COMP 761: Lecture 9 - Graph Theory I

David Rolnick

September 23, 2020

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COMP 761: Graph Theory I

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In Königsberg (now called Kaliningrad) there are some bridges (shown below). Is it possible to cross over all of them in some order, without crossing any bridge more than once?



(Please don't post your ideas in the chat just yet, we'll discuss the problem soon in class.)

Course Announcements

David Rolnick

Course Announcements

• Problem Set 2 will be due on Oct. 9

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Course Announcements

- Problem Set 2 will be due on Oct. 9
- Vincent's optional list of practice problems available soon on Slack (we can give feedback on your solutions, but they will not count towards a grade)

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• A *graph G* is defined by a set *V* of *vertices* and a set *E* of *edges*, where the edges are (unordered) pairs of vertices {*v*, *w*}.

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- Vertices are also called *nodes*.

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- Can be drawn, where the locations of the vertices don't matter:



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Road networks

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- Road networks
- Social networks

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- Road networks
- Social networks
- Electrical grids

- Road networks
- Social networks
- Electrical grids
- Chemical structures

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- Road networks
- Social networks
- Electrical grids
- Chemical structures
- Relationships between concepts

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- Road networks
- Social networks
- Electrical grids
- Chemical structures
- Relationships between concepts
- And a lot more...

Special graphs: Paths and Cycles

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COMP 761: Graph Theory I

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Special graphs: Paths and Cycles

• The path graph P_n has n vertices v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n and (n-1) edges $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n-1$.



Special graphs: Paths and Cycles

• The path graph P_n has *n* vertices $v_1, v_2, ..., v_n$ and (n-1) edges $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ for i = 1, 2, ..., n-1.



• The cycle graph C_n for $n \ge 3$ has n vertices v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n and n edges given by $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \pmod{n}$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$.



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• We say a vertex v is *adjacent* to a vertex w if $\{v, w\}$ is an edge.

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- Example:
 - The neighborhood of *b* is {*a*, *d*, *e*}.

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- Example:
 - The neighborhood of *b* is $\{a, d, e\}$.
 - The degree of *b* of 3 and the degree of *d* is 4.

What is the sum of the degrees in a graph with *n* vertices and *m* edges?

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• Let's look at an example with n = 5 and m = 7.



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- The sum is 14.
- Why is this equal to 2*m*?
- Because each edge contributes twice to the sum of degrees once for each endpoint.
- So the sum of degrees is always twice the number of edges.

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Definition

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- Example (connected):



• Example (disconnected):



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• A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.

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- A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.
- A tree:



- A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.
- Not a tree (disconnected):



- A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.
- Not a tree (contains cycle):



- A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.
- A tree:



- A tree is any connected graph that doesn't contain a cycle within it.
- A tree:



• Paths are also trees:



How many edges does a tree with *n* vertices have?



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• Maybe *n* – 1. What's a way we can try to prove it?

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- Maybe n 1. What's a way we can try to prove it?
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- A vertex of degree 1, since then we cut down # edges by 1 too.
- The new graph is connected and can't have cycles, so it's a tree.
- Therefore, it has k 1 edges, so T must have k edges, and we're done!
- Or are we? What's missing?

How many edges does a tree with *n* vertices have?



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• A couple of things actually are missing.

4 A N



- A couple of things actually are missing.
- First, we need a base case for the induction.



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- First, we need a base case for the induction.
- If k = 1, then the only tree has 1 vertex and 0 edges, which works.

How many edges does a tree with *n* vertices have?



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• We also assumed that T has a degree-1 vertex. Why is there one?



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- Why does v have degree 1?



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- So v must have degree 1.

How many edges does a tree with *n* vertices have?



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- Why does v have degree 1?
- Any other edges from *v* would have to circle back to vertices we've already gone to, which would give us a cycle.
- So v must have degree 1.
- Degree-1 vertices in a tree are called *leaves*.

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Special graphs: Complete and empty graphs

• The *complete graph* K_n has *n* vertices and all possible edges between them.



- How many edges is that?
- That is $\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ edges.
- The *empty graph* on *n* vertices has no edges at all.



Definitions

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Definitions

• A *clique* within a graph is a subset of the vertices that form a complete graph (i.e. have all possible edges).



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• A *clique* within a graph is a subset of the vertices that form a complete graph (i.e. have all possible edges).



• An *independent set* within a graph is a subset of the vertices that form an empty graph (i.e. have no edges).



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• A *bipartite graph* is a graph that can be divided into two groups of vertices, with all the edges going *between* groups instead of *within* them.



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• A *complete bipartite graph* has all possible edges between the two groups of vertices:





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• What is the maximum number of edges in a bipartite graph with *n* vertices? (Suppose that *n* is even.)



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- Let's say n_1 vertices in one part and n_2 in the other part.
- We definitely want a complete bipartite graph, so $n_1 n_2$ edges.
- How do we pick n₁ and n₂ to maximize n₁n₂?
- By the AM-GM inequality, we know that:

$$\sqrt{n_1n_2} \leq \frac{n_1+n_2}{2} = \frac{n}{2}.$$

with equality at $n_1 = n_2 = n/2$.



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with equality at $n_1 = n_2 = n/2$.

• Therefore, the maximum number of edges is $n^2/4$.



Prove that a connected graph is bipartite if and only if it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.



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- **Direction 1.** Suppose that the graph *G* is bipartite. We must prove it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.
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- Let's consider some cycle *C* within *G*.
- The vertices must alternate between parts 1 and 2.
- So C has to have even length.

Prove that a connected graph is bipartite if and only if it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.

Prove that a connected graph is bipartite if and only if it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.

• **Direction 2.** Suppose that the graph doesn't have any odd-length cycles. We must prove it is bipartite.

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Prove that a connected graph is bipartite if and only if it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.

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- If we pick a vertex that is connected to vertices we already have, we just put it in whichever part they are not in.
- When do we have a problem?
- If we ever have a new vertex that is connected to both vertices in parts 1 and 2.

- **Direction 2.** Suppose that the graph doesn't have any odd-length cycles. We must prove it is bipartite.
- How do we do this?
- Let's go through the graph one vertex at a time, picking which part to put each new vertex in.
- If we pick a vertex that is connected to vertices we already have, we just put it in whichever part they are not in.
- When do we have a problem?
- If we ever have a new vertex that is connected to both vertices in parts 1 and 2.
- Can this happen?

Prove that a connected graph is bipartite if and only if it doesn't have any odd-length cycles.

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- Can this happen?
- No. Adding a vertex with two edges to a connected graph generates a cycle, and if the edges go to parts 1 and 2 then it would have to be an odd cycle.

David Rolnick

COMP 761: Graph Theory I

In Königsberg (now called Kaliningrad) there are some bridges (shown below). Is it possible to cross over all of them in some order, without crossing any bridge more than once?



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- This is actually a *multigraph*, where several edges are possible between the same pair of vertices.
- We want a path through the graph that traverses each of the edges exactly once.

Eulerian paths

In general, when does a connected graph (or a multigraph) have a path that traverses each of the edges exactly once? (Such a path is called an *Eulerian path*, named after mathematician Leonhard Euler.)



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- **Theorem:** A connected graph has an Eulerian path if and only if there are at most 2 vertices with odd degree.
- How should we prove this?
- It's an "if and only if" proof, so both directions needed.

Theorem: A connected graph has an Eulerian path if and only if there are at most 2 vertices with odd degree.



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- That means that every vertex in the middle of the path has even degree.
- The starting and ending vertices have odd degree unless they are the same.

David Rolnick



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- 0 or 2, since the sum of degrees is even (twice the number of edges).



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- Suppose without loss of generality that *v*₁ is connected to *w*.
- w must have even degree.
- If we take out v₁ w, then we have another connected graph with 2 vertices of odd degree.
- By induction, there is an Eulerian path ending at w, and we can just add v₁ w onto it.





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- Case 2. No vertices of odd degree.
- Let's take out some edge that doesn't disconnect the graph.
- We get a connected graph with two vertices of odd degree.
- Using Case 1, we get an Eulerian path, and can add the edge back in to complete an Eulerian path on the full graph.

The Bridges of Königsberg

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• So can we do it?

• Nope. There are more than 2 vertices with odd degree.

Other kinds of graphs

David Rolnick

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In weighted graphs, each edge has a weight associated to it. (You can think of that like a cost associated with the edge, for example.)



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 In *directed graphs*, each edge is an ordered pair, instead of an unordered pair. You can think of each edge as having a *direction* to it.



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Linear Algebra I

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