

Math 5707 Spring 2023

Matching theory  
Snippet 1: ~

P. Hall's Matching Theorem  
("Marriage")

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REVIEW of matching theory so far ...

$G = (V, E)$  simple graph

$$\nu(G) := \max \{ |M| : M \subseteq E \text{ a matching} \}$$

$$\leq \tau(G) := \min \{ |W| : W \subseteq V \text{ a vertex cover} \}$$

↪ part of Gallai's Thm.

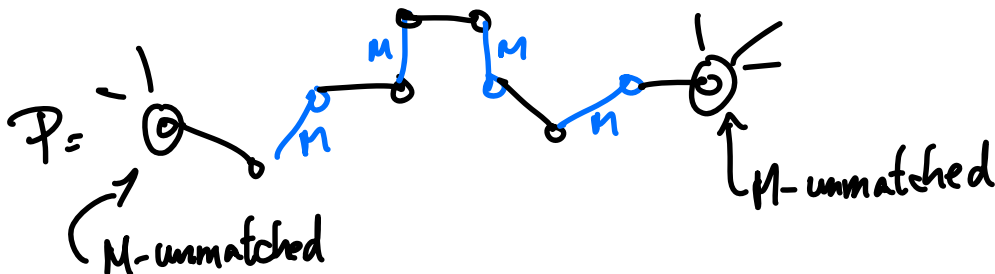
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PROPOSITION

A matching  $M \subseteq E$  is max-sized



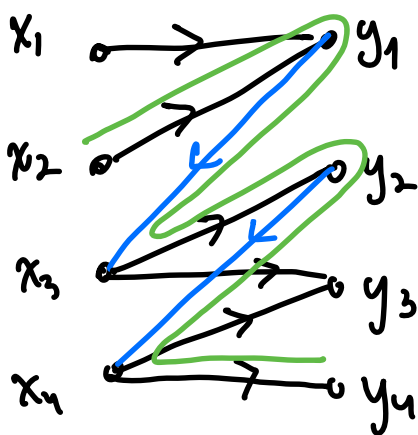
$G$  contains no  $M$ -augmenting paths  $P$



PROPOSITION: In a bipartite graph  $G = (V, E)$   
 $X \cup Y$

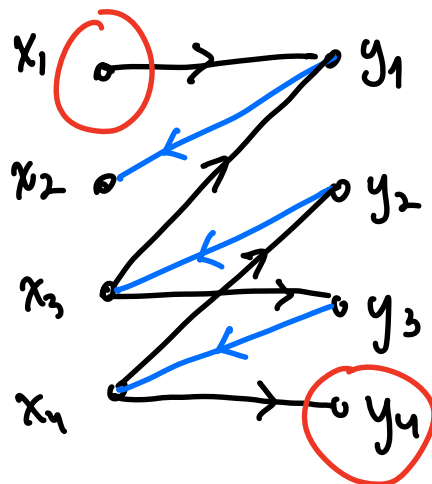
$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{M-augmenting} \\ \text{paths } P \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{directed paths } P \\ \text{from X-unmatched } x \in X \\ \text{to Y-unmatched } y \in Y \\ \text{in this digraph } D: \end{array} \right.$

$x \rightarrow y$  non-M edges  
 $x \leftarrow y$  M edges



G  
M  
P

augment along P



no directed paths  
from X-unmatched  $x$ 's  
to Y-unmatched  $y$ 's  
so max-sized

This gives the so-called Hungarian algorithm  
to find  $\nu(G)$  and max-sized matchings M

**COROLLARY**  
 (König-Egervány)  
 1931

For  $G$  bipartite,

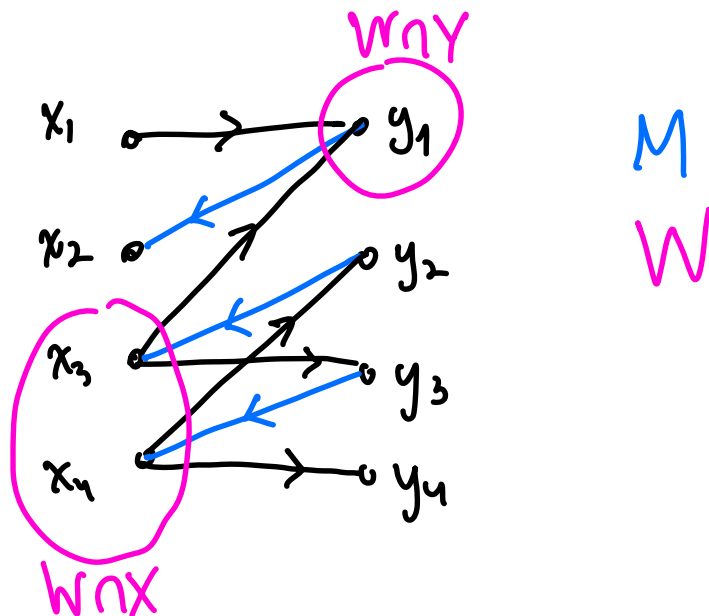
$$\nu(G) = \tau(G)$$

"  
 max-size of  
 a matching  $M$

"  
 min-size of  
 a vertex cover  $W$

In fact, at the end of the Hungarian algorithm one finds a vertex cover  $W$  with  $|W| = |M|$  same size as the max-sized matching  $M$ , by letting

$$W := \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x \in X \text{ not reachable in } D \\ \text{from the } M\text{-unmatched} \\ \text{X-vertices} \end{array} \right\} \cup \left\{ \begin{array}{l} y \in Y \text{ reachable in } D \\ \text{from the } M\text{-unmatched} \\ \text{X-vertices} \end{array} \right\}$$



Another corollary...

COROLLARY (P. Hall's Matching Thm.):  
1935 "Marriage"

A bipartite graph  $G = (X \cup Y, E)$  has a matching  $M$  that matches all of  $X$

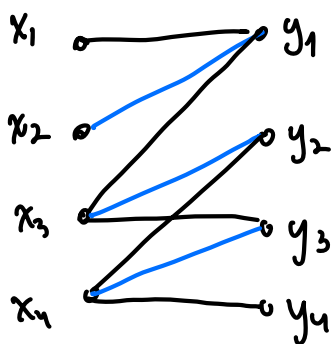
$\iff \forall$  subsets  $X' \subseteq X$  one has

$$N(X') := \{y \in Y : \exists \text{ some } x \in X' \text{ with } \{x, y\} \in E\}$$

neighbors  
of  $X'$

of size  $|N(X')| \geq |X'|$ .

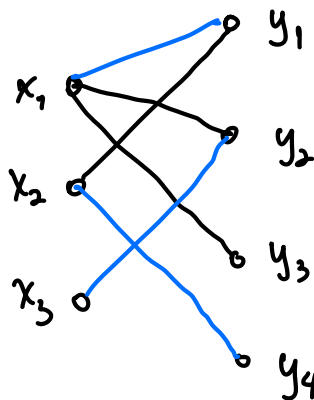
### EXAMPLE



$M$  of max size  
does not match all of  $X$ ;

$X' = \{x_1, x_2\}$  has

$N(X') = \{y_1\}$  too small



$M$  matches  
all of  $X$

COROLLARY (P. Hall's Matching Thm.):  
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A bipartite graph  $G=(X \cup Y, E)$  has a matching  $M$  that matches all of  $X$

$\iff \forall$  subsets  $X' \subseteq X$  one has

$$N(X') := \{y \in Y : \exists \text{ some } x \in X' \text{ with } \{x, y\} \in E\}$$

neighbors of  $X'$  of size  $|N(X')| \geq |X'|$

proof:  $(\implies)$  is pretty easy to see, since if we had a matching  $M$  that matched all of  $X$ , then for every subset  $X' \subseteq X$ , the matching  $M$  gives an **injective map**  $X' \hookrightarrow N(X')$   
 $x \mapsto \text{its match } y$

$$\text{so } |X'| \leq |N(X')|.$$

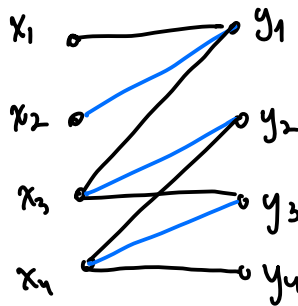
For  $(\impliedby)$ , assume there is no matching  $M$  that matches all of  $X$ . So

$$\nu(G) < |X|$$

"  $\leftarrow$  by König-Egervary Thm,

so  $\exists$  a vertex cover  $W$

of size  $|W| < |X|$ .



$M$  of max size does not match all of  $X$

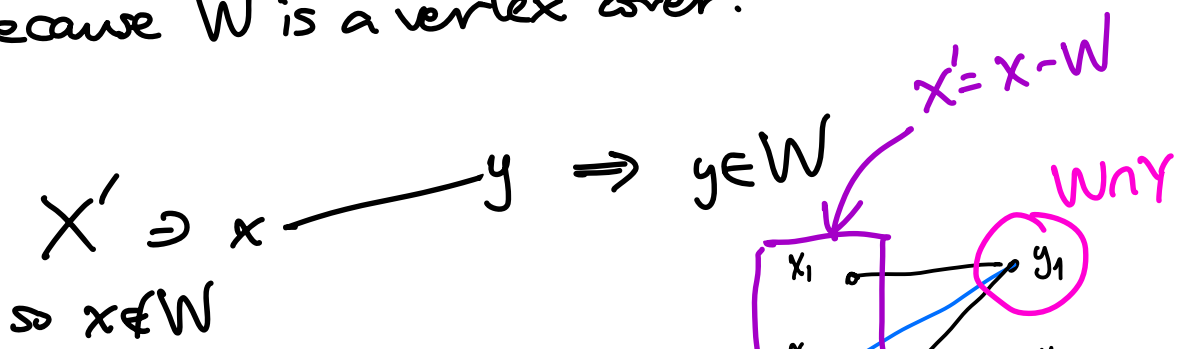
$X' = \{x_1, x_2\}$  has

$N(X') = \{y_1\}$  too small

We use  $W$  to exhibit a subset  $X' \subseteq X$  with too few neighbors, i.e.  $|N(X')| < |X'|$  as follows: Let  $X' = X - W$   

$$= \{x \in X : x \notin W\}$$

Note that every  $y \in N(X')$  must be in  $W$  because  $W$  is a vertex cover:



$$W \supseteq (X \cap W) \cup N(X')$$

$$|X| > |W| \geq \underbrace{|X \cap W|}_{= |X| - |X - W|} + |N(X')|$$

$$\Rightarrow \cancel{|X|} > \cancel{|X|} - \underbrace{|X - W|}_{= |X'|} + |N(X')|$$

$$\Rightarrow |X'| > |N(X')| \quad \square$$

NEXT: Applying Hall's Thm. to find matchings of entire left sides  $X$ !

# APPLICATION 1: regular bipartite graphs

## THEOREM (König 1931):

Every  $d$ -regular bipartite multigraph  $G = (X \sqcup Y, E)$  with  $d \geq 1$

(a) has  $|X| = |Y|$ .

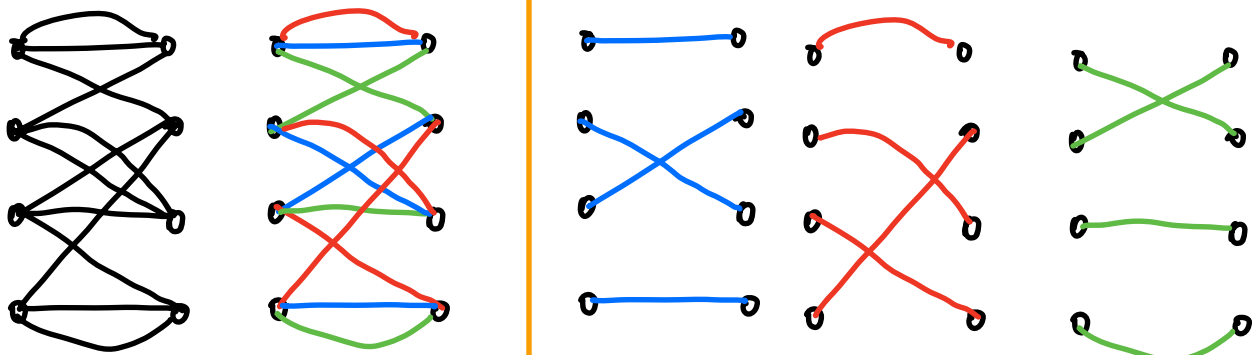
(b) contains a perfect matching  $M \subseteq E$   
(or a 1-factor)

a matching of all the vertices,  
i.e.  $\deg_M(v) = 1 \quad \forall v \in V$

so  $v(G) = |X| = \frac{|V|}{2}$ .

(c) and in fact, one can express  $E$  as a disjoint union  $E = M_1 \sqcup M_2 \sqcup \dots \sqcup M_d$  of  $d$  perfect matchings inside  $G$ .

## EXAMPLE $d=3$



$G$   
3-regular, bipartite

$= M_1 \sqcup M_2 \sqcup M_3$

**THEOREM (König 1931):**

Every  $d$ -regular bipartite multigraph  $G = (X \sqcup Y, E)$   
with  $d \geq 1$

(a) has  $|X| = |Y|$ .

(b) contains a perfect matching  $M \subseteq E$   
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↗ a matching of all the vertices,  
i.e.  $\deg_M(v) = 1 \quad \forall v \in V$

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disjoint union  $E = M_1 \sqcup M_2 \sqcup \dots \sqcup M_d$

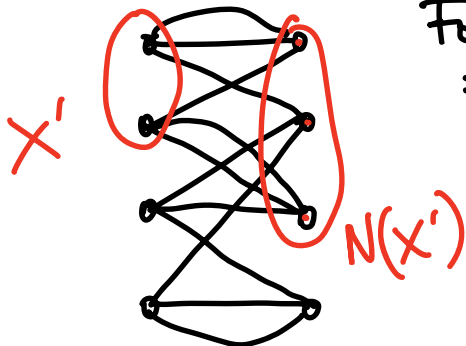
of  $d$  perfect matchings inside  $G$ .

proof:

(a): We've seen this comes from counting  $|E|$   
= in two ways:

$$|X| \cdot d = \sum_{x \in X} \underbrace{\deg_G(x)}_{=d} = |E| = \sum_{y \in Y} \underbrace{\deg_G(y)}_{=d} = |Y| \cdot d$$
$$|X| \cdot d = |Y| \cdot d$$
$$|X| = |Y|$$

(b):



For (b), we want to use Hall's Thm,  
so need to check  $\forall X' \subseteq X$   
 $|N(X')| \geq |X'|$



Let's count all the  $X'$  to  $N(x')$  edges in  $G$  two ways:

$$\sum_{x' \in X'} \underbrace{\deg_G(x')}_{=d} = \# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{edges } (x', y) \\ \text{with } x' \in X', \\ y \in N(x') \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\stackrel{||}{=} d \cdot |X'| = \sum_{y \in N(x')} \underbrace{\# \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{edges } (x', y) \\ \text{with } x' \in X' \end{array} \right\}}_{\leq \deg_G(y)} \stackrel{||}{=} \sum_{y \in N(x')} \underbrace{\deg_G(y)}_{=d}$$

$$\leq d \cdot |N(x')|$$

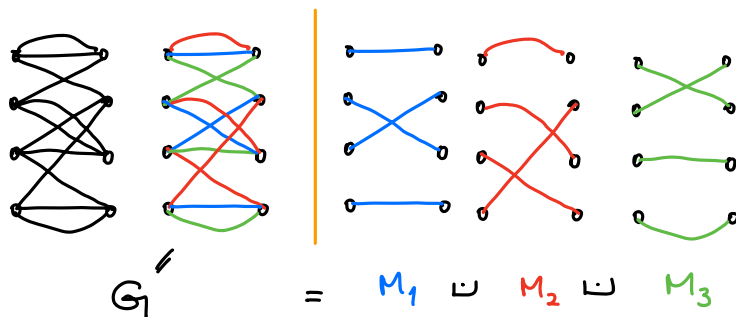
$$d|X'| \leq d|N(x')|$$

$$|X'| \leq |N(x')|$$

Hence  $\exists$  a perfect matching  $M \subseteq E$ .

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(c):

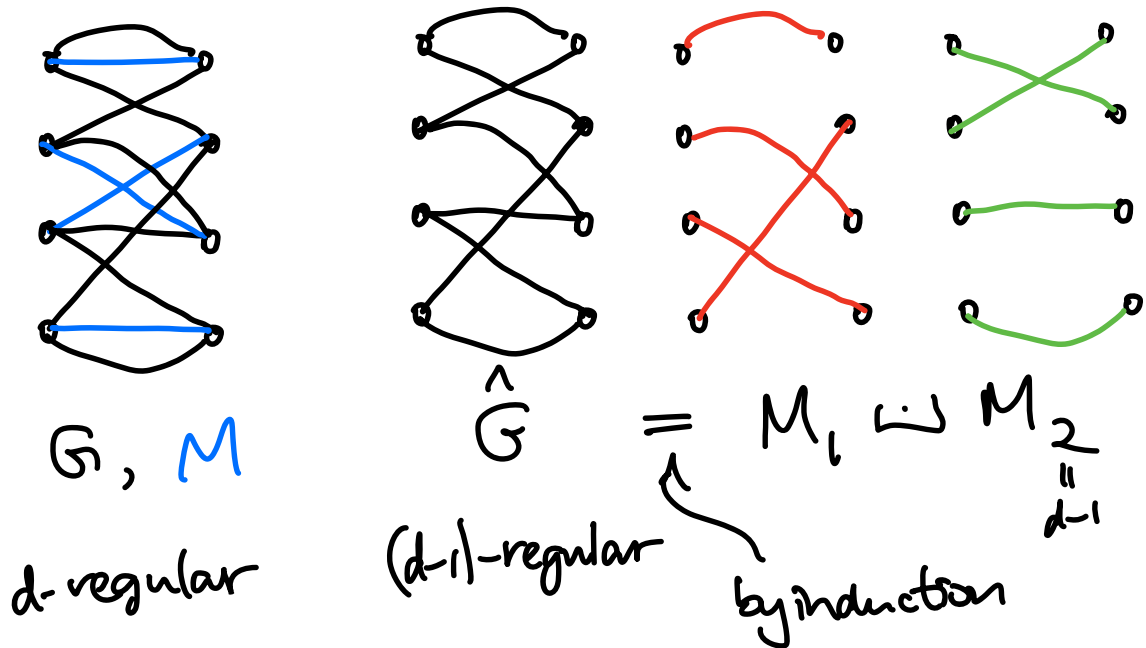


For (c), we use induction on  $d$ .

BASE CASE  $d=1$ : Then the <sup>perfect</sup> matching  $M$  found in part (b) must have  $M=E$ .

INDUCTIVE STEP  $d \geq 2$ :

Use the perfect matching  $M$  from part (b),  
and create  $\hat{G} := G$  with the edges of  $M$   
removed.



$$\Rightarrow G = M_1 \dot{\cup} M_2 \dot{\cup} \dots \dot{\cup} M_{d-1} \dot{\cup} M$$



## APPLICATION 2: doubly-stochastic matrices

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**DEFINITION:** In probability theory, a **stochastic matrix** is a  $n \times n$  square matrix  $A = (a_{ij})$  with entries  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  whose **rows all sum to 1**, that is,  $\sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i=1, 2, \dots, n$ .

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It's called **doubly stochastic** if the columns also all sum to 1, that is  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall i=1, 2, \dots, n \\ \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} = 1 \quad \forall j=1, 2, \dots, n \end{array} \right.$

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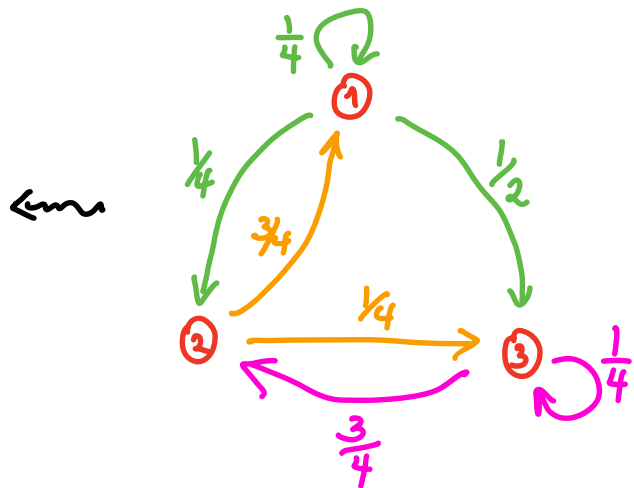
Stochastic matrices arise in theory of **Markov chains**, where there are  $n$  possible states, and  $a_{ij} = \text{Prob}(\text{starting in state } i \text{ one transitions to state } j)$

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### EXAMPLE

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} \\ \textcircled{1} & \begin{bmatrix} 1/4 & 1/4 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcircled{2} & \begin{bmatrix} 3/4 & 0 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix} \\ \textcircled{3} & \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3/4 & 1/4 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

states, transition probabilities:



**DEFINITION:** A special case of doubly-stochastic matrices are **permutation matrices**  $P$  that have exactly one 1 in each row and column, and all other entries 0.

**EXAMPLES:**

$$I_n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Identity matrix

**THEOREM (Birkhoff-von Neumann):** ← Bondy Murty EXER 5.2.8  
1946

Every **doubly stochastic matrix**  $A$  can be written as a **weighted average of permutation matrices**

i.e.  $A = c_1 P_1 + c_2 P_2 + \dots + c_r P_r$  with  $c_1, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$   
 $c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_r = 1$

**EXAMPLE:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= c_1 P_1 + c_2 P_2 + c_3 P_3$$

**THEOREM (Birkhoff-von Neumann)**  
1946

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i.e.  $A = c_1 P_1 + c_2 P_2 + \dots + c_r P_r$  with  $c_1, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$   
 $c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_r = 1$

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**EXAMPLE:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**proof:** Let's prove the more general-sounding statement that if  $A$  an  $n \times n$  matrix  
( $a_{ij}$ )

with  $a_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  and all row sums =  $d > 0$   
all col sums =  $d$

then  $A = c_1 P_1 + c_2 P_2 + \dots + c_r P_r$  where  $P_i =$   
permutation matrices

and  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$   
with  $c_1 + c_2 + \dots + c_r = d$ .

We'll prove it by induction on  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \# \text{ nonzero entries } a_{ij} \\ \text{in } A \end{array} \right\}$

**BASE CASE:** no nonzero entries, so  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

EXAMPLE:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

INDUCTIVE STEP:

Build from  $A$  a bipartite graph

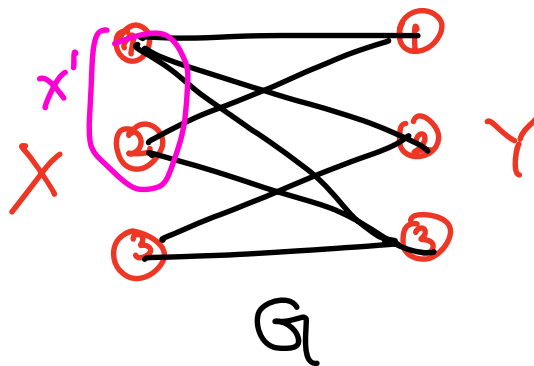
$$G = (V, E)$$

$X \cup Y$   
 row indices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$       col indices  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$$E = \{(i, j) : a_{ij} > 0 \neq 0\}$$

e.g. for  $A$  above

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} \\ \textcircled{1} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \textcircled{2} & \frac{3}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \textcircled{3} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{matrix}$$



Let's check  $G$  satisfies

Hall's condition:  $\forall X' \subset X, |N(X')| \geq |X'|$

by counting in 2 ways the sum of all entries of  $A$  lying in rows indexed by  $X'$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i \in X'} \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} &= \sum_{\substack{i \in X' \\ j=1,2,\dots,n}} a_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i \in X'} a_{ij} \\
 &\leq \sum_{j \in N(x')} \sum_{i \in X'} a_{ij} \leq \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} = d \\
 &\leq d \cdot |N(x')|
 \end{aligned}$$

$a_{ij} = 0$  unless  $j \in N(x')$  since  $i \in X'$

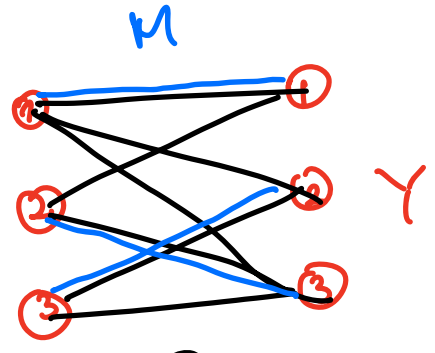
$$\Rightarrow d \cdot |X'| \leq d \cdot |N(x')|$$

$$\Rightarrow |X'| = |N(x')|$$

Hence by Hall's Thm,  $\exists$  a perfect matching  $M \subseteq E$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix}
 \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} \\
 \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{1/4} & \textcircled{1/4} & \textcircled{1/2} \\
 \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3/4} & \textcircled{0} & \textcircled{1/4} \\
 \textcircled{3} & \textcircled{0} & \textcircled{3/4} & \textcircled{1/4}
 \end{bmatrix}$$

$M$  circles the positions of a permutation matrix  $P_1$



$G$

Let  $c_1 = \min$  of the entries  $\{P_{ij} : (i,j) \in M\}$   
 Then  $\hat{A} := A - c_1 P_1$  has entries in  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ ,  
 fewer nonzero entries,  
 and its rows and columns sum to  $d - c_1$ .

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \textcircled{1} & \textcircled{2} & \textcircled{3} \\ \textcircled{1} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \textcircled{2} & \frac{3}{4} & 0 & \frac{1}{4} \\ \textcircled{3} & 0 & \frac{3}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{matrix} \rightsquigarrow \hat{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{3}{4} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

rows/cols  
 all sum to  $\frac{3}{4}$   
 $= 1 - \frac{1}{4}$   
 $= d - c_1$

so by induction,

$$\hat{A} = c_2 P_2 + \dots + c_r P_r \text{ with } c_2, \dots, c_r \geq 0$$

$$c_2 + \dots + c_r = d - c_1$$

$$A = c_1 P_1 + c_2 P_2 + \dots + c_r P_r$$

