

Matroid theory: exercise sheet 8

1. Let M and M' be binary matroids on the same set E such that they have a common basis B and, for any element not in B , the fundamental circuits of that element with respect to B in M and M' are the same. Show that $M = M'$.
2. Let M be a binary matroid with a circuit C and a cocircuit D such that $|C \cap D| = 4$. Prove that M has an $M(K^4)$ -minor.
3. Prove that a matroid is binary if and only if it has the following property: for any two bases B_1 and B_2 and any $x \in B_2 - B_1$ the set

$$\{y \in B_1 - B_2 \mid B_1 - y \cup x \text{ und } B_2 - x \cup y \text{ are bases}\}$$

has odd size.

4. Prove that a matroid is binary if and only if the set \mathcal{C} of its circuits satisfies the following stronger elimination axiom:
(C3)_{bin} For any $C \in \mathcal{C}$, distinct elements z, x and y of \mathcal{C} , and $C_x, C_y \in \mathcal{C}$ such that $x \in C_x$ and $y \in C_y$ but z is neither in C_x nor C_y , there is $C' \in \mathcal{C}$ with $z \in C' \subseteq (C \cup C_x \cup C_y) \setminus \{x, y\}$.