

Bipartite Graphs $K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| \leq 3$) Determined by Their Cycle Length Distributions

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Abstract The cycle length distribution of a graph G of order n is a sequence $(c_1(G), \dots, c_n(G))$, where $c_i(G)$ is the number of cycles of length i in G . In general, the graphs with cycle length distribution $(c_1(G), \dots, c_n(G))$ are not unique. A graph G is determined by its cycle length distribution if the graph with cycle length distribution $(c_1(G), \dots, c_n(G))$ is unique. Let $K_{n,n+r}$ be a complete bipartite graph and $A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+r})$. In this paper, we obtain: Let $s > 1$ be an integer. (1) If $r = 2s, n > s(s-1) + 2|A|$, then $K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+r}), |A| \leq 3$) is determined by its cycle length distribution; (2) If $r = 2s + 1, n > s^2 + 2|A|$, $K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+r}), |A| \leq 3$) is determined by its cycle length distribution.

Keywords cycle length distribution; bipartite graphs.

Document code A

MR(2000) Subject Classification 05C38

Chinese Library Classification O175.5

1. Introduction

Let G be a graph of order n . The cycle length distribution, denoted by CLD, of G is a sequence $(c_1(G), c_2(G), \dots, c_n(G))$, where $c_i(G)$ is the number of cycles of length i in G . For a simple graph G , define $c_1(G) = c_2(G) = 0$. In general, the graphs G with CLD $(c_1(G), c_2(G), \dots, c_n(G))$ are not unique. A graph G is determined by its CLD if the CLD $(c_1(G), c_2(G), \dots, c_n(G))$ of G determines uniquely the graph G . Then it is natural to ask what graphs are determined by their CLDs.

A graph $G = (V, E)$ is called a bipartite graph if its vertex set $V(G)$ can be partitioned into two parts V_1, V_2 such that every edge has one end in V_1 and one in V_2 . A bipartite graph G in which every two vertices from different partition classes are adjacent is called complete. Let $K_{n,m}$ denote a complete bipartite graph with $|V_1| = n$ and $|V_2| = m$. Without loss of generality, assume that $n \leq m$ in this paper.

In [2, 3], Wang and Shi obtained

$$G = K_{n,r} - A \quad (A \subseteq E(K_{n,r}), |A| \leq 1, n \leq r \leq \min(n+6, 2n-3)),$$

$$G = K_{n,r} - A \quad (A \subseteq E(K_{n,r}), |A| = 2, n \leq r \leq \min(n+6, 2n-5)),$$

Received date: 2007-06-27; **Accepted date:** 2008-01-02

Foundation item: the National Natural Science Foundation of China (Nos. 10701068; 10671191).

$$G = K_{n,r} - A \quad (A \subseteq E(K_{n,r}), |A| \leq 3, n \leq r \leq \min(n+6, 2n-7))$$

are determined by their CLDs. In [4], the authors improved the results of Wang and Shi and obtained: If $n \geq 9 + 2|A|$, then the bipartite graphs $G = K_{n,n+7} - A$ ($A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+7}), |A| \leq 3$) are determined by their CLDs.

In this paper, we improve the above results and obtain the following result.

Theorem 1 *Let $s > 1$ be an integer.*

(1) *If $r = 2s$, $n > s(s-1) + 2|A|$, then $K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+r}), |A| \leq 3$) is determined by its CLD.*

(2) *If $r = 2s + 1$, $n > s^2 + 2|A|$, then $K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($A \subseteq E(K_{n,n+r}), |A| \leq 3$) is determined by its CLD.*

2. The proof of Theorem 1

In the following, we always use A to denote a subset of the edge set of $K_{n,m}$, i.e., $A \subseteq E(K_{n,m})$. Let $X_j = \{G | G = K_{n,m} - A, |A| = j\}$, $m_j = \min_{G \in X_j} c_4(G)$, $M_j = \max_{G \in X_j} c_4(G)$.

Lemma 1^[3] *If $n \geq j \geq 2$, then*

$$m_j = \binom{n}{2} \binom{m}{2} - j \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{m-1}{1} + \binom{j}{2},$$

$$M_j = \binom{n}{2} \binom{m}{2} - j \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{m-1}{1} + \binom{j}{2} (m-1).$$

Lemma 2^[5] *If $j \geq 2$, $n \geq j(j+1)/2 + 2$, then $M_{j+1} < m_j$.*

Lemma 3^[2] *Let $G \in X_j$. If $m \geq n \geq j + 2$, then, in the CLD of G , $c_{2n}(G) \neq 0$.*

We distinguish three cases to prove Theorem 1 according to the order of $|A|$.

Lemma 4 *Let $s > 1$ be an integer. If n and r are integers with*

$$n > \begin{cases} s(s-1), & r = 2s, \\ s^2, & r = 2s + 1, \end{cases}$$

then $G = K_{n,n+r}$ is determined by its CLD. Moreover, the CLD of G satisfies

$$c_i(G) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p} p[(p-1)!]^2, & i = 2p, p = 2, \dots, n; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof Firstly, we determine the CLD of $G = K_{n,n+r}$. Since $G = K_{n,n+r}$ is a simple bipartite graph, $c_1(G) = c_2(G) = 0$, $c_{2p+1}(G) = 0$, for $p = 1, \dots, n-1$ and $c_i(G) = 0$ for $2n < i \leq 2n+r$. For any $i = 2p$ ($p = 2, \dots, n$), $K_{n,n+r}$ has $\binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p}$ subgraphs $K_{p,p}$ of order i , while each $K_{p,p}$ has $\frac{1}{2}p[(p-1)!]^2$ cycles of length i . Therefore

$$c_i(G) = \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p} p[(p-1)!]^2.$$

In the following, we will prove that $G = K_{n,n+r}$ is determined by its CLD by contradiction.

Clearly, the graphs satisfying the CLD given by the lemma must be bipartite graphs of order $2n + r$. Assume that there exists a graph $G' \neq K_{n,n+r}$ with the same CLD as G . Then $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, where $|A| \geq 1$, or $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, where $|A| \geq 0$ and $0 < k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$.

Case 1 $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, $|A| \geq 1$. By Lemma 1, it is clear that $c_4(G') < \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} = c_4(G)$, a contradiction.

Case 2 $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, $|A| \geq 0$, $0 < k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$. Let $|A| = j$. If $n + k \geq j + 2$, then $0 \leq j \leq k + n - 2$. By Lemma 3, $c_{2n+2k}(G') \neq 0$, which contradicts $c_i(G) = 0$ for all $j > 2n$. Hence $G' \in \{K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A \mid |A| = j \geq n + k - 1\}$. Clearly, $c_4(G') \leq \max_{|A|=j=n+k-1} c_4(K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A)$. By Lemma 1,

$$\begin{aligned} c_4(G') &\leq \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k}{2} - (n+k-1) \binom{n+k-1}{1} \binom{n+r-k-1}{1} + \\ &\quad \binom{n+k-1}{2} (n+r-k-1) \\ &= \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

If $c_4(G') < c_4(G)$, then we have a desired contradiction. Let

$$H(k) = \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2}.$$

Then, to show that $c_4(G') < c_4(G)$, it suffices to show $H(k) < 0$. In the following, we will show that $H(k) < 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} H(k) - H(k-1) &= \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2} - \binom{n+k-1}{2} \binom{n+r-k}{2} \\ &= (n+k-1)(n+r-k-1) \left(\frac{r}{2} - k \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence $H(k)$ increases on $[1, \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor]$.

If $r = 2s$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s}{2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} [2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+2)(n+s)^2 + 2(s^2+1)(n+s) + s^4 - s^2]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+2)x^2 + 2(s^2+1)x + s^4 - s^2.$$

Now we prove that $f(x) > 0$ for $x > s^2$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} f(s^2+1) &= 2(s^2+1)^3 - 2(s^2+2)(s^2+1)^2 + 2(s^2+1)(s^2+1) + s^4 - s^2 \\ &= s^4 - s^2 > 0, \text{ for } \forall s > 1, \end{aligned}$$

to verify that $f(x) > 0$, it suffices to show that $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2$. Solving the equation

$$f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+2)x + 2(s^2+1) = 0$$

gives the solutions

$$x_{1,2} = \frac{s^2 + 2 \pm \sqrt{s^4 + s^2 + 1}}{3}.$$

Clearly, $x_1, x_2 \in (0, s^2)$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2$, that is, $f(x)$ is an increasing function on $x > s^2$. Therefore, $f(n + s) > 0$ for $n > s(s - 1)$, that is, $H(s) < 0$. Since $H(k)$ is an increasing function on $1 \leq k \leq s$, $H(k) < 0$.

If $r = 2s + 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s+1}{2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+s+1)(n+s)^2 + s^2(s+1)^2]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2 + s + 1)x^2 + s^2(s + 1)^2.$$

We prove that $f(x) > 0$ for $x > s^2 + s$. Since

$$\begin{aligned} f(s^2 + s + 1) &= 2(s^2 + s + 1)^3 - 2(s^2 + s + 1)(s^2 + s + 1)^2 + s^2(s + 1)^2 \\ &= s^2(s + 1)^2 > 0, \text{ for } \forall s > 1, \end{aligned}$$

to verify that $f(x) > 0$, it suffices to show that $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2 + s$. Solving the equation

$$f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2 + s + 1)x = 0$$

gives the solutions

$$x_1 = 0, \quad x_2 = \frac{2(s^2 + s + 1)}{3} < s^2 + s.$$

Hence $f'(x) > 0$ for $x > s^2 + s$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2 + s$. Therefore, $f(n + s) > 0$ for $n > s^2$, that is, $H(s) < 0$. Since $H(k)$ is an increasing function on $1 \leq k \leq s$, we have $H(k) < 0$. □

Lemma 5 *Let $s > 1$ be an integer. If n and r are integers with*

$$n > \begin{cases} s(s - 1) + 2, & r = 2s \\ s^2 + 2, & r = 2s + 1 \end{cases},$$

then $G = K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| = 1$) is determined by its CLD. Moreover, the CLD of G satisfies

$$c_i(G) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p} p[(p-1)!]^2 - \binom{n-1}{p-1} \binom{n+r-1}{p-1} [(p-1)!]^2, & i = 2p, p = 2, \dots, n; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof Firstly, we determine the CLD of $G = K_{n,n+r} - A$. Let $A = \{e\}$ and denote $G = K_{n,r} - A = K_{n,r} - e$. Since G is a simple bipartite graph, $c_1 = c_2 = 0, c_{2p+1} = 0$ for $p = 1, \dots, n-1$ and $c_i = 0$ for $\forall i > 2n$. For $i = 2p, p = 2, \dots, n$, By Lemma 4,

$$c_i(K_{n,n+r}) = \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p} p[(p-1)!]^2.$$

Since $K_{n,n+r}$ has

$$\binom{n-1}{p-1} \binom{n+r-1}{p-1}$$

subgraphs $K_{p,p}$ of order i which contain the edge e as an edge, while each $K_{p,p}$ has $[(p-1)!]^2$ cycles of length i which contain the edge e , $K_{n,n+r}$ has

$$\binom{n-1}{p-1} \binom{n+r-1}{p-1} [(p-1)!]^2$$

cycles of length i which contain the edge e . Hence $K_{n,n+r} - e$ has

$$c_i(G) = \frac{1}{2} \binom{n}{p} \binom{n+r}{p} p [(p-1)!]^2 - \binom{n-1}{p-1} \binom{n+r-1}{p-1} [(p-1)!]^2$$

cycles of length i .

In the following, we prove that G is determined by its CLD by contradiction. Suppose that $G' \neq K_{n,n+r} - e$ is a graph with CLD $(c_1(G), \dots, c_{2n+r}(G))$, then G' must be a bipartite graph of order $2n+r$. By Lemma 4, $G' \neq K_{n,n+r}$. Hence $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A, |A| \geq 2$ or $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A, |A| \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$.

Case 1 $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A, |A| \geq 2$. By Lemma 1, $c_4(G') \leq \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + (n+r-1)$. But $c_4(G) = \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} > c_4(G')$, a contradiction.

Case 2 $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A, |A| = j \geq 0, k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$. With a similar discussion to the Case 2 of Lemma 4, we have

$$c_4(G') \leq \max_{|A|=j=n+k-1} C_4(K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A)$$

and

$$c_4(G') \leq \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2}.$$

Let

$$H(k) = \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} + \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1}.$$

If $H(k) < 0$, then $c_4(G') < c_4(G)$, we have a desired contradiction.

Clearly, the function $H(k)$ defined here differs only a constant from the function $H(k)$ defined in the proof of Lemma 4, hence we have $H(k)$ increases on $k \in [1, \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor]$.

If $r = 2s$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s}{2} + \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s-1}{1} \\ &= -\frac{1}{4} [2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+4)(n+s)^2 + 2(s^2+5)(n+s) + s^4 + 3s^2 - 4]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence if $H(s) < 0$, we have $H(k) < 0$. Let $f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+4)x^2 + 2(s^2+5)x + s^4 + 3s^2 - 4$. Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+4)x + 2(s^2+5) = 0$ gives the solutions $x_{1,2} = \frac{s^2+4 \pm \sqrt{s^4+5s^2+1}}{3} < s^2+2$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2+2$, and $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2+2$. Since $f(s^2+3) = s^4 + 7s^2 + 8 > 0, f(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2+2$. Therefore $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s(s-1) + 2$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$.

If $r = 2s + 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s+1}{2} + \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s}{1} \\
 &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+s+3)(n+s)^2 + 4(n+s) + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+4)].
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence if $H(s) < 0$, we have $H(k) < 0$. Let $f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2 + s + 3)x^2 + 4x + (s^2 + s)(s^2 + s + 4)$. Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2 + s + 3)x + 4 = 0$ gives the solutions $x_{1,2} = \frac{s^2+s+5 \pm \sqrt{(s^2+s+3)^2-3}}{3} < s^2 + s + 2$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2 + s + 2$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2 + s + 2$. Since $f(s^2 + s + 3) = 4(s^2 + s + 3) + (s^2 + s)(s^2 + s + 4) > 0$, $f(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2 + s + 2$. Therefore $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s^2 + 2$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$. \square

Lemma 6 Let $s > 1$ be an integer. n and r are integers with

$$n > \begin{cases} s(s-1) + 4, & r = 2s \\ s^2 + 4, & r = 2s + 1 \end{cases} .$$

Then $G = K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| = 2$) is determined by its CLD.

Proof Since $|A| = 2$, the subgraphs induced by A in $K_{n,n+r}$ have three configurations (as shown in Figure 1), denoted by H_1, H_2, H_3 , respectively.

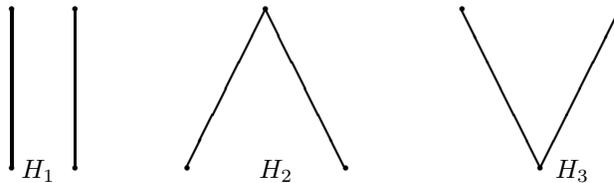


Figure 1 Three configurations induced by A

Let $G_i = K_{n,n+r} - E(H_i)$, $i = 1, 2, 3$. We prove that each G_i is determined by its CLD. Firstly, we prove that G_1, G_2, G_3 have different CLDs. It is easy to compute that

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_4(G_1) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + 1, \\
 c_4(G_2) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + n - 1, \\
 c_4(G_3) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + n + r - 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence $c_4(G_1) < c_4(G_2) < c_4(G_3)$, G_1, G_2, G_3 have different CLDs. Next we prove that $G = G_i$ is determined by its CLD. Suppose to the contrary that $G' \neq G_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3$ is a graph with the same CLD as G . Then G' is a bipartite graph of order $2n + r$. By Lemmas 4 and 5, $G' \neq K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| = 0, 1$). Hence $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, $|A| \geq 3$ or $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, $|A| \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$.

Case 1 $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, $|A| \geq 3$. By Lemma 2, $c_4(G') \leq M_3 < m_2 \leq c_4(G)$, a contradiction.

Case 2 $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, $|A| \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$. With a similar discussion to the Case 2 in the proof of Lemma 4, we have

$$c_4(G') \leq \max_{|A|=j=n+k-1} C_4(K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A)$$

and

$$c_4(G') \leq \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2}.$$

Since $c_4(G_1) < c_4(G_2) < c_4(G_3)$, to prove that $G = G_i$ is determined by its CLD, it suffices to prove that $c_4(G') < c_4(G_1)$. Let

$$H(k) = \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} + 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} - 1.$$

Then it suffices to prove that $H(k) < 0$. Similarly to the proof of Lemma 4, we have $H(k)$ increases on $k \in [1, \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor]$. Hence it suffices to prove that $H(\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor) < 0$.

If $r = 2s$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s}{2} + 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s-1}{1} - 1 \\ &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+6)(n+s)^2 + 2(s^2+9)(n+s) + s^4 + 7s^2 - 4]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+6)x^2 + 2(s^2+9)x + s^4 + 7s^2 - 4.$$

Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+6)x + 2(s^2+9) = 0$, we have $x_{1,2} = \frac{(s^2+6) \pm \sqrt{s^4+9s^2+9}}{3} < s^2+4$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2+4$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2+4$. Since $f(s^2+5) = s^4 + 15s^2 + 36 > 0$, $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s(s-1) + 4$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$.

If $r = 2s+1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s+1}{2} + 2 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s}{1} - 1 \\ &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+s+5)(n+s)^2 + 8(n+s) + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+8) + 4]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+s+5)x^2 + 8x + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+8) + 4.$$

Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+s+5)x + 8 = 0$ gives the solutions $x_{1,2} = ((s^2+s+5) \pm \sqrt{(s^2+s+5)^2 - 12})/3 < s^2+s+4$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2+s+4$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2+s+4$. Since $f(s^2+s+5) = 8(s^2+s+5) + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+8) + 4 > 0$, $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s^2+4$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$. \square

Lemma 7 Let $s > 1$ be an integer. n and r are integers with

$$n > \begin{cases} s(s-1) + 6, & r = 2s; \\ s^2 + 6, & r = 2s + 1. \end{cases}$$

Then $G = K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| = 3$) is determined by its CLD.

Proof Since $|A| = 3$, the subgraphs induced by A in $K_{n,n+r}$ have six configurations (as shown in Figure 2), denoted by $H_1, H_2, H_3, H_4, H_5, H_6$, respectively.

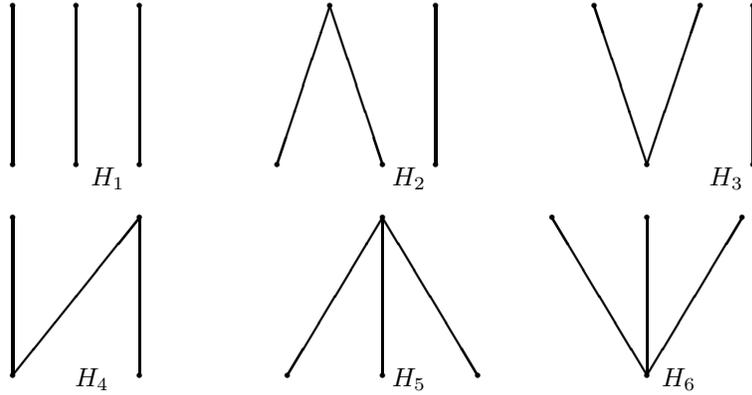


Figure 2 Six configurations induced by A

Let $G_i = K_{n,n+r} - E(H_i)$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$. We prove that each G_i is determined by its CLD. It is easy to compute that

$$\begin{aligned}
 c_4(G_1) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + 3, \\
 c_4(G_2) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + (n-1) + 2, \\
 c_4(G_3) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + (n+r-1) + 2, \\
 c_4(G_4) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + (2n+r-1) - 1, \\
 c_4(G_5) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + 3(n-1), \\
 c_4(G_6) &= \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} - 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} + 3(n+r-1).
 \end{aligned}$$

Clearly, $c_4(G_1) < c_4(G_2) < c_4(G_3) < c_4(G_4) < c_4(G_5) < c_4(G_6)$. Hence $G_1, G_2, G_3, G_4, G_5, G_6$ have different CLDs. Suppose that $G' \neq G_i$, $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6$ is a graph with the same CLD as G . Then G' must be a bipartite graph of order $2n+r$. By Lemmas 4, 5 and 6, $G' \neq K_{n,n+r} - A$ ($|A| = 0, 1, 2$). Hence $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, $|A| \geq 4$ or $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, $|A| \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$.

Case 1 $G' = K_{n,n+r} - A$, $|A| \geq 4$. By Lemma 2, $c_4(G') \leq M_4 < m_3 \leq c_4(G)$, a contradiction.

Case 2 $G' = K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A$, $|A| \geq 0$, and $k \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$. Similarly to the Case 2 in the proof of Lemma 4, we have

$$c_4(G') \leq \max_{|A|=j=n+k-1} C_4(K_{n+k,n+r-k} - A)$$

and

$$c_4(G') \leq \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2}.$$

Since $c_4(G_1) < c_4(G_2) < \dots < c_4(G_6)$, to prove that $G = G_i$ is determined by its CLD, it suffices to show that $c_4(G') < c_4(G_1)$. Let

$$H(k) = \binom{n+k}{2} \binom{n+r-k-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+r}{2} + 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+r-1}{1} - 3.$$

Hence it suffices to show $H(k) < 0$. Similarly to Lemma 4, we have $H(k)$ increases on $k \in [1, \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor]$.

Hence it suffices to show $H(\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor) < 0$.

If $r = 2s$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s-1}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s}{2} + 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s-1}{1} - 3 \\ &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+8)(n+s)^2 + 2(s^2+13)(n+s) + s^4 + 11s^2]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+8)x^2 + 2(s^2+13)x + s^4 + 11s^2.$$

Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+8)x + 2(s^2+13) = 0$, we have $x_{1,2} = \frac{(s^2+8) \pm \sqrt{s^4+13s^2+25}}{3} < s^2 + 6$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2 + 6$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2 + 6$. Since $f(s^2+7) = s^4 + 23s^2 + 84 > 0$, $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s(s-1) + 6$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$.

If $r = 2s + 1$, then

$$\begin{aligned} H(s) &= \binom{n+s}{2} \binom{n+s}{2} - \binom{n}{2} \binom{n+2s+1}{2} + 3 \binom{n-1}{1} \binom{n+2s}{1} - 3 \\ &= -\frac{1}{4}[2(n+s)^3 - 2(s^2+s+7)(n+s)^2 + 12(n+s) + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+12) + 12]. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$f(x) = 2x^3 - 2(s^2+s+7)x^2 + 12x + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+12) + 12.$$

Solving the equation $f'(x) = 6x^2 - 4(s^2+s+7)x + 12 = 0$, we have $x_{1,2} = \frac{(s^2+s+7) \pm \sqrt{(s^2+s+7)^2 - 18}}{3} < s^2 + s + 6$. Hence $f'(x) > 0$ if $x > s^2 + s + 6$, that is, $f(x)$ increases on $x > s^2 + s + 6$. Since $f(s^2+s+7) = 12(s^2+s+7) + (s^2+s)(s^2+s+12) + 12 > 0$, $f(n+s) > 0$ if $n > s^2 + 6$. The result follows from $H(s) = -\frac{1}{4}f(n+s)$. \square

Theorem 1 follows directly from Lemmas 4, 5, 6 and 7.

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