

# On Degree-Distance index of a graph

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## Abstract

In this article, we give sufficient conditions for the Hamiltonian and graphical properties of graphs in the terms of degree-distance index. The degree distance index of the graph is defined as the  $S(G) = \sum_{u,v \in V(G)} (d(u) + d(v))d_G(u, v)$  where  $d(u)$  is the degree of the vertex in a graph and  $d_G(u, v)$  is the distance between the vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in the graph  $G$ .

**Keyword:** Degree distance index, Topological index, Hamiltonian Properties.

# 1 Introduction

In this paper, we are concerned with a topological invariant of a molecular graph called the Degree distance index. Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . Let  $V(G)$  be the vertex set of  $G$ . We use  $d_G(u, v)$  to denote the distance between vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of the graph  $G$ , and  $d(u)$  is used to denote the degree of the vertex  $u$  of the graph. Let  $K_n$  denote the complete graph on  $n$  vertices. Then the Degree distance index (or degree distance) of  $G$  is defined as:

$$S(G) = \sum_{u,v \in V(G)} (d(u) + d(v))d_G(u, v) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{u \in V(G)} \sum_{v \in V(G)} (d(u) + d(v))d_G(u, v)$$

Dobrynin and Kochetova [10] and Gutman [11] independently studied the degree distance sum of a graph. The same was studied by Tomescu [22], Tomescu [22] and Bucicovschi and Cioab [7]. A related concept studied earlier for the chemical applications called "Molecular topological index" MTI by H. P. Schultz in 1989 is defined as follows [19]: Let  $G$  be a graph with labeled vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ . Then

$$MTI(G) = \sum_{i=1}^n [v(A + D)]_i$$

where  $A$  and  $D$  are adjacency and distance matrices of  $G$  and  $v = (d(v_1), d(v_2), \dots, d(v_n))$ . It can be easily seen from [11] that  $MTI(G) = M_1(G) + S(G)$ , where  $M_1(G)$  is first Zagreb index and  $S(G)$  is degree distance index.

A connected graph is said to be traceable (or Hamiltonian) if it has a Hamiltonian path (or cycle). A path (or cycle) is said to be a Hamiltonian path (or cycle) if it traverses through all vertices exactly once. A graph is said to be Hamiltonian-connected if it has a Hamiltonian path between every pair of vertices. A graph is said to be  $k$ -connected if it remains connected by removing fewer than  $k$  vertices. A graph on  $n$  vertices is  $k$ -edge Hamiltonian if every path of length not exceeding  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n - 2$ , is contained in a Hamiltonian cycle. The graph  $G$  is called  $k$ -path coverable if  $V(G)$  can be covered by  $k$  or fewer than  $k$  vertex disjoint paths, obviously 1-path coverable is traceable. For a

graph  $G$ , if  $G[V - X]$  is Hamiltonian for all  $|X| \leq k$ , we call  $G$  to be  $k$ -Hamiltonian. In particular, 0-Hamiltonian is same as Hamiltonian. For other undefined graph-theoretic notations and terminology, the reader may refer to [6].

The problem of finding a Hamiltonian cycle is NP-complete as reported in [14]. In 2013, Yang [23] studied the Hamiltonian path in terms of the Wiener index and extended it to the Hamiltonian graph [18]. In the same year, Hua [12] discussed sufficient conditions for traceability in terms of the Harary index. Further, sufficient conditions for  $k$ -connected,  $\beta$ -deficient, and Hamiltonian cycle in terms of the first Zagreb index are studied in [2]. Also, An [3] studied graph properties based on reciprocal degree distance and An [1] discussed sufficient conditions for Hamiltonian-connectedness in terms of the first Zagreb index and reciprocal distance. In [20], the author(s) described sufficient conditions for  $k$ -edge Hamiltonian,  $k$ -path coverable, traceable, and Hamilton-connected graphs in terms of the forgotten index. In [13], author(s) studied sufficient conditions for Hamiltonicity with respect to the Wiener index, hyper-Wiener index, and Harary index. The Hamiltonian and graphical properties in terms of the eccentricity-based topological index are studied in [17, 24].

In this article, we explore sufficient conditions for the Hamiltonian path, Hamiltonian cycle, Hamiltonian-connected, and  $k$ -connected graphs in terms of the Degree distance index. The paper is organized as follows: In Section 2, we give some useful propositions which are needed in subsequent sections. In Section 3, we present the results and proofs of this paper.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we will introduce four-degree conditions. In the following propositions, we suppose that the graph satisfies the degree sequence  $\pi = (d_1 \leq d_2 \leq \dots \leq d_n)$  condition.

**Proposition1.** [9] Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 3$  having degree sequence  $\pi$ . If

$$d_i \leq i - 1 \leq \frac{1}{2}(n - 1) \Rightarrow d_{n-i} \geq n - i - 1$$

then  $G$  is traceable.

**Proposition2.** [9] Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 3$  having degree sequence  $\pi$ . If

$$d_i \leq i < \frac{n}{2} \Rightarrow d_{n-i} \geq n - i$$

then  $G$  is Hamiltonian.

**Proposition3.** [8] Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 3$  having degree sequence  $\pi$ . If

$$d_{i-1} \leq i \Rightarrow d_{n-i} \geq n - i + 1, \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{2}$$

then  $G$  is Hamiltonian connected.

**Proposition4.** [4] Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 4$  having degree sequence  $\pi$ . If

$$d_i \leq i + k - 2 \Rightarrow d_{n-k+1} \geq n - i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(n - k + 1)$$

then  $G$  is  $k$ -connected.

**Proposition 5.** [15] Let  $G$  be a graph with degree sequence  $\pi$  and  $n \geq 3$  and  $0 \leq k \leq n - 3$ . If

$$d_{i-k} \leq i \Rightarrow d_{n-i} \geq n - i + k, \text{ for } k + 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n + k}{2}$$

then  $\pi$  is  $k$ -edge Hamiltonian.

**Proposition 6.** [9] Let  $G$  be graph with degree sequence  $\pi$  and  $0 \leq k \leq n - 3$ . If

$$d_i \leq i + k \Rightarrow d_{n-i-k} \geq n - i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(n - k)$$

then  $G$  is  $k$ -Hamiltonian.

**Proposition 7.** [5, 16] If  $k \geq 1$  and the degree sequence  $\pi$  of  $G$  satisfies

$$d_{i+k} \leq i \rightarrow d_{n-i} \geq n - i - k, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(n - k)$$

then  $G$  is  $k$ -path coverable.

Define a graph  $G_4$  as follows: A graph whose set of vertices has partition  $A \cup B \cup C \cup D$  such that  $|A| = |C| = k$  and  $|B| = |D| = m - k$  and whose edges connect each vertex

$u \in A \cup B$  to each vertex  $v \in C \cup D$  except when  $u \in A$  and  $v \in D$ .

**Proposition8.** [9] Let  $G$  be a bipartite graph with vertices  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n)$  and  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$  such that  $d(u_1) \leq d(u_2) \leq \dots \leq d(u_n)$  and  $d(v_1) \leq d(v_2) \leq \dots \leq d(v_n)$  and

$$d(u_k) \leq k < n \rightarrow d(v_{n-k}) \geq n - k + 1$$

Then  $G$  is either Hamiltonian or  $G_4$ .

### 3 Degree distance index and Hamiltonicity

This section gives sufficient conditions for a graph to be traceable, Hamiltonian, Hamiltonian-connected,  $k$ -connected graphs,  $k$ -path coverable,  $k$ -Hamiltonian,  $k$ -edge Hamiltonian in terms of Degree distance index. Further, we give sufficient condition for bipartite graph to be Hamiltonian in terms of Degree distance index.

Let  $G$  be a connected graph, and  $S(G)$  denotes the Degree distance index of  $G$ : For a vertex  $v$  of  $G$ , define  $D(v) = \sum_{u \in G} d_G(v, u)$  and  $D'(v) = d(v)D(v)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} S(G) &= \sum_{v \in G} D'(v) \\ &= \sum_{v \in G} d(v)D(v) \\ &\leq \sum_{v \in G} d(v)[d(v) + (n-1-d(v))(n-1-d(v))] \\ &= (n-1)^2 \sum_{v \in G} d(v) - (2n-3) \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^2 + \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^3 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

We now have the following:

**Theorem 1.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n \geq 5$  and size  $m$ . If

$$S(G) \geq 2n^4 - 12n^3 + 27n^2 - 27n + 10 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n}4m^2$$

then  $G$  is traceable.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $G$  is not traceable, then by Proposition 1 and Equation1, the Degree distance index of  $G$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S(G) &\leq (n-1)^2 \sum_{v \in G} d(v) + \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^3 - (2n-3) \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^2 \\ &\leq (n-1)^2 \sum_{v \in G} d(v) + \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^3 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} \left( \sum_{v \in G} d(v) \right)^2 \\ &\leq (n-1)^2 [k(k-1) + (n-2k+1)(n-k-1) + (k-1)(n-1)] \\ &\quad + [k(k-1)^3 + (n-2k+1)(n-k-1)^3 + (k-1)(n-1)^3] \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= (n-1)^2 [3k^2 - (2n+1)k + n^2 - n] + [3k^4 - (7n-2)k^3 + (9n^2 - 12n + 6)k^2 \\ &\quad - (4n^3 - 4n^2 + 3)k + n^4 - 3n^3 + 3n^2 - n] - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= 3k^4 - (7n-2)k^3 + (12n^2 - 18n + 9)k^2 - (6n^3 - 9n^2 + 4)k \\ &\quad + 2n^4 - 6n^3 + 6n^2 - 2n - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= 2n^4 - 12n^3 + 27n^2 - 27n + 10 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &\quad + (k-1)[3k^3 - (7n-5)k^2 + (12n^2 - 25n + 14)k - 6n^3 + 21n^2 - 25n + 10] \end{aligned}$$

Combining with the condition of the Theorem 1, we know that  $(k-1)[3k^3 - (7n-5)k^2 + (12n^2 - 25n + 14)k - 6n^3 + 21n^2 - 25n + 10] \geq 0$ . Since  $G$  is connected and  $k \geq d_k + 1 \geq 2$ . Let  $q(x) = 3x^3 - (7n-5)k^2 + (12n^2 - 25n + 14)x - 6n^3 + 21n^2 - 25n + 10$ . Since  $k$  is an integer we have  $2 \leq k \leq \frac{n+1}{2}$  is equivalent to  $k \leq \frac{n}{2}$ . So what follows we assume that  $k \leq \frac{n}{2}$

The first derivative of  $q(x)$  is  $q'(x) = 9x^2 - 2(7n-5)x + (12n^2 - 25n + 14)$  and the discriminant  $\Delta$  of  $q'(x) = 0$  is  $\Delta = 4(7n-5)^2 - 36(12n^2 - 25n + 14) = -4(59n^2 - 155n + 101) < 0 \forall n \geq 2$ . Therefore  $q'(x) > 0$  and  $q(x)$  is strictly increasing in the interval of  $[2, \frac{n}{2}]$ . Hence  $\max(q(x))$  is obtained at the right endpoint of the interval  $[2, \frac{n}{2}]$ . We consider

the parity of  $n$ . If  $n$  is even then

$$\max(q(x)) = q\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) = -\frac{1}{8}n(n(11n - 78) + 144) + 10 < 0, \forall n \geq 5.$$

If  $n$  is odd then

$$\max(q(x)) = q\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right) = -\frac{1}{8}(n-1)(n(11n - 38) + 31) < 0, \forall n \geq 3.$$

Therefore  $\max(q(x)) < 0 \forall n \geq 5$ . Then  $S(G) \leq 2n^4 - 12n^3 + 27n^2 - 27n + 10 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n}4m^2$ .

Thus proof is complete  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n \geq 12$  and size  $m$ . If

$$S(G) \geq 2n^4 - 18n^3 + 82n^2 - 162n + 136 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n}4m^2$$

then  $G$  is Hamiltonian.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $G$  is not Hamiltonian, then by Proposition 2 and Equation 1, the Degree distance index of  $G$ :

$$\begin{aligned} S(G) &\leq (n-1)^2 \sum_{v \in G} d(v) + \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^3 - (2n-3) \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^2 \\ &\leq (n-1)^2 \sum_{v \in G} d(v) + \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^3 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} \left( \sum_{v \in G} (d(v))^2 \right) \\ &\leq (n-1)^2 [k^2 + (n-2k)(n-k-1) + k(n-1)] \\ &\quad + [k^4 + (n-2k)(n-k-1)^3 + k(n-1)^3] \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= (n-1)^2 [3k^2 - (2n-1)k + n^2 - n] + [3k^4 - (7n-6)k^3 + (9n^2 - 15n + 6)k^2 \\ &\quad - (4n^3 - 9n^2 + 6n - 1)k + n^4 - 3n^3 + 3n^2 - n] - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= 3k^4 - (7n-6)k^3 + (12n^2 - 21n + 9)k^2 - (6n^3 - 14n^2 + 10n - 2)k \\ &\quad + 2n^4 - 6n^3 + 6n^2 - 2n - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &= 2n^4 - 18n^3 + 82n^2 - 162n + 136 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n} 4m^2 \\ &\quad + (k-2)[3k^3 - (7n-12)k^2 + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)k - 6n^3 + 38n^2 - 80n + 68] \end{aligned}$$

Combining with the condition of the Theorem 2, we know that  $(k-2)[3k^3 - (7n-12)k^2 + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)k - 6n^3 + 38n^2 - 80n + 68] \geq 0$ . Since  $2 \leq k < \frac{n}{2}$  is equivalent to  $k \leq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$ . So what follows, we suppose  $k \leq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$ . Let  $q(x) = 3x^3 - (7n-12)x^2 + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)x - 6n^3 + 38n^2 - 80n + 68$  where  $2 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$ . We divide the proof into following two parts.

**Case1:**  $(k-2)q(x) = 0$ , we have  $k = 2$  or  $q(x) = 0$ . It is easy to see that  $q'(x) = 9x^2 - 2(7n-12)x + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)$  and the discriminant  $\Delta$  of the equation  $q'(x) = 0$  is  $\Delta = 4(7n-12)^2 - 36(12n^2 - 35n + 33) = -4(59n^2 - 147n + 153) < 0, \forall n \geq 1$ . Therefore  $q'(x) > 0$  and  $q(x)$  is strictly increasing in the interval  $2 \leq x < \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$ . Then  $\max(q(x))$  is in the right endpoints of the domain of interval  $[2, \frac{1}{2}(n-1)]$ . Since  $k$  is an integer, we need to consider the parity of  $n$ . If  $n$  is even then  $\max(q(x)) = q(\frac{1}{2}(n-2))$ . By a simple calculation, we have

$$q(\frac{1}{2}(n-2)) = -\frac{1}{8}n(n-4)(11n-86) + 44 < 0, \forall n \geq 9$$

If  $n$  is odd, then  $\max(q(x)) = q(\frac{1}{2}(n-1))$ . By a simple calculation, we have

$$q(\frac{1}{2}(n-1)) = \frac{1}{8}[-11n^3 + 159n^2 - 421n + 433] < 0, \forall n \geq 12$$

In both the cases  $q(x) < 0$ . From the above analysis, we can see that  $q(x) \neq 0$  for  $2 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$  and  $n \geq 12$ . Hence we only need to consider the case  $k = 2$ . If  $k = 2$  then  $S(G) \leq 2n^4 - 18n^3 + 82n^2 - 162n + 136 - \frac{(2n-3)}{n}4m^2$ . If equality holds then  $d_1 = d_2 = 2, d_3 = \dots = d_{n-2} = n-3, d_{n-1} = d_n = n-1$ , which implies  $G = K_2 \vee (2K_1 + K_{n-4})$ . But in this case the equality  $\sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \left( \sum_{v \in V(G)} d(v) \right)^2$  does not holds.

**Case 2:**  $(k-2)q(x) > 0$ . In this case  $k \geq 3$  and  $q(x) = 3x^3 - (7n-12)x^2 + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)x - 6n^3 + 38n^2 - 80n + 68 > 0$ . By **case 1**, we know that  $q(x)$  is strictly increasing and  $\max(q(x)) < 0$ . Therefore for  $3 \leq x \leq \frac{1}{2}(n-1)$ , we have  $3x^3 - (7n-12)x^2 + (12n^2 - 35n + 33)x - 6n^3 + 38n^2 - 80n + 68 < 0$ . A contradiction. Thus proof is complete.  $\square$



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