

ON SZEGED INDEX OF STANDARD GRAPHS

K. V. S. Sarma* & I. V. N. Uma**

*Associate Professor, Regency Institute of Technology, Yanam, India

**Khaitan Public School, Noida, New Delhi, India

(Received on: 01-05-12; Revised & Accepted on: 23-05-12)

ABSTRACT

A recently introduced graph-invariant is 'Szeged Index' and it has considerable applications in molecular chemistry. In this paper, the Szeged indices of standard graphs are calculated. A modified Szeged index of a graph is also introduced in which all the vertices of the graph are taken into consideration; thereby the variations in these indices of standard graphs are identified.

Keywords: Wiener number, Szeged index, modified Szeged index.

1. INTRODUCTION

An important concept of a molecular graph associated with alkanes or more generally of a simple, connected graph is termed as the Wiener number (see [5]). A refined concept of this is coined as Szeged index (see [2]) & [3]). As in the case of Wiener number, no standard formula is available to calculate the Szeged index of a connected graph. In §2, we calculate the Szeged index of standard graphs and in §3, we introduce a modified Szeged index and observe the variations in these indices for the standard graphs.

For the standard notation and results we refer Bondy & Murthy [1].

For ready reference, we give the following:

Definition: 1.1 [2]: G is a connected graph. Then the Wiener number $W(G)$ of G is defined to be $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{u,v \in V(G)} d(u,v)$,

where $V(G)$ is the vertex set of G and $d(u,v) = d_G(u,v)$ is the shortest distance between the vertices u,v of G .

Observations 1.2 [4]:

- For the complete graph K_n ($n \geq 2$), $W(K_n) = n(n-1)/2$.
- For the path P_n ($n \geq 2$), $W(P_n) = n(n^2-1)/6$.
- For the cycle C_n ($n \geq 3$), $W(C_n) = n \lfloor n/2 \rfloor^2$.
- For the star graph $K_{1,n}$, $W(K_{1,n}) = n^2$ ($n \geq 1$).
- For the complete bipartite graph $K_{m,n}$ ($m, n \geq 1$), $W(K_{m,n}) = (m^2 + mn + n^2) - (m+n)$.
- For the wheel $K_1 \vee C_n$ ($n \geq 3$), $W(K_1 \vee C_n) = n(n-1)$.

Throughout this paper, we consider only non-empty, simple, finite and connected graph to avoid trivialities.

2. SZEGED INDEX OF STANDARD GRAPHS

For convenience, we recollect the following:

Definition 2.1 [3]: Let G be a graph (i.e., nonempty, simple, finite and connected graph). Let $e = uv$ be any edge of G . Denote

$$N_1(e|G) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w,u) < d(w,v)\} \text{ (} w \text{ is closer to } u \text{ than } v \text{ in } G),$$

$$N_2(e|G) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w,v) < d(w,u)\} \text{ (} w \text{ is closer to } v \text{ than to } u \text{ in } G);$$

Corresponding author: K. V. S. Sarma*

*Associate Professor, Regency Institute of Technology, Yanam

and $n_1(e | G) = |N_1(e | G)|$, $n_2(e | G) = |N_2(e | G)|$. ($| \cdot |$ denotes the cardinality function).

The Szeged index of G , denoted by $Sz(G)$ (in the earlier works denoted by $W^*(G)$), is defined as

$$\sum_{e \in E(G)} n_1(e | G) \cdot n_2(e | G) \quad (E(G) \text{ being the edge set of } G).$$

Theorem 2.2: For the path P_n ($n \geq 2$)

$$Sz(P_n) = \frac{n(n^2-1)}{6} \quad (= W(P_n)).$$

Proof: Let n be any integer ≥ 2 and $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Any edge of P_n is of the form $v_i v_{i+1}$, i being any positive integer, $\leq n-1$. Now

$$N_1(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) = \{w \in V(P_n) : d(w, v_i) < d(w, v_{i+1})\} = \{v_1, \dots, v_i\}$$

And

$$N_2(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) = \{w \in V(P_n) : d(w, v_{i+1}) < d(w, v_i)\} = \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}$$

$$\Rightarrow n_1(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) = |\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}| = i \text{ and } n_2(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) = |\{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}| = n-i.$$

This is true for all the $(n-1)$ edges $v_i v_{i+1}$ of P_n . So

$$Sz(P_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} n_1(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) \cdot n_2(v_i v_{i+1} | P_n) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} i(n-i) = \frac{n(n^2-1)}{6}.$$

Theorem 2.3: For $n \geq 2$, $Sz(K_n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ ($= W(K_n)$).

Proof: Let $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$. Let $e = uv$ be any edge of K_n . Since

$$d(u, u) = d(v, v) = 0, d(u, v) = 1 \text{ and}$$

$$d(w, u) = d(w, v) = 1 \text{ for } w \in V(K_n) \setminus \{u, v\}, \text{ follows that}$$

$$N_1(e = uv | K_n) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, u) < d(w, v)\} = \{u\} \text{ and}$$

$$N_2(e = uv | K_n) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, v) < d(w, u)\} = \{v\}.$$

So, $n_1(e | K_n) = n_2(e | K_n) = 1$. This is true for all the edges e of K_n .

Since any two vertices in K_n are adjacent ($\Rightarrow K_n$ has ${}^nC_2 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$ edges) follows that

$$S_z(K_n) = \sum_{e \in E(K_n)} n_1(e | K_n) \cdot n_2(e | K_n) = \sum_{e \in E(K_n)} 1 \cdot 1 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}.$$

Theorem 2.4: For any star $K_{1,n}$ (n being any positive integer),

$$Sz(K_{1,n}) (= Sz(K_{n,1})) = n^2 = (W(K_{1,n}) = W(K_{n,1})).$$

Proof: Let $n = 1$. $K_{1,1} = K_2$ and so $Sz(K_{1,1}) = Sz(K_2) = {}^2C_2 = 1^2$.

Let n be any integer ≥ 2 and $V(K_{1,n}) = \{u_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Now $E(K_{1,n}) = \{e_i = u_0 v_i : i = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$. So

$$N_1(e_i | K_{1,n}) = V(K_{1,n}) \setminus \{v_i\} \text{ and } N_2(e_i | K_{1,n}) = \{v_i\}$$

$$\Rightarrow n_1(e_i | K_{1,n}) = (n+1) - 1 = n \text{ and } n_2(e_i | K_{1,n}) = \{v_i\}.$$

This is true for all the n edges e_i of $K_{1,n}$. So

$$S_z(K_{1,n}) = \sum_{e_i \in E(K_{1,n})} n_1(e_i | K_{1,n}) \cdot n_2(e_i | K_{1,n}) = \sum_{e_i \in E(K_{1,n})} n(1) = n^2$$

Since the graph $K_{n,1}$ is isomorphic to $K_{1,n}$ it follows that $Sz(K_{n,1}) = Sz(K_{1,n}) = n^2$.

Theorem 2.5: For the complete bipartite graph, $K_{m,n}$ ($m, n \geq 1$), $Sz(K_{m,n}) = (mn)^2$.

Proof: **Case (i):** $m = n = 1 \Rightarrow K_{m,n} = K_{1,1} = K_2$.

$$S_z(K_{1,1}) = S_z(K_2) = 1 = (1.1)^2.$$

Case (ii): Let one of m, n is 1 and the other is ≥ 2 .

Without loss of generality, we can assume that $m = 1$ and so $n \geq 2$. Now

$$W(K_{m,n}) = W(K_{1,n}) = n^2 = (1.n)^2$$

Case (iii): Let $m, n \geq 2$.

Since $K_{m,n}$ is bipartite we can write $V(K_{m,n}) = V_1 \cup V_2$ where

$$V_1 = \{u_i : i = 1, \dots, m\} \text{ and } V_2 = \{v_j : j = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

$$\text{and } E(K_{m,n}) = \{e_{i,j} = u_i v_j : i = 1, 2, \dots, m, j = 1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

$$\text{Since } d(u_i, u_{i'}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i' = i \\ 2 & \text{if } i' \neq i \end{cases}$$

and

$$d(v_j, v_{j'}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } j' = j \\ 2 & \text{if } j' \neq j \end{cases}$$

follows that

$$N_1(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) = \{u_i\} \cup (V_2 \setminus \{v_j\}) \text{ and } N_2(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) = \{v_j\} \cup (V_1 \setminus \{u_i\})$$

$$\Rightarrow n_1(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) = 1 + (n-1) = n, n_2(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) = 1 + (m-1) = m.$$

This is true for all the mn edges $e_{i,j}$ of $K_{m,n}$.

$$\therefore Sz(K_{m,n}) = \sum_{e_{i,j} \in E(K_{m,n})} n_1(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) \cdot n_2(e_{i,j} | K_{m,n}) = \sum_{e_{i,j} \in E(K_{m,n})} n.m = nm | E(K_{m,n})| = (mn)^2$$

(observe that $Sz_{m,n} > W(K_{m,n})$ where $m, n \geq 2$).

Theorem 2.6: For any integer $n \geq 2$,

$$\text{a) } Sz(C_{2n}) = 2n^3 = 2n(n^2) \text{ and}$$

$$\text{b) } Sz(C_{2n-1}) = (2n-1)(n-1)^2$$

$$\text{i.e. } Sz(C_k) = k \lfloor k/2 \rfloor^2 \text{ for any integer } k \geq 3.$$

Proof: Let n be any integer ≥ 2 .

Case (i): Let $V(C_{2n}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2n}\}$.

Any edge of C_{2n} is of the form $v_i v_{i+1}$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n$ with the convention $v_{2n+1} = v_1$.

Now $N_1(v_1 v_2 \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2n-(n-2)} = v_{n+2}\}$ and $N_2(v_1 v_2 \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n+1}\}$.

For $2 \leq i < n$

$N_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_i, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_1, v_{2n}, \dots, v_{2n-(n-i-1)}\}$ and $N_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_{i+1}\}$.

For $i = n$

$N_1(v_n v_{n+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_n, v_{n+1}, \dots, v_{i+(n-1)}\}$ and $N_2(v_n v_{n+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_{i+n}, v_{i+n+1}, \dots, v_{2n}, v_1, \dots, v_{i-1}\}$

For $n < i < 2n$,

$N_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_i, v_{i-1}, \dots, v_{i-n+1}\}$ and $N_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_{i+1}, v_{i+2}, \dots, v_{2n}, v_1, \dots, v_{i-n}\}$.

For $i = 2n$,

$N_1(v_{2n} v_1 \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_{2n}, v_{2n-1}, \dots, v_{2n-(n-1)} = v_{n+1}\}$ and $N_2(v_{2n} v_1 \mid C_{2n}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

So follows that

$n_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = n = n_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n})$ for $i = 1, \dots, 2n$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } Sz(C_{2n}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{2n} n_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) \cdot n_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n}) = \sum_{i=1}^{2n} (n)(n) \\ &= 2n^3 = 2n(n^2) = 2n \left[\left(\frac{2n}{2} \right) \right]^2. \end{aligned}$$

Case (ii). Let $V(C_{2n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2n-1}\}$

Any edge of C_{2n-1} is of the form $v_i v_{i+1}$, for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n-1$ with the convention $v_{2n} = v_1$.

Now

$N_1(v_1 v_2 \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_1, v_{2n-1}, \dots, v_{2n-(n-2)} = v_{n+2}\}$ and $N_2(v_1 v_2 \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$.

For $2 \leq i < n-1$

$N_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_i, v_{i-1}, \dots, v_1, v_{2n-1}, \dots, v_{2n-(n-i-1)} = v_{n+i+1}\}$ and $N_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_{i+n-1}\}$.

For $i = n-1$

$N_1(v_{n-1} v_n \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_{n-1}, \dots, v_1\}$ and $N_2(v_{n-1} v_n \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_n, v_{n+1}, v_{n+2}, \dots, v_{2n-2}\}$.

For $i = n$

$N_1(v_n v_{n+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_n, v_{n-1}, \dots, v_2\}$ and $N_2(v_n v_{n+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_{n+1}, v_{n+2}, \dots, v_{n+(n-1)} = v_{2n-1}\}$.

For $n+1 \leq i \leq 2n-1$

$N_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_i, v_{i-1}, \dots, v_{i-(n-2)}\}$ and $N_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_{2n-1}, v_2, \dots, v_{i-n}\}$.

Finally, for $i = 2n-1$

$N_1(v_{2n-1} v_1 \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_{2n-1}, v_{2n-2}, \dots, v_{2n-(n-1)} = v_{n+1}\}$ and $N_2(v_{2n-1} v_1 \mid C_{2n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$.

So follows that

$$\begin{aligned} N_1(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) &= n-1 = N_2(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n-1. \\ \therefore Sz(C_{2n-1}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} (n-1)(n-1) = (2n-1)(n-1)^2 = (2n-1) \left[\left(\frac{2n-1}{2} \right) \right]^2. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the result.

Theorem 2.7: For the wheel $K_1 \vee C_n$ ($n \geq 3$),

$$Sz(K_1 \vee C_n) = n(n-2 + \left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil^2).$$

Proof: Let n be any integer ≥ 3 and $V(K_1 \vee C_n) = \{u_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$.

Now $E(K_1 \vee C_n) = \{u_0 v_i : i = 1, \dots, n\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} : i = 1, \dots, n\}$ (with the convention $v_{n+1} = v_1$).

Denote $e_i = u_0 v_i$ and $f_i = u_i v_{i+1}$ ($i=1, \dots, n$).

Now $N_1(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = V(K_1 \vee C_n) \setminus \{v_{i-1}, v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ (with the convention $v_0 = v_n$)

and $N_2(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = \{v_i\}$.

$\therefore N_1(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = (n+1) - 3 = (n-2)$ and $N_2(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = 1$.

$$\text{So } \sum_{i=1}^n n_1(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) \cdot n_2(e_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n (n-2) \cdot 1 = n(n-2) \quad (\text{i})$$

Further,

$$N_j(f_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = N_j(f_i | C_n) \quad (j = 1, 2) \quad (\text{ii})$$

(u_0 is ignored since $d(u_0, v_{i-1}) = 1 = d(u_0, v_i)$).

(ii), by virtue of Theorem (2.6) implies that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n n_1(f_i | K_1 \vee C_n) \cdot n_2(f_i | K_1 \vee C_n) = Sz(C_n) = n \left[\frac{n}{2} \right]^2. \quad (\text{iii})$$

Now, from (i) and (iii) follows that $Sz(K_1 \vee C_n) = n(n-2) + n \left[\frac{n}{2} \right]^2 = n \{ (n-2) + \left[\frac{n}{2} \right]^2 \}$.

(Observe that for $n \geq 4$, $S_z(K_1 \vee C_n) > W(K_1 \vee C_n)$).

3. MODIFIED SZEGED INDEX OF STANDARD GRAPHS

In the calculation of Szeged Index of K_n ($n \geq 2$), $K_1 \vee C_n$ ($n \geq 3$), the contribution of all the vertices of the connected graph is not there. To avoid this, we propose the following modified index that involves all the vertices.

Definition 3.1: Let G be a graph (i.e., nonempty, simple, finite and connected graphs). Let $e = \{u, v\}$ be any edge of G . Denote

$$N_1^*(e | G) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, u) \leq d(w, v)\}, \quad N_2^*(e | G) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, v) < d(w, u)\};$$

and

$$n_1^*(e | G) = |N_1^*(e | G)|, \quad n_2^*(e | G) = |N_2^*(e | G)|.$$

The refined Szeged index of G , denoted by $Sz^*(G)$ is defined as,

$$\sum_{e \in E(G)} n_1^*(e | G) \cdot n_2^*(e | G)$$

(Another way of defining this modified index is to keep $<$ as it is in $N_1(e | G)$ and changing $<$ into \leq in $N_2(e | G)$).

Observations 3.2:

- a) For the path P_n ($n \geq 2$), $Sz^* P_n = Sz P_n$.
- b) For any star $K_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 1$), $Sz(K_{1,n}) = Sz^*(K_{1,n})$.
- c) For the complete graph $K_{m,n}$ ($m, n \geq 1$), $Sz^*(K_{m,n}) = Sz(K_{m,n})$.
- d) For any interger $n \geq 2$, $Sz^*(C_{2n}) = Sz(C_{2n})$.

Theorem 3.3: For $n \geq 2$, $Sz^*(K_n) = \frac{n(n-1)^2}{2}$.

Proof: With the same notation as in Th.2.3,

$$N_1^*(e = uv \mid K_n) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, u) \leq d(w, v)\} = \{V(G) \setminus \{v_2\}\} \text{ and } N_2^*(e = uv \mid K_n) = \{w \in V(G) : d(w, v) \leq d(w, u)\} = \{v_2\}.$$

$$\text{So } n_1^*(e \mid K_n) = (n-1) \text{ and } n_2^*(e \mid K_n) = 1.$$

This is true for all the edges e of K_n . Hence

$$Sz^*(K_n) = \sum_{e \in E(K_n)} (n-1) \cdot 1 = \frac{n(n-1)^2}{2}.$$

Theorem 3.4: For $n \geq 2$, $Sz^*(C_{2n-1}) = n(n-1)(2n-1)$.

Proof: With the same notation as in Th.2.6, for any edge $v_i v_{i+1}$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, 2n-1$) (with the convention $v_{2n} = v_1$), we get that

$$n_1^*(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = (n-1) + 1 = n \text{ and } n_2^*(v_i v_{i+1} \mid C_{2n-1}) = n-1$$

(the excluded single vertex, in each case, enters into the set $N_1^*(\)$ under consideration).

$$\text{So, } Sz^*(C_{2n-1}) = \sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} n(n-1) = n(n-1)(2n-1).$$

Observation 3.5: In the other way of defining the modified index, we get the same $Sz^*(K_n)$, $Sz^*(C_{2n-1})$, since in these cases we get the sums $\sum_{e \in E(K_n)} 1 \cdot (n-1)$ and $\sum_{i=1}^{2n-1} (n-1) \cdot n$ respectively.

$$\text{Theorem 3.6: For the wheel } K_1 \vee C_n \text{ (} n \geq 3 \text{), } Sz^*(K_1 \vee C_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{n^2(n+6)}{4} & (\text{if } n \text{ is even}), \\ \frac{n}{4}(n^2 + 6n - 3) & (\text{if } n \text{ is odd}). \end{cases}$$

With the same notation as in Th.(2.7),

$$N_1^*(e_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) = V(K_1 \vee C_n) \setminus \{v_i\} \text{ and } N_2^*(e_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) = \{v_i\}.$$

$$\text{So, } n_1^*(e_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) \cdot n_2^*(e_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) = (n+1-1)(1) = n \quad (3.6.1)$$

Case (i): Suppose n is even $\Rightarrow n \geq 4$.

As in Th.2.6 (case (i)), for each edge f_i ($i = 1, \dots, n$) with the convention $v_{n+1} = v_1$, we get

$$(n_1(f_i) \mid C_n) + 1 = n/2 + 1 \quad (3.6.2)$$

(Since u_0 is added in $N_1^*(\)$)

$$\text{and } n_2^*(f_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) = n_2(f_i \mid C_n) = n/2 \quad (3.6.3)$$

By (3.6.1), (3.6.2) and (3.6.3)

$$Sz^*(K_1 \vee C_n) = n \cdot n \left(\frac{n}{2} + 1 \right) \left(\frac{n}{2} \right) = n^2 \frac{(n+6)}{4}.$$

Case (ii): Suppose n is odd.

As in Th.2.6 case (i), for each edge f_i we get that

$$n_1^*(f_i \mid (K_1 \vee C_n)) = \frac{(n-1)}{2} + 1 + 1 = \frac{(n+3)}{2} \quad (3.6.4)$$

and

$$n_2^*(f_i | (K_1 \vee C_n)) = \frac{(n-1)}{2} \quad \dots \quad (3.6.5)$$

By (3.6.1), (3.6.4) and (3.6.5), we get

$$Sz^*(K_1 \vee C_n) = n.n + n \frac{(n+3)}{2} \frac{(n-1)}{2} = \frac{n}{4} (n^2 + 6n - 3).$$

Observation 3.7: In the other way of defining the modified index, we get that $n_1^*(e_i | (K_1 \vee C_n)) = (n-2)$ and $n_2^*(e_i | (K_1 \vee C_n)) = 3$ and the other relations remain the same. So, the corresponding index is

$$3n(n-2) + n\left(\frac{n}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) \text{ when } n \text{ is even and}$$

$$3n(n-2) + n \frac{(n+3)}{2} \frac{(n-1)}{2} \text{ when } n \text{ is odd.}$$

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Dr. I.H. Nagaraja Rao, our Professor, for his guidance in the preparation of this paper.

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Source of support: Nil, Conflict of interest: None Declared