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4. Practice sheet for the lecture:  
Graph Theory (DS II)

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Due dates: 14./16. November

<https://page.math.tu-berlin.de/~felsner/Lehre/dsII23.html>

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- (1) A connected graph with at most one simple cycle is called a *pseudotree*. Prove that any two of these properties imply the third one:
  - $G$  is a pseudotree.
  - $G$  is connected and has  $n$  edges.
  - There is an edge  $e \in E(G)$  such that  $G - e$  is connected.
- (2) Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  and two spanning trees  $T_1 = (V, E_1)$  and  $T_2 = (V, E_2)$  of  $G$ , show that for every edge  $e_1 \in E_1 \setminus E_2$  there is an edge  $e_2 \in E_2 \setminus E_1$  such that  $T'_1 = (V, (E_1 \setminus \{e_1\}) \cup \{e_2\})$  and  $T'_2 = (V, (E_2 \setminus \{e_2\}) \cup \{e_1\})$  are also both spanning trees of  $G$ .
- (3) Let  $X$  be a set of  $n$  points on a circle. Let  $D_n$  be a drawing of  $K_n$  on  $X$  with straight line edges. A non-crossing spanning path  $P_n$  of  $D_n$  is a spanning path in the corresponding  $K_n$  such that no edges of  $P_n$  cross in  $D_n$ . Show that if  $n$  is even, the edges of  $K_n$  can be partitioned into non-crossing spanning paths.
- (4) Let  $X$  be a set of  $n$  points on a circle and  $T$  be a non-crossing straight line tree on the point set  $X$ . That is, the edges of  $T$  are straight lines and none of the edges cross. A *flip* in  $T$  is a removal of an edge  $e \in T$  and an addition of an edge  $e' \notin T$  such that  $T' = T \setminus e \cup e'$  is a non-crossing straight line tree. Let  $T_1, T_2$  be two non-crossing straight line trees on  $X$ . Show that there are at most  $2n - 4$  flips needed to transform  $T_1$  into  $T_2$  for  $n \geq 3$ .

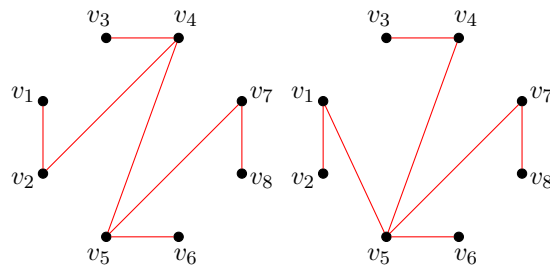


Figure 1: A flip.

- (5) Let  $K_{m,n}$  be the complete bipartite graph with parts  $\{1', \dots, m'\}$  as well as  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .
  - (a) How many spanning trees does  $K_{2,n}$  have? How many non-isomorphic ones?
  - (b) How many spanning trees does  $K_{3,n}$  have? How many non-isomorphic ones? [This is a rounded polynomial but a not fully simplified sum is acceptable.]
  - (c) Let  $m \leq n$ . How many spanning trees does  $K_{m,n}$  have? [Hint: Clarke's proof of the Cayley formula can be adapted to  $K_{m,n}$ .]