

# Topology – week 7

## Math3061

Daniel Tubbenhauer, University of Sydney

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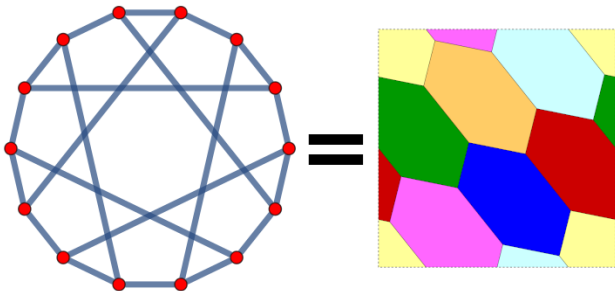
**Lecturer** Daniel Tubbenhauer

**Office hour** Zoom (<https://uni-sydney.zoom.us/j/89436493625>) Monday 4:30pm-5:30pm or by appointment (an informal email suffices)

**Contact** [daniel.tubbenhauer@sydney.edu.au](mailto:daniel.tubbenhauer@sydney.edu.au)

**Web** [www.dtubbenhauer.com/teaching.html](http://www.dtubbenhauer.com/teaching.html)

- I apologize in advances for any typos or other errors on these slides!
- I'd be grateful for any corrections that you send to me or post on Ed





# Topology

## Unit outline

Topology is the study of properties of spaces that are preserved by **continuous deformation**

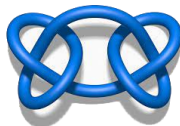
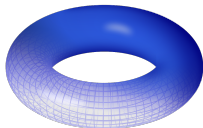
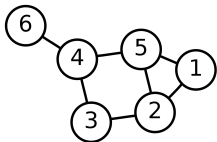
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We will study:

- Graphs
- Surfaces
- Knots



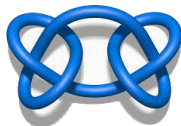
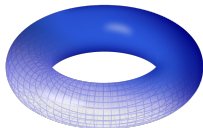
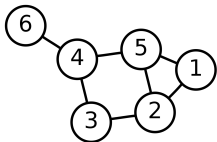
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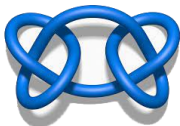
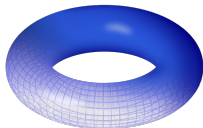
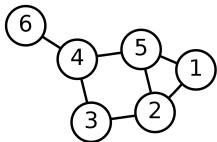
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- In topology we are allowed to bend and stretch
- We are **not** allowed to cut, tear or join surfaces together

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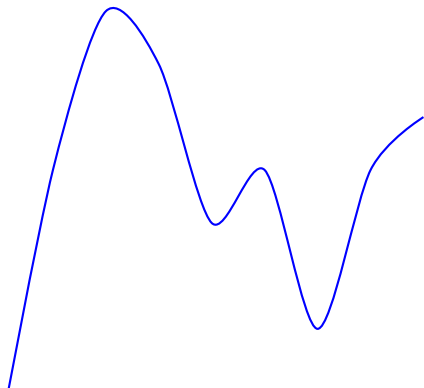
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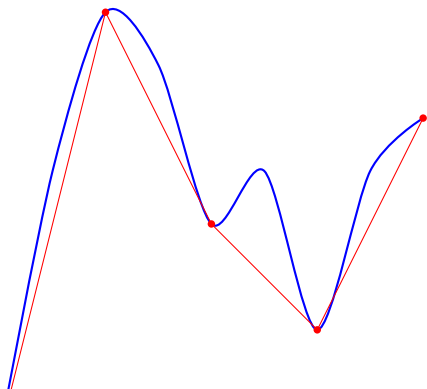


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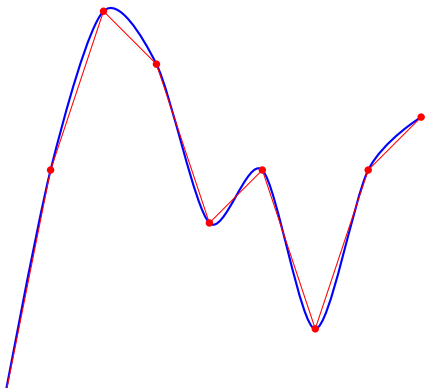


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...as well as looking at more exotic surfaces



A torus is the same as a coffee mug



Source <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Topology>

# Graphs

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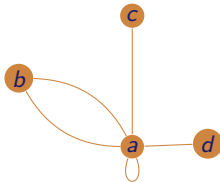
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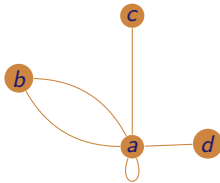
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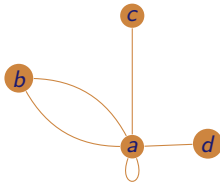
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As shown, we allow **loops** and **duplicate edges**

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Drawings of graphs are useful pictorial aids, but be careful:

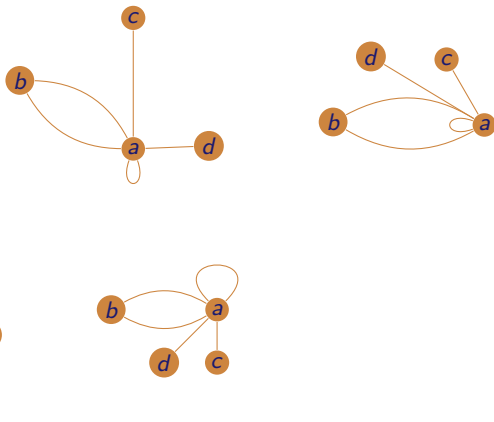
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Here are four different ways to draw the same graph



# Standard graphs

Path graphs  $P_n$ , for  $n \geq 1$  (also called line graphs)

Vertex set  $V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

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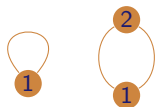
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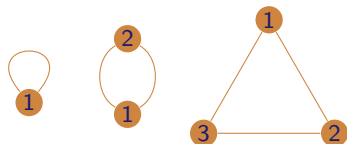
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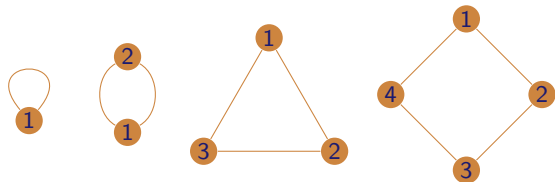
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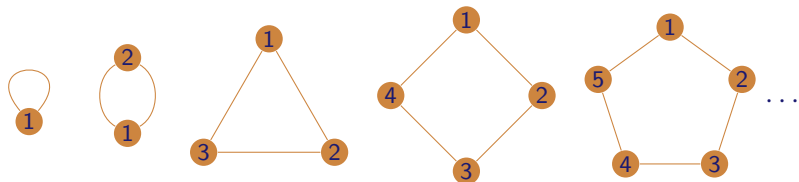
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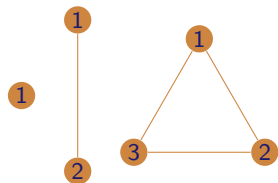


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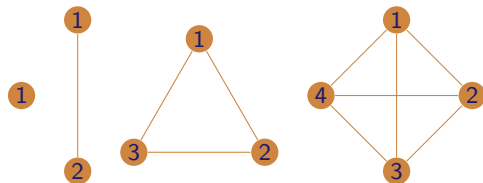


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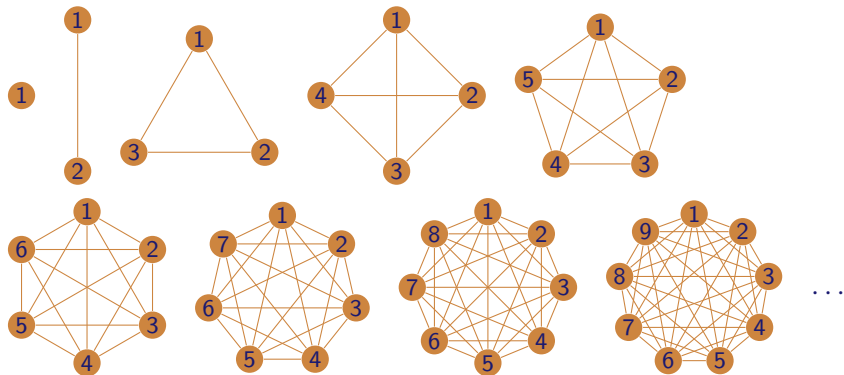


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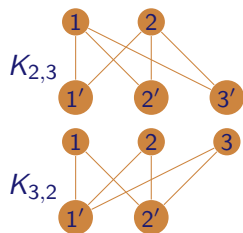


## Standard graphs...

Complete bipartite graphs  $K_{n,m}$ , for  $n, m \geq 1$

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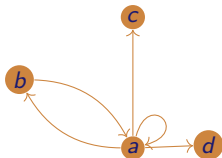
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# Subgraphs

A **subgraph** of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph  $H = (W, F)$  such that  
 $W \subseteq V$  and  $F \subseteq E$

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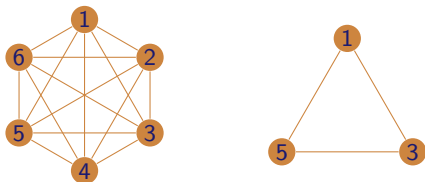
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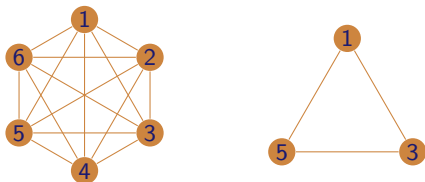
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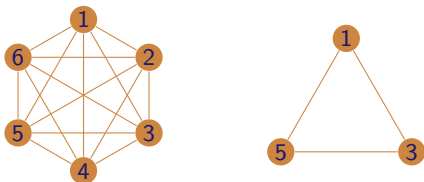
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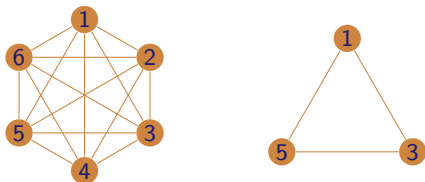
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...but what does it mean for graphs to be “the same”?

## Isomorphic graphs

Two graphs  $G = (V, E)$  and  $H = (W, F)$  are **isomorphic**, written  $G \cong H$ , if there is a **bijection**  $f: V \rightarrow W$  such that the induced map on edges, which sends an edge  $\{v, v'\} \in E$  to  $\{f(v), f(v')\}$ , is also a bijection.

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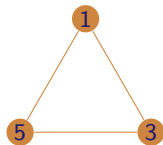
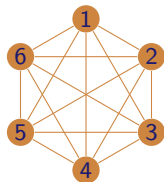
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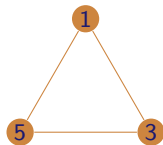
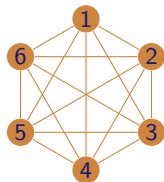
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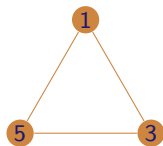
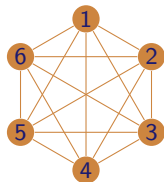
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**Claim**  $(W, F) \cong C_3$

For example, define  $f$  by

$$f(1) = 1,$$

$$f(3) = 2, \text{ and}$$

$$f(5) = 3$$

# Subgraphs of complete graphs

## Proposition

*Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph on  $n$  vertices that has no loops and no duplicated edges. Then  $G$  is isomorphic to a subgraph of  $K_n$ .*

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## Proof

Write  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ .

Let  $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  be the vertex set of  $K_n$  and let

$$E_n = \{ \{i, j\} \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n \}$$

be its edge set.

Define  $H = (N, E_V)$  to be the subgraph of  $K_n$  with

$$E_V = \{ \{i, j\} \mid \{v_i, v_j\} \in E \}.$$

Then the map  $f : N \rightarrow V$  given by  $f(i) = v_i \in V$  is a graph isomorphism.



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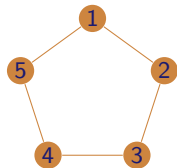
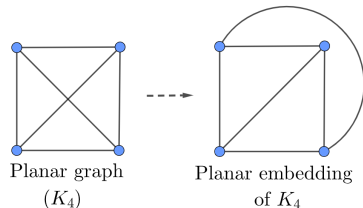
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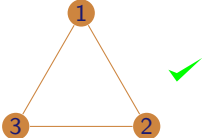
- Graphs can have planar embeddings and other non-planar realizations
- Every path graph  $P_n$  is planar
- Every cyclic graph  $C_n$  is planar

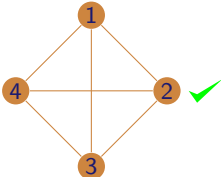


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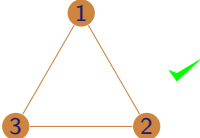
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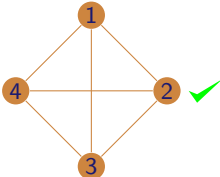
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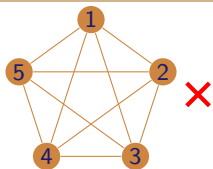
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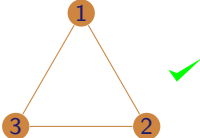
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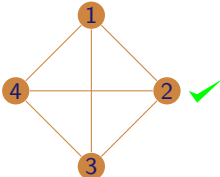


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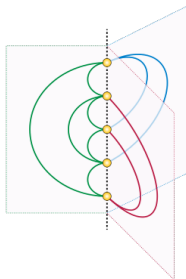
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**Proof** First, loops and duplicate edges are easy to treat, so we ignore them. Next, use a book embedding:

A 3-page embedding of  $K_5$ :



In general, one can embed  $K_n$  into a book with  $\lceil n/2 \rceil$  pages. Since every graph is a subgraph of some  $K_n$ , so we are done since books  $\subset \mathbb{R}^3$

## The degree of a vertex

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. The **degree** of a vertex  $v \in V$  is

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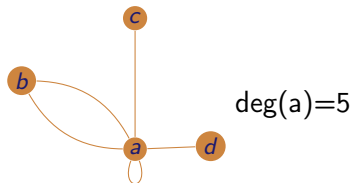
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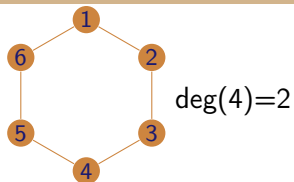


•  $P_n$

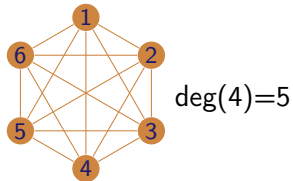


# Degrees of vertices in standard graphs; examples

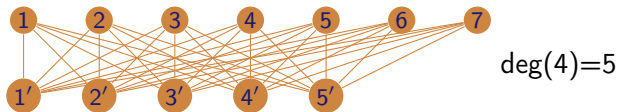
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Proposition (Vertex-degree equation = handshaking lemma)

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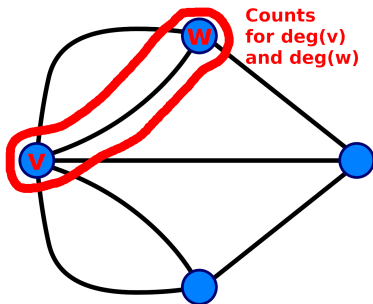
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**Proof** If I shake your hand, then you shake mine: every edge is adjacent to two vertices, hence each edge contributes twice



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Strictly speaking, we would use induction on  $|E|$ :

There is nothing to show if there is no edge, and if  $|E| > 0$  remove any edge  $e$  use induction for  $E' = E \setminus \{e\}$ , and add  $e$  using the previous observation

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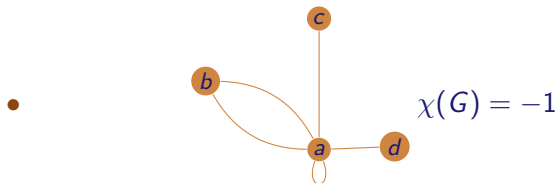
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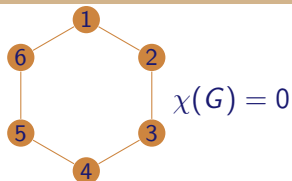
$\chi(G) = \#(\text{degree 0 components of } G) - \#(\text{degree 1 components of } G)$

Examples

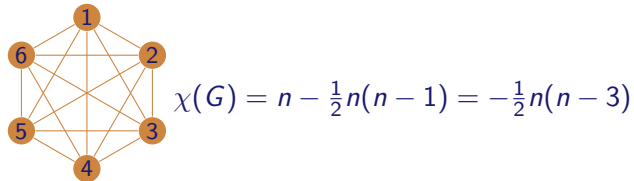


# The Euler characteristic of standard graphs

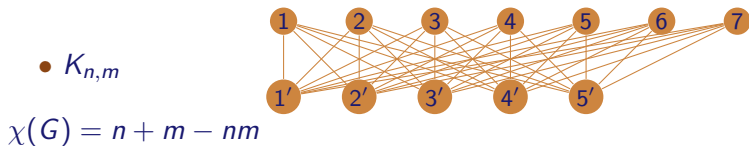
- $C_n$



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- $K_{n,m}$





## Subdividing graphs

Let  $G = (V, E)$ . A **subdivision** of  $G$  is any graph  $\dot{G}$  that is obtained from  $G$  by successively replacing  $V$  with  $V \cup \{u\}$ , for  $u \notin V$ , and  $E$  with  $E \cup \{\{v, u\}, \{u, w\}\} \setminus \{\{v, w\}\}$ , for an edge  $\{v, w\} \in E$



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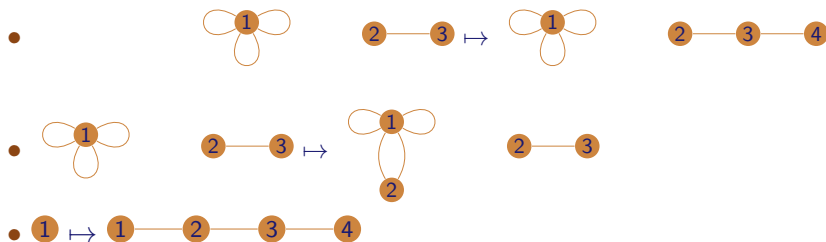
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## Examples



# Subdivision and Euler characteristic

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Let  $\dot{G}$  be a subdivision of  $G$ . Then  $\chi(\dot{G}) = \chi(G)$

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clearly increases  $V$  and  $E$  by one, so their difference does not change.

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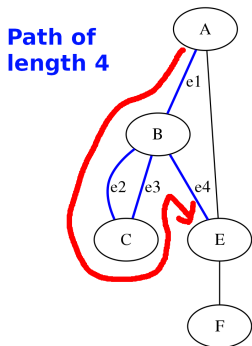
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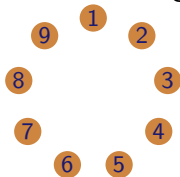
## Example



Not connected, two connected components

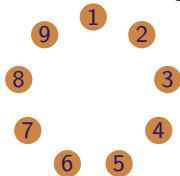
# Connected examples

- A fully “disconnected” graph:

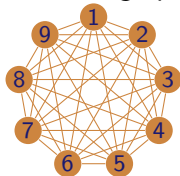


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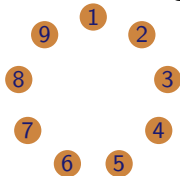


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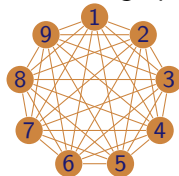


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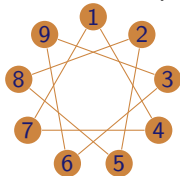
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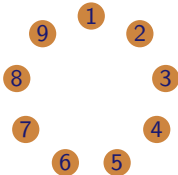


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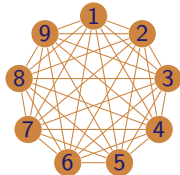


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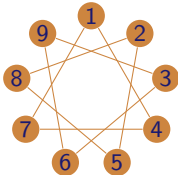
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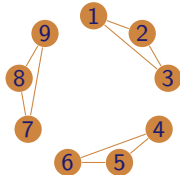
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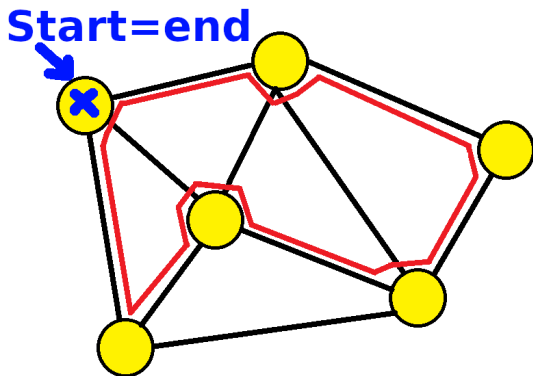
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- “Inefficient circuits” backtrack over the same edges and vertices
- We will soon see that the Euler characteristic is closed related to the number of “reduced” circuits in a graph

## Contractible circuits

A circuit  $v = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow \cdots \rightarrow v_n = v$  is **contractible** if it contains two consecutive repeated edges  $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\} = \{v_{i+1}, v_{i+2}\}$ , for some  $0 \leq i \leq n-2$



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- Reduced circuits are “efficient” in the sense that they do not backtrack
- A reduced circuit of length  $n$  is not necessarily isomorphic to the cycle graph  $C_{n+1}$  because it could, for example, be a figure 8 graph

## Leaves and trees

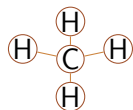
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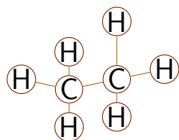
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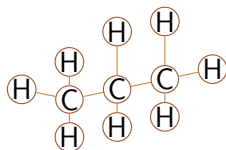
- Saturated hydrocarbons



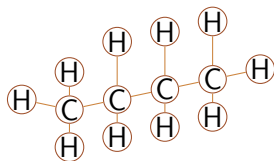
Methane



Ethane



Propane



Butane

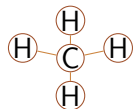
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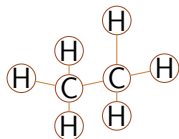
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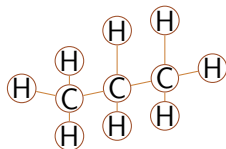
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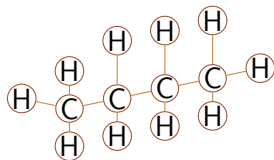
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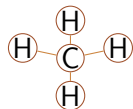
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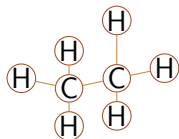
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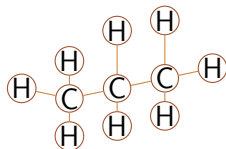
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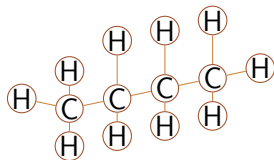
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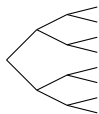


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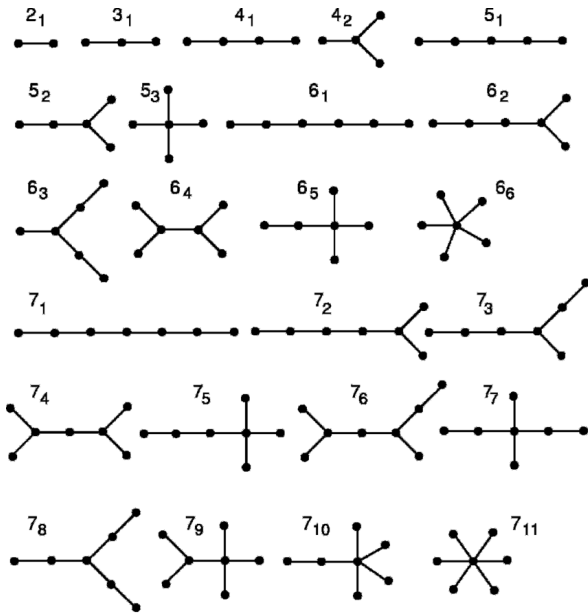


Butane

- A tournament tree



# A catalog of small (connected) trees



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**Proof** Take a longest reduced path  $P$  in  $T$ , then both endpoints of  $P$  are leaves

Why? Say the endpoints are  $v$  and  $w$ . WLOG suppose  $v$  is not a leaf; then  $v$  has at least two neighbors and one of them is not in  $P$ . (Otherwise we would have a circuit.) Thus one can make  $P$  longer. Contradiction

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**Proof** Argue by induction on the number of edges  $|E|$

For  $|E|$  small use the previous table.

Otherwise, remove one leaf (which exists by the previous statement). The resulting tree has  $\chi(T) = 1$ , and adding the leaf back increases  $V$  and  $E$  by one, so  $\chi$  remains constant



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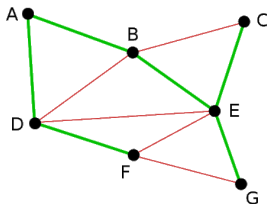
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## Example



## Spanning trees continued

### Proposition

*Suppose that  $G = (V, E)$  is a connected graph.*

*Then  $G$  has a spanning tree  $T = (V, F)$  (same vertices )*

**Proof** Remove edges from nontrivial circuit of  $G$  to break them; the result is a spanning tree

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### Corollary

Let  $G$  be a connected graph. The number of *independent cycles* (defined via example on the next slide) in  $G$  is  $1 - \chi(G)$

## An upper bound on $\chi(G)$

### Corollary

Suppose that  $G$  is a connected graph. Then  $\chi(G) \leq 1$  with equality if and only if  $G$  is a tree.

**Proof** By the previous statements  $G$  has more edges than any of its spanning trees, hence,  $\chi(\text{span tree}) = 1$  implies the corollary

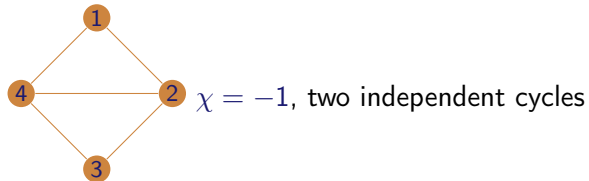
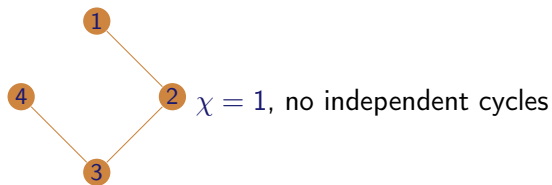
### Corollary

Let  $G$  be a connected graph. The number of *independent cycles* (defined via example on the next slide) in  $G$  is  $1 - \chi(G)$

**Proof** By the previous statements

# Independent cycles

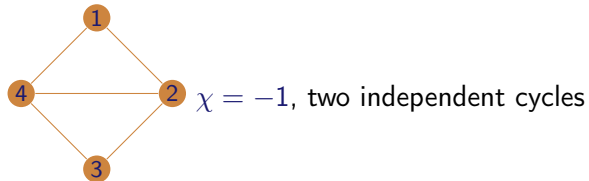
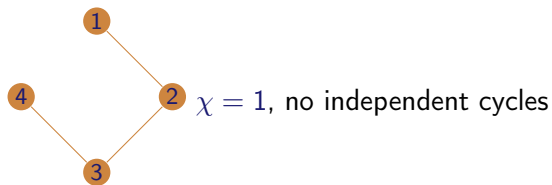
## Examples



We have  $\{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{1, 4\}\} =$   
 $\{\{1, 2\}, \{2, 4\}, \{1, 4\}\} + \{\{2, 3\}, \{3, 4\}, \{2, 4\}\} \pmod{2}$

# Independent cycles

## Examples



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**Remark** It is possible to construct a vector space of “cycles” that has dimension  $1 - \chi(G)$ , which shows that the number of independent cycles makes sense. This is beyond the scope of this course.