that  $v(G) \geq 2$  has two vertices with the same degree.

**Proof by induction**

*Induction hypothesis: every graph with  $n - 1$  vertices has two vertices with the same degree.*

Suppose  $v(G) \geq 3$ , we have two cases:

- i.  $G$  has a vertex  $u$  such that  $d(u) = 0$ . Hence, by the induction hypothesis,  $G' = G - u$  also has two vertices with the same degree.
- $d(u) \geq 1$  for all  $u \in V$

It is easy to computationally test whether a graph is bipartite. (Exercise)