

The diagram illustrates an equation between two graph structures. On the left, a vertex  $i$  is connected to three external vertices  $x$ ,  $z$ , and  $j$  by red lines labeled  $L$ . A fourth vertex  $k$  is shown nearby but not connected. On the right, the vertices  $x$  and  $z$  are connected to a new vertex  $l$  by red lines, while  $j$  and  $k$  remain separate. An equals sign is placed between the two graphs, with a summation term below it.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 z & & k \\
 \bullet & & \bullet \\
 \textcolor{red}{L} \swarrow & & \\
 \bullet & \text{---} \textcolor{red}{L} \text{---} & \bullet \\
 \textcolor{red}{L} \swarrow & & j \\
 x & & 
 \end{array}
 = \\
 \sum_l m_{(x,i)y(y,j),l}^{(z,k)} \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 z & & \\
 \bullet & & \bullet \\
 \swarrow & & \\
 \bullet & \text{---} & l \\
 \swarrow & & \\
 x & & y
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$