## This week we're finishing the first unit

Last Wednesday:

- Trees
- Started Chemistry at very end

Today:

- Chemistry
- Eulerian + semi-Eulerian graphs

Wednesday

- Hamiltonian graphs


## Chemical formulas encode degree sequences



| Atom | $C$ | $N$ | $O$ | $H$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Degree | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

## Shortcuts around Carbon and Hydrogen



Figure: Two pictures of Caffeine

- Unlabelled vertices are Carbon
- Hydrogen not drawn; inferred to make degrees correct


## Isomers are graphs with the same degree sequence

Definition
An Alkane is a molecule with formula $\mathrm{C}_{n} \mathrm{H}_{2 n+2}$


Definition (Isomer)
Two different molecules are isomers if they have the same chemical formula.

Lemma: Any alkane is a tree.
Proof: Handshaking.
Question: How many isomers does $\mathrm{C}_{5} \mathrm{H}_{12}$ have?

## Bridges of Konigsberg: birth of graph theory



Figure: The city of Konigsberg

A puzzle:
Cross every bridge exactly once and return to where you started.

## The puzzle has no solution



Suppose there was a walk:

- Stand on far bank
- Watch friend do walk
- Comes by one bridge
- Leaves by another bridge
- When they cross third bridge they're stuck with you


## Generalizing with graph theory

## Definition

- A walk is closed if it starts and ends at the same point.
- A graph is Eulerian if it has a closed walk that uses every edge exactly once

Lemma:
If $G$ is Eulerian, then every vertex has even degree.
Proof.
Every time the walk visits $v$, pair the edge it arrives by with the edge it leaves by.

## The first theorem in graph theory

Theorem (Euler)
A connected graph $G$ is Eulerian if and only if every vertex of $G$ has even degree.

Proof.
We proved Eulerian $\Longrightarrow$ even degree in last lemma.
For other direction:

- Walking randomly will eventually get back to where we started (why?)
- Remove edges we used to get a smaller graph
- By induction, each connected piece is Eulerian
- Glue the cycles back together

What can you draw without lifting your pen or retracing?


A house?


A house with a chimney?

## Formalizing our observations

## Definition

A graph $G$ is semi-Eulerian if it has a (not necessarily closed) walk that uses every edge exactly once.

Theorem
A connected graph $G$ is semi-Eulerian if and only if it has at most two vertices of odd degree

One proof: tweak the original proof
Easy direction: every point but start and end needs even degree. Hard direction:

- Start walk at one odd degree point
- Walking randomly can only end at other odd degree point
- Delete this path, then use induction + gluing as before


## A devious trick to avoid doing work

## Mathematicians are lazy

- It's unsatisfying to "redo" the work of the proof
- Slicker to reduce it to a problem we've already solved

The tricky/easy proof:

- Let $u, v \in G$ be the two vertices of odd degree
- Add an edge $e$ from $u$ to $v$ to get $G^{\prime}$ (this may make $G$ non-simple, that's okay)
- In $G^{\prime}$, every vertex has even degree, so it has Eulerian cycle
- Delete $e$ from the eulerian cycle to get an Eulerian walk from $u$ to $v$


## A preview of next lecture

## Definition

A graph $G$ is Hamiltonian if there is a closed walk that visits every vertex exactly once. $G$ is semi-Hamiltonian if there is a not necessarily closed walk that visits every vertex exactly once.

- It was Easy to tell if a graph was Eulerian (Edges)
- It's Hard to tell if a general graph is Hamiltonian (Vertices)

Question to lead into it:

- Is $D_{20}$ Hamiltonian?
- Is the Petersen graph?
- If we remove a vertex from $D_{20}$ is it Hamiltonian? How about Petersen?


Dodecahedron graph $D_{20}$

