

## THE CONNECTED EDGE FIXING EDGE-TO-EDGE GEODETIC NUMBER OF A GRAPH

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### ABSTRACT

In this article, we introduce the concept of the connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic number  $g_{cefee}(G)$  for an edge  $e$  of a graph  $G$ . The connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic number of certain classes of graphs including path, cycles, trees, complete graphs are studied. Connected graphs of size  $q$  with  $g_{cefee}(G) = q - 1$  are characterized. It is shown that for a positive integers  $r$ , and  $d$  with  $r < d < 2r$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $rad(G) = r$ ,  $diam(G) = d$  and  $g_{cefee}(G) = \ell$  or  $\ell - 1$  for some  $e \in E(G)$ .

**KEYWORDS:** connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic number, connected edge-to-edge geodetic number, edge-to-edge geodetic number, distance, edge-to-edge distance.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

By a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we mean a finite undirected connected graph without loops or multiple edges. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $p$  and  $q$  respectively. We consider connected graphs with at least three vertices. For basic definitions and terminologies we refer to [1]. If  $e = \{u, v\}$  is an edge of a graph  $G$ , we write  $e = uv$ , we say that  $e$  joins the vertices  $u$  and  $v$ ;  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent vertices;  $u$  and  $v$  are incident with  $e$ . The degree of a vertex  $v$  in a graph  $G$  is the number of edges incident with  $v$  and is denoted by  $deg_G(v)$  or  $deg(v)$ . A vertex  $v$  is an extreme vertex of  $G$  if the sub-graph induced by its neighbors is complete. An edge  $e$  is an extreme edge of a graph  $G$  if at least one end of  $e$  is an extreme vertex of  $G$ . For vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(u, v)$  is the length of a shortest  $u - v$  path in  $G$ . An  $u - v$  path of length  $d(u, v)$  is called an  $u - v$  geodesic. The eccentricity  $e(u)$  of a vertex  $u$  is defined by  $e(u) = \max \{d(u, v) : v \in V\}$ . Each vertex in  $V$  at which the eccentricity function is minimized is called a central vertex of  $G$  and the set of all central vertices of  $G$  is called the center of  $G$  and is denoted by  $Z(G)$ . The radius  $r$  and diameter  $d$  of  $G$  are defined by  $r = \min \{e(v) : v \in V\}$  and  $d = \max \{e(v) : v \in V\}$  respectively. This gives rise the concept of the geodetic number and the edge geodetic number of a graph [2-13]. For subsets  $A$  and  $B$  of  $V(G)$ , the distance  $d(A, B)$  is defined as  $d(A, B) = \min\{d(x, y) : x \in A, y \in B\}$ . An  $u - v$  path of length  $d(A, B)$  is called an  $A - B$  geodesic joining the sets  $A, B$  where  $u \in A$  and  $v \in B$ . A set  $S \subseteq E$  is called an edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $G$  if every edge of  $G$  is an element of  $S$  or lies on a geodesic joining a pair of edges of  $S$ . The edge-to-edge geodetic number  $g_{ee}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of its edge-to-edge geodetic sets and any edge-to-edge geodetic set of cardinality  $g_{ee}(G)$  is said to be a  $g_{ee}$ -set of  $G$ . The edge-to-edge geodetic number of a graph was studied in [1].

The following theorems are used in sequel.

**Theorem 1.1.** [1] If  $v$  is an extreme vertex of a connected graph  $G$ , then every edge-to-edge geodetic set contains at least one extreme edge is incident with  $v$ .

**Theorem 1.2.** [1] For any non-trivial tree  $T$  with  $k$  end vertices,  $g_{ee}(T) = k$ .

### II. Connected Edge Fixing Edge-to-Edge Geodetic Number of a graph

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $e$  be an edge of a connected graph  $G$ . A set  $M(e) \subseteq E(G) - \{e\}$  is called a connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $e$  of a graph  $G$ , if every edge of  $G$  lies on an  $e$ -geodesic, where  $f \in M(e)$ . The connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic number  $g_{cefee}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of its connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic sets and any

connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of cardinality  $g_{cefee}(G)$  is a  $g_{cefee}$ -set of  $G$ .

**Example 2.2.** For the graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.1, the connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic sets of each edge of  $G$  is given in the following Table I.

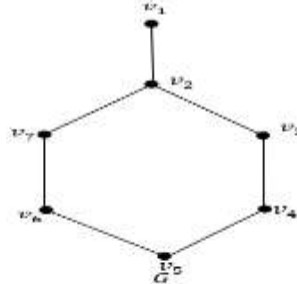


Figure 2.1

Table: I

Fixing Edge ( $e$ )	Minimum connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic sets ( $M(e)$ )	$g_{cefee}(G)$
$v_1 v_2$	$\{v_4 v_5, v_5 v_6\}$	2
$v_2 v_3$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_2 v_7, v_6 v_7, v_5 v_6\}$	4
$v_3 v_4$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_6 v_7, v_2 v_7\}$	3
$v_4 v_5$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_2 v_7\}$	2
$v_5 v_6$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3\}$	2
$v_6 v_7$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, v_3 v_4\}$	3
$v_2 v_7$	$\{v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, v_3 v_4, v_4 v_5\}$	4

**Remark 2.3.** Edge  $e$  for a connected graph  $G$  does not belong to any connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set  $M(e)$ . Moreover, the connected edge-fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of an edge  $e$  is not unique.

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $v$  be the most extreme vertex and  $e$  the edge of a connected graph  $G$  such that  $v$  is not incident with  $e$ . Then, irrespective of whether  $e$  is an extreme edge or not, every connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $e$  of  $G$  contains at least one extreme edge that is incident with  $v$ .

**Proof:** Let  $M(e)$  be any connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $e$  of  $G$ , and let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_l$  be the edges incident with  $v$ . We claim  $e_i \in M(e)$  for some  $i (1 \leq i \leq l)$ . Suppose that  $e_i \notin M(e)$  for all  $i (1 \leq i \leq l)$ . The vertex  $v$  is lying on the connected edge-to-edge geodetic path connecting a vertex, say  $x$ , incident with  $e$  and  $y \in V, M(e)$ , since  $M(e)$  is a connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $e$  of  $G$ .  $v$  is not an extreme vertex of  $G$  since it is an internal vertex of a connected edge-to-edge geodetic path,  $x - y$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $e_i \in M(e)$  for some  $i (1 \leq i \leq k)$ .

**Corollary: 2.5.** Let  $e$  be an edge of  $G$  such that  $e$  is not an end edge of  $G$ . Then, every end edge of  $G$  other than  $e$  is a part of every connected edge that fixes the edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $G$ .

**Proof:** This follows from Theorem 2.4.

**Theorem: 2.6.** Let  $M(e)$  be a connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodetic set of  $G$  and let  $G$  be a connected graph. Let  $f$  be a cut-edge of  $G$ , which is not an end edge of  $G$  and let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be the two components of  $G - \{f\}$ .

(i) If  $e = f$ , then an element of  $M(e)$  is contained in each of the two components of  $G - \{f\}$ .

(ii)

If  $e \neq f$ , then

$M(e)$  contains at least one edge of components of  $G - \{f\}$  where  $e$  does not lie.

**Proof:** Let  $f = uv$ . Let  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  be the two components of  $G - \{f\}$  such that  $u \in V(G_1)$  and  $v \in V(G_2)$ . Let  $e = f$ . Assume that  $M(e)$  does not contain any element of  $G_1$ . Then  $M(e) \subseteq E(G_2)$ . Suppose  $h$  is an edge of  $E(G_1)$ . Then  $h$  must lie on an  $e-f'$  geodesic path  $P: v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_l, v, u, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s, u, v$ ,

where  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_l \in V(G_2), u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s \in V(G_1)$ ,

where  $v'$  is an end of  $f' \in M(e)$ . Hence  $v$  lies twice in  $P$ , which is a contradiction to  $P$  a geodesic path. By using a similar justification, we may demonstrate that if  $e \neq f$ , then  $M(e)$  contains at least one edge of  $G - \{f\}$  components where  $e$  does not lie.

**Theorem: 2.7.** Let  $M(e)$  be a minimum connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodesic set of an edge  $e$  of  $G$  and  $G$  be a connected graph and  $f$  be a cut-edge.

(i) If  $e = f$  is an end-edge of  $G$  then  $e \notin M(e)$ .

(ii) If  $f$  is not an end-edge of  $G$  then  $e \in M(e)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $M(e)$  represent a minimum connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodesic set for an edge  $e = uv$  of  $G$ . Let  $f = u'v'$  be an edge  $G_1$  contains an edge  $xy$  and  $G_2$  contains an edge  $x'y'$  where  $xy, x'y' \in M(e)$ . Since  $G[M(e)]$  is connected,  $f \in M(e)$ .

**Theorem: 2.8.** For any non-trivial tree  $T$  with  $k$  end edges,  $g_{cefee}(T) = \begin{cases} k & \text{if } e \text{ is an internal edge of } T \\ k - 1 & \text{if } e \text{ is an end edge of } T \end{cases}$

**Proof:** This follows from Corollary 2.5 and Theorem 2.7.

**Corollary: 2.9.** For a star  $G = K_{1,q}$ ,  $g_{cefee}(G) = q - 1$  for any edge  $e$  of  $G$ .

**Theorem: 2.10.** For a positive integers  $r, d$  and  $\ell > d - r + 2$  and  $l \geq d$  with  $r \leq d \leq 2r$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $rad(G) = r$ ,  $diam(G) = d$  and  $g_{cefee}(G) = \ell$ .

**Proof:** If  $l = 2$ , consider  $G$  to be any path with at least three vertices. Let  $l \geq 3$  and let  $P_{d-r+1}: u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{d-r}$  be a path of length  $d - r + 1$ .  $C_{2r}: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2r}, v_1$  be a cycle of length  $2r$ . By locating  $v_1$  in  $C_{2r}$  and  $u_0$  in  $P_{d-r+1}$ , we may construct the graph  $H$  from  $C_{2r}$  and  $u_0$  in  $P_{d-r+1}$ . In order to create the graph  $G$ , join each vertex  $w_i (1 \leq i \leq l - d + r - 2)$  to the vertex  $u_{d-r+1}$ , add  $(l - d + r - 2)$  new vertices  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{l-d+r-2}$  to  $H$ . By Theorem 2.4 and Corollary 2.5,  $Z$  is a subset of every connected edge fixing the edge-to-edge geodesic set of an edge  $e$  of  $G$  and so  $g_{cefee}(G) \geq l - 1$ . It is clear that  $Z$  is not an connected edge fixing the edge-to-edge geodesic set of an edge  $e$  of  $G$  and so  $g_{cefee}(G) \geq l$ . Let  $S = Z \cup \{v_1 v_2\}$ . Then  $S$  is a connected edge fixing the edge-to-edge geodesic set of an edge  $e$  of  $G$  so that  $g_{cefee}(G) = l$ .

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

With the contribution of the connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodesic number of a graph, we can introduce the forcing connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodesic number  $f_{g_{cefee}}(G)$  of an edge  $e$  of  $G$ . The forcing connected edge fixing edge-to-edge geodesic number of certain graphs can be studied.

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