

Teorija grafov - Zapiski predavanj

Jakob Drusany

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1 Introduction

A graph is defined as $G = (V, E)$. $n = |V|$ is the number of vertices, $m = |E|$ is the number of edges. We also denote them as $V(G)$, $n(G)$, $E(G)$, $m(G)$. $\delta(G)$ is the minimum degree of a vertex in G , $\Delta(G)$ is the maximum degree. $G[C]$ represents the induced subgraph of G on the vertex set C .

2 Independence, matching, covers

Definition. The set of vertices $S \subseteq V$ is an **independent set** if $G(S)$ contains no edges. (No two vertices in the independent set are adjacent)

The independence number $\alpha(G)$ is the size of the maximum independent set.

Definition. The set of vertices $T \subseteq V$ is a **vertex cover** if $\forall e \in E T \cap e \neq \emptyset$. (All edges have at least one endpoint in the vertex cover)

The vertex cover number $\beta(G)$ is the size of the minimum vertex cover.

Definition. A **matching** is a set of edges $M \subseteq E$ such that $\forall e, f \in M e \neq f e \cap f \neq \emptyset$. (No two edges share a vertex)

The matching number $\alpha'(G)$ is the size of the maximum matching.

Definition. An **edge cover** is a set of edges $C \subseteq E$ such that $\forall v \in V \exists e \in C v \in e$. (All vertices are covered by at least one edge from C)

The edge cover number $\beta'(G)$ is the size of the minimum edge cover. Some graphs have no edge covers, for example graphs with isolated vertices.

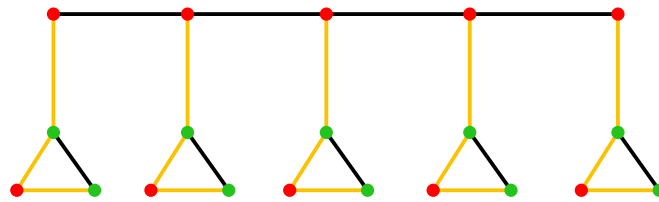


Figure 1: G from example

Example. $\alpha(G) = 8$

$h(G) = 20$

$\beta(G) = 12 \rightarrow$ complement of vertex set

$\alpha'(G) = 10$ maximum for α' is $\frac{h(G)}{2}$

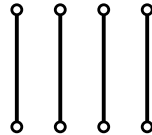
$\beta'(G) = 10$

Observations

- $\alpha(G) + \beta(G) = |V|$ (the size of the maximum independent set plus the size of the minimum vertex cover is equal to the number of vertices)

Proof. For every independent set S , the complement \bar{S} is a vertex cover and vice versa. \square

$\alpha'(G) \leq \beta(G)$ (the size of the maximum matching is less than or equal to the size of the minimum vertex cover)

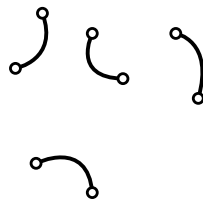


Proof. Every edge in a maximum matching must be covered by different vertices in the vertex cover. \square

- $\alpha(G) \leq \beta'(G)$ (the size of the maximum independent set is less than or equal to the size of the minimum edge cover)

Proof. Every vertex in a maximum independent set must be covered by different edges in the edge cover. \square

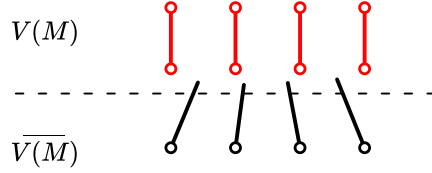
- if G has no isolated vertices: $\alpha'(G) \leq \frac{n}{2} \leq \beta(G)$



Theorem (Galloi's theorem). *If G has no isolated vertices, then $\alpha'(G) + \beta'(G) = n(G)$.*

Proof. (1) $\beta'(G) + \alpha'(G) \leq |V(G)|$

Take a maximum matching M ; $M = \alpha'(G)$. For every vertex not covered in



$M \cup \overline{V(M)}$, we can take an incident edge and add them to M . We get a set of edges R , which covers every vertex in G .

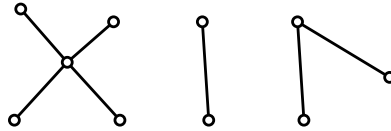
$$\begin{aligned} |R| &= |M| + |\overline{V(M)}| = |M| + (|V(G)| - 2|M|) \\ &= |V(G)| - |M| \\ \beta'(G) &\leq |R| = |V(G)| - \alpha'(G) \\ \beta'(G) + \alpha'(G) &\leq |V(G)| \end{aligned}$$

(2) $\beta'(G) + \alpha'(G) \geq |V(G)|$

Lemma. *Let C be a minimum edge cover. For every edge in C , at least one of its endpoints is covered only once by C .*

Proof. Suppose $uv \in C$ and u and v are covered by other edges in C . $C' = C \setminus \{uv\}$ is also an edge cover and $|C'| < |C|$ which is a contradiction. \square

Because of this, we can see that $G[C]$ is a star forest (for all minimal edge covers). $G[C]$ consists of k components: $|C| = |V(G)| - k$. A matching is obtained by choosing



one edge from every star component of $G[C]$, the resulting matching has k edges ($|M| = k$)

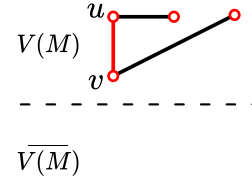
$$\begin{aligned} \alpha'(G) &\geq |M| = k \geq |V(G)| - |C| = |V(G)| - \beta'(G) \\ \alpha'(G) + \beta'(G) &\geq |V(G)| \end{aligned}$$

\square

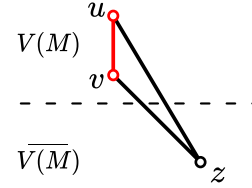
3 Matchings

Structure of the maximum matching M . For each $uv \in M$ one of these holds:

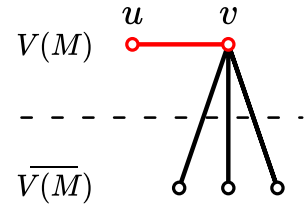
$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} N(u) \cap \overline{V(M)} &= \emptyset \\ N(v) \cap \overline{V(M)} &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$



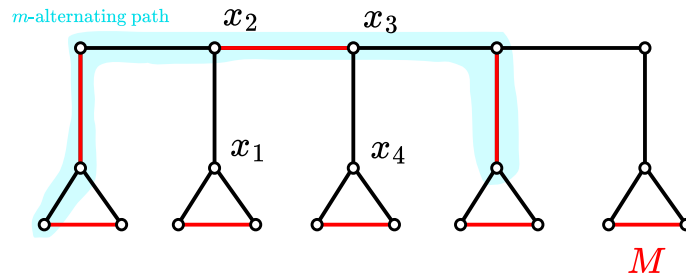
$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} N(u) \cap \overline{V(M)} &\neq \emptyset \\ N(v) \cap \overline{V(M)} &\neq \emptyset \end{aligned}$$



$$(3) \quad \begin{aligned} N(u) \cap \overline{V(M)} &\neq \emptyset \quad \text{or} \quad N(u) \cap \overline{V(M)} = \emptyset \\ N(v) \cap \overline{V(M)} &= \emptyset \quad \quad N(v) \cap \overline{V(M)} \neq \emptyset \end{aligned}$$



Definition. Let M be a matching. A path $v_1u_1v_2u_2 \dots v_ku_k(v_{k+1})$ is an ***m*-altering path** if the edges along the path alternate between M and $\bar{M} = E \setminus M$



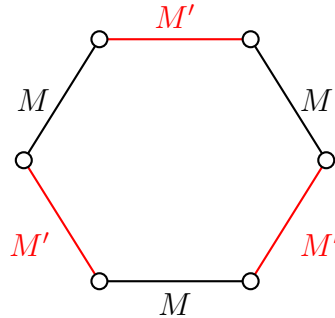
Definition. An *m*-alternating path is *m*-augmenting if both ends of the path are uncovered by M

For example $x_1x_2x_3x_4$ in the above figure. This is important because $M' = M \setminus \{x_2x_3\} \cup \{x_1x_2\}$ is a larger matching.

Theorem. Let M be a matching in G . There exists an M -augmenting path $\iff M$ is not a maximum matching.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) trivial

(\Leftarrow) M is a matching, not maximum. Then there exists a M' matching such that $|M'| > |M|$. Consider $M \Delta M'$ (symmetric difference). Let $G' = G[M \Delta M']$. In G' , the maximum degree $\Delta(G') \leq 2$. G' contains only paths and cycles. If The component is a cycle:



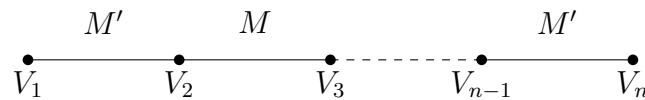
M and M' edges alternate in the cycle, therefore there are the same number of edges from M and M' in the cycle.

If The component is a path:

- path of even length, then M, M' -edges alternate, therefore there are the same number of edges from M and M' in the path.
- path of odd length, then there is one more edge from M' than from M or vice versa.

$$|M'| > |M| \Rightarrow |M' \setminus M| > |M \setminus M'|$$

\Rightarrow there exists a component G'_1 in G' such that there are more edges from M' than from M . This component is a path of odd length that starts and ends with an edge from M' .



The following holds:

- G'_1 is an M -alternating path
- v_1 is not covered by M .
- in G' $\deg(v_1) = 1$ (because it is a path component), therefore no edge from $M \setminus M'$ is incident to v_1 .
- v_1 is not incident to any edge from $M \cap M'$ since v_1 is already covered by an edge from M' .

In conclusion v_1, v_k are not covered by M so G'_1 is an alternating path with uncovered endpoints and is therefore an M -augmenting path.

□

Algorithms for the above theorems:

- "Blossom algorithms" - to find an M -augmenting path and improve the matching if possible. The best known algorithm is $O(n\sqrt{n})$.
- We can determine the matching number and the edge cover number in polynomial time.

Definition (Oddity). $o(G)$: number of odd components in G

Theorem (Tuttes theorem). G has a perfect matching $\iff \forall S \subseteq V(G) \ o(G - S) \leq |S|$

$o(G - S) \leq |S|$ is called the Tutte condition.

Proof. (\Rightarrow) M is a perfect matching in G . For every $S \subseteq V(G)$.

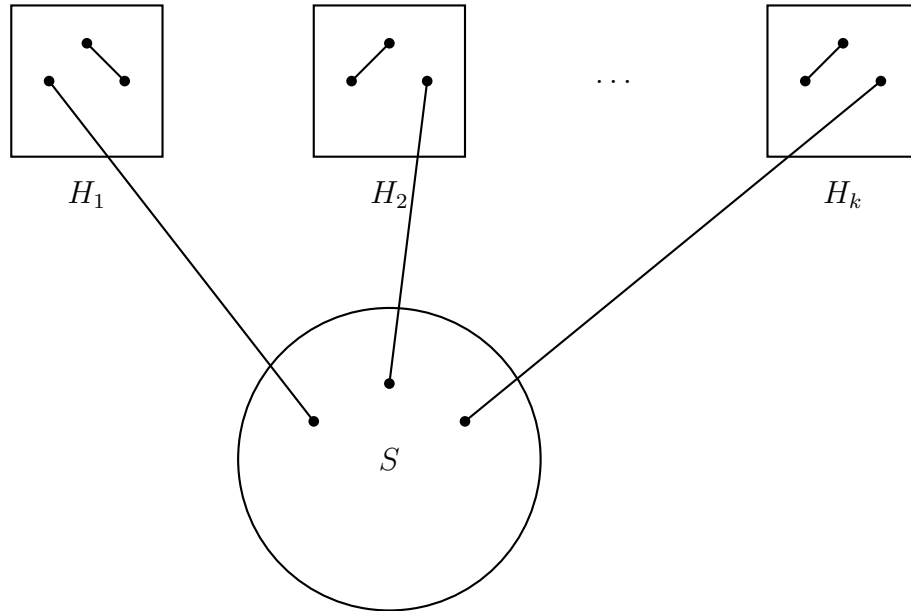


Figure 2: Graph G showing S and H_i which are odd components not in S

if H_1 is an odd component then there exists at least one M -edge between $V(H_i)$ and S . This holds for every odd component. Therefore there exists at least $o(G - S)$ M -edges between S and \bar{S} . As M is a matching these edges are incident to different vertices from S . Therefore $o(G - S) \leq |S|$ (Tuttes condition holds).

(\Leftarrow) If the Tuttes condition holds then there exists a perfect matching. Suppose that the lemma does not hold. Then there exists a counter example F on n vertices.

- (1) F satisfies the Tuttes condition
- (2) There does not exist a perfect matching in F

We can add edges to F while it remains a counter example, until we get a graph G . G is then the largest counter example.

Lemma. $n(G)$ is even

Proof. if we take $S = \emptyset$, then

$$|S| = 0 \geq o(G - S) = o(G) \geq 0 \Rightarrow o(G) = 0$$

Because the number of odd components is zero, n is even. □

Lemma. $\forall e \in E(\bar{G})$ $G' = G + e$ has a perfect matching

Proof. – $G + e$ is not a counter example (because of the maximality of G).

– $G + e$ satisfies TC: For every $S \subseteq V(G + e)$ $o(G + e - S) \leq |S|$.

When adding an edge e to G we have 4 cases:

- (a) If the edge e is inside S or inside a component of $G - S$, then the number of odd components does not change.
- (b) If the edge e is between two even components of $G - S$, then the number of odd components does not change.
- (c) If the edge e is between odd-even components of $G - S$, then the number of odd components does not change.
- (d) If the edge e is between two odd components of $G - S$, then the number of odd components decreases by two (the two odd components become an even component).

Therefore G' satisfies the Turtles condition:

$$|S| \geq o(G - S) \geq o(G' - S)$$

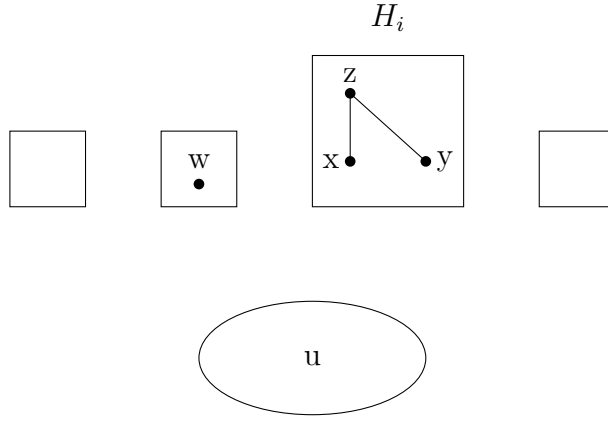
G' is not a counter example, therefore (2) does not hold and there exists a perfect matching in G' . □

To end the proof we need to show that G has a perfect matching. Let u be the set of universal vertices ($\deg(v) = n - 1$) in G . $G[u]$ is a complete graph (fully connected). We can construct a perfect matching for different cases:

1. If every H_i induces a complete graph, then we can construct a matching M
 - If H_i is an even component then then we can cover every vertex with M -edges inside H_i .
 - If H_i is an odd component then we cover all but one vertex with M -edges inside H_i .
 - The remaining $o(G - u)$ vertices from the odd components can be covered with M -edges between u and the components using $o(G - u)$ different vertices from u . This can be done as all edges are present in G between u and \bar{u} and $o(G - u) \leq |u|$.
 - If some vertices from u are uncovered then we define a matching on them. This is possible because $G[u]$ is a complete graph, $n(G)$ is even and M covered an even number of vertices so far.

Therefore G has a perfect matching.

2. If there exists a non-complete component H_i , then we can find a pair of vertices x, y such that $\text{dist}(x, y) = 2$.



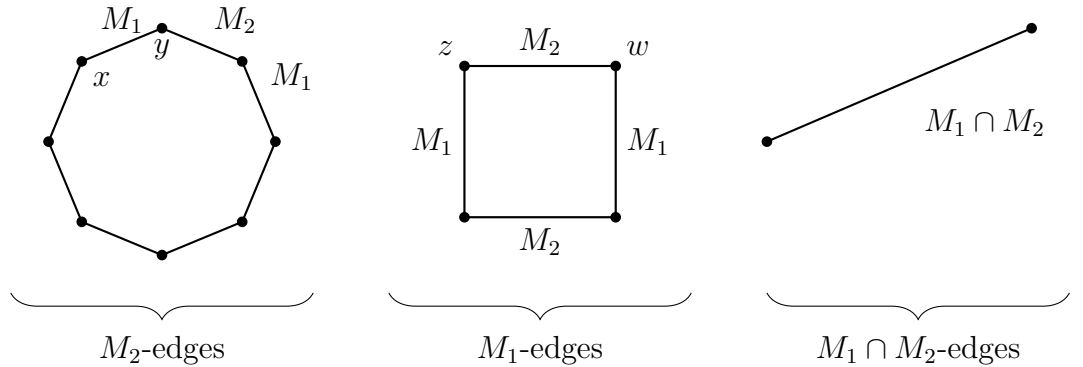
We can define z as the shared neighbor of x and y . There exists a vertex w such that w is not connected to z . This vertex exists because z is not a universal vertex. We define 2 expansions (both have a perfect matching because of lemma 2):

- $G_1 = G + xy \rightarrow M_1$
- $G_2 = G + zw \rightarrow M_2$

M_1 contains xy , otherwise M_1 is a perfect matching in G . M_2 contains zw because of the same reason. Consider $M_1 \Delta M_2$. First remove the edges from $M_1 \cup M_2$ (isolated vertices). For the remaining edges all vertices are of degree 2, therefore $\exists v$ such that v is connected to one M_1 -edge and one M_2 -edge.

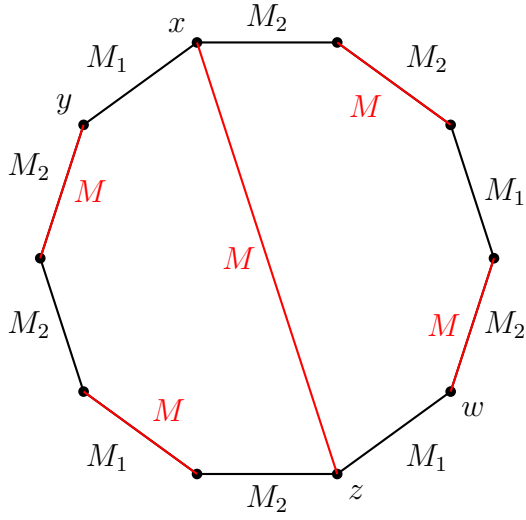
Every non-isolated vertex from $G[M_1 \Delta M_2]$ is of degree 2, therefore the graph is composed of only cycles. Because M_1 and M_2 alternate, these are even cycles. $xy \in M_1$ and $xy \notin M_2 \Rightarrow xy \in M_1 \Delta M_2$

- If xy and zw belong to different components in $G[M_1 \Delta M_2]$.



$M = M_1 \Delta M_2$ is a perfect matching in G :

- * $M \subseteq E(G)$ $xy \notin M$, $zw \notin M$
- * Every vertex is covered exactly once by M
- If xy and zw belong to the same component, without loss of generality along the cycle the edges are ordered: $zw \dots xy \dots$ (yx is a symmetric case)



□

Berge-Tutte formula: A maximum matching in G leaves exactly

$$\max_{S \subseteq V(G)} \{o(G - S) - |S|\}$$

uncovered vertices. Equivalently:

$$\alpha'(G) = \frac{1}{2} \left(n - \max_{S \subseteq V(G)} \{o(G - S) - |S|\} \right)$$