A Graph Puzzle



Can you draw this graph so that no edges cross?

Think of the top nodes as "houses" and the bottom nodes as "utilities" (electricity, water, gas).

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Can we have non-overlapping pipes?

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Today: We study special graphs (trees and planar graphs).

A tree is a connected acyclic graph.



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Equivalent definitions:

Connected and acyclic.

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- Connected and has |V| 1 edges.

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- Connected and has |V| 1 edges.
- Connected and the removal of any edge disconnects it.
- Acyclic and any new edge creates a cycle.

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- Let *x* be the leaf.
- For any vertices u, v ∈ T which are not x, there is a path from u to v (T is connected).

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Lemma: After removing a leaf from a connected graph, the graph remains connected.

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- ► After removing *x*, the path still exists, so the graph is still connected.

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We need to remove leaves to do induction.

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- $\textit{Proof} (\Longrightarrow).$
 - ► Use induction on |*V*|.

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- Removing the leaf, the resulting graph is connected and acyclic (by induction).
- ► Thus our tree was also connected and acyclic (leaves cannot be in cycles).
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- ► Trees have no cycles, so the path is unique.

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- Consider removing $\{x, y\} \in E$.
- The edge $\{x, y\}$ must be the unique path from x to y in T.

T is connected and acyclic \iff *T* is connected and the removal of any edge disconnects *T*.

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- Thus T is connected.

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- For a tree with one vertex, this is easy.
- Consider a tree with $|V| \ge 2$ vertices.
- Remove a leaf u (connected to v). The resulting tree has fewer vertices, so it can be drawn without edge crossings.
- Zoom in on v. Since v has finitely many attached edges, there must be room to draw {u, v} without crossings.

Euler's Formula



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$$v = 7, f = 7, e = 12.$$



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Euler's Formula: v + f = e + 2.



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Euler's Formula: v + f = e + 2. Trees: |V| + 1 = |V| - 1 + 2.

Given a connected planar graph G, we define the **dual planar** graph G^* :



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- ► Each face in *G* becomes a vertex in *G**.
- ► Each edge in G corresponds to an edge in G^{*}.
- Technically, we should say a dual, instead of the dual—there may be multiple planar duals for G.

The Dual of the Dual

If G^* is a planar dual of G, then G is a planar dual of G^* .



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Just stare at it!

Proof.

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Look at a vertex.



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In G^* , the lines going through the edges incident to the vertex define a face.

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- ► Thus, the vertices of *G* correspond to the faces of *G*^{*}.

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In G^* , the lines going through the edges incident to the vertex define a face.

- The face encloses the vertex.
- ► Thus, the vertices of *G* correspond to the faces of *G*^{*}.
- ► We already know that the edges of G and G* correspond to each other.



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Cycle-Cut Duality: A cycle in G corresponds to a cut in G*.

- ► A cycle encloses some faces of G. These faces correspond to vertices in G*.
- The dual edges to the cycle form a cut.
- Since G is a dual of G*, then a simple cut in G corresponds to a cycle in G*.



Consider a set of edges with no cuts.



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Equivalently: If the remaining edges do not connect their vertices, then there must be a cut separating the vertices.



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Equivalently: If the remaining edges do not connect their vertices, then there must be a cut separating the vertices.

If a set of edges connects their vertices, then the remaining edges must not have any cuts for these vertices.

Spanning Trees

Start with a connected planar graph *G*. Find a **spanning tree**: a set of edges which form a tree in *G*.

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So, the remaining edges (not shown) have no cuts.
Dual Spanning Trees



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Dual Spanning Trees



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- By cycle-cut duality, the dual edges have no cuts.
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- So, the remaining edges (not shown) have no cuts.
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The remaining dual edges form a spanning tree of G*!

Every spanning tree T in G has a dual spanning tree T' in G^* whose edges are edges in G^* which are not dual to T.

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Let e_T be the number of edges in T and $e_{T'}$ be the number of edges in T'.

So, $e = e_T + e_{T'}$.

Every spanning tree T in G has a dual spanning tree T' in G^* whose edges are edges in G^* which are not dual to T.

So,
$$e = e_T + e_{T'}$$
.
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So $v + f = e + 2$. Euler's Formula!!!

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So, $e = e_T + e_{T'}$. • $e_T = v - 1$. • $e_{T'} = f - 1$. So v + f = e + 2. Euler's Formula!!!

This is called the method of "interdigitating spanning trees".

Summary

- Trees are minimally connected graphs (many equivalent definitions).
- ▶ We can perform induction on trees by removing a leaf.
- Planar graphs can be drawn without edge crossings.
- Trees are planar graphs.
- ► Each planar graph *G* has a dual planar graph *G*^{*} where the faces of *G* become the vertices of *G*^{*}.
- ► A cycle in *G* is a cut in *G*^{*} and vice versa.
- ▶ Each spanning tree in *G* has a dual spanning tree in *G*^{*}.
- This proves Euler's Formula: v + f = e + 2.