

MAT 305 GRAPH THEORY AND COMBINATORICS

Exercise 1.4.3.13 (b). Let n be a positive integer. Prove that $K_{n,2n,3n+1}$ is not Hamiltonian.

Prove by Contradiction. Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$, and let $G = K_{n,2n,3n+1}$. Let X, Y, Z denotes the three partite sets of G such that X contains $3n+1$ vertices, Y contains $2n$ vertices, and Z contains n vertices. Assume, for contradiction, that G is Hamiltonian. By definition, G would have a Hamiltonian cycle denoted as C . Then, for $3n+1$ vertices in X , there will be correspondingly $3n+1$ edges on C that connect them. By definition of a partite graph, there is no edge connecting from vertices in X to other vertices in X , so the $3n+1$ edges have to come from the set $Y \cup Z$. There are $\max\{2n, n, 2n+n\} = 3n$ number of vertices adjacent to X , providing $3n$ edges in the cycle. Since $3n < 3n+1$, it cannot provide enough edges to connect all the vertices in X . Thus, it contradicts with the assumption that G contains a Hamiltonian cycle, and therefore, $K_{n,2n,3n+1}$ is not Hamiltonian. \square