

Step-1

A graph consists of a set of vertices or nodes, and a set of edges that connect them. The edge goes from node j to node k , then that row has -1 in column j and +1 in column k .

The incidence matrix A is,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step-2

We need to show directly from the columns that every vector b in the column space will satisfy $f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 0$.

Let $f = (f_1, f_2, f_3)$ is in the row space of A .

We know that the row space of A is equal to the column space of A^T .

$$\text{If } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ then } A^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step-3

$$\text{Let } \begin{bmatrix} A^T & f \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & f_1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 & f_2 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & f_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Apply } R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + R_1 \quad = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & f_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & f_2 + f_1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & f_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & f_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & f_2 + f_1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & f_3 + f_2 + f_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in the row space will satisfy } f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 0.$$

Step-4

$$\text{Let } y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Then } A^T Y = f$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ f_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow y_1 + y_3 &= f_1 \\ -y_1 + y_2 &= f_2 \\ -y_2 - y_3 &= f_3 \end{aligned}$$

So, add the three equations then

$$\Rightarrow f_1 + f_2 + f_3 = 0$$

Therefore, this means that the total current entering from outside is zero.