

This homework is from <https://mathematicaster.org/teaching/graphs2022/hw7.pdf>

Unless explicitly requested by a problem, do not include sketches as part of your proof. You are free to use the result from any problem on this (or previous) assignment as a part of your solution to a different problem even if you have not solved the former problem.

**Problem 1** (2pts). For infinitely many integers  $n$ , construct a graph  $G$  with the following properties:

- $G$  is connected and has  $n$  vertices, and
- $G$  is *not* a tree, and
- Every  $v \in V(G)$  which is not a leaf of  $G$  is a cut-vertex of  $G$ .

“For infinitely many integers  $n$ ...” means the following: Pick your favorite infinite subset  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and, for each  $n \in A$ , build the desired graph for that  $n$ . For instance, maybe you pick  $A$  to be the set of even naturals, or maybe you pick  $A$  to be the set of integers of the form  $2^k$ , or maybe you pick  $A$  to be the set of all primes larger than  $100^{100^{100^{100}}}$ , etc. As long as  $A$  is infinite, you’re fine.

**Problem 2** (1 + 1 pts). Let  $G$  be a graph and suppose that  $H$  is any spanning subgraph of  $G$ .

1. Prove that  $\lambda(G) \geq \lambda(H)$ .
2. Prove that  $\kappa(G) \geq \kappa(H)$ .

**Problem 3** (1 + 2 pts). Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with at least one edge and fix any  $e \in E$ .

1. Prove that  $\lambda(G) \geq \lambda(G - e) \geq \lambda(G) - 1$ .
2. Prove that  $\kappa(G) \geq \kappa(G - e) \geq \kappa(G) - 1$ .

**Problem 4** (1 pts). For each non-negative integer  $k$ , find an example of a graph  $G$  with  $\kappa(G) = \lambda(G) = 1$ , yet there is some vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $\kappa(G - v) = \lambda(G - v) = k$ .

That is to say, the natural analogue of Problem 3 fails when deleting vertices instead of edges.

**Problem 5** (2 pts). Let  $G$  be a graph. The  $k$ th power of  $G$  is the graph  $G^k$  which has the same vertex-set as  $G$  and  $uv \in E(G^k)$  iff  $d_G(u, v) \leq k$ .

Prove that if  $G$  is a connected graph on at least  $k + 1$  vertices, then  $G^k$  is  $k$ -connected.

(You don’t have to turn this is, but you should convince yourself that it’s true:  $G^k$  is a clique if and only if  $\text{diam}(G) \leq k$ .)