

Graph Theory

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Assignment 8

Please submit your solution to Problem 3 by the end of November 11th for feedback.

Unless noted otherwise, all graphs considered are simple. The solution of every problem should be no longer than one page.

Problem 1: Let G be a connected graph on more than 2 vertices such that every edge is contained in some perfect matching of G . Show that G is 2-edge-connected.

Problem 2:

(a) Let G be a graph on $2n$ vertices that has exactly one perfect matching. Show that G has at most n^2 edges.

[Hint: .segde gnihtam owt neewteb gniissorc segde owt tsom ta sah G taht evresbO]

(b) Construct such a G containing exactly n^2 edges for any $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Problem 3: Let A be a finite set with subsets A_1, \dots, A_n , and let d_1, \dots, d_n be positive integers. Show that there are disjoint subsets $D_k \subseteq A_k$ with $|D_k| = d_k$ for all $k \in [n]$ if and only if

$$|\cup_{i \in I} A_i| \geq \sum_{i \in I} d_i$$

for all $I \subseteq [n]$.

Problem 4: Let G be a bipartite graph with sides X, Y . Let $A \subseteq X, B \subseteq Y$. Suppose there is a matching M_A which covers all vertices in A , and a matching M_B which covers all vertices in B . Show that there is a matching which covers all vertices in $A \cup B$. (We say that a matching M covers a set of vertices U if every vertex in U belongs to some edge of M .)

Problem 5: Suppose M is a matching in a bipartite graph $G = (A \cup B, E)$. We say that a path $P = a_1 b_1 \cdots a_k b_k$ is an *augmenting path* in G if $b_i a_{i+1} \in M$ for all $i \in [k-1]$ and a_1 and

b_k are not covered by M . The name comes from the fact that the size of M can be increased by flipping the edges along P (in other words, taking the symmetric difference of M and P): by deleting the edges $b_i a_{i+1}$ from M and adding the edges $a_i b_i$ instead.

- (a) Prove Hall's theorem by showing that if Hall's condition is satisfied and M does not cover A , then there is an augmenting path in G .
- (b) Show that if M is not a maximum matching (i.e. there is a larger matching in G) then the graph contains an augmenting path. Is this true for non-bipartite graphs as well?