

1. 1.3.4 Corollary. In a graph  $G$  the average vertex degree is  $\frac{2e(G)}{n(G)}$ , and hence  $\delta(G) \leq \frac{2e(G)}{n(G)} \leq \Delta(G)$ .

**Solution:**

□

2. 1.3.5 Corollary. Every graph has an even number of vertices of odd degree. No graph of odd order is regular with odd degree.

**Solution:**

We proceed by proof by contradiction. Suppose  $G$  has an odd number of vertices of odd degree. We can split the sum of the degrees of the vertices of  $G$  into even and odd. Let  $j, k, m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $n$  is odd. Observe:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v) &= (2k_1 + 1) + (2k_2 + 1) + \dots + (2k_n + 1) + 2j_1 + 2j_2 + \dots + 2j_m \\ &= 2(k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_n + \frac{n-1}{2} + j_1 + j_2 + \dots + j_m) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

By the Degree-Sum Formula,  $\sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v)$  is even, so this is a contradiction, and the result follows.

□

3. 1.3.6 Corollary. A  $k$ -regular graph with  $n$  vertices has  $nk/2$  edges.

**Solution:**

Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -regular graph with  $n$  vertices. Then  $\sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v) = nk$ . By the Degree-Sum Formula,  $\sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v) = 2e(G)$ . Setting the two equal and solving for  $e(g)$  yields:

$$e(G) = \frac{nk}{2}$$

as desired.

□

4. Exercise 1.3.1. Prove or disprove: If  $u$  and  $v$  are the only vertices of odd degree in a graph  $G$ , then contains a  $u, v$ -path.

**Solution:**

True. We proceed using proof by contradiction. Let  $u$  and  $v$  be the only vertices of odd degree in a graph  $G$ . Suppose there is no  $u, v$ -path. Then  $u$  and  $v$  must be in different components of  $G$ . Each of these components is a graph with an odd number of odd vertices. This contradicts Corollary 1.3.5. Thus,  $G$  contains a  $u, v$ -path.

□

5. Exercise 1.3.3: Let  $u$  and  $v$  be adjacent in a simple graph  $G$ . Prove that  $uv$  belongs to at least  $d(u) + d(v) - n(G)$  triangles in  $G$ .

**Solution:**

Let  $u$  and  $v$  be adjacent in a simple graph  $G$ . We proceed using proof by cases. We

discuss the three possible cases for adding vertices to  $G$ . In the first case, suppose we add a vertex to  $G$  that is adjacent to both  $u$  and  $v$ , creating  $G'$ ,  $u'$ , and  $v'$ . Then  $u'v'$  in  $G'$  belongs to one more triangle than  $uv$  in  $G$ . Notice that  $d(u') = d(u) + 1$ ,  $d(v') = d(v) + 1$ , and  $n(G') = n(G) + 1$ . Observe:

$$\begin{aligned} d(u') + d(v') - n(G') &= d(u) + 1 + d(v) + 1 - (n(G) + 1) \\ &= (d(u) + d(v) - n(G)) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. In the second case, suppose we create  $G''$  with  $u''$  and  $v''$  by adding a vertex to  $G$  that is adjacent to either  $u$  or  $v$ , but not both. Then  $u''v''$  belongs to the same amount of triangles as  $uv$ . In this case,  $d(u'') + d(v'') = d(u) + d(v) + 1$ , while  $n(G'') = n(G) + 1$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} d(u'') + d(v'') - n(G'') &= d(u) + d(v) + 1 - (n(G) + 1) \\ &= d(u) + d(v) - n(G) \end{aligned}$$

as desired. Thus, we have shown that whenever we add a vertex adjacent to either  $u$  or  $v$  or both, the formula  $d(u) + d(v) - n(G)$  either increases or stays the same to appropriately represent the least number of triangles  $uv$  belongs to. In the third and final case, suppose we add a vertex to  $G$  that is not adjacent to either  $u$  or  $v$ , creating  $G'''$  with  $u'''$  and  $v'''$ . This case will show that the formula in question is only a lower bound and does not track the number of triangles  $uv$  belongs to exactly. In this case  $d(u) = d(u''')$  and  $d(v) = d(v''')$ . Therefore,  $uv$  belongs to the same amount of triangles as  $u'''v'''$ . Since  $n(G''') = n(G) + 1$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} d(u''') + d(v''') - n(G''') &= d(u) + d(v) - (n(G) + 1) \\ &= d(u) + d(v) - n(G) - 1. \end{aligned}$$

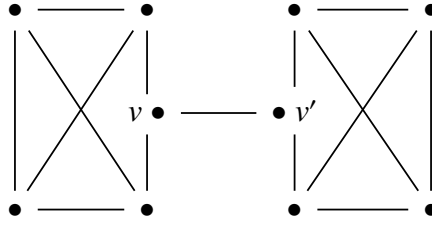
Thus, even though  $uv$  and  $u'''v'''$  belong to the same amount of triangles, whenever they belong to one triangle or more, respectively, our formula has a smaller lower bound for the number of triangles that  $u'''v'''$  belongs to. Therefore, since all cases have been considered, the result follows.  $\square$

6. 1.3.12: Prove that an even graph has no cut-edge. For each  $k \geq 1$  construct a  $2k + 1$ -regular simple graph having a cut edge.

**Solution:**

We proceed by proof by contradiction. Suppose  $G$  is an even graph with cut edge  $uv$ . Let the vertex degrees for  $G$  be  $d_1, \dots, d_n$ . Then the vertex degrees for  $G - uv$  is  $d_1, \dots, d_u - 1, \dots, d_v - 1, \dots, d_n$ . Since  $uv$  is a cut-edge of  $G$ ,  $u$  and  $v$  are in different components of  $G - uv$ . Since  $G$  is even, every vertex, including  $u$  and  $v$ , is even, which means  $d_u - 1$  and  $d_v - 1$  are odd. Thus the degree sum of the vertices in the components containing  $u$  and  $v$ , respectively, will be odd. This is a contradiction because by Proposition 1.3.28., the degree sum must be even. The result follows. Now, for each  $k \geq 1$ , to construct a  $2k + 1$ -regular simple graph having a cut edge we simply take two  $K_{2(k+1)}$ , put a new

vertex on an exterior edge of each,  $v$  on one and  $v'$  on the other, then put in the edge  $vv'$ .  
For  $k = 1$ , see below:



□

7. 1.3.17: Let  $G$  be a graph with at least two vertices. Prove or disprove:

- a) Deleting a vertex of degree  $\Delta(G)$  cannot increase average degree.
- b) Deleting a vertex of degree  $\delta(G)$  cannot reduce average degree.

**Solution, part a:**

True. Let  $G$  be an  $n$  vertex graph with degree sequence in nonincreasing order  $d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta$ . Since  $2e(G)/n(G) \leq \Delta(G) = d_\Delta$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{2e(G)}{n(G)} &\leq \Delta(G) \\
 \frac{2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta)}{n} &\leq d_\Delta \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\leq d_\Delta n \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\leq 2d_\Delta n \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) - 2d_\Delta n &\leq 0 \\
 (2d_2n + \dots + 2d_\delta n) - (2d_2n + \dots + 2d_\delta n) - 2d_\Delta n + 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\leq 0 \\
 \frac{2n(d_2 + \dots + d_\delta) - 2(n-1)(d_\Delta + d_2 + \dots + d_\delta)}{(n)(n-1)} &\leq 0 \\
 \frac{2(d_2 + \dots + d_\delta)}{n-1} &\leq \frac{2(d_\Delta + d_2 + \dots + d_\delta)}{n} \\
 \frac{e(G - \Delta(G))}{n(G - \Delta(G))} &\leq \frac{2e(G)}{n(G)}
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

**Solution, part b:**

True. We use a similar argument. Let  $G$  be an  $n$  vertex graph with degree sequence in

nonincreasing order  $d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta$ . Since  $d_\delta = \delta(G) \leq 2e(G)/n(G)$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{2e(G)}{n(G)} &\geq \delta(G) \\
 \frac{2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta)}{n} &\geq d_\delta \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\geq d_\delta n \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\geq 2d_\delta n \\
 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) - 2d_\delta n &\geq 0 \\
 (2d_\Delta n + \dots + 2d_{n-1}n) - (2d_\Delta n + \dots + 2d_{n-1}n) - 2d_\delta n + 2(d_\Delta, \dots, d_{n-1}, d_\delta) &\geq 0 \\
 \frac{2n(d_\Delta + \dots + d_{n-1}) - 2(n-1)(d_\Delta + d_2 + \dots + d_\delta)}{(n)(n-1)} &\geq 0 \\
 \frac{2(d_\Delta n + \dots + d_{n-1}n)}{n-1} &\geq \frac{2(d_\Delta + \dots + d_{n-1} + d_\delta)}{n} \\
 \frac{e(G - \delta(G))}{n(G - \delta(G))} &\geq \frac{e(G)}{n(G)}
 \end{aligned}$$

as desired. □

8. 1.3.18. For  $k \geq 2$ , prove that a  $k$ -regular bipartite graph has no cut-edge.

**Solution:**

Let  $k \geq 2$ . We proceed by proof by contradiction. Suppose that a  $k$ -regular bipartite graph  $G$  has a cut edge  $uv$ . Without loss of generality, we assume that  $G$  is connected, since the components of  $k$ -regular graphs are connected.  $u$  and  $v$  must be in different partite sets.