

# LECTURE 19: SUBGRAPHS AND CONNECTIVITY

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## Isomorphism

**Definition.** An **isomorphism** between graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is a bijection  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that

$$\{u, v\} \in E(G) \text{ IFF } \{f(u), f(v)\} \in E(H).$$

$G$  and  $H$  are said to **isomorphic** if there is (some) isomorphism between  $G$  and  $H$ .

$N_G(u) = \{v \mid \{u, v\} \in E(G)\}$      $\deg(u) = |N_G(u)|$   
 $N_H(f(u)) = \{f(v) \mid \{u, v\} \in E(G)\}$     ← If  $f$  is an isomorphism from  $G$  to  $H$ .  
 $\deg(f(u)) = \deg(u)$

*deg req*

**Degree Sequence** of a graph  $G$  is a listing of the degrees of the vertices of  $G$  in ascending order.

**Proposition 1.** If  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic then they have the same degree sequence.

1, 2, 2, 2, 3

1, 2, 2, 2, 3

Not isomorphic because no  $\Delta$  in the right graph.

$V(H) = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$   
 $E(H) = \{\{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{a, d\}, \{a, e\}, \{c, d\}\}$   
 $V(G) = \{c, d, e\}$      $E(G) = \{\{c, d\}, \{d, e\}\}$

**Subgraphs.**  $G$  is a subgraph of  $H$  iff  $V(G) \subseteq V(H)$  and  $E(G) \subseteq E(H)$ .

**Proposition 2.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be isomorphic graphs. If  $S$  is a subgraph of  $G$  then there is a graph  $T$  such that  $T$  is a subgraph of  $H$  such that  $S$  and  $T$  are isomorphic.

$\exists$  bijective  $f : V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  s.t.  $f$  is an isomorphism. Suppose  $S = (V(S), E(S))$  is a subgraph  $G$   
 $T = (\{f(u) \mid u \in V(S)\}, \{\{f(u), f(v)\} \mid \{u, v\} \in E(S)\}) = E(T)$

## Walks, Paths, and Cycles

**Walk** in graph  $G$  is an alternating sequence of vertices and edges that begins with a vertex, ends with a vertex, and for any edge  $e = \{u, v\}$  in the walk, one of its endpoints is just before  $e$  in the sequence and the other endpoint is just after  $e$ .

Walk is of the form  $v_0\{v_0, v_1\}v_1\{v_1, v_2\}v_2 \dots \{v_{k-1}, v_k\}v_k$ .

The length of a walk is the number of edges in it.

*walk*     $a \{a, b\} b \{b, c\} c \{c, e\} e \{e, d\} d \{d, c\} c$

**Path** is a walk such that all vertices appearing in it are distinct.

$a \{a, b\} b \{b, c\} c$  path/walk

**Closed Walk** is a walk that begins and ends in the same vertex.

*cycle*     $\rightarrow e \{c, d\} d \{d, e\} e \{e, c\} c$  closed walk

$c \{c, d\} d \{d, c\} c$  closed walk.   
 *not cycle*

**Cycle** is a closed walk of length  $> 2$  such that all vertices are distinct except the first and the last.

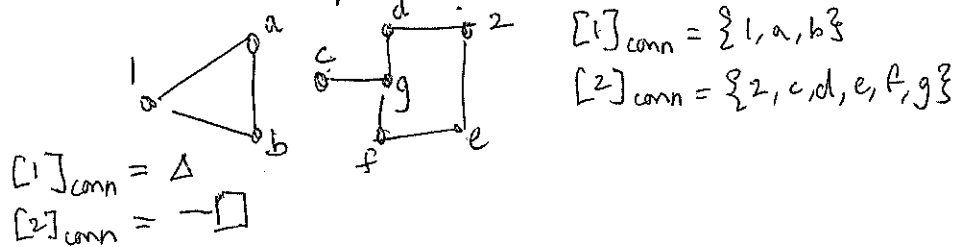
**Connectivity.** Vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are **connected** in graph  $G$  if there is a path that starts in  $u$  and ends in  $v$ . We denote this by  $\text{conn}(u, v)$ . A graph  $G$  is **connected** if every pair of vertices are connected.

**Proposition 3.**  $\text{conn}$  is an equivalence relation.

Reflexive:  $u$  is walk  $\text{conn}(u, u)$

Symmetric:  $\text{conn}(u, v)$ . There is walk  $w$  from  $u$  to  $v$ .  
 $\text{rev}(w)$  is a walk from  $v$  to  $u \Rightarrow \text{conn}(v, u)$

Transitive:  $\exists$  walk  $p$  from  $u$  to  $v$  and  $q$  from  $v$  to  $w$ .  
 Then  $p \wedge q$  is walk from  $u$  to  $w$ .

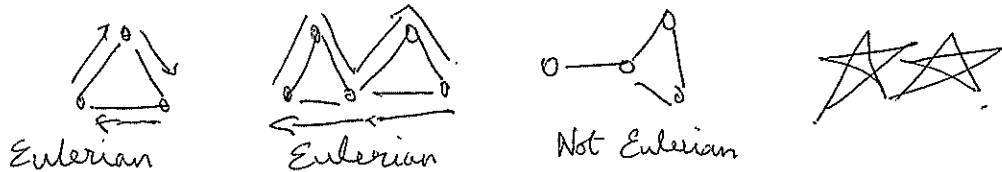


**Connected Components.** Equivalence classes of  $\text{conn}$  are the **connected components** of a graph  $G$ .

**Special Walks and Tours**  $G$  is connected  $\Rightarrow G$  has one connected component.

**Eulerian Tour** of  $G$  is a closed walk that includes every edge exactly once.

**Theorem 4.** A connected graph has an Eulerian tour if and only if every vertex has an even degree.



**Hamiltonian Cycle** of  $G$  is a cycle that visits every vertex in  $G$  exactly once.