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A component of a graph

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Definition.

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Definition. A cut vertex $v \in V(G)$ splits G into more components. i.e. $\omega(G - v) > \omega(G)$

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Theorem. If $|V(G)| \geq 2$ then G has at least two vertices which are not cut vertices.

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Theorem. If $|V(G)| \geq 2$ then G has at least two vertices which are not cut vertices.

Proof. Let $x, y \in V(G)$, so that $d(x, y) = \text{diam}(X)$.

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If G has all but one cut vertex,

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If G has all but one cut vertex, either x or y is a cut-

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Let u be a point in the other component.

Consider the shortest path P linking u and y

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If there is a shorter path linking x to y ,

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Let u be a point in the other component.

Consider the shortest path P linking u and y . It must contain x .

If there is a shorter path linking x to y , then P cannot be shortest.

So, the shortest path linking u to y contains the shortest path between x to y

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So, the shortest path linking u to y contains the shortest path between x to y

$d(u, x) > d(x, y)$, so $d(x, y)$ cannot define the diameter

□

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