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A THEOREM ON DEGREE OF VERTICES WITH RESPECT TO A VERTEX SET
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#### Abstract

In this short paper, we considered the concept "degree of a vertex with respect to a given vertex set" in simple graphs. We included the necessary fundamentals and examples. Finally we obtained a theorem "If A is a proper subset of a vertex set $V(G)$ of a simple graph $G$, then the following two conditions are equivalent: (i) $d_{A}(v)=d_{G}(v)$ for all $v \in V(G)$; and (ii) $d_{G}(w)=0$ for all $w \in V(G) \backslash A$, where $d_{A}(v)$ denotes the degree of $v$ with respect to the given vertex set $A$ ".


Keywords: Graph, Degree of a vertex, Degree of any vertex of a graph with respect to a vertex set, Prime graph of a Ring,

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let $G=(V, E)$ be a graph consist of a finite non-empty set $V$ of vertices and finite set $E$ of edges such that each edge $e_{k}$ is identified as an unordered pair of vertices $\left\{\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{i}}, \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{j}}\right\}$, where $V_{i}, V_{j}$ are called end points of $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{k}}$. The edge $\mathrm{e}_{\mathrm{k}}$ is also denoted by either $V_{i} V_{j}$ or $\overline{V_{i} V_{j}}$. We also write $G(V, E)$ for the graph. Vertex set and edge set of $G$ are also denoted by $V(G)$ and $E(G)$ respectively. An edge associated with a vertex pair $\left\{\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{i}}, \mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{i}}\right\}$ is called a self-loop. The number of edges associated with the vertex is the degree of the vertex, and $d(v)$ denotes the degree of the vertex $v$. If there is more than one edge associated with a given pair of vertices, then these edges are called parallel edges or multiple edges. A graph that does not have self-loop or parallel edges is called a simple graph. We consider simple graphs only.

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### 1.1 Definitions:

(i) A graph $G(V, E)$ is said to be a star graph if there exists a fixed vertex $v$ (called the center of the star graph) such that $E=\{v u / u \in V$ and $u \neq v\}$. A star graph is said to be an $\mathbf{n}$-star graph if the number of vertices of the graph is $n$.
(ii) In a graph $G$, a subset $S$ of $V(G)$ is said to be a dominating set if every vertex not in $S$ has a neighbour in $S$. The domination number, denoted by $\gamma(\mathrm{G})$ is defined as $\min \{|\mathrm{S}| / \mathrm{S}$ is a dominating set in G$\}$.

For other preliminary results and notations we use [18], [20] or [21]

## SECTION -2: THE DEGREE OF VERTICES WITH RESPECT TO A VERTEX SET

2.1 Definition (Rajesh kanna, Dharmendra, Sridhara and Pradeep kumar [2]): Let G be a simple graph and A厅 $V(G)$. The degree of a vertex $\boldsymbol{v} \in \mathrm{V}$ of a graph G with respect to A is the number of vertices of A that are adjacent to $v$. This degree is denoted by $d_{A}(v)$. The degree of a vertex $v$ in $G$ is denoted by $d_{G}(v)$.
2.2 Example: Consider the graph given by Fig 2.2 where $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})=\left\{v_{i} / 1 \leq i \leq 5\right\}$


Let $\mathrm{A}=\left\{v_{1}, v_{3}, v_{5}\right\}$. Then by our definition $d_{A}\left(v_{1}\right)=0, d_{A}\left(v_{2}\right)=3, d_{A}\left(v_{3}\right)=1, d_{A}\left(v_{4}\right)=2, d_{A}\left(v_{5}\right)=1$.
2.3 Example: Consider the graph $G$ given by Fig 2.3 where $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})=\left\{v_{i} / 0 \leq i \leq 6\right\}$


Fig 2.3

Write $\mathrm{A}=\left\{v_{0}\right\}$, Then $d_{A}\left(v_{0}\right)=0$ and $d_{A}\left(v_{i}\right)=1$ for $1 \leq i \leq 6$.
2.4 Example: Consider the graph G given by Fig 2.4 where $\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}, y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}, y_{4}\right\}$.


Fig 2.4
(i) If $\mathrm{A}=\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, x_{3}\right\}$ then $d_{A}\left(x_{i}\right)=d_{G}\left(x_{i}\right)$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$; and $d_{A}\left(y_{i}\right)=0$ for $1 \leq i \leq 4$.
(i) If $\mathrm{B}=\left\{y_{1}, y_{2}, y_{3}, y_{4}\right\}$ then $d_{B}\left(y_{i}\right)=d_{G}\left(y_{i}\right)$ for $1 \leq i \leq 4$; and $d_{B}\left(x_{i}\right)=0$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$.
2.5 Example: Consider the prime graph $\operatorname{PG}(\mathrm{R})$ where $\mathrm{R}=\mathbb{Z}_{2} \times \mathbb{Z}_{2}=\{(0,0),(0,1),(1,0),(1,1)\}$ (Considered in the Note 1.2(ii) of Satyanarayana, Srinivasulu[8]). The graph $\operatorname{PG}(\mathrm{R})$ is given by Fig. 2.5


Write $A=\{(0,0)\}$,
Then $d_{A}((0,0))=0, d_{A}\left((0,1)=d_{A}\left((1,0)=d_{A}((1,1)=1\right.\right.$.

## 3. A THEOREM

3.1 Lemma: If $\mathrm{A} \subsetneq \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})$ and $d_{A}(v)=d_{G}(v)$ for all $v \in \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{G})$, then $d_{G}(w)=0$ for all $w \in V(G) \backslash A$.

Proof: Suppose that $\mathrm{A} \subsetneq\left(\mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})\right.$ and $d_{A}(v)=d_{G}(v)$ for all $v \in \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{G})$.
In a contrary way, suppose $w \in V(G) \backslash A$ and $d_{G}(w)=\mathrm{k}>0$.
Now $d_{A}(w)=d_{G}(w)=\mathrm{k} \geq 1$. So there exist a vertex $u \in A$ with $\overline{w u} \in E(G)$.
Now considerd $d_{A}(u)$. Since $w \in V(G) \backslash A$ we have that

$$
\overline{w u} \in\{\overline{x u} / x \in V(G)\} \backslash\{\overline{x u} / x \in A\} .
$$

This implies that

$$
|\{\overline{x u} / x \in V(G)\}|>|\{\overline{x u} / x \in A\}| \text { (Since }\{\overline{x u} / x \in A\} \text { is a subset of }\{\overline{x u} / x \in V(G)\})
$$

This implies that $d_{G}(u)>d_{A}(u)$, a contradiction.
Hence $d_{G}(w)=0$ for all $\mathrm{w} \in V(G) \backslash A$.
3.2 Lemma: If $\mathrm{A} \subsetneq \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})$ and $d_{G}(w)=0$ for all $w \in V(G) \backslash A$, then $d_{A}(v)=d_{G}(v)$ for all $v \in \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{G})$.

Proof: Let $v \in \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{G})$, Since $\{\overline{x v} / x \in A\} \subseteq\{\overline{x v} / x \in V(G)\}$ we have that $d_{A}(v) \leq d_{G}(v)$ (as mentioned on page 126 of Rajesh kanna et al. [2]).

In a contrary way, suppose that there exists $w \in V(G)$ such that $d_{A}(w) \neq d_{G}(w)$.
$\Rightarrow|\{\overline{x w} / x \in A\}| \varsubsetneqq|\{\overline{x w} / x \in V(G)\}|$
$\Rightarrow\{\overline{x w} / x \in A\} \subsetneq\{\overline{x w} / x \in V(G)\}$
$\Rightarrow$ there exists $u \in V(G)$ such that $\overline{u w} \in\{\overline{x w} / x \in V(G)\} \backslash\{\overline{x w} / x \in A\}$
$\Rightarrow u \in V(G) \backslash A$ and $d(u) \geq 1$, a contradiction.
Combining lemmas 1 and 2, we have the following Theorem:
3.3 Theorem: Suppose $\mathrm{A} \subsetneq \mathrm{V}(\mathrm{G})$, then the following two conditions are equivalent:
(i) $d_{A}(v)=d_{G}(v)$ for all $v \in \mathrm{~V}(\mathrm{G})$
(ii) $d_{G}(w)=0$ for all $w \in V(G) \backslash A$

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