

## Adjacency Matrix

An *adjacency matrix* of a graph is a matrix where the entries represents edges between vertices, that is, a '1' represents that vertices are adjacent to each other.

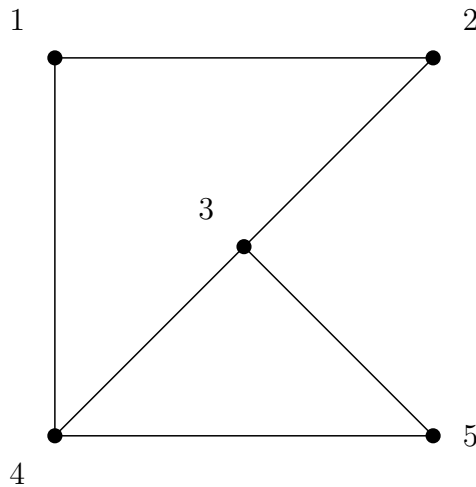
*Formal definition.* Given a graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices labeled  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ . For each  $i$  and  $j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n$ ), we define

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v_i v_j \text{ is an edge} \\ 0 & \text{if } v_i v_j \text{ is not an edge} \end{cases}$$

The *adjacency matrix* of  $G$  is the  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  whose  $(i, j)$  entry is  $a_{ij}$ .

*Properties of an Adjacency Matrix.* Let  $G$  be a graph with vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  and let  $A = [a_{ij}]$  be the adjacency matrix of  $G$ .

- The diagonal entries are all 0.
- The matrix is symmetric, that is,  $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$  for all  $i, j$ .  
 Given a symmetric matrix  $A$  which contains only 0's and 1's and only 0's along its diagonal, there exists a graph  $G$  whose adjacency matrix is  $A$ .
- $\deg v_i$  is the number of 1's in row  $i$
- The  $(i, j)$  entry of  $A^2$  is the number of different walks from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  of length 2. The  $(i, j)$  entry of  $A^n$  is the number of different walks from  $v_i$  to  $v_j$  of length  $n$ .



The matrix for the above example is:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

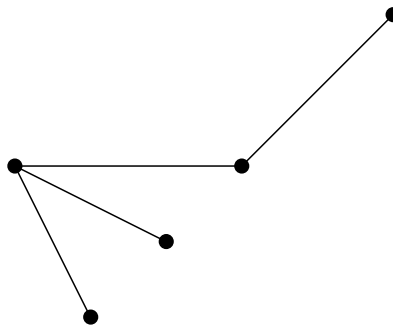
Then we have the following:

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad A^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 4 & 1 & 5 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 5 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 & 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 & 6 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Spanning Trees

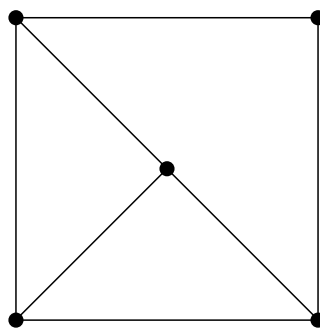
*Definitions.*

A **tree** is a graph where any two vertices are connected by exactly one simple path. It is a graph without any cycles.

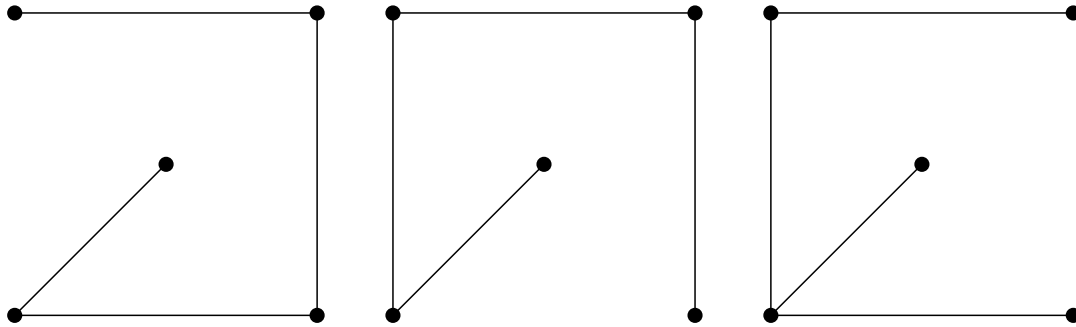


A **spanning tree** of a connected graph  $G$  is a subgraph which is a tree and which includes every vertex of  $G$ .

Consider the following graph:



Three of spanning trees for this graph are:



A **minimum spanning tree** of a weighted graph is a spanning tree of least weight, that is, a spanning tree for which the sum of the weights of all its edges is least among all spanning trees.

*Kruskal's Algorithm.*

This algorithm finds a minimum spanning tree in a connected weighted graph with  $n > 1$  vertices.

**Step 1.** Find an edge of least weight and call this  $e_1$ . Set  $k = 1$ .

**Step 2. While**  $k < n$

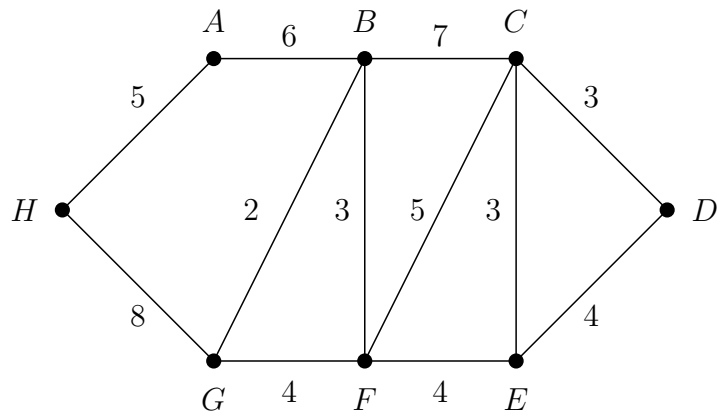
if there exists an edge  $e$  such that  $\{e\} \cup \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k\}$  does not contain a circuit (cycle); let  $e_{k+1}$  be such an edge of least weight and replace  $k$  by  $k + 1$

else output  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k$  and stop

**end while**

We can use this same algorithm to find a maximum spanning tree, by find the edge of most weight instead of least weight in the algorithm.

*Example.* Consider the following graph. Find a minimum spanning tree.



*Applications.*

*References for extra reading.*

- *Discrete Mathematics with Graph Theory*, E.G. Goodaire and M.M. Parmenter, Prentice Hall, 2005.
- *Introduction to Graph Theory*, D. West, Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall, 2001.