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# Harmonic Downhill Index of Graphs

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*Abstract.* In this study, we introduce the harmonic downhill index and its corresponding polynomial of a graph. Furthermore, we compute this index for some standard graphs, wheel graphs, gear graphs and helm graphs.

*Keywords:* harmonic downhill index, harmonic downhill polynomial, graphs.

AMS Mathematics Subject Classification (2010): 05C07, 05C09

#### **1. Introduction**

In this paper, G denotes a finite, simple, connected graph, V(G) and E(G) denote the vertex set and edge set of G. The degree  $d_G(u)$  of a vertex u is the number of vertices adjacent to u.

A *u-v* path *P* in *G* is a sequence of vertices in *G*, starting with *u* and ending at *v*, such that consecutive vertices in *P* are adjacent, and no vertex is repeated. A path  $\pi = v_1, v_2, ..., v_{k+1}$  in *G* is a downhill path if for every *i*,  $1 \le i \le k$ ,  $d_G(v_i) \ge d_G(v_{i+1})$ .

A vertex v is downhill dominating a vertex u if there exists a downhill path originating from u to v. The downhill neighbourhood of a vertex v is denoted by  $N_{dn}(v)$  and defined as:  $N_{dn}(v) = \{u: v \text{ downhill dominates } u\}$ . The downhill degree  $d_{dn}(v)$  of a vertex v is the number of downhill neighbours of v [1].

The first and second downhill indices were introduced in [1], and they are defined as

$$DWM_1(G) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} d_G(u)^2$$
,  $DWM_2(G) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} d_G(u) d_G(v)$ .

Some downhill indices were recently studied in [2, 3, 4].

The harmonic index [5] of a graph G is defined as

$$H(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \frac{2}{d_G(u) + d_G(v)}$$

We introduce the harmonic downhill index of a graph, it is defined as

$$HDW(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}.$$

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Considering the harmonic downhill index, we introduce the harmonic downhill polynomial of a graph G and it is defined as

$$HDW(G, x) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} x^{\frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}}.$$

Some topological indices were recently studied in [6, 7, 8].

This paper computes the harmonic downhill index and its corresponding polynomial of certain graphs.

#### 2. Results for some standard graphs

**Proposition 1.** Let *G* be r-regular with *n* vertices and  $r \ge 2$ . Then

$$HDW(G) = \frac{nr\sqrt{(n-1)}}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

**Proof:** Let G be an r-regular graph with n vertices and  $r \ge 2$  and  $\frac{nr}{2}$  edges. Then  $d_{dn}(v) = n-1$  for every v in G.

$$HDW(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)} = \frac{nr}{2} \frac{2}{(n-1) + (n-1)} = \frac{nr}{2(n-1)}.$$

**Corollary 1.1.** Let  $C_n$  be a cycle with  $n \ge 3$  vertices. Then

$$HDW(C_n) = \frac{n}{(n-1)}.$$

**Corollary 1.2.** Let  $K_n$  be a complete graph with  $n \ge 3$  vertices. Then

$$HDW(K_n) = \frac{n}{2}$$

**Proposition 2.** Let *P* be a path with  $n \ge 3$  vertices. Then

$$HDW(P) == \frac{n+1}{n-1}.$$

**Proof:** Let *P* be a path with  $n \ge 3$  vertices. We obtain two partitions of the edge set of *P* as follows:

$$E_{1} = \{uv \in E(P) \mid d_{dn}(u)=0, \ d_{dn}(v)=n-1\}, \ |E_{1}|=2.$$

$$E_{2} = \{uv \in E(P) \mid d_{dn}(u)=d_{dn}(v)=n-1\}, \ |E_{2}|=n-3.$$

$$HDW(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u)+d_{dn}(v)} = \frac{2 \times 2}{0+(n-1)} + \frac{(n-3)2}{(n-1)+(n-1)} = \frac{n+1}{n-1}.$$

# 3. Results for wheel graphs

The wheel  $W_n$  is the join of  $C_n$  and  $K_1$ . Clearly,  $W_n$  has n+1 vertices and 2n edges. Then  $W_n$  has two types of edges based on the downhill degree of the vertices of each edge as follows:  $E_1 = \{uv \in E(W_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = n, d_{dn}(v) = n-1\}, |E_1| = n.$ 

$$E_2 = \{ uv \in E(W_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = d_{dn}(v) = n - 1 \}, \quad |E_2| = n.$$

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**Theorem 1.** Let  $W_n$  be a wheel with n+1 vertices and 2n edges,  $n \ge 4$ . Then the harmonic downhill index of  $W_n$  is

$$HDW(W_n) = \frac{2n}{2n-1} + \frac{n}{n-1}.$$

Proof: We deduce

$$HDW(W_n) = \sum_{uv \in E(W_n)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}$$
$$= \frac{2n}{n + (n-1)} + \frac{2n}{(n-1) + (n-1)} = \frac{2n}{2n-1} + \frac{n}{n-1}$$

**Theorem 2.** Let  $W_n$  be a wheel with n+1 vertices,  $n \ge 4$ . Then the harmonic downhill polynomial of  $W_n$  is

$$HDW(W_n, x) = nx^{\frac{2}{2n-1}} + nx^{\frac{1}{n-1}}.$$

**Proof:** We obtain

$$HDW(W_n, x) = \sum_{uv \in E(W_n)} x^{\frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}}$$
$$= nx^{\frac{2}{n+(n-1)}} + nx^{\frac{2}{(n-1)+(n-1)}} = nx^{\frac{2}{2n-1}} + nx^{\frac{1}{n-1}}$$

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### 4. Results for gear graphs

A bipartite wheel graph is a graph obtained from  $W_n$  with n+1 vertices adding a vertex between each pair of adjacent rim vertices and this graph is denoted by  $G_n$  and also called as a gear graph. Clearly,  $|V(G_n)| = 2n+1$  and  $|E(G_n)| = 3n$ . A gear graph  $G_n$  is depicted in Figure 1.



Figure 1: Gear graph G<sub>n</sub>

Let  $G_n$  be a gear graph with 2n+1 vertices, 3n edges,  $n \ge 4$ . Then  $G_n$  has two types of edges based on the downhill degree of the vertices of each edge as follows:

 $E_1 = \{ u \in E(G_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = 2n, d_{dn}(v) = 2 \}, \mid E_1 \mid = n.$  $E_2 = \{ u \in E(G_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = 2, d_{dn}(v) = 0 \}, \mid E_2 \mid = 2n.$ 

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**Theorem 3.** Let  $G_n$  be a gear graph with 2n+1 vertices, 3n edges,  $n \ge 4$ . Then the harmonic downhill index of  $G_n$  is

$$HDW(G_n) = \frac{n}{n+1} + 2n.$$

Proof: We deduce

$$HDW(G_n) = \sum_{uv \in E(G_n)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)} = \frac{2n}{2n+2} + \frac{4n}{2+0} = \frac{n}{n+1} + 2n$$

**Theorem 4.** Let  $G_n$  be a gear graph with 2n+1 vertices, 3n edges,  $n \ge 4$ . Then the harmonic downhill polynomial of  $G_n$  is

$$HDW(G_n, x) = nx^{\frac{1}{n+1}} + 2nx^1.$$

Proof: We deduce

$$HDW(G_n, x) = \sum_{uv \in E(G_n)} x^{\frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}} = nx^{\frac{2}{2n+2}} + 2nx^{\frac{2}{2+0}} = nx^{\frac{1}{n+1}} + 2nx^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

#### 5. Results for helm graphs

The helm graph  $H_n$  is a graph obtained from  $W_n$  (with n+1 vertices) by attaching an end edge to each rim vertex of  $W_n$ . Clearly,  $|V(H_n)| = 2n+1$  and  $|E(H_n)| = 3n$ . A graph  $H_n$  is shown in Figure 2.



Figure 2: Helm graph *H<sub>n</sub>* 

Let  $H_n$  be a helm graph with 3n edges,  $n \ge 5$ . Then  $H_n$  has three types of edges based on the downhill degree of the vertices of each edge as follows:

$$E_1 = \{uv \in E(H_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = 2n, d_{dn}(v) = 2n - 1\}, \qquad |E_1| = n.$$
  

$$E_2 = \{uv \in E(H_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = d_{dn}(v) = 2n - 1\}, \qquad |E_2| = n.$$
  

$$E_3 = \{uv \in E(H_n) \mid d_{dn}(u) = 2n - 1, d_{dn}(v) = 0\}, \qquad |E_3| = n.$$

**Theorem 5.** Let  $H_n$  be a helm graph with 2n+1 vertices,  $n \ge 5$ . Then the harmonic downhill index of  $H_n$  is

$$HDW(H_n) = \frac{2n}{4n-1} + \frac{3n}{2n-1}.$$

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Proof: We obtain

$$HDW(H_n) = \sum_{uv \in E(H_n)} \frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}$$
  
=  $\frac{2n}{2n + (2n - 1)} + \frac{2n}{(2n - 1) + (2n - 1)} + \frac{2n}{(2n - 1) + 0} = \frac{2n}{4n - 1} + \frac{3n}{2n - 1}$ 

**Theorem 6.** Let  $H_n$  be a helm graph with 2n+1 vertices, 3n edges,  $n \ge 5$ . Then the harmonic downhill polynomial of  $H_n$  is

$$HDW(H_n, x) = nx^{\frac{2}{4n-1}} + nx^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} + nx^{\frac{2}{2n-1}}.$$

**Proof:** We deduce

$$HDW(H_n, x) = \sum_{uv \in E(H_n)} x^{\frac{2}{d_{dn}(u) + d_{dn}(v)}} = nx^{\frac{2}{2n + (2n-1)}} + nx^{\frac{2}{(2n-1) + (2n-1)}} + nx^{\frac{2}{(2n-1) + 0}}$$
$$= nx^{\frac{2}{4n-1}} + nx^{\frac{1}{2n-1}} + nx^{\frac{2}{2n-1}}.$$

#### 5. Conclusion

In this study, the harmonic downhill index and its corresponding polynomial are defined and studied.

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*Authors' contributions.* It is a single-author paper, and the author makes the full contribution.

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