

A century of graph theory

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Any area of history can be studied either chronologically or thematically, each adding insight to the other. Many graph theory books study particular areas, such as my 'Four Colors Suffice', but it is also interesting to follow the historical development of the subject as it emerged. In particular, the subject changed completely from the late-19th century to the late 20th century, from a collection of mainly recreational problems to a well-developed mainstream area of mathematics. In this talk I outline its development over this period, both chronologically and thematically.