

## A NOTE ON THE GUTMAN INDEX OF JACO GRAPHS

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**Abstract:** The concept of the *Gutman index*, denoted  $Gut(G)$  was introduced for a connected undirected graph  $G$ . In this note we apply the concept to the underlying graphs of the family of Jaco graphs, (*directed graphs by definition*), and describe a recursive formula for the *Gutman index*  $Gut(J_{n+1}^*(x))$ . We also determine the *Gutman index* for the trivial *edge-joint* between Jaco graphs.

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### 1. Introduction

For general reference to notation and concepts of graph theory see [2]. Unless mentioned otherwise, a graph  $G = G(V, E)$  on  $\nu(G)$  vertices (order of  $G$ ) with  $\epsilon(G)$  edges (size of  $G$ ) will be a finite undirected and connected simple graph. The degree of a vertex in  $G$  is denoted  $d_G(v)$  and if the context of  $G$  is clear the degree is denoted  $d(v)$  for brevity. Also in a directed graph  $G^{\rightarrow}$  the degree is  $d_{G^{\rightarrow}}(v) = d_{G^{\rightarrow}}^+(v) + d_{G^{\rightarrow}}^-(v)$  or for brevity,  $d(v) = d^+(v) + d^-(v)$  if  $G$  is clear.

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The concept of the Gutman index  $Gut(G)$  of a connected undirected graph  $G$  was introduced in 1994 by Gutman [4]. It is defined to be  $Gut(G) = \sum_{\{v,u\} \subseteq V(G)} d_G(v)d_G(u)d_G(v,u)$ , where  $d_G(v)$  and  $d_G(u)$  are the degree of  $v$  and  $u$  in  $G$  respectively, and  $d_G(v,u)$  is the distance between  $v$  and  $u$  in  $G$ . Clearly, if the vertices of  $G$  of order  $n$  are randomly labeled  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  the definition states that  $Gut(G) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{n-1} \sum_{j=\ell+1}^n d_G(v_\ell)d_G(v_j)d_G(v_\ell, v_j)$ . Worthy results are reported in Andova et al. [1] and Dankelmann et al. [3].

### 2. The Gutman Index of the Underlying Graph of a Jaco Graph

Despite earlier definitions in respect of the family of Jaco graphs [5, 6], the definitions found in [7] serve as the unifying definitions. For ease of reference some of the important definitions are repeated here.

**Definition 2.1.** [7] Let  $f(x) = mx + c; x \in \mathbb{N}, m, c \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . The family of infinite linear Jaco graphs denoted by  $\{J_\infty(f(x)) : f(x) = mx + c; x \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m, c \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$  is defined by  $V(J_\infty(f(x))) = \{v_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$ ,  $A(J_\infty(f(x))) \subseteq \{(v_i, v_j) : i, j \in \mathbb{N}, i < j\}$  and  $(v_i, v_j) \in A(J_\infty(f(x)))$  if and only if  $(f(i) + i) - d^-(v_i) \geq j$ .

**Definition 2.2.** [7] The family of finite linear Jaco graphs denoted by  $\{J_n(f(x)) : f(x) = mx + c; x \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m, c \in \mathbb{N}_0\}$  is defined by  $V(J_n(f(x))) = \{v_i : i \in \mathbb{N}, i \leq n\}$ ,  $A(J_n(f(x))) \subseteq \{(v_i, v_j) : i, j \in \mathbb{N}, i < j \leq n\}$  and  $(v_i, v_j) \in A(J_n(f(x)))$  if and only if  $(f(i) + i) - d^-(v_i) \geq j$ .

The reader is referred to [7] for the definition of the *prime Jaconian vertex* and the *Hope graph*. The graph has four fundamental properties which are:

- (i)  $V(J_\infty(f(x))) = \{v_i : i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  and,
- (ii) if  $v_j$  is the head of an arc then the tail is always a vertex  $v_i, i < j$  and,
- (iii) if  $v_k$ , for smallest  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  is a tail vertex then all vertices  $v_\ell, k < \ell < j$  are tails of arcs to  $v_j$  and finally,
- (iv) the degree of vertex  $k$  is  $d(v_k) = f(k)$ .

The family of finite directed graphs are those limited to  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  vertices by lobbing off all vertices (and arcs to vertices)  $v_t, t > n$ . Hence, trivially  $d(v_i) \leq i$  for  $i \in \mathbb{N}$ . For  $m = 0$  and  $c \geq 0$  two special classes of disconnected linear Jaco graphs exist. For  $c = 0$  the Jaco graph  $J_n(0)$  is a null graph (*edgeless graph*) on  $n$  vertices. For  $c > 0$ , the Jaco graph  $J_n(c) = \bigcup_{\lfloor \frac{n}{c+1} \rfloor - \text{copies}} K_{c+1}^{\rightarrow} \cup K_{n-(c+1) \cdot \lfloor \frac{n}{c+1} \rfloor}^{\rightarrow}$ .

since the Gutman index is defined for connected graphs the bound  $m \geq 1$  will apply.

In this note we only consider the case  $m = 1, c = 0$ . The generalisation for  $f(x) = mx + c$  in general remains open. Denote the underlying Jaco graph by  $J_n^*(f(x))$ . A recursive formula of the Gutman index  $Gut(J_{n+1}^*(x))$  in terms of  $Gut(J_n^*(x))$  is given in the next theorem.

**Theorem 2.1.** *For the underlying graph  $J_n^*(x)$  of a finite Jaco Graph  $J_n(x), n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$  with Jaconian vertex  $v_i$  we have that recursively:*

$$\begin{aligned}
 Gut(J_{n+1}^*(x)) &= Gut(J_n^*(x)) + \sum_{k=1}^i \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) \\
 &+ \sum_{t=i+1}^{n-1} \sum_{q=t+1}^n (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q)) + (n - i) \left( \sum_{k=1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_n) \right) \\
 &+ \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + (n - i - 1) + i(n - i).
 \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Consider the underlying Jaco graph,  $J_n^*(x), n \in \mathbb{N}, n \geq 2$  with prime Jaconian vertex  $v_i$ . Now consider  $J_{n+1}^*(x)$ . From the definition of a Jaco graph the extension from  $J_n^*(x)$  to  $J_{n+1}^*(x)$  adds the vertex  $v_{n+1}$  and the edges  $v_{i+1}v_{n+1}, v_{i+2}v_{n+1}, \dots, v_n v_{n+1}$ .

Step 1: Consider any ordered pair of vertices  $(v_k, v_q)_{k < q}, 1 \leq k \leq i - 1,$  and  $k + 1 \leq q \leq i$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_q) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k, v_q) = d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_q).$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_k, 1 \leq k \leq i - 1,$  and  $\forall v_q, k + 1 \leq q \leq i$  with  $k < q$  we obtain:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \sum_{q=k+1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_q).$$

Step 2: Consider any vertex  $v_k, 1 \leq k \leq i$  and any other vertex  $v_t, i + 1 \leq t \leq n$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) &= d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + 1) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) \\
 &= d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t).
 \end{aligned}$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_k, 1 \leq k \leq i$  and  $\forall v_t, i + 1 \leq t \leq n$ , we obtain:

$$\sum_{k=1}^i \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) + \sum_{k=1}^i \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t).$$

Step 3: Consider any two distinct vertices  $v_t, v_q, i + 1 \leq t \leq n - 1$ , and  $t + 1 \leq q \leq n$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$\begin{aligned} d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_q) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_t, v_q) \\ = (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + 1)(d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) + 1) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t, v_q) \\ = d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) + 1. \end{aligned}$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_t, i + 1 \leq t \leq n - 1$  and  $\forall v_q, t + 1 \leq q \leq n$ , we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{t=i+1}^{n-1} \sum_{q=t+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q) \\ + \sum_{t=i+1}^{n-1} \sum_{q=t+1}^n (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q)) + (n - i - 1). \end{aligned}$$

Step 4: Consider any vertex  $v_k, 1 \leq k \leq i$  and the vertex  $v_{n+1}$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_{n+1}) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_k, v_{n+1}) = d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)(n - i)(d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_n) + 1).$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_k, 1 \leq k \leq i$  we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)(n - i)(d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_n) + 1) \\ = (n - i) \sum_{k=1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_n) + i(n - i). \end{aligned}$$

Step 5: Consider any vertex  $v_t, i + 1 \leq t \leq n$  and the vertex  $v_{n+1}$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_t) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_{n+1}) d_{J_{n+1}^*(x)}(v_t, v_{n+1}) = d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t)(n - i) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t, v_n).$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_t, i + 1 \leq t \leq n$  we obtain:

$$\sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t)(n - i) = (n - i) \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t).$$

**Final Summation Step:** Adding Steps 1 to 5 and noting that:

$$\begin{aligned} Gut(J_n^*(x)) &= \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \sum_{q=k+1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_q) \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=1}^i \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{t=i+1}^{n-1} \sum_{q=t+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q), \end{aligned}$$

provides the result:

$$\begin{aligned} Gut(J_{n+1}^*(x)) &= Gut(J_n^*(x)) + \sum_{k=1}^i \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_t) \\ &\quad + \sum_{t=i+1}^{n-1} \sum_{q=t+1}^n (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_q)) + (n - i) \left( \sum_{k=1}^i d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_n) \right) \\ &\quad + \sum_{t=i+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_t) + (n - i - 1) + i(n - i). \end{aligned}$$

□

### 3. The Gutman Index of the Edge-Joint between $J_n^*(x), n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $J_m^*(x), m \in \mathbb{N}$

The concept of an *edge-joint* between two simple undirected graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is defined below.

**Definition 3.1.** The edge-joint of two simple undirected graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph obtained by linking the edge  $vu, v \in V(G), u \in V(H)$  and denoted,  $G \rightsquigarrow_{vu} H$ .

**Note.**  $G \rightsquigarrow_{vu} H = G \cup H + vu, v \in V(G), u \in V(H).$

The next theorem provides  $Gut(J_n^*(x) \rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1} J_m^*(x))$  in terms of  $Gut(J_n^*(x))$  and  $Gut(J_m^*(x))$ . The edge-joint  $J_n^*(x) \rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1} J_m^*(x)$  is called *trivial*. Edge-joints  $J_n^*(x) \rightsquigarrow_{v_i u_j} J_m^*(x), i \neq 1$  or  $j \neq 1$  are called *non-trivial*. For families (classes) of graphs such as paths  $P_n$ , cycles  $C_n$ , complete graphs  $K_n$ , Jaco graphs  $J_n(f(x))$ , etc, the notation is abbreviated as  $P_n \rightsquigarrow_{vu} P_m = P_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{vu}}$  and  $J_n^*(f(x)) \rightsquigarrow_{v_i u_j} J_m^*(f(x)) = J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_i u_j}}$ , etc.

**Theorem 3.1.** *For the underlying graphs  $J_n^*(x)$  and  $J_m^*(x)$  of the finite Jaco Graphs  $J_n(x), J_m(x), n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq m \geq 2$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} Gut(J_n^*(x) \rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1} J_m^*(x)) &= Gut(J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}) = Gut(J_n^*(x)) + Gut(J_m^*(x)) \\ &+ \sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell) + \sum_{s=2}^m d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_s) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_s) \\ &+ \sum_{t=2}^m (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1) + 1) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1) \\ &+ \sum_{k=2}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_k) + d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1) + 4. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Consider the underlying Jaco graphs,  $J_n^*(x), J_m^*(x)$ , with  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \geq m \geq 2$  with  $J_m(x)$  having prime Jaconian vertex  $u_i$ . Also label the vertices of  $J_n^*(x)$  and  $J_m^*(x)$ ;  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  and  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_m$ , respectively. Consider  $J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}} = J_n^*(x) \cup J_m^*(x) + v_1 u_1$ . Without loss of generality apply the piecewise definition:

$$\begin{aligned} Gut(J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}) &= \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_k) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_\ell) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_k, v_\ell) \\ &+ \sum_{t=1}^{m-1} \sum_{s=t+1}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(u_s) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(u_t, u_s) \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_k) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_k, u_t) + d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_1) \\ & \hspace{15em} d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(u_1) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow_{v_1 u_1}}}(v_1, u_1). \end{aligned}$$

Step 1(a): Consider vertex  $v_1$  and vertex  $v_\ell, 2 \leq \ell \leq n$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$\begin{aligned}
 d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_\ell)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1, v_\ell) &= (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1)+1)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell) \\
 &= d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell) + d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell).
 \end{aligned}$$

By applying this step  $\forall v_\ell, 2 \leq \ell \leq n$  we obtain:

$$\sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell) + \sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell).$$

Step 1(b): For all ordered pairs of vertices  $(v_k, v_\ell)_{k < \ell}$  with  $2 \leq k \leq n - 1$  and  $3 \leq \ell \leq n$  we have that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_\ell)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k, v_\ell) \\
 = \sum_{k=2}^{n-1} \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_\ell).
 \end{aligned}$$

By applying this step  $\forall (v_k, v_\ell)_{k < \ell}, 1 \leq k \leq n - 1$  and  $2 \leq \ell \leq n$ , we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \sum_{\ell=k+1}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k, v_\ell) + \sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell) \\
 = Gut(J_n^*(x)) + \sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell)d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell).
 \end{aligned}$$

Step 2: Similar to Step 1 we have that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{t=1}^{m-1} \sum_{s=t+1}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_s)d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t, u_s) \\
 = \sum_{t=1}^{m-1} \sum_{s=t+1}^m d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t)d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_s)d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t, u_s) + \sum_{s=2}^m d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_s)d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_s) \\
 = Gut(J_m^*(x)) + \sum_{s=2}^m d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_s)d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_s).
 \end{aligned}$$

Step 3: To conclude this step we will provide the next partial summation as a piecewise summation, to be:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k, u_t) \\ &= \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1, u_t) \\ & \quad + \sum_{k=2}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k, u_t). \end{aligned}$$

Step 3(a): Consider vertex  $v_1$  and vertex  $u_t, 2 \leq t \leq m$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$\begin{aligned} & d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1, u_t) \\ &= (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1) + 1) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1). \end{aligned}$$

By applying this step  $\forall u_t, 2 \leq t \leq m$  we obtain:

$$\sum_{t=2}^m (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1) + 1) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1).$$

Step 3(b): Consider vertex  $v_k, 2 \leq k \leq n$  and vertex  $u_t, 2 \leq t \leq m$ . By applying the definition of the Gutman index to this pair of vertices we have the term:

$$\begin{aligned} & d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_t) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_k, u_t) \\ &= d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_k) + d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1). \end{aligned}$$

By applying the step  $\forall v_k, 2 \leq k \leq n$  and  $\forall u_t, 2 \leq t \leq m$ , we obtain:

$$\sum_{k=2}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_k) + d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1).$$

Step 4: It is easy to see that:

$$d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(u_1) d_{J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}}(v_1, u_1) = 4.$$

**Final Summation Step:** Adding Steps 1 to 4 provides the result:

$$Gut(J_{n,m}^{\rightsquigarrow v_1 u_1}) = Gut(J_n^*(x)) + Gut(J_m^*(x)) + \sum_{\ell=2}^n d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_\ell) d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_\ell)$$



$$\begin{aligned}
& + \sum_{s=2}^m d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_s) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_s) + \sum_{t=2}^m (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1) + 1) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1) \\
& + \sum_{k=2}^n \sum_{t=2}^m d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_k) d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_t) (d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_k) + d_{J_m^*(x)}(u_1, u_t) + 1) + 4.
\end{aligned}$$

□

#### 4. Conclusion

For the simple case  $f(x) = x$  the calculation of the Gutman index for Jaco graph and the edge-joint between them is immediately complicated. Finding a result similar to Theorem 3.1 for  $J_n^*(x) \rightsquigarrow_{v_i u_j} J_m^*(x)$ ,  $i \neq 1$  or  $j \neq 1$  (*non-trivial edge-joints*) remains open. The single most important challenge is to find a closed formula for the number of edges in  $J_n(x)$ . Such closed formula will enable finding a closed formula for distances between given vertices and a simplified formula for many invariants of Jaco graphs might result from such finding. Hence, important open questions remain such as: *Is there a closed formula for the number of edges of  $J_n(x)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ? Is there a closed formula for the cardinality of the Jaconian set  $\mathbb{J}(J_n(x))$  of  $J_n(x)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ? Is there a closed formula for  $d_{J_n^*(x)}(v_1, v_n)$  in  $J_n^*(x)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ?* Refer to [7] for further reading.

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