

half of Thm 4:  $G$  is connected  $\implies G$  has a spanning tree

Several proofs that construct the tree by cutting a edge at a time from  $G$ .

Lemma If  $G$  is connected,  $E$  an edge in some circuit in  $G$  and  $H$  is  $G$  with  $E$  deleted, then  $H$  is connected.

Proof (4): Let  $G$  be connected.  $G$  has alot of connected subgraphs with all the vertices of  $G$ . Let  $H$  be a connected subgraph of  $G$  with all of  $G$ 's vertices with as few ~~edges~~ edges as possible. If  $H$  is a tree, then it's a spanning tree.

If  $H$  isn't a tree, by thm 2,  $H$  has a circuit. Let  $E$  be an edge in a circuit of  $H$ . Let  $H'$  be  $H$  with  $E$  deleted. the lemma says  $H'$  is ~~connected~~ and has 1 less edge than  $H$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $H$  has as few edges as possible. Therefore  $H$  is a spanning tree of  $G$ .

Proof (5): Let  $G$  be connected. Let  $G$  have  $n$  vertices and  $e$  edges and let  $m = e - n + 1$ . For  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$ , we will construct a connected subgraph  $H_i$  of  $G$  that has all of  $G$ 's vertices and  $e - i$  edges. For  $H_0$ ,  $i = 0$ ,  $H_0 = G$ . Now ~~assume~~  $H_i$  ~~is~~ <sup>has been</sup> constructed, for  $i < m$ .  $H_i$  has  $e - i > e - m = n - 1$  edges, so it isn't a tree. But  $H_i$  is connected, so it must have a circuit. Delete an edge in this circuit to obtain  $H_{i+1}$ .

Now  $H_m$  is connected, has  $n$  vertices and  $n - 1$  edges. It can be shown that this implies  $H_m$  is a tree. Also we need to know from the start that  $e \geq n - 1$ , and this needs proof (induction proof is easy (on the number of vertices))

Proof (6): By induction on the number  $n$  of ~~vertices~~ <sup>vertices</sup> circuits of  $G$ . If  $n = 0$ ,  $G$  is a tree and hence its own spanning tree.

~~Assume~~ it is true for all <sup>connected</sup> graphs with  $\leq n$  circuits. Let  $G$  have  $n + 1$  circuits. Use the lemma to construct  $H$  by deleting an edge from some circuit in  $G$ . Having fewer circuits  $H$  & hence  $G$  has a spanning tree by the inductive hypothesis.

Proof (3): By induction on the number of vertices.

Start up:  $G$  has 1 vertex, then  $G$  is a tree and hence its own spanning tree.

Induction step: Assume each connected graph with  $n$  or fewer vertices has a spanning tree. Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $n+1$  vertices. Let  $x$  be any vertex of  $G$  and let  $H$  be the subgraph obtained from  $G$  by deleting  $x$  (and the edges incident at  $x$ )

In general,  $H$  need not be connected. ( $x$  could be an articulation point). So let  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_r$  be the components of  $H$ . Each of the components  $H_i$  has  $n$  or fewer vertices. Hence, by inductive hypothesis  $H_i$  has a spanning tree  $T_i$ . Next we show how to glue these into a spanning tree for  $G$ .

Note that the edges in  $G$  that are not in  $H$  go from  $x$  to one of the  $H_i$ 's. Further, if  $z$  is a vertex in  $H_i$ , then there is a path  $x \rightarrow z$  (since  $G$  is connected) and hence a edge  $x \rightarrow$  some vertex in  $H_i$ . Thus  $T$  is constructed by using  $x$ , each of the  $T_i$ 's and exactly one edge  $x \rightarrow$  some vertex in  $H_i$  for each  $i$ .

$T$  clearly contains all the vertices of  $G$ .  $T$  is connected, since each  $T_i$  is connected and there is a path joining pts in  $T_i$  to  $T_j$  through  $x$  when  $i \neq j$ . Also  $T$  has no circuits, since each  $T_i$  is a tree and a path that leaves a  $T_i$  can never come back (there is one way to  $x$ ). Therefore  $T$  is a spanning tree



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Several proofs that build the tree up by adding a edge at a time.

Lemma: If  $G$  is connected,  $T$  is a subgraph which is a tree but not a spanning tree, then there is an edge  $E$  in  $G$  but not  $T$ , so that  $T$  with  $E$  added is also a tree.

Proof (1): Let  $G$  be connected.  $G$  has a lot of subgraphs which are trees. Let  $T$  be a <sup>tree</sup> subgraph of  $G$  with as many edges as any other tree subgraph of  $G$ . (i.e.  $T$  is a maximal tree in  $G$ .)

Claim that  $T$  is a spanning tree of  $G$ . For if this wasn't the case, we could use the lemma to construct  $T'$  a tree with one more edge than  $T$ . But this contradicts the fact that  $T$  has as many edges as any tree subgraph of  $G$ . Therefore  $T$  is a spanning tree of  $G$ .

Proof (2): Let  $G$  be connected. Let  $n$  be the number of vertices in  $G$ . For  $0 \leq i \leq n$  we will construct (by induction) trees  $T_0, T_1, \dots, T_n$ , so that each is a subgraph of  $G$  and  $T_i$  has exactly  $i$  edges and  $i+1$  vertices.

Let  $T_0$  be any one vertex from  $G$  (this is the start up). (Now for the induction step). ~~For~~ <sup>the</sup>  $i < n$ , and  $T_i$  has been constructed. Now  $T_i$  has  $i+1 < n+1$  vertices, so it isn't a spanning tree. Thus the lemma gives us an edge  $E$  to add to  $T_i$  to make  $T_{i+1}$  with  $i+1$  edges and  $i+2$  vertices.

Since  $T_n$  has  $n+1$  vertices, it's a spanning tree for  $G$ .