# Lecture 3: Degrees and parity 

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## Outline

The Petersen graph as Kneser graph and Intersection graphs

Various notions of subgraphs

Vertex degree: Euler trails and Euler circuits

Euler circuits and cycle covers

Planar and plane graphs

Duality

## Intersection graphs


(a) An intersection graph

(b) An interval graph

Def: Let $V=\left\{A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{n}\right\}$ be a set system - a finite set of subsets $A_{i} \subset X$ of a set $X$. We say that $G=(V, E)$ is the intersection graph of $V$, if $\left\{A_{i}, A_{j}\right\} \in E$ precisely if $A_{i} \cap A_{j} \neq \emptyset$.
There are many specialisations depending on which type of sets one considers. In particular, interval graphs.

The Petersen graph as a complement to the intersection graphs


1. Prove that every graph is an intersection graph for some set system.

## Edge- and vertex deletion

Given a graph $G=(V, E)$, we define the graph obtained by deletion of edge $e \in E$ as the graph $G-e:=(V, E \backslash\{e\})$. The graph obtained by deletion of vertex $v \in V$ gives the graph
$G-v:=(V \backslash\{v\}, E \backslash E(v, G))$.

(c) The graph $G$

(d) $G-a d$

(e) $G-b$

## Edge contractions

Given a graph $G=(V, E)$, we define the graph obtained by contraction of edge $e=u v \in E$ as a graph $G / e:=\left(V \backslash\{u, v\} \cup\left\{v^{\prime}\right\}, E\right)$, where $e \in E$ now is incident with the "new" vertex $v$ ' if and only if $e$ is incident with $u$ or $v$. Sometimes one remove multiple edges and loops to keep the graphs simple.


## Subgraphs and spanning subgraphs

Let $G$ and $H$ be two graphs. We say that $H$ is a subgraph of $G$, write it $H \subset G$, if

$$
V(H) \subset V(G) \text { and } E(H) \subset E(G)
$$

If $V(H)=V(G)$ then $H$ is a spanning subgraph, and $H$ is just a subset of edges. We can write $H \subset_{s p} G$ and obtain $H$ from $G$ by deleting edges.

(a) The Petersen graph $G$

(b) The subgraph $H \subset G$

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(a) The Petersen graph $G$

(b) The spanning subgraph $H \subset_{s p} G$

## Subgraphs induced by a set of vertices

We say that $H$ is an induced subgraph of $G$ if $V(H)=S \subset V(G)$ and $E(H)$ consists of all edges with both endpoints in $V(H)$. We write $H=G[S]$ and $H \triangleleft G$ and it means that $H$ can be obtained from $G$ by deleting vertices.

(c) $G$ and $S$

(d) The induced subgraph $H$

## Questions about subgraphs and induced subgraphs

1. How many spanning subgraphs does a graph $G=(V, E)$ have? How many induced subgraphs? The number of subgraphs is harder to determine ...
2. If every induced subgraph of a graph is connected. What is the graph?
3. Show that the shortest cycle in any graph is an induced cycle, if it exists.

## Minors

A final "subgraph" relation is the minor relation. A graph $H$ is minor in $G$ if we can obtain $H$ by deleting edges and vertices and contracting edges.

Figure: The Petersen graph has a $K_{5}$-minor


1. Show that the Petersen graph has a $K_{3,3}-$ minor.

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Figure: The Petersen graph has a $K_{5}$-minor


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## Independence number and clique number

The clique number, $\omega(G)$, is the largest $k$ such that $G$ has a subgraph isomorphic to a complete graph $K_{k}$ on $k$-vertices. (A $k$-clique.)

The independence number, $\alpha(G)$, is the largest $k$ such that $G$ has a set of $k$ vertices no two of which are adjacent. Note that $\alpha(G)=\omega(\bar{G})$.
Both $\alpha(G) \leq k$ and $\omega(G) \leq k$ can be stated as forbidden induced subgraphs.

(a) A graph with $\omega(G)=4$

(b) An independent set of size 9

## Monotone properties

Each notion of subgraphs, subgraphs, spanning subgraphs, induced subgraphs and the minor relation, give rise to a partial order $(\prec)$ on the set $\mathcal{G}$ of graphs where $\prec$ can be $\subset, \subset_{s p}$ or $\triangleleft$.
We say that graph parameter $f: \mathcal{G} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is increasing (decreasing) in $\prec$ if $G \prec H$ implies $f(G) \leq f(H)(f(G) \geq f(H))$. For instance, the number of components, $c(G)$, is decreasing under the spanning subgraph partial order.
Usually: a property is monotone increasing if the property is not destroyed under addition of edges. This means that it is increasing visavi the spanning subgraph property.
A property is hereditary if it holds under deletion of vertices. It is thus monotone decreasing under the induced subgraph relation $\triangleleft$.

1. Give examples of properties that are monotone/not monotone under these relations.

## Degrees and parity

Def: For a general digraph $D=(V, A)$ and a vertex $v \in V$, define the out-degree, $\operatorname{deg}_{+}(v, \vec{G})\left(\operatorname{deg}_{-}(v, \vec{G})\right)$ as the number of out-edges (in-edges) to $v$, i.e. the number of edges $e \in A$ such that $v=$ taile ( $v=$ head $v$ ).
Def: For a graph $G$ and $v \in V(G)$, let the degree

$$
\operatorname{deg}(v, G):=\operatorname{deg}_{+}(v, \vec{G})+\operatorname{deg}_{-}(v, \vec{G}),
$$

where $\vec{G}$ is any admissable orientation of $G$.
A graph is $k$-regular if every vertex has degree $k$.
We can also say that $\operatorname{deg}(v, G)$ is the number of regular edges incident with $v$ plus 2 times the number of loops incident with $v$.
For simple graphs without loops, we have

$$
\operatorname{deg}_{G}(v)=|N(v, G)|=|E(v, G)|,
$$


where $N(v, G)$ is the set of neighbours to $v$ and $E(v, G)$ the set of edges incident to $v$.

## Handshake lemma

If we sum all the degrees, we count each edge twice.
Thm: (Handshake Lemma) The sum of degrees equals twice the number of edges, i.e.

$$
\sum_{v \in V(G)} \operatorname{deg}(v, G)=2|E(G)| .
$$

Cor: Reducing mod 2 gives that the number of vertices with odd degree is even.

Figure: A graph with four odd vertices.


1. What is $|V(G)|$ if $|E(G)|=9$ and all edges have degree 3 . (3-regular graph)

## Some problems

1. What is the number of edges in the hypercube $Q_{n}$ ?
2. Can the sequence $1,1,1,2,3,4,5,7$ be a degree sequences in a simple loop-free connected graph? What about loop-free connected multigraphs?
3. Let $e$ be a bridge in a connected graph $G$ as in the figure. Show that each of the graphs $G_{1}, G_{2}$ has an odd number of odd vertices.

4. Let $D$ be an orientation of the undirected complete graph $K_{n}$. (Such a digraph is called a tournament.) Prove that

$$
\sum_{v \in V(D)}\left(\operatorname{deg}_{+}(v, G)\right)^{2}=\sum_{v \in V(D)}\left(\operatorname{deg}_{-}(v, G)\right)^{2}
$$

## Euler circuits and Euler trails

Problem: Can we draw a graph $G$ on paper without lifting the pen? Can we do it so that we return to the starting point?
Def: An Euler circuit (trail) is an circuit using all edges.
Thm: An Euler circuit exists if and only if the graph is connected and all vertices have even degree.

1. Find an Euler circuit for the graph below.
2. Prove the theorem.


## Euler circuits as cycle covers and the CDC conjecture

An Euler circuit in a connected graph is equivalent to the existence of a cycle cover: A set of cycles $C_{1}, C_{2}, \cdots \subset G$, such that every edge $e \in E(G)$ is contained in exactly one of these cycles.

A famous and still unsolved conjecture in Graph Theory states that every bridge-less graph has a cycle double cover, i.e. a set of, not necessarily distinct, cycles $C_{1}, C_{2}, \ldots, C_{r} \subset G$ such that every edge $e \in E(G)$ is contained in exactly two cycles.


## Bipartite graphs

A graph $G$ is bipartite - with bipartition $V_{1}, V$ - if $V=V_{1} \cup \dot{V} V_{2}$ and all edges $i j \in E$ has one end in $V_{1}$ and $V_{2}$.

1. Show that the hypercube $Q_{n}$ is bipartite.
2. Show that a graph is bipartite if and only if every cycle has even length.

Planar graph

Check this game The game Planarity

## Definition of plane graphs and planar graphs

We define a more general concept.
Def: Let $S$ be a topological space. An $S$-drawing is a pair $(V, E)$ if $V$ is a finite set of points in $S$ and where each $e \in E$ is a arc in $S$ connecting points in $V$. We interpret this as a graph $G$, where the edge (arc) $e \in E$ is incident with its endpoints.
If the edges of an $S$-drawing are disjoint except at the endpoints, then $G$ is $S$-embedded. A graph is $S$-embeddable if $G$ is isomorphic to some $S$-embedded graph.
When $S$ is the plane $\mathbb{R}^{2}$ (or $S$ is the sphere $S^{2}$ ), we say that $G$ is plane if it is $S$-embedded and planar if it is $S$-embeddable.

## Questions

1. Are the following graphs planar?
2. Is $K_{5}\left(K_{3,3}\right)$ planar? Toroidal?

Thm: The Jordan Curve theorem.

## Euler's formula

A plane graph $G=(V, E)$, give rise to a plane $\operatorname{map}(V, E, F)$ - the union of the edges subdivides the plane into a set $F$ of open regions called faces such that each face is bounded by a finite set of edges.

## Kuratowski's theorem and homeomorphic graphs

A subdivision of a graph is obtained by replacing edges in the graph by paths, equivalently, by iterativel replacing edges $\bullet \longrightarrow$ by 2-paths

Two graphs which can be transformed into each other by sequence insertions and "deletions" of vertices of degree two are called homemorphic.

Kuratowskis Theorem: A graph is planar if and only if it does not contain a subgraph which is a subdivision of a $K_{5}$ or a $K_{3,3}$.
Wagners Theorem: A graph is planar if and only if it does not contain $K_{5}$ or a $K_{3,3}$ as minors.

## Kissing graphs

Wagner's theorem (1936): A planar graph has a plane embedding using only straight lines as edges.

Koebe's theorem (1936): A graph is planar if and only if it is a intersection graph of circles in the plane, where each pair of circles are tangent.

Koebe-Andreev-Thurston theorem: If G is a finite triangulated planar graph, then the circle packing whose tangency graph is (isomorphic to) G is unique, up to Möbius transformations and reflections in lines.


The dual graph

