

## The Connected Total Monophonic Number of A Graph

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### Abstract

A set  $M$  of vertices of a connected graph  $G$  is a monophonic set if every vertex of  $G$  lies on an  $x$ - $y$  monophonic path for some elements  $x$  and  $y$  in  $M$ . The minimum cardinality of a monophonic set of  $G$  is the monophonic number of  $G$ , denoted by  $m(G)$ . A total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices. The minimum cardinality of a total monophonic set of  $G$  is the total monophonic number denoted by  $m_t(G)$ . A connected total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a total monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph  $\langle M \rangle$  induced by  $M$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a connected total monophonic set of  $G$  is the connected total monophonic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $m_{ct}(G)$ . It is proved that, for the integers  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  with  $a < b < c$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  having the monophonic number  $a$ , the total monophonic number  $b$ , and the connected total monophonic number  $c$ .

**Keywords :** Monophonic set, monophonic number, total monophonic number,

monophonic distance, connected total monophonic number. AMS Subject classification : 05C12.

## 1.INTRODUCTION

For any two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(x, y)$  is the length of a shortest  $x$ - $y$  path in  $G$ . An  $x$ - $y$  path of length  $d(x, y)$  is called an  $x$ - $y$  geodesic. A vertex  $v$  is said to lie on an  $x$ - $y$  geodesic  $P$  if  $v$  is a vertex of  $P$  including the vertices  $x$  and  $y$ . A set  $S$  of vertices is a geodetic set if  $I[S] = V$ , and the minimum cardinality of a geodetic set is the geodetic number  $g(G)$ . A geodetic set of cardinality  $g(G)$  is called a  $g$ -set. The geodetic number of a graph was introduced in [2, 6] and further studied in [3, 4, 5]. A connected geodetic set of a graph  $G$  is a geodetic set  $S$  such that the subgraph  $G[S]$  induced by  $S$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a connected geodetic set of  $G$  is the connected geodetic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $g_c(G)$ . The connected geodetic number of a graph is introduced in [9] and further studied in [11,12].

A chord of a path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  in  $G$  is an edge  $u_i u_j$  with  $j \geq i + 2$ . A  $u$ - $v$  path  $P$  is called a monophonic path if it is a chordless path. A set  $M$  of vertices is a monophonic set if every vertex of  $G$  lies on a monophonic path joining some pair of vertices in  $M$ , and the minimum cardinality of a monophonic set is the monophonic number  $m(G)$ . The monophonic number of a graph  $G$  was studied in [10]. The eccentricity  $e(v)$  of a vertex  $v$  in  $G$  is the maximum distance from  $v$  and a vertex farthest from  $v$ . The minimum eccentricity among the vertices of  $G$  is the radius,  $rad(G)$  or  $r(G)$  and the maximum eccentricity is its diameter,  $diam G$  of  $G$ .

A total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices. The minimum cardinality of a total monophonic set of  $G$  is the total monophonic number denoted by  $m_t(G)$ . The Total edge monophonic number of a graph was introduced and studied in [1]. A connected monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph  $\langle M \rangle$  induced by  $M$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a connected monophonic set of  $G$  is the connected monophonic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $m_c(G)$ . The connected monophonic number of a graph was studied in [8].

The following Theorems are used in the sequel.

Theorem 1.1:[4] Each extreme vertex of a connected graph  $G$  belongs to every geodetic set of  $G$ .

Theorem 1.2: [7] For any non trivial tree  $T$  of order  $p$ ,  $g_c(T) = p$ .

Theorem 1.3:[1] Each extreme vertex of  $G$  belongs to every total monophonic set of  $G$ .

Theorem 1.4:[7] The monophonic number of a tree  $T$  is the number of end vertices in  $G$ .

**2. The Connected Total Monophonic Number Of a Graph**

Definition 2.1: Let  $G$  be a connected graph with at least two vertices. A connected total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a total monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph  $\langle M \rangle$  induced by  $M$  is connected . The minimum cardinality of a connected total monophonic set of  $G$  is the connected total monophonic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $m_{ct}(G)$ . A connected total monophonic set of cardinality  $m_{ct}(G)$  is called a  $m_{ct}$  -set of  $G$  or a minimum connected total monophonic set of  $G$ .

Example 2.2: Consider the graph  $G$  of Fig. 2.1,  $M = \{v_1, v_2, v_6\}$  is a minimum monophonic set of  $G$ .  $M_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_6, v_7\}$  is a minimum total monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m_t(G) = 4$ . Here the induced subgraph  $\langle M_1 \rangle$  is not connected , so that  $M_1$  is not a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Now it is clear that  $M_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_6, v_7\}$  is a minimum connected total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m_{ct}(G) = 5$ .

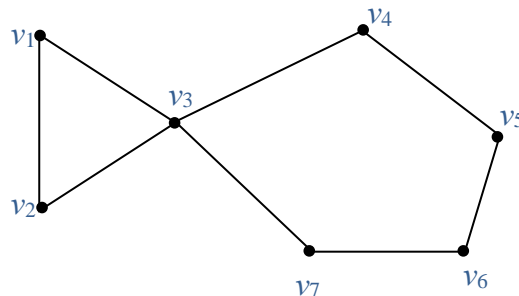


Figure 2.1

Observation 2.3: Every extreme vertex of a connected graph  $G$  belongs to every connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . In particular , every end vertex of  $G$  belongs to every connected total monophonic set of  $G$ .

Proof: Since every connected total monophonic set is also a total monophonic set, the result follows from Theorem 1.3.

Theorem 2.4: Let  $G$  be a connected graph with cut-vertices and let  $M$  be a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . If  $v$  is a cut-vertex of  $G$ , then every component of  $G-v$  contains an element of  $M$ .

Proof: Suppose that there is a component  $B$  of  $G$  at a cut-vertex  $v$  such that  $B$  contains no vertex of  $M$ . Let  $u \in V(B)$ . Since  $M$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ , there exists a pair of vertices  $x$  and  $y$  in  $M$  such that  $u$  lies on some  $x$ - $y$  total monophonic path  $P: x=u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n=y$  in  $G$ . Since  $v$  is a cut-vertex of  $G$ , the  $x$ - $u$  sub total monophonic path of  $P$  and the  $u$ - $y$  total monophonic sub path of  $P$  both contain

$v$ , it follows that  $P$  is not a total monophonic path, contrary to the assumption. Therefore every component of  $G-v$  contains an element of  $M$ .

**Theorem 2.5:** Every cut-vertex of a connected graph  $G$  belongs to every connected total monophonic set of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Let  $v$  be any cut-vertex of  $G$  and let  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r (r \geq 2)$  be the components of  $G-v$ . Let  $M$  be any connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Then by Theorem 2.4,  $M$  contains at least one element from each  $G_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$ . Since  $\langle M \rangle$  is connected, it follows that  $v \in M$ .

**Corollary 2.6:** For a connected graph  $G$  with  $k$  extreme vertices and  $l$  cut-vertices,  $m_{ct}(G) \geq \max\{2, k+l\}$ .

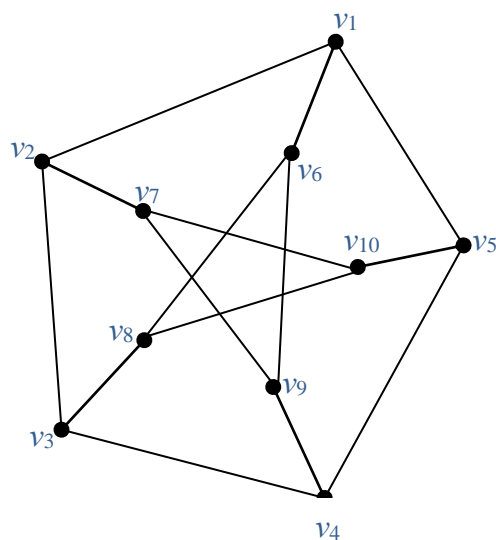
**Proof:** This follows from Observations 2.3 and Theorem 2.5.

In the following we determine the connected total monophonic number of some standard graphs.

**Corollary 2.7:** (i) For any non trivial tree  $T$  of order  $p$ ,  $m_{ct}(G) = p$ .

(ii) For the complete graph  $K_p (p \geq 2)$ ,  $m_{ct}(K_p) = p$ .

(iii) For the Petersen graph  $K_{10,15}$   $m_{ct}(K_{10,15}) = 3$ .



**Theorem 2.8:** For the cycle  $C_p (p \geq 3)$ ,  $m_{ct}(C_p) = 3$ .

**Proof:** Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p, v_1$  be a cycle of length  $p$ . Let  $x, y \in V(C_p)$  such that  $d(x, y) = 2$ . Then  $M = \{x, y\}$  is a monophonic set of  $C_p$ . But  $\langle M \rangle$  is not connected. Let  $u$  be a vertex of  $C_p$  which is adjacent to both  $x$  and  $y$ . Then  $M \cup \{u\}$  is connected total monophonic set, so that  $m_{ct}(C_p) = 3$ .

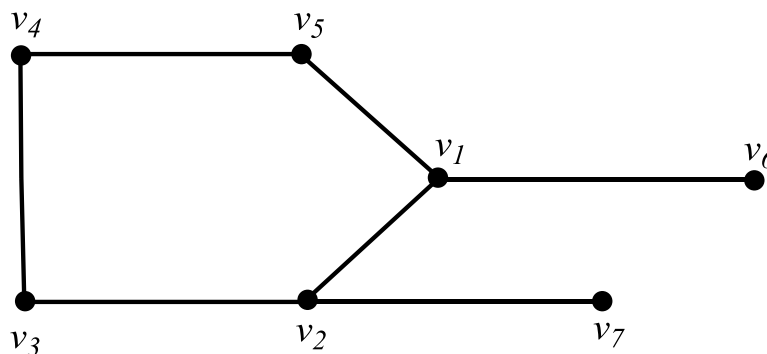
Theorem 2.9: For the complete bipartite graph  $G = K_{m,n}$ ,  $m_{ct}(G) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } m = 2, n \geq 2 \\ 4 & \text{if } 3 \leq m \leq n \end{cases}$

Proof: Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$  and  $W = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the partite sets of  $G$ . First assume that  $m = 2, n \geq 2$ . Let  $M \subseteq V(G)$ . If  $|M| = 2$ , then either  $\langle M \rangle$  is disconnected or  $\langle M \rangle$  is an edge. It is clear that  $M$  is not a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . However,  $M = \{u_1, u_2, v_1\}$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m_{ct}(G) = 3$ . Next assume that  $3 \leq m \leq n$ . Let  $M \subseteq V(G)$ . If  $|M| = 2$ , then it can be easily verified that  $M$  is not a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Let  $|M| = 3$ . If  $M \subseteq U$  or  $M \subseteq W$ , then  $\langle M \rangle$  is not connected and so  $M$  is not a total monophonic set of  $G$ . If  $M \subseteq U \cup W$ , then it is easily seen that  $M$  is not a total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m_{ct}(G) \geq 4$ . Let  $M = \{u_i, u_j, w_b, w_k\}$ . It is easily verified that  $M$  is a total monophonic set of  $G$ . Since  $\langle M \rangle$  is connected, it follows that  $M$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m_{ct}(G) = 4$ .

Theorem 2.10: For a connected graph  $G$  of order  $p$ ,  $2 \leq m(G) \leq m_{ct}(G) \leq g_{ct}(G) \leq p$ .

Proof: Any monophonic set needs atleast two vertices and so  $m(G) \geq 2$ . Since every connected total monophonic set is also a total monophonic set, it follows that  $m(G) \leq m_{ct}(G)$ . Since every connected total geodetic set is also a connected total monophonic set, it follows that  $m_{ct}(G) \leq g_{ct}(G)$ . Also, since  $\langle V \rangle$  induces a connected total geodetic set of  $G$ , it is clear that  $g_{ct}(G) \leq p$ .

Remark 2.11: The bounds in Theorem 2.10 are sharp. For any non-trivial path  $P$ ,  $m(P) = 2$ . For the complete graph  $K_p$ ,  $m_{ct}(K_p) = p$ . For  $G = K_{m,n} (4 \leq m \leq n)$ . By Theorem 2.9,  $m_{ct}(G) = 4$  and also it is easily verified that  $g_{ct}(G) = 4$  so that  $m_{ct}(G) = g_{ct}(G)$ . By Theorem 1.2, For any non trivial tree  $T$ ,  $g_c(G) = p, g_{ct}(G) = p$ . Also, all the inequalities in the theorem are strict. For the graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.2,  $m(G) = 3, m_{ct}(G) = 5, g_{ct}(G) = 6$  and  $p = 7$  so that  $2 < m(G) < m_{ct}(G) < g_{ct}(G) < p$ .



Theorem 2.12: Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $p \geq 2$ . Then  $G = K_2$  if and only if  $m_{ct}(G) = 2$ .

Proof: If  $G = K_2$ , then  $m_{ct}(G) = 2$ . Conversely, let  $m_{ct}(G) = 2$ . Let  $M = \{u, v\}$  be a minimum connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Then  $uv$  is an edge. If  $G \neq K_2$ , then there exists a vertex  $w$  different from  $u$  and  $v$  that lies on a path between  $u$  and  $v$ . Since  $uv$  is a chord,  $u-v$  is not a total monophonic path, so that  $M$  is not a  $m_{ct}$ -set, which is a contradiction. Thus  $G = K_2$ .

Theorem 2.13: Let  $G$  be a connected graph. Then every vertex of  $G$  is either a cut-vertex or an extreme vertex if and only if  $m_{ct}(G) = p$ .

Proof: Let  $G$  be a connected graph with every vertex of  $G$  is either a cut-vertex or an extreme vertex. Then the result follows from Observation 2.3 and Theorem 2.5.

Conversely, suppose  $m_{ct}(G) = p$ . Suppose that there is a vertex  $x$  in  $G$  which is neither a cut-vertex nor an extreme vertex. Since  $x$  is an extreme vertex,  $N(x)$  does not induce a complete subgraph and hence there exist  $u$  and  $v$  in  $N(x)$  such that  $d_m(u, v) = 2$ . Clearly,  $x$  lies on a  $u-v$  monophonic path in  $G$ . Also, since  $x$  is not a cut-vertex of  $G$ ,  $G-x$  is connected. Thus  $V-\{x\}$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m_{ct}(G) \leq |V - \{x\}| \leq p-1$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore every vertex of  $G$  is either a cut-vertex or an extreme vertex.

Theorem 2.14: If  $G$  is a non complete connected graphs such that it has a minimum cutset, then  $m_{ct}(G) \leq p-K(G)+1$ .

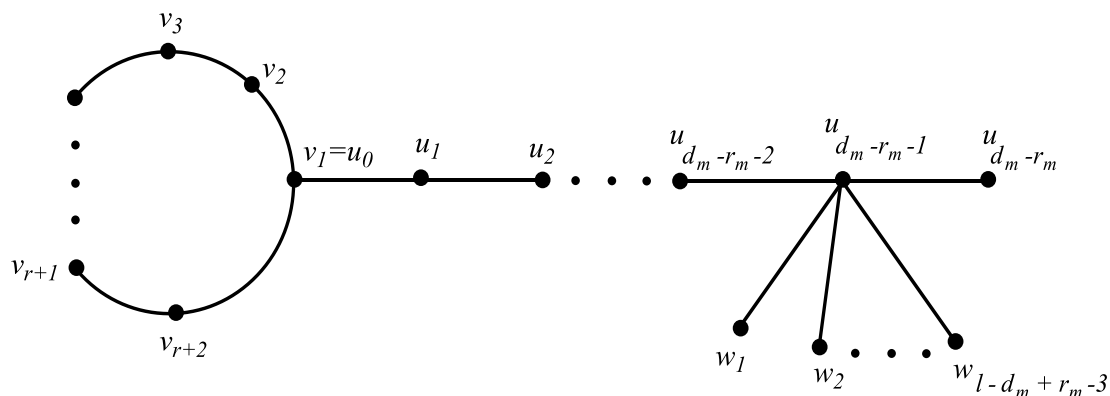
Proof: Since  $G$  is non complete, it is clear that  $1 \leq K(G) \leq p-2$ . Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$  be a minimum cutset of  $G$ . Let  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$  ( $r \geq 2$ ) be the components of  $G-U$  and let  $M = V(G) - U$ . Then every vertex  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $G_j$ , for every  $j$  ( $1 \leq j \leq r$ ). It is clear that  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$  and  $\langle M \rangle$  is not connected. Also, it is clear that  $\langle M \cup \{x\} \rangle$  is a connected total monophonic set for any vertex  $x$  in  $U$  so that  $m_{ct}(G) \leq p - K(G) + 1$ .

Remark 2.15: The bound in Theorem 2.14 is sharp. For the cycle  $G = C_4$ ,  $m_{ct}(G) = 3$ . Also,  $K(G) = 2$ ,  $p - K(G) + 1 = 3$ . Thus  $m_{ct}(G) = p - K(G) + 1$ .

### 3 REALIZATION RESULTS:

Theorem 3.1: For positive integers  $r_m, d_m$  and  $l > d_m - r_m + 3$  with  $r_m < d_m \leq 2r_m$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $\text{rad}_m(G) = r_m$ ,  $\text{diam}_m(G) = d_m$  and  $m_{ct}(G) = l$ .

Proof: When  $r_m = 1$ , we let  $G = K_{l,l-1}$ . Then the result follows from Corollary 2.7 (i). Let  $r_m \geq 2$ , let  $C_{r+2}: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r+2}, v_1$  be a cycle of length  $r+2$  and let  $P_{d_m-r_m+1}: u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{d_m-r_m}$  be a path of length  $d_m - r_m + 1$ . Let  $H$  be a graph obtained from  $C_{r+2}$  and  $P_{d_m-r_m+1}$  by identifying  $v_1$  in  $C_{r+2}$  and  $u_0$  in  $P_{d_m-r_m+1}$ . Now add  $l - d_m + r_m - 3$  new vertices  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{l-d_m+r_m-3}$  to  $H$  and join each  $w_i$  ( $1 \leq i < l - d_m + r_m - 3$ ) to the vertex  $u_{d_m-r_m-1}$  and obtain the graph  $G$  as shown in Figure 3.1.



Then  $\text{rad}_m(G) = r_m$  and  $\text{diam } m(G) = d_m$ . Let  $M = \{ u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{d_m-r_m}, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{l-d_m+r_m-3} \}$  be the set of all cut vertices and end vertices of  $G$ . By Theorem 2.5,  $M$  is a subset of every connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . It is clear that  $M$  is not a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Also  $M \cup \{x\}$ , where  $x \notin M$  is not a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence  $M \cup \{v_2, v_3\}$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m_{ct}(G) = l$ .

**Theorem 3.2:** For any positive integers  $a, b, c$  with  $a < b \leq c$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $m(G) = a, m_t(G) = b, m_{ct}(G) = c$ .

**Proof:** Case 1 :  $a < b = c$ . Let  $G$  be any tree. Then by Theorem 1.4,  $m(G) = a$ , and by corollary 2.7 (i),  $m_t(G) = m_{ct}(G) = b$ .

Case 2:  $a < b < c$ . Let  $P_{c-b+4}: z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{c-b+4}$  be a path of length  $c-b+4$ . Let  $Q: x_i, y_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq a$ ) be a path of length 1. Let  $H$  be a graph obtained from  $P_{c-b+4}$  by adding  $a-2$  new vertices  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-2}\}$  to  $P_{c-b+4}$  and join  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-2}$  to  $z_2$ . Subdivide the edge  $z_2u_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq b-a-2$ , calling the new vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{b-a-2}$ , where  $u_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$  and  $v_i$  is adjacent to  $z_2$ , for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, b-a-2\}$ . Let  $G$  be a graph shown in Figure 3.2 obtained from  $H$  by joining each  $x_i$  to  $z_2$  and each  $y_i$  to  $z_4$  ( $1 \leq i \leq a$ ).

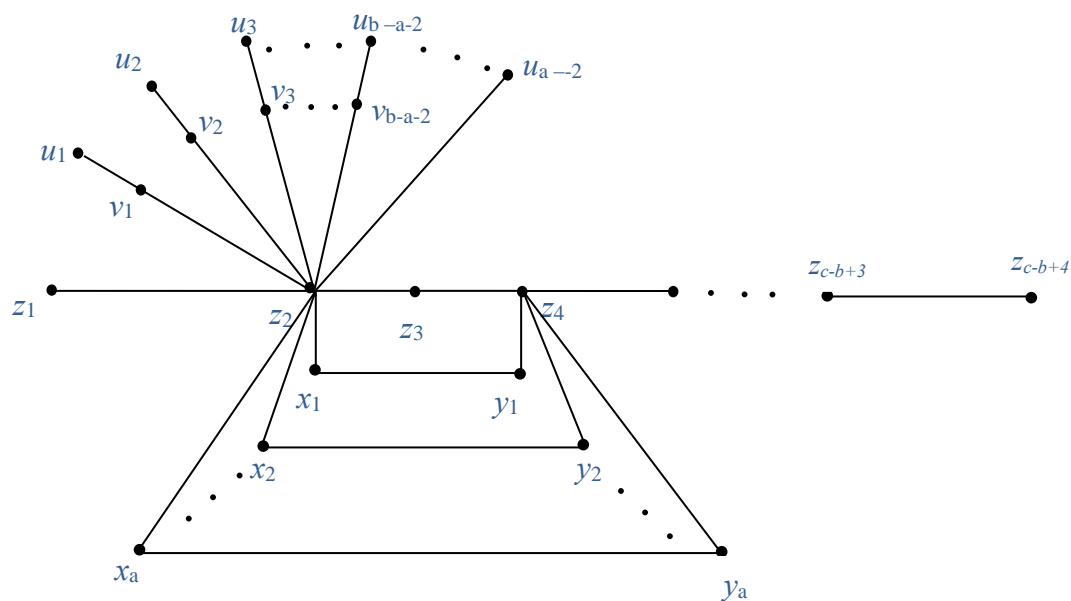


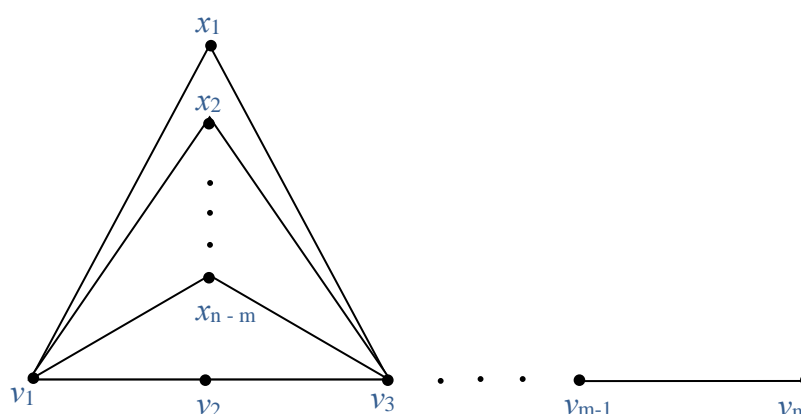
Figure 3.2

Let  $M = \{ z_1, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-2}, z_{c-b+4} \}$  be the set of all end vertices of  $G$ . Now it is easily seen that  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m(G) = a$ . Let  $M_1 = \{ v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{b-a-2}, z_2, z_{c-b+3} \}$ . By Theorem 1.4, every total monophonic set contains  $M$ . Clearly  $M_2 = M \cup M_1$  is a total monophonic set of  $G$ ,  $m_t(G) = b$ . Clearly  $\langle M_2 \rangle$  is not connected. However  $M_2 \cup \{ z_3, z_4, \dots, z_{c-b+3} \}$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m_{ct}(G) = c$ .

Theorem 3.3: For every pair  $m, n$  of positive integers with  $3 \leq m \leq n$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  of order  $n$  such that  $m_{ct}(G) = m$ .

Proof: Let  $P_m: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  be a path of  $m$  vertices. Add  $n-m$  new vertices  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-m}$  and join each  $x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n-m$ ) to both  $v_1$  and  $v_3$ , we get the connected graph  $G$  as shown in Figure 3.3. Its order is  $(n-m) + m = n$ .





Clearly  $M_1 = \{v_1, v_m\}$  is a monophonic set of  $G$  and  $M_2 = M_1 \cup \{v_2, v_{m-1}\}$  is the total monophonic set of  $G$ . But  $M_2$  is not connected. Now  $M_3 = M_2 \cup \{v_3, v_4, \dots, v_{m-2}\}$  is a connected total monophonic set of  $G$ . Now  $|M_3| = 4 + m - 4 = m$ .

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