

Tutte Polynomial

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 - ▶ $H \subset G$ if H is subgraph of G .

We have to introduce two operations over graphs:

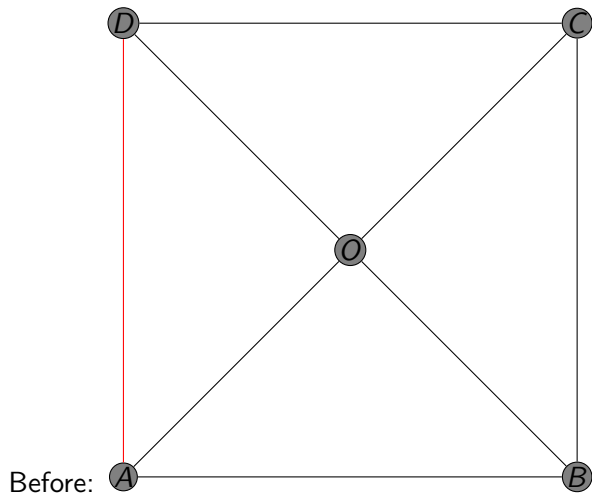
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- ▶ deletion.

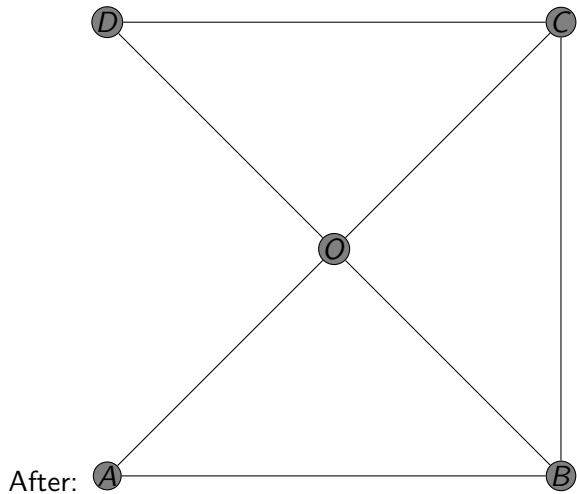
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- ▶ deletion.
- ▶ contraction.

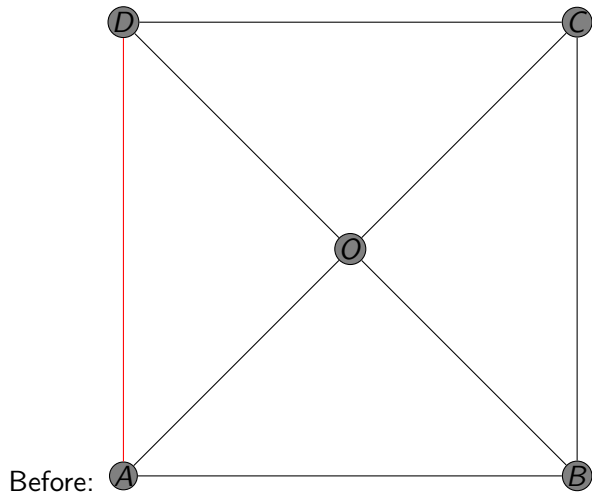
Deletion



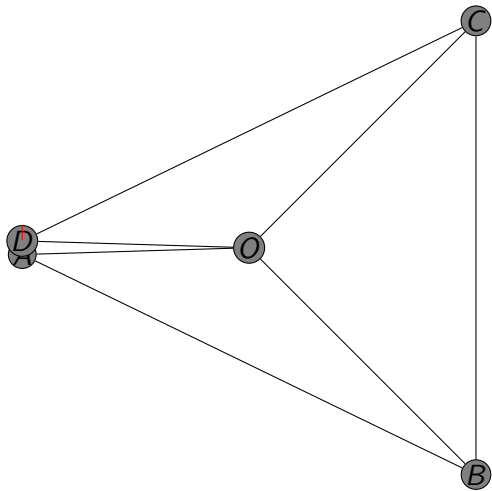
Deletion



Contraction



Contraction



After:

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- ▶ Contraction operation: G/e ,
If e is incident with u and v then in G/e vertices u and v are replaced by single vertex $w = (uv)$ and each element $f \in E - \{e\}$ that is incident with either u or v is replaced by an edge or loop incident with w .

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So C_G is function $\mathbb{N}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$

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Note: 0^0 is equal to 1.

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Relationships like that are named *contraction-deletion* relationships

Proof: It is easier to see that

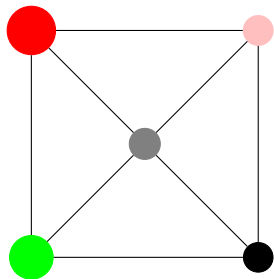
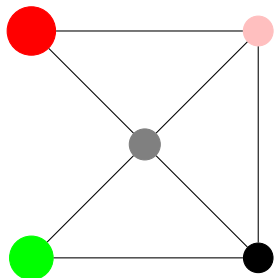
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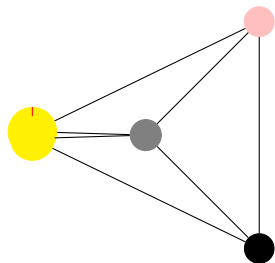
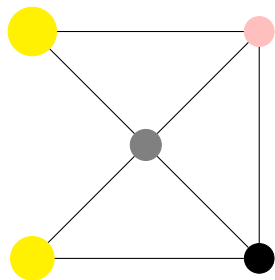
$$C(G - e, s) = C(G, s) + C(G/e, s).$$

Let $e = (v_1, v_2)$ there two types of coloring G in s colors: in which v_1 and v_2 have different colors and in which they have the same. It's obvious that there are $C(G, s)$ colorings first type and $C(G/e, s)$ second.

Proof's illustration



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It implies that $C(G, s)$ is polynomial in s with integer coefficients.

Probability model

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What is probability of graph saving connected?

Let

$$\text{Connect}(H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } H \text{ is connected} \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

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$$R(G, p) = \sum_{\substack{H \subset G \\ V(H) = V(G) \\ k(H) = k(G)}} P_{G,p}(H) \text{Connect}(H)$$

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Like previous, $R(G, p)$ is polynomial with integer coefficients.

Spanning trees

Let $B(G)$ is number of G 's spanning trees.

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Important idea

It is interesting that $C(G)$, $R(G)$, $B(G)$ and many others graph invariants (if they satisfy **contraction-deletion** relationships) can be expressed from one more general graph invariant, named Tutte polynomial.

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There are a lot of ways to define Tutte polynomial and we will try some of them.

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- ▶ $E^r(G)$ is multiset of it's regular edges.

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Of course that definition needs in existence proof.

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$$\begin{aligned} & (-1)^{\nu(G)+k(G)} s^{k(G)} T_G(1-s, 0) = \\ & (-1)^{\nu(G-e)+k(G-e)} s^{k(G-e)} T_{G-e}(1-s, 0) - \\ & (-1)^{\nu(G/e)+k(G/e)} s^{k(G/e)} T_{G/e}(1-s, 0) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\blacktriangleright R_G(p) = (1-p)^{e(G)-v(G)+k(G)} p^{v(G)-k(G)} T_G(1, \frac{1}{1-p})$$

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$$A(G) = T(G, 2, 0)$$

Definition 2: Tutte polynomial $T_G(x, y)$ by definition is equal to

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Proof: Can be an exercise.

Special values

Let G be connected. By

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$\#\{H \text{ is spanning tree}\}.$

Special values

So

$$T_G(1,1) = \sum_{\substack{H \subset G \\ V(H)=V(G)}} 0^{k(H)-k(G)} 0^{e(H)-v(G)+k(H)}$$

is equal to number of spanning trees.

Special values

$$T_G(1, 2) = \sum_{\substack{H \subset G \\ V(H) = V(G)}} 0^{k(H) - k(G)} 1^{e(H) - v(G) + k(H)}$$

=

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is equal to number of connected subgraphs

Special values

$$T_G(2, 1) = \sum_{\substack{H \subset G \\ V(H) = V(G)}} 1^{k(H) - k(G)} 0^{e(H) - v(G) + k(H)}$$

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- ▶ Let translate any evident statement about coloring of graph (for example that if $s_1 \geq s_2$ implies $C(G, s_1) \geq C(G, s_2)$) into terms of Tutte polynomial and try to prove it.

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- ▶ Try to do it with Brooks theorem
- ▶ Try to find sum of coefficients Tutte polynomial for K_n

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We can consider well-known problems as problems about Tutte polynomial, so it has a lot of properties, doesn't follow from its definition easy way.

E.g.

- ▶ Let translate any evident statement about coloring of graph (for example that if $s_1 \geq s_2$ implies $C(G, s_1) \geq C(G, s_2)$) into terms of Tutte polynomial and try to prove it.
- ▶ Try to do it with Brooks theorem
- ▶ Try to find sum of coefficients Tutte polynomial for K_n
Note: its value in $(1, 1)$ equals to number of spanning trees equals to n^{n-2} as we know.

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It can be explained very easy.

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And U can be expressed from T !

Universal polynomial's construction

$$U(G) = \alpha^{k(G)} \sigma^{e(G)-v(G)+k(G)} \tau^{v(G)-k(G)} T\left(G, \frac{\alpha X}{\tau}, \frac{Y}{\sigma}\right)$$

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$$C(G, s) = U(G, 1, 0, s, 1 - 1)$$

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It can be an exercise - to check that it statement satisfies properties of Tutte polynomial.

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$$[\text{Let } v = \exp(-\frac{1}{kT} J) - 1]$$

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So denominator is equal to $Z(G, q, v)$