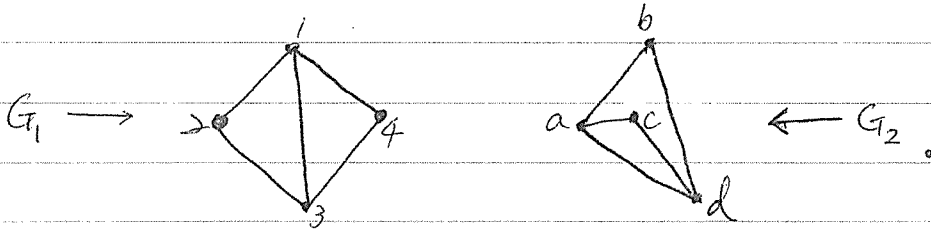


# Graph Isomorphism for Simple Graphs

Given two graphs, for example the following:



Are they "the same" or not?

Fact If  $V(G_1) \neq V(G_2)$  or  $E(G_1) \neq E(G_2)$ , then  $G_1 \neq G_2$ .

## Observation

- (1)  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are of the same order, i.e.,  $|G_1| = |G_2|$ .
- (2)  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are of the same size, i.e.,  $\|G_1\| = \|G_2\|$ .
- (3)  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are of the same "incidence" structure:

$$1 \rightarrow a, 3 \rightarrow d, 2 \rightarrow c, 4 \rightarrow b.$$

Review: Two sets  $A$  and  $B$  are of the same cardinality

if there exists a bijection between  $A$  and  $B$ , i.e.,  $\exists$

$$f: A \xrightarrow{1-1} B. \quad (A \text{ and } B \text{ can be infinite sets.})$$

onto

## Definition (Isomorphic Graphs)

Two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are isomorphic if there exists a bijection  $f: V(G_1) \rightarrow V(G_2)$  such that

$$\begin{array}{ccc} u \sim_{G_1} v & \iff & f(u) \sim_{G_2} f(v). \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ uv \in E(G_1) & & f(u)f(v) \in E(G_2) \end{array}$$

We use  $G_1 \cong G_2$  to denote the fact that  $G_1$  is isomorphic to  $G_2$ .

Fact  $G_1 \cong G_2 \Rightarrow$   $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \textcircled{1} |G_1| = |G_2| \\ \textcircled{2} \|G_1\| = \|G_2\| \\ \textcircled{3} \text{ Many others } \dots \\ \text{(properties)} \end{array} \right.$

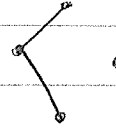
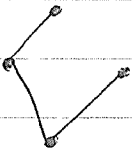
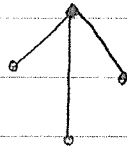
Fact Two graphs are non-isomorphic if they are not isomorphic.

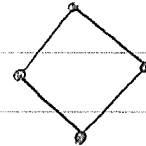
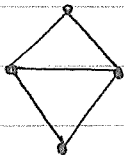
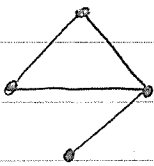
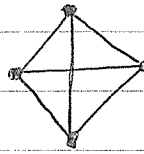
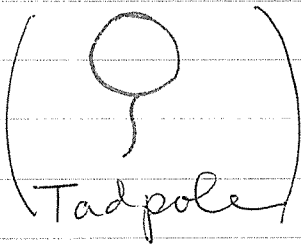
Fact Isomorphism is an equivalence relation defined on  $\mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{G}$  where  $\mathcal{G}$  is the set of all simple graphs. (graphs)

Example: Non-isomorphic graphs of order 4  
(simple)


 $O_4$ 

 $O_2UK_2$ 




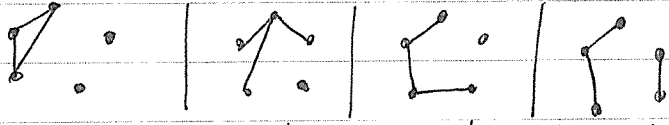
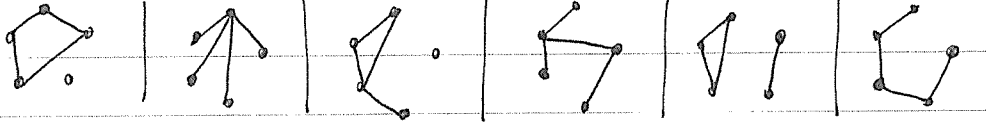
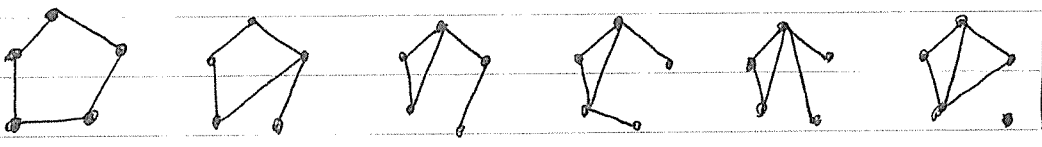
 $M_2$ 

 $P_3UO_1$ 

 $P_4$ 

 $S_3$ 

 $K_3UO_1$   
or  $C_3UO_1$ 

 $C_4$ 

 $K_4 - e$ 

 $K_4$ 


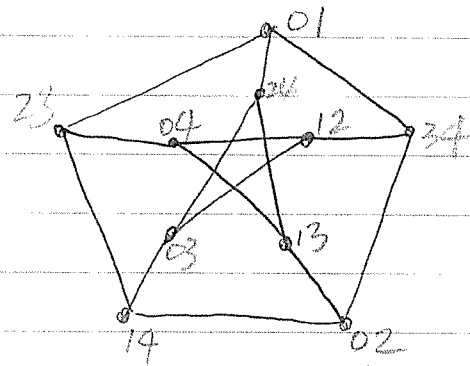
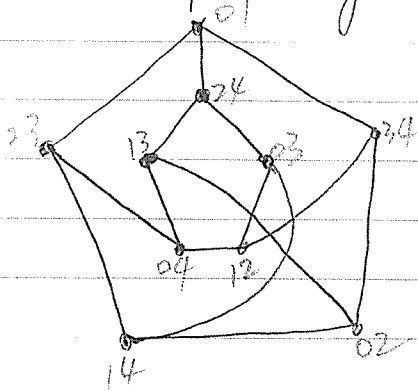
Homework: (How many non-isomorphic graphs are  
of order 6?)

There are 34 non-isomorphic graphs of order 5.  
(simple)

Idea First, we use the number of edges to partition the set of graphs of order 5.

- 1.  $e=0$ ,  1
- 2.  $e=1$   1
- 3.  $e=2$   2
- 4.  $e=3$   4
- 5.  $e=4$   6
- 6.  $e=5$   6
- 7.  $e=6 \approx e=4$  6
- 8.  $e=7 \approx e=3$  4
- 9.  $e=8 \approx e=2$  2
- 10.  $e=9 \approx e=1$  1
- 11.  $e=10 \approx e=0$  1

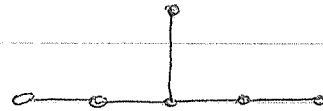
Are the following two graphs isomorphic?



Yes!

Petersen Graph

Are the following two graphs isomorphic?



No!

Fact Let  $V = \binom{\mathbb{Z}_5}{2} = \{ \text{2-element subsets of } \mathbb{Z}_5 \}$

$= \{ 01, 02, 03, 04, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 34 \}$

and  $E = \{ AB \mid A, B \in V \text{ and } A \cap B = \emptyset \}$ . The  $(V, E)$  is isomorphic

to Petersen graph. (Kneser Graphs!)

Famous Graphs

(!) So, how to determine whether two graphs are isomorphic

or not. (Isomorphism Disease)

Possible approach

Definition (Degree sequence)

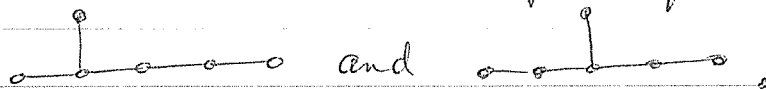
Let  $G$  be a graph and  $V(G) = \{v_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ . Let  $d_i = \deg_G(v_i)$  and  $d_1 \geq d_2 \geq \dots \geq d_n$ . Then,  $\langle d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n \rangle$  is the degree sequence of  $G$ .

Review 1.  $\forall v \in V(G), N(v) = \{u \in V(G) \mid uv \in E(G)\}$  and  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . They are the neighborhood of  $v$  and closed neighborhood of  $v$  respectively.

2.  $|N(v)|$  is known as the degree of  $v$ . If the graph has a loop passing  $v$ , then this loop contributes two degrees. denoted by  $\deg_G(v)$

3. A vertex is even (or odd) if its degree is even (or odd).

Example 1.  $\langle 3, 2, 2, 1, 1, 1 \rangle$  is the degree sequence of both



2.  $\langle 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3 \rangle$  is the degree sequence of both



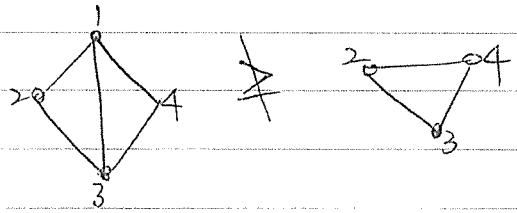
Can we say something about isomorphic graphs and degree sequences?

## Conclusion (Trivial)

Two graphs may have the same degree sequence, but they are not isomorphic.

(Fact) If two graphs are isomorphic, then they have the same degree sequence.

## Subgraphs

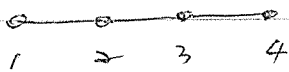


### Definition (Strong sense)

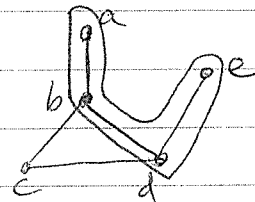
Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two graphs such that  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and  $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$ . Then  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G$ .

### Definition (General version)

$H$  is a subgraph of  $G$  if  $H$  is isomorphic to a subgraph (strong sense) of  $G$ , denoted by  $H \leq G$ .

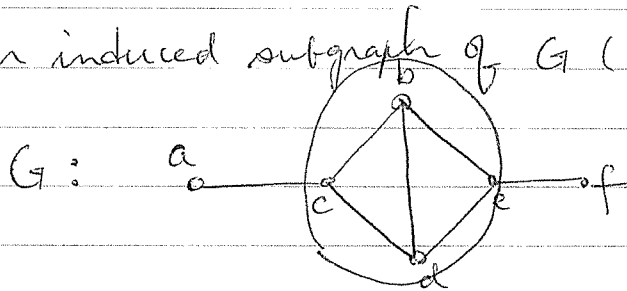


" $\leq$ "  
~~~~~

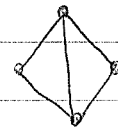


## Definition (Induced subgraphs)

Let  $G$  be a graph and  $S \subseteq V(G)$  be a non-empty (or generated) subset. The graph induced by  $S$ ,  $\langle S \rangle_G$ , is a subgraph of  $G$  such that  $u \sim_{\langle S \rangle_G} v$  if and only if  $u \sim_G v$ .  $\langle S \rangle_G$  is called an induced subgraph of  $G$  (induced by  $S$ ).



Let  $S = \{b, c, d, e\}$ .  $\langle S \rangle_G$ :

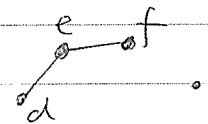


$\langle S \rangle_G \subseteq G$ .  
↑ induced subgraph

## Definition (Edge-induced subgraphs)

Let  $G$  be a graph and  $\tilde{E} \subseteq E(G)$ . Then the edge-induced subgraph of  $\tilde{E}$ ,  $\langle \tilde{E} \rangle_G$ , is the subgraph of  $G$  whose edge set is  $\tilde{E}$  and vertex-set is the set of vertices in  $G$  which are incident to an edge in  $\tilde{E}$ .

For example, let  $\tilde{E} = \{de, ef\}$ , then  $\langle \tilde{E} \rangle_G$ :



**(Fact)** If two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are isomorphic, then  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G_1$  if and only if  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G_2$ .



Definition (H-free graphs)

A graph  $G$  is said to be H-free if H is not a subgraph of G.

Example. Petersen graph is  $C_3$ -free and also  $C_4$ -free.

Review. A cycle with  $n \geq 3$  vertices is denoted by  $C_n$ .

Definition (Extremal graphs)

Consider all graphs on  $n$  vertices. Let  $(G_n)$

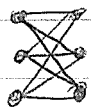
$ex(n; H) = \max\{|G| \mid G \in G_n \text{ and } G \text{ is } H\text{-free}\}$ . The

graphs  $G$  of order  $n$  and size  $ex(n; H)$  are known as extremal graphs which forbids H.

Example.  $n=6$ ,  $ex(6; C_3) = 9$ . (why?)

Note Two steps to show

Step 1. There exists a graph of <sup>order 6 and</sup> size 9 which is  $C_3$ -free.



$(ex(6; C_3) \geq 9)$

Step 2. All graphs of order 6 and size  $\geq 10$  contain a  $C_3$ .  
(Harder step!)  $(ex(6; C_3) \leq 9)$

(\*) Prove this theorem

Theorem (Mantel, 1907)

Every graph of order  $n$  and size greater than  $\lfloor \frac{n^2}{4} \rfloor$  contains a  $K_{3,2}$ - $\delta$

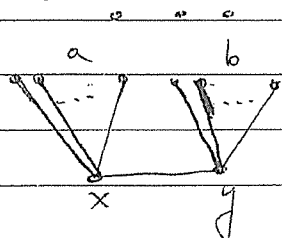
Since  $K_3 \not\subseteq G$ , for every  $xy \in E(G)$ ,  $N_G(x) \cap N_G(y) = \emptyset$ . This

implies that  $\deg_G(x) + \deg_G(y) \leq |G| = n$ . (Figure 1) Now, consider

$$\sum_{xy \in E(G)} (\deg_G(x) + \deg_G(y)) = \sum_{x \in V(G)} (\deg_G(x))^2 \quad (\text{Two-way counting})$$

$$\leq n \cdot \|G\| = n \cdot e(G)$$

By Cauchy's inequality,  $(2e(G))^2 = \left( \sum_{x \in V(G)} \deg_G(x) \right)^2 \leq n \cdot \sum_{x \in V(G)} (\deg_G(x))^2$



$$\leq n^2 \cdot e(G)$$

Hence,  $e(G) \leq \frac{n^2}{4}$ .  $\blacksquare$

Figure 1.  $\deg_G(x) = a+1$ ,  $\deg_G(y) = b+1$

(2nd proof.)

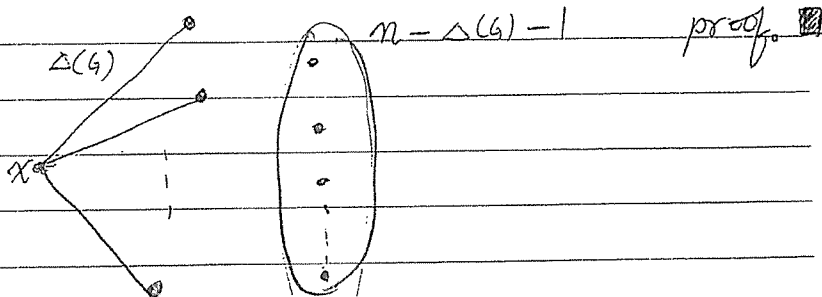
Let  $x \in V(G)$  be a major vertex, i.e.,  $\deg_G(x) = \Delta(G)$ . (Figure 2)

Since  $K_3 \not\subseteq G$ ,  $\langle N_G(x) \rangle_G$  induces an empty graph. This implies

that  $\|G\| \leq \Delta(G) + \Delta(G) \cdot (n - \Delta(G) - 1) = \Delta(G) \cdot (n - \Delta(G))$ .

$\|G\|$  will take a maximum when  $\Delta(G) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ . Hence, we have the

Problem  $G \not\subseteq C_4$   
 $\|G\| = 14$   
 Find  $\max\{\|G\|\}$ .  
 (Bonus)

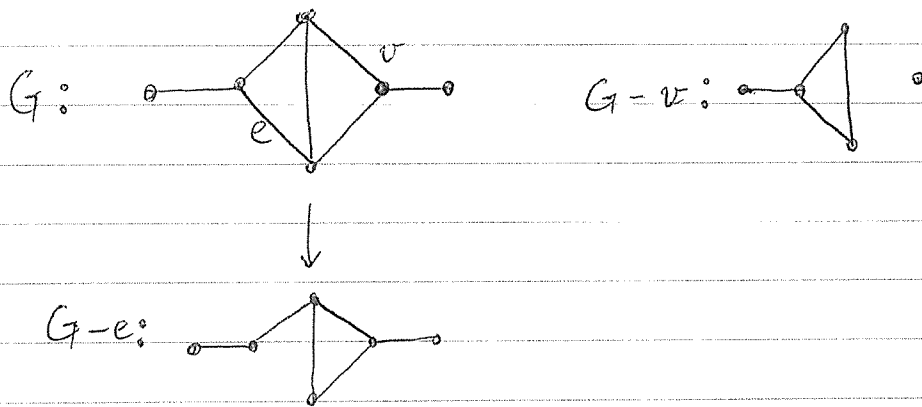


proof.  $\blacksquare$

Remark To determine  $ex(n; H)$  for a given  $H$  is a very difficult problem in general. But, for some special  $H$ , say  $K_k, P_n, \dots$ ,  $ex(n; H)$  can be determined.

### Definition (Deletion of vertices (and/or) edges)

Let  $v \in V(G)$ . The graph  $G-v$  is obtained by deleting the vertex  $v$  and all the edges incident to  $v$ . The graph  $G-e$  where  $e \in E(G)$  is a subgraph of  $G$  with the deletion of  $e$  from  $E(G)$ .



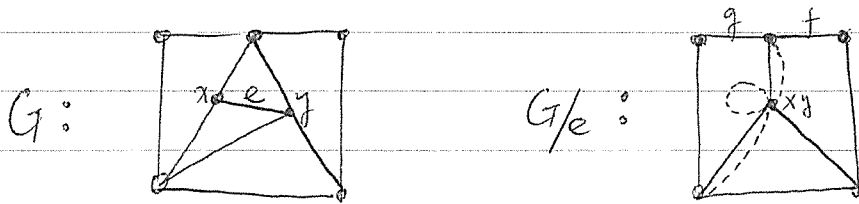
Let  $S \subseteq V(G)$  and  $T \subseteq E(G)$ .  $G-S$  and  $G-T$  can be defined accordingly. (Take away vertices (or edges) one by one.)

## Definition (Graph minors)

A graph  $M$  is called a minor of  $G$  if  $M$  can be obtained from  $G$  by contracting edges, deleting vertices and edges.

## Review (Edge-contraction)

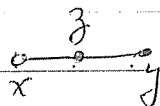
Given an edge  $xy \stackrel{=}{=} e$  of a graph  $G$ , the graph  $G/e$  is obtained from  $G$  by contracting  $e$ ; that is to identify the vertices  $x$  and  $y$  and <sup>deleting</sup> resulting loops and duplicate edges.



Example  $K_4$  is a minor of the above  $G$ .  
(Contracting  $e$ ,  $f$  and  $g$ .)

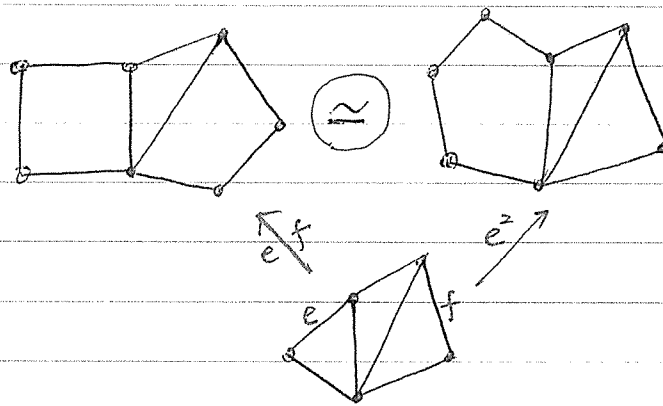
## Definition (Subdivision)

A subdivision of an edge  $xy$  is obtained by adding a new vertex  $z$  such that we have edges  $xz$  and  $zy$ .



Definition (Homeomorphic Graphs)

Two graphs are homeomorphic if they can be obtained by subdividing edges (consecutively) of a fixed graph.



(These two graphs are "topologically" the same.)

Remark : Two cycles are homeomorphic.