

SOME LOCALIZATION CONDITIONS FOR LONG CYCLE IN GRAPHS*

*Ye Miaolin***

(Dept. of Math., Anqing Normal Institute, Anqing 246011, P. R. C.)

Zhang Kemin

(Dept. of Math., Nanjing University, Nanjing, 210093, P. R. C.)

Abstract In this note, we give some localization conditions for the existence of long cycle through any fixed vertex of G . Let G be a 2-connected, triangle-free graph of order n , and let s be an integer ($3 \leq s \leq n$). If G satisfies one of the following:

$$(1) \quad \forall u \in V(G), d(u) = k < \frac{s}{2} \Rightarrow |\{v \in M^s(u) \mid d(v) \leq k\}| \leq k - 1, \text{ where}$$

$$M^i(u) = \{v \mid d(u, v) \leq i, v \in V(G)\};$$

$$(2) \quad \forall u, v \in V(G), d(u) < \frac{s}{2}, d(u, v) = 2 \Rightarrow d(v) \geq |M^s(u)|/2,$$

then, for every vertex $x \in V(G)$, there exists a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ of length l through x . Finally, we give some conjectures about localization conditions of long cycle.

Key words Cycle, Localization conditions, Triangle-free graph.

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1 Introduction

Hasratian and Khachatryan^[3,4] obtained some results concerning localization conditions for a graph to be hamiltonian. Tian Feng and Wang Wenliang^[6] gave two localization conditions concerning circumference of a graph. In this note, we discuss the long cycle through a fixed vertex under some localization conditions. Non-localization conditions concerning this can be found in [2] and [5].

We use terminology and notation in [1]. Let $G = (V(G), E(G))$, $\forall u \in V(G)$, $N_i(u) = \{v$

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$|d(u, v) = i$, $d(u, v)$ is the distance of u and v , $N(u) = N_1(u)$, $d(u) = |N(u)|$, $M^i(u) = \{v \mid d(u, v) \leq i\}$, $v \in V(G)$. A vertex set $V_1 \subset V(G)$ is called independent, if $G[V_1]$ contains no edge, where $G[V_1]$ is an induced subgraph of G by V_1 .

2 Main Results

Lemma Let G be a 2-connected triangle-free graph of order n . If x is the fixed vertex of $V(G)$, $P = x_1x_2 \cdots x_t$ is the longest path through x with $d(x_t) \geq s/2$ ($3 \leq s \leq n$) in G , then there exists a cycle C_l ($l \geq s$) through x .

Proof Let $P = x_1x_2 \cdots x_t$ be the longest path through x with $d(x_t) \geq s/2$, $p = \max\{i \mid x_1x_i \in E(G)\}$, $q = \min\{i \mid x_ix_t \in E(G)\}$. Thus $p < t$ and $q > 1$, otherwise we are done.

Case 1. $p > q$

Case 1. 1. $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{q-1}\}$. Let $q_0 = \max\{i \mid i < p, x_ix_t \in E(G)\}$, then $C_l = x_1x_2 \cdots x_{q_0}x_{t-1} \cdots x_px_1$ is a desired cycle. Indeed since G is triangle-free, $N(x_t)$ is independent, for any $x_i \in N(x_t)$, $\{x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}\} \cap N(x_t) = \emptyset$ and $N(x_t) \subset \{x_q, x_{q+1}, \dots, x_{q_0}, x_p, x_{p+1}, \dots, x_{t-1}\}$. thus $l = |\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{q_0}, x_{t-1}, \dots, x_p\}| \geq s$.

Case 1. 2. $x \in \{x_q, x_{q+1} \cdots x_t\}$. In this case, $C_l = x_qx_{q+1} \cdots x_t x_q$ is a desired cycle as the proof of case 1. 1.

Case 2. $p = q$

Case 2. 1. $x \in \{x_q, x_{q+1}, \dots, x_t\}$. The cycle $C_l = x_qx_{q+1} \cdots x_t x_q$ is desired.

Case 2. 2. $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{p-1}\}$. Since G is 2-connected, there is a path $P_1 = x_i u_1 \cdots u_j x_i$ with $1 \leq i < p, q < j \leq t, \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_j\} \cap V(P) = \emptyset$, Let $j_0 = \max\{j' \mid j' < j, x_j x_{j'} \in E(G)\}$. If $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i\}$. then $C_l = x_1x_2 \cdots x_i P_1 x_j x_{j+1} \cdots x_t x_{j_0} \cdots x_q x_1$. And if $x \in \{x_{i+1}, \dots, x_{p-1}\}$, then $C_l = x_i x_j x_{j+1} \cdots x_t x_{j_0} \cdots x_i$ is desired cycle respectively.

Case 3. $p < q$

Case 3. 1. $x \in \{x_q, x_{q+1}, \dots, x_t\}$, then $C_l = x_q x_{q+1} \cdots x_t x_q$.

Case 3. 2. $x \in \{x_{p+1}, x_{p+2}, \dots, x_{q-1}\}$, Since G is 2-connected, there are two disjoint paths $P_1 = u_1 u_2 \cdots u_g, P_2 = v_1 v_2 \cdots v_f$ with $u_1 \neq v_1, u_g \neq v_f$ connecting the cycle $C_1 = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_p x_1$ to $C_2 = x_q x_{q+1} \cdots x_t x_q$. We may assume that one of them starts at x_p , say P_1 , for otherwise we can walk on the path $x_p x_{p+1} \cdots x_q$ till we hit either C_2 or P_2 ($i=1$ or 2), and replace an appropriate piece of P_i by this path. Similarly, we may assume that one of P_1 or P_2 ends at x_q . Let

$$[V(P_1) \cup V(P_2)] \cap \{x_p, x_{p+1}, \dots, x_q\} = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_m}\},$$

$$j = \max\{k \mid x_k \in [V(P_1) \cup V(P_2)] \cap \{x_q, x_{q+1}, \dots, x_t\}, v_1 = x_i, (1 \leq i < p)\}$$

and

$$r = \max\{k \mid x_k x_r \in E, k < j\}, \text{ And let } x_{i_k} < x \leq x_{i_{k+1}}.$$

Case 3. 2. 1. $u_g = x_g \in P_1$. If $x_{i_k}, x_{i_{k+1}} \in P_i$, say $i=2$, otherwise we can use a similar argument to get a desired cycle $C_l = x_p P_1 x_q \cdots x_t x_j (=v_f) P'_2 x_{i_{k+1}} \cdots x_{i_k} P''_2 v_1 (=x_i) x_{i+1} \cdots x_p$.

where $P'_2(P''_2, \text{ resp. })$ is a section of P_2 from v_j to $x_{i_{k+1}}$ (x_{i_k} to $v_1 = x$, resp.). If $x_{i_k}, x_{i_{k+1}}$ belong to different $P_i (i=1, 2)$, say $x_{i_k} \in P_1, x_{i_{k+1}} \in P_2$, thus we have a desired cycle $C_l = x_{i_k} \cdots x_{i_{k+1}} P'_2 x_j \cdots x_i x_r \cdots x_q (= u_g) u_{g-1} \cdots x_{i_k}$.

Case 3. 2. 2. $v_j = x_q \in P_2$, We can use an analogous method of Case 3. 2. 1 to get a desired cycle C_l .

Case 3. 3. $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p\}$. Using the notation of case 3. 2, We have that:

Case 3. 3. 1. $u_g = x_q \in P_1$. If $x \in \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i\}$, thus there is a desired $C_l = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_i P_2 x_j \cdots x_i x_r \cdots x_q P_1 x_p x_1$; If $x \in \{x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_p\}$, thus there is a desired $C_l = x_i \cdots x_p P_1 x_q \cdots x_i x_r \cdots x_j P_2 x_i$.

Case 3. 3. 2. $v_j = x_q \in P_2$. We can use similar argument as case 3. 3. 1 to get a desired cycle C_l . #

In all cases, C_l is a cycle of length $l (l \geq s)$ through x . The proof of Lemma is completed.

Theorem 1 Let G be a 2-connected triangle-free graph of order n . and let $s (3 \leq s \leq n)$ be an integer. If for any vertex $u \in V(G), d(u) = k < s/2$ implies $|\{v \in M^2(u) \mid d(v) \leq k\}| \leq k - 1$ then for any fixed vertex x , there is a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through vertex x .

Proof Suppose $x \in V(G)$, G has no cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through x . Let $A = \{P \mid P \text{ is a path with } x \in V(P)\}$. Choose a $P_0 \in A$ satisfying: (1) $|P_0| = \max\{|P| \mid P \in A\}$; (2) Under (1), $P_0 = x_1 x_2 \cdots x_t$ such that $d(x_1) + d(x_t)$ as larger as possible. Then, $d(x_1) < s/2$ by Lemma, $N(x_1) \subset V(P_0)$ by (1). Let $N(x_1) = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_r}\}$, then $x_{i_{r-1}} \in M^2(x_1)$ and $d(x_{i_{r-1}}) \leq d(x_1) = k$ by (2), thus $|\{v \in M^2(x_1) \mid d(v) \leq k\}| \geq |\{x_{i_{r-1}}, x_{i_{r-2}}, \dots, x_{i_1}\}| = k$, a contradiction.

Theorem 2 Let G be a 2-connected triangle-free graph of order n , and let $s (3 \leq s \leq n)$ be an integer. If for any $u, v \in V(G), d(u, v) = 2, d(u) < s/2$ implying $d(v) \geq |M^3(u)| / 2$. Then, for any fixed vertex x , G contains a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through x .

Proof Suppose G satisfies the condition of the theorem, and for some $x \in V(G)$, there is no cycle of length $l (l \geq s)$ through x . Obviously, G is not hamiltonian. Let $A = \{P \mid P \text{ is a path with } x \in V(P)\}$. Choose $P_0 = v_1 \cdots v_m \cdots v_t \in A$ such that: (1) $|V(P_0)| = \max\{|V(P)| \mid P \in A\}$; (2) Let $f(P_0) = m = \max\{i \mid v_1 v_i \in E(G)\}$. Under (1), $f(P_0)$ is as large as possible. By Lemma, $d(v_1) < s/2$. $N(v_1) \subset V(P)$ by (1). Furthermore, we have

(i) If $v_1 v_i \in E(G)$, then $d(v_{i-1}) < s/2$ and $N(v_{i-1}) \subset \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$.

Indeed, if $d(v_{i-1}) \geq s/2$, then $v_{i-1} v_{i-2} \cdots v_1 v_i \cdots v_t$ is also one of the longest paths through x . By Lemma G contains a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through x , a contradiction. If there is $v \notin V(P)$, $v_{i-1} v \in E$, then $P' = v v_{i-1} \cdots v_1 v_i \cdots v_t$ is longer than P_0 . This contradicts the choice of P_0 . If $v_{i-1} v_j \in E(G), m < j \leq t$, thus there is $P'' = v_{i-1} v_{i-2} \cdots v_j v_i \cdots v_t$ with $f(P'') > f(P_0)$. This contradicts the choice of P_0 yet.

(ii) There exists some $i, 2 \leq i < m$, such that $v_1 v_i \notin E(G)$. Otherwise, by (i), we have

$\bigcup_{i=1}^{m-1} N(V_i) \subset \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$. This contradicts the 2-connectivity of G .

Let $k = \max\{i \mid i \leq m, v_1 v_i \notin E(G)\}$, then for every $i: k < i \leq m, v_1 v_i \in E(G), v_1 v_k \notin E(G)$.

(iii) There is no $i(2 \leq i < m)$ such that $v_i v_{m+1} \in E(G)$ and $v_k v_{i-1} \in E(G)$.

In fact, if $v_{m+1} v_i \in E(G)$, then $2 \leq i < k$ by (i). And by $v_k v_{i-1} \in E(G)$, there is a path $P = v_1 v_{i+1} \dots v_k v_{i-1} v_{i-2} \dots v_1 v_{k+1} \dots v_i \in A$ with $f(P) = m + 1 > f(P_0) = m$, a contradiction.

Now, since $d(v_1, v_{m+1}) = 2, d(v_1, v_k) = 2$ and $d(v_1) < s/2$, we have $d(v_{m+1}) \geq |M^3(v_1)|/2, d(v_k) \geq |M^3(v_1)|/2, N(v_k) \cup N(v_{m+1}) \subset M^3(v_1)$ and $v_k v_{m+1} \notin E(G)$ by (i), thus $d(v_k, v_{m+1}) = 2$. We also have $d(v_{m+1}) < |M^3(v_1)| - d(v_1)$ by (i). Since $d(v_{m+1}) \geq |M^3(v_1)|/2, d(v_1) < |M^3(v_1)|/2$. Hence, $d(v_{m+1}) > d(v_1)$. Similarly, we have $d(v_k) > d(v_1)$. Since $d(v_k) < s/2$ and $d(v_k, v_1) = d(v_k, v_{m+1}) = 2, d(v_1) \geq |M^3(v_k)|/2$ and $d(v_{m+1}) \geq |M^3(v_k)|/2$. Thus we have

$$d(v_k) + d(v_{m+1}) > d(v_1) + d(v_{m+1}) \geq |M^3(v_k)|. \tag{*}$$

On the other hand, since (i), (iii) and $v_1 v_{m+1} \notin E(G), v_1, v_{m+1} \in M^3(v_k)$, We have $d(v_{m+1}) \leq |M^3(v_k)| - d(v_k) - 1$.

This contradicts (*). Therefore the proof of Theorem is completed. #

Remark Let us to consider the following graphs:

$G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$, where $V_1 = U_0 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^t U_i) W$ with $U_0 = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_t\} t \geq 2, U_i = \{u_i, v_i, x_{i,1}, x_{i,2}, \dots, x_{i,s}\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, t. W = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{4s - [s/4]}\}$ and $E_1 = \{x_i u_i, x_i v_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, t\} \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^t \{u_i x_{i,j}, v_i x_{i,h} \mid 1 \leq j \leq [s/2], [\frac{s}{2}] + 1 \leq h \leq s\}) \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^t \{x_{i,j}, y_h \mid 1 \leq j \leq s, 1 \leq h \leq 4s - [s/4]\})$;

$G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$, where $V_2 = U_1 \cup U_2 \cup U_3 \cup U_4$ with $|U_1| = [\frac{s}{2}] - 2, |U_2| = [\frac{s}{2}] - 1, |U_3| = s, |U_4| = s$ and $E_2 = \bigcup_{i=1}^3 \{x_i x_{i+1} \mid \forall x_i \in U_i, \forall x_{i+1} \in U_{i+1}\}$;

$G_3 = (V_3, E_3)$, where $V_3 = (\bigcup_{i=1}^{[s/4]} U_i) \cup W$ with $U_i = \{u_i, v_i, x_i, y_i\}, W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_h\}, [s/4] < h \leq \frac{s}{2} - 2$ and $E_3 = \{u_i v_i, u_i x_i, v_i y_i \mid v = 1, 2, \dots, [s/4]\} \cup \{x_i w_j, y_i w_j \mid i = 1, 2, \dots, [s/4], j = 1, 2, \dots, h\}$. Clearly, $G_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$ are nonhamiltonian. Using the results of [2], [5], we can't judge if there exists a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through the fixed vertex x in $G_i (i = 1, 2, 3)$, but we can do by Theorem 1 for G_1 or G_2 and by Theorem 2 for G_1 or G_3 .

Finally, we have following conjectures:

Conjecture 1 Let G be a 2-connected graph of order n , and let $s(3 \leq s \leq n)$ be an integer. If for every vertex $u \in V(G), d(u) = k < s/2$ implies $|\{v \in M^2(u) \mid d(v) \leq k\}| \leq k - 1$, then for any fixed vertex x , there is a cycle $C_l (l \geq s)$ through vertex x .

Conjecture 2 Let G be a 2-connected graph of order n , and let $s(3 \leq s \leq n)$ be an integer. If for every $u, v \in V(G), d(u, v) = 2, d(u) < s/2$ implies $d(v) \geq |M^3(u)|/2$, then for any fixed vertex x in G there is a cycle $C_l (l \leq s)$ through x .

Conjecture 3 Let G be a 2-connected graph of order n , and let $s(3 \leq s \leq n)$ be an inte-

ger. If for every $u \in V(G)$, $d(u) \geq \min\{\frac{s}{2}, |M^s(u)|/2\}$, then for any fixed vertex x in G there is a cycle of length l through x .

Conjectures 1, 2 and 3 are supported by the results of Theorems 1 and 2.

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图中长圈的几个局部化条件

叶森林

(安庆师院数学系, 安庆 246011)

张克民

(南京大学数学系, 南京 210093)

摘要 本文给出过图 G 中任给定点的长圈存在性的几个局部化条件。设 G 是 2-连通无三角形的 n 阶图, $s(3 \leq s \leq n)$ 为正整数, 若 G 还满足下列条件之一:

(1) $\forall u \in V(G)$, $d(u) = k < \frac{s}{2} \Rightarrow |\{v \in M^2(u) \mid d(v) \leq k\}| \leq k-1$, 这里 $M^2(u) = \{v \mid d(u, v) \leq 2, v \in V(G)\}$;

(2) $\forall u, v \in V(G)$, $d(u) < \frac{s}{2}, d(u, v) = 2 \Rightarrow d(v) \geq |M^3(u)|/2$.

则 $\forall x \in V(G)$, 存在长为 $l(l \geq s)$ 的圈 C_l 过 x 。最后我们给出几个关于长圈的局部化条件的猜测。

关键词 圈, 局部化条件, 无三角形图。

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