

3.1 #6: A forest of order n with c components has $n - c$ edges.

Proof. Add $c - 1$ edges to connect among the c components to form a new connected graph G , which is connected without cycle. Hence G is a tree, and so has $n - 1$ edges. Therefore the original forest has $n - 1 - (c - 1) = n - c$ edges.

3.1 #14: Let G be a connected graph such that $G - e$ is a tree for some edge $e \in E(G)$. Then G is unicyclic.

Proof. Let the order of G be n . Since $G - e$ is a tree, it has $n - 1$ edges. Now G must have a cycle, otherwise G is still a tree on n vertices and n edges, contradiction! Furthermore, G has exactly one cycle, otherwise G has at least two different cycles, both containing the edge $e = uv$. Then there will be two different paths joining u and v (without using the edge uv). It follows that $G - e$ has two different paths joining u and v , contradiction because $G - e$ is a tree.

3.2 #14: If T_1 and T_2 are spanning trees of a connected graph G such that $e_1 \in E(T_1) - E(T_2)$ then there exists $e_2 \in E(T_2) - E(T_1)$ such that $T_2 + e_1 - e_2$ is also a spanning tree of G .

Proof. By 3.1 #14, $T_2 + e_1$ is unicyclic. Let C be the cycle subgraph in $T_2 + e_1$. Then there exists $e_2 \in E(C) \cap E(T_2)$, otherwise C is a subgraph of T_1 , contradiction because T_1 is a tree. Now $T_2 + e_1 - e_2$ is a spanning tree.

3.4 #5: Every even mesh has a perfect matching.

Proof. An even mesh is $P_{k_1} \times \cdots \times P_{k_r}$ where k_i is even for some i . W.L.O.G. we assume k_1 is even. Then P_{k_1} has a perfect matching. The desired result will follow from the Lemma:

Lemma If G has a perfect matching then $G \times H$ also has a perfect matching.

Proof. Let M be a perfect matching of G . Then $M' = \{ \langle (g_1, h)(g_2, h) \rangle : g_1 g_2 \in M, h \in V(H) \} \subset E(G \times H)$ is a perfect matching for $G \times H$.

3.4 #18: If a tree has a perfect matching, it has only one.

Proof. Suppose that there are trees with at least two distinct perfect matchings. Let T be such tree with the minimum order, and let M_1 and M_2 be two distinct perfect matching on T . Since T is a tree, it has pendent vertex y . Then the pendent edge $xy \in M_1 \cap M_2$. Define $T' = T - \{x, y\}$. Then T' is a forest, and $M'_1 = M_1 - \{xy\}$ and $M'_2 = M_2 - \{xy\}$ are two distinct perfect matchings for T' . But $|T'| < |T|$ and so T' contains a smaller tree with two distinct perfect matching, hence a contradiction to the minimality of T .