

Reading: MIT OpenCourseWare 6.042 Chapter 5.6

3. no cycles with odd length
4. no closed walks with odd length

Review

- Matchings/perfect matchings
- Hall's Theorem: in a bipartite graph, L can be covered by a matching if $\forall S \subseteq L, |S| \leq |N(S)|$.
- Graph coloring:

$$\omega(G) \leq \chi(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 1$$

- Connectivity: G has at least $n - m$ connected components
- Induction on graphs: shrink down, grow back

[[*mini-quiz*]]

Cycles

Def: *closed walk*: walk with $v_0 = v_k$. **Def:** *cycle*: path with $v_0 = v_k$.

Claim: The following graph properties are equivalent:

1. bipartite
2. 2-colorable

[[*useful since bipartite graphs come up a lot*]
[[*in practice, we will revisit this*]]

Proof:

- 1 \rightarrow 2: use partition labels as colors
- 2 \rightarrow 3: consider 2-coloring and any cycle v_0, \dots, v_k .
 - since $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \in E$, v_i and v_{i+1} must have different colors
 - so v_0, v_2, \dots have one color and v_1, v_3, \dots have other color
 - since $v_0 = v_k$, they have same color
 - hence k is even
- 3 \rightarrow 4: by contradiction
 - suppose odd closed walk and no odd cycle
 - let v_0, \dots, v_k be shortest odd closed walk
 - since no odd cycle, closed walk must repeat a vertex, say $v_i = v_j$
 - thus closed walk union of two other closed walks:

$$v_0, \dots, v_i, v_{j+1}, \dots, v_k$$

and

$$v_i, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_j$$

which partition edge-traversals of original walk

– since original is odd, one of these is odd, but shorter, contradiction

• $4 \rightarrow 1$: by contradiction

– suppose no odd closed walks and not bipartite

– not bipartite means some connected component G' not bipartite

– consider any $v \in V'$ and for every $u \in V'$ define $dist(u)$ to be shortest path from u to v

– define

$$L = \{u : dist(u) \text{ odd}\}$$

$$R = \{u : dist(u) \text{ even}\}$$

– G' not bipartite means \exists adjacent u_1, u_2 both in L or both in R

– let P_i be shortest path from u_i to v

– then P_1, P_2 either both odd (if $u_1, u_2 \in L$) or even

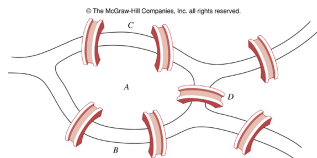
– so closed walk consisting of union of P_1, P_2 and $\{u_1, u_2\}$ has odd length

[[splicing/dicing arguments useful for path/cycle constructions]]

Eulerian Paths and Tours

7 bridges of Konigsberg

[[can you cross all 7 bridges without crossing any single bridge more than once?]]



Def: *Eulerian walk*: use each edge exactly once.

Def: *Eulerian tour*: closed Eulerian walk.

[[think of meter maid, wants to cover every street and not retrace steps]]

Claim: A connected graph $G(V, E)$ has an Eulerian tour iff every vertex has even degree.

Proof:

• \rightarrow :

– By direct proof.

– Suppose G has Eulerian tour.

– For every vertex $v \in V - \{v_0\}$, every time tour visits v , traverses two edges (one coming in, one going out).

– Since each edge used exactly once and all edges are used, v has even degree.

– For v_0 , we can pair initial edge with final edge, so v_0 also has even degree.

• \leftarrow :

– By direct proof.

– Suppose G is connected and all vertices have even degree.

– Construct tour as follows:

* start from v_0 and continue traversing untraversed edges until tour gets stuck.

* if there are untraversed edges, pick one $\{u, v\}$ with v on current tour and repeat first step with $v_0 = v$.

* splice together tours.

Claim 1: In first step, only get stuck at v_0 .

- * in any open walk W , endpoints have odd degree in W
- * since all vertices have even degree, if we're not at v_0 , we can continue

Claim 2: In second step, if \exists untraversed edge, must be one with an endpoint on current tour.

- * let $\{u_1, u_2\}$ be untraversed
- * G is connected
- * so exists path from v_0 to u_1
- * earliest edge on path not on tour is adjacent to tour

□

Def: *Hamiltonian walk/tour:* visit each vertex exactly once.

[[Much harder to find Hamiltonian paths/cycles, in fact NP-complete.]]

[[traveling salesman, visit each city exactly once and minimize distance, i.e., shortest hamiltonian path]]