Complementary Eccentric Uniform Labeling Graphs

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Abstract. Given a graph \( G = (V, E) \), a set \( M \subset V \) is called Complementary Eccentric Uniform (CEU), if the \( M \)-eccentricity labeling \( e_M(u) = \max\{d(u, v) : v \in M\} \) is identical for all \( u \in V - M \). The least cardinality of a CEU set is called the CEU number of the graph \( G \). In this paper we initiate a study on CEU labelled graphs and obtain bounds for certain graphs.

Keywords. CEU set; CEU number

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1. Introduction

For all terminology and notation in graph theory, we refer the reader to F. Harary [5]. Unless mentioned otherwise, all graphs considered in this paper are finite, simple and connected.

The eccentricity distribution over all nodes in a graph is an important property which has been studied in [8]. In [7], Linda Lesniak studied various properties of eccentricity sequences. The distance labeling of graphs has been widely studied in [4]. In network analysis there are situations in which a set of nodes are in equal distance from some other nodes or we want to keep some nodes at a particular distance from a set of nodes. Motivated from this we initiate a study on uniform eccentricity labeling in graphs.

2. Definitions and Results

Given a graph \( G = (V, E) \), the distance between two vertices \( d(u, v) \) is the length of the shortest \( u - v \) path in \( G \). The eccentricity \( e(v) \) of a vertex \( v \) is \( \max_{u \in V} d(u, v) \). The radius \( \text{rad} G \) is \( \min_{v \in V} e(v) \)
and the diameter $\text{diam} G$ is $\max e(v)$. A vertex $v \in V(G)$ is called an eccentric point of the vertex $u \in V(G)$ if $d(u, v) = e(u)$. If $\text{rad} G = \text{diam} G$, then the graph $G$ is called self-centered. If $e(u) = \text{diam} G$, then $u$ is called a peripheral vertex of $G$.

**Definition 2.1.** Let $G = (V, E)$ be a $(p, q)$ graph and $M$ be any nonempty proper subset of $V(G)$. Then, the $M$-eccentricity of $u$ is the number $e_M(u) = \max_{v \in V} d(u, v)$. If $e_M(u)$ is identical for all $u \in V - M$, then we say $M$ is a Complementary Eccentric Uniform (CEU) set and $G$ is called Complementary Eccentric Uniform Labeled graph. If the common value $e_M(u) = k$, then we say $G$ is Complementary Eccentric $k$-uniform graph or $k$-CEU graph.

The following is an immediate observation.

**Observation 2.2.** For any connected graph $G = (V, E)$ and $M \subset V$, $1 \leq e_M(u) \leq \text{diam}(G)$, for every $u \in V - M$.

**Problem 1.** For a graph $G = (V, E)$, find or characterize $M \subset V$, such that $e_M(v) = e(v)$ for every $v \in V - M$.

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a connected graph with at least 2 vertices. Then for any $v \in V$, the set $M = V - \{v\}$ is a CEU set. Hence every connected graph has a CEU set. In a $(p, q)$ graph $G$, a CEU set with cardinality $p - 1$ is called trivial CEU set. Hence we are interested in finding the non-trivial CEU sets.

**Definition 2.3.** The least cardinality of the CEU set in $G$ is called the CEU number of $G$ and is denoted by $\eta(G)$.

**Example 2.4.** The following is an example of a graph with CEU labeling. Here $M = \{u, v\}$ is the minimum CEU set.

![Figure 1. CEU labelled graph](image)

**Theorem 2.5.** For a $(p, q)$ graph $G = (V, E)$, $\eta(G) = 1$ if and only if there exists $v \in V$ such that $d_G(v) = p - 1$.

**Proof.** Suppose there exists a vertex $v \in V$ such that $d_G(v) = p - 1$. Take $M = \{v\}$. Then for all $u \neq v$, $e_M(u) = d(u, v) = 1$, so that $M$ is a CEU set. Hence $\eta(G) = 1$.

Conversely suppose that $\eta(G) = 1$. Then there exists $v \in V$ such that $M = \{v\}$ is a CEU set. Since $\eta(G) = 1$, $e_M(u) = 1$ for all $u \neq v$, i.e., $d(u, v) = 1$, for all $u \neq v$. Hence $d_G(v) = p - 1$.

**Remark 2.6.** In a graph $G = (V, E)$ of order $n$, a vertex $v \in V$ with $\text{deg}(v) = n - 1$ is called a full degree vertex. Hence the above theorem can be restated as follows.
Theorem 2.7. For any graph $G$, $\eta(G) = 1$ if and only if $G$ has at least one full degree vertex.

Corollary 2.8. Complete graph $K_n$ is 1-CEU.

Corollary 2.9. For $m, n \geq 2$, $\eta(K_{m,n}) = 2$.

Proof. Let $V(K_{m,n}) = X \cup Y$. Take $M = \{x, y\}$ where $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$. Then for every $u \in V - M$, $e_M(u) = d(u, y) = 2$, if $u \in Y$ and $e_M(u) = d(u, x) = 2$, if $u \in X$. Hence $M$ is a CEU set. Since there are no full degree vertices in $K_{m,n}$, by Theorem 2.7, $\eta(K_{m,n}) = 2$.

Definition 2.10. A tree containing exactly two vertices that are not end vertices is called a bistar.

Corollary 2.11. For a bistar $B_{m,n}, m, n \geq 1$, $\eta(B_{m,n}) = 2$.

Proof. Let $M$ be the central vertices in $B_{m,n}$. Then for all $u \in V(B_{m,n}) - M$, $e_M(u) = 2$. Since $B_{m,n}$ has no full degree vertices, by Theorem 2.7, $\eta(B_{m,n}) = 2$.

Remark 2.12. In a non-selfcentered graph $G = (V, E)$, the relation $\sim$ on $V$ given by $u \sim v$ if and only if $e(u) = e(v)$ is an equivalence relation. Let the equivalence classes corresponding to the eccentricities $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_k$ be denoted by $[e_1],[e_2],\ldots,[e_k]$.

Proposition 1. In a non-selfcentered graph $G = (V, E)$ with eccentricities $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_k$, the sets $M_i = V - \{e_i\}$ for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ are CEU sets in $G$.

Proof. Assume that $e_1 < e_2 < \cdots < e_k$. We consider two cases.

Case 1. When $i = k$.
Since $e_k$ is the diameter of $G$, $\{e_k\}$ is the peripheral vertices of $G$. Therefore for all $u \in V - M_k$, $e_{M_k}(u) = \max\{d(u, v) : v \in M_k\} = e_k - 1$. Hence $M_k$ is a CEU set in $G$.

Case 2. When $i \neq k$.
In this case, for all $u \in V - M_i$, $e_{M_i}(u) = e(u) = e_i$. Hence in either case $M_i$ is a CEU set.

Remark 2.13. The converse of the above proposition need not be true. That is, if $M \subset V$ is a CEU set in $G$, then its complement $V - M$ need not be an equivalence class in $G$.

For example consider the graph shown in figure 2. Here $M = \{v_4, v_5\}$ is a CEU set in $G$, but its complement $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_6\}$ is not an equivalence class since $e(v_1) = 2$ and $e(v_3) = 3$.

Figure 2
Problem 2. Characterize graphs whose CEU sets are precisely the complement of equivalence classes under $\sim$?

Proposition 2. For path $P_{2n}$, the nontrivial CEU sets are precisely the complement of the equivalence classes under $\sim$.

Proof. Each equivalence class in $P_{2n}$ has exactly two elements and their complement is clearly a CEU set. Therefore if $E \subset V$ is an equivalence class in $P_{2n}$, then $M = V - E$ is a CEU set whose cardinality is $n - 2$. To prove that they are the only CEU sets in $P_{2n}$, we consider two cases. Let $M \subset V$.

Case 1. Let the cardinality of $M$ be less than $n - 2$. Then $V - M$ has at least three vertices. Let $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in V - M$. Since there is a unique path between any two vertices in $P_{2n}$, at least one of the $e_M(v_i), i = 1, 2, 3$ is different from the others. Hence $M$ is not a CEU set.

Case 2. Let the cardinality of $M$ be $n - 2$ and $M \neq V - E$ for any equivalence class $E$. Then in $V - M$ there are exactly two vertices $u$ and $v$, they are either adjacent or non-adjacent. If they are adjacent then they cannot be the central vertices since the central vertices form an equivalence class. Also $e_M(u) = e(u)$ and $e_M(v) = e(v)$ and either $e_M(u) = e_M(v) - 1$ or $e_M(v) = e_M(u) - 1$. Hence $M$ is not a CEU set. If they are nonadjacent then both cannot be the peripheral vertices. Let $u$ be a peripheral vertex. Then $e_M(u) = \text{diam}(P_{2n})$ and $e_M(v) < \text{diam}(P_{2n})$ so that $M$ is not a CEU set. If $u, v \in V - M$ are non-adjacent non-peripheral vertices then $e_M(u) \neq e(u) \neq e(v) = e_M(v)$ so that $M$ is not a CEU set. Hence the result.

Remark 2.14. For the path $P_{2n+1}$, there are $n$ equivalence classes of which one is a singleton set consisting of the central vertex and all other classes contain exactly two vertices. Hence the nontrivial CEU sets are precisely the complement of the equivalence classes under $\sim$ of cardinality 2.

Hence we have the following result.

Corollary 2.15. For path $P_n$, $n > 2$, $\eta(P_n) = n - 2$.

Theorem 2.16. For cycle $C_n$, $\eta(C_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{2}, & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \\ \frac{n}{2}, & \text{if } n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3} \end{cases}$

Proof. Case 1. If $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

Let $n = 3k$, for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$. Let $C_n = v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{3k}, v_{3k+1} = v_1$. Consider $M = \{v_i, v_{i+3}, \ldots, v_{i+3(k-1)}\}$, for any $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 3k$. Then for any $v_j \in V(C_n) - M$, either $v_{j-1} \in M$ or $v_{j+1} \in M$. Hence $e_M(v_j) = \max\{1, 2, 4, 5, \ldots, \frac{n-4}{2}, \frac{n-2}{2}\} = \frac{n-2}{2}$, if $n$ is even and $e_M(v_j) = \max\{1, 2, 4, 5, \ldots, \frac{n-1}{2}\} = \frac{n-1}{2}$, if $n$ is odd. Hence $M$ is a CEU set and $\eta(C_n) \leq \frac{n}{3}$.

To prove the equality, first assume $n$ is odd. Let $M_1 = \{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_j\} \subset V(C_n)$ such that $j < k$ where each $u_i$ is some $v_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, 3k$. Since $n$ is odd, to each vertex in $C_n$ there are exactly two eccentric vertices. Let $M_{1e} = \{u_{11}, u_{12}, u_{21}, u_{22}, \ldots, u_{j1}, u_{j2}\}$ be the set of eccentric points of vertices in $M_1$. Note that they may not be distinct and some of them may be vertices in $M_1$. But cardinality of $M_{1e}$ is at most $2j$. Since $j < k$, there are vertices which does not belong to $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$. Choose such a vertex $u$ which is not in $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$ and which is adjacent to a vertex $v \in M_{1e}$. Then clearly $e_M(v) = \text{diam}C_n$ and $e_M(u) = e_M(v) - 1$. Since $u, v \in V(C_n) - M_1$, it follows that $M_1$ is not a CEU set. Hence in this case $\eta(C_n) = \frac{n}{3}$. 

Now assume $n$ is even. Then to each vertex in $C_n$ there is a unique eccentric point. Let $M_{1e} = \{u_{11},u_{21},\ldots,u_{j1}\}$ be the set of eccentric points of vertices in $M_1$. Note that they must be distinct but some of them may elements in $M_1$. Now cardinality of $M_{1e}$ is almost $j$ so that there are vertices which does not belong to $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$. Let $u$ be a vertex which is not in $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$ and which is adjacent to a vertex $v \in M_{1e}$. But then $e_{M_1}(v) = \text{diam}(C_n)$ and $e_{M_1}(u) = e_{M_1}(v) - 1$ and hence $M_1$ is not a CEU set. Hence, in this case also $\eta(C_n) = \frac{n}{2}$.

**Case 2.** If $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{3}$

**Subcase 1.** If $n$ is even.

Let $n = 2k$, for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and let $C_n = v_1,v_2,\ldots,v_{2k},v_{2k+1} = v_1$. Let $M = \{v_i,v_{i+1},\ldots,v_{i+k-1}\}$, for any $i = 1,2,\ldots,2k$. Then for any $v \in V(C_n) - M$, $e_M(v) = \text{diam}(C_n)$ so that $M$ is a CEU set. Hence $\eta(C_n) \leq k = \frac{n}{2}$.

To prove the equality, let $M_1 = \{u_1,u_2,\ldots,u_j\} \subset V(C_n)$ be such that $j < \frac{n}{2}$. Let $M_{1e} = \{u_{11},u_{21},\ldots,u_{j1}\}$ be the set of eccentric points of vertices in $M_1$. Now $M_{1e}$ has at most $j$ elements. Since $j < \frac{n}{2}$, there are vertices in $C_n$ which does not belong to $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$. Let $u$ be a vertex which is not in $M_1 \cup M_{1e}$ and which is adjacent to a vertex $v \in M_{1e}$. Then clearly $e_{M_1}(u) = \text{diam}(C_n)$ and $e_{M_1}(v) = e_{M_1}(u) - 1$. Hence $M_1$ is not a CEU set and $\eta(C_n) = \frac{n}{2}$.

**Subcase 2.** If $n$ is odd.

Let $n = 2k + 1$, for some $k \in \mathbb{N}$ and let $C_n = v_1,v_2,\ldots,v_{2k+1},v_{2k+2} = v_1$. Let $M = \{v_i,v_{i+1},\ldots,v_{i+k-1}\}$, for any $i = 1,2,\ldots,2k+1$. Since $n$ is odd each vertex in $C_n$ has precisely two eccentric points. Since the vertices in $M$ are $k$ adjacent vertices in $C_n$ their eccentric points are the remaining $k + 1$ vertices in $C_n$. Hence for all $v \in V(C_n) - M$, $e_M(v) = \text{diam}(C_n)$. Hence $M$ is a CEU set and $\eta(C_n) \leq k = \frac{n-1}{2}$.

As in the above case we can show that any subset of $V(C_n)$ with less than $k$ elements is not a CEU set. Hence $\eta(C_n) = \frac{n-1}{2}$. Thus combining these two cases we get $\eta(C_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. \[\square\]

**Theorem 2.17.** In a tree $T$ with a full degree vertex $v$, the CEU sets are precisely subsets of $V(T)$ which contains $v$.

**Proof.** Tree with a full degree vertex is isomorphic to $K_{1,n}$. Let $v$ be the central vertex and $v_1,v_2,\ldots,v_n$ be the leaves of $K_{1,n}$. Then for any $M \subset V(T)$ which contains $v$, $e_M(v_i) = \max(d(v,v_1),d(v,v_2),\ldots,d(v,v_n)) = 2$ for any $v_i \in V - M$. Hence every subset of $V$ which contains $v$ is a CEU set. Now if $M \subset V$ does not contain $v$, then $e_M(v) = 1 \not= 2 = e_M(v_i)$ for any $v_i \in V - M$. Hence the result. \[\square\]

**Lemma 2.18** ([7]). Let $T$ be a tree and $P : u_0,u_1,\ldots,u_l$ a longest path in $T$. If $u \in V(T)$, then $e(u) = \max(d(u,u_0),d(u,u_l))$.

**Corollary 2.19.** Let $T$ be a tree and $M \subset V(T)$. Then for any $u \in V(T) - M$, $e_M(u) = \max(d(u,u_0),d(u,u_l))$ where $P_M = u_0,u_1,\ldots,u_l$ be the longest path in $T$ which starts and ends in $M$.

**Proof.** Proof follows from the proof of Lemma 2.18 \[\square\]

**Corollary 2.20.** If $M$ is the set of all peripheral vertices of $T$, then $e_M(u) = e(u)$ for every $u \in V - M$. \[\square\]
Proof. Since $M$ is the set of all peripheral vertices, each element of $M$ is the end points of some longest path in $T$. Hence the result follows from Lemma 2.18.

Theorem 2.21. For a tree $T$ on $n$ vertices with eccentricities $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_k$, $\eta(T) = n - ||e_i||$, where $||e_i|| \geq ||e_j||$ for every $j \neq i$.

Proof. For a tree $T$ on $n$ vertices with eccentricities $e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_k$, by Proposition 1, $V(T) - [e_i]$ is a CEU set for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$. If $||e_i|| \geq ||e_j||$, then $n - ||e_i|| \leq n - ||e_j||$ so that $\eta(T) \leq n - ||e_i||$. Let $||e_i|| = m_i$, for $i = 1, 2, \ldots, k$ so that by assumption $m_i \geq m_j$, for every $j \neq i$. Without loss of generality assume that $e_1 < e_2 < \cdots < e_k$. Let $M = \{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_l\} \subseteq V(T)$ be such that $l < n - m_i$. Then in $V - M$ there are $n - l$ vertices. Since $l < n - m_i$, $n - l > m_i$. Thus $V - M$ has at least $m_i + 1$ elements. Now the centre of $T$ is either a vertex $v$ or $K_2$ which corresponds to the class $[e_1]$. Since $n - l > m_i$, there exist at least two vertices $u_s$ and $u_t$ for $l + 1 \leq s, t \leq n$ such that $u_s \in [e_p]$ and $u_t \in [e_q]$ for some $1 \leq p \neq q \leq k$. But then $e_M(u_s) = \max(d(u_s, v_0), d(u_s, v_h))$ where $v_0, v_1, \ldots, v_h$ is the longest path in $T$ which starts and ends in $M$. Then either $e_M(u_t) < e_M(u_s)$ or $e_M(u_t) > e_M(u_s)$. Thus $M$ is not a CEU set and hence $\eta(T) = n - m_i$.

3. Conclusion

As pointed out already, the concept under study has important applications in the field of network analysis. In a network there are situations to keep a set of nodes at a particular distance from another set of nodes. So Complementary eccentric uniform sets allow set of points in a graph to be in a particular distance from another set of points. In this paper we have identified the CEU sets in many graphs and CEU number of certain well known graphs.

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Competing Interests

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Authors’ Contributions

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