

Discrete Mathematics

Trees



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- A spanning tree is a spanning subgraph that is a tree

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- A graph that is a tree has exactly one spanning tree, the full graph itself.
- A spanning subgraph of G need not be connected, and a connected subgraph of G need not be a spanning subgraph.

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 - Hence G' is connected.
 - Since deleting a vertex cannot create a cycle, G' also acyclic.
 - Thus G' is a tree with $n - 1$ vertices.

Tree properties-II

- For an n -vertex graph G (with $n \geq 1$), the following are equivalent (and characterize the trees with n vertices)
 - G is connected and has no cycles
 - G is connected and has $n - 1$ edges
 - G has $n - 1$ edges and no cycles
 - For $u, v \in V(G)$, G has exactly one u, v -path

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- Adding one edge to a tree forms exactly one cycle
- Every connected graph contains a spanning tree

Tree properties-IV

- If T, T' are spanning trees of a connected graph G and $e \in E(T) - E(T')$, then there is an edge $e' \in E(T') - E(T)$ such that $T - e + e'$ is a spanning tree of G .

Distance

- If G has a u, v -path, then the distance from u to v , written $d(u, v)$ is the least length of a u, v -path.
 - If G has no such path, then $d(u, v) = \infty$.
- The diameter is $\max_{u, v \in V(G)} d(u, v)$

Tree enumeration

- There are $2^{\binom{n}{2}}$ simple graphs with vertex set $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$. How many of these are trees?

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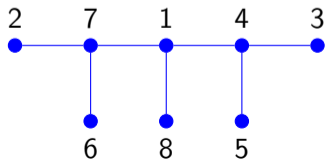
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- Prufer code:
 - Input: A tree T with vertex set $[n]$
 - Output: $f(T) = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_{n-2})$
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- Given positive integers d_1, \dots, d_n summing $2n - 2$, where d_i is the degree of i th vertex of the tree with vertex set $[n]$, how many trees are possible?

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- $$\frac{(n-2)!}{\prod (d_i - 1)!}$$

Thank you!