

# AN INTRODUCTION TO GRAPH EXTENSION

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## Abstract

*In abstract algebra, field extensions are one of the main objects of study in field theory [5]. The general idea is to start with a base field and construct in some manner a larger field that contains the base field and satisfies additional properties. In this paper we study the extension of a graph  $G$  by adding edges in a particular manner. Extension in trees, cycles and neighbourhood graphs are also considered. Some graphs can be extended up to a complete graph. Further we characterise completely extendable graphs.*

**Keywords:** *Extendable Graph, Completely Extendable Graph, Order of Extension.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (p, q)$  be a finite, non trivial, undirected simple graph which is not complete. Extension on  $G$  is defined as adding edges to non adjacent pair of vertices in such a way that in the first extension add one edge to  $G$  and denoted as  $G^1$ , in the second extension add two edges in  $G^1$ , denoted by  $G^2$ ,  $G^2 = G \cup \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  and so on until no such an extension remains. Certain graphs become complete after a finite number of extensions. Then, the given graph is said to be completely extendable. For basic definitions and results in graph theory we follow [2] and [3].

**Definition 1:** Let  $G$  be a simple  $(p, q)$  graph. Extension on  $G$  is defined as follows; in the first extension, add one edge to  $G$ , denoted as  $G^1$ ,  $G^1 = G \cup \{e_1\}$ . In the second extension add two edges on  $G^1$  denoted by  $G^2$ ,  $G^2 = G \cup \{e_1, e_2, e_3\}$  and so on until no such an extension remains.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph and let  $G^k = G \cup \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$ . If  $G^k$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  extension of  $G$ , then  $m = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$ .

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**Proof:** We shall prove this theorem by induction on  $k$ , where  $G^k$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  extension of  $G$ . For  $k = 1$ ,  $G^1 = G \cup \{e_1\}$ ,  $m = 1 \times 2/2$

Assume that result is true for  $k = n$ . We want to prove that it is true for  $k = n + 1$ .

For  $k = n + 1$ ,

$$G^{n+1} = G \cup \left\{ e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}}, e_{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}+1}, \dots, e_{\frac{n(n+1)}{2}+(n+1)} \right\}$$

That is  $G^{n+1} = G \cup \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  where  $m = \frac{(n+1)(n+2)}{2}$  which implies theorem is true for  $k = n + 1$ .

Hence if  $G^k = G \cup \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  extension of  $G$  then  $m = \frac{k(k+1)}{2}$ .

**Definition 3:** If  $G^k \cong K_p$ , then  $G$  is said to be a completely extendable graph and  $k$  is known as the order of extension.

**Example:**

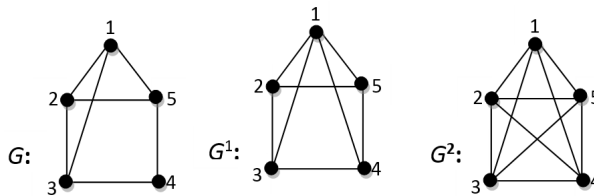


Figure 1

In Figure 1,  $G$  is a simple graph with 5 vertices and 7 edges. Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_5$  is 3. That is  $m = 2 \times 3/2$ . In the first extension  $G^1$  add the edge (1, 4). That is

$$G^1 = G \cup \{(1, 4)\}.$$

To get  $G^2$  add 2 edges in  $G^1$ , (2, 5) (3, 4). That is  $G^2 = G \cup \{(1, 4), (2, 5), (3,4)\}$ . Then  $G$  became a complete graph after the second extension. Therefore  $G$  is a completely extendable graph and order of extension is 2.

**Theorem 4:** Every tree is completely extendable.

**Proof:** Let  $T$  be a tree with  $p$  vertices ( $p \geq 3$ ). If  $T$  is completely extendable then there exist a  $k$  such that  $T^k \cong K_p$ . Since  $T$  is a tree with  $p$  vertices  $|E(T)| = p - 1$ . But

$$|E(K_p)| = \frac{p(p-1)}{2}.$$

Therefore number of edges added to  $T$  to get

$$K_p \text{ is } = \frac{p(p-1)}{2} - (p-1) = \frac{p^2 - 3p + 2}{2}. \quad (1)$$

When  $p = 3$  (1) becomes  $\frac{9-9+2}{2} = 1$ . Then it is clear that for  $p = 3$  there exist  $k = 1$  such that  $T^1 \cong K_3$

When  $p = 4$  (1) becomes  $\frac{16-12+2}{2} = 3$ . Then it is clear that for  $p = 4$  there exist a  $k = 2$  such that  $T^2 \cong K_4$ .

In general for  $p = r, r \geq 3$  (1) becomes  $\frac{r^2 - 3r + 2}{2} = \frac{(r-2)(r-1)}{2}$ .

That is number of edges added is equal to  $m = 1 + 2 + 3 + \dots, (r-2) = \frac{(r-2)(r-1)}{2}$

For every  $p = r$  there exist a  $k = r - 2$  such that  $T^{r-2} \cong K_r$ .

Therefore every tree is completely extendable and order of extension is  $(p - 2)$ .

**Theorem 5:** Cycle  $C_p$  is not completely extendable.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a cycle with  $p$  vertices ( $p \geq 4$ ). If  $G$  is completely extendable then there exist a  $k$  such that  $G^k \cong K_p$ . Since  $G$  is a cycle with  $p$  vertices  $|E(G)| = p$ . We know that  $|E(K_p)| = \frac{p(p-1)}{2}$ .

Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $= \frac{p(p-1)}{2} - p = \frac{p^2 - 3p}{2} \quad (1)$

For  $p = 4$  (1) becomes  $\frac{16-12}{2} = 2$ . We cannot find a  $k$  such that  $G^k \cong K_p$ .

Therefore  $C_p$  is not completely extendable.

**Definition 6:** Chord is an edge joining two non adjacent vertices in a cycle.

**Theorem 7:** Any Cycle  $C_p$  with  $p - 3$  chords is completely extendable.

**Proof:** Let  $C_p$  be a cycle with  $p$  vertices ( $p \geq 4$ ). Consider a graph  $G, G = C_p + (p - 3)$  chords. If  $G$  is completely extendable then there exist a  $k$  such that  $G^k \cong K_p$ . Since  $G$  is a cycle with  $p$  vertices and  $(p - 3)$  chords then  $|E(G)| = p + p - 3 = 2p - 3$ .

But  $|E(K_p)| = p(p - 1)/2$ .

Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $= p(p - 1)/2 - (2p - 3)$

$$= \frac{p^2 - 5p + 6}{2} \tag{1}$$

For any value of  $p$  in (1), for example  $p = 4$  (1) becomes  $(16-20 + 6)/2 = 1$ . Then there exist a  $k$  (equal to 1) such that  $G^1 \cong K_p$ .

For  $p = 5$ , (1) becomes  $(25-25 + 6)/2 = 3$ . Then there exist a  $k$  (equal to 2) such that  $G^2 \cong K_p$ .

In general for  $p = r, r \geq 4$ , (1) become  $s(r - 3)(r - 2)/2$ . There exist a  $k = r - 3$  such that  $G^{r-3} \cong K_p$  where  $m = (r - 3)(r - 2)/2$ . That is for every  $p$  there exist a  $k$  such that  $G^k \cong K_p$ .

Hence a cycle with  $p$  vertices and  $(p - 3)$  chords is completely extendable.

**Remark:** Order of extension of any cycle with  $p$  vertices and  $p - 3$  chords is  $(p - 3)$ .

**Theorem 8:** Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph. If  $q = pk - r$  where  $r = k(k + 1)/2$  and  $k < p$ , then  $G$  is completely extendable.

**Proof:** We know that number of edges in  $K_p$  is  $|E(K_p)| = p(p - 1)/2$

Number of edges in the given graph  $G$  is  $|E(G)| = pk - k(k + 1)/2$ .

Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $p(p - 1)/2 - pk + k(k + 1)/2$

$$= \frac{p^2 - (2k + 1)P + (k^2 + k)}{2}. \tag{1}$$

For any value for  $p$  and  $k$  in (1), there exist a  $k$  such that  $G^k \cong K_p$ . Therefore  $G$  is completely extendable if  $q = pk - r$ , where  $r = k(k + 1)/2$ . That is  $q = p - 1, 2p - 3, 3p - 6, 4p - 10$ , etc.

**Note:** For  $k = 1, q = p - 1$  then  $m = \frac{(p - 2)(p - 1)}{2}$ . Order of extension is  $p - 2$ .

For  $k = 2, q = 2p - 3$  then  $m = (p - 3)(p - 2)/2$ . Order of extension is  $p - 3$ .

For  $k = 3, q = 3p - 6$  then  $m = (p - 4)(p - 3)/2$ . Order of extension is  $p - 4$  and so on.

In general order of extension of a graph  $G$  with  $q = pk - r$  is  $p - (k + 1)$ , where  $p > k$ .

**Theorem 9:** If  $G$  is completely extendable graph, then size of  $G$  is  $pk - r$ , where  $k$  is any positive integer, ( $k < p$ ) and  $r = k(k + 1)/2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a completely extendable graph and  $n$  be the order of extension of  $G$ . Then  $G^n \cong K_p$ . Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $n(n + 1)/2$ .

That is  $q + n(n + 1)/2 = p(p - 1)/2$ .

$$q = [p(p - 1)/2 - [n(n + 1)/2] \tag{1}$$

For any value of  $p$  and  $n$  in (1), we get  $q = pk - r$ .

For example  $p = 6, n = 3$  in (1)  $q = 9$  and  $9 = 2 \times 6 - 2 \times 3/2$ , where  $k = 2, p = 8, n = 5$  in (1)  $q = 13$  and  $13 = 2 \times 8 - 2 \times 3/2$ , where  $k = 2$ .

That is for any completely extendable graph  $G, q = pk - r$ , where  $k = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $r = k(k + 1)/2$ .

**Remark:** From theorem 8 and theorem 9 we can give a characterization for completely extendable graphs as follows.

**Theorem 10:** Let  $G$  be a completely extendable graph if and only if size of  $G$  is  $pk - r$ , where  $k$  is any positive integer ( $k < p$ ) and  $r = k(k + 1)/2$ .

**Definition 11: (Neighbourhood Graphs)** [4]. Let  $G$  be a connected graph. For any  $v \in V(G)$ , open neighbourhood of  $v$  is defined as the set of all vertices of  $G$  which are adjacent to  $v$  and is denoted by  $N(v)$ .

**Construction:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $p$  vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p$  and let  $S_i = N(v_i), i = 1, 2, \dots, p$ . Then the neighbourhood graph  $N(G)$  of  $G$  is a graph with vertices are  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_p$  such that two vertices  $S_i$  and  $S_j, i \neq j$  are adjacent, if  $S_i \cap S_j \neq \phi$ .

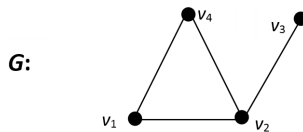
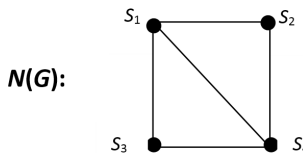


Figure 2

$$S_1 = N(v_1) = \{v_2, v_4\} \quad S_2 = N(v_2) = \{v_1, v_3, v_4\} \quad S_3 = N(v_3) = \{v_2\} \quad S_4 = N(v_4) = \{v_1, v_2\}$$



**Theorem 12:**  $N(P_n)$  is not completely extendable.

**Proof:** Let  $P_n$  be a path with  $n$  vertices.

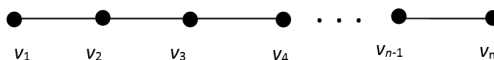


Figure 3

$v_2$  is common neighbourhood of  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ . That is  $S_1$  and  $S_3$  are adjacent in  $N(P_n)$ , add one edge to  $N(P_n)$ .  $v_3$  is common neighbourhood of  $v_2$  and  $v_4$ . Therefore  $S_2$  and  $S_4$  are adjacent in  $N(P_n)$ . Again add one edge to  $N(P_n)$ . Continuing like this  $v_{n-1}$  is common neighbourhood of  $v_{n-2}$  and  $v_n$ . Therefore  $S_{n-2}$  and  $S_n$  are adjacent in  $N(P_n)$ , add one edge in  $N(P_n)$ . Total number of edges in  $N(P_n) = n - 2$ .

By Theorem 8, a graph  $G$  with  $n - 2$  edges is not completely extendable.

**Theorem 13:** Neighbourhood graph of tree  $T$  with three pendant vertices is completely extendable.

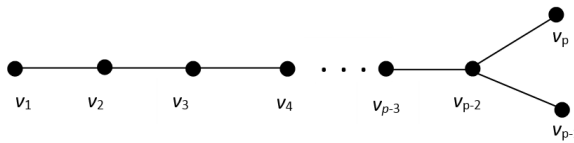


Figure 4

**Proof:** Let  $T$  be a tree with three pendant vertices.  $v_2$  is the common neighbour of  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ . Therefore  $S_1$  and  $S_3$  are adjacent in  $N(T)$ .  $v_3$  is the common neighbour of  $v_2$  and  $v_4$ . Therefore  $S_2$  and  $S_4$  are adjacent in  $N(T)$ . Continuing like this  $v_{p-2}$  is common neighbour of  $v_{p-3}, v_{p-1}$  and  $v_p$ . Therefore  $S_{p-3}$  and  $S_{p-1}$  are adjacent,  $S_{p-3}$  and  $S_p$  are adjacent,  $S_{p-1}$  and  $S_p$  are adjacent in  $N(T)$ . Total number of edges in  $N(T) = p - 1$ . By Theorem 8,  $G$  with  $p - 1$  edges is completely extendable.

Therefore  $N(T)$  is completely extendable.

**Theorem 14:** Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph. If  $G$  has  $(p - 2)$  triangles contains all the edges then  $G$  is completely extendable.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices,  $q$  edges and  $(p - 2)$  triangles. We have to show that  $G$  is completely extendable. For, it is enough to show that  $G$  has  $pk - r$  edges (by theorem 8). This can be proved by the method of mathematical induction on number of vertices  $p$  ( $p \geq 3$ ).

For  $p = 3, t = 1, q = 3 = 2 \times 3 - 3$ , where  $k = 2, r = 2 \times 3/2$

Assume that result is true for  $p = k$  and  $t = k - 2$ .

We want to show that result is true for  $p = k + 1$  and  $t = k - 1$ . Let  $G$  be a graph with  $k + 1$  vertices and  $k - 1$  triangles. Remove one vertex of degree 2 from  $G$ , which causes removal of two edges. Then the resulting graph say  $G^*$  has  $k$  vertices and  $k - 2$  triangles. Then by assumption

$$|E(G^*)| = 2k - 3.$$

But we have  $E(G^*) = E(G) - 2$

Thus,  $2k - 3 = E(G) - 2$

$$E(G) = 2k - 1 = 2(k + 1) - 3.$$

Thus the result holds for  $p = k + 1$ .

Thus for any  $G$  with  $p$  vertices and  $p - 2$  triangles, number of edges =  $pk - r$ .

**Remark:** For any graph  $G$  with  $p$  vertices and  $p - 2$  triangles, number of edges is  $2p - 3$ .

**Theorem 15:** Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph. If  $p = q$  then,  $G$  is not completely extendable.

**Proof:** By Theorem 8,  $G$  with  $q = pk - r$  where  $r = k(k + 1)/2$  is completely extendable. But in this graph  $k = 1$  and  $r = 0$ . Therefore  $G$  is not completely extendable.

**Notation 1:**  $\sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i)$  denotes sum of the degree of vertices of  $G^k$  where  $G^k$  is the  $k^{th}$  extension of  $G$ .

2.  $\left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right]$  denotes the difference between sum of the degree of vertices of  $G^k$  and sum of the degree vertices of  $G$ .

**Theorem 16:** Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph.  $G^1, G^2, \dots, G^k$  are the extension graphs of  $G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right] &= \left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) \right] \\ &+ \left[ \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-2}}(v_i) \right] + \dots \left[ \sum_i d_{G^1}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges.  $G^1, G^2, \dots, G^k$  be the extensions of  $G$ . Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $G^k$  is  $k(k + 1)/2$ . By fundamental theorem of graphs, sum of degree of vertices is twice the number of edges. Sum of the degree of vertices of  $G^k = 2[q + k(k + 1)/2]$ . We want to show that

$$\text{LHS} = \text{RHS}$$

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right] = 2[q + k(k + 1)/2] - 2q = k(k + 1) \tag{1}$$

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) \right] = 2[q + k(k + 1)/2] - 2[q + (k - 1)k/2] = 2k$$

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-2}}(v_i) \right] = 2[q + k(k-1)k/2] - 2[q + (k-2)(k-1)/2]$$

$$= 2(k-1)$$

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^2}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^1}(v_i) \right] = 2[q + 3] - 2[q + 1] = 4 = 2 \times 2$$

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^1}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right] = 2[q + 1] - 2q = 2 = 2 \times 1$$

By adding the above equations, we get

$$\left[ \sum_i d_{G^k}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) \right] + \left[ \sum_i d_{G^{k-1}}(v_i) : \sum_i d_{G^{k-2}}(v_i) \right]$$

$$+ \dots \left[ \sum_i d_{G^1}(v_i) : \sum_i d_G(v_i) \right].$$

$$= 2[1 + 2 + \dots + (k-1) + k]$$

$$= 2[k(k+1)/2] = k(k+1) \tag{2}$$

Equating (1) and (2) LHS = RHS.

**Theorem 17:** Let  $A(G)$  be the  $p \times p$  adjacency matrix of the graph  $G$  with  $p$  vertices. If total number of zeros in  $A(G) = r(r+1) + p$ , then  $G$  is completely extendable and order of extension is  $r$ , where  $r$  is any positive integer.

**Proof:** In  $A(G)$  if  $v_{ij}$  is zero, then  $v_{ji}$  is also zero. If  $A(G)$  has  $r(r+1) + p$  zeros implies it has  $[2r(r+1)/2] + p$  zeros. That is  $G$  has  $r(r+1)/2$  non adjacent vertices. If number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $r(r+1)/2$ , then  $G$  is completely extendable.  $v_{ii}$  are zero for all  $i$  in  $A(G)$ . Therefore if  $G$  is completely extendable then total number of zeros in  $A(G)$  is  $r(r+1) + p$ .

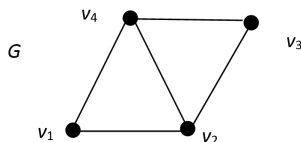
**Definition 18:** (Laplace Matrix of a graph) [1]. The Laplace Matrix of  $G$  is the matrix  $L$  indexed by the vertex set of  $G$ , with zero row sums, where  $L_{xy} = -A_{xy}$  for  $x \neq y$ . If  $D$  is the diagonal matrix, indexed by the vertex set of  $G$  such that  $D_{xx}$  is the degree of  $x$ , then

$L = D - A$ . The elements of Laplace matrix are given by

$$L_{ij} = \begin{cases} \text{deg } v_i & \text{if } i = j \\ -1 & \text{if } v_i \text{ and } v_j \text{ are adjacent} \\ 0 & \text{if } v_i \text{ and } v_j \text{ are not adjacent} \end{cases}$$



**Example:** Consider the following graph  $G$ ,



The Laplace Matrix of  $G$  is,

$$L(G) = \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & v_1 & v_2 & v_3 & v_4 \\ v_1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & -1 \\ v_2 & -1 & 3 & -1 & -1 \\ v_3 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ v_4 & -1 & -1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Theorem 19:** Laplace matrix of a completely extendable graph has  $r(r+1)$  zeros, where  $r$  is any positive integer.

**Proof:** Laplacian Matrix has  $r(r+1)$  zeros implies  $G$  has  $r(r+1)/2$  non adjacent vertices. Number of edges added to  $G$  to get  $K_p$  is  $r(r+1)/2$  which implies  $G$  is a completely extendable graph and  $r$  is the order of extension.

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