

5 Prove that  $\omega$  and  $\alpha$  are graph invariants.

*Proof that  $\omega$  is invariant.* Let  $G = (V, E)$  and  $H = (V', E')$  be graphs such that  $G \cong H$ . Let  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  be an isomorphism. Suppose  $\omega(G) = n$ . Then this means that the largest clique in  $G$  has  $n$  vertices. Let  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of vertices for a largest clique in  $G$ . (We say *a* largest clique to imply that there could be multiple largest cliques. WLOG, proving for one still proves the theorem for all). By the definition of a clique, these vertices are all pairwise connected and isomorphic to  $K_n$ . Then let  $C' = \{f(v_1), f(v_2), \dots, f(v_n)\}$  be the set  $\{f(v) : v \in C\}$ . Since every  $v \in C$  is pairwise adjacent to every other vertex in  $C$ , and since  $f$  is an isomorphism from  $G$  to  $H$  then it follows that every vertex in  $C'$  must be pairwise adjacent. And since  $f$  is one to one, then  $C'$  must contain precisely  $n$  vertices. Thus, the vertices of  $C'$  form a clique in  $H$ . To show that this must be a largest clique in  $H$ , we will show via contradiction that there cannot be a larger clique in  $H$ . So assume there exists a larger clique in  $H$ . Let  $C''$  be the set of vertices in this larger clique. Then  $C'' = \{v'_1, v'_2, \dots, v'_m\} \subseteq V'$  where  $m > n$ . And since  $f$  is bijective, there exists a unique  $u \in V$  for each  $v' \in C''$ . Thus we can write  $C'' = \{f(u_1), \dots, f(u_m)\}$ . Since each vertex in  $C''$  is pairwise adjacent and  $f$  is an isomorphism, then every vertex in the set  $\{u : f(u) \in C''\}$  must also be adjacent by the properties of a graph isomorphism. Thus the set  $\{u : f(u) \in C''\}$  is a clique in  $G$  and has  $m$  vertices  $\rightarrow$ . But this contradicts our assumption that the largest clique in  $G$  had  $n$  vertices. Thus the largest clique in  $H$  must also have  $n$  vertices. Thus the clique number of  $H$ ,  $\omega(H) = n$ .  $\therefore \omega$  is a graph invariant. ■

*Proof that  $\alpha$  is invariant.* Let  $G = (V, E)$  and  $H = (V', E')$  be graphs such that  $G \cong H$ . Let  $f : V \rightarrow V'$  be an isomorphism. Suppose the independence number of  $G$ ,  $\alpha(G) = n$ . Then it follows that  $\omega(G^c) = n$  since by the definition of  $\alpha(G) = \omega(G^c) = n$ . And since it is trivially shown that  $G \cong H \iff G^c \cong H^c$ , then we can use the fact that  $\omega(G^c) = n \iff \omega(H^c) = n$  since we proved that  $\omega$  is a graph invariant. And by the definition of independence number,  $\alpha(H) = \omega(H^c) = n$ .  $\therefore \alpha$  is a graph invariant. ■