

A directed Hamiltonian path of a digraph D is a directed path in D that includes every vertex of D (once and only once)

Thⁿ Every tournament T has a directed Hamiltonian path.

Proof Assume that T has n -vertices. If $n=1, 2$, or 3 we can easily check that T has a directed Hamiltonian path. Thus we may assume $n \geq 4$.

Assume that the result is true for all tournaments on $n-1$ vertices.

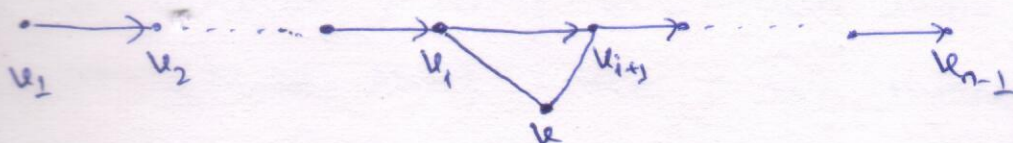
Let v be a vertex of T . Then $T-v$ has $n-1$ vertices and so by hypothesis there is a directed Hamiltonian path in $T-v$. Let $P = v_1 v_2 \dots v_{n-1}$ be such a path.

If there is an arc from v to v_1 , then $P' = v v_1 \dots v_{n-1}$ is a directed Hamiltonian path. Similarly, if there is an arc from v_{n-1} to v then $P'' = v_1 \dots v_{n-1} v$ is a directed Hamiltonian path in T .

Hence we may now suppose that there is no arc from v to v_1 and no arc from v_{n-1} to v .

Then there is at least one vertex w on P with the property that there is an arc from w to v and w is not u_{n-1} (since u_1 has this property).

Let u_i be the last vertex on P having this property, so that the next vertex u_{i+1} does not have this property.



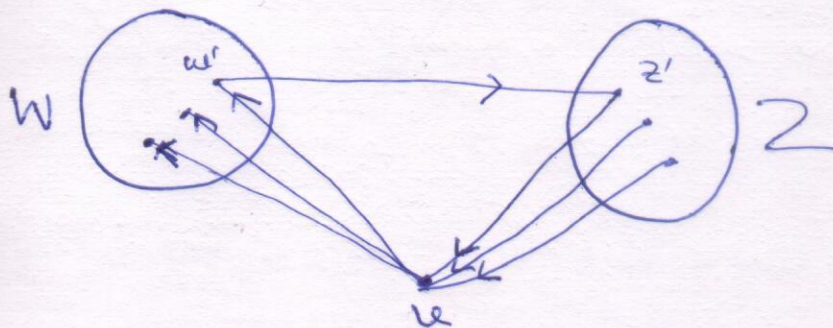
Then in particular, there is an arc from u_i to v and an arc from v to u_{i+1} . But then $Q = u_1 \dots u_i v u_{i+1} \dots u_{n-1}$ gives us a directed Hamiltonian path in D . \square

Defⁿ A directed Hamiltonian cycle in a digraph D is a directed cycle which include every vertex of D .
 If D contains such a cycle then D is called Hamiltonian.

Thm A strongly connected tournament T on n -vertices contains directed cycles of length $3, 4, \dots, n$.

Proof we first show that T contains a directed cycle of length 3. Let v be any vertex of T . Let W denote the set of all vertices w of T for which there is an arc from v to w . Let Z denote the set of all vertices z of T for which there is an arc from z to v . (Note that since T is a tournament, $W \cap Z = \emptyset$)

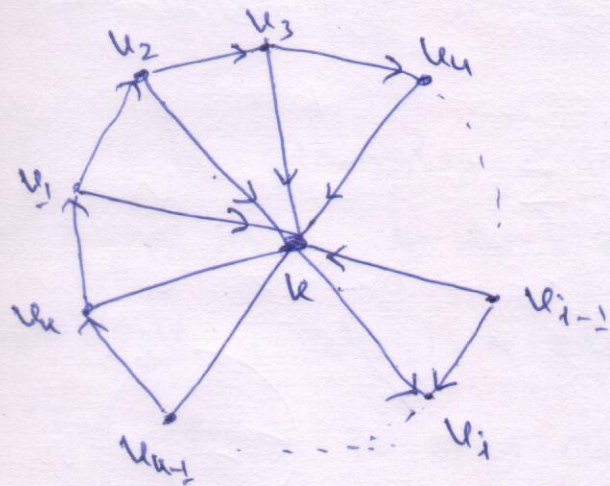
Since T is strongly connected, so W and Z must both be non empty. Moreover again because T is strongly connected, there must be an arc in T going from $w' \in W$ to some $z' \in Z$. This gives the directed cycle $v w' z' v$ of length 3.



We now use induction to complete the proof.

We suppose that T has a directed cycle C of length k where $k < n$ (and $k \geq 3$), and using this, we prove that T has a directed cycle of length $k+1$.

Let C be given by $v_1 v_2 \dots v_k v_1$. Suppose that there is a vertex u , not on the cycle C , with the property that there is an arc from u to v_i and an arc to v_j for some v_i, v_j on C . Then there must be a vertex v_i on C with an arc from v_{i-1} to v_i and an arc from u to v_i . Then $C' = v_1 v_2 \dots v_{i-1} u v_i v_{i+1} \dots v_k$ is a directed cycle of length $k+1$.



If no vertex exists with the above property, then the set of vertices not contained in the cycle can be divided into two distinct sets W and Z ,

where W is the set of vertices w such that for each i , $1 \leq i \leq k$, there is an arc from v_i to w and

~~2~~ Z is the set of vertices z such that for each i , $1 \leq i \leq k$, there is an arc from z to v_i .

If W is empty, then the vertices of C and the vertices of Z together make up all the vertices in T . However, by the definition of Z there is no arc from a vertex c to a vertex in Z , a contradiction since T is strongly connected. Thus W must be nonempty.

A similar argument shows that Z is nonempty.

Since T is strongly connected, there must be an arc from w' in W to some z' in Z . Then

$C' = v_1 w' z' v_2 v_3 \dots v_k v_1$ is a directed cycle of length $k+1$. The proof is now complete by induction.

Cor A tournament T is Hamiltonian if and only if T is strongly connected.

Proof Suppose T has n -vertices. If T is strongly

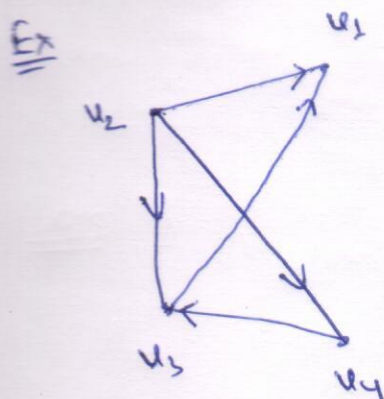
Connected then by the ^{above} theorem T is Hamiltonian.

Conversely if T is Hamiltonian with directed Hamiltonian cycle $C = v_1 \dots v_n v_1$ then given any v_i, v_j in the vertex set of T there is a directed path from v_i to v_j . Thus each vertex is reachable from any other vertex, so T is strongly connected.

Adjacency matrix of a digraph

Let $D=(V, A)$ be a digraph with $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$.

The adjacency matrix ~~$A(D)$~~ of D is the $n \times n$ matrix $[a_{ij}]$ with $a_{ij} = 1$ if $v_i v_j$ is an arc of D , and 0 otherwise.



$$A = A(D) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thm The (i, j) th entry $a_{ij}^{(k)}$ of A^k is the number of walks of length k from v_i to v_j .