A MAXIMAL SPANNING TREE

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The five-letter word network given below is partitioned into 27 subnetworks, each having a unique vowel-consonant pattern (Y in first position is deemed a consonant, otherwise a vowel). All words are in the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary; each subnetwork lists the total OSPD words in it. The network is a tree; there are no closed cycles. Since two subnetworks (one with CRWTH and FHPHT, the other with SCHMO and SCHWA) are unlinkable with the others, and three (vvvvv, vvvvc, vvvcv) are empty, the 27 that are left comprise a maximal spanning tree. No doubt a computer can be programmed to find one using fewer total words!

100payer---14payee
layer 1116curse--231curie
curve curvy

3ankhs

2101later 871curls-----curly 12ourie
mater carls
mares-----marts
mires tarts
sires torts--647toots
acred--66aired-----sired
ached ached
ashed ashed
asses 58atria shrew 1430chino dyers
arses | stew | | | | | | | | |
arsis | strep | | | | | | | | |
arris 11stria-----strip 874chink 6eyers
arras | | | | | | | | |
arras
110ariaes

areas

183apot abode
4areae

192angle
sport
anode

183apot abode

aborted---above

KICKSH

DAVID MORIC
Iowa City, I

Readers are shaws to this... and solutions... of to appear oc

Volatile: Love

In Languid palindromes work by pro- to the E and complete circularly, however, NORIE and a part in ITALIAN, for reversal use longer than circular LOVE.

A circular word to the last letter STIFLE, for to the E and opposite to the E and complete circularly, STIFLE, for to the E and complete circularly.

Circular parts can begin STIFLE, for different circular reversal use appropriate to circular reversal, and so as in REVL can begin with.

In the poem