## Extra examples: graphs and diagrams

This week's first activity involves the following collection of diagrams.


Please visit https://forms.gle/jdDd2uGztrhjDbhA8 to fill in a poll about them.

These slides are available on Blackboard and at https://bit.ly/3p0MNGO.

## Extra examples: edge count and degree

Suppose you know that an undirected graph $G(V, E)$ that doesn't contain any loops has 7 vertices and

$$
\min _{v \in V} \operatorname{deg}(v)=3 \quad \text { and } \quad \max _{v \in V} \operatorname{deg}(v)=5
$$

(i) Show that $G$ must have at least 12 edges Hint: think about the Handshaking Lemma.
(ii) What is the largest possible number of edges that $G$ could have?

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The tools we have already allow us to start to discuss a circle of applications in which graphs are used to represent connections between people-so-called social networks. The diagram above comes from a study ${ }^{1}$ of marriage alliances in Renaissance Florence: the vertices represent elite families and the edges connect families whose members married.

[^0]
## Application: degree centrality

Among the most natural questions to ask about a social network is "Does the graph show us who or what is important?" The answer depends on what one means by "important" and numerical scores designed to measure various kinds of importance in a network are called measures of centrality.

Perhaps the simplest such measure is degree centrality $C_{D}(v)$ and it is defined on the vertex set of an undirected social network $G(V, E)$ by

$$
C_{D}(v)=\frac{\operatorname{deg}(v)}{n-1}
$$

where $n=|V|$ is the number of vertices. The maximal possible degree is $(n-1)$, which makes it easy to see that $C_{D}: V \rightarrow[0,1]$.

| Family $v$ | $C_{D}(v)$ | Family $v$ | $C_{D}(v)$ | Family $v$ | $C_{D}(v)$ |
| :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Acciaiuoli | 0.071 | Ginori | 0.071 | Peruzzi | 0.214 |
| Albizzi | 0.214 | Guadagni | 0.286 | Ridolfi | 0.214 |
| Barbadori | 0.143 | Lamberteschi | 0.071 | Salviati | 0.143 |
| Bischeri | 0.214 | Medici | 0.429 | Strozzi | 0.286 |
| Castellani | 0.214 | Pazzi | 0.071 | Tornabuoni | 0.214 |

## Advice: learning a new definition

## Definition

Given a graph $G(V, E)$, define the set

$$
\binom{V}{2}=\{(u, v) \mid u, v \in V, u \neq v\}
$$

which consists of all possible non-loop edges between vertices in $V$. Then the graph

$$
\bar{G}\left(V,\binom{V}{2} \backslash E\right)
$$

is called the complement or complementary graph of $G$. Two vertices in $\bar{G}$ are adjacent if and only if they are not adjacent in $G$.

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## Advice on new definitions: trying examples

The first thing to do after learning a new definition is to work with a few easy examples. Find the complements of the following graphs:


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## Advice on new definitions: using the new idea

The next thing to with a new definition is to see how it fits with other things you know. Fill in the table at left for the graph at right, then find a formula relating $\operatorname{deg}_{G}(v)$ and $\operatorname{deg}_{\bar{G}}(v)$, where the subscript indicates the graph in which we are finding the degree.

|  | $\operatorname{deg}(v)$ | $\operatorname{deg}(v)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $v$ | in $G$ | in $\bar{G}$ |
| 1 |  |  |
| 2 |  |  |
| 3 |  |  |
| 4 |  |  |
| 5 |  |  |



Finally, generalise your result to directed graphs, obtaining formulae relating in- and out-degrees in digraphs $G$ and $\bar{G}$.

These slides are available on Blackboard and at https://bit.ly/3pOMNGO.

## Challenge problem: definitions

## Definition

A graph $G(V, E)$ is called $k$-regular if $\operatorname{deg}(v)=k$ for all $v \in V$.

## Definition

A graph $G(V, E)$ is called strongly regular if it is $k$-regular and, further, there are two constants $a$ and $b$ such that:

$$
\left|A_{u} \cap A_{v}\right|= \begin{cases}a & \text { if } u \text { and } v \text { are adjacent } \\ b & \text { if } u \text { and } v \text { are not adjacent }\end{cases}
$$

where $A_{u}$ and $A_{v}$ are, respectively, the adjacency lists of the vertices $u$ and $v$.

These slides are available on Blackboard and at https://bit.ly/3p0MNGO.

Example: The triangular graphs $T_{N}$ defined in this week's problem set are strongly regular with $k=2 N-4, a=N-2$ and $b=4 . T_{3}$ and $T_{4}$ are shown below.


Problem: Show that if a graph $G(V, E)$ is strongly regular with parameters $k, a$ and $b$, then its complement $\bar{G}$ is also strongly regular and obtain formulae for its parameters $k^{\prime}, a^{\prime}$ and $b^{\prime}$ in terms of $n=|V|, k, a$ and $b$.

These slides are available on Blackboard and at https://bit.ly/3pOMNGO.


[^0]:    ${ }^{1}$ John F. Padgett and Christopher K. Ansell (1993), Robust action and the rise of the Medici 1400-1434, American Journal of Sociology, 98(6):1259-1319.

