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Art M. Duval* (artduval@math.utep.edu), University of Texas at El Paso, Department of Mathematical Sciences, El Paso, TX 79968-0514, and Caroline J. Klivans and Jeremy L. Martin. Counting weighted simplicial spanning trees of shifted complexes. Preliminary report.

Building upon the work of Kalai and Adin, we extend the concept of a spanning tree from graphs to simplicial complexes. For all complexes Δ satisfying a mild technical condition, we show that the simplicial spanning trees of Δ can be enumerated using its Laplacian matrices, generalizing the matrix-tree theorem. As in the graphic case, replacing the Laplacian with a weighted analogue yields homological information about the simplicial spanning trees being counted. We find a nice expression for the resulting weighted tree enumerator of shifted complexes, by generalizing a formula for the Laplacian eigenvalues of a shifted complex to the weighted case. (Received January 08, 2007)