

# Spanning trees

We say that a graph  $H$  is a subgraph of a graph  $G$  if

1. its vertices are a subset of the vertex set of  $G$ ,
2. its edges are a subset of the edge set of  $G$ ,
3. and each edge of  $H$  has the same end-vertices in  $G$  and  $H$ .

**Definition** If  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G$  such that  $V(H) = V(G)$ , then  $H$  is called a spanning subgraph of  $G$ . If  $H$  is a spanning subgraph which is also a tree, then  $H$  is said to be a spanning tree of  $G$ .

**Example** In Figure 3.2, the graphs  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are both spanning trees of the graph  $G$ .