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## Detour Distance And Self Centered Graphs

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### Abstract

This paper evaluates the detour distance of a graph and associated problems. We study about the detour eccentricity and average detour eccentricity of graphs and derive some of the properties that relates self centered graphs and detour distance. A characterization of tree is also discussed.

**Keywords:** Graphs, Detour distance in graphs, Centre of graphs, Detour eccentricity of graphs, Average detour eccentricity, Self centered graphs.

## 1. Introduction

This paper deals with different types of distances in graphs, foremost among them being the geodesic distance. The second type of distance is the detour distance. In this paper we study and analyze the self-centeredness property of graphs using the tool - Detour distance.

We extend the concept of average distance, average eccentricity and many related ideas to detour distance.

A graph is a pair  $G:(V, E)$  where  $V$  is a finite non empty set and  $E$  is asymmetric binary relation on  $V$ . The following definitions are taken from the book by Harary [3].

In a graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $V$  (or  $(G)$ ) and  $E$  (or  $E(G)$ ) denote the vertex set and the edge

Set of  $G$ , respectively. A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is trivial, if it has only one vertex, i.e.,  $|V(G)| = 1$ ; otherwise  $G$  is nontrivial. The number of edges incident with a vertex  $u$  is called degree of a vertex and is denoted by  $\deg_G(u)$ .

$K_n$  denotes the complete graph on  $n$  vertices and it is that graph in which there exists an edge

between each pair of vertices  $u, v$  in  $G$ . For a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $G[S]$  is the sub graph induced by  $S$ . A connected acyclic graph is called a tree. Complement of  $G$  is the graph  $G^c = (V, E^c)$ , where  $E^c = \{e: e \notin E(G)\}$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be regular, if every vertex of  $G$  has the same degree. If this degree is equal to  $r$ , then  $G$  is  $r$ -regular or  $r$ -regular of degree  $r$ .

If  $G$  is a graph and  $u, v$  are two vertices of  $G$ , length of a shortest path between  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$  is called the geodesic distance between  $u$  and  $v$  and is denoted by  $d(u, v)$ . The eccentricity of the vertex  $v$  is denoted by  $e(v)$  and is defined as  $e(v) = \max [d(u, v) / u \in G]$ . If a graph  $G$  is disconnected, then  $e(v) = \infty$  for all vertices  $v \in G$ .

Radius of  $G$  is defined as  $r(G) = \min [e(v) / v \in G]$ .

Diameter of  $G$  is defined as  $d(G) = \max [e(v) / v \in G]$

Average eccentricity of  $G$  is  $avec(G) = \frac{1}{n} [e(v_1) + e(v_2) + \dots + e(v_n)]$  where  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are vertices of  $G$ . If  $e(v) = r(G)$  then  $v$  is called a central vertex of  $G$  and the graph induced by all central vertices of  $G$  is called Centre of  $G$  and is denoted by  $C(G)$ . A vertex  $v$  of  $G$  is called an eccentric vertex of  $G$  [5] if there exists a vertex  $u$  in  $G$  such that  $d(u, v) = e(u)$ . This means that if the vertex  $v$  is farthest from another vertex  $u$  then  $v$  is an eccentric vertex of  $u$  (as well as  $G$ ) and is denoted by  $u^* = v$ . If  $G = C(G)$  then it is called self-centered graph. Medha and Chithra [4] studied about edge extension for cycles, with respect to the self-centeredness (of cycles). After an edge set is added to a self-centered graph the resultant graph is also a self-centered graph. A graph is eccentric if all vertices of  $G$  are eccentric vertices.

Consider a subset  $S \subseteq V(G)$ , then  $d(v, S) = \min [d(u, v) / u \in S]$ .

Distance of  $S$ ,  $\sigma(S) = \sum_{v \in V} d(v, S)$

It has been proved by Dankelmann [2] that for a graph  $G$   $avec(G) \leq \frac{1}{n} [\sigma(C(G)) + r(G)]$  and equality holds in the case of trees.

## 2. Detour Distance and Average detour eccentricity

The concept of detour distance and related properties are discussed in [1]. If  $u, v$  are two vertices in the graph  $G$  the detour distance between these vertices denoted by  $D(u, v)$  is the length of a longest  $u - v$ - path in  $G$  [1]. Note that there exist graphs in which  $D(u, v) = d(u, v) \forall u, v \in V$ . The detour eccentricity of the vertex  $v$  is denoted by  $e_D(v)$  and is defined as  $e_D(v) = \max [D(u, v) / u \in G]$ . If a graph  $G$  is disconnected, then  $e_D(v) = \infty \forall v \in G$ .

Detour radius of  $G$  is defined as  $r_D(G) = \min [e_D(v) / v \in G]$ .

Detour diameter of  $G$  is defined as  $d_D(G) = \max [e_D(v) / v \in G]$ .

Average detour eccentricity of  $G$  is  $Davec(G) = \frac{1}{n} [e_D(v_1) + e_D(v_2) + \dots + e_D(v_n)]$  where  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are vertices of  $G$ . If  $e_D(v) = r_D(G)$  then  $v$  is called a detour central vertex of  $G$  and the sub graph induced by all detour central vertices of  $G$  is called detour center of  $G$  and is denoted by  $C_D(G)$ . A vertex  $v$  of  $G$  is called a detour eccentric vertex of  $u$  (and that of  $G$ ) if there exists a vertex  $u$  in  $G$  such that  $D(u, v) = e_D(u)$ . If  $G = C_D(G)$  then it is called a detour self-centered graph. Consider a subset  $S \subseteq V(G)$ , then  $d(v, S) = \min [d(u, v) / u \in S]$ .

Distance of  $S$ ,  $\sigma_D(S) = \sum_{v \in V} D(v, S)$ .

In the following results the relation between detour distance and geodesic distance in a cycle is

discussed. A relation connecting average detour eccentricity and detour radius is derived. We also characterize trees in terms of geodesic distance and detour distance.

### 3. Results

#### Proposition: 1

Let  $G: (V, E)$  be a cycle on  $n$  vertices, then  $D(u, v) = n - d(u, v) \forall u, v \in V$ .

#### Proof

Since  $G$  is cycle on  $n$  vertices, it has  $n$  edges.

Suppose  $u, v$  are two vertices in  $G$ . Since  $G$  is cycle there exists exactly two paths  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  between  $u, v$ . If one is the shortest path the other one will be the longest path. Longest path will be a detour path. Also  $G$  being a cycle,  $Length P_1 = n - Length P_2$ . If  $P_1$  is the longest path then clearly  $P_2$  will be shorter and then  $D(u, v) = Length P_1 = n - Length P_2 = n - d(u, v)$ .

#### Proposition:2

Let  $G: (V, E)$  be a cycle with  $n$  vertices, then  $G$  is detour self-centered and the detour eccentricity  $e_D(v) = n - 1 \forall v \in V$ .

#### Proof

Suppose the vertices of  $G$  are  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  where  $v_n = v_1$ .

Let  $v_i$  be an arbitrary vertex of  $G$ . Then the two detour eccentric vertices of  $v_i$  are  $v_{i-1}$  and  $v_{i+1}$ .

From Proposition 1 we get  $D(v_i, v_{i-1}) = n - d(v_i, v_{i-1})$  and  $D(v_i, v_{i+1}) = n - d(v_i, v_{i+1})$

This gives  $D(v_i, v_{i-1}) = D(v_i, v_{i+1}) = n - 1$ . Thus we see that  $e_D(v_i) = n - 1$ . Since  $v_i$  is arbitrary we get  $e_D(v) = n - 1 \forall v \in V$ .

$\therefore G$  is detour self-centered.

#### Corollary

Let  $G$  be a cycle with  $n \geq 3$  vertices, then  $e(v) < e_D(v) \forall v \in V$  and  $r(G) < r_D(G)$ .

#### Proof

$G$  is a cycle with  $n$  vertices.  $e(v) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  from [3] and  $e_D(v) = n - 1 \forall v \in V$ .

As  $n \geq 3, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor < n - 1$ . Hence  $e(v) < e_D(v) \forall v \in V$ . Since  $G$  is self-centered as well as detour self-centered we get  $r(G) < r_D(G)$ .

#### Proposition:3

Let  $G: (V, E)$  be a connected graph on  $n$  vertices, and let  $k$  be the number of pendant vertices of  $G$  then

$D(u, v) \leq n - k$  if  $u, v$  are not pendant

$D(u, v) \leq n - k + 1$  if either  $u$  or  $v$  is pendant

$D(u, v) \leq n - k + 2$  if both  $u$  and  $v$  are pendant

#### Proof

Given  $G: (V, E)$  is a graph with  $n$  vertices and  $k$  pendant vertices. Suppose  $u, v$  are not pendant and  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  be the pendant vertices. Any  $u - v$  detour will exclude these  $k$  vertices and the edges incident with them. Hence the maximum length of any  $u - v$  detour will be less than or equal to  $n - k$ . Hence  $D(u, v) \leq n - k$ .

Suppose one among  $u$  or  $v$  (say  $u$ ) be pendant. Then each  $u - v$  detour will start at  $u$ . These detours will pass through the edge adjacent with  $u$ . They will not pass through the remaining  $k - 1$  vertices and edges incident on them. Thus each of these detours will have a maximum of  $n - k + 1$  edges. Hence  $D(u, v) \leq n - k + 1$ .

Suppose both  $u$  and  $v$  are pendant. Then each  $u - v$  detour will start at  $u$  and end at  $v$ . These detours will pass through the edges adjacent with both  $u$  and  $v$ . They will not pass through the remaining  $k - 2$  pendant vertices.

Hence  $D(u, v) \leq n - k + 2$ .

**Theorem: 1**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph having  $n$  vertices where  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $G$  is a tree if and only if  $D(u, v) = d(u, v)$  for all vertices  $u, v$  in  $G$ .

**Proof**

If  $G$  is a tree then there exist unique path between any two vertices of  $G$  and the longest and shortest path will be same. Hence  $d(u, v) = D(u, v)$

Conversely assume that  $G$  is a graph such that  $d(u, v) = D(u, v)$  for all vertices  $u, v$  in  $G$ . We have to prove that  $G$  is a tree. For  $G$  with 2 vertices the result is trivial.

Let  $n > 3$  and suppose  $G$  is not a tree. Then it must contain a cycle  $C$  having  $m$  vertices where  $3 \leq m \leq n$ . Suppose  $u, v$  be two adjacent vertices in  $G$  which are in  $C$ . Then  $d(u, v) = 1$ .

As  $G$  does not contain multiple edges,  $D(u, v) = m - 1$  where  $m - 1 > 1$ . This is a contradiction because  $G$  is a graph such that  $d(u, v) = D(u, v)$ .

$\therefore G$  is a tree.

**Corollary**

If  $G$  is a tree then the detour center of  $G$  is  $K_1$  or  $K_2$ .

**Theorem: 2**

Let  $G: (V, E)$  be a connected graph with  $n$  vertices. Then  $Davec(G) \leq r_D + \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C(G))]$

**Proof**

Let  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  be the vertices of  $G$ . Some of the  $u_i - u_j$  detour will pass through the detour center and some may not. Let  $P$  be a  $u_i - u_j$  detour in  $G$  passing through a detour central vertex  $u_k$  such that  $D(u_i, u_k)$  is minimum so that  $D(u_i, u_k) \leq r_D(G)$ .

Then  $e_D(u_i) \leq r_D(G) + D(C_D(G), u_i)$ . Suppose

$u_1^*, u_2^*, \dots, u_n^*$  be the eccentric vertices of  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  respectively. Then

$e_D(u_i) \leq r_D(G) + D(C_D(G), u_i^*)$ .

$$Davec(G) = \frac{1}{n} [e_D(u_1) + e_D(u_2) + \dots + e_D(u_n)]$$

$$Davec(G) \leq \frac{1}{n} [r_D(G) + D(C_D, u_1^*) + \dots + r_D(G) + D(C_D, u_n^*)]$$

$$Davec(G) \leq r_D(G) + \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C_D(G))]$$

$$\therefore Davec(G) \leq r_D + \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C(G))]$$

**Corollary**

If  $G: (V, E)$  is detour self centered or a tree then,  $Davec(G) = r_D(G) + \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C_D(G))]$

**Proof**

If  $G$  is a tree then  $d(u, v) = D(u, v) \forall u, v \in V$  and the equality follows as there exist exactly one path between any two vertices of  $G$  [3].

Suppose  $G$  be a detour Self Centered graph. Then  $\frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C(G))] = 0$

And  $e_D(v) = r_D(G) \forall v \in V$ . Hence  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$  and equality holds.

**Theorem: 3**

Let  $G : (V, E)$  be a connected graph having  $n$  vertices. Then  $G$  is detour self-centered if and only if  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$ .

**Proof**

Since  $G$  is detour self-centered we have  $e_D(v) = r_D(G) \forall v \in V$ . Then by definition

$$Davec(G) = \frac{1}{n} [e_D(v_1) + e_D(v_2) \dots + e_D(v_n)] = \frac{1}{n} [n \cdot r_D(G)] = r_D(G)$$

Thus  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$ .

Conversely assume that  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$ . We prove that  $G$  is detour self-centered.

We have  $Davec(G) \leq r_D + \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C(G))]$ . Since  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$  we get,  $0 \leq \frac{1}{n} [\sigma(C_D(G))]$ .

**Case- 1**

$$0 = \frac{1}{n} [\sigma(C_D(G))]$$

$$\sigma[C_D(G)] = 0 \Rightarrow D(v_1, (C_D(G)) + D(v_2, (C_D(G)) + \dots + D(v_n, (C_D(G)) = 0$$

This implies  $D(v_i, (C_D(G)) = 0 \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . ie  $v_i \in C_D(G) \forall i$ .

Therefore  $G$  is detour Self Centered.

**Case- 2**

Suppose  $0 < \frac{1}{n} [\sigma_D(C_D(G))]$ . Then  $\sigma_D[(C_D(G)) > 0]$ .

$$\Rightarrow D(v_1, (C_D(G)) + D(v_2, (C_D(G)) + \dots + D(v_n, (C_D(G)) > 0$$

Among the vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ , let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  be the vertices such that

$$D(v_i, (C_D(G)) = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

Let  $v_{k+1}, v_{k+2}, \dots, v_n$  be the vertices with  $D(v_i, (C_D(G)) > 0, i = k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n$

As  $D[(v_i, (C_D(G))] = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  clearly  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \in C_D(G)$ .

As  $D[(v_i, (C_D(G)))] > 0, i = k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n$  clearly  $v_{k+1}, v_{k+2}, \dots, v_n \notin C_D(G)$ .

$\therefore e_D(v_i) > r_D(G), i = k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n$  and  $e_D(v_i) = r_D(G), i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k$ .

Then clearly  $Davec(G) = \frac{1}{n} [e_D(v_1) + e_D(v_2) \dots + e_D(v_n)] > r_D(G)$ .

This is a contradiction to the assumption that  $Davec(G) = r_D(G)$

Therefore there does not exist  $v_{k+1}, v_{k+2}, \dots, v_n$  such that  $D(v_i, C_D(G)) > 0$  for  $i = k+1, k+2, \dots, n$ .

$\Rightarrow D[v_i, C_D(G)] = 0$  for all  $i$

$\therefore v_i \in C_D(G)$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Hence  $G$  is detour self-centered.

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