# 3/01/2018 Class Notes

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#### Prim's Algorithm:

- Pick any vertex V, then pick any edge with the lowest weight connected to vertex V.
- Repeat. Taking the edge with the lowest weight that connects the existing tree to a vertex not already connected to it.

#### How many spanning trees does a connected graph have?

• Example:



- Let the edge from d to c be represented by e1
- First count the trees in the graph including e1
  - $\ast\,$  There are 3 possible edges to remove on the left side of e1
  - \* There are 4 possible edges to remove on the right side of e1
  - \* This means that including e1, there are 12 total possible spanning trees (4 \* 3)
- Now count the trees in the graph not including e1
  - $\ast\,$  There are 7 possible edges to remove and removing any of them results in a spanning tree.
- Therefore are 19 possible spanning trees total because 12 + 7 = 19

How many spanning trees are there on n labelled vertices if any edge is allowed?

- Counting spanning subtrees of a complete graph of order n
- Lets try this with n = 4



• Get rid of an edge



- Let the edge from vertex d to a be e2 We want to count the number of spanning trees in our graph G including e2, as well as not including e2.
- Number of trees including e2: 2 on left \* 2 on right = 4 total Number of trees not including e2: 4 total All together there are 8 in total.

• Now lets try it including the original edge we removed (the edge from vertex b to vertex c). Call it e1.



• Now we repeat the same process as above. In our new graph, if we include e2, we have 4 possible spanning trees. If we don't include our edge e2 we have another 4 possible spanning trees.

If we multiply these together we get 16 total possible spanning trees.

• The equation to calculate the number of spanning subtrees for a complete graph is  $n^{n-2}$ 

### Matrix Tree Theorem:

• Given a connected graph G from the matrix A where:  $A_{ij} = deg(V_i)$ 

 $A_{ij} = -1$  if  $V_i V_j$  exist within E(G), 0 if otherwise

• Example:



- Then the number of spanning trees of our graph is equal to the determinant of the matrix  $[A_{ij}]$  where this is any cofactor of the matrix obtained by removing row i and column j
- This gives us an easy way to computer the number of spanning trees even if the graph is really large.