



5. (*Assigned!*) Let  $G$  be a graph and let

$\mathcal{I} = \{J \subseteq E(G) : \text{each component of the subgraph with edges in } J \text{ contains at most one cycle}\}.$

Prove that  $(E(G), \mathcal{I})$  is a matroid.

6.

a. Let  $\mathcal{M} = (S, \mathcal{I})$  be a matroid. Prove that the rank function is *submodular*: that for all  $A, B \subseteq S$  we have

$$r(A) + r(B) \geq r(A \cup B) + r(A \cap B).$$

b. Prove that a function  $r$  on the subsets of  $S$  is the rank function of a matroid over  $S$  if and only if it is submodular and also satisfies  $r(\emptyset) = 0$  and  $r(A \cup \{x\}) \in \{r(A), r(A) + 1\}$  for all  $A \subset S$  and  $x \in S \setminus A$ . (*Hint*: Construct a matroid  $(S, \mathcal{I})$  where  $\mathcal{I}$  is defined using the rank function  $r$ .)

7. (*Assigned!*) Present an implementation of the greedy algorithm that performs at most  $|S|$  matroid queries of the type “Is  $A$  in  $\mathcal{I}$ ?”