$$N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{P}_{\alpha \mathbf{j}} \qquad \qquad N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{\hat{e}_{j}} \qquad N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{\hat{e}_{j}} \qquad \qquad N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{\hat{e}_{j}} \qquad N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{\hat{e}_{j}} \qquad \qquad N_{\alpha ij} \mathbf{\hat{e}_{j}} \qquad N_{\alpha ij}$$

 $\mathbf{p}_{\alpha \mathbf{j}}, \mathbf{p}_{\beta \mathbf{j}}, \mathbf{e}_{\mathbf{i}}$ : free generators, space basis elements

- Distinguish matroid element "ports" associated with electric or elastic system parameter and solution variables of interest. (All vars are paired: (voltage, current), (force, displacement), etc. One gets a pair of submodels with dual matroids in elementary situations; not duals otherwise.)
- Exterior algebra forms of deletion and contraction of a non-port yield a pair of simpler systems.
- Cancelling non-port elements with a kind of bilinear pairing yields the parameter/solution variables of interest relation, in the form of an exterior algebra valued function of systems, that is a Tutte function (when the minor and direct sum operations are sign-consistent).

With the suitable incidence matrix form, we get the all-minors matrix tree theorem; but all the minors are packed into **one exterior algebra object** that is a Tutte function of graphs. Seth Chaiken, Assoc. Prof. Emeritus, University at Albany.