



Study of generalized networks using graph theory

Tomáš Vetrík 

Department of Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa

Abstract

We study eccentricity-based indices such as Zagreb eccentricity indices, general eccentricity index and total eccentricity index. We present exact values of eccentricity-based indices of generalized networks related to binary and m -ary trees, where $m \geq 2$.

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1. Introduction

Let G be a network with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$. The distance between two vertices is the number of edges in a shortest path connecting them. The eccentricity $ecc_G(v)$ of a vertex v is the distance between v and a vertex furthest from v in G .

Gao et al. [3] and Imran et al. [5] studied networks $HT(k)$ (see Figure 1) and ST_k^1 (see Figure 2). We generalize those networks.

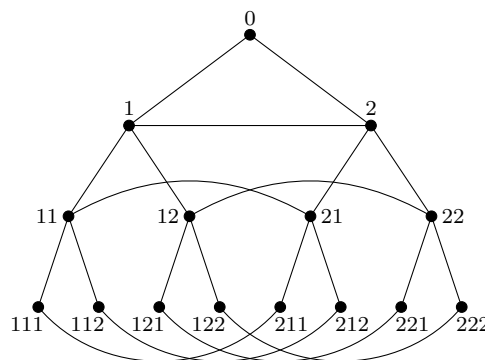


Figure 1. Network $HT(k)$ for $k = 3$.

We introduce the sets $HT_{m,k}$ and $ST_{m,k}$ for $m \geq 2$. The special cases for $m = 2$ contain the networks $HT(k)$ and ST_k^1 studied in [3] and [5].

We define general networks using complete m -ary trees $T_{m,k}$ of height $k \geq 1$. The tree $T_{m,k}$ contains $1 + m + m^2 + \dots + m^k$ vertices which are divided into $k + 1$ sets V_i for

Email address: vetrikt@ufs.ac.za

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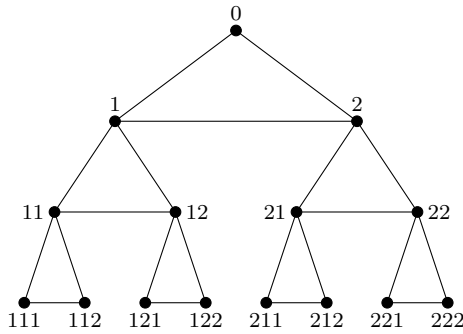


Figure 2. Network ST_k^1 for $k = 3$.

$i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k$, where $|V_i| = m^i$. The vertex in V_0 is called the root and we denote it by 0. For $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, we denote the vertices in V_i by (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) or simply $x_1x_2 \dots x_i$, where $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$. So

$$V_i = \{(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) \mid 1 \leq x_j \leq m; j = 1, 2, \dots, i\}.$$

The root is adjacent to all the m vertices $(1), (2), \dots, (m)$ in V_1 . For $i = 1, 2, \dots, k - 1$, any vertex (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) of V_i is adjacent to m vertices

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, 1), (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, 2), \dots, (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i, m)$$

of V_{i+1} . If $m = 2$, then $T_{2,k}$ is called the complete binary tree.

The set $ST_{m,k}$ contains all the networks obtained from $T_{m,k}$ by connecting each vertex v in V_i for $i = 2, 3, \dots, k$, to any $m - 1$ vertices in V_i whose first coordinate is equal to the first coordinate of v , and by connecting every two different vertices in V_1 . One of the networks of $ST_{m,k}$ for $m = 3$ and $k = 3$ is presented in Figure 3. Note that if $k = 1$ or 2, there is only one network in $ST_{m,k}$ for every $m \geq 2$.

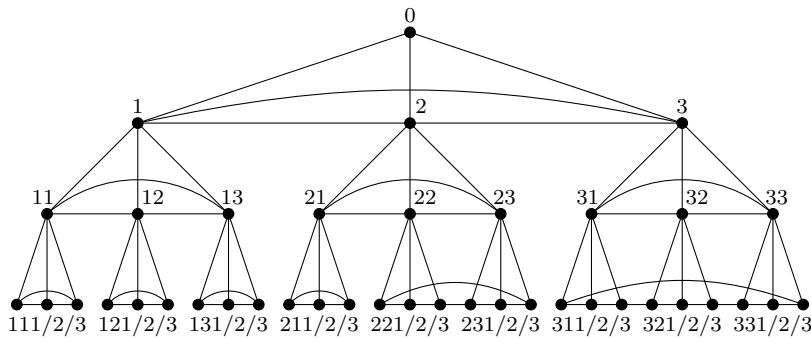


Figure 3. One of the networks in $ST_{m,k}$ for $m = 3$ and $k = 3$.

For $G \in ST_{m,k}$, no vertex of $V(G) \setminus (V_0 \cup V_1)$ with the first coordinate j is adjacent to a vertex with the first coordinate l , where $j \neq l$. Therefore, the eccentricity of $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) \in V_i$ for $i \geq 2$ is $k + i - 1$. A vertex furthest from (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) is any vertex $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in V_k$, where $x_1 \neq y_1$ and the shortest path between (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) and (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) is

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i), (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}), \dots, (x_1), (y_1), (y_1, y_2), \dots, (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k).$$

The eccentricity of any vertex in $V_0 \cup V_1$ is k .

The network ST_k^1 is one of the networks in $ST_{2,k}$. The network ST_k^1 is obtained from the complete binary tree $T_{2,k}$ by joining the vertex $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, 1)$ and the vertex $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}, 2)$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1} \in \{1, 2\}$.

The set $HT_{m,k}$ contains all the networks obtained from $T_{m,k}$ by connecting each vertex v in V_i for $i = 2, 3, \dots, k$, to any $m - 1$ vertices in V_i whose second coordinate is equal to the second coordinate of v , and by connecting any two vertices in V_1 . If $k = 1$ or 2 , there is only one network in $HT_{m,k}$ for every $m \geq 2$. The network which is in the set $HT_{m,k}$ if $m = 3$ and $k = 2$ is presented in Figure 4.

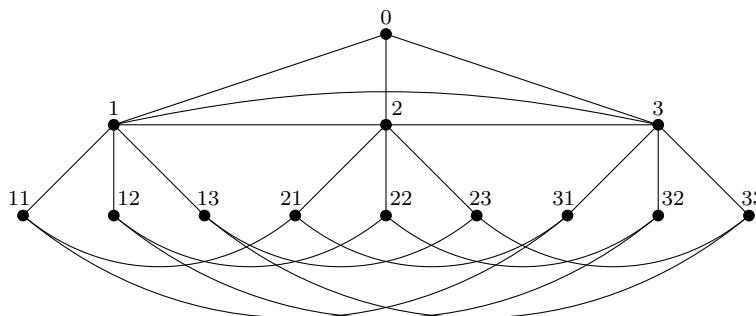


Figure 4. The network which is in the set $HT_{m,k}$ if $m = 3$ and $k = 2$.

For $G \in HT_{m,k}$, no vertex of $V(G) \setminus (V_0 \cup V_1)$ with the second coordinate j is adjacent to a vertex with the second coordinate l , where $j \neq l$. The eccentricity of $(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) \in V_i$ for $i \geq 2$ is $k+i-1$. A vertex furthest from (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) is any vertex $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) \in V_k$, where $x_1 \neq y_1$ and $x_2 \neq y_2$. A shortest path between (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i) and (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) is for example the path

$$(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i), (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{i-1}), \dots, (x_1), (y_1), (y_1, y_2), \dots, (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k),$$

where $x_1 \neq y_1$ and $x_2 \neq y_2$. The eccentricity of any vertex in $V_0 \cup V_1$ is k . This implies that any network in $ST_{m,k}$ and any network in $HT_{m,k}$ have the same number of vertices of given eccentricity.

The network $HT(k)$ studied in [3] and [5] is one of the networks in $HT_{2,k}$. The network $HT(k)$ is obtained from the complete binary tree $T_{2,k}$ by joining the vertex $(1, x_2, \dots, x_i)$ and the vertex $(2, x_2, \dots, x_i)$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ and $x_2, \dots, x_i \in \{1, 2\}$.

Zagreb indices belong to the most well-known topological indices. We mention them in order to present the similarity between the definitions of classical Zagreb indices and Zagreb eccentricity indices. The first Zagreb index M_1 and the second Zagreb index M_2 of a network G are defined as

$$M_1(G) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} (deg_G(v))^2 = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} (deg_G(u) + deg_G(v))$$

and

$$M_2(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} deg_G(u)deg_G(v),$$

where $deg_G(u)$ and $deg_G(v)$ are the degrees of vertices u and v in G , respectively. The Zagreb eccentricity indices are defined as

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1(G) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} (ecc_G(v))^2, \\ \xi'_1(G) &= \sum_{uv \in E(G)} (ecc_G(u) + ecc_G(v)), \\ \xi_2(G) &= \sum_{uv \in E(G)} ecc_G(u)ecc_G(v). \end{aligned}$$

The first Zagreb eccentricity index ξ_1 and the second Zagreb eccentricity index ξ_2 were introduced in [7]. The ξ'_1 index was introduced in [4] and we call it the modified Zagreb eccentricity index.

We generalize $\xi_1(G)$ and introduce the general eccentricity index

$$EI_a(G) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} (ecc_G(v))^a$$

for any real number a . If $a = 1$, we obtain the total eccentricity index

$$EI_1(G) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} ecc_G(v)$$

and EI_2 is the first Zagreb eccentricity index ξ_1 .

Eccentricity based indices have been studied because of their extensive applications. Eccentricity based indices of nanostar dendrimers were investigated in [2] and other related indices for example in [1] and [6].

2. Results

First we compute $\sum_{i=1}^k m^i$, $\sum_{i=1}^k im^i$ and $\sum_{i=1}^k i^2m^i$ for $m \geq 2$ and $k \geq 1$. Since

$$\sum_{i=1}^k m^i = \frac{m(m^k - 1)}{m - 1},$$

we obtain

$$(1 - m) \sum_{i=1}^k im^i = m + m^2 + m^3 + \dots + m^k - km^{k+1} = \frac{m(1 - m^k)}{1 - m} - km^{k+1}$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^k im^i = \frac{m(1 - m^k)}{(1 - m)^2} + \frac{km^{k+1}}{m - 1} = \frac{km^{k+2} - (k + 1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m - 1)^2}.$$

We have $(m - 1)^2 \sum_{i=1}^k i^2m^i$

$$\begin{aligned} &= m + 2m^2 + 2m^3 + 2m^4 + \dots + 2m^k - (k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+1} + k^2m^{k+2} \\ &= m + 2m^2(1 + m + m^2 + \dots + m^{k-2}) - (k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+1} + k^2m^{k+2} \\ &= \frac{2m^2(m^{k-1} - 1)}{m - 1} + m - (k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+1} + k^2m^{k+2}, \end{aligned}$$

thus

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^k i^2m^i &= \frac{2m^{k+1} - 2m^2}{(m - 1)^3} + \frac{k^2m^{k+2} - (k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m - 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{k^2m^{k+3} - (2k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+2} + (k + 1)^2m^{k+1} - m^2 - m}{(m - 1)^3}. \end{aligned}$$

A vertex v of any network in $ST_{m,k}$ and the same vertex v of any network in $HT_{m,k}$ have the same eccentricities, therefore for every network in $ST_{m,k}$ and every network in $HT_{m,k}$, we obtain the same value of the EI_a index (note that $a \in \mathbb{R}$).

Theorem 2.1. For any network $G \in ST_{m,k} \cup HT_{m,k}$, we have

$$EI_a(G) = k^a + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i(k + i - 1)^a.$$

Proof. The network G contains $1 + m + m^2 + \dots + m^k$ vertices. For $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, k$, we have $|V_i| = m^i$, where V_i is the set of vertices at distance i from the root 0. For $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, any vertex in V_i has eccentricity $k + i - 1$. The vertex in $0 \in V_0$ has eccentricity k . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} EI_a(G) &= \sum_{v \in V_0} k^a + \sum_{v \in V_1} k^a + \sum_{v \in V_2} (k + 1)^a + \dots + \sum_{v \in V_k} (2k - 1)^a \\ &= m^0 k^a + m^1 k^a + m^2 (k + 1)^a + \dots + m^k (2k - 1)^a \\ &= k^a + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i (k + i - 1)^a \end{aligned}$$

□

In Theorems 2.2 and 2.3, we investigate the total eccentricity index EI_1 and the first Zagreb eccentricity index $EI_2 (= \xi_1)$ of biological networks, respectively.

Theorem 2.2. For any network $G \in ST_{m,k} \cup HT_{m,k}$, we have

$$EI_1(G) = \frac{(2k - 1)m^{k+2} - 2km^{k+1} + m^2 - km + k}{(m - 1)^2}.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, we have

$$EI_1(G) = k + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i (k + i - 1).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} EI_1(G) &= k + (k - 1) \sum_{i=1}^k m^i + \sum_{i=1}^k im^i \\ &= k + (k - 1) \frac{m(m^k - 1)}{m - 1} + \frac{km^{k+2} - (k + 1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m - 1)^2} \\ &= \frac{(2k - 1)m^{k+2} - 2km^{k+1} + m^2 - km + k}{(m - 1)^2}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 2.3. For any network $G \in ST_{m,k} \cup HT_{m,k}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1(G) &= \frac{(2k - 1)^2 m^{k+3} - (8k^2 - 4k - 1)m^{k+2} + 4k^2 m^{k+1}}{(m - 1)^3} \\ &\quad + \frac{(2k - 1)m^3 - (k + 1)^2 m^2 + 2k^2 m - k^2}{(m - 1)^3}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, we have

$$EI_2 = \xi_1(G) = k^2 + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i (k + i - 1)^2.$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \xi_1(G) &= k^2 + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i [(k - 1)^2 + 2(k - 1)i + i^2] \\ &= k^2 + (k^2 - 2k + 1) \sum_{i=1}^k m^i + (2k - 2) \sum_{i=1}^k im^i + \sum_{i=1}^k i^2 m^i \\ &= k^2 + (k^2 - 2k + 1) \frac{m(m^k - 1)}{m - 1} + (2k - 2) \frac{km^{k+2} - (k + 1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m - 1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \frac{k^2 m^{k+3} - (2k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+2} + (k + 1)^2 m^{k+1} - m^2 - m}{(m - 1)^3} \\
 = &\frac{(2k - 1)^2 m^{k+3} - (8k^2 - 4k - 1)m^{k+2} + 4k^2 m^{k+1}}{(m - 1)^3} \\
 &+ \frac{(2k - 1)m^3 - (k + 1)^2 m^2 + 2k^2 m - k^2}{(m - 1)^3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

In Theorem 2.4, we investigate the invariant

$$I(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)),$$

where $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v))$ is a function of $ecc_G(u)$ and $ecc_G(v)$ such that $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) = f(ecc_G(v), ecc_G(u))$.

If $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) = ecc_G(u) + ecc_G(v)$, we obtain the modified Zagreb eccentricity index. If $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) = ecc_G(u)ecc_G(v)$, we obtain the second Zagreb eccentricity index.

Theorem 2.4. *For any network $G \in ST_{m,k} \cup HT_{m,k}$, we have*

$$I(G) = m \cdot f(k, k) + \sum_{i=2}^k m^i f(k + i - 2, k + i - 1) + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{m^{i+1} - m^i}{2} f(k + i - 1, k + i - 1).$$

Proof. The network G contains

$$\left(m + m^2 + \dots + m^k\right) + \left(\frac{(m - 1)m}{2} + \frac{(m - 1)m^2}{2} + \dots + \frac{(m - 1)m^k}{2}\right)$$

edges. Let

$$E_{i,j} = \{uv \in E(G) \mid u \in V_i, v \in V_j\}.$$

So the set $E_{i,j}$ contains the edges incident with one vertex in V_i and the other vertex in V_j . We obtain

$$|E_{0,1}| = m, |E_{1,2}| = m^2, \dots, |E_{k-1,k}| = m^k$$

and

$$|E_{1,1}| = \frac{(m - 1)m}{2}, |E_{2,2}| = \frac{(m - 1)m^2}{2}, \dots, |E_{k,k}| = \frac{(m - 1)m^k}{2}.$$

Note that

$$E(G) = (E_{0,1} \cup E_{1,2} \cup \dots \cup E_{k-1,k}) \cup (E_{1,1} \cup E_{2,2} \cup \dots \cup E_{k,k}).$$

For $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$, any vertex in V_i has eccentricity $k + i - 1$ and the vertex $0 \in V_0$ has eccentricity k . Thus we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 I(G) &= \sum_{uv \in E(G)} f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) \\
 &= \sum_{uv \in E_{0,1}} f(k, k) + \sum_{uv \in E_{1,2}} f(k, k + 1) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{uv \in E_{2,3}} f(k + 1, k + 2) + \dots + \sum_{uv \in E_{k-1,k}} f(2k - 2, 2k - 1) \\
 &\quad + \sum_{uv \in E_{1,1}} f(k, k) + \sum_{uv \in E_{2,2}} f(k + 1, k + 1) + \dots + \sum_{uv \in E_{k,k}} f(2k - 1, 2k - 1) \\
 &= m \cdot f(k, k) + m^2 f(k, k + 1) \\
 &\quad + m^3 f(k + 1, k + 2) + \dots + m^k f(2k - 2, 2k - 1) + \frac{(m - 1)m}{2} f(k, k)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \frac{(m-1)m^2}{2} f(k+1, k+1) + \dots + \frac{(m-1)m^k}{2} f(2k-1, 2k-1) \\
 = & m \cdot f(k, k) + \sum_{i=2}^k m^i f(k+i-2, k+i-1) \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{m^{i+1} - m^i}{2} f(k+i-1, k+i-1).
 \end{aligned}$$

□

In Theorem 2.5, we obtain the values of the modified Zagreb eccentricity index ξ'_1 and the second Zagreb eccentricity index ξ_2 of the generalized networks.

Theorem 2.5. For any network $G \in ST_{m,k} \cup HT_{m,k}$, we have

$$\xi'_1(G) = \frac{(2k-1)m^{k+3} - 2m^{k+2} - (2k-1)m^{k+1} - (k-2)m^3 + km}{(m-1)^2}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_2(G) = & km + \left[\frac{m+1}{2}(k^2 - 2k + 1) - k + 1 \right] \frac{m^{k+1} - m}{m-1} \\
 & + [(m+1)(k-1) - 1] \frac{km^{k+2} - (k+1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m-1)^2} \\
 & + \left(\frac{m+1}{2} \right) \frac{k^2m^{k+3} - (2k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+2} + (k+1)^2m^{k+1} - m^2 - m}{(m-1)^3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Proof. For the ξ'_1 index, we get $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) = ecc_G(u) + ecc_G(v)$, so $f(k+i-2, k+i-1) = 2k+2i-3$ and $f(k+i-1, k+i-1) = 2k+2i-2$. Then by Theorem 2.4,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi'_1(G) & = 2km + \sum_{i=2}^k m^i(2k+2i-3) + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{m^{i+1} - m^i}{2}(2k+2i-2) \\
 & = 2km - (2k-1)m + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i(2k+2i-3) + \sum_{i=1}^k (m-1)m^i(k+i-1) \\
 & = m + [(k-1)(m-1) + 2k-3] \sum_{i=1}^k m^i + (m+1) \sum_{i=1}^k im^i \\
 & = m + [(k-1)m + k - 2] \frac{m(m^k - 1)}{m-1} + (m+1) \frac{km^{k+2} - (k+1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m-1)^2} \\
 & = \frac{(2k-1)m^{k+3} - 2m^{k+2} - (2k-1)m^{k+1} - (k-2)m^3 + km}{(m-1)^2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

For the ξ_2 index, we get $f(ecc_G(u), ecc_G(v)) = ecc_G(u)ecc_G(v)$, so

$$f(k+i-2, k+i-1) = (k+i-2)(k+i-1) = (k^2 - 3k + 2) + (2ki - 3i) + i^2$$

and

$$f(k+i-1, k+i-1) = (k+i-1)(k+i-1) = (k^2 - 2k + 1) + (2ki - 2i) + i^2$$

Then by Theorem 2.4,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_2(G) & = k^2m + \sum_{i=2}^k m^i[(k^2 - 3k + 2) + (2ki - 3i) + i^2] \\
 & + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{m^{i+1} - m^i}{2} [(k^2 - 2k + 1) + (2ki - 2i) + i^2]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= k^2m - k(k - 1)m + \sum_{i=1}^k m^i [(k^2 - 3k + 2) + (2ki - 3i) + i^2] \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^k \frac{(m - 1)m^i}{2} [(k^2 - 2k + 1) + (2ki - 2i) + i^2] \\
 &= km + \left[\frac{m - 1}{2}(k^2 - 2k + 1) + (k^2 - 3k + 2) \right] \sum_{i=1}^k m^i \\
 &\quad + [(m - 1)(k - 1) + (2k - 3)] \sum_{i=1}^k im^i + \left(\frac{m - 1}{2} + 1 \right) \sum_{i=1}^k i^2 m^i \\
 &= km + \left[\frac{m + 1}{2}(k^2 - 2k + 1) - k + 1 \right] \frac{m^{k+1} - m}{m - 1} \\
 &\quad + [(m + 1)(k - 1) - 1] \frac{km^{k+2} - (k + 1)m^{k+1} + m}{(m - 1)^2} \\
 &\quad + \left(\frac{m + 1}{2} \right) \frac{k^2m^{k+3} - (2k^2 + 2k - 1)m^{k+2} + (k + 1)^2m^{k+1} - m^2 - m}{(m - 1)^3}.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

The following corollary holds for any network in biological networks in which one person transmits a virus or bacteria to two other people, so it holds also for the networks ST_k^1 and $HT(k)$.

Corollary 2.6. *For any network $G \in ST_{2,k} \cup HT_{2,k}$, we have*

$$\xi'_1(G) = (k - 1)2^{k+4} - k2^{k+2} + 2^{k+1} - 6k + 16$$

and

$$\xi_2(G) = (1 - k)2^{k+4} + k(k - 1)2^{k+3} + (k^2 - k + 1)2^{k+2} + 2^{k+1} - 3k^2 + 16k - 22.$$

Proof. By Theorem 2.5, the modified Zagreb eccentricity index

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi'_1(G) &= (2k - 1)2^{k+3} - 2 \cdot 2^{k+2} - (2k - 1)2^{k+1} - (k - 2)2^3 + 3k \\
 &= (k - 1)2^{k+4} - k2^{k+2} + 2^{k+1} - 6k + 16
 \end{aligned}$$

and the second Zagreb eccentricity index

$$\begin{aligned}
 \xi_2(G) &= 2k + \left[\frac{3}{2}(k^2 - 2k + 1) - k + 1 \right] (2^{k+1} - 2) \\
 &\quad + [3(k - 1) - 1][k2^{k+2} - (k + 1)2^{k+1} + 2] \\
 &\quad + \frac{3}{2}[k^22^{k+3} - (2k^2 + 2k - 1)2^{k+2} + (k + 1)^22^{k+1} - 2^2 - 2] \\
 &= (1 - k)2^{k+4} + k(k - 1)2^{k+3} + (k^2 - k + 1)2^{k+2} + 2^{k+1} - 3k^2 + 16k - 22.
 \end{aligned}$$

□

It is easy to check that for $G \in ST_{2,k} \cup HT_{2,k}$, we obtain $\xi'_1(G) = 6$ and $\xi_2(G) = 3$ if $k = 1$ and $\xi'_1(G) = 44$ and $\xi_2(G) = 54$ if $k = 2$. These values can be computed after drawing the networks of the set $ST_{2,k} \cup HT_{2,k}$. The only network in $ST_{2,k} \cup HT_{2,k}$ for $k = 1$ is the triangle. The only networks in the set $ST_{2,k} \cup HT_{2,k}$ for $k = 2$ are the networks ST_2^1 and $HT(2)$.

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