



Definition

The *skeleton* of the directed graph (V, E) is the undirected graph (V, F) where

$$F = \{\{v, w\} \subset V \mid (v, w) \in E \text{ or } (w, v) \in E\}.$$

In other words, the skeleton is an undirected graph whose vertex set is V and whose edges are all (unordered) pairs which appear as an ordered pair in the directed graph.

In the case that (V, E) is a directed graph and E is a symmetric relation, the skeleton of (V, E) is a natural undirected graph to associate with (V, E) . An *orientation* of an undirected graph G is a directed graph whose skeleton is G .

An *oriented graph* is a directed graph without self-loops satisfying the property for any two vertices x and y , either (x, y) or (y, x) is an edge, but not both. An oriented graph can be obtained from an undirected graph by selecting an “orientation” of the undirected edges.

