

# Lecture 3: Trees

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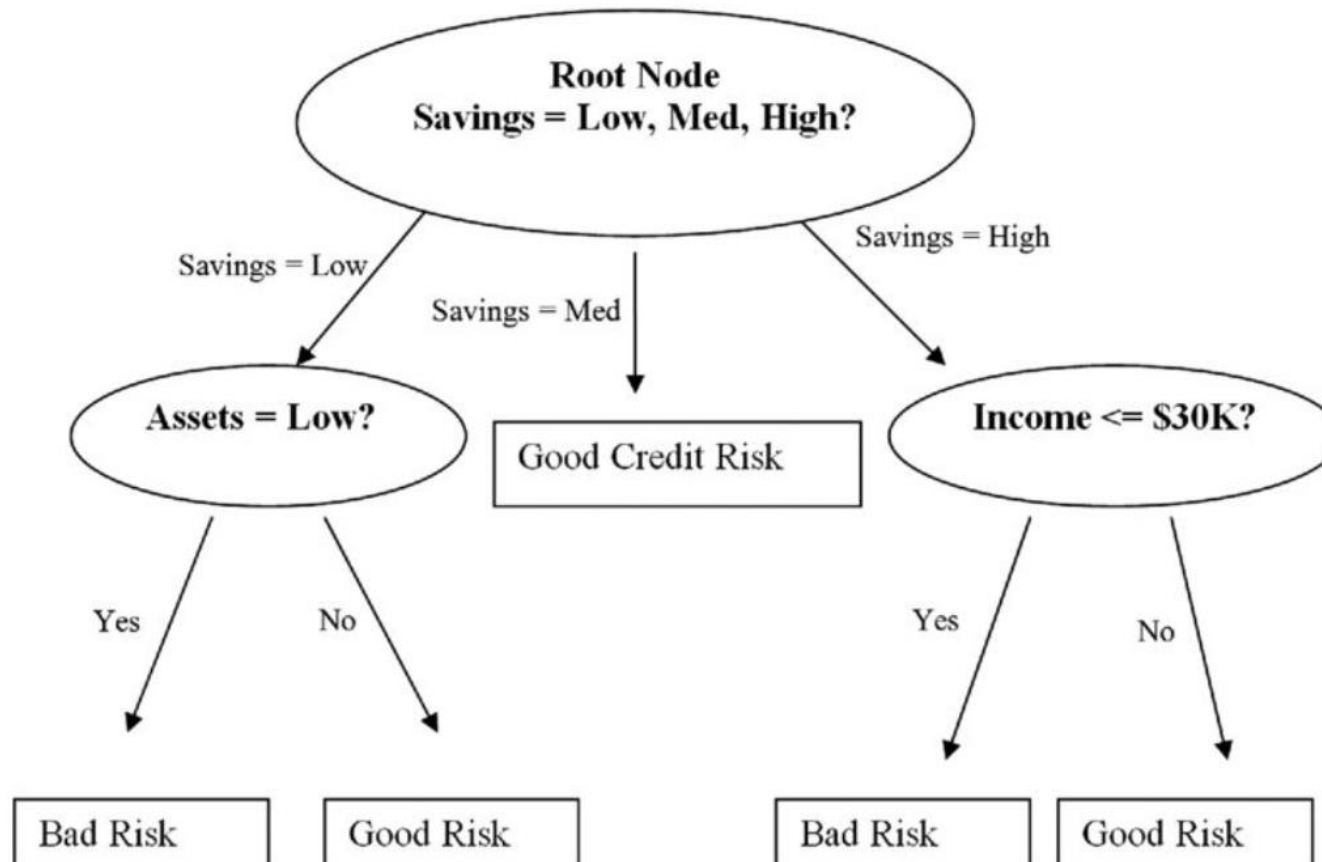
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<https://shuaili8.github.io>

<https://shuaili8.github.io/Teaching/CS445/index.html>

# Trees

- A **tree** is a connected graph  $T$  with no cycles



# Properties

- Recall that a graph is bipartite  $\Leftrightarrow$  it has no odd cycle
- (Ex 3, S1.3.1, H) A tree of order  $n \geq 2$  is a bipartite graph
  
- Recall that an edge  $e$  is a bridge  $\Leftrightarrow e$  lies on no cycle of  $G$
- $\Rightarrow$  Every edge in a tree is a bridge
- $T$  is a tree  $\Leftrightarrow T$  is minimally connected, i.e.  $T$  is connected but  $T - e$  is disconnected for every edge  $e \in T$

# Equivalent definitions (Theorem 1.5.1, D)

- $T$  is a tree of order  $n$ 
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  Any two vertices of  $T$  are linked by a unique path in  $T$
  - $\Leftrightarrow T$  is minimally connected
    - i.e.  $T$  is connected but  $T - e$  is disconnected for every edge  $e \in T$
  - $\Leftrightarrow T$  is maximally acyclic
    - i.e.  $T$  contains no cycle but  $T + xy$  does for any non-adjacent vertices  $x, y \in T$
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  (Theorem 1.10, 1.12, H)  $T$  is connected with  $n - 1$  edges
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  (Theorem 1.13, H)  $T$  is acyclic with  $n - 1$  edges

# Leaves of tree

- A vertex of degree 1 in a tree is called a **leaf**
- **Theorem** (1.14, H; Ex9, S1.3.2, H) Let  $T$  be a tree of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $T$  has at least two leaves
- (Ex3, S1.3.2, H) Let  $T$  be a tree with max degree  $\Delta$ . Then  $T$  has at least  $\Delta$  leaves
- (Ex10, S1.3.2, H) Let  $T$  be a tree of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then the number of leaves is

$$2 + \sum_{v:d(v) \geq 3} (d(v) - 2)$$

- (Ex8, S1.3.2, H) Every nonleaf in a tree is a cut vertex

# The center of a tree

- **Theorem** (1.15, H) In any tree, the center is either a single vertex or a pair of adjacent vertices

# Tree as subgraphs

- **Theorem** (1.16, H) Let  $T$  be a tree of order  $k + 1$  with  $k$  edges. Let  $G$  be a graph with  $\delta(G) \geq k$ . Then  $G$  contains  $T$  as a subgraph

# Spanning tree

- Given a graph  $G$  and a subgraph  $T$ ,  $T$  is a **spanning tree** of  $G$  if  $T$  is a tree that contains every vertex of  $G$
- Example: A telecommunications company tries to lay cable in a new neighbourhood
- **Proposition** (2.1.5c, W) Every connected graph contains a spanning tree



# Minimal spanning tree - Kruskal's Algorithm

- Given: A connected, weighted graph  $G$ 
  1. Find an edge of minimum weight and mark it.
  2. Among all of the unmarked edges that do not form a cycle with any of the marked edges, choose an edge of minimum weight and mark it
  3. If the set of marked edges forms a spanning tree of  $G$ , then stop. If not, repeat step 2

# Example

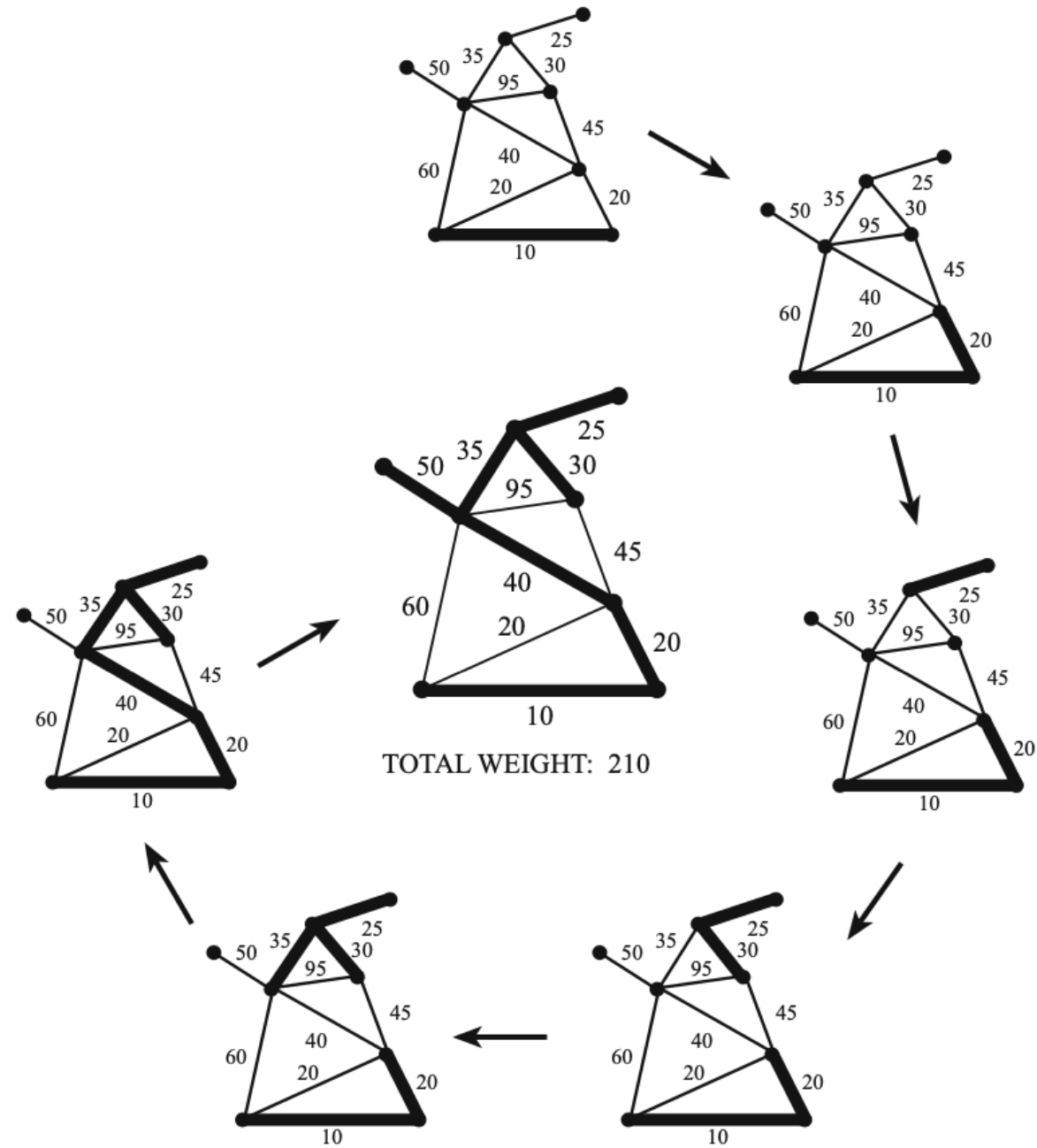


FIGURE 1.43. The stages of Kruskal's algorithm.

# Theoretical guarantee of Kruskal's algorithm

- **Theorem** (1.17, H) Kruskal's algorithm produces a spanning tree of minimum total weight

# Prim's Algorithm

- Given: A connected, weighted graph  $G$ .
  1. Choose a vertex  $v$ , and mark it.
  2. From among all edges that have **one marked end vertex and one unmarked end vertex**, choose an edge  $e$  of minimum weight. Mark the edge  $e$ , and also mark its unmarked end vertex.
  3. If every vertex of  $G$  is marked, then the set of marked edges forms a minimum weight spanning tree. If not, repeat step 2

# Cayley's tree formula

- **Theorem** (1.18, H). There are  $n^{n-2}$  distinct labeled trees of order  $n$

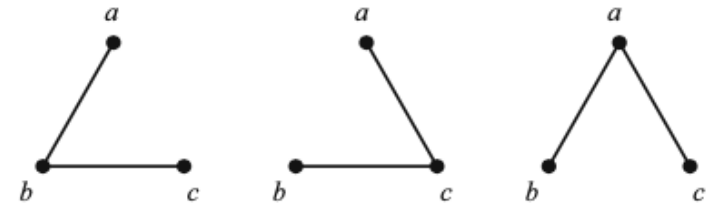
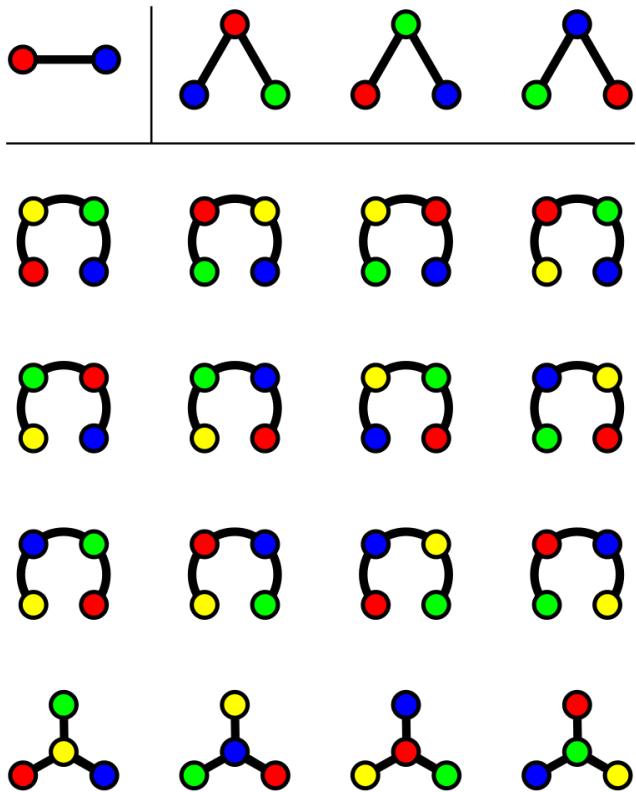


FIGURE 1.45. Labeled trees on three vertices.

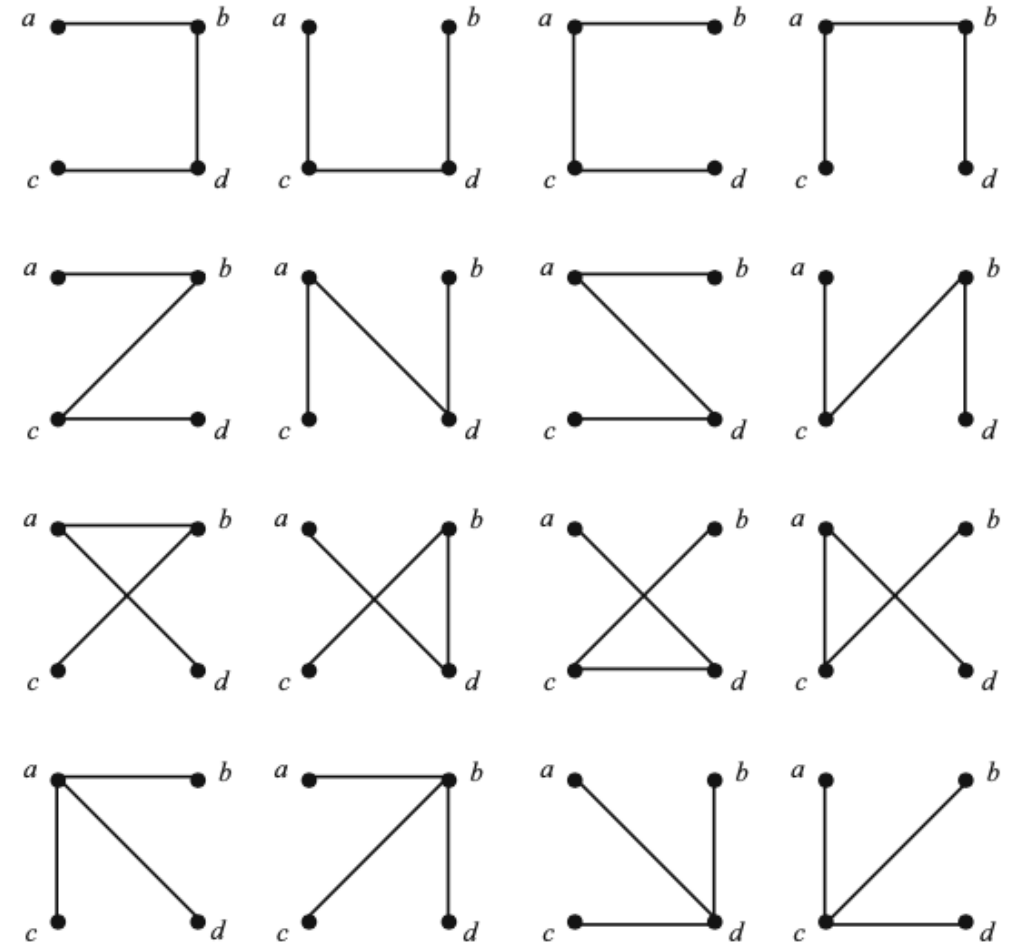


FIGURE 1.46. Labeled trees on four vertices.

# Example

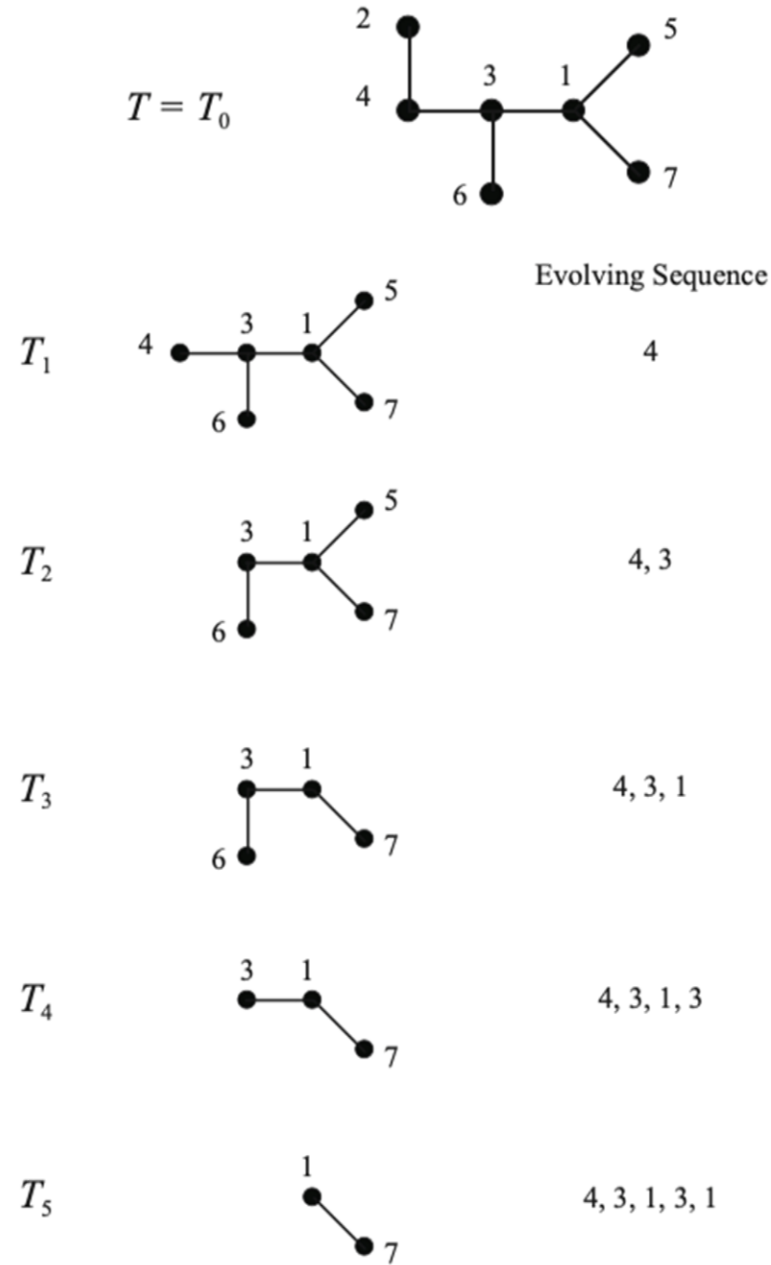


FIGURE 1.47. Creating a Prüfer sequence.

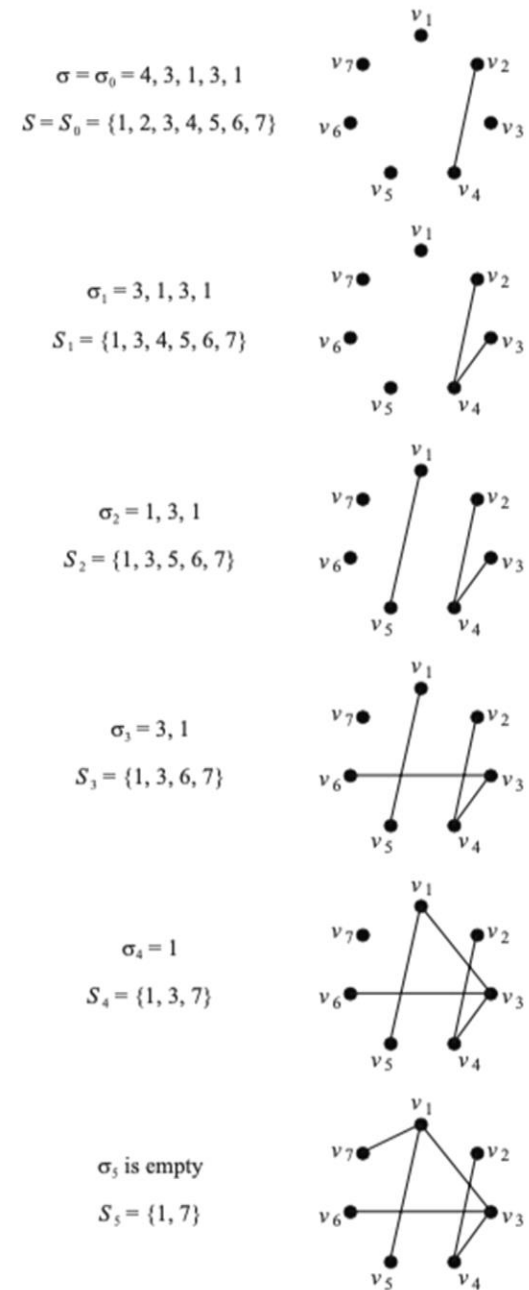
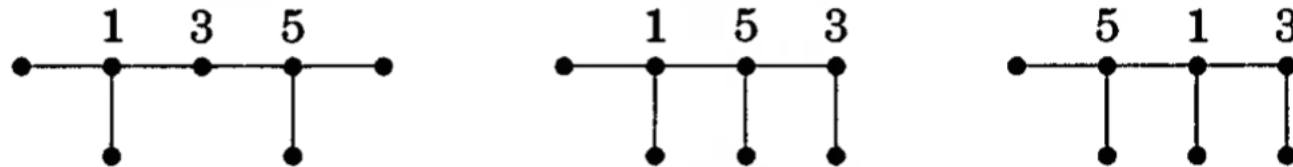


FIGURE 1.48. Building a labeled tree.

# Trees with fixed degrees

- **Corollary** (2.2.4, W) Given positive integers  $d_1, \dots, d_n$  summing to  $2n - 2$ , there are exactly  $\frac{(n-2)!}{\prod(d_i-1)!}$  trees with vertex set  $[n]$  such that vertex  $i$  has degree  $d_i$  for each  $i$
- **Example** (2.2.5, W) Consider trees with vertices  $[7]$  that have degrees  $(3,1,2,1,3,1,1)$



# Matrix tree theorem - cofactor

- For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , the  $i, j$  **cofactor** of  $A$  is defined to be

$$(-1)^{i+j} \det(M_{ij})$$

where  $M_{ij}$  represents the  $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$  matrix formed by deleting row  $i$  and column  $j$  from  $A$

3 × 3 generic matrix [edit]

Consider a 3×3 matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Its cofactor matrix is

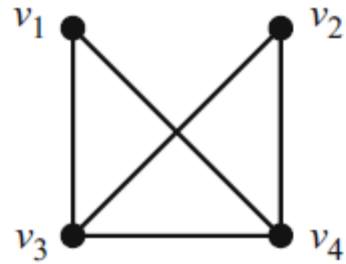
$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \\ - \begin{vmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix} \\ + \begin{vmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{22} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} & - \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{vmatrix} & + \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \end{pmatrix},$$



# Matrix tree theorem

- **Theorem** (1.19, H; 2.2.12, W; Kirchhoff) If  $G$  is a connected labeled graph with adjacency matrix  $A$  and degree matrix  $D$ , then the number of unique spanning trees of  $G$  is equal to the value of **any cofactor** of the matrix  $D - A$
- If the row sums and column sums of a matrix are all 0, then the cofactors all have the same value
- **Exercise** Read the proof part
- **Exercise** (Ex7, S1.3.4, H) Use the matrix tree theorem to prove Cayley's theorem

# Example



The degree matrix  $D$  and adjacency matrix  $A$  are

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

and so

$$D - A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The (1, 1) cofactor of  $D - A$  is

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 8.$$

Score one for Kirchhoff!

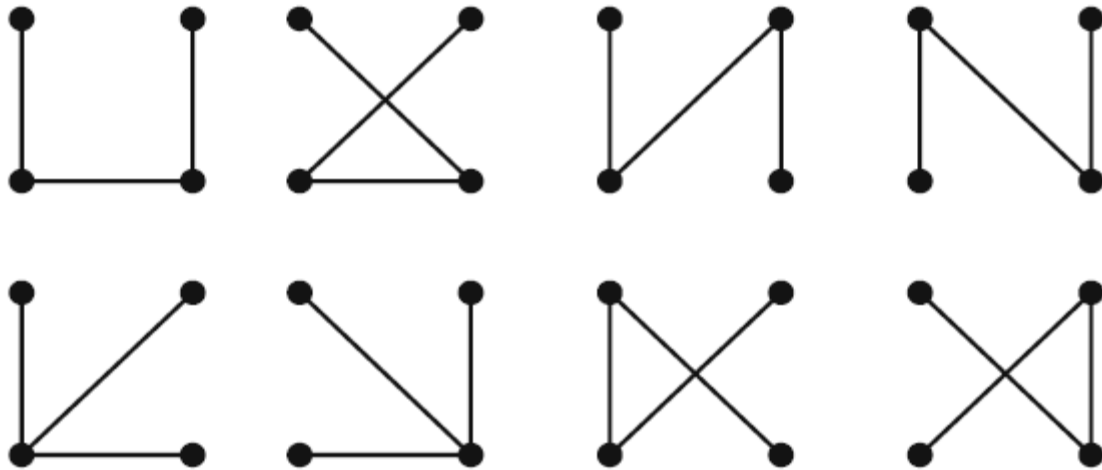


FIGURE 1.49. A labeled graph and its spanning trees.

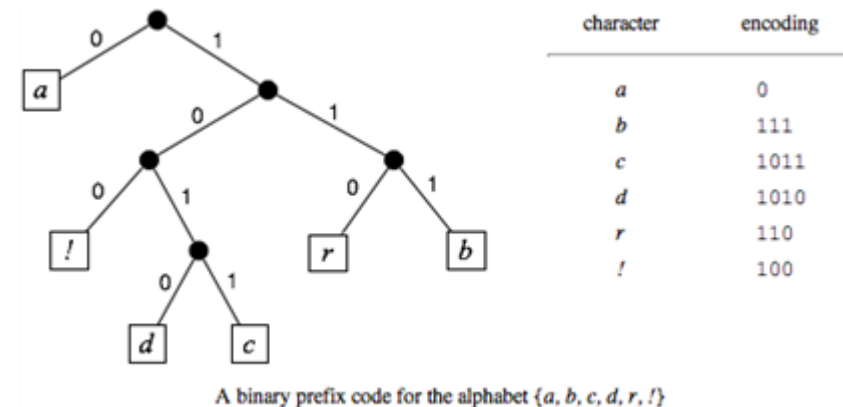
# Wiener index

- In a communication network, large diameter may be acceptable if most pairs can communicate via short paths. This leads us to study the **average distance** instead of the maximum
- **Wiener index**  $D(G) = \sum_{u,v \in V(G)} d_G(u, v)$
- **Theorem** (2.1.14, W) Among trees with  $n$  vertices, the Wiener index  $D(T)$  is minimized by stars and maximized by paths, both uniquely
- Over all connected  $n$ -vertex graphs,  $D(G)$  is minimized by  $K_n$  and maximized by paths
  - (Corollary 2.1.16, W) If  $G$  is a connected  $n$ -vertex graph, then  $D(G) \leq D(P_{n-1})$
  - (Lemma 2.1.15, W) If  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G$ , then  $d_G(u, v) \leq d_H(u, v)$

# Prefix coding

- A **binary tree** is a rooted plane tree where each vertex has at most two children
- Given large computer files and limited storage, we want to encode characters as binary lists to minimize total length
- **Prefix coding**: no code word is an initial portion of another

- Example: 11001111011

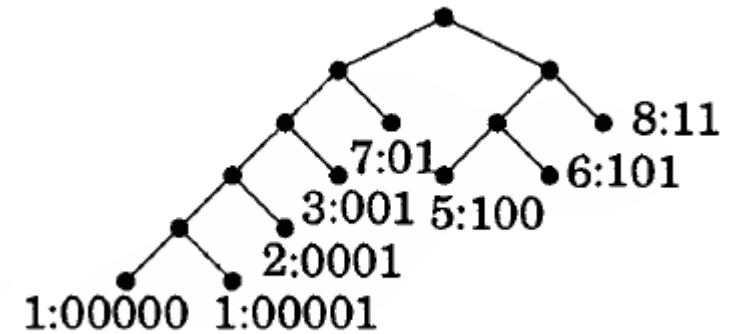


# Huffman coding

- Input: Weights (frequencies or probabilities)  $p_1, \dots, p_n$
- Output: Prefix-free code (equivalently, a binary tree)
- Idea: Infrequent items should have longer codes; put infrequent items deeper by combining them into parent nodes.
- Recursion: replace the two least likely items with probabilities  $p, p'$  with a single item of weight  $p + p'$

# Example (2.3.14, W)

a	5	100
b	1	00000
c	1	00001
d	7	01
e	8	11
f	2	0001
g	3	001
h	6	101



The average length is  $\frac{5 \times 3 + 5 + 5 + 7 \times 2 + \dots}{33} = \frac{30}{11} < 3$

# Huffman coding is optimal

- **Theorem** (2.3.15, W) Given a probability distribution  $\{p_i\}$  on  $n$  items, Huffman's Algorithm produces the prefix-free code with minimum expected length

# Huffman coding and entropy

- The **entropy** of a discrete probability distribution  $\{p_i\}$  is that

$$H(p) = - \sum_i p_i \log_2 p_i$$

- $H(p) \leq$  average length of Huffman coding  $\leq H(p) + 1$
- When each  $p_i$  is a power of  $1/2$ , average length of Huffman coding is  $H(p)$

