

# Discrete mathematics

Petr Kovář & Tereza Kovářová  
petr.kovar@vsb.cz

VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava

Winter Term 2022/2023  
DiM 470-2301/02, 470-2301/04, 470-2301/06



EUROPEAN UNION  
European Structural and Investment Funds  
Operational Programme Research,  
Development and Education



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,  
YOUTH AND SPORTS

The translation was co-financed by the European Union and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports from the Operational Programme Research, Development and Education, project "Technology for the Future 2.0", reg. no.

CZ.02.2.69/0.0/0.0/18\_058/0010212.

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons "Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International" license.



## About this file

This file is meant to be a guideline for the lecturer. Many important pieces of information are not in this file, they are to be delivered in the lecture: said, shown or drawn on board. The file is made available with the hope students will easier catch up with lectures they missed.

For study the following resources are better suitable:

- Meyer: Lecture notes and readings for an <http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-042j-mathematics-for-computer-science-fall-2005/readings/> (weeks 1-5, 8-10, 12-13), MIT, 2005.
- Diestel: Graph theory <http://diestel-graph-theory.com/> (chapters 1-6), Springer, 2010.

See also [http://homel.vsb.cz/~kov16/predmety\\_dm.php](http://homel.vsb.cz/~kov16/predmety_dm.php)

### Chapter Connectivity of graphs

- motivation
- connectivity and components of a graph
- searching through a graph
- higher degrees of connectivity

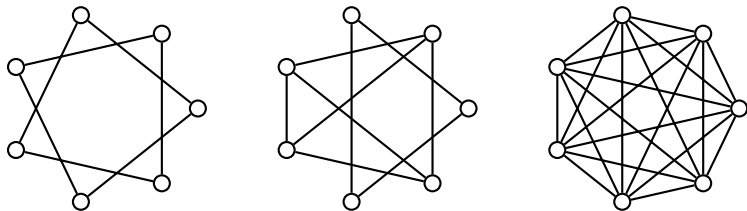
# Connectivity of graphs

If a graph represents a computer network or a road network, it is natural to examine, whether one can transmit a signal or send goods from vertex  $u$  to vertex  $v$ . This leads us to the notion of *connectivity of graphs*.

For similar reasons one can examine the robustness against local failures:

- vertex redundancy
- connectivity even in the case where several edges are cut

Hence we arrive at the notion of the *degree of vertex- and edge-connectivity*.



*Connected and not connected graphs.*

## Connections in graphs, components

Informally: A graph is connected, if there exists a “connection” between every two vertices (not necessarily an edge).

Formally: we introduce the concept of a *walk*, *trail*, and *path* in a graph.

### Definition

A  $v_0v_n$  walk in a graph  $G$  is such a sequence of vertices and edges

$$(v_0, e_1, v_1, e_2, v_2, \dots, e_n, v_n),$$

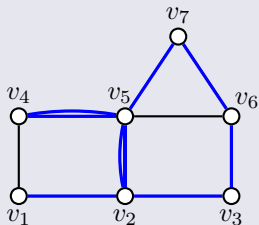
where  $v_i$  are vertices and  $e_i$  are edges of  $G$  such, that  $v_{i-1}$  and  $v_i$  are incident with  $e_i$ . The number of edges  $n$  is the **length** of the  $v_0v_n$  walk.  $v_0$  is the **starting** vertex and  $v_n$  the **end**-vertex of the walk.

If there are no multiple edges, we can describe the walk by listing just a sequence of vertices.

$$(v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

Alternatively we can omit the parentheses:  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ .

## Example

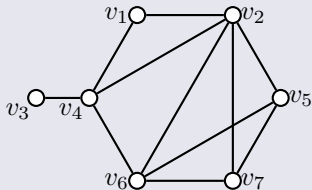


Walk  $v_1, v_1 v_2, v_2, v_2 v_5, v_5, v_5 v_7, v_7, v_7 v_6, v_6, v_6 v_3, v_3, v_3 v_2, v_2, v_2 v_5, v_5, v_5 v_4, v_4, v_4 v_5, v_5$  is highlighted in blue.

Briefly:

$v_1, v_2, v_5, v_7, v_6, v_3, v_2, v_5, v_4, v_5$ .

## Example



$v_1, v_2, v_6, v_7, v_2, v_1, v_2, v_3$  is **not a walk**  
walk  $v_1, v_2, v_6, v_7, v_2, v_1, v_2, v_4$   
walk  $v_1, v_2, v_7, v_5, v_6, v_4, v_3$   
(trivial) walk  $v_4$

The notion of “connectivity” is based on the term “walk”.

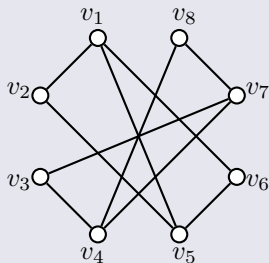
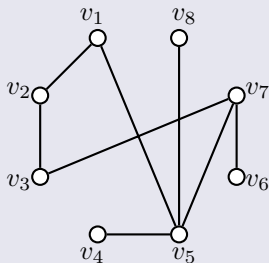
## Definition

We say vertex  $v$  can be **reached** from vertex  $u$ , if there exists a  $uv$  walk in the given graph.

We say a graph is **connected** if for every pair of vertices  $u, v$  is vertex  $v$  reachable from vertex  $u$ . Otherwise the graph is **not connected**.

## Example

Is each of the two graphs connected?



In some application the repetitions of edges or vertices is *not allowed* (pipes, traffic networks, electrical networks, ...).

## Definition

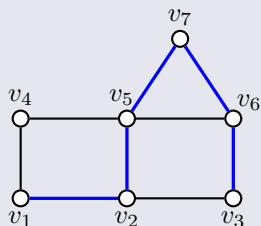
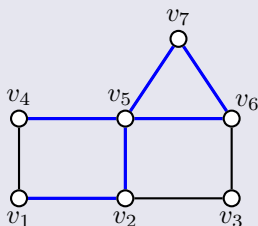
**Trail** is a walk with no repeated edges.

**Path** is a walk with no repeated vertices.

Terminology: we travel along trails, we draw “in one stroke”.

Vertices and edges of a path in a graph form a subgraph that is a path.

## Example



*Trail*  $v_1, v_2, v_5, v_7, v_6, v_5, v_4$  and a *path*  $v_1, v_2, v_5, v_7, v_6, v_3$ .



## Theorem

If there exists a  $uv$  walk in  $G$ , then there exists also a  $uv$  path in  $G$ .

**Proof** Let  $W$  be a  $uv$  walk  $u = v_0, e_1, v_1, \dots, e_n, v_n = v$  of length  $n$  in  $G$ . We want to find a  $uv$  walk  $P$  with no repeated vertex. If no vertex in  $W$  is repeated, then  $P = W$  is the wanted path.

If a certain vertex  $v_i$  is repeated, we can omit the entire part of  $W$  between its first occurrence  $v_i$  and its last occurrence of, say  $v_k$ . We obtain a  $uv$  walk  $W'$ , in which the vertex  $v_i$  occurs only once.

Now if no other vertex is repeated in  $W'$  we take  $P = W'$ . Otherwise repeat the process for the next repeated vertex.

The algorithm is deterministic, since there are only finitely many vertices in  $G$ . □

If there exists a  $uv$  walk in  $G$ , we can obtain a  $uv$  path by the proof of the theorem. We say that vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are **joined by a path** in  $G$ .

On the set of vertices of a given graph  $G$  we introduce the relation  $\sim$ . Two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$  are related in  $\sim$  (we write  $u \sim v$ ) if and only if there is  $uv$  walk in  $G$ .

We call  $\sim$  a “relation of being reachable.”

### Lemma

The relation  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation.

### Proof

- Reflexivity follows from the existence of a trivial walk  $uu$  of length 0. For each vertex  $u \in V(G)$  is  $u \sim u$ .
- Symmetry is obvious, since for each  $uv$  walk in  $G$  we can easily construct the  $vu$  walk in  $G$  by “reversing” the sequence of vertices and edges (in an unoriented graph).  $\forall u, v \in V(G)$  is  $u \sim v \Leftrightarrow v \sim u$ .
- Transitivity follows from the fact, that by joining the walks  $u, \dots, v$  and  $v, \dots, w$  we obtain the walk  $u, \dots, w$ .  $\forall u, v, w \in V(G)$  is  $u \sim v \wedge v \sim w \Rightarrow u \sim w$ . □

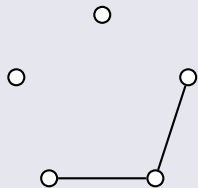
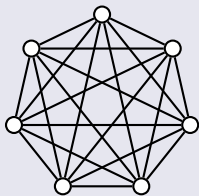
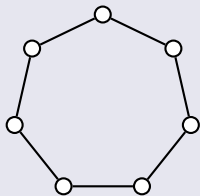
The relation  $\sim$  from the Lemma above defines a partitioning of  $V(G)$ .

Now we can define the following:

### Definition

Every maximal connected subgraph of graph  $G$  is a **component** of  $G$ .

### Example



*Examples of graphs with one and more components.*

Two alternative definitions of connectivity follow.

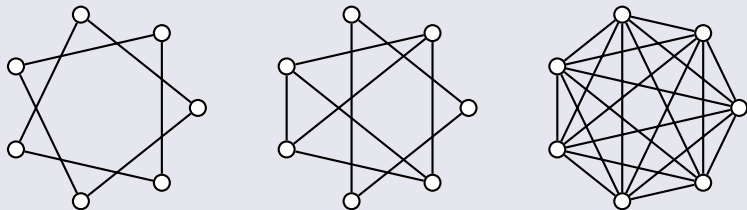
### Definition

We say that a graph  $G$  is **connected** if it has only one component.

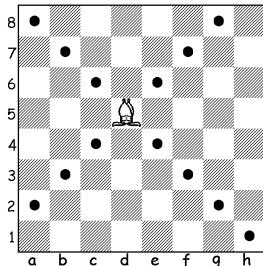
### Equivalent definition

We say that  $G$  is **connected** if the  $\sim$  relation on  $V(G)$  is total.

### Example



*Examples of connected graphs and a not connected graph.*



*How bishop moves.*

## Example

Take the graph  $S$ , which describes all possible movements of a bishop on a chess board. (Recall that a bishop moves any number of vacant squares diagonally.)

Vertices correspond to squares and an edges joins two squares if and only if there is legal move of a bishop between them.

Graph  $S$  has 64 vertices, many edges and it is not connected.

## Example

Loyds' fifteen puzzle is a classic. The task is to shuffle the pieces numbered 1 through 15 so that they form an arithmetic progression 1 through 15 by rows.

We construct a graph of states: vertices are all possible arrangements of the pieces and an edge joined two arrangements if there is a single valid move from one to the other. One can show that such graph is not connected and thus there is no solution to the puzzle!

## Towers of Hanoi

We have three pegs and a set of discs of different sizes. All discs are on one peg arranged according their size. The task is to move all discs to another peg while

- always one disc is moved,
- never a larger disc can be on top of a smaller one.

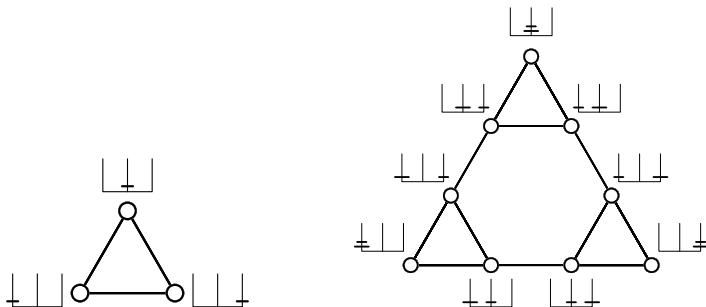
Is it possible? What is the least number of moves required?

In chapter on recurrence relations we found the minimum number of moves for  $n$  discs.

## Graph formulation – state graph

For the solution we set up a state graph:

- vertices – each valid distribution of discs,
- edges – join two states with a valid move in between.



The puzzle with a single disc and with two discs.

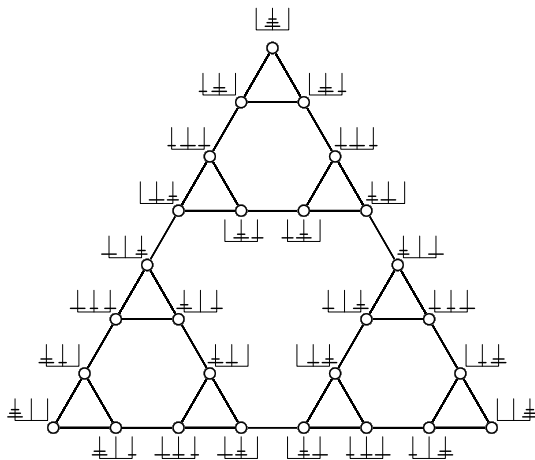
For two discs we distinguish **three** cases where to put the larger discs.

For each we take a copy of the state graph for one disc.

We add edges where the larger discs can be moved.

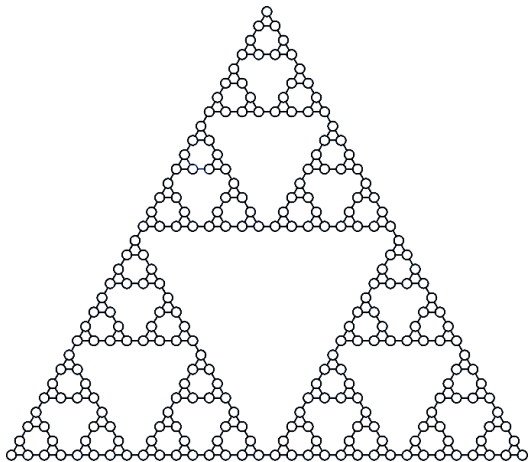


## Graph formulation



For three discs similarly...

## Graph formulation



... and for five discs.

## Interpretation of the graph formulation

For  $n$  discs we have:

- $3^n$  different valid states =  $3^n$  vertices in the graph,
- all discs on one peg = “tip” vertices,
- each state is reachable,
- to move all discs – at least  $2^n - 1$  moves,
- fastest solution = shortest path (next chapter).

# Searching in a graph

For a general concept of “searching” in a graph we need to distinguish for each graph element few different states and one auxiliary structure:

**Vertex** can have the status . . .

- initial – at the beginning,
- found – if it is found as an endpoint of an edge,
- processed – once all outgoing edges are processed.

**Edge** can have the status . . .

- initial – at the beginning,
- processed – once it is processed from one end-point.

**Depository** as an auxiliary structure (sequence/set, see later),

- we store here all found and unprocessed vertices.

Based on how we pick the vertices in the depository, we obtain different variants of graph searching (depth-first/breadth-first search). For every vertex and edge we can implement an action to be performed – searching and processing a graph.

At the beginning

- pick an arbitrary vertex
- assign initial status to all vertices and edges

### Algorithm of traversing all components

Traversing all connected components – we traverse each vertex and each edge.

```
// on the input is the graph G
input < graph G;
status(all vertices and edges of G) = initial;
depository U = arbitrary vertex u of G;
status(u) = found;
```

Now we traverse the graph...

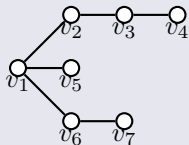
## Algorithm of traversing all components (continued...)

```
// processing a component of G
while (U is not empty) {
    pick a vertex v from the depository U:  $U = U - \{v\}$ ;
    PROCESS(v);
    for (edges e incident with v)           // for all edges
        if (status(e) == initial) PROCESS(e);
        w = other end-vertex of e = vw;    // known neighbor?
        if (status(w) == initial) {
            status(w) = found;
            add vertex w to depository U:  $U = U + \{w\}$ ;
        }
        status(e) = processed;
    }
    status(v) = processed;
    // check for additional components of G
    if (U is empty && G has additional vertices)
        U = {vertex u_1 from another component of G};
}
```

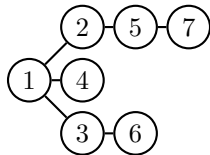
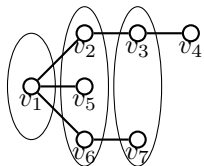
By various implementations of the *depository* we get various algorithms.

- “*Depth-first search*” – depository  $\mathcal{U}$  is implemented as a stack, i.e. next processed vertex is the last found (and unprocessed).
- “*Breadth-first search*” – depository  $\mathcal{U}$  is implemented as a queue, i.e. next processed vertex is the first found (and unprocessed).
- *Dijkstra algorithm* for shortest path – from the depository pick always the vertex closest to the initial vertex  $v_0$ ;  
(work as breadth-first search when all edges are of “equal length”).

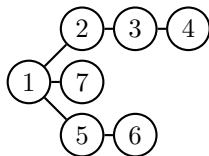
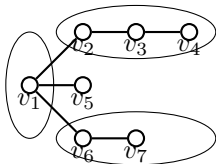
## Example



*Search through the graph using the depth-first and breadth-first search (starting at the vertex  $v_1$ ).*



*Breadth-first search (starting at  $v_1$ ).*



*Depth-first search (starting at  $v_1$ ).*



## Note

The symbol  $O(g(n))$  stands for all functions  $f(n)$ , for which there exist such positive constants  $c$  and  $n_0$ , that  $\forall n > n_0$  is  $0 \leq f(n) \leq c \cdot g(n)$ .

The algorithm described above is both easy and fast. The number of steps grows linearly with the number of vertices plus the number of edges of a given graph, the complexity is  $O(n + m)$ , where  $n$  is the number of vertices and  $m$  is the number of edges.

## Questions

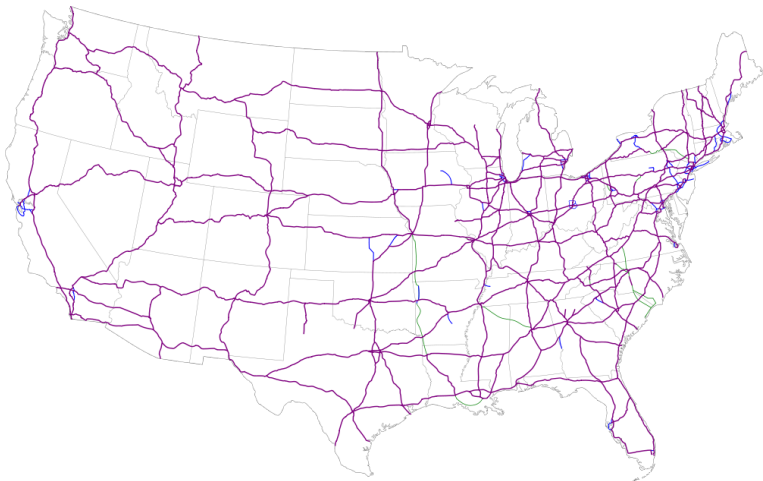
How to modify the algorithm to list all edges of a given graph?

How to modify the algorithm to check connectivity of a given graph?

How to modify the algorithm to find and distinguish all components of a given graph?

## *k*-connectivity

Often we examine not only if there exists a connection between a two vertices in a graph, but also if there will be a loss of connectivity if the case of local failures (web, roads, electricity network).



*Eisenhower Interstate Highway System in the USA.*

## Definition

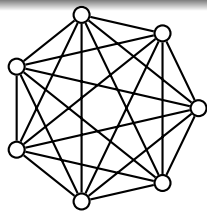
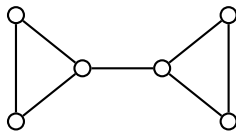
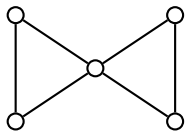
Graph  $G$  is **edge  $k$ -connected** if  $k \geq 1$  and after removing any  $k - 1$  edges from  $G$  remains the resulting factor connected.

The **edge-connectivity** of  $G$  is such a highest number  $k$  that  $G$  is edge  $k$ -connected.

## Definition

Graph  $G$  is **vertex  $k$ -connected** if  $|V(G)| > k \geq 1$  and after removing any  $k - 1$  vertices from  $G$  remains the resulting induced subgraph connected.

The **vertex-connectivity** of  $G$  is such a highest number  $k$  that  $G$  is vertex  $k$ -connected.



*Graphs with different edge/vertex  $k$ -connectivity.*

We say that paths  $P$  and  $P'$  are:

- **edge-disjoint** if they share no edge,
- **internally-disjoint** if they share no internal vertex.

### Theorem (Menger's theorem)

Graph  $G$  is edge  $k$ -connected if and only if there are at least  $k$  edge-disjoint paths between any two vertices (the paths can share vertices).  
Graph  $G$  is vertex  $k$ -connected if and only if there are at least  $k$  internally-disjoint paths between any two vertices (the paths share only end-vertices).

**Proof** In the last Chapter. □

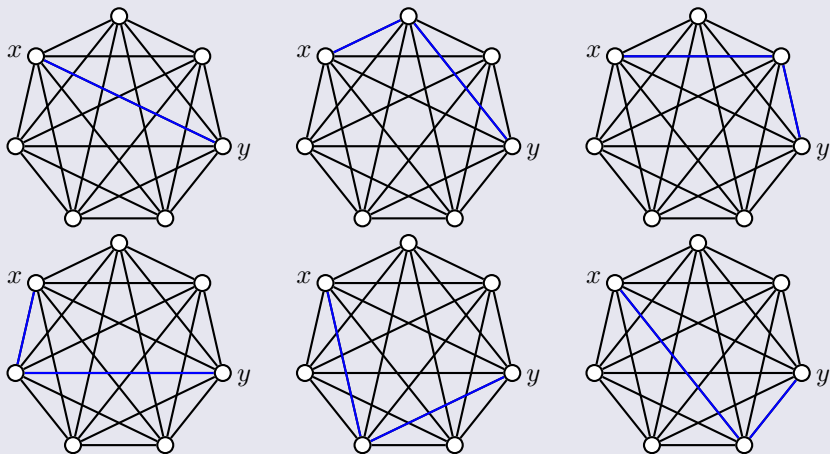
The following important theorem we state without a proof:

### Theorem

In any graph  $G$  the vertex-connectivity does not exceed edge-connectivity which then does not exceed the minimum vertex degree  $\delta(G)$ .

## Example

The complete graph  $K_n$  is edge and vertex  $(n - 1)$ -connected.



*Different edge-/internally-disjoint paths between  $x$  and  $y$  in  $K_7$ .*

### Chapter Eulerian and hamiltonian graphs

- motivation
- eulerian graphs traversable in “one trail”
- hamiltonian graphs traversable in “one path”