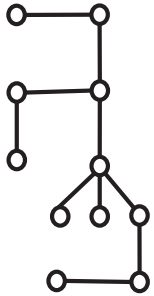


# CompSci 102

## Discrete Math for Computer Science



April 19, 2012

Prof. Rodger

Lecture adapted from Bruce Maggs/Lecture developed at Carnegie Mellon, primarily by Prof. Steven Rudich.

### Approximating Graphs and Solving Systems of Linear Equations

**Speaker:** Daniel Spielman  
Yale University  
**Date:** Monday, April 23, 2012  
**Time:** 4:00pm - 5:00pm  
**Location:** 130A North Building, Duke

#### Abstract

We survey recent advances in the design of algorithms for solving linear equations in the Laplacian matrices of graphs. These algorithms motivate and rely upon fascinating concepts in graph theory, the most important of which is a definition of what it means for one graph to approximate another. This definition leads to the problem of sparsification: the approximation of one graph by a sparser graph.

The sparsest possible approximation of a graph is a spanning tree. The average stretch of a spanning tree will be revealed to be a good measure of its approximation quality. We explain how every graph on  $n$  vertices can be well-approximated by a graph with  $O(n)$  edges. To solve linear equations, we will require something in between: approximations by graphs with  $n + O(n / \log n)$  vertices. To build these sparse approximations, we employ low-stretch spanning trees, random matrix theory, spectral graph theory, and graph partitioning algorithms.

## Announcements

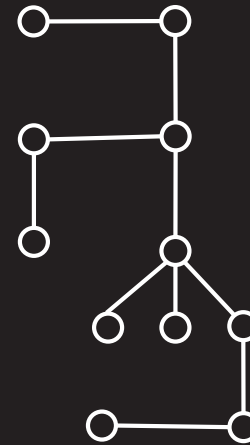
- Read for next time Chap 10.3-4
- Last homework out, due Tuesday
- No Recitation on FRIDAY this week after all
- Graphs

# Graphs

What's a tree?



Tree



## Notation

In this lecture:

$n$  will denote the number of nodes in a graph

$e$  will denote the number of edges in a graph

**Theorem:** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  nodes and  $e$  edges

The following are equivalent:

1.  $G$  is a tree (connected, acyclic)
2. Every two nodes of  $G$  are joined by a unique path
3.  $G$  is connected and  $n = e + 1$
4.  $G$  is acyclic and  $n = e + 1$
5.  $G$  is acyclic and if any two non-adjacent points are joined by adding a new edge, the resulting graph has exactly one cycle

To prove this, it suffices to show

$$1 \Rightarrow 2 \Rightarrow 3 \Rightarrow 4 \Rightarrow 5 \Rightarrow 1$$

How to reconstruct the unique tree from a sequence  $S$ :

Let  $I = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$

Loop until  $S$  is empty

Let  $i$  = smallest # in  $I$  but not in  $S$

Let  $s$  = first label in sequence  $S$

Add edge  $\{i, s\}$  to the tree

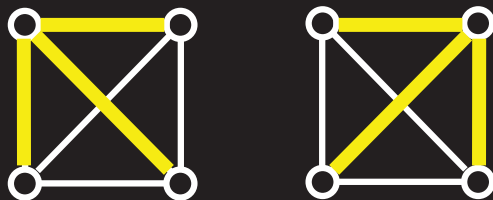
Delete  $i$  from  $I$

Delete  $s$  from  $S$

Add edge  $\{a, b\}$ , where  $I = \{a, b\}$

## Spanning Trees

A spanning tree of a graph  $G$  is a tree that touches every node of  $G$  and uses only edges from  $G$



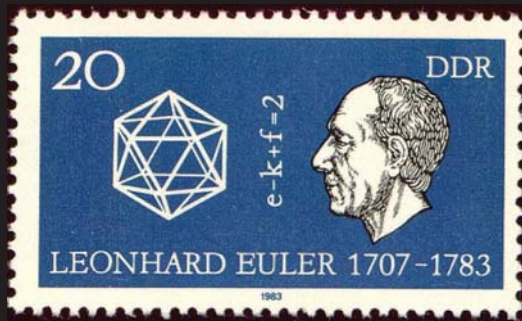
Every connected graph has a spanning tree

A graph is **planar** if it can be drawn in the plane without crossing edges



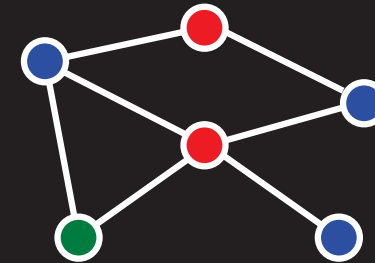
# Euler's Formula

If  $G$  is a connected planar graph with  $n$  vertices,  $e$  edges and  $f$  faces, then  $n - e + f = 2$



# Graph Coloring

A coloring of a graph is an assignment of a color to each vertex such that no neighboring vertices have the same color



# Graph Coloring

Arises surprisingly often in CS

Register allocation: assign temporary variables to registers for scheduling instructions. Variables that interfere, or are simultaneously active, cannot be assigned to the same register

## Trees

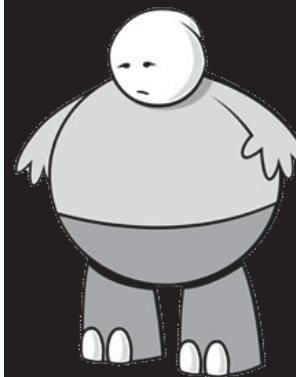
- Counting Trees
- Different Characterizations

## Planar Graphs

- Definition
- Euler's Theorem
- Coloring Planar Graphs

## Adjacency Matrix and List

- Definition
- Useful for counting



Here's What  
You Need to  
Know...