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RESEARCH ARTICLE

EDGE GEODETIC SPANNING GRAPH AND EDGE GEODETIC EDGE  
MINIMAL NUMBER

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ABSTRACT

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Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph with  $p$  vertices  $V(G)$  and  $q$  edges  $E(G)$ . Let the edge geodetic number of  $G$  is  $g_1(G)$ . A subset  $M$  of  $E$  said to be edge geodetic edge minimal set of  $G$  if the edge geodetic number of spanning sub graph  $G-M$  equals the edge geodetic number of  $G$ . That is  $g_1(G-M) = g_1(G)$ . The maximum cardinality of  $M$  is called the edge geodetic edge minimal number, is denoted by  $g_{E_0}(G)$  and the spanning sub graph  $G-M$  is called edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$ , denoted by  $G_1$  and  $E(G_1)$  is denoted by  $q_1$ . Edge geodetic edge minimal number of some standard graphs are determined and we have the realization result for each pair of integers  $a, b$  and  $3 \leq a \leq b$ , there exist a connected graph  $G$  such that  $g_{E_0} = b$ ,  $g_1 = a$  and  $q = a + b$ .

**1. Introduction**

By a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we mean a finite undirected graph without loops or multiple edges. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $p$  and  $q$  respectively. For basic graph theoretic terminology we refer to Harary [3,7]. The distance  $d(u,v)$  between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$  is the length of a shortest  $u-v$  path in  $G$ . An

diameter,  $diam G$  of  $G$ . An edge geodetic set of  $G$  is a set  $S \subseteq V$  such that every edge of  $G$  is contained in a geodesic joining some pair of vertices in  $S$ . The edge geodetic number  $g_1(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum order of its edge geodetic sets and any edge geodetic set of order  $g_1(G)$  is an edge geodetic basis of  $G$  or a  $g_1$ -set of  $G$ . The edge geodetic number of a graph  $G$  is studied in [1, 8].



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$N(v) = \{ u \in V(G) : uv \in E(G) \}$  is called the neighborhood of the vertex  $v$  in  $G$ . For any set  $S$  of vertices of  $G$ , the induced sub graph  $\langle S \rangle$  is the maximal sub graph of  $G$  with vertex set  $S$ . If a sub graph of  $G$  has the same vertex set as  $G$ , then it is a spanning sub graph of  $G$ . A vertex  $v$  is a simplified vertex of a graph  $G$  if  $\langle N(v) \rangle$  is complete. A simplex of a graph  $G$  is a sub graph of  $G$  which is a complete graph. If  $e = \{u, v\}$  is an edge of a graph  $G$  with  $d(u) = 1$  and  $d(v) > 1$ , then we call  $e$  a pendent edge,  $u$  a leaf and  $v$  a support vertex and  $L(G)$  be the set of all leaves of a graph  $G$ .

**Example:2.2** For the graph given in Figure 2.1,  $S = \{ v_1, v_3, v_4, v_6 \}$  is an edge geodetic set and hence the

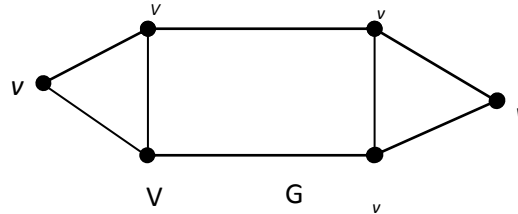


Figure 2.1

**Theorem1.1.[8]** Let  $G=(p,q)$  be a connected graph with exactly one vertex of degree  $p-1$ , then  $g_1(G)=p-1$ .

**Theorem 1.2 [8]** Let  $G=(p,q)$  be a connected graph with more than one vertex of degree  $p-1$ , then  $g_1(G)=p$ .

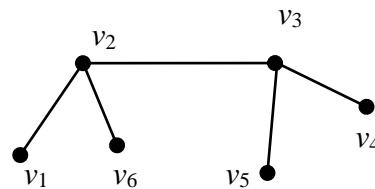
**Theorem 1.3 [8]** For the cycle  $C_p$  ( $p \geq 3$ ),  

$$g_1(C_p) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 3 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

edge geodetic number is 4. Let  $M = \{ v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, v_3 v_4 \}$ . Then the graph  $G_1$  is given in Figure 2.2 Since the edge geodetic number of  $G_1$  is 4,  $M$  is an edge minimal set of  $G$  and hence  $g_{E_0} \geq 3$ . It is easily verified that there is no edge minimal set of cardinality greater than 3. Therefore  $g_{E_0} = 3$ .

**Edge Geodetic spanning Graph and Edge Geodetic Edge Minimal number**

**Definition 2.1** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be a connected graph with  $p$  vertices  $V(G)$  and  $q$  edges  $E(G)$  and edge geodetic number  $g_1(G)$ . A subset  $M$  of  $E$  is said to be an edge geodetic edge minimal set of  $G$  if the edge geodetic number of spanning sub graph  $G-M$  equals the edge geodetic number of  $G$ . That is  $g_1(G-M)=g_1(G)$ . The maximum cardinality of  $M$  is called the edge geodetic edge minimal number, is denoted by  $g_{E_0}(G)$  and the spanning sub graph  $G-M$  is called edge geodetic spanning graph, denoted by  $G_1$  and  $E(G_1)$  is denoted by  $q_1$ .



$G_1$   
Figure 2.2

**Remark 2.3** There can be more than one edge geodetic edge minimal set for a graph. For the graph in Figure 2.1  $M_1 = \{ v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, v_3 v_4 \}$   $M_2 = \{ v_1 v_6, v_6 v_5, v_5 v_4 \}$  are the two edge geodetic edge minimal set.

**Theorem2.4.** No bridge edge belongs to any edge geodetic edge minimal set



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**Proof:** Suppose  $e \in M$  is a bridge edge of  $G$ , then  $\langle E-M \rangle$  will be a disconnected graph, which is a contradiction. Hence no bridge edge belongs to any edge geodetic edge minimal set of  $G$ .

**Corollary 2.5** No pendent edge belongs to edge geodetic edge minimal set.

**Proof:** The proof follows the Theorem 2.4.

**Corollary 2.6** For any tree  $T$ ,  $g_{E_0}(T) = 0$ .

**Proof:** The proof follows the Theorem 2.4 and Corollary 2.5.

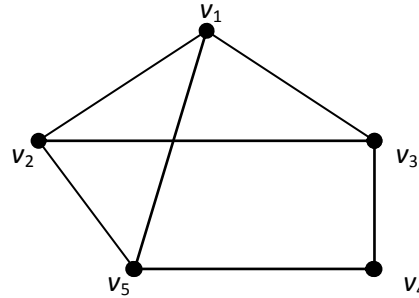
**Theorem: 2.7.** For any connected graph  $0 \leq g_{E_0}(G) \leq q-l$ , where  $l$  is the number of bridge edges.

**Proof:** The proof follows the **Theorem 2.4.**

**Theorem2.8.** For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $0 \leq g_{E_0}(G) \leq q-1$ .

**Proof:** Any edge geodetic set needs at least two vertices, minimum one edge and hence  $g_{E_0}(G) \leq q-1$ . Also set of all vertices of  $G$  form an edge geodetic basis, maximum  $q$  edges and hence  $g_{E_0}(G) \geq 0$ .

**Remark 2.9** The equality in the Theorem2.8 hold for  $K_2$  and  $C_n$ .  $g_{E_0}(K_2)=0$  and for even cycle  $C_n$ ,  $g_{E_0}(C_n) = q-1$ . Also the in equality in the Theorem 2.8 is strict. For the graph  $G$  given Figure 2.3,  $S = \{ v_1, v_2, v_4 \}$  is an edge geodetic basis and hence the edge geodetic number  $g_1(G)=3$ ,  $M = \{ v_1 v_5, v_2 v_3 \}$  is an edge geodetic edge minimal set of  $G$  and hence  $g_{E_0}(G) = 2$ . Thus  $0 < g_{E_0}(G) < q-1$ .



$G$

Figure 2.3

**Theorem2.10** For any cycle  $C_p$

$$g_{E_0}(C_p) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

**Proof:**

**Case (i)**  $p$  is even.

Let  $e$  be an edge of  $C_n$  then  $C_n - e$  is a path so that  $g_{E_0}(C_n - e) \geq 1$ . Since  $G-M$  is disconnected for  $|M| \geq 2$ , by the Theorem 1.3, it follows that  $g_{E_0}(C_n) = 1$ .

**Case (ii)**  $p$  is odd. Let  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_p\}$  be the edges of  $C_p$  and  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p\}$  be the vertices. Take  $e_i = u_i u_{i+1}$  then  $G - \{e_i\} = u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{i-1}, u_{i+2}, \dots, u_p$  form a path. For path the edge geodetic number is 2 only. Also  $G - \{e_i, e_j\}$  become a disconnected graph. Hence removal of any number of edges from  $C_n$ , the resultant graph is disconnected, cannot give the edge geodetic number 3. Hence  $g_{E_0}(C_p) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd.

**Theorem2.11.** If  $G$  is a Simple graph of order  $p$  with exactly one vertex of degree  $p-1$  then edge geodetic spanning graph is a Star and  $g_{E_0}(G) + g_1(G) = q$ .



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**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a simple graph of order  $n$  with exactly one vertex of degree  $p-1$ . Let  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p\}$  be the vertices of  $G$ . Without loss of generality assume that the degree of  $u_i$  is  $p-1$ . Fix the vertex  $u_i$  which has the degree  $p-1$  and collect all the edges from remaining vertices  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{i-1}, u_{i+1}, \dots, u_p\}$  which are not adjacent with  $u_i$ . Hence the resultant graph is a star of order  $p$ . Removal of any edges from star form a disconnected graph. Also the edge geodetic number of star is  $p-1$ . Hence star is the edge geodetic spanning graph of order  $p$  and  $q_1=p-1$ , which is equal to  $g_1(G)$ . Also  $g_{E_0}(G) = q - q_1 = q - g_1(G)$  and so that  $g_{E_0}(G) + g_1(G) = q$ .

**Theorem 2.12** If  $G$  is a Simple graph of order  $n$  with exactly one vertex of degree  $p-1$  then edge geodetic edge minimal number  $g_{E_0}(G) = q - \Delta(G)$ .

**Proof:** The proof follows from the Theorem 2.11.

**Theorem 2.13** for any Wheel  $W_{1,p}$   $g_{E_0}(G) = p$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be Wheel graph. Wheel has exactly one vertex of degree  $p$  and remaining  $p$  vertex of degree 3. Hence the total number of edges is  $q = \frac{p+3p}{2} = 2p$ . Since exactly one vertex of degree  $p$ , by Theorem 2.11 the edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$  is a star of order  $p+1$  and has edges  $p$ . Hence  $g_{E_0}(G) = 2p - p$ . Hence  $g_{E_0}(G) = p$ .

**Theorem 2.14** If  $G$  be a simple graph with more than one vertex of degree  $n-1$  then the edge geodetic edge minimal number  $g_{E_0}(G) = q - 2\Delta(G) + 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a simple graph with at least two vertices of degree  $p-1$ . Let  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots,$

$u_p\}$  be the vertices of  $G$ . Without loss of generality assume that degree of  $u_i$  and  $u_j$  is  $p-1$ . Fix the vertices  $u_i$  and  $u_j$ . collect all the edges of  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{i-1}, u_{i+1}, \dots, u_{j-1}, u_{j+1}, \dots, u_p\}$  which are not adjacent to  $u_i$  and  $u_j$ . Thus the new graph has two vertices of degree  $p-1$  and remaining  $p-2$  vertices of degree 2. Since  $G$  has more than one vertex of degree  $p-1$ , edge geodetic number  $g_1(G) = p$ . Hence the resultant graph has edge geodetic number  $p$ . So the graph is edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$ . If removal of any more edge from  $G$  than the above condition degree of  $u_i$  or  $u_j$  will reduce to  $n-2$  or less and hence has edge geodetic number less than  $n$  and cannot be the edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$  so that  $q_1 = \frac{2 \times (p-1) + (p-2) \times 2}{2} = 2p-3$ . Therefore  $g_{E_0}(G) = q - (2p-3) = q - 2(p-1) + 1 = q - 2\Delta(G) + 1$ .

**Theorem 2.15** For any complete graph  $K_n$ ,  $g_{E_0}(K_n) = \frac{(p-2)(p-3)}{2}$ .

**Proof:** For the complete graph of order  $p$  has  $\frac{p(p-1)}{2}$  edges and  $\Delta(G) = p-1$ , the proof follows from the Theorem 2.14.

**Theorem 2.16**

$$g_{E_0}(K_m) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } m = 1 \\ (m-1)^2, & \text{if } m = n \end{cases}$$

**Proof:**

**Case i:** If  $m=1$ , the proof follows the Theorem 2.11

**Case ii:** if  $m=n$

Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$  and  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$  be a bipartition of  $G$ . Let  $\{e_{11}, e_{12}, e_{13}, \dots, e_{1m}\}$  such that  $e_{1i}$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ ) is incident with  $u_1$  and  $w_i$ ,  $e_{2i}$  ( $i=1, 2, \dots, m$ ) is incident with  $u_2$  and  $w_i$  an so on. Collect all the edges except



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$e_{11}, e_{12}$  from  $u_1$ ,  $e_{22}$  from  $u_2$ ,  $e_{32}, e_{33}, e_{34}$  from  $u_3$ ,  $e_{44}$  from  $u_4$ ,  $e_{54}, e_{55}, e_{56}$  from  $u_5$ ,  $e_{66}$  from  $e_6, \dots$ ,  $e_{mm}$  from  $u_m$  if  $m$  is odd and  $e_{mm}$  from  $u_m$  if  $m$  is even. Hence the resultant graph be a tree such that  $u_1, u_3, \dots, u_{m-1}, w_2, w_4, \dots, w_m$  are end vertices if  $m$  is odd and  $u_1, u_3, \dots, u_m, w_2, w_4, \dots, w_{m-1}$  are end vertices if  $m$  is even. Also the resulting graph is a tree with  $m$  end vertices and hence the edge geodetic number is  $m$  which is same as the edge geodetic number of  $G=K_{mm}$ . Removal of any more edges from the resulting graph, the graph becomes disconnected and hence no spanning subgraph graph exist with same edge geodetic number  $m$ . Hence the tree is the edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$  with  $m-2$  vertices of degree 3,  $m$  vertices of degree one and 2 vertices of degree 2. Therefore the edge geodetic spanning graph of  $G$  has  $\frac{3(m-2)+m+4}{2}=2m-1$  edges. Also the edge geodetic edge minimal number  $\mathcal{G}_{E_0}=m^2-(2m-1)$ . That is  $\mathcal{G}_{E_0}=(m-1)^2$  if  $m=n$ .

**Theorem:2.17** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with exactly one vertex of degree  $p-1$  then

$$\mathcal{G}_{E_0} = \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \frac{d(v_i)}{2} - \frac{p-1}{2}$$

**Proof:** Let  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$  be the vertices of  $G$  with exactly one vertex  $v_p$  (say) of degree  $p-1$ . By the Theorem 2.12, edge geodetic edge minimal set contains  $E(G)$ -number edges in a star with central vertex  $v_p$  is  $[d(v_1)-1+d(v_2)-1+\dots+\dots+d(v_{p-1})-1]/2 = \sum_{i=1}^{p-1} \frac{d(v_i)}{2} - \frac{p-1}{2}$ .

**Theorem2.18.** Let  $\{x, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{p-2}\}$  be the vertices of  $G$ , where  $x$  and  $y$  are universal vertices of  $G$ . Then

$$\mathcal{G}_{E_0} = \sum_{i=1}^{p-2} \frac{d(v_i)-2(p-2)}{2}$$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the connected graph with more than one vertex of degree  $p-1$ . Let  $\{x, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{p-2}\}$  be the vertices of  $G$ . Then the smallest graph with exactly two vertices of degree  $p-1$  has exactly two vertices of degree  $p-1$  and  $p-2$  vertices of degree 2. Also the edge geodetic number of the resultant graph is  $p$ . Hence the edge geodetic edge minimal set contains  $=(d(v_1) - 2 + d(v_2) - 2 + \dots + d(v_{p-2}) - 2)/2$ . Hence

$$\mathcal{G}_{E_0} = \sum_{i=1}^p \frac{d(v_i)-2(p-2)}{2}$$

**Theorem 2.19** Let  $G=(p,q)$  be a connected graph with  $g_1(G)=p$  then  $q \geq 2p-3, (p \geq 2)$ .

**Proof:** We prove this theorem by induction on  $p$  ( $p \geq 2$ ). Suppose  $p=2$ , then  $G=K_2$ , the result is trivially true. Assume that for any connected graph with  $k$  vertices and  $g_1(G)=k$  has  $q \geq 2k-3$  edges. Let  $G'$  be a connected graph obtained from  $G$  by adding a new vertex  $v$ . Let  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be the vertices of  $G$  and  $S$  be the edge geodetic basis of  $G$ . Since  $g_1(G)=k$  then  $S$  is the unique edge geodetic basis of  $G$  and either  $G$  has more than one vertex of degree  $k-1$  or  $G$  has no vertex of degree  $k-1$ .

**Case(i).** Suppose  $G$  has more than one vertex of degree  $k-1$ . Let  $d(v_i)=d(v_j)=k-1$ . Add new vertex  $v$  to  $G$  such that  $v$  is adjacent to both  $v_i, v_j$ . Hence  $d(v_i)=d(v_j)=k$  so that  $g_1(G')=k+1$ . Also  $q \geq 2k-3+2=2(k+1)-3$ . Hence the result is true.

**Case(ii).** Suppose no vertex of  $G$  has degree  $p-1$ . Let  $S'$  be an edge geodetic basis of  $G'$ . Add a new vertex  $v$  such that  $v$  is adjacent to any two adjacent vertices  $v_i, v_j, (i \neq j), (1 \leq i, j \leq k)$ . Hence  $v$  becomes an extreme vertex. Clearly  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_{j-1}, v_{j+1}, \dots, v_k, v \in S'$ . To prove  $g_1(G')=k+1$  Suppose both  $v_i, v_j, (i \neq j)$ ,





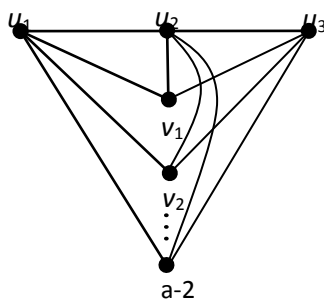
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( $1 \leq i, j \leq k$ ) does not belongs to  $S'$ , then the edge  $v_i v_j$  cannot lies on geodesic joining of pair of vertices of  $S'$ . Hence anyone  $v_i, v_j$  or both  $v_i, v_j$  belongs to  $S'$ . Suppose  $v_i$  does not belongs to  $S'$ , then the edge  $v_i v_j, v_i v$  cannot lies on the geodesic joining of pair of vertices of  $S'$ . Similarly if  $v_j$  does not belongs to  $S'$  then the edges  $v_i v_j, v_j v$  cannot lies on the geodesic joining of pair of vertices of  $S'$ . Hence both  $v_i, v_j$  belongs to  $S'$  and so that  $g_1(G') = k + 1$ . Also  $q \geq 2k - 3 + 2 = 2(k + 1) - 3$ . Hence  $q \geq 2p - 3, (p \geq 2)$ .

**Theorem 2.20:** For each pair of integers  $a, b$  and  $3 \leq a \leq b$ , there exist a connected graph  $G$  such that  $g_1(G) = a, \mathcal{G}_{E_0} = b$  and  $q = a + b$ .

**Proof: Case(i)**  $a = b \geq 3$  Consider the graph wheel  $G = K_{1,a}$ , since  $G$  has exactly one vertex of degree 'a',  $g_1(G) = a$  and by the Theorem 2.14,  $\mathcal{G}_{E_0} = a$ . Hence  $a = b$ .



G Figure 2.4

**Case(ii)**  $3 < a < b$ , let  $G$  be the graph obtained from the path on three vertices  $P : u_1, u_2, u_3$  by adding  $a - 2$  new vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{a-2}$  and joining each  $v_i (1 \leq i \leq a - 2)$  with  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  and is shown in Figure 2.4. Also, since  $u_2$

is the only full degree vertex of  $G$  by Theorem 1.1,  $g_1(G) = a - 2 + 3 - 1 = a$  and by Theorem 2.12,  $\mathcal{G}_{E_0} = b = q - a$ .

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