

1. GRAPH THEORY, LECTURE TREE NUMBER.

Main source. Ch. 6, Biggs.

Beginning questions.

How many trees are there on  $n$  (labelled) vertices?

Do the cases :  $n = 2, 3, 4$

Do  $n = 5$ .

The formula:  $n^{n-2}$ .

What is bigger:  $2^{\binom{n}{2}}$  or  $n^{n-2}$ ? By how much?

A tree on  $n$  vertices has  $n - 1$  edges.

Prove!

Find a counterexample to the assertion: "A simple graph on  $n$  vertices is a tree if and only if it has  $n - 1$  edges".

Prove: if a graph on  $n$  vertices has  $n - 1$  edges AND is connected, then it is a tree.

Tree number, Laplacian, etc.

The tree number of a graph  $\Gamma$  is the number of spanning trees for the graph.

Example: Let  $K_n$  be the complete graph on  $n$  vertices. Then EVERY tree on these  $n$  vertices is a spanning tree. Hence the tree number of  $K_n$  is  $n^{\binom{n}{2}}$ .