

Spanning and weighted spanning trees

A different kind of optimization

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Definitions and examples

Graphs

A *graph* is a collection of vertices (that look like dots ●)

and edges (that look like curves ) ,

where each edge joins two vertices.

(Formally, a *graph* is a pair $G = (V, E)$, where V is a set of dots and E is a set of pairs of vertices.)

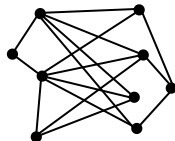
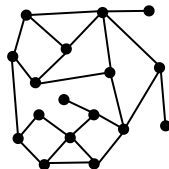
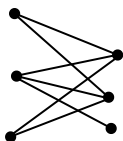
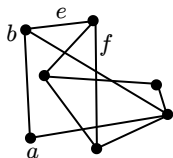
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Here are a few examples of graphs:



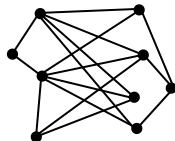
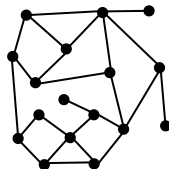
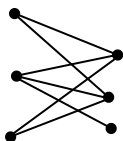
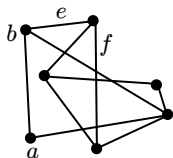
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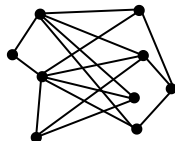
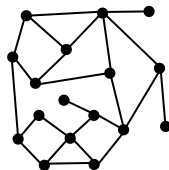
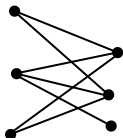
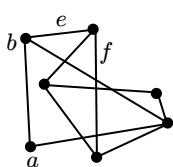
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Two vertices joined by an edge are called *adjacent* (see a and b).
Two edges that meet at a vertex are called *incident* (see e and f).

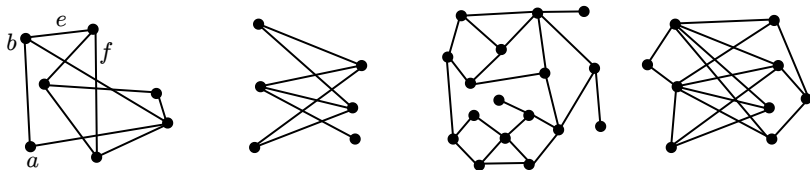
Subgraphs

A *subgraph* is a graph that is contained within another graph. For example, here the second graph is a subgraph of the fourth graph.

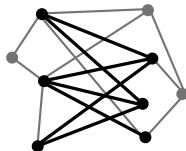


Subgraphs

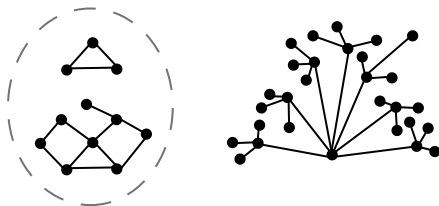
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Here is the second graph, shown as a subgraph of the fourth graph.

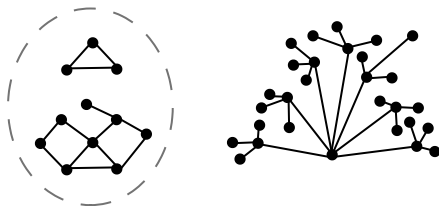


Trees



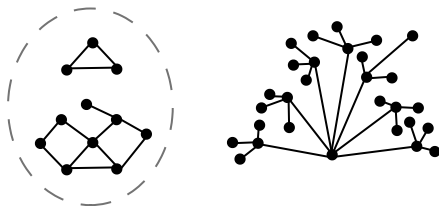
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Trees



In a *connected* graph, there is a way to get from any vertex to any other vertex without leaving the graph. The left graph above is *not* connected.

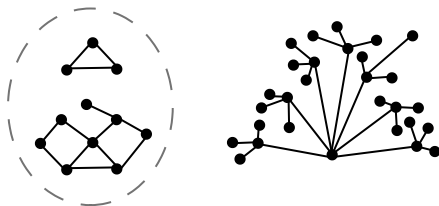
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A *cycle* is a sequence that alternates between vertices and edges, and whose only repetition is the first/last vertex.

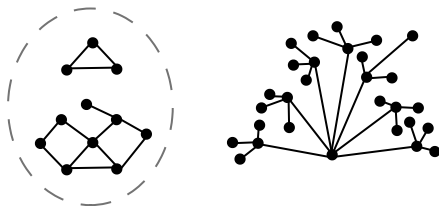
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A *cycle* is a sequence that alternates between vertices and edges, and whose only repetition is the first/last vertex. A cycle is shown by itself as the top part of the left graph above.

A *tree* is a graph that is connected and has no cycles. One is shown to the right above.

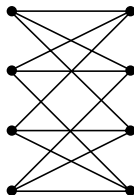
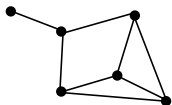
A *forest* is a bunch of trees.

Spanning Trees

A *spanning tree* is a tree that contains all the vertices of a given graph. Basically, it is the largest tree contained in a graph.

Spanning Trees

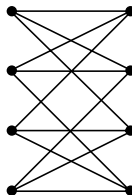
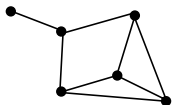
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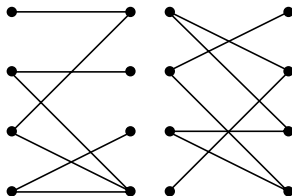
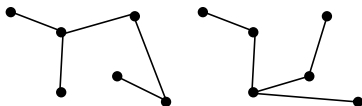
Here are spanning trees of the above-pictured graphs:

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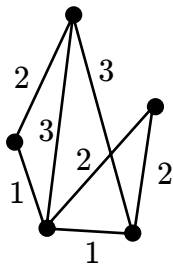


Here are spanning trees of the above-pictured graphs:



Weighted Graphs

Weights are labels on the edges and/or vertices of a graph that often denote costs or distances or energies. Here's a weighted graph:



Weighted Spanning Trees

The *total weight* of a spanning tree is the sum of the weights on its edges.

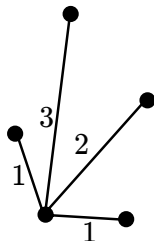
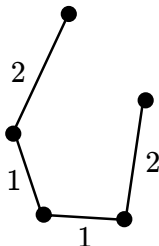
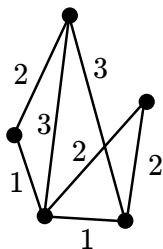
A *minimum-weight* spanning tree is one that has the lowest possible total weight.

Weighted Spanning Trees

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Here are a weighted graph, a spanning tree of total weight 6, and a spanning tree of total weight 7; are either of these minimum-weight spanning trees?



Time for Worksheets!

No, really. It's time to work on worksheets now.

Final notes: MathILy

- ▶ intensive summer program for super-smart, super-cool students
- ▶ extremely interactive and silly and inventive classes
- ▶ discrete and applicable college-level mathematics
- ▶ Root class, then Week of Chaos, then Branch classes

<http://www.mathily.org>