

# NDMI012: Combinatorics and Graph Theory 2

## Tutorial 2

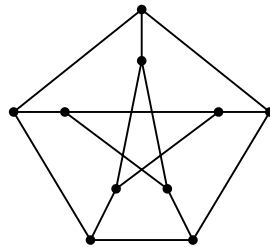
Irena Penev  
Summer 2022

Thursday, February 24

**Reminder:** A *maximum matching* in a graph  $G$  is a matching of size  $\nu(G)$ . On the other hand, a *maximal matching* in  $G$  is a matching that is not a proper subset of any other matching of  $G$ .

**Exercise 6 from Tutorial 1.** Prove that a tree  $T$  has a perfect matching if and only if  $\text{odd}(T \setminus v) = 1$  for every vertex  $v \in V(T)$ .

**Exercise 7 from Tutorial 1.** Find all perfect matchings of the Petersen graph (shown below). Make sure you prove that the perfect matchings that you found are the only ones.



Petersen graph

**Exercise 1.** Prove that every maximal matching in a graph  $G$  has at least  $\frac{\nu(G)}{2}$  many edges.

**Exercise 2.** Let  $M_0$  be a matching in a graph  $G$ , and let  $u$  be a vertex of  $G$  that is unsaturated by  $M_0$ . Assume that no  $M_0$ -augmenting path of  $G$  starts at  $u$ . Prove that  $u$  is unsaturated by some maximum matching of  $G$ .

**Exercise 3.** Prove that any cubic graph with at most two bridges has a perfect matching.