

37181 DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

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Lecture 18: graph theory

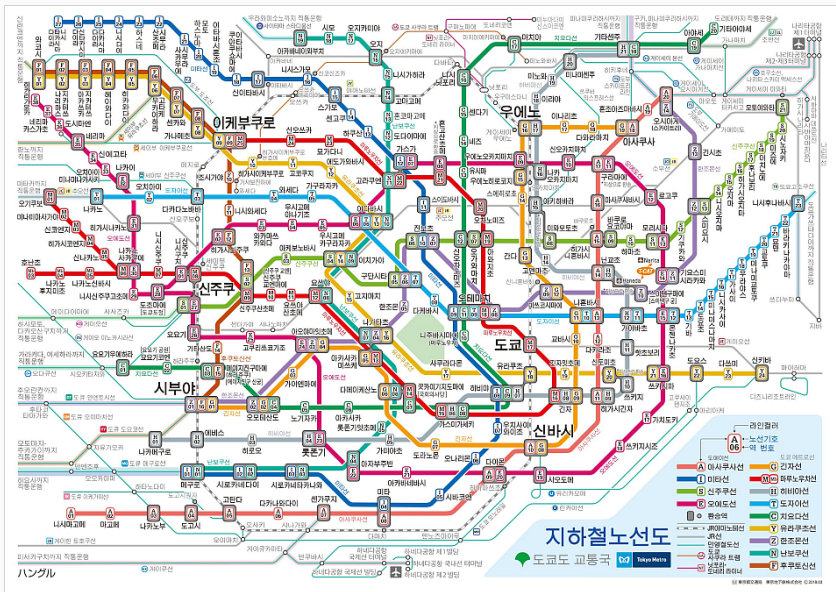
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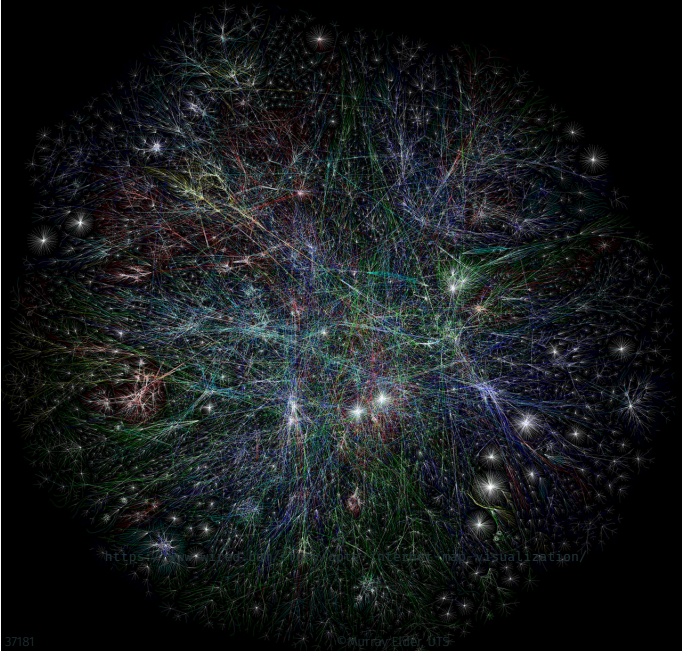
- Definition: graph
- Applications, theorems

GRAPH THEORY



GRAPH THEORY





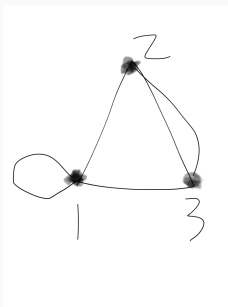
Definition (Graph)

A graph $G = (V, E)$ is a pair of sets V, E such that each $e \in E$ is associated to some subset $\{v_1, v_2\} \subseteq V$ of size 1 or 2.

The elements of V are called [plural: *vertices*, singular: *vertex*] or *nodes*, and the elements of E are called *edges* or *arcs*.

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

Eg: If $V = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $E = \{e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13}, e_{23}, e_{32}\}$ where e_{ij} is associated to $\{i, j\} \subseteq V$ then $G = (V, E)$ is a graph. We can *visualise* G as a picture, with a dot for each element of V and a line between v_1 and v_2 if $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is associated to some $e \in E$, so in this case we get



If $\{v_1, v_2\}$ is associated to more than one edge in some graph G , these edges are called *multiple edges* or *multi-edges* and G is sometimes called a *multi-graph*.

When each subset $\{v_1, v_2\} \subseteq V$ of size 1 or 2 is associated to at most one element of E , we can choose to label each edge by a subset of V of size 1 or 2, and write $E \subseteq \mathcal{P}(V)$.

Ex: draw the graph with edge set $\{\{1, 2\}, \{1, 1\}, \{2, 3\}, \{1, 3\}\}$.

Definition (Directed graph)

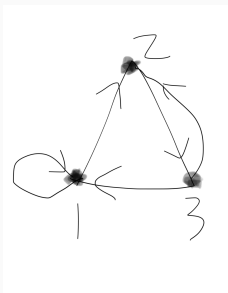
A *directed* graph $G = (V, E)$ is a pair of sets V, E such that each $e \in E$ is associated to some ordered pair $(v_1, v_2) \in V \times V$. If $(u, v) \in E$ we call $u \in V$ the *source* vertex and v the *terminal* vertex.

In this case when we visualise G as a picture, we draw arrows on the edges to indicate their *direction*, from source to terminal.

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

Ex: draw the directed graph with

$V = \{1, 2, 3\}, E = \{e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{31}, e_{23}, e_{32}\}$ where e_{ij} is associated to $(i, j) \in V^2$.



Again if more than one edge is associated to the same ordered pair, we call them *multi-edges*. If G is directed with no multi-edges we can choose to label E by ordered pairs $V \times V = V^2$, and we write $E \subseteq V^2$. In our example there are no multi-edges, since $(2, 3)$ and $(3, 2)$ are different elements of V^2 .

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

1. loop: an edge associated to a singleton set $\{x\}$
2. multiple edge/multi-edge: when more than one edge is associated to the same set $\{x,y\}$
3. simple graph: a graph with no loops and no multi-edges

- 4. path : a sequence of edges associated to sets $\{x, v_1\}, \{v_1, v_2\}, \dots, \{v_n, y\}$
- 5. length of a path : the number of edges in the path
- 6. circuit : a path where $x = y$

7. connected : if every two vertices x, y are joined by a path

8. disconnected : not connected

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

- 9. simple path : a path $\{x, v_1\}, \{v_1, v_2\}, \dots, \{v_n, y\}$ where each v_i is different from all other v_j (note x, y are allowed to be the same vertex).
- 10. endpoint(s) of an edge : if e is associated with $\{x, y\}$ then x, y are called the endpoints
- 11. edge incident to a vertex : e is incident to v if e is associated to $\{v, v'\}$
- 12. adjacent vertices : v, v' are adjacent if $\{v, v'\}$ is associated to an edge

13. degree of a vertex (for undirected graphs), notation $\deg(v)$:

$$\deg(v) = \sum_{e \in E} p(e) \text{ where } p(e) = \begin{cases} 2 & e \sim \{v\} \\ 1 & e \sim \{v, w\}, w \neq v \\ 0 & e \sim \{u, w\}, u, w \neq v \end{cases}$$

14. in-degree and out-degree (for directed graphs) :

15. complete graph K_n on n vertices :

16. complete bipartite graph on $m + n$ vertices :

Note that all our definitions are given (precisely) in terms of set theory, rather than some picture-description.

You should know now that this is important for when it comes time to *proving* facts about graphs. If we have imprecise definitions, we will have trouble in our proofs.

I often use the word *node* instead of *vertex* to make the English simpler. Remember plural: *vertices*, singular: *vertex*.

Definition (Adjacency matrix)

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph (directed or undirected). Assume $|V| = n$ and $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

The *adjacency matrix* for G is a $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ where a_{ij} is the number of edges from vertex i to vertex j .

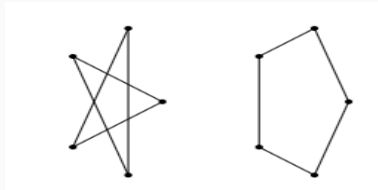
Eg:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

Ex: Give the adjacency matrices for these graphs.



(In set notation: $V_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, $E_1 = \{\{1, 3\}, \{3, 5\}, \{5, 2\}, \{2, 4\}, \{4, 1\}\}$ and $V_2 = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$, $E_2 = \{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{4, 5\}, \{5, 1\}\}$.)

GRAPH THEORY – BASIC DEFINITIONS

Now that we have all these definitions, we can prove some theorems.

Theorem

If $G = (V, E)$ is a graph (undirected) and $|E| = n$ then

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2n.$$

Do we have our definitions correct? How does degree work with loops – does a loop count 1 or 2 towards the degree?

Proof.

Imagine drawing a mark on your picture of G for each pair (v, e) where v is an endpoint of e (and draw it close to v). Then the number of marks you have drawn is $\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v)$. Now if each edge has exactly two marks drawn on it, we have our theorem. $\square$

Theorem

If $G = (V, E)$ is a graph (undirected) and $|E| = n$ then

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg(v) = 2n.$$

Ex: What would be the corresponding statement for directed graphs?
Can you prove it?

Ex: How many edges does the complete graph on n vertices have?

RECALL: MATRIX MULTIPLICATION

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} =$$

Theorem

If $G = (V, E)$ is a graph with $V = \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ and $s \times s$ adjacency matrix A , then the number of paths starting at i and ending at j of length $n \geq 1$ is the ij -th entry in A^n .

First of all, check its true (do we have our definitions of paths, and length of path, correct?)

What technique to prove this?

This is a statement about paths of length $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$ so maybe *induction* is appropriate.

Proof. Let $P(n)$ be the statement that the number of paths starting at i and ending at j of length n is the ij -th entry in A^n .

Then $P(1)$ is exactly the definition of adjacency matrix: the number of paths of length 1 from i to j is given by a_{ij} .

Assume $P(k)$ is true and consider $A^{k+1} = AA^k$. If we write $A^k = (b_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq s}$ then by assumption b_{ij} is the number of paths from i to j of length k .

COUNTING PATHS IN A GRAPH

Assume $P(k)$ is true and consider $A^{k+1} = AA^k$. If we write $A^k = (b_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq s}$ then by assumption b_{ij} is the number of paths from i to j of length k .

By the definition of matrix multiplication the ij -th entry of $A^{k+1} = AA^k$ is

$$a_{i1}b_{1j} + a_{i2}b_{2j} + \cdots + a_{in}b_{nj} = \sum_{t=1}^n a_{it}b_{tj}$$

which counts paths whose first step goes via some vertex t , so counts all the paths that start at i and make one step to be at vertex t and then follow a path from t to j .

Since all of these paths are different, we get the correct count. $\square$

Ex: What would be the corresponding statement for directed graphs?

Application: <https://math.stackexchange.com/questions/92555/counting-the-number-of-paths-on-a-graph>

How many different ways are there to unlock an android phone?

- graph isomorphism
- Euler paths
- Hamiltonian circuits