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Article

The Effect of Vertex and Edge Removal on Sombor Index

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Abstract: Sombor index was recently defined in 2021 as a new vertex degree based topological index by Gutman and has received great attention of mathematicians and chemists. In this work, we determine how much the Sombor index is effected when we delete some parts from a graph. Using the formulae obtained here successively, one can calculate the Sombor indices of large graphs by means of Sombor indices of smaller graphs which are obtained by deletion of vertices or edges. Sometimes, using iteratively, one can manage to obtain a property of a really large graph in terms of the same property of many other smaller graphs. Here, the calculations are made for a pendant and non-pendant vertex, a pendant and non-pendant edge, a pendant path, a bridge, a bridge path. Using these results, Sombor index of cyclic graphs and tadpole graphs are obtained. Finally, some Nordhaus-Gaddum type results are obtained for Sombor index.

Keywords: Sombor index; vertex removal; edge removal; Nordhaus-Gaddum type result

MSC: 05C07; 05C10; 05C30; 68R10

1. Introduction

Throughout this paper, we let $G = (V, E)$ be a simple graph with the vertex set $V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and edge set $E(G) = \{v_i v_j : v_i, v_j \in V(G)\}$. We call $|V(G)| = n$ and $|E(G)| = m$ to be the order and the size of G . Sometimes, we use $G(n, m)$ in place of G to emphasize the order and size of G . By simpleness, we mean that we do not allow loops or multiple edges. If v_i and v_j are adjacent vertices of G and if the edge e connects them, this situation will be denoted by $e = v_i v_j$. In such a case, the vertices v_i and v_j are called adjacent vertices and the edge e is said to be incident with v_i and v_j . Adjacency and incidence play a very important role in the spectral graph theory, a sub-area of graph theory dealing with linear algebraic study of graphs and graph energy. For any vertex $v \in V(G)$, we denote the degree of v by $d_G(v)$ or briefly dv . The smallest and biggest vertex degrees in a graph will be denoted by δ and Δ , respectively. Neighbourhood of a vertex is defined as $N_G(u) = \{v \in V(G) : v \text{ is adjacent to } u \text{ in } G\}$. Neighbourhood degree sum of a vertex u is defined as $\delta_G(u) = \sum_{v \in N_G(u)} d_G(v)$. Let $\delta_G(v)$ be the sum of all vertex degrees in the neighbourhood of v .

Graph theory is becoming increasingly popular due to its possible applications in Chemistry, Pharmacology, Physics, Neuroscience, Network Science and many other areas. Each day, new areas are added to the list. This popularity is due to the fact that a molecule or a social science application can be modeled by a graph. For molecules, one can obtain such a graph by replacing each atom by a vertex and adding an edge between two atoms if there is a chemical bond between those atoms. Graphs obtained in such a way are called chemical (molecular) graphs. Once modeled, we can study this graph by mathematical methods using the existing combinatorial, number theoretical, topological, linear algebraic, etc. methods. At the end of such mathematical calculations, we obtain a number which is characteristic to the graph under consideration. Such numbers are actually invariants and they remain the same under isomorphism. The main step is to establish some exact result, an upper or lower bound, or at least some regression between the obtained mathematical number and same

physico-chemical property of the molecule. This step brings together Chemistry and Mathematics. The oldest known example is the Wiener index introduced in 1947 by Chemist Harold Wiener to determine the boiling points of some alkane isomers. Today there are more than 3000 such mathematical formulae to study properties of molecules. Mathematicians call them graph theoretical indices or topological graph indices and Chemists call them molecular descriptors. Today, serious part of research related to graph theory is published on such descriptors and indices.

A recently introduced topological index is the Sombor index. It was defined in [9] by Ivan Gutman in 2021 by the formula

$$SO(G) = \sum_{e=uv \in E(G)} \sqrt{du^2 + dv^2}.$$

Gutman studied some mathematical and chemical properties of this index in [8,11]. In parallel with these studies, many other researchers also considered various mathematical properties of Sombor index in [4,5,13,15–17,19–21,23,26]. Chemical applications of the Sombor index have been studied in [1–3,6,7,18,22,24] in detail. After defining the Sombor index, its modified version was put forward in [14], and studied in [10,12,25,27].

For an r -regular graph G , Sombor index is equal to $SO(G) = \sqrt{2}mr$. Also as the sum of the vertex degrees is equal to twice the number of edges, we can restate this as $SO(G) = 2\sqrt{2}m^2/n$.

In this paper, we use the ingenious methods which are used in mathematics to calculate large mathematical objects by means of smaller objects which are easier to calculate. These methods are vertex and edge removal. Here we shall determine how much Sombor index changes when a vertex or an edge is deleted from a graph.

2. Effect of vertex removal on Sombor index

In this section, we study how much Sombor index changes when a vertex is deleted from a graph. According to the enumerations we do with different graphs, there are two different cases where the vertex to be deleted is pendant or not. So we shall see those two cases separately below.

Theorem 1. Let $v \in V(G)$ be of degree $dv > 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - v) &= \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{dv^2 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w,v)=2}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du-1)^2 + dw^2} \right] \\ &+ \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u, w \in N_G(v)}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du-1)^2 + (dw-1)^2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. From the definition of Sombor index, we can partition the edges of the graph G into four families: **i)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $v \neq u, w \notin N_G(v)$, **ii)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $u \in N_G(v)$, $d(w, v) = 2$, **iii)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $u, w \in N_G(v)$, and **iv)** $vw \in E(G)$ such that $w \in N_G(v)$. According to this edge partition, we can alternatively restate the Sombor index of graph G as

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) &= \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq u, w \notin N_G(v)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w,v)=2}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} \\ &+ \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u, w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{dv^2 + dw^2} \end{aligned}$$

as conveniently. If we remove a non-pendant vertex v from the graph G , then the edge partition of $G - v$ would be **i)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $v \neq u, w \notin N_G(v)$, **ii)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $u \in N_G(v)$, $d(w, v) = 2$, and **iii)** $uw \in E(G)$ such that $u, w \in N_G(v)$. That is, only the edges of type **iv)** will disappear. Hence the Sombor index of the remaining graph $G - v$ is

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G - v) = & \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq u, w \notin N_G(v)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w, v) = 2}} \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \\ & + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u, w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + (dw - 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the desired result follows. \square

Using this theorem, we can directly deduce an upper bound for the change in Sombor index when a non-pendant vertex is deleted from a graph:

Corollary 1. Let $v \in V(G)$ be of degree $dv > 1$. Let $\delta_G(v)$ be as above. Let $A = \sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1}$. If there are t pairs of vertices in the neighbourhood of v forming an edge of G , then

$$SO(G) - SO(G - v) \leq (dv + 2t - \delta_G(v))A + \sqrt{2}[t(1 - \delta - \Delta) + \delta_G(v)\Delta]. \quad (1)$$

Proof. From Theorem 1

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - v) & \leq \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{2}\Delta + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w, v) = 2}} \left[\sqrt{2}\Delta - \sqrt{(\delta - 1)^2 + \delta^2} \right] \\ & + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u, w \in N_G(v)}} \left[\sqrt{2}\Delta - \sqrt{2}(\delta - 1) \right] \\ & = dv\sqrt{2}\Delta + (\delta_G(v) - dv - 2t) \left(\sqrt{2}\Delta - \sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1} \right) \\ & + t \left(\sqrt{2}(\Delta - \delta + 1) \right) \\ & = dv\sqrt{2}\Delta + \delta_G(v)\sqrt{2}\Delta - \delta_G(v)\sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1} - dv\sqrt{2}\Delta \\ & + dv\sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1} - 2\sqrt{2}t\Delta + 2t\sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1} + t\sqrt{2}\Delta \\ & - t\delta\sqrt{2} + t\sqrt{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $A = \sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1}$, we have

$$SO(G) - SO(G - v) \leq A(dv + 2t - \delta_G(v)) + \sqrt{2}(t(1 - \delta - \Delta) + \delta_G(v)\Delta).$$

\square

Corollary 2. Let G be a tree and let $v \in V(G)$ be of degree $dv > 1$. Let $\delta_G(v)$ be as above. If there are t pairs of vertices in the neighbourhood of v forming an edge of G , then

$$SO(G) - SO(G - v) \leq dv + 2t - \delta_G(v) + \sqrt{2}\Delta(\delta_G(v) - t).$$

The proof depends on the fact that in a tree, $\delta = 1$ and hence $A = 1$. Note that Corollary 2 is also valid when the graph has at least one pendant vertex but is not a tree.

Now, we give results for deleting a pendant vertex from a graph:

Theorem 2. If $v \in V(G)$ is a pendant vertex, then

$$SO(G) - SO(G - v) = \sqrt{1 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w,v)=2}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \right].$$

That is, the formula in Theorem 1 simplifies.

Corollary 3. If $v \in V(G)$ is a pendant vertex and u is its support vertex, then

$$SO(G) - SO(G - v) \leq \sqrt{2}\Delta du - (du - 1)A$$

where A is given in Corollary 1.

Proof. Using Theorem 2, as $A = \sqrt{2\delta^2 - 2\delta + 1}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - v) &= \sqrt{1 + dw^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w,v)=2}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{2}\Delta + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ u \in N_G(v) \\ d(w,v)=2}} \left[\sqrt{2}\Delta - \sqrt{(\delta - 1)^2 + \delta^2} \right] \\ &\leq \sqrt{2}\Delta dv + (du - 1) \left[\sqrt{2}\Delta - A \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the result follows. \square

3. Effect of edge removal on Sombor index

In this section, we will determine the change on Sombor index when we remove an edge from graph G . First we check the effect of deleting a pendant edge.

Theorem 3. If $e = uv \in E(G)$ be a pendant edge with pendant vertex v , then

$$SO(G) - SO(G - e) = \sqrt{du^2 + 1} - \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \left[\sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} \right].$$

Proof. From the definition of Sombor index, we can reorganize the Sombor index of the graph G as

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) &= \sum_{\substack{rs \in E(G) \\ u \neq r, s \notin N_G(u)}} \sqrt{d_r^2 + d_s^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ w \in N_G(u)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{rs \in E(G) \\ u \neq r, s \notin N_G(u)}} \sqrt{d_r^2 + d_s^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} + \sqrt{du^2 + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

If we remove a pendant edge $e = uv$ with pendant vertex v , then we get

$$SO(G - e) = \sum_{\substack{rs \in E(G) \\ u \neq r, s \notin N_G(u)}} \sqrt{d_r^2 + d_s^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2}.$$

Hence the result follows. \square

Theorem 3 implies that it is possible to obtain the maximum value of the decrease in the Sombor index when a pendant edge is deleted from the graph:

Corollary 4. For a graph G and a pendant edge $e = uv$ with pendant vertex v , we have

$$SO(G) - SO(G - e) \leq (du - 1)(\sqrt{2}\Delta - A) + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 1}.$$

Proof. By Theorem 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - e) &= \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \right] + \sqrt{du^2 + 1} \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} (\sqrt{2}\Delta - A) + \sqrt{\Delta^2 + 1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since there are $du - 1$ edges in the neighbourhood of the vertex u , the result follows. \square

Next result gives a similar formula for the amount of change in the Sombor index of a graph when a non-pendant edge is deleted:

Theorem 4. Let $e = uv \in E(G)$ be a non-pendant edge. Then

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - e) &= \sqrt{du^2 + dv^2} - \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \left[\sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} \right] \\ &\quad - \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ u \neq w \in N_G(v)}} \left[\sqrt{(dv - 1)^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{dv^2 + dw^2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By the definition of Sombor index, we can group the edges in G as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) &= \sum_{\substack{rs \in E(G) \\ u \neq r \notin N_G(u) \\ v \neq s \notin N_G(v)}} \sqrt{d_r^2 + d_s^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ u \neq w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{dv^2 + dw^2} + \sqrt{du^2 + dv^2}. \end{aligned}$$

If we remove a non-pendant edge e from the graph G , Sombor index of graph $G - e$ becomes

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G - e) &= \sum_{\substack{rs \in E(G) \\ u \neq r \notin N_G(u) \\ v \neq s \notin N_G(v)}} \sqrt{d_r^2 + d_s^2} + \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ u \neq w \in N_G(v)}} \sqrt{(dv - 1)^2 + dw^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the result is obtained. \square

The following result giving the maximum amount of change in the Sombor index of a graph in terms of the size of the graph when a non-pendant edge is deleted from the graph can be deduced from the above results:

Corollary 5. *Let e be a non-pendant edge in G . Then*

$$SO(G) - SO(G - e) \leq \sqrt{2}m\Delta - (m - 1)A.$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - e) &= \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} \left[\sqrt{du^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + dw^2} \right] \\ &\quad + \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ u \neq w \in N_G(v)}} \left[\sqrt{dv^2 + dw^2} - \sqrt{(dv - 1)^2 + dw^2} \right] + \sqrt{du^2 + dv^2} \\ &\leq \sum_{\substack{uw \in E(G) \\ v \neq w \in N_G(u)}} (\sqrt{2}\Delta - A) + \sum_{\substack{vw \in E(G) \\ u \neq w \in N_G(v)}} (\sqrt{2}\Delta - A) + \sqrt{2}\Delta \\ &= (m - 1) (\sqrt{2}\Delta - A) + \sqrt{2}\Delta \end{aligned}$$

giving the required result. \square

In many calculations with graphs, cut vertices and bridges help us to do the calculations much easier as they partition the graph into blocks which are much smaller than the given graph. In the following result, we use this method to calculate Sombor index of some large graphs in terms of Sombor indices of the blocks of the given graphs.

Theorem 5. *Let G be a graph and let $e = uv$ be a bridge in G . Let $d_G u = k + 1$ and $d_G v = t + 1$. Then*

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - e) &= \sqrt{(k + 1)^2 + (t + 1)^2} + \sum_{i=1}^k \left(\sqrt{(k + 1)^2 + du_i^2} - \sqrt{k^2 + du_i^2} \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^t \left(\sqrt{(t + 1)^2 + dv_j^2} - \sqrt{t^2 + dv_j^2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Proof. Let the two blocks of G connected with the bridge e be G_1 and G_2 . Let the neighbours of u apart from v be u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k and let the neighbours of v apart from u be v_1, v_2, \dots, v_t . Let $A = \{xy \mid x, y \in V(G_1), x, y \neq u\}$ and $B = \{xy \mid x, y \in V(G_2), x, y \neq v\}$. We can organize $SO(G)$ as follows:

$$SO(G) = \sqrt{du^2 + dv^2} + \sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{du^2 + du_i^2} + \sum_{j=1}^t \sqrt{dv^2 + dv_j^2} + \sum_{xy \in A \cup B} \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2}.$$

Similarly

$$SO(G - e) = \sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{(du - 1)^2 + du_i^2} + \sum_{j=1}^t \sqrt{(dv - 1)^2 + dv_j^2} + \sum_{xy \in A \cup B} \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2}.$$

Hence the required result is obtained easily after some calculations. \square

Theorem 5 can be generalized to some number of bridges separating some number of blocks.

The difference in Theorem 5 can also be stated in terms of the Sombor indices of the two blocks G_1 and G_2 as follows. The proof is omitted as it is similar to the previous ones:

Corollary 6. Let G be a graph and let $e = uv$ be a bridge in G as in Theorem 5. Let $d_G u = k + 1$ and $d_G v = t + 1$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - e) &= \sqrt{(k+1)^2 + (t+1)^2} + \sum_{i=1}^k \sqrt{(k+1)^2 + du_i^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^t \sqrt{(t+1)^2 + dv_j^2} + \sum_{xy \in A \cup B} \sqrt{dx^2 + dy^2} - SO(G_1) - SO(G_2). \end{aligned}$$

In the following result, we delete a path bridge between two blocks of a graph instead of deleting a bridge:

Theorem 6. Let G be a graph and let $e = uv$ be a path bridge of length r . That is, between u and v , there are r vertices w_1, w_2, \dots, w_r all having degree 2 in G . Let $C = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_r\}$, $d_G u = k + 1$ and $d_G v = t + 1$. Then the change in the Sombor index of G when the set C is deleted from G is

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - C) &= \sqrt{(k+1)^2 + 4} + \sqrt{(t+1)^2 + 4} + 2(r-1)\sqrt{2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^k \left[\sqrt{(k+1)^2 + du_i^2} - \sqrt{k^2 + du_i^2} \right] \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^t \left[\sqrt{(t+1)^2 + dv_j^2} - \sqrt{t^2 + dv_j^2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The edges in G can be partitioned as A and B as in the proof of Theorem 5, $\{uw_1, w_1w_2, w_2w_3, \dots, w_{r-1}w_r, w_rv\}$, $\{uu_1, uu_2, uu_3, \dots, uu_k\}$, $\{vv_1, vv_2, vv_3, \dots, vv_t\}$. Then the partitioning of $G - C$ would be A and B , $\{uu_1, uu_2, uu_3, \dots, uu_k\}$, $\{vv_1, vv_2, vv_3, \dots, vv_t\}$. Considering the fact that the degrees of the end vertices u and v will decrease by one in $G - C$, the proof follows. \square

Our next result is about deleting a pendant path from a graph. Let $uv_1v_2v_3 \dots v_r$ be a pendant path in a graph G such that $du = k + 1$, $dv_1 = dv_2 = \dots = dv_{r-1} = dv_r + 1 = 2$. Let us denote the set $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1}, v_r\}$ by T . Then we have the following result:

Theorem 7. Let G be a graph and let $T = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1}, v_r\}$ be a pendant path of length r as above. Then the change in the Sombor index of G when the set T is deleted from G is

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) - SO(G - T) &= \sum_{i=1}^k \left[\sqrt{(k+1)^2 + dv_i^2} - \sqrt{k^2 + dv_i^2} \right] + \sqrt{(k+1)^2 + 4} \\ &\quad + 2(r-2)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{5}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The edges in G can be partitioned as $\{uv_1, v_1v_2, v_2v_3, \dots, v_{r-1}v_r\}$, $\{uu_1, uu_2, uu_3, \dots, uu_k\}$ and $A = \{xy \in E(G - T) \mid x, y \neq u\}$. Similarly, the edges in $G - T$ can be partitioned as $\{uu_1, uu_2, uu_3, \dots, uu_k\}$ and A . Considering the vertex degrees in G and $G - T$, the result follows. \square

As an application of this result, we calculate the Sombor index of a tadpole graph:

Example 1. Let $G = T_{r,s}$ in Theorem 7. Let T be the pendant path P_s of G so that $G - T = C_r$. Here $k = 2$. Hence by Theorem 7, we get

$$\begin{aligned} SO(G) = SO(T_{r,s}) &= SO(C_r) + \sqrt{9+4} + \sqrt{9+4} - \sqrt{4+4} - \sqrt{4+4} + \sqrt{9+4} \\ &\quad + 2(s-2)\sqrt{2} + \sqrt{5} \\ &= 2\sqrt{2}(r+s) + 3\sqrt{13} + \sqrt{5} - 8\sqrt{2} \end{aligned}$$

4. Nordhaus-Gaddum type result for Sombor index

Let G be a graph and let \bar{G} be its complement. For a vertex v in $V(G)$, $d_G v + d_{\bar{G}} v = n - 1$. Also for any tree T and for a vertex v in $V(T)$, $d_T v + d_{\bar{T}} v = m$. It is an obvious fact that if G is r -regular, then \bar{G} is $r' = (n - 1 - r)$ -regular. Also for an r -regular graph G , we have $r = 2m/n$. If the end vertices of

an edge e are x and y , then this edge is said to be of type $\{x, y\}$. Hence an r -regular graph has $nr/2$ edges of type $\{r, r\}$. Therefore we the following result:

Theorem 8. *If G is an r -regular graph, then its Sombor index is*

$$SO(G) = \frac{nr^2\sqrt{2}}{2}.$$

Theorem 9 is enough to show the following Nordhaus-Gaddum type result on Sombor index:

Theorem 9. *If G is an r -regular graph, then the following relation is satisfied:*

$$SO(G) + SO(\bar{G}) = \frac{n\sqrt{2}}{2} \left[r^2 + (n-1-r)^2 \right].$$

Proof. Note that the size of the complement graph \bar{G} is

$$\begin{aligned} m(\bar{G}) &= \frac{n(n-1)}{2} - \frac{nr}{2} \\ &= \frac{n}{2}(n-1-r) \end{aligned}$$

and hence we obtain the required relation using the regularity of the complement graph \bar{G} :

$$\begin{aligned} SO(\bar{G}) &= \frac{n(n-1-r)}{2} (n-1-r) \sqrt{2} \\ &= \frac{n\sqrt{2}}{2} (n-1-r)^2. \end{aligned}$$

This proves our required relation. \square

The following example gives a nice application of Theorem 9 to calculate the Sombor index of the complement of a cycle graph.

Example 2. *By Theorem 9, we can write*

$$SO(C_n) + SO(\bar{C}_n) = \frac{n\sqrt{2}}{2} (n^2 - 4n + 7). \quad (2)$$

As C_n has n edges of type $\{2, 2\}$, $SO(C_n) = 2n\sqrt{2}$. Therefore by subtracting this $SO(C_n)$ from Eqn. (2), we can deduce the Sombor index of the complement of the cycle graph. As \bar{C}_n has $n(n-1)/2$ edges of type $\{n-3, n-3\}$, $SO(\bar{C}_n) = (n^3 - 4n^2 + 3n) \sqrt{2}/2$ which gives us the same result.

5. Conclusions

The effects of vertex and edge removal from a graph are useful in calculating some property of large graphs in terms of the same property of a smaller graph. Sometimes, using iteratively, one can manage to obtain a property of a really large graph in terms of the same property of many other smaller graphs. Here, the calculations are made for a pendant and non-pendant vertex, a pendant and non-pendant edge, a pendant path, a bridge, a bridge path. Using these results, Sombor index of cyclic graphs and tadpole graphs are obtained. Finally, some Nordhaus-Gaddum type results are obtained for Sombor index.

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