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## RECONSTRUCTION OF GRAPHS WITH SPECIAL DEGREE-SEQUENCES

JOZEF ŠIRÁŇ

Our note concerns the problem of reconstructing simple finite graphs from the collection of their point-deleted subgraphs.

For any graph  $G$  let  $V(G)$  denote the set of all vertices of  $G$ . We say that the graph  $H$  is a reconstruction of the graph  $G$  iff there exists a bijective map  $f: V(G) \rightarrow V(H)$  such that for any  $u \in V(G)$  the point-deleted subgraphs  $G - u$  and  $H - f(u)$  are isomorphic. The graph  $G$  is said to be reconstructible iff any reconstruction of  $G$  is isomorphic to  $G$ . The famous reconstruction conjecture (see [1], [2], [3]) states that any simple finite graph with more than two vertices is reconstructible.

All other graph-theoretical terms are used in their usual sense (cf. [2], [3]).

In [3] J. A. Bondy and R. L. Hemminger define a vertex  $v$  of a graph  $G$  to be bad if there exists a vertex in  $G$  of degree  $d(v) - 1$ . They remark that a simple finite graph  $G$  with more than two vertices is reconstructible provided that  $G$  contains a vertex with no bad neighbours. This result can be extended as follows.

**Theorem.** *Let  $G$  be a simple finite graph with more than two vertices. Suppose that there exists a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that for any its neighbour  $w$  all vertices of  $G$  of degree  $d(w) - 1$  that are distinct from  $v$  are neighbours of  $v$ . Then  $G$  is reconstructible.*

*Proof.* Let a graph  $H$  be a reconstruction of  $G$  where  $G$  is a graph satisfying all assumptions of our theorem. Obviously there is a vertex  $u \in V(H)$  such that the point-deleted subgraphs  $G - v$  and  $H - u$  are isomorphic. Denote by  $O_G(v)$ ,  $O_H(u)$  the set of all neighbours of the vertices  $v \in V(G)$ ,  $u \in V(H)$  in  $G$ ,  $H$  respectively. Further let  $d_G(x)$ ,  $d_H(y)$  denote the degrees of the vertices  $x \in V(G)$ ,  $y \in V(H)$  respectively.

To show that  $G$  and  $H$  are isomorphic it suffices to show that any graph isomorphism  $g: G - v \rightarrow H - u$  maps  $O_G(v)$  onto  $O_H(u)$ .

Assume the contrary. Then we can choose a vertex  $x \in O_G(v)$  of minimum degree such that  $g(x) \notin O_H(u)$ . Clearly  $d_H(g(x)) = d_G(x) - 1$ . Let  $M$  denote the set of all vertices of  $G$  of degree  $d = d_G(x) - 1$ . Put  $K = M - \{v\}$ . Since  $H$  is

a reconstruction of  $G$ , the graphs  $G$  and  $H$  must have the same degree-sequences (cf. [3]) Moreover  $d_G(v) = d_H(u)$ . This together with our assumptions guarantee that  $K \neq \emptyset$  and  $K \subset O_G(v)$ . Now if  $g(K) \subset O_H(u)$  the number of vertices in  $H$  of degree  $d = d_G(x) - 1$  would be greater than the number of vertices of the same degree in  $G$  (because of the vertex  $g(x)$ ), i.e. the degree-sequences of  $G$  and  $H$  would be distinct. Therefore there exists a vertex  $y \in K$  such that  $g(y) \notin O_H(u)$ . But this is a contradiction with the choice of the vertex  $x$  since  $d_G(y) = d < d_G(x)$ . The theorem follows

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#### РЕКОНСТРУКЦИЯ ГРАФОВ СО СПЕЦИАЛЬНЫМИ ПОСЛЕДОВАТЕЛЬНОСТЯМИ СТЕПЕНИ ВЕРШИН

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#### Резюме

В статье доказана следующая теорема: Пусть  $v$  — вершина графа  $G$  и  $W$  — множество вершин соседних с  $v$ . Если каждая вершина графа  $G$  степени  $d(w) - 1$  (для некоторой вершины  $w$  из  $W$ ) принадлежит множеству  $W$ , то  $G$  — реконструируемый граф.