

Instructions : There are 6 problems with various points as indicated. Answer as many questions as you can. Notations:  $K_n$  is the complete graph with  $n$  vertices,  $\overline{K}_n$  is the complement of  $K_n$ ,  $I$  is the identity matrix and  $J$  is the all-one matrix with suitable order.

- I. Let  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$  be a connected graph with  $n$  vertices named as  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . The distance  $d(i, j)$  denotes the length of the shortest path between vertices  $i$  and  $j$ , for  $i, j \in V$ .  
 The separation number of a vertex  $i \in V$  is defined as  

$$s(i) = \max \{d(i, j) \mid j \in V\}.$$
  
 The transmission number, denoted by  $t(i)$ , of a vertex  $i \in V$ , is the sum of the distance between  $i$  and all other vertices  $j \in V$ . That is,  $t(i) = \sum_{j=1}^n d(i, j)$ .  
 The centers of  $G$  are the vertices of  $G$  with the minimum separation number.  
 The medians of  $G$  are the vertices of  $G$  having the minimum transmission number.
- (1) Let  $G$  be the graph as shown in Figure 1. Find the  $d(i, j)$  for all vertices  $i$  and  $j$ . (3 points)
  - (2) Under the graph in Figure 1, use the breadth-first-search method to find the centers and medians of  $G$ . (3 points)
  - (3) For an arbitrary connected graph  $G$ , design an algorithm to find the centers and medians of  $G$ . (8 points)
  - (4) What is the time complexity of your algorithm? Why? (3 points)
  - (5) Use the graph in Figure 1 as an example to illustrate the work of your algorithm. (3 points)
- II. Let  $G = \langle V, E \rangle$  be a given connected graph with  $n$  vertices.
- (1) What is a Hamiltonian path? a cycle? (3 points)
  - (2) Does there exist a bipartite graph  $G$  such that  $G$  has a Hamiltonian path but not a Hamiltonian cycle? Why? (3 points)
  - (3) Let  $G$  be a simple graph with  $n \geq 3$  such that  $\deg(w) + \deg(v) \geq n - 1$  for every two distinct nonadjacent vertices  $w$  and  $v$ . Show that  $G$  has a Hamiltonian cycle. (4 points)
  - (4) For an arbitrary graph  $G$ , design a program to indicate whether there is a Hamiltonian cycle in  $G$ . (4 points)
  - (5) Use the graph  $G$  as shown in Figure 2 to illustrate the work of your program. (3 points)
  - (6) Modify your program to obtain the number of Hamiltonian cycle of a given graph  $G$ . (3 points)

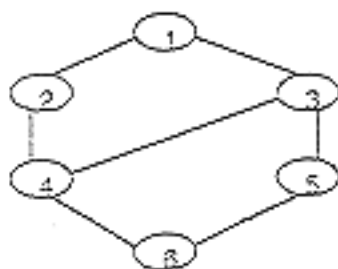


Figure 1

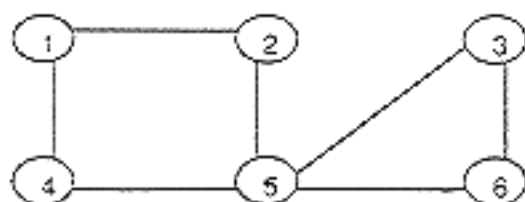


Figure 2

III. (30 points) For a finite simple graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ , we define a polynomial  $f(G) = f(G; t, x, y)$  by the following recursive formula:

1.  $f(\overline{K}_n) = t^n$ ,  $f(\phi) = 1$  where  $\phi$  is the null graph,
2.  $f(G) = xf(G/e) + yf(G - e)$ ,  $e \in E(G)$ ,

where  $G/e$ ,  $G - e$  denote the graphs obtained from  $G$  by *contracting*, *deleting* an edge  $e \in E(G)$  respectively.

- a) (10 points) Show that  $f(G)$  is well-defined (i.e., not depend on the choice of an edge  $e$  in definition), and give straightforward interpretations for  $f(G; 1, 1, 1)$ ,  $f(G; 2, 0, 1)$  and for  $f(G; t, -1, 1)$  respectively.
- b) (10 points) Find  $f(K_3; t, x, y)$  and  $f(P_4; t, x, y)$  where  $P_4$  is a *path* with 4 vertices.
- c) (10 points) Let  $W = [w(x, y)]$  be a symmetric matrix over complex numbers indexed by a finite set  $X$ , and let

$$Z(G, W) = \sum_{\sigma} \prod_{(a,b) \in E(G)} w(a^{\sigma}, b^{\sigma})$$

where  $\sigma$  runs through all  $X^{V(G)}$ . Show that  $Z(G, J - I)$  is an example of  $f(G; t, -1, 1)$  for some  $t$ .

IV. (15 points)

- a) (5 points) Show that the complement of the *line graph*  $L(K_5)$  of  $K_5$  is isomorphic to the graph  $\Gamma$  as shown below.
- b) (5 points) Describe as many properties of  $\Gamma$  as possible in terms of its adjacency matrix  $A$ ; for example, the 3-regularity of  $\Gamma$  can be expressed as  $J \cdot A = A \cdot J = 3J$ .
- c) (5 points) Find the *minimal polynomial* of  $A$  (and hence of  $\Gamma$ ).

