

## THE EDGE DISTANCE IN SOME FAMILIES OF GRAPHS II

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ABSTRACT. The edge distance between graphs is defined by the equality  $d(G_1, G_2) = |E_1| + |E_2| - 2|E_{1,2}| + ||V_1| - |V_2||$  where  $|A|$  is the cardinality of  $A$  and  $E_{1,2}$  is the edge set of a maximal common subgraph of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . Further,  $\text{diam } F_{p,q} = \max\{d(G_1, G_2); G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,q}\}$  where  $F_{p,q}$  denotes the set of all graphs with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges. In the paper we prove that for  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$   $\text{diam } F_{p,p+2} = 2p - 6$  and for  $p \geq 19$  and  $p + 3 \leq q \leq \frac{3p}{2}$   $\text{diam } F_{p,q} = 2q - 12$ .

### 1. Preliminaries

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  consists of a non-empty finite vertex set  $V$  and an edge set  $E$ . In this paper we consider undirected graphs without loops and multiple edges. A subgraph  $H$  of the graph  $G$  is a graph obtained from  $G$  by deleting some edges and vertices; notation:  $H \subseteq G$ . By  $\Delta(G)$  we denote the maximal degree of vertices of the graph  $G$ . A graph  $G$  is a common subgraph of graphs  $G_1, G_2$  if there exist graphs  $H_1, H_2$  such that  $H_1 \subseteq G_1$ ,  $H_2 \subseteq G_2$  and  $H_1 \cong G, H_2 \cong G$ .

A maximal common subgraph is a common subgraph which contains the maximal number of edges.

The edge distance of the graphs  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  is defined (see [3]) by

$$(1) \quad d(G_1, G_2) = |E_1| + |E_2| - 2|E_{1,2}| + ||V_1| - |V_2||$$

where  $|E_1|, |E_2|, |V_1|, |V_2|$  are the cardinalities of the edge sets and the vertex sets, respectively and  $|E_{1,2}|$  is the number of edges of a maximal common subgraph  $G_{1,2}$  of the graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ .

Throughout this paper, by  $F_{p,q}$  we denote the set of all graphs with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges. Further,  $\text{diam } F_{p,q} := \max\{d(G_1, G_2); G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,q}\}$ . If  $\text{diam } F_{p,q} = d(G, H)$  and  $c_{p,q}$  is the number of edges of a maximal common subgraph of the graphs  $G, H$  then

$$(2) \quad \text{diam } F_{p,q} = 2q - 2c_{p,q}.$$

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Denote by  $v$  a firmly chosen vertex of a maximal degree in the considered graph  $G$  and by  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  the vertices adjacent to  $v$  (here  $k = \Delta(G)$ ). Denote  $U := \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  and  $U' := V - \{v, v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ . The subgraph of the graph  $G$  induced by the vertex set  $X$  ( $X \subset V$ ) we denote by  $G(X)$  and the set of its edges by  $E(G(X))$  or briefly by  $E(X)$ . The subgraph of the graph  $G$  which contains all edges with one vertex in the set  $U$  and the other in the set  $U'$  is denoted by  $G(U, U')$  and the set of its edges by  $E(U, U')$ .

This paper is a continuation of the articles [1] and [2] but it can be read independently on them.

## 2. Diameter of $F_{p,p+2}$

In [1]  $\text{diam } F_{p,p+2}$  is determined for all  $p$  except of  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ . In this section of the paper we will show that  $\text{diam } F_{p,p+2} = 2p - 6$  for  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8\}$ . If the graph  $G_1$  without its isolated vertices is a subgraph of the graph  $K_5$  then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that  $G_2$  has a subgraph with 5 vertices and with at least 5 edges. It is easy to check this fact by distinguishing the following cases:

- a)  $\Delta(G_2) = 3$ 
  - (i)  $|E(U)| \geq 2$
  - (ii)  $|E(U)| = 1$   
If  $|E(U, U')| = 0$  then  $G_2(U')$  is the complete graph  $K_4$ .
  - (iii)  $|E(U)| = 0$   
If every vertex from  $U'$  has degree at most 1 in  $G_2(U, U')$  then  $G_2(U')$  has at least 3 edges.
- b)  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 4$ 
  - (i)  $|E(U)| \geq 1$
  - (ii) There is a vertex in  $U'$  whose degree in  $G_2(U, U')$  is at least 2
  - (iii) If none of the previous two cases is valid then  $G_2(U')$  is the complete graph  $K_3$  and  $|E(U, U')| = 3$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.2.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$  and  $\Delta(G) \geq 4$ . Then  $G$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_1, H_2$  (Fig. 2.1).*



Fig. 2.1

*Proof.* Suppose that  $|E(U)| = 0$  and simultaneously  $|E(U, U')| = 0$ . Then  $|E(U')| = |U'| + 3$  which is impossible since  $|U'| \leq 4$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ ,  $\Delta(G) = 4$  and  $|E(U)| = |E(U')| = 0$ . Then  $G$  contains the graphs  $H_3$  and  $H_4$  (Fig. 2.2).*

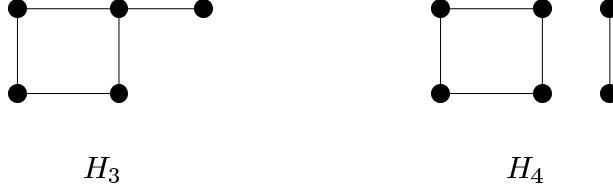


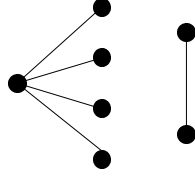
Fig. 2.2

*Proof.* Since  $|E(U, U')| = |U'| + 3$ , at least one of the following holds:

- (i) there are at least 2 vertices of degree at least 2 in  $U'$
- (ii) there is a vertex of degree at least 3 and another vertex of non-zero degree in  $U'$   $\square$

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$  and  $\Delta(G_1) = \Delta(G_2) = 4$  then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .*

*Proof.* In view of Lemma 2.2 it is sufficient to consider the case when exactly one of the graphs  $G_1, G_2$  contains the graph  $H_1$  and exactly one of them contains the graph  $H_2$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that the graph  $G_1$  contains the graph  $H_1$  and the graph  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_2$ . According to Lemma 2.1 we can also assume that the graph  $G_1$  without its isolated vertices is not a subgraph of the graph  $K_5$ . According to the above facts, we have  $|E(G_1(U'))| \geq 1$ . If  $|E(G_2(U'))| \geq 1$  then a common subgraph is the graph  $H_5$  (Fig. 2.3).



$H_5$

Fig. 2.3

So let  $|E(G_2(U'))| = 0$ . According to Lemma 2.3 the graph  $G_2$  contains the graphs  $H_3$  and  $H_4$ . If  $|E(G_1(U))| \geq 3$  then the graph  $G_1$  contains the graph  $H_3$ . In the opposite case we have  $|E(G_1(U'))| \geq |U'| + 1$  whence  $|U'| = 4$ . Then the graph  $G_1$  contains the graph  $H_4$  and the proof is finished.  $\square$

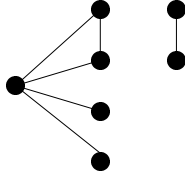
**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ ,  $\Delta(G_1) \geq 4$  and  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .*

*Proof.* The statement of the lemma is trivial if  $\Delta(G_1) > 4$ . Two cases are possible:

- a)  $|E(G_1(U, U'))| \geq 1$ ,
- b)  $|E(G_1(U, U'))| = 0$ .

In the case a) a common subgraph is the graph  $H_2$ . Obviously, if the graph  $G_2$  did not contain the graph  $H_2$  then it would be  $|E(G_2(U))| = 0$  and  $|E(G_2(U, U'))| = 0$ . This yields  $|E(G_2(U'))| > |U'|$  and it is impossible.

In the case b) we can assume according to Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2 that  $G_1$  contains the graph  $H_6$  (Fig. 2.4). Clearly, the statement holds if  $|E(G_2(U))| \geq 1$  or  $|E(G_2(U, U'))| \geq 1$ . Now it is sufficient to realize that at least one of these inequalities must be valid for the graph  $G_2$ .  $\square$



$H_6$

Fig. 2.4

Let  $F = \{G \in F_{7,9} \cup F_{8,10} \cup F_{9,11}; \Delta(G) = 3\}$ . Let us consider the next subsets of  $F$ :

$F_1$  contains all graphs which have the subgraph  $H_7$  (Fig. 2.5),

$F_2$  contains all graphs from  $F - F_1$  which have the subgraph  $H_8$  (Fig. 2.5),



$F_3$  contains all graphs from  $F - F_1$  which have the subgraph  $H_9$  (Fig. 2.5),  
 $F_4$  contains all graphs from  $F - F_1$  which have the subgraph  $H_{10}$  (Fig. 2.5),  
 $F_5$  contains all graphs from  $F - F_1$  which have the subgraph  $H_{11}$  (Fig. 2.5).

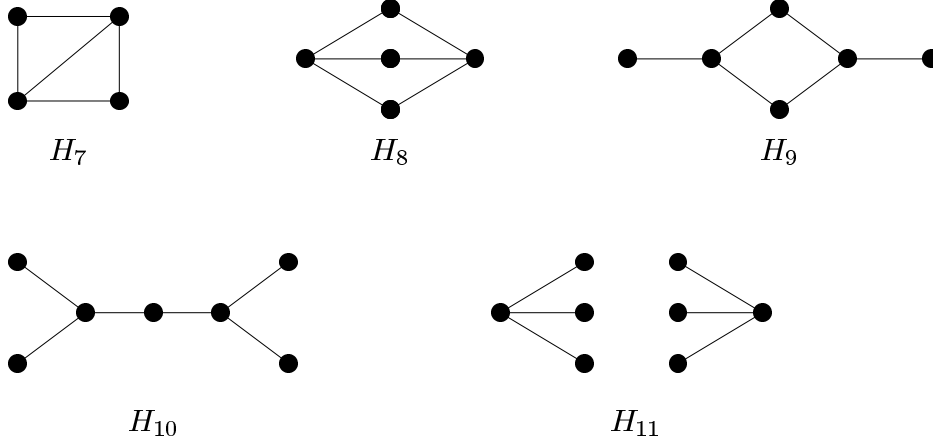


Fig. 2.5

**Lemma 2.6.**  $F_1 \cup F_2 \cup F_3 \cup F_4 \cup F_5 = F$ .

*Proof.* Obviously, each graph  $G \in F$  has at least 4 vertices of degree 3. If there are no two non-adjacent vertices of degree 3 then  $G$  contains  $H_7$ . If there are two non-adjacent vertices of degree 3 then  $G$  must contain at least one of the graphs  $H_8$ ,  $H_9$ ,  $H_{10}$  and  $H_{11}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.7.** If  $G \in F_1$  then  $G$  has the subgraph  $H_{12}$  in Fig. 2.6.

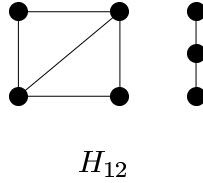


Fig. 2.6

*Proof.* We know that the graph  $G$  has the subgraph  $H_7$  and apart from the vertices of this subgraph  $G$  it has other  $p - 4$  vertices. The subgraph of the graph  $G$  induced by these  $p - 4$  vertices has at least  $p - 5$  edges and consequently it has a vertex of degree at least 2.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.8.** If  $G \in F_2$  then it contains the graphs  $H_3$ ,  $H_4$ ,  $H_{13}$  and  $H_{14}$  (Figs. 2.2, 2.7). Moreover, if  $p \neq 7$  then  $G$  contains also the graph  $H_{15}$  (Fig. 2.7).

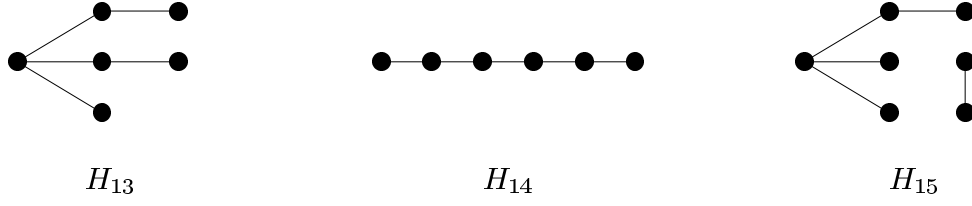


Fig. 2.7

*Proof.* The component of the graph  $G$  which contains the graph  $H_8$  must also contain a vertex which does not belong to  $H_8$ , i.e.  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{16}$  (Fig. 2.8). Obviously, if  $p \neq 7$  then  $G$  has an edge which is not incident with any vertex of the subgraph  $H_8$ .  $\square$

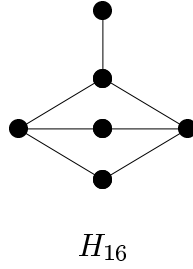


Fig. 2.8

**Lemma 2.9.** *If  $G \in F_3$  then it contains the graphs  $H_3$ ,  $H_4$ ,  $H_{13}$  and  $H_{17}$  (Figs. 2.2, 2.7, 2.9).*

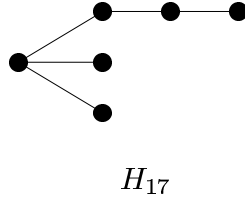


Fig. 2.9

*Proof.* Obviously,  $G$  contains the graphs  $H_3$  and  $H_{17}$ . Since  $G$  contains the graph  $H_9$  and has at least 9 edges, it has an edge which is not incident to any vertex of the circle in the considered subgraph  $H_9$ . Therefore  $G$  contains  $H_4$ . Apart from the edges of  $H_9$  there must exist another edge in  $G$  which is incident with at least one vertex of  $H_9$ . It follows immediately that  $G$  contains  $H_{13}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.10.** *If  $G \in F_4 \cup F_5$  then  $G$  contains the graphs  $H_{13}$ ,  $H_{17}$ ,  $H_{18}$  and  $H_{19}$ . (Figs. 2.7, 2.9, 2.10).*

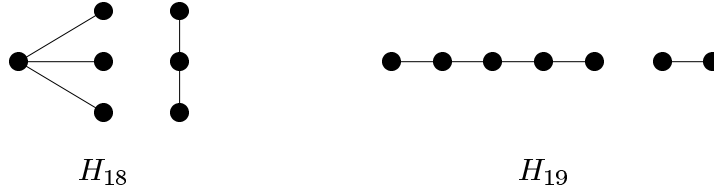


Fig. 2.10

*Proof.*

a)  $G \in F_4$

Obviously,  $G$  has the subgraphs  $H_{17}$  and  $H_{18}$ . Further, the graph  $G$  has at least 3 edges except of the edges of the subgraph  $H_{10}$ . Each of these edges is incident with at least one vertex of the subgraph  $H_{10}$ . It follows that  $G$  has the subgraphs  $H_{13}$  and  $H_{19}$ .

b)  $G \in F_5$

Obviously,  $G$  has the subgraph  $H_{18}$ . Since  $G$  can not have two non-trivial components it contains the subgraph  $H_{17}$ . If the graph  $G$  contains at least one of the subgraphs  $H_{20}$ ,  $H_{21}$  (Fig. 2.11) then it also has the graphs  $H_{13}$  and  $H_{19}$ .

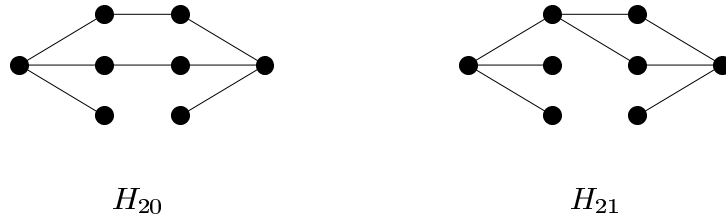


Fig. 2.11

In the opposite case  $p=9$  and  $G$  contains at least one of the subgraph  $H_{22}$ ,  $H_{23}$  (Fig. 2.12). Hence  $G$  has the subgraph  $H_{19}$  and it is easy to verify that it also has the subgraph  $H_{13}$ .  $\square$

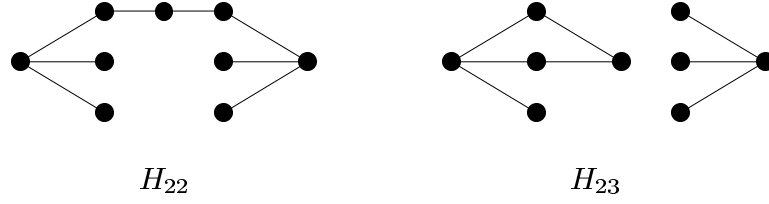


Fig. 2.12

**Lemma 2.11.** If  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$  and  $\Delta(G_1) = \Delta(G_2) = 3$  then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .

*Proof.* The statement follows straightforwardly from Lemmas 2.6 - 2.10.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.12.** If  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ ,  $\Delta(G_1) = 3$ ,  $\Delta(G_2) = 4$  then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .

*Proof.* According to Lemma 2.1 we can assume that  $G_2$  without its isolated vertices is not a subgraph of  $K_5$ . We distinguish several cases:

a)  $G_1 \in F_1$

According to Lemma 2.7  $G$  has the subgraph  $H_{12}$ . We distinguish 4 cases for the graph  $G_2$ :

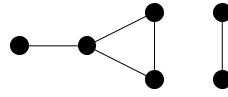
(i)  $|E(U)| \geq 3$

A common subgraph is the graph  $H_7$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| = 2$

If the considered edges are adjacent then a common subgraph is  $H_7$ .

If they are not adjacent then a common subgraph is  $H_{24}$  (Fig. 2.13).



$H_{24}$

Fig. 2.13

(iii)  $|E(U)| = 1$

If  $|E(U')| \geq 1$  then a common subgraph is  $H_{24}$ . If  $|E(U')| = 0$  then there exists a vertex of degree at least 2 in  $U'$  and at least one of the graphs  $H_7$  and  $H_{24}$  is a common subgraph.

(iv)  $|E(U)| = 0$

A common subgraph is  $H_{18}$ .

b)  $G_1 \in F_2$

We show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs from Lemma 2.8. We can assume that  $|E(U)| \leq 2$  and each vertex from  $U'$  has degree at most 1 in  $G_2(U, U')$

(in opposite case a common subgraph is  $H_3$ ). From this it follows that  $|E(U')| \geq 1$ . If  $p = 7$  then a common subgraph is  $H_{14}$ . So let  $p \neq 7$ . If  $|E(U)| \geq 1$  then a common subgraph is  $H_{15}$ . If  $|E(U)| = 0$  then there exists a vertex of degree at least 2 in  $G_2(U')$  and if moreover  $|E(U, U')| \geq 2$  then again  $H_{15}$  is a common subgraph. In the opposite case  $p = 9$ ,  $|E(U')| = 6$  and a common subgraph is  $H_4$ .

c)  $G_1 \in F_3$

We show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs from Lemma 2.9. If  $|E(U, U') \cup E(U')| > |U'|$  then at least one vertex from  $U'$  has degree at least 2 in  $G_2$ . Hence it is easy to verify that at least one of the graphs  $H_3, H_4, H_{17}$  is a common subgraph. In the opposite case  $|E(U)| \geq 3$  and a common subgraph is  $H_3$ .

d)  $G_1 \in F_4 \cup F_5$

We show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs from Lemma 2.10 (i.e.  $H_{13}, H_{17}, H_{18}, H_{19}$ ).

(i)  $|E(U)| \geq 1$

If  $|E(U, U')| \geq 1$  then a common subgraph is  $H_{13}$  or  $H_{17}$ . If  $|E(U, U')| = 0$  then according to Lemma 2.1 we can assume that  $|E(U')| \geq 1$  and a common subgraph is  $H_{18}$  or  $H_{19}$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| = 0$

It is easy to check that  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{18}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.13.** *If  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$ ,  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ ,  $\Delta(G_1) = 3$  and  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$  then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 5$ .*

*Proof.* We distinguish several cases:

a)  $G_1 \in F_1$

We show that  $G_2$  contains a subgraph of the graph  $H_{12}$  having 5 edges.

(i)  $|E(U)| \leq 2$

In this case  $|E(U, U') \cup E(U')| \geq |U'| + 1$  and therefore some vertex from  $U'$  has degree at least 2 in  $G_2$ . A common subgraph is  $H_{18}$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| \geq 3$

If there exist two adjacent edges in  $G_2(U)$  then a common subgraph is  $H_7$ . If there are no such edges then the common subgraph is  $H_{24}$ .

b)  $G_1 \in F_2 \cup F_3$

According to Lemmas 2.8 and 2.9 it is sufficient to show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_3$  and  $H_{13}$ . Obviously, this is true if  $|E(U)| \geq 2$  or if some vertex from  $U'$  has degree at least 2 in  $G_2(U, U')$ . In the opposite case we have  $|E(U')| \geq 2$  and it follows that  $p = 9$  and  $|E(U, U')| \geq 2$ . Now it is easy to verify that  $G_2$  contains  $H_3$  or  $H_{13}$ .

c)  $G_1 \in F_4 \cup F_5$

We show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{13}, H_{17}$  and  $H_{18}$  (see Lemma 2.10).

(i)  $|E(U)| \geq 2$

In this case  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{13}, H_{17}$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| \leq 1$

In this case at least one vertex in  $U'$  has degree at least 2. Hence  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{18}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.14.**  $\text{diam } F_{p,p+2} = 2p - 6$  for  $p \in \{7, 8, 9\}$ .

*Proof.* By Lemmas 2.4, 2.5, 2.11, 2.12 and 2.13 it suffices to find two graphs  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+2}$  with  $|E_{1,2}| = 5$ . Such graphs are depicted in Fig. 2.14 (one component of  $G_1$  is a circle).  $\square$

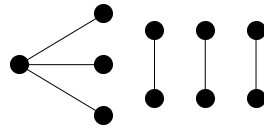


Fig. 2.14

### 3. Diameter of $F_{p,p+3}$

In this section of the paper we will determine  $\text{diam } F_{p,p+3}$  for  $p \geq 19$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *If  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 17$  and  $\Delta(G) = 3$  then  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{25}$  (Fig. 3.1).*



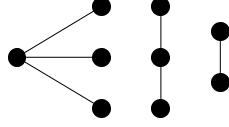
$H_{25}$

Fig. 3.1

*Proof.* Let  $v$  be a vertex of degree 3 in the graph  $G$ . If  $p \geq 7$  then there exists an edge  $w_1w_2$  such that  $w_i \notin \{v, v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . If  $p \geq 12$  then there exists an edge  $w_3w_4$  such

that  $w_i \notin \{v, v_1, v_2, v_3, w_1, w_2\}$ ,  $i = 3, 4$ . If  $p \geq 17$  then there exists an edge  $w_5w_6$  such that  $w_i \notin \{v, v_1, v_2, v_3, w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4\}$ ,  $i = 5, 6$ . Thus  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{25}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2.** *If  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 14$  and  $\Delta(G) = 3$  then  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{26}$  (Fig. 3.2).*



$H_{26}$

Fig. 3.2

*Proof.* If  $p - 4 < 2(p - 6)$  i.e.  $p > 8$  then  $G(U')$  has a vertex  $w_1$  of degree at least 2. Let  $w_2, w_3$  are the vertices adjacent to  $w_1$  in  $G(U')$ . If  $p \geq 14$  then there exists an edge such that neither of its vertices belongs to  $\{v, v_1, v_2, v_3, w_1, w_2, w_3\}$  i.e.  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{26}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$  and  $\Delta(G) = 3$ . Then  $G$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$ ,  $H_{29}$  and  $H_{30}$  (Fig. 3.3).*

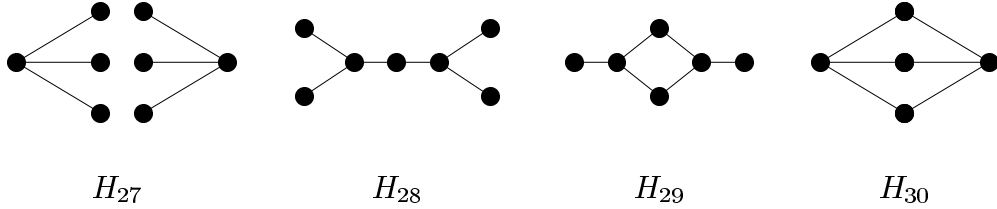
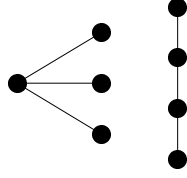


Fig. 3.3

*Proof.*  $G$  has at least 6 vertices of degree 3. We thus get that there are two non-adjacent vertices of degree 3 in  $G$ . All four possible cases for these two vertices are depicted in the Fig. 3.3.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.4.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$  and  $\Delta(G) = 3$ . If  $G$  has at least two components with more edges than vertices then it contains the graphs  $H_{31}$  (Fig. 3.4) and  $H_{27}$ .*



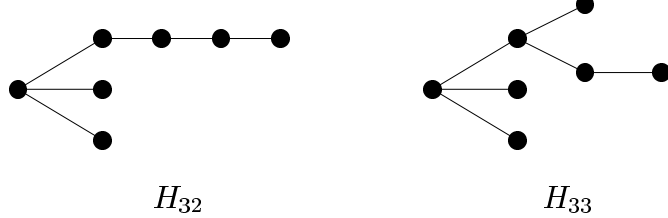
$H_{31}$

Fig. 3.4

*Proof.* Obviously, each of the considered components of the graph  $G$  contains a vertex of degree 3. Further it is sufficient to realize that such component has more than 3 edges.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.5.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $\Delta(G) = 3$  and  $G$  have only one component  $H$  having more edges than vertices.*

- (a) *If  $H$  has the subgraph  $H_{27}$  then it contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{32}$  (Fig. 3.5) and  $H_{31}$ .*
- (b) *If  $H$  has the subgraph  $H_{28}$  then it contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{32}$ ,  $H_{33}$  (Fig. 3.5).*

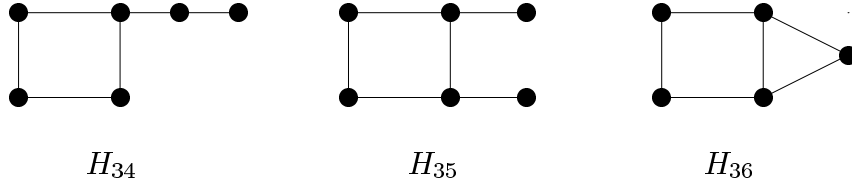


$H_{32}$

$H_{33}$

Fig. 3.5

- (c) *If  $H$  has the subgraph  $H_{29}$  then it contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{34}$ ,  $H_{35}$ ,  $H_{36}$  (Fig. 3.6).*



$H_{34}$

$H_{35}$

$H_{36}$

Fig. 3.6

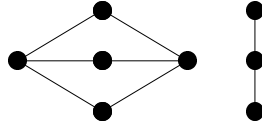
*Proof.* The graph  $H$  has at least 3 edges more than vertices.

(a) and (b): It is sufficient to realize that  $H$  contains more than 6 edges.

(c): If  $H$  has exactly 6 vertices then it contains the graph  $H_{36}$ . If  $H$  has at least 7 vertices then it contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{34}$ ,  $H_{35}$ .  $\square$



**Lemma 3.6.** *Let  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 8$  and  $\triangle(G) = 3$ . If  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{30}$  then it contains the graph  $H_{37}$  (Fig. 3.7).*

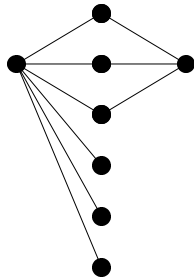


$H_{37}$

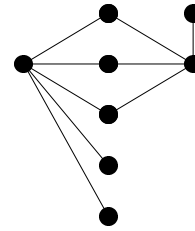
Fig. 3.7

*Proof.* There are another  $p - 5$  vertices in  $G$  besides the vertices of  $H_{30}$ . The subgraph  $H$  of the graph  $G$  induced by these  $p - 5$  vertices has at least  $p - 6$  edges. If  $H$  does not contain any vertex of degree 2 then  $p - 5 \geq 2(p - 6)$ , i.e.  $p \leq 7$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.7.** *If  $G$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{38}, H_{39}$  (Fig. 3.8) then it contains the graphs  $H_{27}, H_{28}, H_{29}$  and  $H_{30}$ .*



$H_{38}$

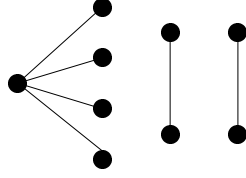


$H_{39}$

Fig. 3.8

*Proof.* The statement is obvious.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.8.** *If  $\triangle(G) = 4$  and  $q \geq 21$  then  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{40}$  (Fig. 3.9).*

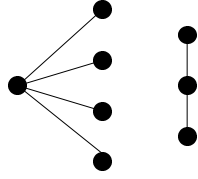


$H_{40}$

Fig. 3.9

*Proof.*  $|E(U')| \geq 5$  and hence  $G(U')$  contains two independent edges.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.9.** *If  $G \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $\Delta(G) = 4$  and  $p \geq 19$  then  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$  (Fig. 3.10).*



$H_{41}$

Fig. 3.10

*Proof.* Obviously, if  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| \leq 10$  and  $G$  does not contain  $H_{41}$  then  $p - 5 \geq 2(p - 11)$  i.e.  $p \leq 17$ . We can thus assume that  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| \geq 11$ . Since  $\Delta(G) = 4$  it holds  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| \leq 12$ . We distinguish two cases:

- (i)  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| = 12$

In this case  $|E(U)| = 0$  and every vertex from  $U$  has degree 3 in  $G(U, U')$ . We can assume that there are at most 2 vertices from  $U'$  of degree 0 in  $G(U')$ . In fact, in the opposite case it holds (if  $G$  does not contain  $H_{41}$ )  $p - 8 \geq 2(p - 13)$ , i.e.  $p \leq 18$ . If some vertex from  $U'$  has degree 2 or 3 in  $G(U, U')$  then  $G$  contains the graph in Fig. 3.11.

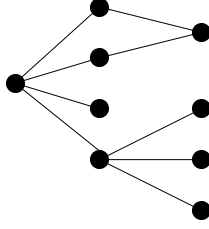


Fig. 3. 11

It follows that  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$ . So, let no vertex from  $U'$  has degree 2 or 3 in  $G(U, U')$ . There are at most 3 vertices from  $U'$  which have degree 4 in  $G(U, U')$ . Let  $k$  be the number of them.

a)  $k=3$

Since there are at most 2 vertices of degree 0 in  $G(U')$  this case is impossible.

b)  $k=2$

In this case there are exactly 4 vertices in  $U'$  of degree 1 in  $G(U, U')$ . At least 2 of these 4 vertices have degree at least 1 in  $G(U')$  and it follows that  $G$  contains  $H_{41}$ .

c)  $k \leq 1$

The statement is obvious.

(ii)  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| = 11$

In this case  $|E(U)| \leq 1$ . If there was an isolated vertex in  $G(U')$  and  $G$  did not contain the graph  $H_{41}$  then it would hold  $p - 6 \geq 2(p - 12)$ , i.e.  $p \leq 18$ . We can thus assume that no vertex in  $G(U')$  is isolated. It follows that no vertex from  $U'$  has degree 4 in  $G(U, U')$ . The statement of the lemma holds if no vertex from  $U'$  has degree 2 or 3 in  $G(U, U')$ . If some vertex  $u \in U'$  has degree 3 in  $G(U, U')$  then it is sufficient to realize that the vertex from  $U$  not adjacent to the vertex  $u$  has degree at least 2 in  $G(U, U')$ . Since the vertex  $u$  is not isolated in  $G(U')$  then  $G$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$ .

If some vertex from  $U'$  has degree 2 in  $G(U, U')$  and is adjacent to vertices  $v_1, v_2 \in U$  then it is sufficient to take into account that at least one of the vertices  $v_3, v_4 \in U$  has degree 4 and is not adjacent to the vertex  $v_i$  for  $i = 1, 2$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.10.** Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p, p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 14$  and  $\Delta(G_1) = \Delta(G_2) = 3$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 6$ .

*Proof.* The statement is a consequence of Lemma 3.2.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.11.** Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p, p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 18$  and  $\Delta(G_1) = \Delta(G_2) = 4$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 6$ .

*Proof.* The statement is a consequence of Lemma 3.8.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.12.** *Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $p \geq 19$  and  $\Delta(G_1) = 3$ ,  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 4$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 6$ .*

*Proof.* First realize that if we prove that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{25}$ ,  $H_{26}$  then the statement of the lemma holds by Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2. We distinguish several cases for  $G_2$ :

a) There are 2 independent edges in  $G_2(U')$

$a_1)$   $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$

(i) If  $|E(U)| \neq 0$  or  $|E(U, U')| \neq 0$  then  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{25}$ ,  $H_{26}$ .

(ii) If  $|E(U)| = 0$  and  $|E(U, U')| = 0$  then  $|E(U')| \geq 8$  and hence  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{25}$ ,  $H_{26}$ .

$a_2)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 4$

If  $|E(U, U')| \neq 0$  or  $|E(U')| \geq 7$  then  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{25}$ ,  $H_{26}$ ; in the opposite case it holds  $q \leq 16$ , a contradiction.

b)  $|E(U')| \geq 2$  and any two edges in  $G_2(U')$  are adjacent edges in  $U'$

In this case  $G_2(U')$  contains the graph in Fig. 3.12

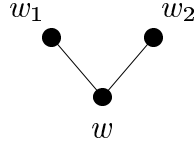


Fig. 3.12

$b_1)$  there is an edge in  $G_2(U, U')$  which is not incident with any vertex from  $\{w_1, w_2, w\}$

In this case  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ .

$b_2)$   $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$  and  $b_1)$  does not hold

We distinguish 3 subcases:

(i)  $|E(U)| \neq 0$

In this case  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| = 0$  and the vertex  $w$  has degree at least 3 in  $G_2(U, U')$

The statement holds by Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3.

(iii)  $|E(U)| = 0$  and the vertex  $w$  has degree at most 2 in  $G_2(U, U')$

If  $|E(U')| = 2$  then degree of  $w_1$  or  $w_2$  is at least 2 in  $G_2(U, U')$  (since  $|E(U, U')| \geq 5$ ) and hence  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ . If  $|E(U')| \geq 3$  then again  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$  (since  $|E(U, U')| \geq 4$ ).

$b_3)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 4$  and  $b_1)$  does not hold

In this case  $q \leq 20$ , a contradiction.

c)  $|E(U')| = 1$

$c_1)$   $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$

(i)  $|E(U)| \geq 2$

If there are two adjacent edges in  $U$  then  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ . Now let us consider the opposite case. If  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 7$  then  $G_2$  contains  $H_{25}$ . If  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$  then  $|E(U, U')| \geq 2$  and hence  $G_2$  contains  $H_{25}$  or  $H_{26}$ .

(ii)  $|E(U)| \leq 1$

In this case  $|E(U, U')| \geq |U'| + 2$  and if  $G_2$  does not contain  $H_{26}$  then it contains at least one of the graphs in Fig. 3.13.

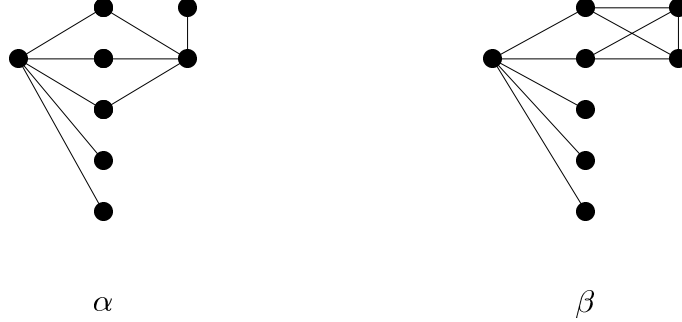


Fig. 3.13

If  $G_2$  contains the graph  $\alpha$  then the lemma holds by Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3. If  $G_2$  contains the graph  $\beta$  then  $G_2$  contains each of the graphs  $H_{27}, H_{28}, H_{29}, H_{30}$  and the statement holds by Lemma 3.3.

$c_2)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 5$

If there are at least two edges in  $G_2(U, U')$  which are not adjacent to the edge of the graph  $G_2(U')$  then  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{25}, H_{26}$ . In the opposite case at least 3 edges from  $G_2(U, U')$  are incident with the same vertex of the edge of  $G_2(U')$ . Then the statement of the lemma follows from Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3.

$c_3)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 4$

This case is not possible for  $q \geq 18$ .

d)  $|E(U')| = 0$

$d_1)$   $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$

(i) there is a vertex in  $U'$  which has degree at least 2 and  $|E(U, U')| \geq 3$   
Then  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs in Fig. 3.14. In the case  $\alpha$ ) the statement of the lemma follows from Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3. In the case  $\beta$ )  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ . In case  $\gamma$  it holds  $|E(U)| + |E(U, U')| \geq 6$  and hence  $G_2$  again contains  $H_{26}$ .

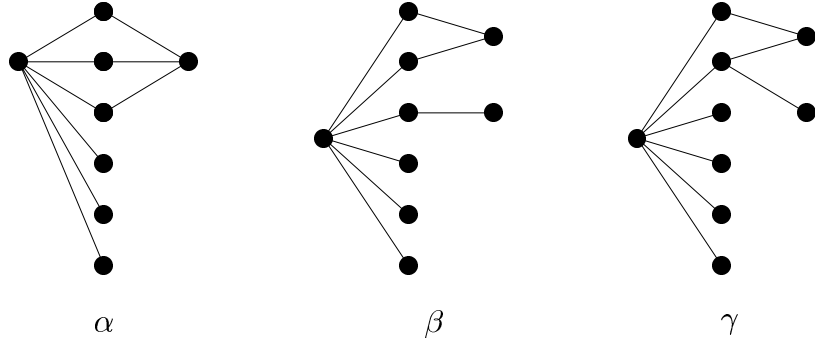


Fig. 3.14

- (ii) there is a vertex in  $U'$  which has degree at least 2 and  $|E(U, U')| = 2$ . In this case  $|E(U)| \geq 3$  and if  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$  then  $G_2$  contains each of the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$ ,  $H_{29}$ ,  $H_{30}$  (since  $q \geq 22$ ) and the statement of the lemma holds by Lemma 3.3. If  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 7$  then  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$  or the graph  $H_{42}$  (Fig. 3.15).

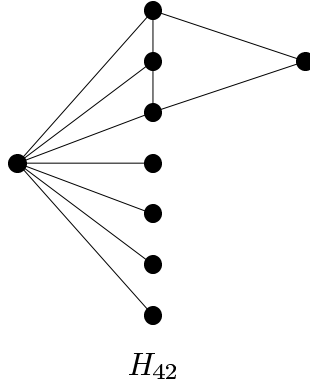


Fig. 3.15

The graph  $H_{42}$  contains the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$  and  $H_{29}$ . If the graph  $G_1$  does not contain any of the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$  and  $H_{29}$  then it contains  $H_{30}$  by Lemma 3.3 and  $H_{37}$  by Lemma 3.6. The graphs  $H_{42}$  and  $H_{37}$  have a common subgraph which is depicted in Fig. 3.16.

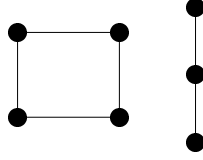


Fig. 3.16

- (iii) every vertex from  $U'$  has degree at most 1 and there exists a vertex from  $U$  of degree at least 2 in  $G_2(U, U')$

In this case  $|E(U)| \geq 4$ . If  $G_2$  does not contain  $H_{26}$  then the statement of the lemma follows from Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3.

- (iv) there are no adjacent edges in  $G_2(U, U')$  and  $|E(U, U')| \geq 2$

In this case  $|E(U)| \geq 4$ . If  $|E(U, U')| \geq 3$  then  $G_2$  contains  $H_{25}$ . If  $|E(U, U')| = 2$  and  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 7$  then obviously a common subgraph is  $H_{25}$  or  $H_{26}$ . If  $|E(U, U')| = 2$  and  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$  then  $G_2$  contains each of the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$ ,  $H_{29}$  and  $H_{30}$  (since  $q \geq 22$ ). Now use Lemma 3.3.

- (v)  $|E(U, U')| \leq 1$

In this case we have  $|E(U)| \geq 4$ . We distinguish three subcases:

1)  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 9$ . If there is a vertex of degree at least 3 in  $G_2(U)$  then the statement of the lemma holds by Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3. If there is no vertex of degree at least 3 in  $G_2(U)$  and  $G_2$  contains neither the graph  $H_{25}$  nor the graph  $H_{26}$  then  $G_2$  contains the graph in Fig. 3.17.

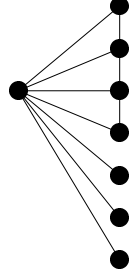


Fig. 3.17

The statement of the lemma follows from Lemmas 3.3, 3.4 and 3.5 (the component  $H$  from Lemma 3.5 contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{27}$ ,  $H_{28}$ ,  $H_{29}$  and  $H_{30}$ ).

2)  $\Delta(G_2) \in \{7, 8\}$

If  $q \geq 18$  then there exists a vertex of degree at least 3 in  $G_2(U)$  and

hence  $G_2$  contains the graph  $\alpha$  in Fig. 3.14 and the statement of the lemma holds by Lemmas 3.7 and 3.3.

3)  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$

This case is not possible for  $q \geq 22$ .

$d_2)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 5$

Since  $|E(U')| = 0$  and  $q \geq 22$  there is a vertex from  $U$  which has degree at least 3 in  $G_2(U, U')$ . Now, if we realize that there exists an edge in  $G_2(U, U')$  which is not incident with the considered vertex of degree at least 3 then we get that  $G_2$  contains  $H_{26}$ .

$d_3)$   $\Delta(G_2) = 4$

This case is not possible for  $q \geq 17$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.13.** *Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $\Delta(G_1) = 4$ ,  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$  and  $p \geq 19$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 6$ .*

*Proof.* In view of Lemmas 3.8 and 3.9 it is sufficient to show that  $G_2$  contains at least one of the graphs  $H_{40}$ ,  $H_{41}$ .

a)  $E(U') \neq \emptyset$

If  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$  then the statement of the lemma is obvious. If  $\Delta(G_2) = 5$  then it is sufficient to use the fact that  $|E(U, U')| + |E(U')| > 1$ .

b)  $|E(U')| = 0$

If  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$  and  $|E(U, U')| \geq 2$  then the statement obviously holds. So, it is sufficient to consider two cases:

(i)  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$  and  $|E(U, U')| \leq 1$ .

Obviously, the statement holds if  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 8$ . If  $\Delta(G_2) = 7$  then there exists a vertex of degree at least 2 in  $G_2(U)$  and hence  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$ . The case  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$  is impossible since  $q \geq 22$ .

(ii)  $\Delta(G_2) = 5$ .

There exists a vertex from  $U$  of degree at least 2 in  $G_2(U, U')$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.14.** *Let  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+3}$ ,  $\Delta(G_1) \geq 5$ ,  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 5$ ,  $p \geq 19$ . Then  $|E_{1,2}| \geq 6$ .*

*Proof.* Obviously, the statement holds if  $\Delta(G_1) \geq 6$  and  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$ . We distinguish two cases:

a)  $\Delta(G_1) = \Delta(G_2) = 5$

It is sufficient to consider the case that none of the graphs  $H_{43}$ ,  $H_{44}$  (Fig. 3.18) is a common subgraph of the graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . So we can assume that  $|E(G_1(U, U'))| = 0$  and  $|E(G_2(U'))| = 0$ .



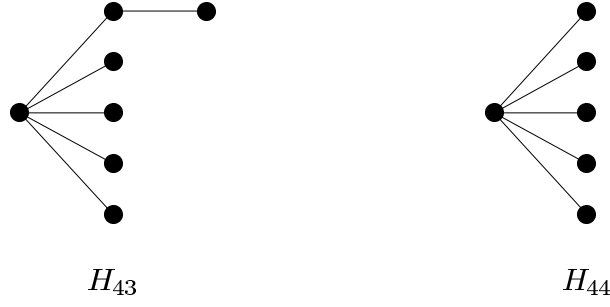


Fig. 3.18

We show that a common subgraph is the graph  $H_{41}$ . If the graph  $G_1$  did not contain the graph  $H_{41}$  then it would hold  $p - 6 \geq 2(p - 12)$ , i.e.  $p \leq 18$ . The graph  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$  since  $|E(U, U')| \geq 14$ .

b)  $\Delta(G_1) = 5$  and  $\Delta(G_2) \geq 6$ .

If the graph  $G_1$  does not contain  $H_{44}$  then it contains each of the graphs  $H_{43}$ ,  $H_{41}$ . The graph  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{44}$  (the case  $\Delta(G_2) > 6$  is trivial and if  $\Delta(G_2) = 6$  then  $|E(U, U')| + |E(U')| \geq 1$ ). If  $G_2$  does not contain  $H_{43}$  then  $|E(U)| = 0$  and  $|E(U, U')| = 0$ . This implies  $|E(U')| = |U'| + 4$  and hence  $G_2$  contains the graph  $H_{41}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.15.**  $\text{diam } F_{p,p+3} = 2p - 6$  for  $p \geq 19$ .

*Proof.* In view of Lemmas 3.10 - 3.14 it suffices to find two graphs  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,p+3}$  with  $|E_{1,2}| = 6$ . Such a graph  $G_1$  is depicted in Fig. 3.19 and  $G_2$  is an arbitrary graph for which  $\Delta(G) = 3$ .  $\square$

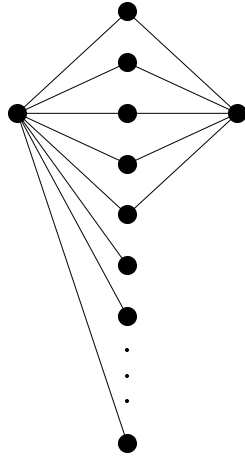


Fig. 3.19

#### 4. Some other results about $\text{diam } F_{p,q}$

##### Theorem 4.1.

- a) (i)  $\text{diam } F_{5,8} = 2$   
(ii)  $\text{diam } F_{6,9} = 6$   
(iii)  $\text{diam } F_{8,11} = 12$
- b) If  $p + 3 \leq q \leq \frac{3p}{2}$  and  $7 \leq p \leq 18$  then  $\text{diam } F_{p,q} \in \{2q - 12, 2q - 10\}$ .
- c) If  $p + 3 \leq q \leq \frac{3p}{2}$  and  $p \geq 19$  then  $\text{diam } F_{p,q} = 2q - 12$ .

*Proof.*

- a) (i) According to Theorems 5 and 2 from [3] we get  
 $\text{diam } F_{5,8} = \text{diam } F_{5,2} = 2$ .
- (ii) According to Theorem 5 from [2] we have  $c_{6,6} = 3$ . Now by using Theorem 5 from [3] we get  
 $\text{diam } F_{6,9} = \text{diam } F_{6,6} = 2.6 - 2.3 = 6$ .
- (iii) According to Lemma 2.14 we have  $c_{8,10} = 5$ . Since  $c_{8,11} \geq c_{8,10}$ , it is sufficient to find two graphs  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{8,11}$  with  $|E_{1,2}| = 5$ . Such graphs are depicted in Fig. 4.1.

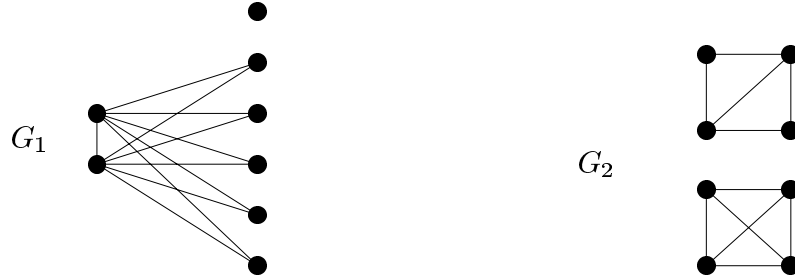


Fig. 4.1

- b) According to Lemma 2.14 and Theorem 14 from [1] we have  $c_{p,p+2} = 5$  for  $7 \leq p \leq 18$ . It implies  $c_{p,q} \geq 5$  for  $q \geq p + 3$ . To show that  $c_{p,q} \leq 6$  it is sufficient to find two graphs  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,q}$  with  $|E_{1,2}| = 6$ . The graph  $G_1$  is depicted in Fig. 4.2 and  $G_2$  is an arbitrary graph for which  $\Delta(G) = 3$ .

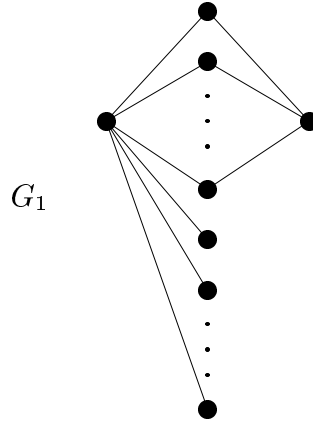


Fig. 4.2

- c) By Theorem 3.15 we get  $c_{p,q} \geq 6$ . To show that  $c_{p,q} = 6$  it is sufficient to find two graphs  $G_1, G_2 \in F_{p,q}$  with  $|E_{1,2}| = 6$ . The graph  $G_1$  is depicted in Fig. 4.2 and  $G_2$  is an arbitrary graph for which  $\Delta(G) = 3$ .  $\square$

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