

# Connected Hub Sets and Connected Hub Polynomials of the Lollipop Graph $L_{p,1}$

T. Angelinshiny<sup>1</sup>

T. Anitha Baby<sup>2</sup>

## Abstract

Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$ . The number of vertices in  $G$  is the order of  $G$  and is denoted by  $|V(G)|$ . The connected hub polynomial of  $G$  denoted by  $H_c(G, y)$  is defined as  $H_c(G, y) = \sum_{k=\mathcal{H}_c(G)}^{|V(G)|} h_c(G, k) y^k$  where  $h_c(G, k)$  denotes the number of connected hub sets of  $G$  of cardinality  $k$  and  $\mathcal{H}_c(G)$  denotes the connected hub number of  $G$ . Let  $L_{p,1}$  denotes the Lollipop graph with  $p + 1$  vertices. The connected hub polynomial of  $L_{p,1}$  denoted by  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y)$  is defined as,  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=\mathcal{H}_c(L_{p,1})}^{|V(L_{p,1})|} h_c(L_{p,1}, k) y^k$  where  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k)$  denotes the number of connected hub sets of  $L_{p,1}$  of cardinality  $k$ , and  $\mathcal{H}_c(L_{p,1})$  denotes the connected hub number of  $L_{p,1}$ . In this paper, we derive a recursive formula for  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k)$ . From this recursive formula, we construct the connected hub polynomial of  $L_{p,1}$  as,  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p,1}, k) y^k$ . Also we study some properties of this polynomial.

**Keywords:** Lollipop Graph, connected hub set, connected hub number, Connected hub polynomial.

**Mathematics Subject Classification Code:** 05C31, 05C99<sup>3</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar (Reg. No. 20213282092009), Department of Mathematics, Women's Christian College, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, India. Affiliated by Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Abishekapatti, Tirunelveli - 627 012. Mail Id: angelinshinyt@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup> Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Women's Christian College, Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu, India. Affiliated by Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Abishekapatti, Tirunelveli - 627 012. Mail Id: anithasteve@gmail.com

<sup>3</sup>Received on June 19th, 2022. Accepted on Sep 1st, 2022. Published on Nov 30th, 2022. doi: 10.23755/rm.v44i0.886. ISSN: 1592-7415. eISSN: 2282-8214. ©The Authors. This paper is published under the CC-BY license agreement.

## 1. Introduction

If any two distinct vertices of a graph  $G$  are adjacent, then  $G$  is a complete graph. If a tree has two nodes of vertex degree 1 and other nodes of vertex degree 2, then it is a path graph. A complete graph of order  $p$  is denoted by  $K_p$  and a path graph of order  $q$  is denoted by  $P_q$ . Join a complete graph  $K_p$  to a path graph  $P_q$  with a bridge. The resulting graph is a Lollipop graph  $L_{p,q}$ .

## 2. Connected Hub Sets of the Lollipop Graph $L_{p,1}$

In this section, we give the connected hub number of the Lollipop graph  $L_{p,1}$  and some of the properties of the connected hub sets of the Lollipop graph  $L_{p,1}$ .

**Definition 2.1** Join a complete graph  $K_p$  to a path graph  $P_1$  with a bridge. The resulting graph is a Lollipop graph  $L_{p,1}$ .

**Definition 2.2** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph. A subset  $H$  of  $V$  is called a hub set of  $G$  if for any two distinct vertices  $u, v \in V - H$ , there exists a  $u - v$  path  $P$  in  $G$ , such that all the internal vertices of  $P$  are in  $H$ . The minimum cardinality of a hub set of  $G$  is called the hub number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $h(G)$ .

**Definition 2.3** A hub set  $H$  of  $G$  is called a connected hub set if the induced subgraph  $\langle H \rangle$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a connected hub set of  $G$  is called connected hub number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $h_c(G)$ .

**Theorem 2.4**

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \begin{cases} \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} + 1 & \text{when } k = 1 \text{ and } p - 1 \\ \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} & \text{if } 2 \leq k \leq p + 1 \text{ and } k \neq p - 1 \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Let  $L_{p,1}$  be the Lollipop graph with  $p + 1$  vertices and  $p \geq 4$ . Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3 \dots v_p, v_{p+1}$  be the vertices of  $L_{p,1}$ , in which the degree of the vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{p-1}$  is  $p - 1$ , the degree of the vertex  $v_p$  is  $p$  and the degree of the vertex  $v_{p+1}$  is 1. Since,  $L_{p,1}$  contains  $p + 1$  vertices, the number of subsets of  $L_{p,1}$  with cardinality  $k$  is  $\binom{p+1}{k}$ . Also, Since, the subgraph with vertex set  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3 \dots v_{p-1}\}$  is not adjacent to  $v_{p+1}$  every hub set must contain the vertices  $v_p$  or  $v_{p+1}$ . Therefore, every time  $\binom{p}{k}$  number of subsets of  $L_{p,1}$  of cardinality  $k$  are not connected hub sets.

Thus,  $L_{p,1}$  have  $\binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k}$  number of connected hubs sets of cardinalities  $k$ .

When the cardinality is  $p - 1$ , the set which contains  $v_{p-1}$  is also a connected hub set.

When the cardinality is 1,  $\{v_p\}$  and  $\{v_{p+1}\}$  are the only connected hub sets.

$$\text{Hence, } h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \begin{cases} \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} + 1 & \text{when } k = 1, p-1 \\ \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} & \text{if } 2 \leq k \leq p+1 \text{ and } k \neq p-1 \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 2.5** Let  $L_{p,1}$  be the Lollipop graph with  $p \geq 4$ . Then

- (i)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p}{k-1}$  for all  $2 \leq k \leq p+1$  and  $k \neq p-1$
- (ii)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p}{k-1} + 1$  when  $k = 1$  and  $p-1$ .
- (iii)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \begin{cases} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) & \text{if } 1 \leq k \leq p+1 \text{ and } k \neq 2, p-2 \\ h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) - 1 & \text{if } k = 2 \text{ and } p-2 \end{cases}$

**Proof:** (i) From Theorem 2.4, we have

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k}$$

$$\text{We know that, } \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} = \binom{p}{k-1}$$

Therefore,  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p}{k-1}$  for all  $2 \leq k \leq p+1$  and  $k \neq p-1$ .

(ii) From Theorem 2.4, we have

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} + 1 \text{ when } k = 1 \text{ and } p-1.$$

$$\text{We know that, } \binom{p+1}{k} - \binom{p}{k} = \binom{p}{k-1}$$

Therefore,  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p}{k-1} + 1$  when  $k = 1$  and  $p-1$ .

(iii) From (i)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \binom{p}{k-1}$  for all  $2 \leq k \leq p+1$  and  $k \neq p-1$ .

$$h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) = \binom{p-1}{k-1}$$

$$\text{and } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) = \binom{p-1}{k-2}$$

$$\text{Consider, } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) = \binom{p-1}{k-1} + \binom{p-1}{k-2} = \binom{p}{k-1} =$$

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, k)$$

Therefore,  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1)$  for  $1 \leq k \leq p+1$  and  $k \neq 2, p-2$

When  $k = 2$ ,

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, 2) = \binom{p}{1}$$

$$h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 2) = \binom{p-1}{1}$$

$$\text{and } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 1) = \binom{p-1}{0} + 1, \text{ by (ii)}$$

$$\text{Consider, } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 1) = \binom{p-1}{1} + \binom{p-1}{0} + 1 = \binom{p}{1} + 1$$

$$= h_c(L_{p,1}, 2) + 1$$

$$\text{That is, } h_c(L_{p,1}, 2) = h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 1) - 1.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) - 1 \text{ when } k = 2.$$

When  $k = p - 2$ ,

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, p-2) = \binom{p}{p-3}$$

$$h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-2) = \binom{p-1}{p-3}$$

$$\text{and } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-3) = \binom{p-1}{p-4} + 1, \text{ by (ii)}$$

$$\text{Consider, } h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-3) = \binom{p-1}{p-3} + \binom{p-1}{p-4} + 1 =$$

$$\binom{p}{p-3} + 1 = h_c(L_{p,1}, p-2) + 1$$

$$\text{That is, } h_c(L_{p,1}, p-2) = h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-3) - 1.$$

$$\text{Therefore, } h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) - 1 \text{ when } k = p - 2.$$

Hence,

$$h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = \begin{cases} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) & \text{if } 1 \leq k \leq p+1 \text{ and } k \neq 2, p-2 \\ h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) - 1 & \text{if } k = 2 \text{ and } p-2 \end{cases}$$

### 3. Connected Hub Polynomials of the Lollipop Graph $L_{p,1}$ .

**Definition 3.1** Let  $H_c(L_{p,1}, k)$  denotes the family of connected hub sets of the Lollipop graph  $L_{p,1}$  of cardinality  $k$  and  $h_c(L_{p,1}, k) = |H_c(L_{p,1}, k)|$ . Then, the connected hub polynomial of  $L_{p,1}$  denoted by  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y)$  is defined as  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=\mathcal{h}_c(L_{p,1})}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p,1}, k) y^k$

where  $\mathcal{h}_c(L_{p,1})$  is connected hub number of  $L_{p,1}$ .

**Remark 3.2**  $\mathcal{h}_c(L_{p,1}) = 1$ .

**Proof:** Label the vertices of  $L_{p,1}$  by  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p, v_{p+1}$  in which the degree of the vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{p-1}$  is  $p-1$ , the degree of the vertex  $v_p$  is  $p$  and the degree of the vertex  $v_{p+1}$  is 1. Since, any two vertices of  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p$  are adjacent there is a path between any two vertices of  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p$ . Also,  $v_p$  is the internal vertex for all the path between the vertices of  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{p-1}\}$  and  $v_{p+1}$ . Hence  $\{v_p\}$  and  $\{v_{p+1}\}$  are two connected hub sets of cardinalities 1.

Hence,  $\mathcal{h}_c(L_{p,1}) = 1$ .

**Theorem 3.3**  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = (1 + y)H_c(L_{p-1,1}, y) - y^2 - y^{p-2}$  with initial value  $H_c(L_{4,1}, y) = 2y + 4y^2 + 7y^3 + 4y^4 + y^5$ .

**Proof.** We have,  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p,1}, k) y^k$

$$H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq 2, p-2}}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p,1}, k) y^k + h_c(L_{p,1}, 2) y^2 + h_c(L_{p,1}, p-2) y^{p-2}$$

$$= \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq 2, p-2}}^{p+1} [h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1)] y^k + [h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, 1) - 1] y^2 + [h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-2) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, p-3) - 1] y^{p-2}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} [h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) + h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1)] y^k - y^2 - y^{p-2}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) y^k + \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) y^k - y^2 - y^{p-2}$$

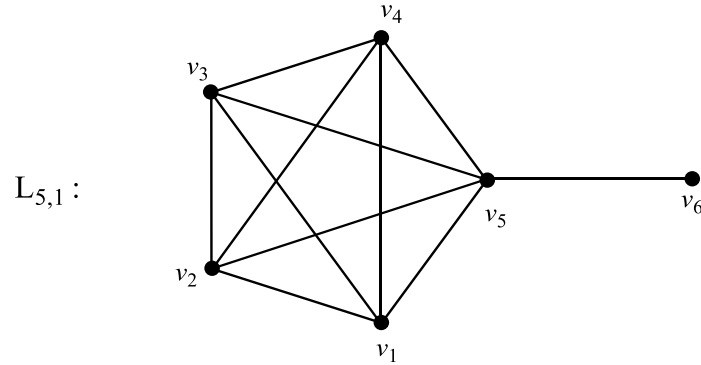
$$= \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k) y^k + y \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} h_c(L_{p-1,1}, k-1) y^{k-1} - y^2 - y^{p-2}$$

$$= H_c(L_{p-1,1}, y) + y H_c(L_{p-1,1}, y) - y^2 - y^{p-2}$$

$$= (1 + y) H_c(L_{p-1,1}, y) - y^2 - y^{p-2}$$

Hence,  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = (1 + y)H_c(L_{p-1,1}, y) - y^2 - y^{p-2}$  with initial value  $H_c(L_{4,1}, x) = 2y + 4y^2 + 7y^3 + 4y^4 + y^5$ .

**Example 3.4** Consider the Lollipop graph  $L_{5,1}$  be with order 6 given in Figure 1.



**Figure 1**

$$H_c(L_{5,1}, y) = 2y + 5y^2 + 10y^3 + 11y^4 + 5y^5 + y^6$$

By Theorem 3.3, we have,

$$H_c(L_{5,1}, y) = (1 + y)H_c(L_{4,1}, y) - y^2 - y^3$$

$$= (1 + y)(2y + 4y^2 + 7y^3 + 4y^4 + y^5) - y^2 - y^3$$

$$= 2y + 5y^2 + 10y^3 + 11y^4 + 5y^5 + y^6$$

**Theorem 3.5** Let  $L_{p,1}$  be the Lollipop graph with  $p \geq 4$ . Then

(i)  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} \binom{p+1}{k} y^k - \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} \binom{p}{k} y^k - y^2 - y^{p-2}$ .

(ii)  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y) = \sum_{k=1}^{p+1} \binom{p}{k-1} y^k - y^2 - y^{p-2}$ .

**Proof.** Proof is obvious.

$h_c(L_{p,1}, k)$  for  $4 \leq p \leq 14$  and  $1 \leq k \leq 15$ .

$k \backslash p$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
4	2	4	7	4	1										
5	2	5	10	11	5	1									
6	2	6	15	20	16	6	1								
7	2	7	21	35	35	22	7	1							
8	2	8	28	56	70	56	29	8	1						
9	2	9	36	84	126	126	84	37	9	1					
10	2	10	45	120	210	252	210	120	46	10	1				
11	2	11	55	165	330	462	462	330	165	56	11	1			
12	2	12	66	220	495	792	924	792	495	220	67	12	1		
13	2	13	78	286	715	1287	1716	1716	1287	715	286	79	13	1	
14	2	14	91	364	100	2002	3003	3432	3003	2002	1001	364	92	14	1

Table 1

**Theorem 3.6** The coefficients of  $H_c(L_{p,1}, y)$  satisfy the following properties.

- (i)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, p + 1) = 1$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .
- (ii)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, p) = p$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .
- (iii)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, p - 1) = \frac{1}{2}(p^2 - p + 2)$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .
- (iv)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, p - 2) = \frac{1}{6}(p^3 - 3p^2 + 2p)$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .
- (v)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, p - 3) = \frac{1}{24}(p^4 - 6p^3 + 11p^2 - 6p)$ , for every  $p \geq 6$ .
- (vi)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, 1) = 2$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .
- (vii)  $h_c(L_{p,1}, 2) = p$ , for every  $p \geq 4$ .

## 4. Conclusion

In this paper, we identified the connected hub sets of  $L_{p,1}$  and using the connected hub sets we derived the connected hub polynomial of  $L_{p,1}$ . We can generalize this study to derive the connected hub polynomial of any Lollipop graph  $L_{p,q}$ .

## References

- [1] Walsh, Matthew, "The Hub Number Of A Graph", *Int. J. Math. Comput. Sci* 1, No. 1 (2006): 117-124.
- [2] Veettil, Ragi Puthan, And T. V. Ramakrishnan, "Introduction To Hub Polynomial Of Graphs", *Malaya Journal Of Matematik (Mjm)* 8, No. 4, 2020 (2020): 1592-1596.
- [3] S. Alikhani And Y.h. Peng, "Dominating Sets And Domination Polynomials Of Paths", *International Journal Of Mathematics And Mathematical Sciences*, 2009.
- [4] S. Alikhani And Y.h. Peng, "Introduction To Domination Polynomial Of A Graph ", *Arxiv Preprint Arxiv:0905.2251*, 2009.
- [5] Sahib.sh. Kahat, Abdul Jalil Khalaf And Roslan Hasni, "Dominating Sets And Domination Polynomials Of Wheels", *Asian Journal Of Applied Sciences (Issn:2321-0893)*, Volume 02- Issue 03, June 2014.
- [6] Sahib.sh. Kahat, Abdul Jalil M. Khalaf And Roslan Hasni, "Dominating Sets And Domination Polynomials Of Stars", *Australian Journal Of Basics And Applied Science*, 8(6) June 2014, 383-386.
- [7] A. Vijayan, T. Anitha Baby, G. Edwin, "Connected Total Dominating Sets And Connected Total Domination Polynomials Of Stars And Wheels", *Iosr Journal Of Mathematics*, Volume II, 112-121.