# International Journal of Mathematical Archive-3(2), 2012, Page: 688-693 MA Available online through <u>www.ijma.info</u> ISSN 2229 - 5046

# ON THE FORCING HULL AND FORCING GEODETIC NUMBERS OF GRAPHS

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(Received on: 10-02-12; Accepted on: 29-02-12)

# ABSTRACT

In this paper, we prove that, for any non-negative integers a, b, c and d with a < c < d, b < d, c > a + 1 and d > b + c - a, there exists a connected graph G such that  $f_h(G) = a$ ,  $f_g(G) = b$ , h(G) = c and g(G) = d, where  $f_h(G)$ ,  $f_g(G)$ , h(G) and g(G) are the forcing hull number, the forcing geodetic number, the hull number and the geodetic number of a graph respectively. This result solves a problem of Li-Da Tong [Li-Da Tong, The forcing hull and forcing geodetic numbers of graphs, Discrete Applied Mathematics, 157 (2009), 1159-1163].

Keywords: hull number, geodetic number, forcing hull number, forcing geodetic number.

AMS Subject Classification: 05C12.

## **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. For basic graph theoretic terminology, we refer to Harary [1, 8]. A convexity on a finite set V is a family C of subsets of V, convex sets which are closed under intersection and which contains both V and the empty set. The pair (V, E) is called a convexity space. A finite graph convexity space is a pair (V, E), formed by a finite connected graph G = (V, E) and a convexity C on V such that (V, E) is a convexity space satisfying that every member of C induces a connected subgraph of G. Thus, classical convexity can be extended to graphs in a natural way. We know that a set X of  $R^n$  is convex if every segment joining two points of X is entirely contained in it. Similarly a vertex set W of a finite connected graph is said to be convex set of G if it contains all the vertices lying in a certain kind of path connecting vertices of W[2,7]. The distance d(u,v) between two vertices u and v in a connected graph G 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. A vertex x is said to lie on a u-v geodesic P if x is a vertex of P including the vertices u and v. For two vertices u and v, let I[u,v] denotes the set of all vertices which lie on u - v geodesic. For a set S of vertices, let  $I[S] = \bigcup_{u,v \in S} I[u, v]$ . The set S is convex if I[S] = S. Clearly if  $S = \{v\}$  or S = V, then S is convex. The *convexity* number, denoted by C(G), is the cardinality of a maximum proper convex subset of V. The smallest convex set containing S is denoted by  $I_h(S)$  and called the *convex hull* of S. Since the intersection of two convex sets is convex, the convex hull is well defined. Note that  $S \subseteq I[S] \subseteq I_b(S) \subseteq V$ . A subset  $S \subseteq V$  is called a geodetic set if I[S] = V and a hull set if  $I_{h}(S) = V$ . The geodetic number g(G) of G is the minimum order of its geodetic sets and any geodetic set of order g(G) is a minimum geodetic set or simply a g- set of G. Similarly, the hull number h(G) of G is the minimum order of its hull sets and any hull set of order h(G) is a minimum hull set or simply a h- set of G. The geodetic number of a graph is studied in [1, 5, 9] and the hull number of a graph is studied in [1,6]. It was shown in [9] that determining the geodetic number of a graph is NP-hard problem. A vertex v of G is said to be a geodetic vertex of G if v belongs to every minimum geodetic set of G. A subset  $T \subseteq W$  is called a forcing subset for W if W is the unique minimum geodetic set containing T. A forcing subset for W of minimum cardinality is a minimum forcing subset of W. The forcing geodetic number of W, denoted by f(W), is the cardinality of a minimum forcing subset of W. The forcing geodetic number of G, denoted by f(G), is  $f(G) = \min\{f(W)\}$ , where the minimum is taken over all minimum geodetic sets W in G. The forcing geodetic number of a graph was introduced in [3]. A vertex v of G is said to be a hull vertex of G if v belongs to every minimum hull set of G.A subset  $T \subseteq S$  is called a *forcing subset* for S if S is the unique minimum hull set containing T. A forcing subset for S of minimum cardinality is a minimum forcing subset of S. The forcing hull number of S, denoted by  $f_h(S)$ , is the cardinality of a minimum forcing subset of S. The forcing hull number of G, denoted by  $f_h(G)$ , is  $f_h(G) = \min\{f_h(S)\}$ , where the minimum

is taken over all minimum hull sets *S* in *G*. The forcing hull number of a graph was introduced in [4] and further studied in [10]. A vertex *v* of *G* is said to be an extreme *vertex* of *G* if the subgraph induced by its neighbors is complete. In [6] Chartrand and Zhang raised the question, for which pair of integers *a*, *b* there exists a connected graph *G* with  $f_h(G) = a$ and  $f_g(G) = b$ . In [10] Li-Da Tong proved that for every pairs *a*, *b* of nonnegative integers, there exists a connected a graph *G* with  $f_h(G) = a$  and  $f_g(G) = b$  and raised the question, for every integers *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* with  $a \le c \le d$ ,  $b \le d$ ,  $c \ge 2$ , does there exists a connected graph *G* with  $f_h(G) = a, f_g(G) = b, h(G) = c$  and g(G) = d. In this paper it is answered that, for every non negative integers *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* with a < c < d, b < d, c > a + 1 and d > c + b - a, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_h(G) = a, f_g(G) = b, h(G) = c$  and g(G) = d.

Theorem 1.1: [5, 6] If v is an extreme vertex of a graph G, then v belongs to every hull set and geodetic set of G.

**Theorem 1.2:** [1] For a connected graph G, h(G) = p if and only if  $G = K_p$ .

**Theorem 1.3:** [4] Let *G* be a connected graph. Then (a)  $f_h(G) = 0$  if and only if *G* has a unique *h*-set (b)  $f_h(G) \le h(G) - |W|$ , where *W* is the set of all hull vertices of *G*.

**Theorem 1.4:** [1] For a connected graph G, g(G) = p if and only if  $G = K_p$ .

**Theorem 1.5:** [3] Let *G* be a connected graph. Then (a)  $f_g(G) = 0$  if and only if *G* has a unique *g*-set. (b)  $f_g(G) \le g(G) - |W|$ . and *W* is the set of all geodetic vertices of *G*.

#### 2. SPECIAL GRAPHS

In this section, we present some graphs from which various graphs arising in theorems are generated using identification.

Let  $U_i: \alpha_i, \beta_i, g_i, h_i, \alpha_i \ (1 \le i \le a)$  be a copy of cycle  $C_4$ . Let  $V_i$  be the graph obtained from  $U_i$  by adding a new vertex  $n_i$  and the edges  $\beta_i n_i, n_i h_i \ (1 \le i \le a)$ . The graph  $Z_a$  is obtained from  $V_i$ 's by identifying  $\alpha_i$  of  $V_i$  and  $g_{i-1}$  of  $V_{i-1} \ (2 \le i \le a)$ .



Figure: 2.1

The graph  $G_a$  in Figure 2.2 is obtained from  $F_i$ 's by identifying the vertices  $t_i$  of  $F_i$  and  $r_{i-1}$  of  $F_{i-1}$   $(2 \le i \le a)$ , where  $F_i$ :  $s_i$ ,  $t_i$ ,  $u_i$ ,  $v_i$ ,  $r_i$ ,  $s_i$   $(1 \le i \le a)$  be a copy of cycle  $C_5$ .



Figure: 2.2

Let  $J_i: e_i, f_i, l_i, c_i, e_i \ (1 \le i \le a)$  be a copy of cycle  $C_4$ . Let  $R_i$  be the graph obtained from  $J_i$  by adding two new vertices  $p_i$ ,  $q_i$  and the edges  $p_ic_i, p_if_i, p_iq_i, q_il_i \ (1 \le i \le a)$ . The graph  $L_a$  in Figure 2.3 is obtained from  $R_i$ 's by identifying  $e_i$  of  $R_i$  and  $l_{i-1}$  of  $R_{i-1} \ (2 \le i \le a)$ .



**Figure:** 2.3

Let  $P_i: k_i, b_i, m_i, d_i, k_i \ (1 \le i \le a)$  be a copy of cycle  $C_4$ . Let  $Q_i$  be the graph obtained from  $P_i$  by adding three new vertices  $w_i, x_i, y_i$  and the edges  $w_i b_i, w_i x_i, x_i y_i, y_i d_i$ ,  $(1 \le i \le a)$ . The graph  $T_a$  is obtained from  $Q_i$ 's by identifying  $k_i$  of  $Q_i$  and  $m_{i-1}$  of  $Q_{i-1} \ (2 \le i \le a)$ .



**Figure:** 2.4

#### 3. SOME REALIZATION RESULTS

**Theorem 3.1:** For every pair *a*, *b* of integers with  $2 \le a \le b$ , there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_h(G) = f_g(G) = 0$ , h(G) = a and g(G) = b.

**Proof:** If a = b, let  $G = K_a$ . Then by Theorems1.3 (a) and 1.2,  $f_h(G) = 0$  and h(G) = a. Also by Theorems1.4 and 1.5(a) that g(G) = b and  $f_g(G) = 0$ . For a < b, let G be the graph obtained from  $Z_{b \cdot a}$  by adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{a-1}$  and joining the edges  $a_1x, g_{b \cdot a}z_1, g_{b \cdot a}z_2, ..., g_{b \cdot a}z_{a-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{a-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of G. It is clear that Z is a hull set of G and so by Theorem 1.1, Z is the unique h-set of G so that h(G) = a, and hence by Theorem 1.3(a),  $f_h(G)=0$ . Since the vertices  $n_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ) do not lie on any geodesic joining a pair of vertices in Z, we see that Z is not a geodetic set of G. Now it is easily seen that  $W = Z \cup \{n_1, n_2, ..., n_{b \cdot a}\}$  is the unique g-set of G so that g(G) = |W| = b and hence by Theorems 1.5(a),  $f_g(G)=0$ .

**Theorem: 3.2** For every integers *a*, *b* and *c* with  $0 \le a < b \le c$ , and b > a+1, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_g(G) = 0$ ,  $f_h(G) = a$ , h(G) = b and g(G) = c.

#### **Proof:**

**Case 1:** If a = 0, then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.1 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 2:**  $a \ge 1$ .

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**Sub case2a:** b = c. Let G be the graph obtained from  $T_a$  by adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{b-a-1}$  and joining the edges  $xk_1, m_a z_1, m_a z_2, \dots, m_a z_{b-a-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{b-a-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of G. Let W be any geodetic set of G. Then by Theorem 1.1,  $Z \subseteq W$ . It is clear that Z is not a geodetic set of G. For  $1 \le i \le a$ . let  $H_i = \{w_i, x_i, y_i\}$ . We observe that every g-set of G must contain only the vertex  $x_i$  from each  $H_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ) so that  $g(G) \ge b-a+a = b$ . Now,  $W=Z \cup \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_a\}$  is a geodetic set of G so that  $g(G) \le b-a+a=b$ . Thus g(G) = b. Also it is easily seen that W is the unique g-set of G and so by Theorem 1.5(a),  $f_g(G)=0$ .Now it is clear that Z is not a hull set of G. We observe that every h-set of G must contain at least one vertex from each  $H_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ) so that  $h(G) \ge b-a+a=b$ . Thus h(G) = b. Next, we show that  $f_h(G)=a$ . Since every h-set contains Z, it follows from Theorem 1.3(b) that  $f_h(G) \le h(G)-|Z|=b-(b-a)=a$ . Now, since h(G) = c and every h-set of G contains Z, it is easily seen that every h-set S is of the form  $Z \cup \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_a\}$ , where  $d_i \in H_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let T be any proper subset of S with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some j such

that  $T \cap H_i = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_h(G) = a$ .

**Sub case 2b:** b < c. Let *G* be the graph obtained from  $T_a$  and  $Z_{c\cdot b}$  by identifying vertex  $m_a$  of  $T_a$  and  $a_1$  of  $Z_{c\cdot b}$  and adding the new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2..., z_{b\cdot a\cdot 1}$  and joining the edges  $xk_{1},g_{c\cdot b}z_1,g_{c\cdot b}z_2,...g_{c\cdot b}z_{b\cdot a\cdot 1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x,z_1,z_2,...,z_{b\cdot a\cdot 1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of *G*. Let *W* be any geodetic set of *G*. Then by Theorem 1.1,  $Z \subseteq W$ . It is clear *Z* is not a geodetic set of *G*. For  $\leq i \leq a$ . let  $H_i = \{w_i, x_i, y_i\}$ . We observe that every *g*-set of *G* must contain only the vertex  $x_i$  from each  $H_i(1 \leq i \leq a)$  and only the vertex  $x_i$  from each  $H_i(1 \leq i \leq a)$  and only the vertex  $n_i$   $(1 \leq i \leq c \cdot b)$  so that  $g(G) \geq b - a + a + c - b = c$ .

Now  $W=Z\cup\{x_1,x_2,\ldots,x_a\}\cup\{n_1,n_2,\ldots,n_{c-b}\}$  is a geodetic set of G so that  $g(G) \le b-a+a+c-b=c$ . Thus g(G) = c. Also it is easily seen that W is the unique g-set of G and so by Theorem 1.5 (a)  $f_g(G)=0$ . It is clear that Z is not a hull set of G. We observe that every h-set of G must contain at least one vertex from each  $H_i(1 \le i \le a)$  so that  $h(G) \ge b-a+a = b$ . Now,  $S=Z \cup \{w_1,w_2,\ldots,w_a\}$  is a hull set of G so that  $h(G) \le b-a+a = b$ . Now,  $S=Z \cup \{w_1,w_2,\ldots,w_a\}$  is a hull set of G so that  $h(G) \le b-a+a = b$ . Now,  $S=Z \cup \{w_1,w_2,\ldots,w_a\}$  is a hull set of G so that  $h(G) \le b-a+a = b$ . Now,  $f_h(G) = a$ . Since every h-set contains Z, it follows from Theorem 1.3(b) that  $f_h(G) \le h(G)-|Z|=b-(b-a) = a$ . Now, since h(G) = b and every h-set of G contains Z, it is easily seen that every h-set S is of the form  $Z \cup \{d_1,d_2,\ldots,d_a\}$ , where  $d_i \in H_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let T be any proper subset of S with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some j such that  $T \cap H_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_h(G) = a$ .

**Theorem 3.3:** For every integers *a*, *b* and *c* with  $0 \le a < b < c$ ,  $b \ge 2$  and c > a + b, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_h(G) = 0$ ,  $f_g(G) = a$ , h(G) = b and g(G) = c.

Case 1: a = 0. Then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.1 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 2:**  $a \ge 1$ . Let *G* be the graph obtained from  $L_a$  and  $Z_{c-b-a}$  by identifying the vertex  $l_a$  of  $L_a$  and  $\alpha_1$  of  $Z_{c-b-a}$  and adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{b-1}$  and joining the edges  $e_1x, g_{c-b-a}z_1, g_{c-b-a}z_{2,...}, g_{c-b-a}z_{b-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{b-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of *G*. It is clear that *Z* is a hull set of *G* and so by Theorem 1.1, *Z* is the unique *h-set* of *G* so that h(G) = b, and hence by Theorem 1.3(*a*),  $f_h(G)=0$ . Next we show that g(G) = c. Let *W* be any geodetic set of *G* 

Then by Theorem 1.1,  $Z \subseteq W$ . It is clear Z is not a geodetic set of G. For  $\underline{k}$   $i \leq a$ , let  $Q_i = \{p_i, q_i\}$ .

We observe that every g-set of G must contain at least one vertex from each  $Q_i$   $(1 \le i \le a)$  and each  $n_i$   $(1 \le i \le c-b-a)$ so that  $g(G) \ge b+a+c-b-a = c$ . Now,  $W=Z \cup \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_a\} \cup \{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{c-b-a}\}$  is a geodetic set of G so that  $g(G) \le b+a+c-b-a=c$ . Thus g(G) = c. Next, we show that  $f_g(G)=a$ . Since every g-set contains  $W_1=Z\cup \{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{c-b-a}\}$ , it follows from Theorem 1.5(b) that  $f_g(G) \le g(G)-|W_1|=c-(c-a) = a$ . Now, since g(G)=c and every g-set of G contains  $W_1$ , it is easily seen that every g-set W is of the form  $Z\cup\{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{c-b-a}\} \cup \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_a\}$ , where  $d_i \in Q_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let T be any proper subset of W with |T|<a. Then it is clear that there exists some j such that  $T \cap Q_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_g(G) = a$ .

**Theorem 3.4:** For every integers *a*, *b* and *c* with  $0 \le a < b \le c$  and b > a + 1, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_h(G) = f_g(G) = a$ , h(G) = b and g(G) = c.

**Proof:** 

**Case 1:** a = 0 Then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.1 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

Case2:  $a \ge 1$ .

**Sub case 2a:** b = c. Let *G* be the graph obtained from  $G_a$  by adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{b-a-1}$  and joining the edges  $xt_1, r_az_1, r_az_2, ..., r_az_{b-a-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{b-a-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of *G*. By Theorem1.1, every *g*-set of *G* 

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contains *Z*. Let  $F_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$   $(1 \le i \le a)$ . First, we show that h(G) = b. Since the vertices  $u_i, v_i$  do not lie on the geodesic joining any pair of vertices of *Z*, it is clear that *Z* is not a hull set of *G*. We observe that every *h*-set of *G* must contain at least one vertex from each  $F_i$   $(1 \le i \le a)$ . Thus,  $h(G) \ge b - a + a = b$ . On the other hand, since the set  $S = Z \cup \{v_1, v_2, ..., v_a\}$  is a hull set of *G*, it follows that  $h(G) \le |S| = b$ . Hence h(G) = b. Next, we show that  $f_h(G) = a$ . By Theorem 1.1, every hull set of *G* contains *Z* and so it follows from Theorem 1.3(b) that  $f_h(G) \le h(G) - |Z| = a$ . Now, since h(G) = b and every *h*-set of *G* contains *Z*, it is easily seen that every *h*-set *S* is of the form  $Z \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let *T* be any proper subset of *S* with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some *j* such that  $T \cap F_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_h(G) = a$ . By similar way we can prove that g(G) = b and  $f_e(G) = a$ .

**Sub case 2b:** b < c. Let *G* be the graph obtained from  $G_a$  and  $Z_{c-b}$  by identifying the vertex  $r_a$  of  $G_a$  and  $\alpha_1$  of  $Z_{c-b}$  and then adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{b-a-1}$  and joining the edges  $xt_1, g_{c-b}z_1, g_{c-b}z_2, ..., g_{c-b}z_{b-a-1}$ . First, we show that h(G) = b. Since the vertices  $u_i, v_i$  do not lie on the geodesic joining any pair of vertices of *Z*, it is clear that *Z* is not a hull set of *G*. Let  $F_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$ . We observe that every *h*-set of *G* must contain at least one vertex from each  $F_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ). Thus,  $h(G) \ge b - a + a = b$ . On the other hand, since the set  $S = Z \cup \{v_1, v_2, ..., v_a\}$  is a hull set of *G*, it follows that  $h(G) \le |S| = b$ .

Hence h(G) = b. Next, we show that  $f_h(G) = a$ . By Theorem 1.1, every hull set of *G* contains *Z* and so it follows from Theorem 1.3(b) that  $f_h(G) \le h(G) - |Z| = a$ . Now, since h(G) = b and every *h*-set of *G* contains *Z*, it is easily seen that every *h*-set *S* is of the form  $Z \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let *T* be any proper subset of *S* with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some *j* such that  $T \cap F_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_h(G) = a$ . Next, we show that g(G) = c. Since the vertices  $u_i, v_i, n_i$  do not lie on the geodesic joining any pair of vertices of *Z*, it is clear that *Z* is not a geodetic set of *G*. We observe that every *g*-set of *G* must contain at least one vertex from each  $F_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ) and each  $n_i$  ( $1 \le i \le c$ -b). Thus,  $g(G) \ge b - a + a + c - b = c$ . On the other hand, since the set  $W = Z \cup \{v_1, v_2..., v_a\} \cup \{n_1, n_2, ..., n_{c-b}\}$  is a geodetic set of *G*, it follows that  $g(G) \le |W| = c$ . Hence g(G) = c. Next, we show  $f_g(G) = a$ . Since every *g*-set of *G* contains  $W_1 = Z \cup \{n_1, n_2, ..., n_{c-b}\}$  and so it follows from Theorem 1.5 (b) that  $f_g(G) \le g(G) - |W_1| = a$ . Now, since  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let *T* be any proper subset of *W* with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some *j* such that  $T \cap F_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_g(G) \le g(G) - |W_1| = a$ . Now, since  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Let *T* be any proper subset of *W* with |T| < a. Then it is clear that there exists some *j* such that  $T \cap F_j = \Phi$ , which shows that  $f_g(G) = a$ .

**Theorem 3.5:** For every integers *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* with  $0 \le a \le b < c \le d$ , *d* and c > b + 1, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_g(G) = a, f_h(G) = b, h(G) = c$  and g(G) = d.

#### **Proof:**

**Case 1:** a = b = 0. Then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.1 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 2:**  $a = 0, b \ge 1$ . Then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.2 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 3:**  $1 \le a = b$ . Then the graph G constructed in Theorem 3.4 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 4:**  $1 \le a < b$ .

**Sub case 4a:** c = d. Let *G* be the graph obtained from  $G_a$  and  $T_{b-a}$  by identifying the vertex  $r_a$  of  $G_a$  and  $k_1$  of  $T_{b-a}$  and then adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{c-b-1}$  and joining the edges  $xt_1, m_{b-a}z_1, m_{b-a}z_2, ..., m_{b-a}z_{c-b-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{c-b-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of *G*. Let  $F_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$  and  $H_i = \{w_i, x_i, y_i\}$ . It can be easily seen that any *h*-set of *G* is of the form  $S = Z \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\} \cup \{d_1, d_2, ..., d_{b-a}\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i (1 \le i \le a)$  and  $d_j \in H_j (1 \le j \le b-a)$ . Then as in earlier theorems it can be seen that  $f_h(G) = b$  and h(G) = c. Any *g*-set is of the form  $W = Z \cup \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_{b-a}\} \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i (1 \le i \le a)$ .

**Sub case 4b:** c < d Let  $G_1$  be the graph obtained from  $G_a$  and  $T_{b-a}$  by identifying the vertex  $r_a$  of  $G_a$  and  $k_1$  of  $T_{b-a}$ . Now let G be the graph obtained from  $G_1$  and  $Z_{d-c}$  by identifying the vertex  $m_{b-a}$  of  $G_1$  and  $\alpha_1$  of  $Z_{d-c}$  and then adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{c-b-1}$  and joining the edges  $xt_1, g_{d-c}z_1, g_{d-c}z_2, ..., g_{d-c}z_{c-b-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, ..., z_{c-b-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of G. Let  $F_i = \{u_b v_i\}$  and  $H_i = \{w_i, x_i, y_i\}$ . It can be easily seen that any h-set of G is of the form  $S = Z \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\} \cup \{d_1, d_2, ..., d_{b-a}\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ) and  $d_j \in H_j$  ( $1 \le j \le b-a$ ). Then as in earlier theorems it can be seen that  $f_h(G) = b$  and h(G) = c. Any g-set is of the form  $W = Z \cup \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_{b-a}\} \cup \{n_1, n_2, ..., n_{d-c}\} \cup \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_a\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i$  ( $1 \le i \le a$ ). Then as in earlier theorems it can be seen that  $f_g(G) = a$  and g(G) = d.

**Theorem 3.6:** For every integers *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* with  $0 \le a < c < d$  and  $a \le b < d$ , d > c+b-a and c > a+1, there exists a connected graph *G* such that  $f_h(G) = a$ ,  $f_g(G) = b$ , h(G) = c and g(G) = d.

### **Proof:**

**Case 1:** a = b = 0. Then the graph G constructed in of Theorem 3.1 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 2:**  $a = 0, b \ge 1$ . Then the graph *G* constructed in Theorem 3.3 satisfies the requirements of this theorem. © 2012, IJMA. All Rights Reserved

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**Case 3:**  $1 \le a = b$ . Then the graph *G* constructed in Theorem 3.4 satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

**Case 4:**  $1 \le a < b$ . Let  $G_1$  be the graph obtained from  $G_a$  and  $L_{b-a}$  by identifying the vertex  $r_a$  of  $G_a$  and  $e_1$  of  $L_{b-a}$ . Now let G be the graph obtained from  $G_1$  and  $Z_{d-c-b+a}$  by identifying the vertex  $l_{b-a}$  of  $G_1$  and  $a_1$  of  $Z_{d-c-b+a}$  and then adding new vertices  $x, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{c-a-1}$  and joining the edges  $xt_1, g_{d-c-b+a}z_1, g_{d-c-b+a}z_2, \dots, g_{d-c-b+a}z_{c-a-1}$ . Let  $Z = \{x, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{c-a-1}\}$  be the set of end vertices of G. Let  $F_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$ . It is clear that any h-set is of the form  $S = Z \cup \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_a\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$ . Then as in earlier theorems it can be seen that  $f_h(G) = a$  and h(G) = c. Let  $Q_i = \{p_i, q_i\}$ . It is clear that any g-set is of the form  $W = Z \cup \{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_{d-c-b+a}\} \cup \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_a\} \cup \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{b-a}\}$ , where  $c_i \in F_i(1 \le i \le a)$  and  $d_j \in Q_j$   $(1 \le j \le b-a)$ . Then as in earlier theorems it can be seen that  $f_g(G) = b$  and g(G) = d.

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