



# Graphs: Cycles

Tecniche di Programmazione – A.A. 2016/2017

# Summary

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- ▶ Definitions
- ▶ Algorithms



# Definitions

Graphs: Cycles

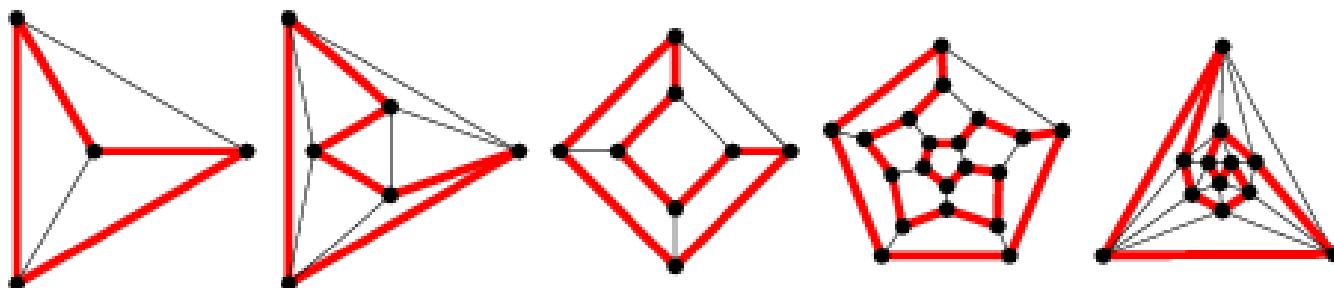
# Cycle

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- ▶ A **cycle** of a graph, sometimes also called a **circuit**, is a subset of the edge set of that forms a path such that the first node of the path corresponds to the last.

# Hamiltonian cycle

- ▶ A cycle that uses each graph vertex of a graph exactly once is called a Hamiltonian cycle.



# Hamiltonian path

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- ▶ A Hamiltonian path, also called a Hamilton path, is a path between two vertices of a graph that visits each vertex exactly once.
- ▶ N.B. does not need to return to the starting point

# Eulerian Path and Cycle

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- ▶ An **Eulerian path**, also called an Euler chain, Euler trail, Euler walk, or "Eulerian" version of any of these variants, is a walk on the graph edges of a graph which **uses each graph edge** in the original graph **exactly once**.
- ▶ An **Eulerian cycle**, also called an Eulerian circuit, Euler circuit, Eulerian tour, or Euler tour, is a trail which starts and ends at the **same** graph vertex.

# Theorem

- ▶ A connected graph has an Eulerian **cycle** if and only if it **all vertices have even degree**.
- ▶ A connected graph has an Eulerian **path** if and only if it has **at most two graph vertices of odd degree**.
- ▶ ...easy to check!

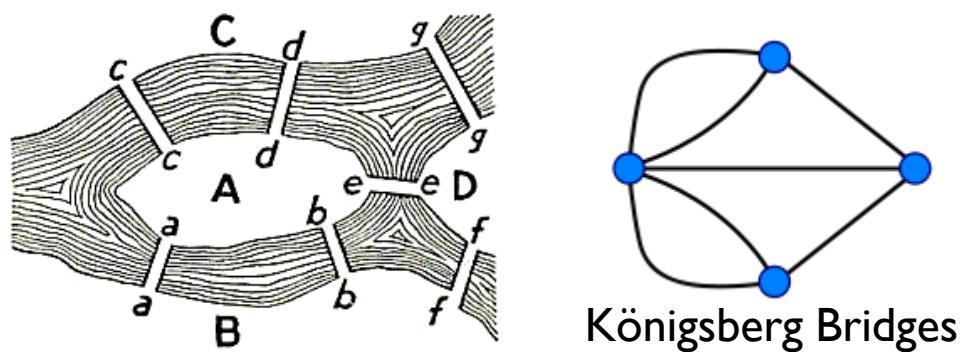


FIGURE 98. *Geographic Map:  
The Königsberg Bridges.*

# Weighted vs. Unweighted

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- ▶ Classical versions defined on Unweighted graphs
- ▶ Unweighted:
  - ▶ Does such a cycle exist?
  - ▶ If yes, find at least one
    - ▶ Optionally, find all of them
- ▶ Weighted
  - ▶ Does such a cycle exist?
    - ▶ Often, the graph is complete ☺
  - ▶ If yes, find at least one
  - ▶ If yes, find **the best one** (with **minimum weight**)



# Algorithms

Graphs: Cycles

# Eulerian cycles: Hierholzer's algorithm (1)

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- ▶ Choose **any** starting vertex  $v$ , and **follow a trail** of edges from that vertex until returning to  $v$ .
- ▶ It is **not** possible to get stuck at any vertex other than  $v$ , because the even degree of all vertices ensures that, when the trail enters another vertex  $w$  there must be an unused edge leaving  $w$ .
- ▶ The tour formed in this way is a **closed tour**, but may **not** cover all the vertices and edges of the initial graph.

## Eulerian cycles: Hierholzer's algorithm (2)

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- ▶ As long as there exists a vertex  $v$  that belongs to the current tour but that has adjacent edges not part of the tour, **start another trail** from  $v$ , following **unused** edges until returning to  $v$ , **and join** the tour formed in this way to the previous tour.

# Finding Eulerian circuits

## Hierholzer's Algorithm

Given: an Eulerian graph  $G$

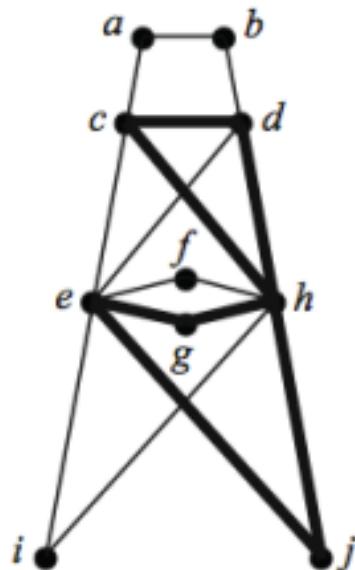
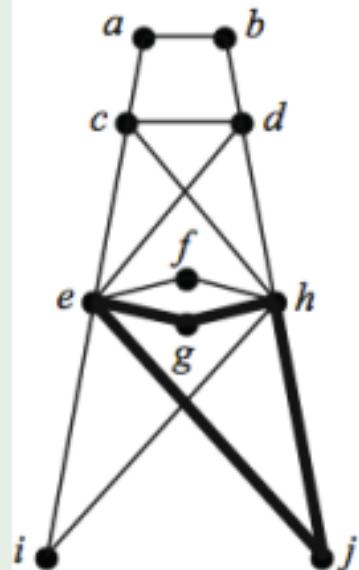
Find an Eulerian circuit of  $G$ .

- ① Identify a circuit in  $G$  and call it  $R_1$ . Mark the edges of  $R_1$ . Let  $i = 1$ .
- ② If  $R_i$  contains all edges of  $G$ , then stop (since  $R_i$  is an Eulerian circuit).
- ③ If  $R_i$  does not contain all edges of  $G$ , then let  $v_i$  be a node on  $R_i$  that is incident with an unmarked edge,  $e_i$ .
- ④ Build a circuit,  $Q_i$ , starting at node  $v_i$  and using edge  $e_i$ . Mark the edges of  $Q_i$ .
- ⑤ Create a new circuit,  $R_{i+1}$ , by patching the circuit  $Q_i$  into  $R_i$  at  $v_i$ .
- ⑥ Increment  $i$  by 1, and go to step (2).

# Finding Eulerian circuits

## Hierholzer's Algorithm

### Example



$R_1: e, g, h, j, e$

$Q_1: h, d, c, h$

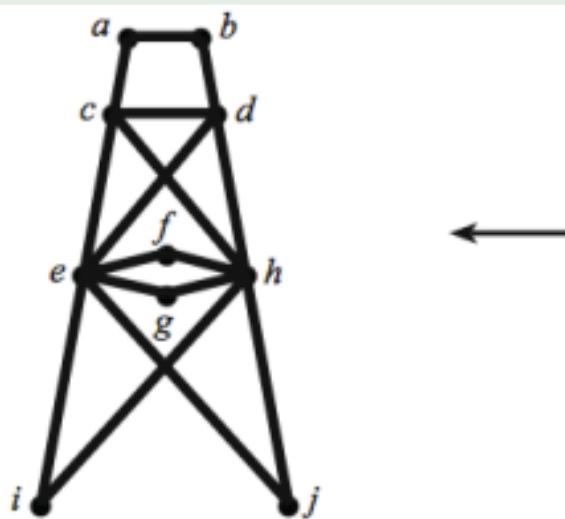
$R_2: e, g, \mathbf{h}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{h}, j, e$

$Q_2: d, b, a, c, e, d$

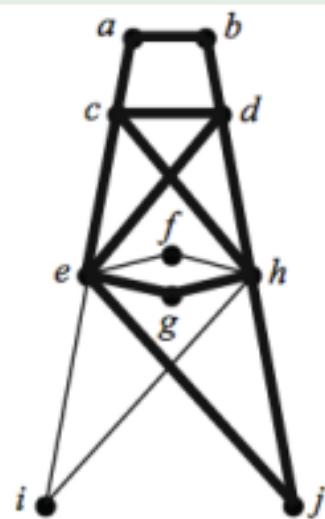
# Finding Eulerian circuits

## Hierholzer's Algorithm

### Example (continued)



$R_4$ : e, g, h, f, e, i, h, d, b, a,  
c, e, d, c, h, j, e



$R_3$ : e, g, h, d, b, a, c, e, d, c, h, j, e  
 $Q_3$ : h, f, e, i, h

# Eulerian Circuits in JGraphT

The screenshot shows a Java API documentation page for the `HierholzerEulerianCycle` class. The top navigation bar includes links for Overview, Package, Class (highlighted in orange), Use, Tree, Deprecated, Index, and Help. Below the navigation is a toolbar with Prev Class, Next Class, Frames, and No Frames buttons. A summary bar displays NESTED, FIELD, CONSTR, and METHOD links.

**Class HierholzerEulerianCycle<V,E>**

java.lang.Object  
org.jgrapht.alg.cycle.HierholzerEulerianCycle<V,E>

**Type Parameters:**

- V - the graph vertex type
- E - the graph edge type

**All Implemented Interfaces:**

- EulerianCycleAlgorithm<V,E>

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```
public class HierholzerEulerianCycle<V,E>
extends Object
implements EulerianCycleAlgorithm<V,E>
```

An implementation of Hierholzer's algorithm for finding an Eulerian cycle in Eulerian graphs. The algorithm works with directed and undirected graphs which may contain loops and/or multiple edges. The running time is linear, i.e.  $O(|E|)$  where  $|E|$  is the cardinality of the edge set of the graph.

See the Wikipedia article for details and references about Eulerian cycles and a short description of Hierholzer's algorithm for the construction of an Eulerian cycle. The original presentation of the algorithm dates back to 1873 and the following paper: Carl Hierholzer: Über die Möglichkeit, einen Linienzug ohne Wiederholung und ohne Unterbrechung zu umfahren. *Mathematische Annalen* 6(1), 30–32, 1873.

**Since:**  
October 2016

**Author:**  
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**Constructor Summary**

**Constructors**

**Constructor and Description**

`HierholzerEulerianCycle()`

**Method Summary**

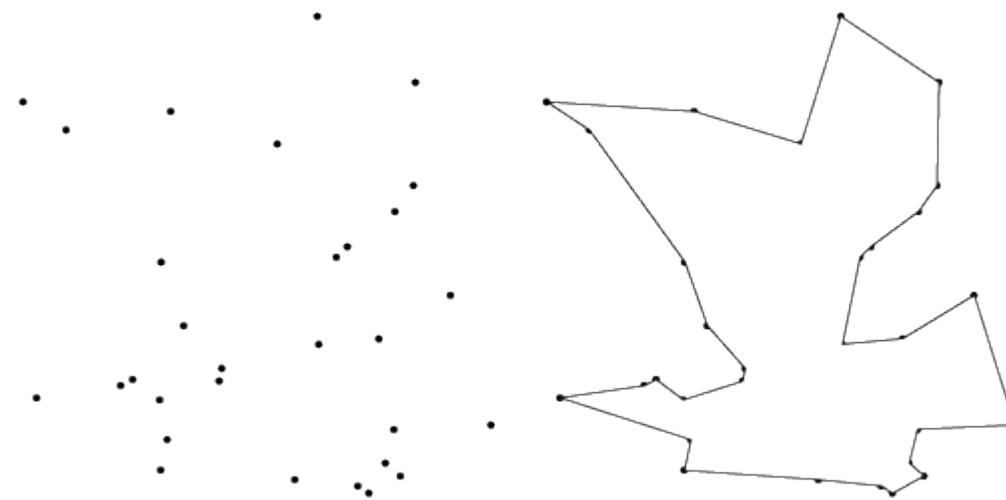
**All Methods**   **Instance Methods**   **Concrete Methods**

The left sidebar contains a tree view of the JGraphT package structure, listing various classes and interfaces such as `DirectedWeightedSubgraph`, `DOTExporter`, `DOTImporter`, `DOTUtils`, `EdgeBasedTwoApproxVCImp`, `EdgeFactory`, `EdgeNameProvider`, `EdgeProvider`, `EdgeReversedGraph`, `EdgeSetFactory`, `EdgeTraversalEvent`, `EdmondsBlossomShrinking`, `EdmondsKarpMImpl`, `EmptyGraphGenerator`, `EulerianCircuit`, `EulerianCycleAlgorithm`, `ExactAlgorithm`, `ExportException`, `Extension`, `ExtensionFactory`, `ExtensionManager`, `FastLookupDirectedSpecifics`, `FastLookupUndirectedSpecifics`, `FibonacciHeap`, `FibonacciHeapNode`, `FloydWarshallShortestPaths`, `FloydWarshallShortestPaths`, `GabowStrongConnectivityInspector`, `GmlExporter`, `GmlExporter.Parameter`, `GmlImporter`, `GnmRandomBipartiteGraphGenerator`, `GnmRandomGraphGenerator`, `GnpRandomBipartiteGraphGenerator`, `GnpRandomGraphGenerator`, `Graph`, `GraphChangeEvent`, `GraphDelegator`, `GraphEdgeChangeEvent`, and `GraphExporter`.

# Hamiltonian Cycles

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- ▶ There are theorems to identify **whether** a graph is Hamiltonian (i.e., whether it contains at least one Hamiltonian Cycle)
- ▶ **Finding** such a cycle has **no** known efficient solution, in the general case
- ▶ Example: the **Traveling Salesman Problem** (TSP)



# The Traveling Salesman Problem (TSP)

Weighted or  
unweighted

Given a collection of cities connected by roads

Find the shortest route that visits each city exactly once.

## About TSP

- Most notorious NP-complete problem.
- Typically, it is solved with a backtracking algorithm:
  - The best tour found to date is saved.
  - The search backtracks unless the partial solution is cheaper than the cost of the best tour.

# Hamiltonian Cycles in JGraphT

The screenshot shows a Java API documentation page for the `HamiltonianCycle` class. The top navigation bar includes links for OVERVIEW, PACKAGE, CLASS (highlighted in orange), USE, TREE, DEPRECATED, INDEX, and HELP. Below the navigation is a toolbar with PREV CLASS, NEXT CLASS, FRAMES, and NO FRAMES buttons, along with SUMMARY, NESTED, FIELD, CONSTR, and METHOD links. The main content area starts with the package name `org.jgrapht.alg` and the class name `HamiltonianCycle`. It shows the inheritance chain: `java.lang.Object` → `org.jgrapht.alg.HamiltonianCycle`. The class definition is as follows:

```
public class HamiltonianCycle  
extends Object
```

A detailed description follows: "This class will deal with finding the optimal or approximately optimal minimum tour (hamiltonian cycle) or commonly known as the Traveling Salesman Problem." The author is listed as Andrew Newell.

### Constructor Summary

**Constructors**

`Constructor and Description`

`HamiltonianCycle()`

### Method Summary

**All Methods**   **Static Methods**   **Concrete Methods**

Modifier and Type	Method and Description
<code>static &lt;V,E&gt; List&lt;V&gt;</code>	<code>getApproximateOptimalForCompleteGraph(SimpleWeightedGraph&lt;V,E&gt; g)</code> This method will return an approximate minimal traveling salesman tour (hamiltonian cycle).

**Methods inherited from class java.lang.Object**

`clone, equals, finalize, getClass, hashCode, notify, notifyAll, toString, wait, wait`

### Constructor Detail

`HamiltonianCycle`

# Limitations...

- ▶ No exact solution:
  - ▶ `getApproximateOptimalForCompleteGraph`  
`(SimpleWeightedGraph<V, E> g)`
- ▶ But...
  - ▶  $g$  must be a **complete** graph
  - ▶  $g$  must satisfy the “triangle inequality”:  $d(x,y) + d(y,z) < d(x,z)$
  - ▶ The cycle length is less than or equal to double the total weight of the optimal hamiltonian cycle

## Definition (The Metric Traveling Salesman Problem)

The **metric traveling salesman problem** assumes that the distance in the graph is a metric. A **metric** is a function  $d : V \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  such that

- $d(x, y) + d(y, z) \geq d(x, z)$  for all  $x, y, z \in V$ .
- $d(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$ .

# The Metric Traveling Salesman Problem

An approximation algorithm

ASSUMPTION:  $G$  is a metric graph.

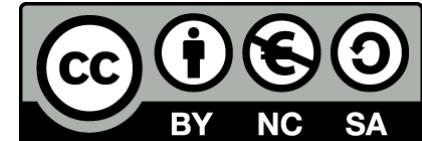
- ① Compute a minimum weight spanning tree  $T$  for  $G$ .
- ② Perform a depth-first traversal of  $T$  starting from any node, and order the nodes of  $G$  as they were discovered in this traversal.  
⇒ a tour that is at most twice the optimal tour in  $G$ .

# Resources

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- ▶ <http://mathworld.wolfram.com/>
- ▶ [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler\\_cycle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Euler_cycle)
- ▶ Mircea MARIN, Graph Theory and Combinatorics,  
Lectures 9 and 10, <http://web.info.uvt.ro/~mmarin/>

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