

# Enumerating simplicial spanning trees of shifted and color-shifted complexes, using simplicial effective resistance

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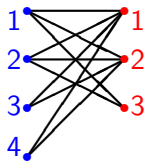
AMS Central Sectional Meeting  
Special Session on Geometric and Topological Combinatorics  
and Their Applications  
Online (formerly at Creighton University)  
October 9, 2021

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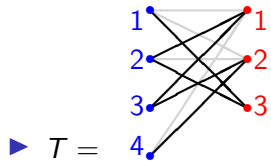
# Ferrers graphs (Ehrenborg-van Willigenburg '04)

Example  $(\langle 42, 23 \rangle)$

	1	2	3	4
1	11	21	31	41
2	12	22	32	42
3	13	23		

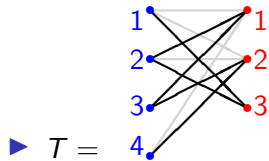


# Spanning trees of Ferrers graphs

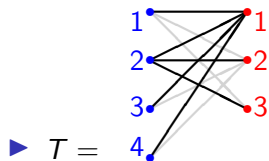


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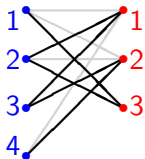


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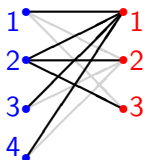
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Theorem (Ehrenborg-van Willigenburg)

*This works in general*

## Proof – by electrical network theory!

- ▶ Set  $I_{ij} = 1$
- ▶ Set  $R_{pq} = (pq)^{-1}$
- ▶ Find remaining currents so they satisfy Kirchhoff's Laws
- ▶ Compute  $V_{ij}$ , which is **effective resistance** since  $I_{ij} = 1$

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Theorem (Thomassen '90)

$$V_{ij} = \frac{\text{spanning trees with } ij}{\text{spanning trees without } ij}$$

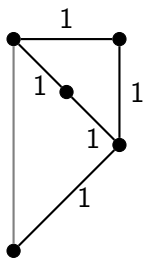
From this, we can easily get

$$\frac{\text{spanning trees of (graph with } ij)}{\text{spanning trees of (graph without } ij)}$$

Now apply induction

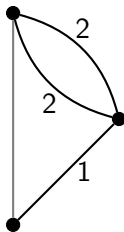
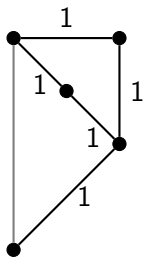
# Example (Unweighted)

Example ( $K_{3,2} = \langle 32 \rangle$ )



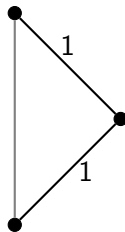
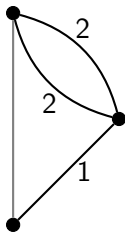
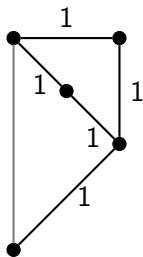
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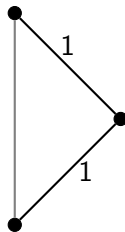
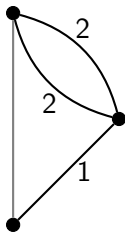
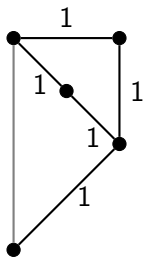
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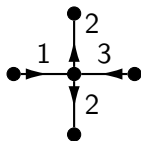
$$\frac{\text{trees with edge}}{\text{trees without edge}} = \frac{8}{4} = 2$$

# Kirchhoff's Laws

Start with a simple graph. Each edge has a positive resistance  $R$ , directed current  $I$ , and directed voltage drop  $V$



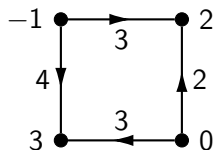
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Can “solve” circuits by minimizing energy ( $RI^2$  on each edge)

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**Ohm**  $V = IR$

We still have energy minimization.

# Simplicial effective resistance

Let  $\sigma$  be a facet of simplicial complex  $X$

- ▶ Set  $I_\sigma = 1$
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Theorem (Kook-Lee '18)

$$V_\sigma = \frac{\hat{k}_d(X)_\sigma}{\hat{k}_d(X - \sigma)}$$

where  $\hat{k}_d$  is a torsion-weighted simplicial tree count, and  $\hat{k}_d(X)_\sigma$  means restricted to trees containing  $\sigma$ .

# Simplicial spanning trees (Kalai '83; D.-Klivans-Martin '09)

Let  $X$  be a  $d$ -dimensional simplicial complex.

$T \subseteq X$  is a **simplicial spanning tree** of  $\Delta$  when:

0.  $T_{(d-1)} = X_{(d-1)}$  (“spanning”);
  1.  $\tilde{H}_{d-1}(T; \mathbb{Z})$  is a finite group (“connected”);
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  3.  $f_d(T) = f_d(X) - \tilde{\beta}_d(X) + \tilde{\beta}_{d-1}(X)$  (“count”).
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$$k_d(X) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}(X)} |\tilde{H}_{d-1}(T, \mathbb{Z})|^2$$

$$\hat{k}_d(X) = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}(X)} |\tilde{H}_{d-1}(T, \mathbb{Z})|^2 \text{wt } T$$

# Color-shifted complexes

## Definition (Babson-Novik, '06)

A **color-shifted complex** is a simplicial complex with:

- ▶ vertex set  $V_1 \dot{\cup} \dots \dot{\cup} V_r$  ( $V_i$  is set of vertices of color  $i$ );
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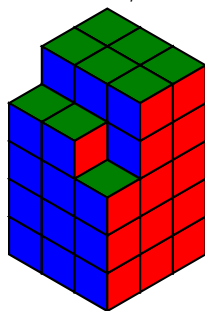
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Example

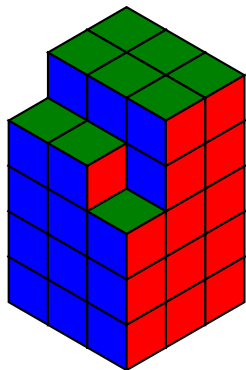
$\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle$





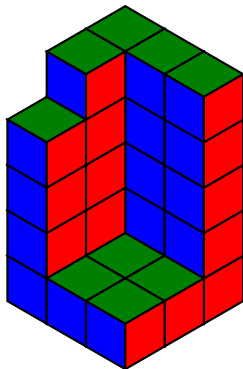
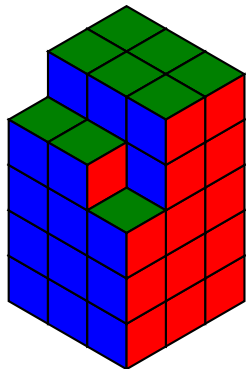
# Enumeration: $\hat{\tau}(\langle 235, 324, 333 \rangle)$

$$\begin{aligned} & (1^7 2^7 3^6)(1^7 2^7 3^7)(1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4) \\ & \times (1 + 2 + 3)^5 (1 + 2)^3 (1 + 2 + 3)^6 (1 + 2) \\ & \times (1 + \dots + 5)^2 (1 + 2 + 3 + 4)(1 + 2 + 3) \end{aligned}$$



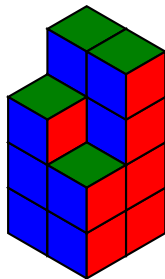
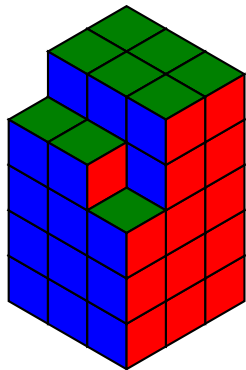
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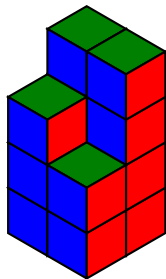
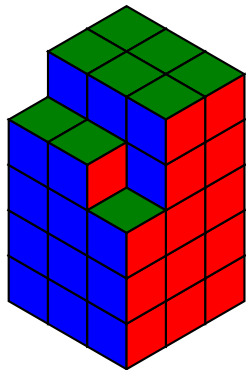
$$\times (1 + 2 + 3)^5 (1 + 2)^3$$



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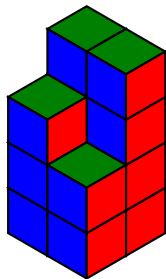
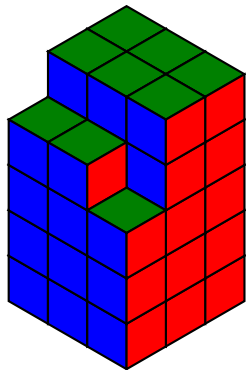
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$$(1 + 2 + 3)^6(1 + 2)$$



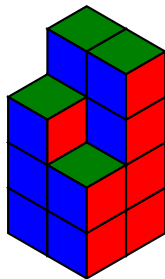
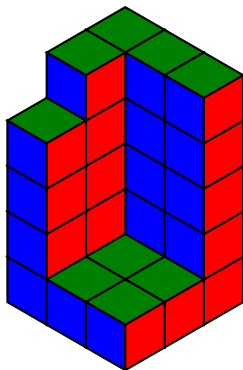
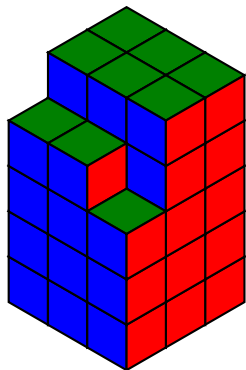
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$$\times (1 + \dots + 5)^2 (1 + 2 + 3 + 4) (1 + 2 + 3)$$



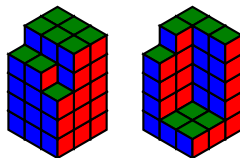
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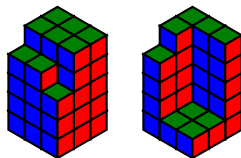
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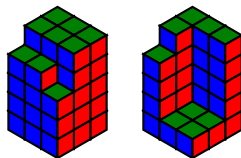


Conjectured by Aalipour-AD (long matrix manipulation pf.  $r = 3$ )



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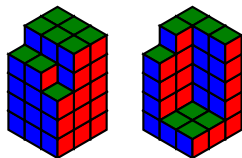
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Proof by simplicial effective resistance (DKLM):

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- ▶  $(1^7 2^7 3^6)(1^7 2^7 3^7)(1^5 2^5 3^5 4^5 5^4)(1^8 1^7 1^4)$  for initial tree
- ▶ induction (ex.) When adding in  $235$ , effective resistance says

$$\frac{\text{trees in new complex}}{\text{trees in original complex}} = \frac{1 + 2}{1} \frac{1 + 2 + 3}{1 + 2} \frac{1 + \dots + 5}{1 + \dots + 4}$$

# Shifted complexes

## Definition

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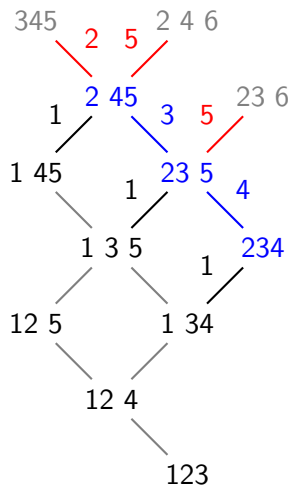
- ▶ vertex set  $1, \dots, n$ ;
- ▶ if  $v < w$ , then you can always replace  $w$  by  $v$ .

## Example ( $\langle 245 \rangle$ )

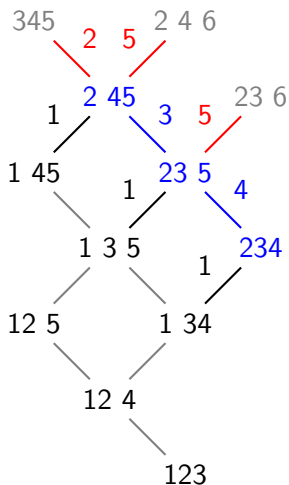
123, 124, 125, 134, 135, 145, 234, 235, 245

# Enumerating spanning trees of shifted complexes

Proved by D.-Klivans-Martin '09; here are ideas of new proof (DKLM) with effective resistance



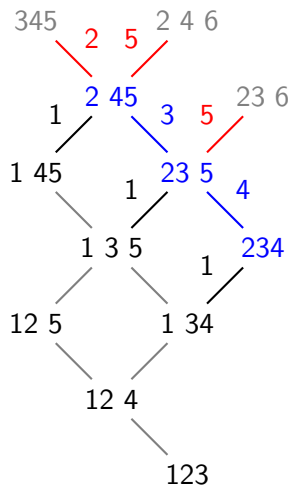
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- ▶ Start with spanning tree of facets with 1

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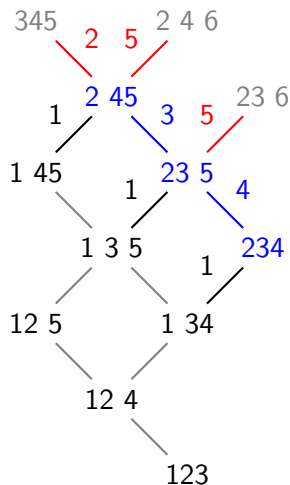
Proved by D.-Klivans-Martin '09; here are ideas of new proof (DKLM) with effective resistance

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- ▶ When adding (e.g.) 23 5, effective resistance says

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where  $D_j = x_1 + \dots + x_j$ .

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- ▶ When done, left with red edges divided by black edges with 1's.