Research Article

Graphs Associated with the Ideals of a Numerical Semigroup Having Metric Dimension 2

Ying Wang,1,2 Muhammad Ahsan Binyamin,3 Wajid Ali,3 Adnan Aslam,4 and Yongsheng Rao 2

1Department of Network Technology, South China Institute of Software Engineering, Guangzhou, China
2Institute of Computing Science and Technology, Guangzhou University, Guangzhou 510006, China
3Department of Mathematics, GC University, Faisalabad, Pakistan
4Department of Natural Sciences and Humanities, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore (RCET), Pakistan

Correspondence should be addressed to Muhammad Ahsan Binyamin; ahsanbanyamin@gmail.com

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1. Introduction

In algebraic combinatorics, the study of graphs associated with algebraic objects is one of the most important and fascinating fields of research. During the last couple of decades, a lot of research is carried out in this field. There are many papers on assigning graphs to rings, groups, and semigroups [1–6]. Several authors [7–13] studied different properties of these graphs including diameter, girth, domination, metric dimension, central sets, and planarity.

We start by defining some basic concept related to graph theory. A graph $G = (V(G), E(G))$ has a vertex set $V(G)$ and the edge set $E(G)$. The cardinality of the vertex set and edge set is called the order and size of $G$, respectively. A path in $G$ is a sequence of edges $u_1u_2, u_2u_3, \ldots, u_{k-1}u_k$. A graph $G$ is connected if every pair of vertices $x, y \in V(G)$ is connected by a path. The distance between two vertices $x, y \in V(G)$ is denoted by $d(x, y)$ and is the length of the shortest path between them. The diameter of $G$ is denoted by $\text{diam}(G)$ and is defined as the largest distance between the vertices of $G$. Let $U = \{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_r\}$ be an ordered subset of $V(G)$. Then, the $r$–tuple $(d(u, u_1), d(u, u_2), \ldots, d(u, u_r))$ is the representation $u$ with respect to $U$. The vertex $u$ is said to be resolved by $U$ if $(d(u, u_1), d(u, u_2), \ldots, d(u, u_r) \neq (d(v, u_1), d(v, u_2), \ldots, d(v, u_r)))$ for any vertex $v \in V(G)$. The set $U$ is called resolving if distinct vertices of $G$ have distinct representations with respect to $U$, and it is called basis of $G$ if it is a resolving set with minimal cardinality. The metric dimension of $G$, denoted by $\text{md}(G)$, is the cardinality of basis.

It is easy to observe that the numerical semigroup is a commutative monoid. Thus, the set of numerical semigroups classifies the set of all submonoids of $(\mathbb{N}, +)$. The elements of the set $\mathbb{N}\backslash\Lambda$ are called gaps of $\Lambda$, and the largest element of this set is known as Frobenius number. Note that every numerical semigroup is finitely generated; that is, there exist a set $\Lambda = \{a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_l\}$ such that $\Lambda = \langle A \rangle = \{na_1 + \ldots, na_l | n \geq 0\}$.
n, a_i; n_1, \ldots, n_r \in \mathbb{N}}. Moreover, every numerical semigroup has a unique minimal system of generators. The cardinality of the minimal system of generators is called embedding dimension of \( \Lambda \). It is denoted by \( e_\Lambda \). A subset \( I \) of numerical semigroup \( \Lambda \) is ideal (integral ideal) of \( \Lambda \) if for all \( x \in I \) and \( s \in \Lambda \) and the element \( x + s \in I \). An ideal \( I \) is called irreducibly ideal if it cannot be written as intersections of two or more than two ideals which contained it properly. For more details on theory of numerical semigroup, the interested readers can refer to [20].

Recently, several authors studied the metric dimension of the graphs associated with the algebraic objects. Solomyanivariab et al. [21] gave some metric dimension formula for annihilator graphs. Bailey et al. [22] studied the constructions of resolving sets of Kneser and Johnson graphs and provided bounds on their metric dimension. Faisal et al. [23] studied the metric dimension of the commuting graph of a dihedral group. The metric dimension of a zero-divisor graph of a commutative ring was studied in [13], while the metric dimension of the vertices is the number of vertices adjacent to it. Bailey et al. [22] studied the metric dimension of the commuting graph of the algebraic objects. Solomonivariab et al. [21] gave some metric dimension formula for annihilator graphs. Bailey et al. [22] studied the construction of resolving sets of Kneser and Johnson graphs and provided bounds on their metric dimension. Faisal et al. [23] studied the metric dimension of the commuting graph of a dihedral group. The metric dimension of a zero-divisor graph of a commutative ring was studied in [13], while the metric dimension of a total graph of a finite commutative ring was studied in [24]. For more results on the metric dimension, we refer the readers to [25–30].

2. Notation and Preliminaries

Let \( \Lambda = \langle \mathcal{S} \rangle \) be a numerical semigroup, where \( \mathcal{S} = \{ a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_n \} \) is the minimal system of generators of \( \Lambda \). Then, every \( x \in \Lambda \) has a representation of the form \( u_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2 + \cdots + u_n a_n \), where \( u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n \) are nonnegative integers. Let \( 1 \leq p \leq n \) be a fixed integer. We say that an element \( x \in \Lambda \) has a \( p \)-representation if there exist \( a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_p \in \mathcal{S} \) and \( u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_p \) positive integers such that \( x = u_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2 + \cdots + u_p a_p \); that is, \( x \) can be written as linear combination of exactly \( p \) generator of \( \Lambda \). Let \( \Lambda_p \) denote the set containing all the elements \( x \in \Lambda \), which have a \( p \)-representation. It is easy to see that

\[
\Lambda = \bigcup_{p=1}^{n} \Lambda_p. \tag{1}
\]

Note that an element \( x \in \Lambda \) may have more than one \( p \)-representation. For an element \( x \in \Lambda_p \), we use the notation \( \Sigma_p \) if it has a unique \( p \)-representation and \( \Sigma_{p,1}, \Sigma_{p,2}, \ldots, \Sigma_{p,r} \) if it has \( r \) number of \( p \)-representations. Let \( \Sigma_p \in \Lambda_p \), then there exist two \( p \)-tuples, the coefficients \( p \)-tuple \((u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_p) \in \mathbb{Z}_0^p\), and the generators \( p \)-tuple \((a_1, a_2, \ldots, a_p) \in \mathbb{Z}_0^p \) such that \( \Sigma_p = u_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2 + \cdots + u_p a_p \). We denote the coefficient and generators \( p \)-tuple of an element \( \Sigma_p \) by \( c(\Sigma_p) \) and \( g(\Sigma_p) \), respectively. Also, the \( j \)-th component of \( c(\Sigma_p) \) and \( g(\Sigma_p) \) is denoted by \( c_j(\Sigma_p) \) and \( g_j(\Sigma_p) \), respectively. By using the above notations, for any \( x \in \Lambda \), we define

\[
\Lambda_p(x) = \{ \Sigma_p : \Sigma_p = x \},
\]

\[
\Lambda(x) = \bigcup_{p=1}^{n} \Lambda_p(x). \tag{2}
\]

For a \( p \)-representation \( \Sigma_p = u_1 a_1 + u_2 a_2 + \cdots + u_p a_p \), we set

\[
\mathcal{B}(\Sigma_p) = \left\{ v_1 a_1 + v_2 a_2 + \cdots + v_p a_p : 0 \leq v_j \leq u_j, \quad 1 \leq j \leq p \right\}. \tag{3}
\]

Lemma 1. With the notations defined above, we have

\[
\mathcal{B}(x) = \bigcup_{\Sigma_p \in \Lambda(x)} \mathcal{B}(\Sigma_p). \tag{4}
\]

Proof. The proof of this lemma follows from the definition of \( \mathcal{B}(x) \).

Let \( \Lambda \) be a numerical semigroup and \( I \subset \Lambda \) be irreducible ideal of \( \Lambda \). Binyamin et al. [31] assigned a graph to numerical semigroup \( \Lambda \) and studied its properties. Peng Xu et al. [32] assign a graph \( G_I(\Lambda) \) to the ideal \( I \) of numerical semigroup \( \Lambda \) with vertex set \( V(G_I(\Lambda)) = (\Lambda \setminus I)^* \) and two vertices \( x, y \) are adjacent if and only if \( x + y \in I \). Barucci [33] showed that every irreducible ideal \( I \) of numerical semigroup \( \Lambda \) can be expressed in the form \( \Lambda \backslash B(x) \), where \( B(x) = \{ y \in \Lambda : x - y \in I \} \), for some \( x \in \Lambda \). Hence, the vertex set of the graph \( G_I(\Lambda) \) is the set \( \{ v_i : i \in B'(x) \} \) for some \( x \in \Lambda \). Peng Xu et al. [32] proved that the graph \( G_I(\Lambda) \) is always connected and diameter 2. The aim of this paper is to find all the graphs \( G_I(\Lambda) \) having metric dimension 2. The following result by Chartrand et al. [18] gives bound on the order of graph with given metric dimension \( k \) and diameter \( d \).

Theorem 1. Let \( G \) be a graph with metric dimension \( k \) and \( |V(G)| = n \). Let \( d \) be the diameter of \( G \). Then, \(|G| \leq d^k + k\).

Hence, to find graphs \( G_I(\Lambda) \) with metric dimension 2, it is enough to classify all graphs \( G_I(\Lambda) \) of order less than or equal to 6. In the next section, we give bounds for the graphs \( G_I(\Lambda) \) of orders 4 and 5.

2.1. Bounds for the Graphs \( G_I(\Lambda) \) of Orders 4 and 5

Lemma 2. Let \( \Lambda = \langle \mathcal{S} \rangle \) be a numerical semigroup of embedding dimension \( n \geq 2 \). Then, \( |G_I(\Lambda)| \neq 4 \), if one of the following holds:

(1) \( \Lambda_p(x) \neq \emptyset \) for some \( p \geq 3 \).

(2) \(|\Lambda_1(x)| \geq 3\).

(3) \(|\Lambda_2(x)| \geq 2\).

(4) \(|\Lambda_1(x)| = 2 \) and \(|\Lambda_2(x)| = 1\).

(5) \(|\Lambda_1(x)| = 2 \) and \(|\Lambda_2(x)| = 1\).

Proof

(1) If \( \Lambda_p(x) \neq \emptyset \) for some \( p \geq 3 \), then there is a \( p \)-representation \( \Sigma_p \) of \( x \) in \( \Lambda_p(x) \). This gives \( g_1(\Sigma_p), g_2(\Sigma_p), g_3(\Sigma_p), g_4(\Sigma_p) + g_5(\Sigma_p), g_6(\Sigma_p) + g_7(\Sigma_p), g_8(\Sigma_p) + g_9(\Sigma_p), x \in \mathcal{B}(\Sigma_p) \subseteq \mathcal{B}(x) \). This implies \(|G_I(\Lambda)| \neq 4\).
Let \( \Lambda = \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \) be a numerical semigroup of embedding dimension \( n \geq 2 \). Then, \( |G_\Lambda(\Lambda)| \neq 5 \), if one of the following holds:

1. \( \Lambda_1(x) \neq \emptyset \) for some \( p \geq 3 \).
2. \( |\Lambda_1(x)| \geq 2 \).
3. \( |\Lambda_2(x)| \geq 3 \).
4. \( |\Lambda_1(x)| = 1 \) and \( |\Lambda_2(x)| = 2 \).

Proof. This lemma can be proved in a similar way as we proved Lemma 2.

Lemma 4. Let \( \Lambda = \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \) be a numerical semigroup of embedding dimension \( n \geq 2 \). If \( |G_\Lambda(\Lambda)| = 4 \), then \( x \) is one of the following:

1. \( x = 4g(\Sigma_1) \).
2. \( x = 3g(\Sigma_1) \) and \( x = 2g(\Sigma_2) \).
3. \( x = 2g(\Sigma_1) \) and \( x = g_1(\Sigma_2) + g_2(\Sigma_3) \).

Proof. If \( |G_\Lambda(\Lambda)| = 4 \), then from Lemma 2, it follows that \( x \in \Lambda \) satisfies one of the following conditions:

\[ |\Lambda_1(x)| \leq 2 \text{ and } \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2. \]

\[ |\Lambda_1(x)| = 1, |\Lambda_2(x)| = 1 \text{ and } \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 3. \]

If \( |\Lambda_1(x)| = 1 \) and \( \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2 \), then \( x \) has exactly two 1-representations, say \( \Sigma_1 \) and \( \Sigma_2 \) of \( x \). Assume that \( g(\Sigma_1) < g(\Sigma_2) \), then \( c(\Sigma_1) < c(\Sigma_2) \) and \( c(\Sigma_1) \) is not a multiple of \( c(\Sigma_2) \). Then, it follows from Lemma 1 that

\[ \mathcal{B}^*(\Sigma_1) = \mathcal{B}^*(\Sigma_2) \setminus \mathcal{B}(\Sigma_2) = \{g(\Sigma_1), 2g(\Sigma_1), \ldots, c(\Sigma_1), g(\Sigma_2), g(\Sigma_2)\} \]

Lemma 5. Let \( \Lambda = \langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \) be a numerical semigroup of embedding dimension \( n \geq 2 \). If \( |G_\Lambda(\Lambda)| = 5 \), then \( x \) is one of the following:

1. \( x = 5g(\Sigma_1) \).
2. \( x = 2g_1(\Sigma_1) + g_2(\Sigma_2) \).
3. \( x = g_1(\Sigma_2) + g_2(\Sigma_3) \) and \( x = g_1(\Sigma_2) + g_2(\Sigma_3) \).
4. \( x = 3g(\Sigma_1) \) and \( x = g_1(\Sigma_2) + g_2(\Sigma_3) \).

Proof. Given that \( |G_\Lambda(\Lambda)| = 5 \), then from Lemma 5, it follows that \( x \in \Lambda \) satisfies one of the following conditions:

\[ |\Lambda_1(x)| = 1 \text{ and } \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2. \]

\[ |\Lambda_2(x)| \leq 2 \text{ and } \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \neq 2. \]

\[ |\Lambda_1(x)| = 1, |\Lambda_2(x)| = 1 \text{ and } \Lambda_p(x) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 3. \]
These possibilities can be checked in a similar way as we did in Lemma 4 to get the required result.

3. Graphs \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) with Metric Dimension 2

**Theorem 2.** There are exactly 5 nonisomorphic graphs \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) with metric dimension 2.

We prove Theorem 2 in a sequence of following lemmas.

**Lemma 6.** There are exactly 2 nonisomorphic graphs \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) with 4 or less vertices and metric dimension 2.

**Proof.** It is trivial to note that no such graph exists for \( |G_I( \Lambda )| = 2, 3 \).

Now if \( |G_I( \Lambda )| = 4 \), then from Lemma 4, we have the following possibilities:

1. \( x = 4g( \Sigma_1 ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2 \).
2. \( x = 3g( \Sigma_{1,1} ) = 2g( \Sigma_{1,2} ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2 \).
3. \( x = 2g( \Sigma_1 ) = g_1( \Sigma_2 ) + g_2( \Sigma_2 ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 3 \).

If (1) holds, then \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (4g( \Sigma_1 )) \), and therefore, \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to the graph given in Figure 1. So metric dimension of \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is 2.

Now if (2) or (3) holds, then either \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (3g( \Sigma_{1,1} )) \) or \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (2g( \Sigma_1 )) \). In both cases, \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to the graph given in Figure 2, and therefore, metric dimension of \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is 2. \( \square \)

**Lemma 7.** There are exactly 3 nonisomorphic graphs \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) with 5 vertices and metric dimension 2.

**Proof.** If \( |G_I( \Lambda )| = 5 \), then from Lemma 5, we have the following possibilities:

1. \( x = 5g( \Sigma_1 ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 2 \).
2. \( x = 2g_1( \Sigma_2 ) + g_2( \Sigma_2 ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \neq 2 \).
3. \( x = g_1( \Sigma_2 ) + g_2( \Sigma_2 ) = g_1( \Sigma_{2,2} ) + g_2( \Sigma_{2,2} ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \neq 2 \).
4. \( x = 3g( \Sigma_1 ) \) and \( x = g_1( \Sigma_2 ) + g_2( \Sigma_2 ) \) with \( \Lambda_p( x ) = \emptyset, \forall p \geq 3 \).

If (1) holds, then \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (5g( \Sigma_1 )) \), and therefore, \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to the graph given in Figure 3.

Now, if (2) holds, then \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (2g_1( \Sigma_2 ) + g_2( \Sigma_2 )) \), and therefore, \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to the graph given in Figure 4.

If (3) or (4) holds, then \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (g_1( \Sigma_{2,1} ) + g_2( \Sigma_{2,1} )) \) or \( I = \Lambda \setminus \mathcal{B}^* (3g( \Sigma_1 )) \). In both cases, \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to the graph given in Figure 5.

For all these 3 cases, one can easily show that metric dimension of \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is 2.

Finally, it is required to check all the graphs \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) of order six having metric dimension 2. Binyamin et al. [34] proved that if \( |G_I( \Lambda )| = 6 \), then \( G_I( \Lambda ) \) is isomorphic to one of the graphs given in Table 1. Now, it is easy to see that all the graphs given in Table 1 have metric dimension 3. \( \square \)
Data Availability

No data are required for the study.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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Table 1: Graph $G_{1}(A)$ of order 6 up to isomorphism.

| Type | Degree sequence | Graph |
|------|-----------------|-------|
| 1    | (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
| 2    | (2, 3, 4, 5, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
| 3    | (2, 3, 4, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
| 4    | (3, 3, 4, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
| 5    | (3, 4, 4, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
| 6    | (4, 4, 4, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |

Table 1: Continued.

| Type | Degree sequence | Graph |
|------|-----------------|-------|
| 6    | (4, 4, 4, 4, 5)  | ![Graph](image) |
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