

## ON DIMENSION OF SOME FINITE ALGEBRAIC GRAPHS OF FINITE RINGS

M. G. TALESANI<sup>1\*</sup>, M. T. LASKUKALAYEH<sup>1</sup>, A. ABBASI<sup>2</sup>, §

ABSTRACT. Suppose that  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is a graph with the vertex set of nonzero zero-divisors of the finite ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha}$ , where  $\alpha > 1$ , and  $x - y$  is an edge if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\pi$ -prime, where  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\alpha\}$  is a set of odd prime numbers and  $a$  and  $b$  are  $\pi$ -prime if either  $(a, b) = 1$  or  $(a, b) = p$ ,  $p \notin \pi$ . In this paper we study dimension, edge metric dimension and fraction dimension of the graph.

Keywords: diameter, distance, metric dimension, decomposition.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

The metric dimension of a general metric space was introduced in 1953 by Blumenthal [1]. About twenty years later, it was applied by Slater [7] who introduced the concept of locating set of a graph. Independently, Harary and Melter [3] introduced the same concept as the resolving sets for calculating the metric dimension of a tree. This notion has been frequently used in graph theory, chemistry, biology, robotics and many other disciplines.

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple, finite, undirected graph. For vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$ , we define the distance  $d(x, y)$  to be the length of a shortest path from  $x$  to  $y$ , ( $d(x, x) = 0$  and  $d(x, y) = \infty$  if there is no such path). The diameter of the graph  $G$  is given as  $diam(G) = \sup\{d(x, y) \mid x \text{ and } y \text{ are vertices of } G\}$ .  $G$  is said to be connected if there exists a path between any two distinct vertices, and it said to be complete if it is connected with diameter one. The girth of  $G$  denoted by  $gr(G)$ , is the length of a shortest cycle in  $G$  ( $gr(G) = \infty$  if  $G$  contains no cycles). A subset  $S \subseteq V$  is an independent set in  $G$  if no two vertices in  $S$  are adjacent. The independence number of  $G$  is the maximum size of all

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pure Mathematics, Faculty of Mathematical Sciences, University of Guilan, Rasht, Iran.

e-mail: m.gholamniai@gmail.com; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8842-4366>.

\* Corresponding author.

e-mail: mtaghidoust@phd.guilan.ac.ir; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1330-6327>.

<sup>2</sup> Center of Excellence for Mathematical Modeling, Optimization and Combinatorial Computing, (MMOCC), University of Guilan, Rasht, Iran.

e-mail: aabbasi@guilan.ac.ir; ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8467-7737>.

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independent sets of vertices, denoted by  $\alpha(G)$ . For the relevant graph theoretical terms, see [2].

For a non-zero commutative ring  $R$ , let  $Z^*(R)$  be the set of nonzero zero-divisors of  $R$ . In this paper, we consider  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\alpha\}$  for  $\alpha > 1$ , as a set of odd prime numbers and define the graph  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ , with all elements of  $Z^*(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  as vertices, and two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\pi$ -prime, where  $a$  and  $b$  are  $\pi$ -prime if either  $(a, b) = 1$  or  $(a, b) = p$ ,  $p \notin \pi$ . We find diameter of this graph, and investigate the various dimensions.

## 2. PRELIMINARY

**Definition 2.1.** A vertex  $u \in V$  distinguishes two vertices  $x, y \in V$  if  $d(u, x) \neq d(u, y)$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A metric generator for  $G$  is a set  $B \subseteq V$  with the property that, for each pair of vertices  $x, y \in V$  there exists a vertex  $u \in B$  which distinguishes  $x$  and  $y$ . If for some metric generator  $A \subseteq V$ , we have that  $|A| = \min\{|B| : B \text{ is a metric generator for } G\}$ , we say that  $A$  is a metric basis for  $G$  and  $\dim(G) = |A|$ , is the metric dimension of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.3.** The distance between the vertex  $v$  and the edge  $e$  is defined as  $d(e, v) = \min\{d(u, v), d(w, v)\}$ , where  $e = uv$ .

**Definition 2.4.** A vertex  $w \in V$  distinguishes two edges  $e_1, e_2 \in E$  if  $d(w, e_1) \neq d(w, e_2)$ .

**Definition 2.5.** A nonempty set  $S \subseteq V$  is an edge metric generator for  $G$  if any two edges of  $G$  are distinguished by some vertex of  $S$ . An edge metric generator with the smallest possible cardinality is called an edge metric basis for  $G$ , and its cardinality is the edge metric dimension, which is denoted by  $\dim_e(G)$ .

**Definition 2.6.** For any two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$ ,  $R\{x, y\}$  denotes the set of vertices  $z$  such that  $d(x, z) \neq d(y, z)$ . In this view, a metric generating of  $G$  is a subset  $W$  of  $V$  such that  $W \cap R\{x, y\} \neq \emptyset$  for any two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.7.** Let  $f : V(G) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  be a real valued function. For  $W \subseteq V$ , denote  $f(W) = \sum_{v \in W} f(v)$ . We call  $f$  a resolving function of  $G$  if  $f(R\{x, y\}) \geq 1$  for any two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.8.** The fractional metric dimension, denoted by  $\dim_f(G)$ , is given by  $\dim_f(G) = \min\{|g| : g \text{ is a resolving function of } G\}$ , where  $|g| = g(V(G))$ .

**Definition 2.9.** Let  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\alpha\}$  for  $\alpha > 1$ , be a set of odd prime numbers. We say that  $a$  and  $b$  are  $\pi$ -prime if either  $(a, b) = 1$  or  $(a, b) = p$ ,  $p \notin \pi$ .

**Definition 2.10.** Let  $R$  be a non-zero commutative ring and  $Z^*(R)$  be its set of nonzero zero-divisors. Consider  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_\alpha\}$  for  $\alpha > 1$ , as a set of odd prime numbers. We define the graph  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  with all elements of  $Z^*(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  as vertices, where two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $x$  and  $y$  are  $\pi$ -prime.

## 3. DECOMPOSITION

In this section we first decompose the graphs  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2})$ ,  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$ ,  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$  where  $p_i$ 's are distinct odd prime numbers and then we generalize it to  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ , where  $\alpha > 1$ .

**Remark 3.1.** The number of vertices of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is  $|Z^*(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})| = |Z(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})| - 1$ . It is known by Euler's function that  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = n - \phi(n)$  such that  $\phi(n) = n \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} (1 - \frac{1}{p_i})$ .

So, we have  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})| = p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha - \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} (p_i - 1)$ , and then

$$|V(\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha}))| = p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha - \prod_{i=1}^\alpha (p_i - 1) - 1.$$

**Definition 3.1.** A decomposition of a graph  $G$  is a list of  $r$  subgraphs  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$  such that each edge appears in exactly one subgraph in the list. By this terminology, we mean that  $G$  is decomposed by  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$ , i.e.,  $G = G_1 + G_2 + \dots + G_r$ .

**Theorem 3.1.**  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2})$  has the following decomposition;

$$\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2}) = K_{p_1-1, p_2-1}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2})$  and  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2\}$ . Consider  $V_1 = \{kp_1; p_2 \nmid k, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{kp_2; p_1 \nmid k, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$ . Then  $|V_1| = p_2 - 1$ ,  $|V_2| = p_1 - 1$  and  $V_1 \cup V_2 = V(G)$ ,  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ . By definition of adjacency in  $G$ , it is clear that for any two vertices  $u_1 \in V_1$ ,  $u_2 \in V_2$ , we have  $u_1 \sim u_2$ . So,  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are two independent sets which formed two parts of the complete bipartite graph  $K_{p_1-1, p_2-1}$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.1.** In the following  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{15})$  is shown.

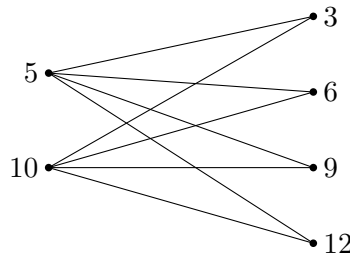


Figure 1. The decomposition of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{15})$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** For the graph  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$ , the decomposition is as the following.

$$\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3}) = K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3} + \sum_{i=1}^3 K_{p_i-1, \theta_i}$$

where,  $\theta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^3 p_j - \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^3 p_j + 1.$

*Proof.* Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$  and  $\pi = \{p_1, p_2, p_3\}$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq 3$ , consider

$$V_i = \{kp_i; p_j \nmid k, 1 \leq j \neq i \leq 3, k \in \mathbb{Z}\}.$$

Let  $x_i \in V_i$  be distinct vertices. We show that  $x_1 \sim x_2 \sim x_3 \sim x_1$ . Since  $(x_1, x_2) = 1$  or  $(x_1, x_2) = p$ ,  $p \notin \pi$ ,  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are  $\pi$ -prime, i.e.,  $x_1 \sim x_2$ . Similarly,  $x_2 \sim x_3$  and  $x_3 \sim x_1$ . Clearly,  $V_i$  contains the nonzero vertices which have only the prime factor  $p_i$ . So, by inclusion-exclusion principle,  $\theta_i = |V_i| = p_j p_k - (p_j + p_k) + 1$ . Therefore, we have the complete 3-partite graph  $K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3}$  in the decomposition of  $G$ . Moreover, for any  $x_i = kp_i$  and  $u = k' p_j p_k$ ,  $x_i \sim u$  for  $1 \leq i, j, k \leq 3$ ,  $j, k \neq i$ . So, the remaining edges take part in three complete bipartite graphs  $K_{p_i-1, \theta_i}$ .  $\square$

In the next theorem we show that  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$  can be decomposed similar to  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$  with more vertices and edges as follows. More details about this decomposition and the proof of the theorem comes after some results which described in the next section.

**Theorem 3.3.** For the graph  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$ , the decomposition is  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4}) = H_1 + H_2$ , where

$$H_1 = K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4} + \sum_{i=1}^4 K_{p_i-1, \theta_i},$$

$$\theta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^4 p_j - \sum_{i < j} \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq i, j}}^4 p_k + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^4 p_j - 1,$$

and  $H_2$  is an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$  formed by the remaining edges of  $A_{\{p_i\}}$  and  $A_{\{p_i, p_j\}}$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** *In general, we have  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha}) = H_1 + H_2$ , where*

$$H_1 = K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots, \theta_\alpha} + \sum_{i=1}^\alpha K_{p_i-1, \theta_i},$$

$$\theta_i = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^\alpha p_j - \sum_{i < j} \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq i, j}}^\alpha p_k + \sum_{i < j < k} \prod_{\substack{l=1 \\ l \neq i, j, k}}^\alpha p_l - \sum_{i < j < k < l} \prod_{\substack{t=1 \\ t \neq i, j, k, l}}^\alpha p_t + \dots + (-1)^\alpha \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^\alpha p_j + (-1)^{\alpha+1},$$

and  $H_2$  is an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  formed by the remaining adjacencies.

#### 4. TWIN EQUIVALENCE CLASSES OF $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$

For a vertex  $u$ , the open neighborhood of  $u$  in  $G$  is  $N(u) = \{v \in V \mid uv \in E\}$  and the closed neighborhood of  $u$  is  $N[u] = N(u) \cup \{u\}$ . Two vertices  $u, v$  are true twins of  $G$  if  $N[u] = N[v]$ . They are false twins if  $N(u) = N(v)$ . Define a relation  $\equiv$  on  $V(G)$  by  $u \equiv v$  if and only if  $u = v$  or  $u, v$  are twins. By Lemma 2.6 in [4],  $\equiv$  is an equivalence relation. It is not difficult to see that the equivalence classes of the true-twin relations are cliques and those of the false-twin relations are independent sets. There are three possibilities for each twin equivalence class  $U$ :

- (a)  $U$  is a singleton set, or
- (b)  $|U| > 1$  and  $N(u) = N(v)$  for any  $u, v \in U$ , or
- (c)  $|U| > 1$  and  $N[u] = N[v]$  for any  $u, v \in U$ .

We will refer to the type (c) as the true twin equivalence classes.

Consider the equivalence relation  $\equiv$ . For each vertex  $v \in V(G)$ , let  $v^*$  be the set of vertices of  $G$  that are equivalent to  $v$  under  $\equiv$ . Let  $\{v_1^*, \dots, v_k^*\}$  be the partition of  $V(G)$  induced by  $\equiv$ , where each  $v_i$  is a representative of the set  $v_i^*$ . The twin graph of  $G$ , denoted by  $G^*$ , is the graph with vertex set  $V(G^*) := \{v_1^*, \dots, v_k^*\}$ , where  $v_i^* v_j^* \in E(G^*)$  if and only if  $v_i v_j \in E(G)$ . By Lemma 2.10 in [4], one can see that this definition is independent of the choice of representatives.

Note that in  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  the vertices can be classified in multiples and common multiples of  $p_i$ 's. In the next, we show that this partition forms equivalence classes. Also, we obtain the number of the equivalence classes by counting the ways of selecting common multiples of  $p_i$ 's.

**Notation 4.1.** *For any nonempty proper subset  $S \subset \pi$ , let*

$$A_S = \{x \in Z^*(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha}); \quad p \mid x \iff p \in S\}.$$

Set  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_S; \quad S \subset \pi\}$  and for all  $1 \leq i \leq \alpha$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_i = \{A_S; \quad S \subset \pi, |S| = i\}$ .

One sees that  $|\mathcal{A}_i| = \binom{\alpha}{i}$ . In the next theorem we show that for all  $S \subset \pi$ ,  $A_S$  is an equivalence class.

**Remark 4.1.** *Every equivalence class  $A_S$  of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is an independent set; by adjacency definition,  $x \approx y$  for all  $x, y \in A_S$ .*

**Theorem 4.2.** *The number of twin equivalence classes of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is  $2^\alpha - 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $S = \{p_{i_1}, \dots, p_{i_s}\} \subset \pi$ . We show that  $N(x) = N(y)$  for every  $x, y \in A_S \in \mathcal{A}_s$ . Suppose that  $z \in N(x)$ . So, for any  $p \in S$ ,  $p \nmid z$ . Since all divisors of  $y$  belong to  $S$ ,  $d(y, z) = 1$ . So,  $z \in N(y)$ . Thus,  $A_S$  is an equivalence class.

By assumption, we have  $\binom{\alpha}{s}$  sets of  $A_S$ 's. Therefore, the number of the equivalence classes is equal to  $\sum_{i=1}^{\alpha} \binom{\alpha}{i} - 1 = 2^{\alpha} - 2$ . □

**Example 4.1.** *In the following we describe the twin graphs of  $\Gamma^{\pi}(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$ .*

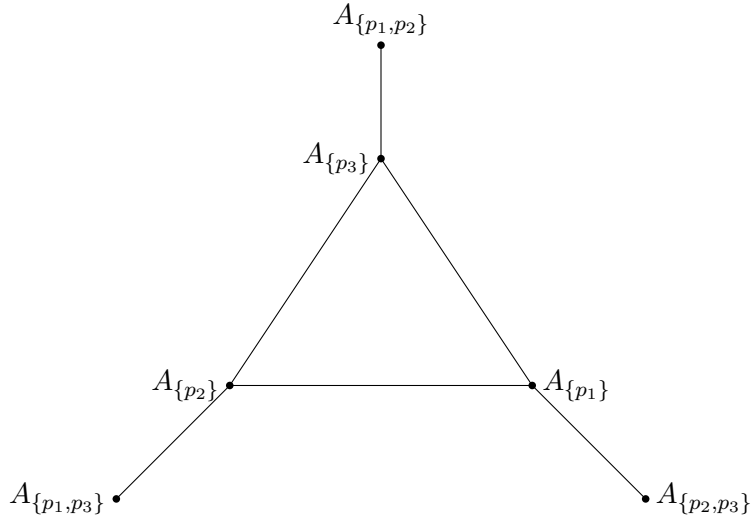


Figure 2. The twin graph of  $\Gamma^{\pi}(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3})$ .

**Example 4.2.** *Twin graphs of  $\Gamma^{\pi}(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$  is described as the following.*

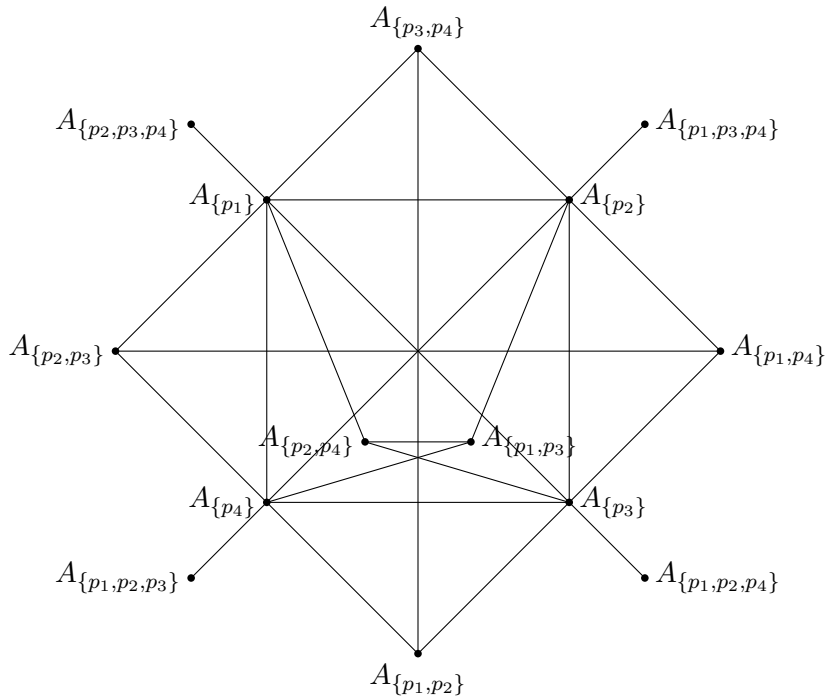


Figure 3. The twin graph of  $\Gamma^{\pi}(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4})$ .

**Proof Of Theorem 3.3** Similar to the proof of Theorem 3.2, some edges of  $G$  induce the graph  $H_1 = K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4} + \sum_{i=1}^4 K_{p_i-1, \theta_i}$ . Let  $H_2$  be the graph formed by the remaining edges of  $A_{\{p_i\}}$  and  $A_{\{p_i, p_j\}}$ . It is clear that for all  $u \in A_{\{p_i\}}, v \in A_{\{p_j, p_k\}}, u \sim v$ . Also, for all  $x \in A_{\{p_i, p_j\}}, y \in A_{\{p_k, p_l\}}, x \sim y$ . Since we have four equivalence classes  $A_{\{p_i\}}, 1 \leq i \leq 4$ , and six equivalence classes  $A_{\{p_i, p_j\}}, 1 \leq i, j \leq 4, i \neq j$ . So, the twin graph of  $H_2$  is a 3-regular graph on ten vertices, which is isomorphic to Petersen graph as the Figure 3.

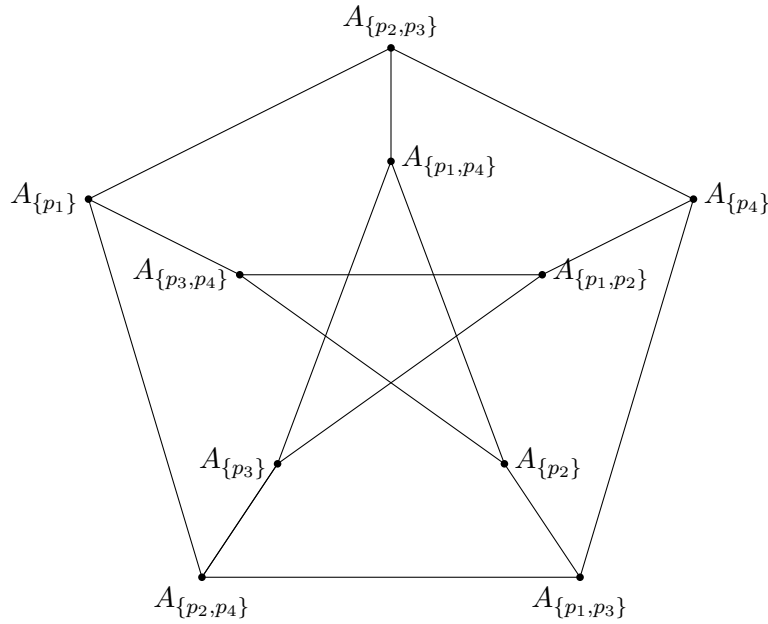


Figure 4. The twin graph of  $H_2$ .

**Corollary 4.1.** Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ , then

- (i) The clique number of  $G$  is  $\alpha$ .
- (ii) The independence number of  $G$  is  $\text{Max}\{\theta_i : 1 \leq i \leq \alpha\}$ .

*Proof.* One can see both of items by presence of the induced subgraph  $K_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots, \theta_\alpha}$  in decomposition of  $G$ , by Theorem 3.4, and being independent sets for equivalence classes, by Remark 4.1. □

**Corollary 4.2.** The girth of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is as the following.

- (i)  $gr(\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2})) = 4$ ;
- (ii)  $gr(\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})) = 3$ , where  $\alpha \geq 3$ .

*Proof.* It is easy to see in Theorem 3.1, Theorem 3.2, Theorem 3.3, Theorem 3.4. □

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $X, Y \subset \pi$  be two nonempty proper subsets of  $\pi = \{p_1, \dots, p_\alpha\}$ . For any  $x \in A_X$  and  $y \in A_Y$ ;

- (i)  $d(x, y) = 1$  if and only if  $X \cap Y = \emptyset$ ;
- (ii)  $d(x, y) = 2$  if and only if  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, X \cup Y \neq \pi$ ;
- (iii)  $d(x, y) = 3$  if and only if  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, X \cup Y = \pi$ .

*Proof.* (i) This statement is an equivalent definition for the adjacency of graph  $G$ .

(ii) Since  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, d(x, y) \neq 1$  by part (i), and for all  $z \in A_Z; Z \subseteq \pi \setminus X \cup Y, x \sim z \sim y$ . So,  $d(x, y) = 2$ . Conversely, let  $d(x, y) = 2$ . By part (i),  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ . Also,

$x \sim z \sim y$  for some  $z \in A_Z$  such that  $Z \neq X, Y, Z \cap X = \emptyset, Z \cap Y = \emptyset$ . Thus,  $X \cup Y \neq \pi$ .

(iii) Let  $d(x, y) = 3$ , then  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$  and  $X \cup Y = \pi$ , by parts (i), (ii). Conversely, let  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, X \cup Y = \pi$ . We show that  $d(x, y) = 3$ . Suppose that there is a path of length greater than 3 between  $x$  and  $y$ . We may assume that  $x - u - v - w - y$  is a path of length four such that  $u \in A_U, v \in A_V, w \in A_W$ , where  $U, V, W \subset \pi$ . Since  $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset, d(x, y) \neq 1$ . Also, If  $d(x, y) = 2$ , then there exists  $z \in A_Z$  such that  $x \sim z \sim y$ . So,  $Z \cap X = \emptyset, Z \cap Y = \emptyset$ , which is a contradiction. If  $V \cap X = \emptyset$  or  $V \cap Y = \emptyset$ , then  $x \sim v$  or  $v \sim y$ . So,  $d(x, y) = 3$ .

Assume that  $V \cap X \neq \emptyset, V \cap Y \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $w \sim y, W \cap Y = \emptyset$  by part (i). Also,  $X \cup Y = \pi$ , so we have  $W \subset X \setminus Y$ . Thus,  $W \cap X \neq \emptyset$  and  $d(x, w) = 2$  by part (ii). Therefore,  $d(x, y) = 3$ . □

**Corollary 4.3.**  $diam(\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})) = 3$ .

*Proof.* According to Theorem 4.3, (iii), we can shorten any path of length greater than four between  $x$  and  $y$  to a path of length four. □

**Corollary 4.4.**

- (i)  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is a connected graph.
- (ii) The edge connectivity of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is  $\min\{p_i - 1; 1 \leq i \leq \alpha\}$ .

*Proof.* (i) Consider two distinct vertices  $x, y$  of  $G$  and the equivalence classes  $A_X, A_Y$  where  $X, Y \subset \pi, x \in A_X$  and  $y \in A_Y$ . Then by Theorem 4.3, since  $d(x, y) \leq 3$ , there exists a path of length 1, 2 or 3 between  $x$  and  $y$ . So,  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  is connected.

(ii) By the structure of  $G$ , we see that the twin graph of  $\Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$  has  $\alpha$  vertices of degree one, which are the representatives of the equivalence classes  $A_S$  such that  $|S| = \alpha - 1$ . So, by removing the edges between  $A_S$  and  $A_T$  such that  $|T| = 1, G$  becomes disconnected. The minimum size of such  $A_S$  is the edge connectivity of  $G$ . □

### 5. DIMENSION

In this section we obtain some types of dimension for the graph  $\Gamma^\pi(Z(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha}))$ . First, we note that determining whether a given set  $B$  of vertices of  $G$  is a metric generating set of  $G$ , one needs to investigate only the pairs of vertices in  $V(G) - B$ , since  $u \in B$  is the only vertex of  $G$  whose distance from  $u$  is 0.

**Theorem 5.1.** [5] If  $G^*$  is the twin graph of  $G$ , then  $dim(G) \geq n(G) - n(G^*)$ .

**Theorem 5.2.** Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ . Then  $dim(G) = n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ .

*Proof.* By Theorems 5.1 and 4.2,  $dim(G) \geq n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ . Set  $R$  as a complete set of representative vertices of equivalence classes. By Theorem 4.2,  $|R| = 2^\alpha - 2$ . We show that  $M = V(G) - R$  is a metric basis for  $G$ .

Let  $u, v \in R$  and suppose  $S$  and  $T$  be two subsets of  $\pi$  such that  $u \in A_S$  and  $v \in A_T$ . There exists  $L \subset \pi$  such that  $L \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $L \cap T = \emptyset$ . So, for every vertex  $x \in A_L, x \notin R; d(x, v) = 1$  and  $d(x, u) \in \{2, 3\}$ , by Lemma 4.3.

Hence,  $M$  is a metric basis and  $dim(G) \leq n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ . □

**Lemma 5.1.** Let  $y$  and  $z$  be twins. If  $e, f \in E(G)$  such that  $e = xy$  and  $f = xz$ , then every edge metric basis  $E$  contains at least one of  $y$  and  $z$ .

*Proof.* Let  $S, T$  be two nonempty proper subsets of  $\pi$  such that  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ . Let  $x \in A_S$  and  $y, z \in A_T$ . Consider two edges  $e = xy$  and  $f = xz$ . It is clear that  $d(e, x) = d(f, x) = 0$ . So,  $x$  doesn't distinguish  $e$  and  $f$ . Let  $v \neq x, y, z$ .

If  $v \in A_S$ , then  $d(e, v) = d(f, v) = 1$ . If  $v \notin A_S$ , then  $v \in A_T$  for some  $T \subset \pi$  and by Lemma 4.3,  $d(e, v) = d(f, v) \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . So, any vertex  $v \neq x, y, z$  doesn't distinguish  $e$  and  $f$ . Thus, at least one of  $y$  and  $z$  must be in an edge metric basis  $\mathbf{E}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 5.1.** *The argument in the proof of Lemma 5.1 can be repeated for any pair of incident edges. Then every edge metric basis  $\mathbf{E}$  of  $G$  contains at least  $|A_S| - 1$  vertices of the equivalence class  $A_S$ .*

**Theorem 5.3.** *Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ . Then  $\dim_e(G) = n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ .*

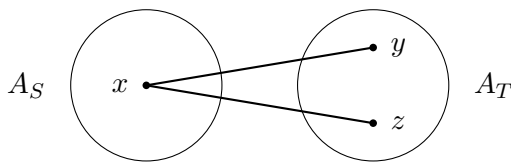
*Proof.* For any edge metric basis  $\mathbf{E}$  of  $G$ , by Theorem 4.2,  $|\mathbf{E}| \geq n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ . Let  $R$  be a set of representative vertices of equivalence classes. By Theorem 4.2,  $|R| = 2^\alpha - 2$ . We claim that  $\mathbf{E} = V(G) - R$  is an edge metric basis for  $G$ . According to the structure of the graph and by the view of Theorem 4.3, for any pair of edges  $e$  and  $f$  we have the following cases. In each case, we show that there is  $x \in \mathbf{E}$  which distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ . First consider that  $e$  and  $f$  have a common endpoint. We have two cases.

**Case A1.** Let  $e = xy, f = xz$  such that  $x \in A_S, y, z \in A_T$  for  $S, T \subset \pi$  such that  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ . It is clear that  $d(e, x) = d(f, x) = 0$ . Also, we know that at most one of  $y$  and  $z$  belongs to  $R$ . Let  $y \in R$ , then  $d(e, z) = 1$  and  $d(f, z) = 0$ . Otherwise,  $y, z \in \mathbf{E}$  and both of  $y$  and  $z$  distinguish  $e$  and  $f$ .

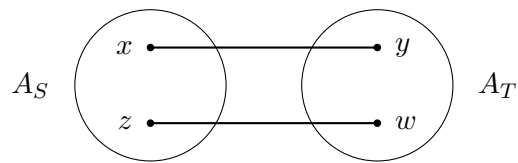
**Case A2.** Let  $e = xz, f = zy$  such that  $x \in A_S, y \in A_T, z \in A_K$  for  $S, T, K \subset \pi$  where  $S \cap T \neq \emptyset, S \cup T \neq \pi$  and  $S \cap K = T \cap K = \emptyset$ . If  $x$  or  $y$  doesn't belong to  $R$ , say  $x \notin R$ , then  $d(e, x) = 0, d(f, x) = 1$ . So,  $x$  distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ . If  $x, y \in R$ , then there exists  $v \in A_L$  such that  $L \cap S = \emptyset, L \cap T \neq \emptyset, L \cap K \neq \emptyset$ , and  $d(e, v) = 1, d(f, v) = 2$ .

Now, assume that  $e$  and  $f$  are two distinct edges. There are three cases.

**Case B1.** If  $e = xy, f = zw$  such that  $x, z \in A_S, y, w \in A_T$  for  $S, T \subset \pi$  with  $S \cap T = \emptyset$ , then there exists a vertex of  $\{x, y, z, w\}$  which does not belong to  $R$ , say  $x \notin R$ . So,  $d(e, x) = 0, d(f, x) = 1$ .

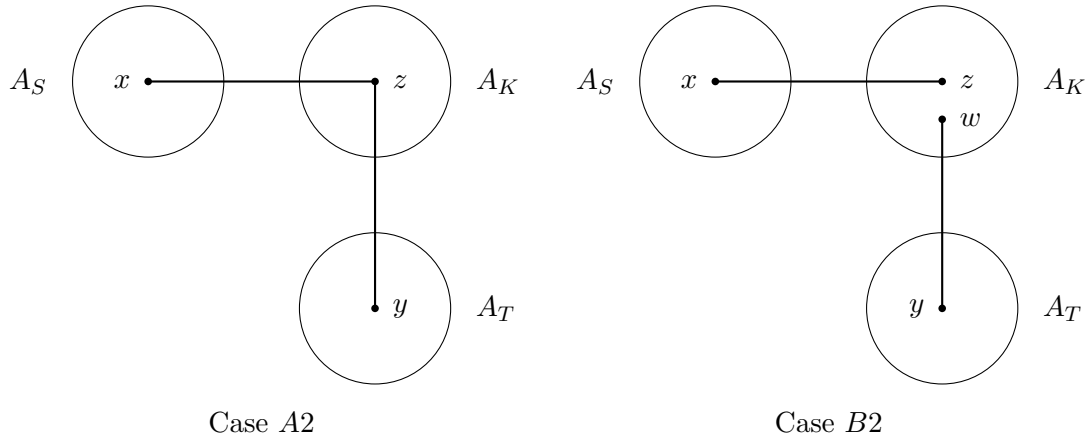


Case A1



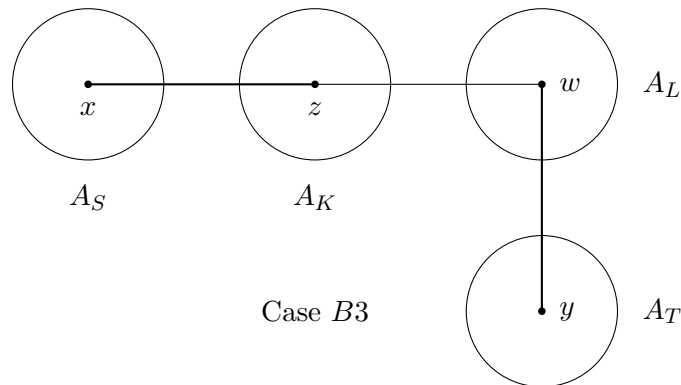
Case B1





**Case B2.** Let  $e = xz$ ,  $f = yw$  such that  $x \in A_S$ ,  $y \in A_T$ ,  $z, w \in A_K$  for  $S, T, K \subset \pi$  such that  $S \cap T \neq \emptyset$ ,  $S \cup T \neq \pi$  and  $S \cap K = T \cap K = \emptyset$ . If  $x$  or  $y$  doesn't belong to  $R$ , say  $x \notin R$ , then  $d(e, x) = 0$ ,  $d(f, x) = 1$ . So,  $x$  distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ . Let  $x, y \in R$ , since at most one of  $z$  and  $w$  belongs to  $R$ , consider  $z \in R$ , then  $d(e, z) = 1$ ,  $d(f, z) = 0$ . It means that  $z$  distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ .

**Case B3.** Let  $e = xz$ ,  $f = yw$  such that  $x \in A_S$ ,  $z \in A_K$ ,  $y \in A_T$ ,  $w \in A_L$  for  $S, T, K, L \subset \pi$  such that  $S \cap T \neq \emptyset$ ,  $S \cap K = L \cap K = T \cap L = \emptyset$  and  $T \cap K \neq \emptyset$ . If  $x$  or  $y$  doesn't belong to  $R$ , say  $x \notin R$ , then  $d(e, x) = 0$ ,  $d(f, x) = 2$ . So,  $x$  distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ . Let  $x, y \in R$ , then there exists  $u \in A_S$  such that  $d(e, u) = 1$ ,  $d(f, u) = 2$ . So,  $u$  distinguishes  $e$  and  $f$ .



In each case,  $E$  is an edge metric basis of  $G$ . Thus,  $\dim_e(G) \leq n(G) - 2^\alpha + 2$ . □

**Lemma 5.2.** For any twin vertices  $x, y$  of a connected graph  $G$ ,  $R\{x, y\} = \{x, y\}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $z \in R\{x, y\} - \{x, y\}$ , then  $d(x, z) \neq d(y, z)$ . So,  $z \notin N(x) \cap N(y)$ . Since  $G$  is connected and  $x, y$  are twins,  $d(x, z) = d(y, z)$ , which is a contradiction. □

**Theorem 5.4.** ( See [6]) Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order at least two. Then  $\dim_f(G) = \frac{|V(G)|}{2}$  if and only if there exists a bijection  $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(G)$  such that  $\varphi(v) \neq v$  and  $|R\{v, \varphi(v)\}| = 2$  for all  $v \in V(G)$ .

**Theorem 5.5.** Let  $G = \Gamma^\pi(\mathbb{Z}_{p_1 p_2 \dots p_\alpha})$ . Then  $\dim_f(G) = \frac{n(G)}{2}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow V(G)$  such that  $\varphi(x) = x + \prod_{p_i | x} p_i$ . Then it is easy to check that

$\varphi$  is a bijection which takes any vertex  $x$  to its twin and  $\varphi(x) \neq x$ . Moreover, by Lemma 5.2,  $R\{x, \varphi(x)\} = \{x, \varphi(x)\}$ , and the result follows by Theorem 5.4. □

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**Mona Gholamnia Taleshani** graduated from Guilan University in 2007. She received her M.Sc degree in Dynamical systems from Department of Mathematics, Guilan University in 2010. She started her Ph.D. education in the field of commutative algebra at Guilan University in 2014. Her research interests are algebraic graph theory and combinatorics, decomposition, spectra and dimension of finite algebraic graphs.



**Mojgan Taghidoust Laskukalayeh** graduated from Kharazmi University in 2000. She joined the Ministry of Education as a math teacher of high schools in 2000. She received her M.Sc degree in matroid theory from Urmia University in 2010. Currently, she is a Ph.D. student in the Department of Mathematics, Guilan University. She is working on decomposition of some finite algebraic graphs and investigate various dimension of them. Her current research interests are finite algebraic graphs, total graphs, decomposition of graphs and metric dimension of graphs.



**Dr. Ahmad Abbasi** graduated from Birjand University. He completed his M.Sc degree and Ph.D. in Ferdowsi University of Mashhad in 2005. He served as the head of Department of Matematics and as the dean of Faculty of Mathematical Sciences in Guilan University. His research interests are commutative algebra, combinatorics and graph theory.