

1. 4.2.1 Determine $k(u, v)$ and $k'(u, v)$ in the graph. (Hint: Use the dual problems to give short proofs of optimality.)

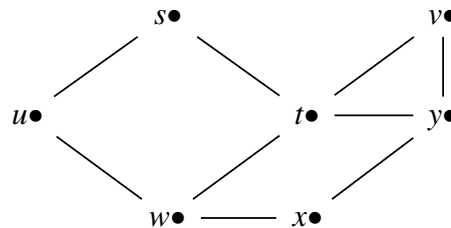
Solution:

There are three internally disjoint paths from u to v . The three vertices with distance 2 from u form a vertex cut. Hence, $k(u, v) = 3$. On the other hand, we can find 5 internally edge disjoint u, v -paths. By Theorem 4.2.19, $k'(u, v) = 5$.

2. 4.2.4. Prove or disprove: If P is a u, v -path in a 2-connected graph G , then there is a u, v -path Q that is internally disjoint from P .

Solution:

False. The graph below is 2-connected. Let $P = u, s, t, y, v$. There does not exist a u, v -path that is internally disjoint from P .



3. 4.2.5. Let G be a simple graph, and let $H(G)$ be the graph with vertex set $V(G)$ such that $uv \in E(H)$ if and only if u, v appear on a common cycle in G . Characterize the graphs G such that H is a clique.

Solution:

The graphs G will produce H that is a clique if and only if G is 2-connected. Observe:

$$\begin{aligned}
 G \text{ is 2-connected} &\iff \delta(G) \geq 2, \text{ and every pair of edges in } G \text{ lies on a common cycle.} \\
 &\iff \forall u, v \in V(G), uv \in E(H) \\
 &\iff H \text{ is a clique.}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

4. 4.2.8 Prove that a simple graph G is 2-connected if and only if for every triple (x, y, z) of distinct vertices, G has an x, z -path through y .

Solution:

→

Assume G is 2-connected and x, y , and z are three distinct vertices. We construct G' by adding vertex y' adjacent to x and z . Then G' is 2-connected, so we can find two internally disjoint y, y' -paths in G' . Deleting y' yields a x, z -path through y in G .

←

Suppose for every triple of distinct vertices, G has an x, z -path through y . Hence G is connected. Suppose, for a contradiction, that G has a cut-vertex, x . Let C_1 and C_2 be

any two components in $G - v$. Then let $y \in C_1$ and $z \in C_2$. Then G has no x, z -path through y , a contradiction. \square

5. 4.2.12. Use Menger's Theorem to prove that $k(G) = k'(G)$ when G is 3-regular.

Solution:

First, notice that it is sufficient to show that $k'(G) \leq k(G)$ because we know $k(G) \leq k'(G)$. Without loss of generality, assume there exists $x, y \in V(G)$ such that x and y are not neighbors. Let $k = k'(G)$. By Theorem 4.2.19., for all x and y not adjacent in G , there exists k edge disjoint paths. Suppose for a contradiction that any two of these paths share a single vertex v . Then v has four edges incident to it because the paths are edge disjoint. This is a contradiction because we assumed G is 3-regular. \square