

**First Midterm Exam of Math 431.**

Allotted time: one and a half hours

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple finite graph of order  $n \geq 2$ . Fix  $x \in V$ . We denote the complement of  $G$  by  $\overline{G} = (V, \overline{E})$ , and the degree of  $x$  in  $G$  by  $d_G(x)$ .

### Question 1

1. Prove that if  $G$  is self-complementary, then its order  $n$  satisfies  $n = 4p$  or  $n = 4p + 1$ , for some  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .
2. Determine all values of  $n$  for which the path  $P_n$  (respectively the cycle  $C_n$ ) is self-complementary.
3. Prove that if there exists  $x \in V$  such that  $d_G(x) = 0$ , then  $G$  is not self-complementary.

### Question 2

1. (a) Prove that if  $d_G(x) \geq 2$  for every  $x \in V$ , then  $G$  contains a cycle.  
(b) Is the converse true? That is, if  $G$  contains a cycle, must every vertex satisfy  $d_G(x) \geq 2$ ? Justify your answer.
2. Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$ . Prove that if  $d_G(x) \leq 2$  for every  $x \in V$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to either a path  $P_n$  or a cycle  $C_n$ .

### Question 3

Consider the graph

$$G = (\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}, \{\{v_1, v_2\}, \{v_2, v_3\}, \{v_2, v_4\}, \{v_3, v_4\}\}).$$

1. (a) Find all walks from  $v_2$  to  $v_4$  of length 4.  
(b) Find all paths from  $v_2$  to  $v_4$  of length 4.  
(c) For  $n \geq 5$ , is there a path from  $v_2$  to  $v_4$  of length  $n$ ? Justify your answer.
2. Using two different algorithms on the complete graph  $K_6$ , find two spanning trees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ .
3. Prove that  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are not isomorphic.

### Question 4

Consider the two sequences:

$$D_1 = (1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 5, 6, 6), \quad D_2 = (1, 1, 3, 3, 4, 4, 6, 6).$$

1. Show that  $D_1$  is not graphical (i.e., it is not the degree sequence of any simple graph).
2. (a) Does there exist a simple bipartite graph  $G_1$  such that  $\text{DEG}(G_1) = D_2$ ?  
(b) Show that  $D_2$  is graphical and construct a graph  $G_2$  with degree sequence  $D_2$ .