

Math 3170: Homework 9

Due: November 3, 2010

1. How many spanning trees are there of the complete graph K_n that have no vertex with degree greater than 2.
2. The *distance* $d(u, v)$ between two vertices u and v in a connected graph is the smallest number of edges needed to construct a path between u and v . The *center* of a connected graph G is the set

$$\{v \in V_G \mid \sum_{u \in V_G} d(u, v) \text{ is minimal}\}.$$

Prove that if T is a tree, then the center of T is either a vertex or a pair of adjacent vertices.

3. How many non-isomorphic trees are there on 7 vertices?
4. Let G be a connected simple graph, and let S and T be spanning trees of G .
 - (a) Show that if $e \in E_S$, then there exists $f \in E_T$ such that the tree S' obtained by deleting e and adding f is a spanning tree of G .
 - (b) Show that there is a sequence of spanning trees

$$S = T_0, T_1, \dots, T_\ell = T$$

such that T_i is obtained from T_{i-1} by removing an edge and adding another.

5. Let G_n be obtained from K_n by removing an edge. Find and prove a formula for the number of spanning trees of G_n .

Hint: Count the number of spanning trees of K_n that use the deleted edge.