

Homework 2

Week 1

Mathcamp 2011

1. Prove that for a graph G on n vertices, the following statements are equivalent:
 - (a) G is a tree.
 - (b) G is connected and has $n - 1$ edges.
 - (c) G has $n - 1$ edges and no cycles.
 - (d) For every pair u, v in $V(G)$, there is exactly one path from u to v that doesn't repeat any vertices.
2. Show that any connected graph on n vertices with m edges has at least $m - n + 1$ cycles.
3. (–) A **spanning tree** T in a graph G is a subgraph T of G that is isomorphic to a tree, and also contains every vertex in $V(G)$. Show that every graph G contains a spanning tree.
4. (–) How many spanning trees does K_n contain?
5. Show that if G is a graph where every vertex has degree $\geq k$ and T is a tree with k edges, then G contains T as a subgraph.
6. (–) Find a graph G and tree T where every vertex in G has degree $\geq k - 1$, T has k edges, but G does not contain T as a subgraph.
7. A *graceful labeling* of a graph with E edges is a labeling $l(v)$ of its vertices with distinct integers from the set $\{0 \dots E\}$, such that each edge $\{u, v\}$ is uniquely determined by the difference $|l(u) - l(v)|$. Show that all path-trees¹ are graceful.
8. Show that K_n is graceful if and only if $n \leq 4$.
9. (*) A *caterpillar tree* is a tree such that deleting all of its leaves leaves us with a single path. Show that all caterpillar graphs are graceful.
10. (**) Show that all trees are graceful.

¹A path-tree is a tree that consists of a single path.