

Notes 2-15

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Continuation of 2/13 Notes

Definition: An irregular graph is a graph in which no two distinct vertices have the same degree.

Example: Trivial Graph



Theorem: There do not exist any non-trivial irregular graphs.

Proof: If a graph has order n then all of its n vertices have degrees between (0 and $n-1$): $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, (n-1)$

Suppose for contradiction that G is an irregular graph of order n . Thus G must have a vertex with every degree from 0 to $n-1$. So one vertex has degree 0 (connected to nothing) and one has degree $n-1$ (connected to everything)

This is a contradiction.

1 Isomorphisms

We want a mathematical definition of what it is for two graphs to be the same

Definition: If G and H are two labelled graphs then

$$\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(H) \tag{1}$$

is an isomorphism (of Graphs).

If φ is a bijection and

$$u, v \in V(G) \text{ then } u, v \in E(G) \text{ if and only if } \varphi(u)\varphi(v) \in E(H) \tag{2}$$

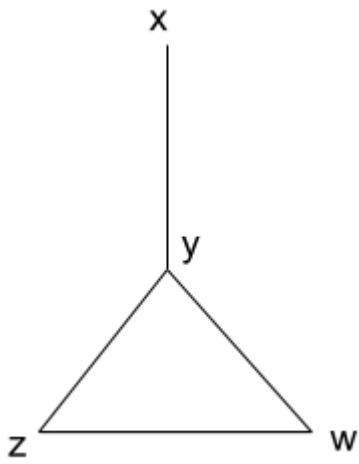
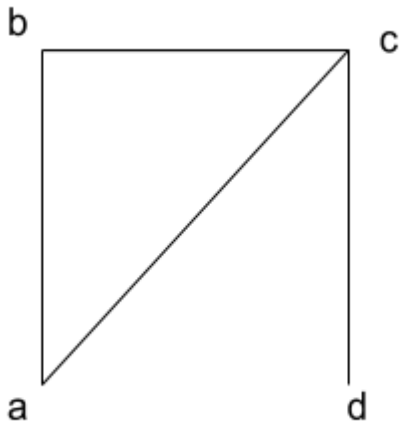


Figure 1: Two labelled graphs are isomorphic if there exists an isomorphism between them. Two unlabelled graphs are isomorphic if there exists a way to assign labels to vertices in a way that makes them isomorphic.

2

In order for two graphs to be isomorphic they need to be the same order and size

If G and H are isomorphic then they have the same degree sequence

How do we tell if two graphs are isomorphic? What are the possible unlabelled graphs of small order?



Figure 2: $n=2$



Figure 3: $n=3$

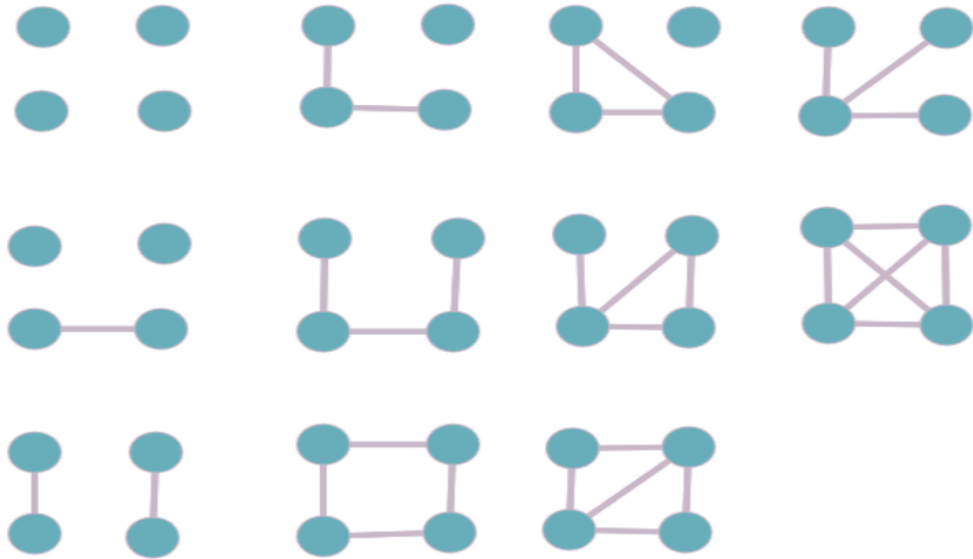


Figure 4: $n=4$

There is a relationship between the number of vertices n and the number of non isomorphic unlabelled graphs. However we do not know a formula in terms of n for this sequence.

3

Theorem: G and H are isomorphic if \bar{G} is isomorphic to \bar{H}

Write $G \cong H$ if G is isomorphic to H . -Determine whether the following graphs are isomorphic.

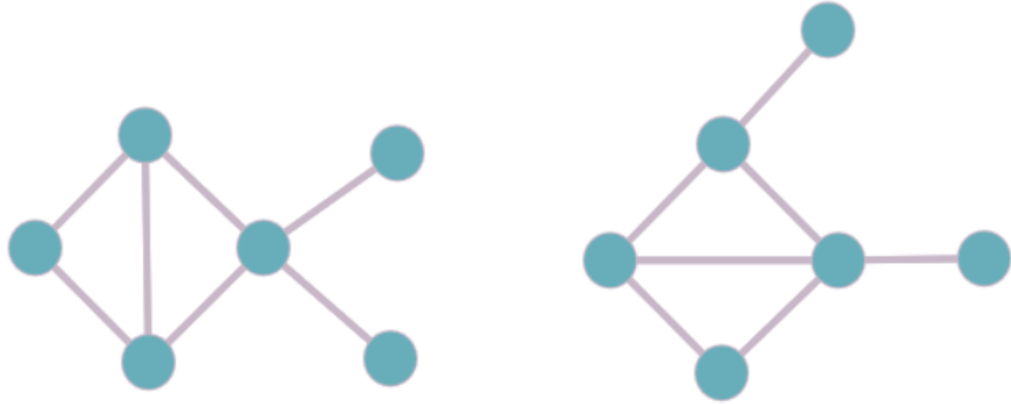


Figure 5: (Left): Dseq - 4,3,3,2,1,1

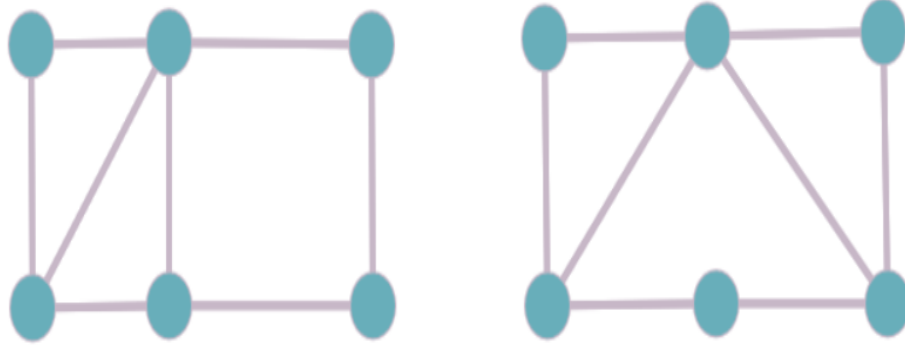
Figure 6: (Right): Dseq - 4,3,3,2,1,1

-If yes we can see this by writing down the isomorphism. -If not we need to demonstrate some property of one of the graphs that isn't preserved in the other.

Check → Order: 6, Size: 7, Degree Sequence: Same

In this case, distance between the vertices of degree 1 is not preserved.

Another way is to look at the neighbors of the unique vertices. In this case we examine the unique vertex of degree 4.



Note: No vertex of degree 2 has neighbors of 2 and 4 for the right graph.

Check: The distances between 2 points and the existence of cycles of different sizes.

Theorem: The property of being an isomorphic graph is an equivalence relation

Proof: Transitivity, Suppose $F \cong G$ and $G \cong H$ Let $\varphi: F \rightarrow G$ be an isomorphism and $\psi: G \rightarrow H$ be an isomorphism

Then $\psi \circ \varphi: F \rightarrow H$: Check that this is an isomorphism.

An isomorphism from G to itself is called an automorphism.

4

In K_n any permutation of the vertices is an automorphism. The set of automorphisms of a graph form a group under composition.

- Automorphism group of K_n is S_n

- Frucht's Theorem: For any finite group G . There exist a graph whose automorphism group is G .