



Trees and spanning trees have the following properties:

Lemma: Let T = (N, A(T)) be a spanning tree of G = (N, A). Then:

- (a) If $|N| \ge 2$, then T has at least two leaf nodes.
- (b) T has exactly n-1 arcs.
- (c) Every pair of nodes in T is connected by exactly one path.
- (d) $T + a := (N, A(T) \cup \{a\})$ contains exactly one cycle $(\forall a \in A \setminus A(T))$.
- (e) If $a \in A \setminus A(T)$ and if C is the uniquely defined cycle in T + a, then $T + a \setminus \tilde{a} := (N, A(T) \cup \{a\} \setminus \{\tilde{a}\}), \ \forall \ \tilde{a} \in C$, is a spanning tree.
- (f) $T \setminus a := (N, A(T) \setminus \{a\})$ consists of two subtrees (X, A(X)) and $(\overline{X}, A(\overline{X}))$. Furthermore, $Q = (X, \overline{X})$ is a cut in $G \ (\forall \ a \in A(T))$.
- (g) If $a \in A(T)$ and if $Q = (X, \overline{X})$ is the uniquely defined cut in G (cf. (f)), then $T \setminus a + \tilde{a} := (N, A(T) \setminus \{a\} \cup \{\tilde{a}\}), \ \forall \ \tilde{a} \in (X, \overline{X}),$ is a spanning tree.