

# The Circular Number of a Graph

<sup>1</sup>S. Sheeja and <sup>2</sup>K.Rajendran

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar, Department of Mathematics, Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies, Pallavaram, Chennai-117. email: sheeja1304@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, Vels Institute of Science, Technology and Advanced Studies, Pallavaram, Chennai-117. email: gkrajendra59@gmail.com

## Article History:

**Received:** 22-08-2024

**Revised:** 09-10-2024

**Accepted:** 24-10-2024

## Abstract:

If  $I_c[S] = V(G)$ , then a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a circular set of  $G$ . The circular number of  $G$ , represented by  $cr(G)$ , is the lowest cardinality of a circular set of  $G$ . A  $cr$ -set of  $G$  is any circular set with cardinality  $cr(G)$ . In this study, we determine the circular number of certain standard graphs. It is demonstrated that there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $dn(G)=a$ ,  $g(G)=b$  and  $cr(G)=c$  for each integer  $a, b$ , and  $c$  with  $a > 2, b > 2$ , and  $c > 2$ . The corona of graphs and circular number of joins were also explored.

**Keywords:** distance, detour number, geodetic number, circular number, join of a graph and corona of a graph.

## 1. Introduction and Preliminaries

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a finite, undirected connected graph without loops or many edges. For order and size,  $G$  is denoted by  $n$  and  $m$ , respectively. To define fundamental ideas in graph theory, we use [1,5]. Two vertices, " $u$  and  $v$ ", are taken into consideration in  $G$  if  $uv \in E(G)$ .  $N(v)$  is the neighborhood of a vertex  $v$  in  $G$ , which is the set of vertices adjacent to  $v$ . The degree of the vertex  $v$  is  $deg(v) = |N(v)|$ . For any edge  $e = \{u, v\}$  of a graph  $G$  where  $deg(u) = 1$  and  $deg(v) > 1$ , we define  $v$  an end edge,  $u$  a leaf, and  $v$  a support vertex.  $\Delta(G)$  indicates a graph  $G$ 's maximum degree.  $G[S]$  is the subgraph that a graph  $G$  with a set  $S$  of vertices induces, where  $uv \in E(G): u, v \in S$  and  $V(G[S]) = S$ . An extreme vertex of  $G$  is a vertex  $v$  if and only if  $G[N(v)]$  is complete.

The length  $d(u, v)$  is the shortest path length between two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$ . Any  $u - v$  path with length  $d(u, v)$  is a  $u - v$  geodesic of  $G$ . An internal vertex of a  $u - v$  route  $P$  is  $x$  if it is a vertex of  $P$  and  $x \neq u, v$ . It is evident that the closed interval  $I[u, v]$  consists of  $u, v$  and all vertices on a  $u - v$  geodesic of  $G$ . A non-empty set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is closed by the set  $I[S] = \bigcup_{u, v \in S} I[u, v]$ . A set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a geodetic set if and only if  $I[S] = V(G)$ . The most minimal cardinality of a geodetic set of  $G$  is its geodetic number, denoted as  $g(G)$ . A minimum cardinality geodetic set of  $G$  is termed as  $g$ -set. For graph geodetic parameters, see [2,3,7]. The detour distance  $D(u, v)$  is the longest path in  $V(G)$  between two vertices,  $u$  and  $v$ .

Any  $u-v$  path of length  $D(u, v)$  is a  $u - v$  detour of  $G$ . The closed interval  $I_D[u, v]$  is made up of  $u, v$ , and all of its vertices lie on a  $u - v$  detour of  $G$ . If  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is non-empty, its closure can be found in the set  $I_D[S] = \bigcup_{u, v \in S} I_D[u, v]$ . A set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is considered a detour set if  $I_D[S] = V(G)$ . In a detour set of  $G$ , the lowest cardinality is the detour number, denoted by  $dn(G)$ . A detour set of

minimum cardinality of  $G$  can be identified as a  $dn$ -set. Also numerous researches covered these ideas [4,6].

$D^c(u, v)$  represents the circular distance between  $u$  and  $v$ , is defined by

$$D^c(uc, vc) = \begin{cases} D(uc, vc) + d(uc, vc) & \text{if } uc \neq v \\ 0 & \text{if } uc = v \end{cases}$$

where the distances between  $uc$  and  $vc$  are detour distance  $D(uc, vc)$  and  $d(uc, vc)$ , respectively. The longest circle distance on  $G$  between two vertices is represented by the circular diameter  $D^c$ . An  $u - v$  circular of  $G$  is any  $u - v$  path of length  $D^c(u, v)$ . The longest circle distance on  $G$  between two vertices is symbolized by the circular diameter  $D^c$ .  $I_c[uc, vc]$  denotes the set of all vertices on a  $u - v$  circular in  $G$  for any  $u, v \in V$ . Let  $I_c[S] = \bigcup_{u,v \in S} I_c[u, v]$  for  $S \subseteq V(G)$ . The graph union  $G_1 \cup G_2$  together with all the edges linking  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  is the join  $G_c = G_{c1} + G_{c2}$  of graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  with disjoint vertices  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  and edge sets  $E_1$  and  $E_2$ . Define two graphs,  $H$  and  $K$ . The graph with  $V_c(G_c + H_c) = V_c(G_c) \cup V_c(H_c)$  and  $E(G_c + H_c) = E(G_c) \cup E(H_c) \cup \{uvc : uc \in V_c(G_c), v \in V_c(H_c)\}$  is the graph that joins  $G$  and  $H$ ." The graph created by taking one copy of  $K$  and  $|V(K)|$  copies of  $H$  and attaching all the vertices from the  $i^{\text{th}}$ -copy of  $H$  to the  $i^{\text{th}}$ -vertex of  $K$  by an edge, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, |V(H_c)|$  is known as the corona product  $K \odot H$ .

## 2. The circular number of a graph

**Definition 2.1.** If  $I_c[S] = V(G)$ , then a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a circular set of  $G$ . The circular number of  $G$ , represented by  $cr(G)$ , is the lowest cardinality of a circular set of  $G$ . A  $cr$ -set of  $G$  is any circular set with cardinality  $cr(G)$ .

**Example 2.2.** For the graph  $G$  as illustrated in Figure 2.1, a  $cr$ -set of  $G$  is  $S = \{v_1, v_5, v_{10}\}$ , such that  $cr(G) = 3$ .

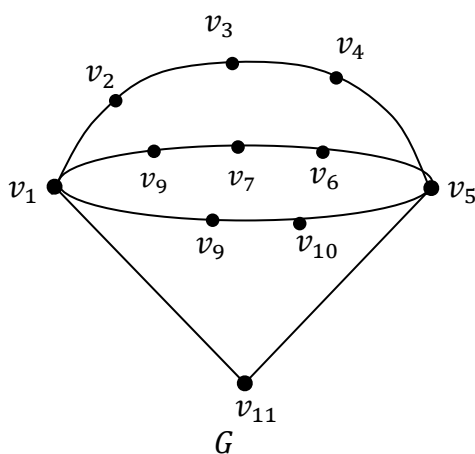


Figure 2.1

**Observation 2.3.** (i)  $2 \leq c_r(G) \leq n$  for a connected graph of order  $n \geq 2$ .

(ii) In a connected graph  $G$ , every circular set of  $G$  has an end vertex that belongs to it.

(iii) No  $cr$ -set of  $G$  contains a cut vertex of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** For the complete graph  $G_c = K_{nc}$  ( $nc \geq 3$ ),  $cr(G_c) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Assume that  $G$  has two vertices,  $\{x, y\}$ .  $I_c[x, y] = V(G)$  in that case. Consequently,  $cr(G) = 2$  since  $\{xc, yc\}$  is a circular set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** For the complete bipartite graph  $G = K_{r,s}$ , ( $1 \leq r \leq s$ ),  $cr(G) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be the two bipartite sets of  $G$ . Let  $S = \{xc, yc\}$  where  $x \in X$  and  $yc \in Y$ . Then  $I_c[x, yc] = V(G)$ . Hence  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$  so that  $cr(G_c) = 2$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** For the star  $G_c = K_{c, nc-1}$  ( $n \geq 3$ ),  $cr(G_c) = n - 1$ .

**Proof.** This is inferred from Observation 2.3 (ii) and (iii).

**Theorem 2.7.** For the wheel graph  $G = K_1 + C_{n-1}$  ( $nc \geq 4$ ),  $cr(G_c) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(K_1) = x$ ,  $V(C_{n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$ . Let  $S = \{x, v_1\}$ . Then  $I_c[S] = V(G)$ . Therefore  $S$  is a circular set of  $G_c$  so that  $cr(G) = 2$ .

**Theorem 2.8.** For the fan graph  $G_c = K_{1c} + P_{n-1}$  ( $nc \geq 4$ ),  $cr(G_c) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(K_{1c}) = x$  and  $V(P_{n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$  let  $S = \{x, v_1\}$ . Then  $I_c[S] = V(G)$  and so  $S$  is a circular set of  $G_c$ . Therefore  $cr(G_c) = 2$ .

**Theorem 2.9.** Consider the connected graph  $G$ , which has a detour diameter  $D$ , a circular diameter  $D^c$ , and a diameter  $d$ . Let  $P: u-v$  represent the “circular diameter of  $G$ . Let  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  be a diametral path and detour diametral path of  $G$ . Such that

$$cr(G) \leq \begin{cases} nc - d + 1 & \\ n - D + 1 & \text{if } V(P_{1c}) = V(P_{2c}) \\ n - D^c + 1 & V(cP_1) \cap V(cP_2) = \{uc, vc\} \\ n - D^c + 1 + d + D & V(cP_1) \cap V(cP_2) \neq \{cu, v\} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Let  $P: u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{D^c} = v$  be a circular diametral path of  $G$ ,  $P_1: x_0 = x_0c, cx_1, cx_2, \dots, x_r = y$  be a diametral path of  $G$  and  $P_2: w = w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_s = z$  be a detour set of  $G$ . Then  $r+s=d+D$ .

**Case 1:** Let  $V(P_1) = V(P_2)$ . Then  $S = V(G) - \{cx_1, cx_2, \dots, x_{r-1}\}$  is a circular set of  $G$ , so that  $cr(G) \leq n - (r - 1) = n - r + 1 = n - d + 1$ . By the similar way we can prove that  $cr(G) \leq n - D + 1$ .

**Case 2:**  $V(cP_1) \cap V(cP_2) = \{uc, vc\}$ . Then  $S = V(G_c) - \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{D^c-1}\}$  is a circular set of  $G$ , so that  $cr(G) \leq n - D^c + 1$ .

**Case 3:**  $V(P_1) \cap V(P_2) \neq \emptyset \neq \{u, v\}$ . Without loss of generality let us assume

that  $x_1', x_2', \dots, x_r'$  in  $P_1$  and  $w_1', w_2', \dots, w_s'$  which is not belongs to  $V(P_1) \cap V(P_2)$ . Then  $S = V(G) - \{cu_1, cu_2, \dots, u_{D^c-1}\} \cup \{cx_1', cx_2', \dots, cx_r'\} \cup \{cw_1', cw_2', \dots, w_s'\}$  is a circular set of  $G$ , so that  $cr(G) \leq n - D^c + 1 + r + s \leq n - D^c + 1 + d + D$ .

**Theorem 2.10.** Let  $G$  be a non-complete connected graph of order  $n \geq 3$ , and its vertex connectivity is denoted as  $\kappa(G)$  in  $cr(G) \leq n - \kappa(G)$ .

**Proof.** Since  $G_c$  is non-complete, it follows that  $1 \leq \kappa(G) \leq n - 2$ . Let  $Z = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_\kappa\}$  be the minimal cutset of the vertices of  $G$ . Clearly  $S = V(G) - Z$  where  $cG_1, cG_2, \dots, cG_r$  ( $r \geq 2$ ) be the components of  $G_c - U_c$ . As a result, every vertex  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq \kappa$ ) has at least one neighbouring vertex in  $G_j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ). Thus  $I_c[S] = V(G)$  implies that  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$ . As a result,  $cr(G) \leq n - \kappa(G)$ .

Next, we demonstrate that for every integer  $n \geq 4$ , there exists a single connected network of rank  $n$  with circular number  $n - 1$ .

**Theorem 2.11.** A connected graph  $G$  of order  $p$ , detour number  $k$  and detour diameter  $D$  exist for every triple  $D, k, p$  of integers with  $2 \leq k \leq p - D^C D + 1$  and  $D \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $G$  represent the graph that was created from the cycle  $C_{D^C-1}: u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{D^C-1}, u_1$  of order  $D^C - 1$  by (1) integrating  $k - 1$  new vertices to  $v_1, v_2, \dots, u_{k-1}$  and combining each vertex  $v_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ ) to  $u_1$  and (2) merging  $n - D^C - k + 2$  new vertices to  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{n-D^C-k+2}$  and incorporating every vertex  $w_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n - D^C - k + 2$ ) to both  $u_1$  and  $u_3$ . The graph  $G$ , which is displayed in Figures 2.2 and 2.3, has order  $n$  and a circular diameter of  $D^C$ .

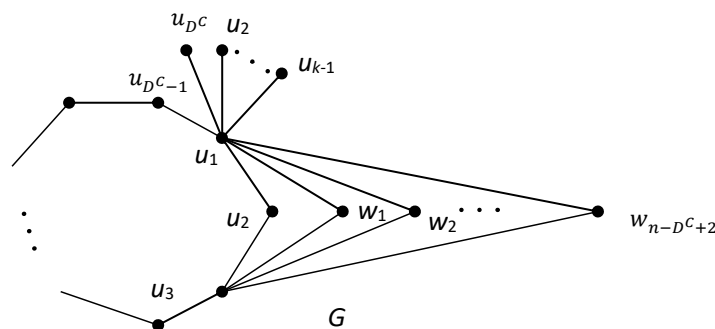


Figure 2.2

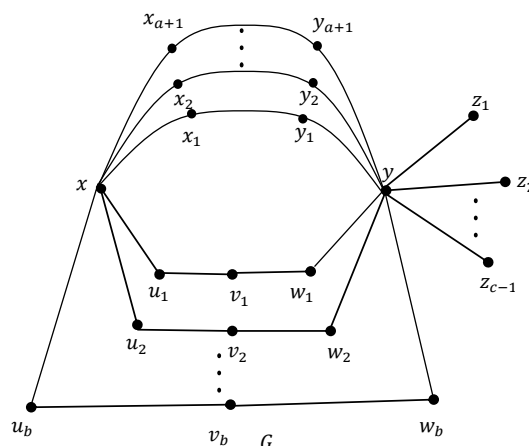


Figure 2.3

### 3. Circular number of Join of two graphs

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $G = K_{n_1} + H$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) where  $H$  is non-complete connected graph of order  $n_2 \geq 2$ . Then  $cr(G_c) \geq cr(H_c)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $G$  be a connected path with  $V(K_{n_1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_1}\}$  ( $n_1 \geq 2$ ) and  $H_c$  be a non-complete connected graphs of order  $n_2 \geq 2$ . Let  $S$  be a  $cr$ -set of  $cH$ . If  $D^C(u, v) \leq 3$  for every  $u, x \in S$ , then  $cS$  is a circular set of  $G_c$  so that  $cr(G_c) = |S| = cr(H_c)$ .

If  $D_H^c(u, v) \geq 4$  for some  $u, v \in S$ , then  $d_G(x, y) \leq 2$  for every  $xc, yc \in Gc$  and  $D_{Gc}(xc, y) \geq 2$  for every  $xc, yc \in Gc$ ,  $Sc$  is not a circular set of  $Gc$ . Let  $S_I$  be a  $cr$ -set of  $Gc$ . Since for all  $u, v \in S_I$ ,  $D_H^c(u, v) \geq 4$ ,  $|S_I| > |S|$ . Therefore  $cr(G) \geq cr(H)$ .

**Theorem 3.2**  $cr(K_{n_1} + P_{n_2}) = 2$ , where  $n_1, n_2 \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Vc(K_{n_1})$  be  $u_{1c}, u_{2c}, \dots, u_{n_1}$  and  $V(P_{n_2})$  be  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}$ . Let  $Sc = \{u_{1c}, v_{n_2}\}$ . Then  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$  so that  $cr(K_{n_1} + P_{n_2}) = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.3**  $cr(K_{n_1} + K_{n_2}) = 2$ , where  $n_1, n_2 \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** Since  $K_{n_1} + K_{n_2}$  is the complete graph  $K_{n_1+n_2}$ , then Theorem 2.4 yields the desired outcome.

**Theorem 3.4**  $cr(C_{n_1} + C_{n_2}) = 2$ , where  $n_1, n_2 \geq 3$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(C_{n_1})$  be  $u_{1c}, u_{2c}, \dots, u_{n_1}$  and  $V(C_{n_2})$  be  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}$ . Let  $Sc = \{u_{1c}, v_{n_2}\}$ . Then  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$  so that  $cr(C_{n_1} + C_{n_2}) = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.5** Let  $P_{n_1}$  and  $P_{n_2}$  be two non-trivial paths of order  $n_1 \geq 2$  and  $n_2 \geq 2$  respectively. Then  $cr(P_{n_1} + P_{n_2}) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Vc(P_{n_1})$  be  $u_{1c}, u_{2c}, \dots, u_{n_1}$  and  $V(P_{n_2})$  be  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}$ . Let  $Sc = \{u_{1c}, v_{n_2}\}$ . Then  $Sc$  is a circular set of  $Gc$  so that  $cr(P_{n_1} + P_{n_2}) = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.6** Let  $cr(\overline{K}_{n_1} + H) = 2$ , where  $n_1 \geq 1$  and  $H$  is a connected graph of order  $n_2 \geq 2c$ .

**Proof.** Let  $Vc(\overline{K}_{n_1})$  be  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}$  and  $H$  be  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}$ . Let  $S = \{u_1, v_{n_2}\}$ . Then  $Sc$  is a circular set of  $Gc$  so that  $cr(\overline{K}_{n_1} + cH) = 2$ .

#### 4. Circular number of Corona of two graphs $c$

**Theorem 4.1.**  $cr(C_{n_1} \circ C_{n_2}) = 2n_1 - 2$ ,  $n_1 \geq 3$  and  $n_2 \geq 3$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(P_{n_1}) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$  and  $V(P_{n_2}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$ . The set of vertices of  $i^{\text{th}}$  of  $P_{n_2}$  is referred as  $V(P_{n_2}^i) = \{v_1^i, v_2^i, \dots, v_{n_2}^i\}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n_1$ ). Since every circular set of  $G$  contains at least one vertex from  $P_{n_2}^1$  and  $P_{n_2}^{n_1}$  are at least two vertices from  $P_{n_2}^i$  ( $2 \leq i \leq n_1 - 1$ ),  $cr(P_{n_1} \circ P_{n_2}) \geq 2 + 2(n_1 - 1) = 2n_1 - 2$ . Therefore  $S = \{v_1^1, v_{n_2}^{n_1}, v_1^2, v_{n_2}^2, v_1^3, v_{n_2}^3, \dots, v_1^{n_1-1}, v_{n_2}^{n_1-1}\}$ , such that  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$ . Hence  $cr(P_{n_1} \circ P_{n_2}) = 2n_1 - 2$ .

**Theorem 4.2.**  $cr(P_{n_1} \circ P_{n_2}) = 2(n_1 - 1)$  where  $n_1 \geq 2$  and  $n_2 \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(P_{n_1}) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$  and  $V(P_{n_2}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$ . Let  $V(P_{n_2}^i) = \{v_1^i, v_2^i, \dots, v_{n_2}^i\}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n_1$ ) be the set of vertices of  $i^{\text{th}}$  of  $P_{n_2}$ . Since  $P_{n_2}^1$  and  $P_{n_2}^{n_1}$  are at least two vertices from  $P_{n_2}^i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n_1$ ), every circular set contains at least one vertex from each of these sets; so,  $cr(P_{n_1} \circ P_{n_2}) \geq 2 + 2(n_1 - 1) = 2n_1 - 2$ .

Let  $S = \{v_l^1, v_{n_2}^{n_l}, v_l^2, v_{n_2}^2, v_l^3, v_{n_2}^3, \dots, v_l^{n_l-1}, v_{n_2}^{n_l-1}\}$ . Therefore  $S$  is a circular set of  $G$  such that  $cr(P_{n_l} \circ P_{n_2}) = 2n_l - 2$ . c

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $cr(H \circ \overline{K}_{n_2}) = n_l n_2$ ,  $n_2 \geq 1$  and  $H$  be any non-trivial connected graph for  $n_l \geq 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(Hc) = \{uc_1, cu_2, \dots, cu_{n_1}\}$  and  $V(\overline{K}_{n_2}) = \{cv_1, vc_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$ . Let  $V(\overline{K}_{n_2}^i) = \{v_1^i, v_2^i, \dots, v_{n_2}^i\}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n_1$ ) be the set of vertices of  $i^{\text{th}}$  of  $\overline{K}_{n_2}$ . Thus the set of end vertices of  $G$  is represented as  $S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n_1} V(\overline{K}_{n_2}^i)$ . According to Theorem 1.1,  $S$  is a subset for every circular set of  $G$  and so  $cr(H \circ \overline{K}_{n_2}) \geq n_1 n_2$ . Hence  $I_{D^c}[S] = V(G)$ ,  $S$  is a circular set of  $Hc \circ \overline{K}_{n_2}$ . Therefore  $cr(Hc \circ \overline{K}_{n_2}) = n_1 n_2$ . c

## References

- [1] F. Buckley and F. Harary, Distance in Graphs, Addison-Wesely, Reading MA, (1990).
- [2] Chartrand. G, Harary. F and Zhang. P, On the geodetic number of a graph, Networks, 39(1), (2002), 1 - 6.
- [3] Chartrand. G, Palmer. E. M, and Zhang. P, The geodetic number of a graph, A Survey, Congressus Numerantium, 156, (2002), 37 - 58.
- [4] G. Chartrand, L. Johns and P. Zang, Detour Number of graph, Utilitas Mathematica, 64(2003), 97-113.
- [5] G. Chartrand, H. Escudro and P. Zhang, Distance in Graphs, Taking the Long View, AKCE J. Graphs and Combin., 1(1)(2004), 1-13.
- [6] G. Chartrand, H. Escudro and B. Zang, Detour distance in graph, J. Combin, mathcombin, compul 53 (2005) 75-94.
- [7] Hansberg. A, Volkmann. L, On the geodetic and geodetic domination numbers of a graph, Discrete Mathematics, 310(15-16), (2010), 2140-2146.