

Optimization for Non-Mathematicians

Drawing Graphs with Graphviz

MATLAB itself only started with release 2015b to offer functions for drawing graphs as in [Figure 0.1](#).¹ However we continue to use the open source software **Graphviz** in this class. Graphviz consists of a series of executable programs (`dot`, `neato`, `fdp`, `sfdp`, `twopi` and `circo`) for the layout of graphs. These differ in the algorithms used to place the nodes.²

There exists a MATLAB interface for Graphviz named **graphViz4Matlab**, which does not offer access to all capabilities, but is sufficient for our purpose. Especially for this class **graphViz4Matlab** has been equipped with several extensions³ by us, which meanwhile have been included in the official version. In addition, a high level interface function **Graph** has been written, which further simplifies the usage of **graphViz4Matlab**.⁴

Installation of graphViz4Matlab and Graph

For the installation the following steps are necessary (*only once*). Please login under **Linux** in the MRZ computer pool.

- (a) Download the latest version of **graphViz4Matlab** by typing in the console:

```
git clone https://github.com/graphviz4matlab/↵  
graphviz4matlab.git
```

The downloaded content can then be found in the subdirectory **graphviz4matlab** (of the current directory).

- (b) Download the file **Graph.m** from the [class homepage](#) and save it in the above mentioned directory **graphviz4matlab**.
- (c) For the transformation of adjacency to incidence matrices and vice versa we use the two files **adj2inc.m** und **inc2adj.m** by Ondrej Sluciak. These can be obtained (as two **.zip** archives) from [Matlab Central File Exchange](#) by [searching for adjacency incidence matrix](#).⁵ Unzip these archives into the above mentioned directory **graphviz4matlab**. Alternatively, the files **adj2inc.m** und **inc2adj.m** can be found on the [class homepage](#).

¹The MATLAB native functions **graph** and **digraph** create graphs from adjacency matrices, which can be displayed using **plot**.

²Anyone who is interested in more details will find the documentation for **Graphviz** under <https://www.graphviz.org/Documentation.php>, see e.g., the document [Using Graphviz as a library](#) (Drawing graphs with Graphviz).

³These concern the possibility to adjust the line style of the edges (**-edgeLineStyle**), to attach labels to the edges (**-edgeLabels**) and to draw bidirectional edges as two separate edges, slightly offset.

⁴**Graph** enables us to draw a graph based on its incidence matrix ([Definition 14.4](#)), which is also used in the lecture. Since **graphViz4Matlab** expects an adjacency matrix ([Definition 14.3](#)), the incidence matrix is transformed first. Moreover the interface **Graph** facilitates the use of node and edge labels.

⁵[Matlab Central](#) is the place to go for MATLAB projects which users share among each other.

- (d) Download the file `setup_graph.sh` from the [class homepage](#) and save it in your home directory.

Subsequently you should follow the steps below *in every session* in which you would like to use `graphViz4Matlab`:

- (a) Execute the script `setup_graph.sh`, which sets several paths for `Graphviz` and `graphViz4Matlab`. To this end, type in the console:

```
source setup_graph.sh
```

The script will also query the version of `dot` (one of the programs out of `Graphviz` suite); the output should look like:

```
dot - graphviz version 2.28.0 (20130928.0220)
```

- (b) Launch MATLAB, e.g., by typing `matlab`.

By calling (typing) `graphViz4Matlab` in the MATLAB window you should now see an example graph. Furthermore try the example programs `graphViz4MatlabDEM01`, `graphViz4MatlabDEM02` and `graphViz4MatlabDEM03`.

Using Graph

You will find the following code segments on the [class homepage](#) under the name `demoGraph.m`. You may paste each code block into the command window, or use `echodemo demoGraph` for an interactive demonstration.

First we generate the incidence matrix of a graph which we would like to draw — as seen in [Figure 0.1](#) top left. Then we call our `Graph` interface of `graphViz4Matlab`:

`demoGraph.m`

```
% Generate the incidence matrix for a transportation
% network with m = 9 nodes and n = 11 edges
A = ...
[ -1 -1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0; ...
  0  0 -1 -1  0  0  0  0  0  0  0; ...
  0  0  0  0 -1 -1  0  0  0  0  0; ...
  1  0  1  0  1  0 -1 -1 -1  0  0; ...
  0  1  0  1  0  1  1  0  0 -1 -1; ...
  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0  0; ...
  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0  0; ...
  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1  0; ...
  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  0  1];

% Draw the graph
h = Graph(A);
```

The return value `h` is a handle for the generated `graphViz4Matlab` object.⁶ Unfortunately the automatic has worsened compared to previous versions. However we may access and modify the node positions through the handle `h`:

demoGraph.m

```
XY = h.getNodePositions();
XY = XY([1 4 5 2 3 6 7 8 9],:);
h.setNodePositions(XY);
```

Next we show how to change the standard labels $1, 2, \dots, m$ of the nodes to individual labels (see Figure 0.1 top right):

demoGraph.m

```
% Set the node labels for the production sites,
% storage sites and points of sale
nodelabels = {'P1','P2','P3','Z1','Z2','V1','V2','V3','↔'
    'V4'};

% Redraw the graph
h = Graph(A,h,nodelabels);
XY = h.getNodePositions();
XY = XY([1 4 5 2 3 6 7 8 9],:);
h.setNodePositions(XY);
```

The edges can be labeled in a similar way (Figure 0.1 center left):

demoGraph.m

```
% Set additional edge labels
edgelabels = [0.8; 2.0; 2.5; 1.0; 1.2; 2.0; 1.0; 1.0; ↔
    1.0; 1.0; 1.0];
h = Graph(A,h,nodelabels,edgelabels);
XY = h.getNodePositions();
XY = XY([1 4 5 2 3 6 7 8 9],:);
h.setNodePositions(XY);
```

Now we rotate the generated graph by 135 degree and scale it down slightly, so that it fits completely into the picture (Figure 0.1 center right):

demoGraph.m

```
% Set node positions XY manually
% Here: rotate graph about 135 degree
alpha = 135 * pi / 180;
R = [cos(alpha), -sin(alpha); sin(alpha), cos(alpha)];
XY = h.getNodePositions();
XY = XY - 0.5; % shift to origin
XY = (R * XY')'; % rotate
XY = XY * 0.8; % scale on 80%
XY(:,1) = XY(:,1) + 0.5; % shift back
XY(:,2) = XY(:,2) + 0.4; % shift back
h.setNodePositions(XY);
```

⁶We use the handle, among other things, to be able to overwrite the graph described by `h` in its window. This prevents a new window to be opened upon every call of `Graph`.

parameter -layout in graphViz4Matlab	Graphviz routine
Gvizlayout	neato
Treelayout	dot
Radiallayout	twopi
Circularlayout	circo
Springlayout	fdp
Circlelayout	—
Gridlayout	—
Randlayout	—

Table 0.1: available layouts in `graphViz4Matlab` and their counterparts in `Graphviz`

Finally we show the usage of two different layouts ([Figure 0.1](#) bottom left and right), here again without edge labels.⁷

```
% Redraw the graph with tree layout
h = Graph(A,h,nodelabels,[],'-layout',Treelayout);
```

```
% Redraw the graph with circle layout
h = Graph(A,h,nodelabels,[],'-layout',Circlelayout);
```

You can find out about available layouts by `h.layouts` or in [Table 0.1](#).

Your next steps should be:

- Read `help Graph`.
- Try the different buttons which you can see in the plot window of the graph. Also move some nodes in the graph and query the new node positions.
- Read `help graphViz4Matlab`.
- Experiment with different layouts for the graph by using some options of `graphViz4Matlab` which have not been mentioned above, e.g., the coloring of edges and / or nodes.

⁷All arguments starting from the fifth are passed on from our interface `Graph` to `graphViz4Matlab`, see also `help Graph` and `help graphViz4Matlab`.

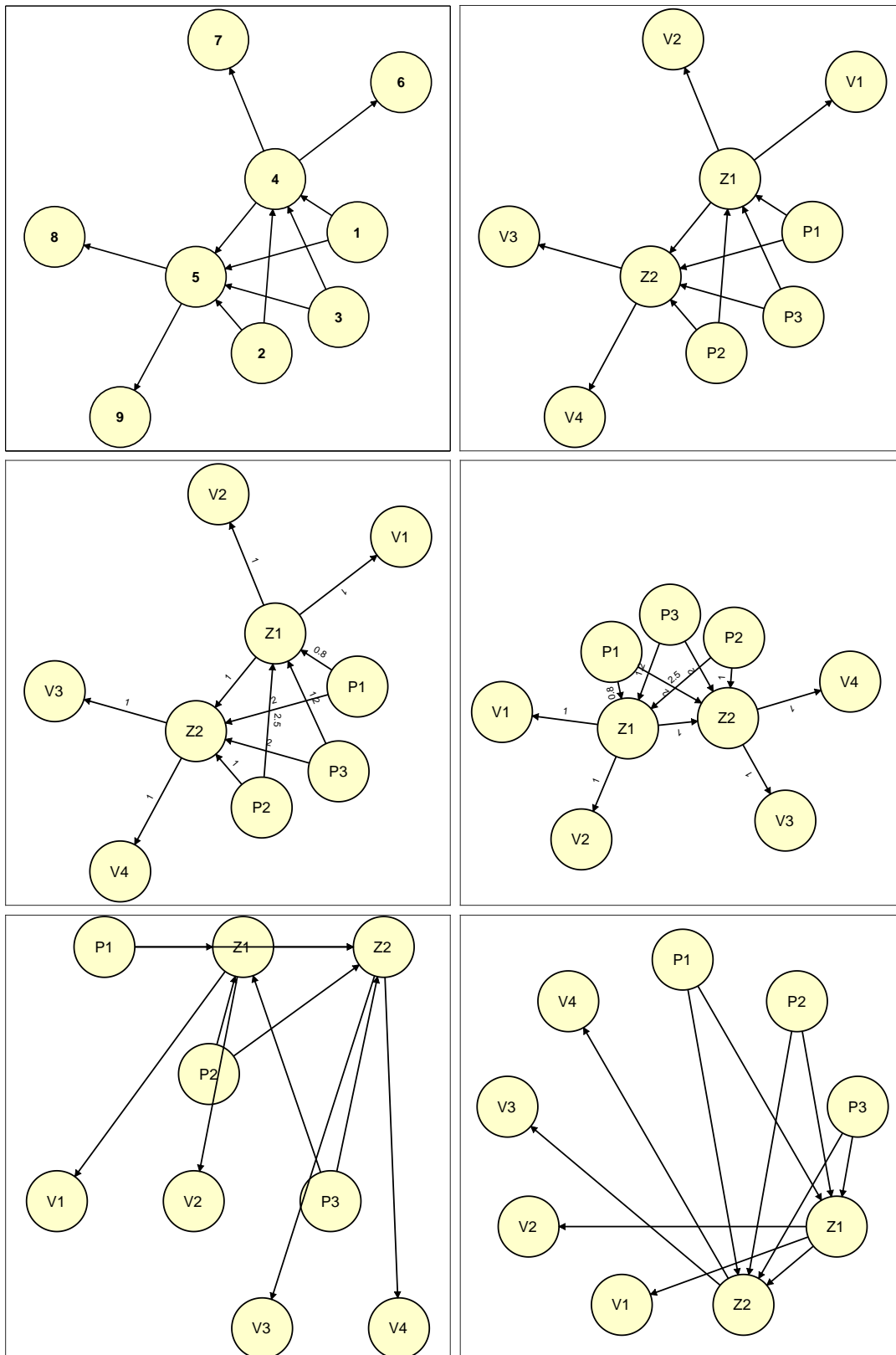


Figure 0.1: In the top left figure you see the standard layout of the graph. Top right: node labels have been assigned. Center left: edge labels have been set in addition. Center right: the node positions have been changed manually. The two figures on the bottom show the graph in the **Treelayout** and **Circlelayout**, respectively.