

QUIZ DECEMBER 1, TREES

Question. (a) If T is a tree with $n \geq 2$ vertices and $d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n$ are the degrees of the vertices, show that $d_1 = d_2 = 1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n d_i = 2n - 2$.

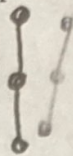
Any tree has at least 2 leaves, meaning $d_1 = d_2 = 1$.
 For a tree with n vertices, has $n-1$ edges, so it's
 degrees add up to $2(n-1) = 2n-2$

(b) Find all possible trees (up to isomorphism) with 2, 3, 4 and 5 vertices. Explain why there aren't any more.

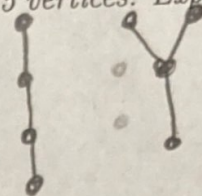
$n=2$



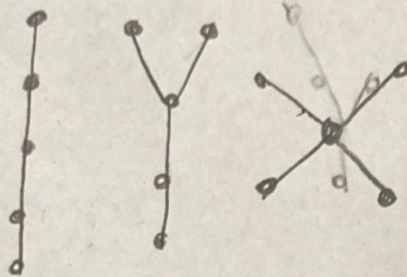
$n=3$



$n=4$



$n=5$

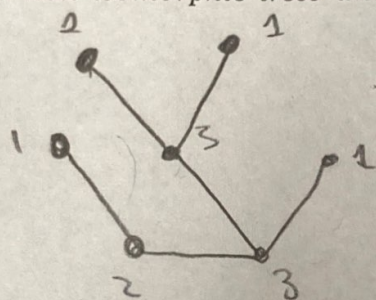


Any tree T with n vertices can't have more than $n-1$ leaves, since if there were n leaves, all vertices would be of degree 1, which means $\sum d_i = n$ which isn't the case. There's one of each number of leaves below as long as there is at least 2 leaves, accounting for isomorphisms.

- (c) Assume that d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n are integers, $d_i \geq 1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n d_i = 2n - 2$. Show that there exists a tree whose vertices have these degrees.

Proof by induction for $n \geq 2$, then
 th. $n=2$ $d_1, d_2 \geq 1$ and $\sum d_i = 2(2) - 2 = 2$
 So it's true for n vertices. Now to show
 for $n+1$. If we have a tree with n
 vertices, it has at least 2 leaves. We can
 add a vertex v_{n+1} connected only to a leaf by
 e_{n+1} , the sum of degrees $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} d_i = 2n - 2 + 2 = 2n$, and
 $d_{n+1} = 1$, meaning it fulfills properties and still is tree

- (d) Give an example of a collection of integers $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n, d_i \geq 1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n d_i = 2n - 2$ such that there are two non-isomorphic trees whose vertices have these degrees.



1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3

Collection of integers

1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3

