

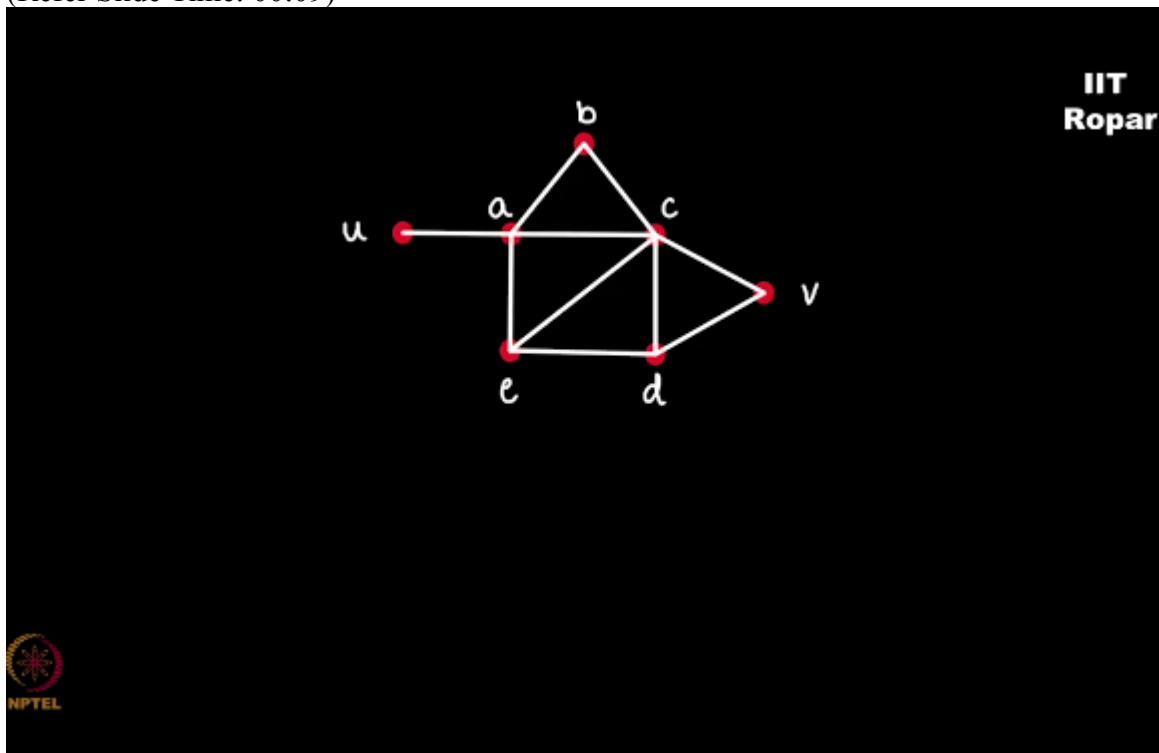
**NPTEL**  
**NPTEL ONLINE CERTIFICATION COURSE**

**Discrete Mathematics**  
**Graph Theory - 1**

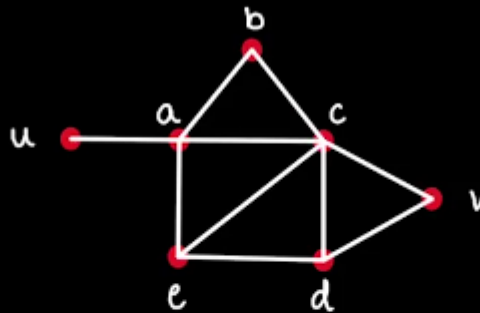
**Trail**

**By**  
**Prof. S.R.S Iyengar**  
**Department of Computer Science**  
**IIT Ropar**

Let me consider the same graph which I had used in the previous video,  
(Refer Slide Time: 00:09)



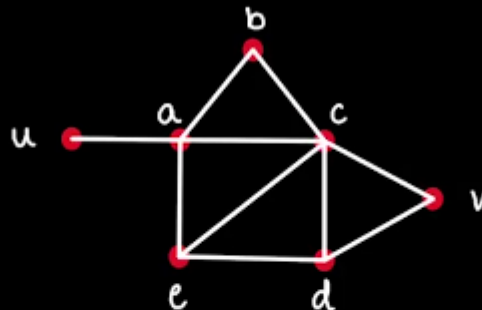
now I bring in the constraint here, what if I see that you cannot go through a edge, you cannot go through an edge more than once,  
(Refer Slide Time: 00:20)



Constraint: You cannot go through an edge more than once.



you cannot repeat an edge, but you can repeat vertices  
(Refer Slide Time: 00:22)



Constraint: You cannot go through an edge more than once.

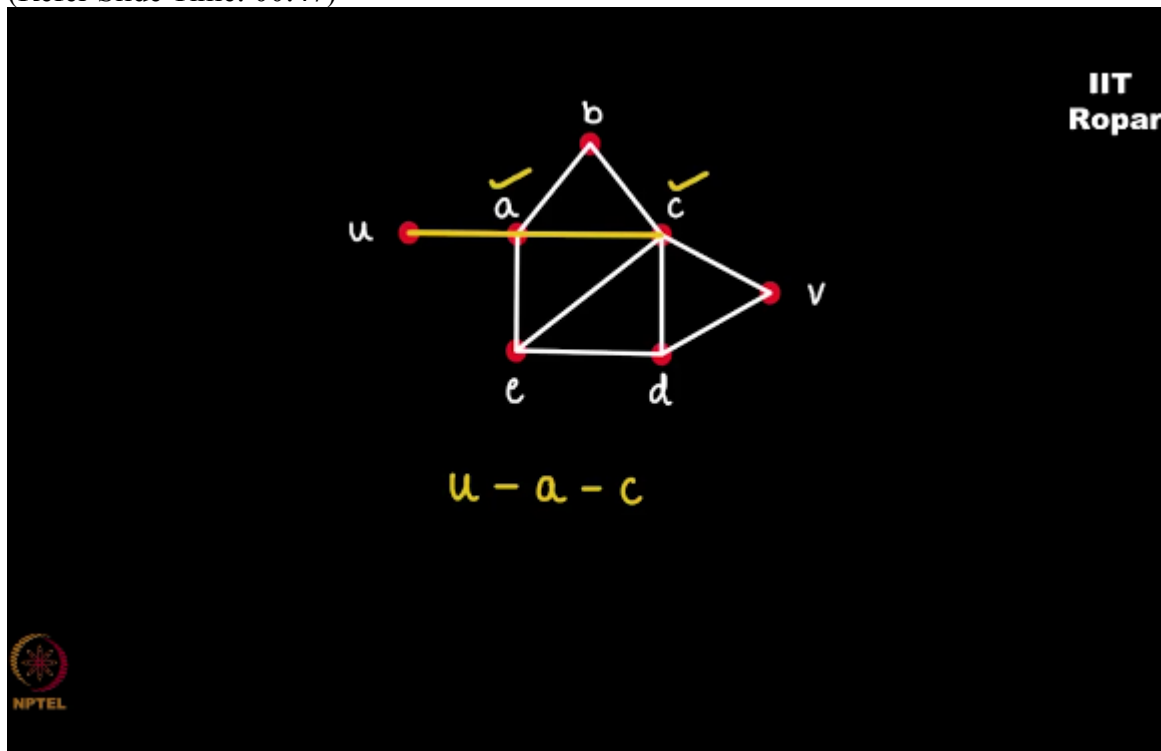
You can repeat vertices.



what if I rated this constraint, then will you walk in the same way, let us see.

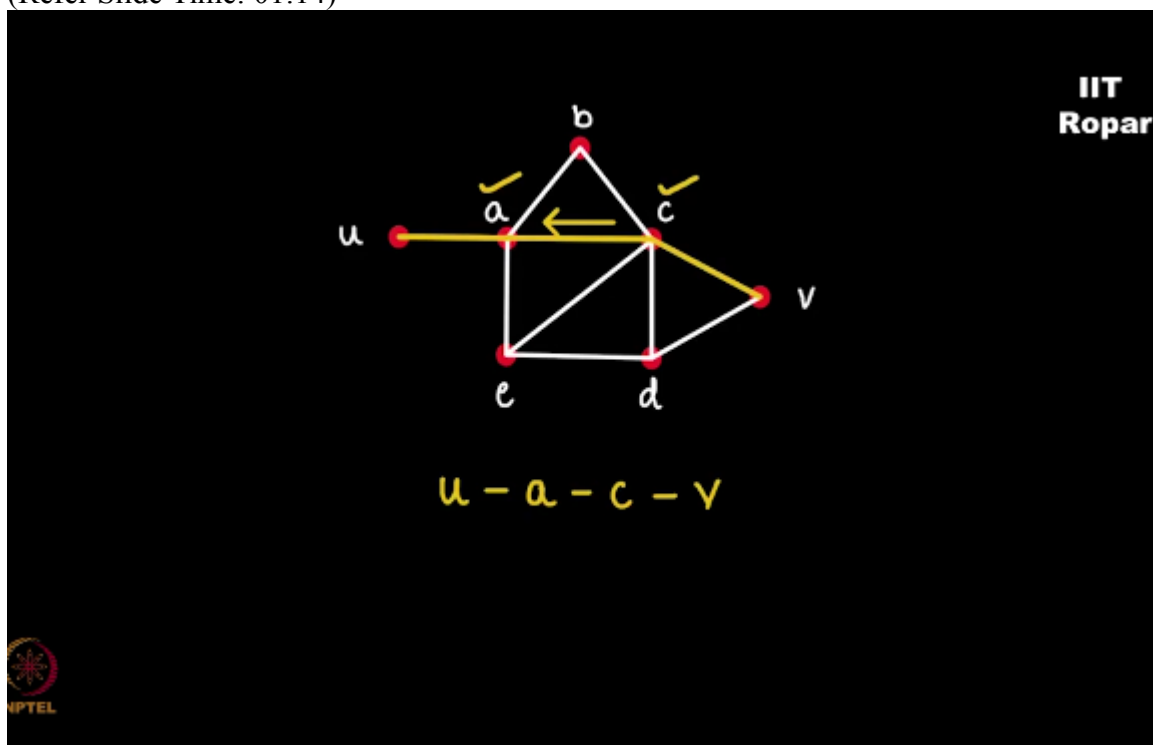
If I have to reach V from U maybe I would probably consider taking U, A, C, I cannot go back to A again, did you get it, why? Because if I go from here to here

(Refer Slide Time: 00:47)



I cannot come back here to here, I'm repeating this edge there which is not allowed, hence I have to be forced to go to either D or B or V, if I go to D then I have to take, okay, let me write it separately, so if I go from U, A, C, V,

(Refer Slide Time: 01:14)



this is one such V where I'm not repeating the edges, this is called a trail.

A walk is a trail if the edges are all distinct, but vertices need not be the distinct,  
(Refer Slide Time: 01:35)

IIT Ropar

Trail :  $\{u - a - c - v\}$

A walk is a trail if the edges are all distinct, but vertices need not be distinct.

NPTEL

let me give you an example here, U, A, C, E, D, C, V this as an example of a trail  
(Refer Slide Time: 01:44)

IIT Ropar

$\{u - a - c - e - d - c - v\}$

NPTEL

you see that I've just repeated the vertex C, but none of the edges are repeated if you check it, so this is a trail.

**IIT MADRAS PRODUCTION**

**Founded by  
Department of Higher Education  
Ministry of Human Resources Development  
Government of India**

[www.nptel.iitm.ac.in](http://www.nptel.iitm.ac.in)

**Copyrights Reserved**