



Prime Graph Generation through Single Edge Addition: Characterizing a Class of Graphs

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Abstract. A graph G consists of a finite set $V(G)$ of *vertices* with a collection $E(G)$ of unordered pairs of distinct vertices called *edge set* of G .

Let G be a graph. A set M of vertices is a *module* of G if, for vertices x and y in M and each vertex z outside M , $\{z, x\} \in E(G) \iff \{z, y\} \in E(G)$. Thus, a module of G is a set M of vertices indistinguishable by the vertices outside M . The empty set, the singleton sets and the full set of vertices represent the *trivial modules*. A graph is *indecomposable* if all its modules are trivial, otherwise it is *decomposable*. Indecomposable graphs with at least four vertices are *prime graphs*. The introduction and the study of the construction of prime graphs obtained from a given decomposable graph by adding one edge constitute the central points of this paper.

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1. Introduction

Our notations and terminology follow [1]. All graphs mentioned in this paper are finite. Without loops and multiple edges, these graphs are called *simple graphs*. A graph G consists of a finite set $V(G)$ of vertices called *vertex set* with a collection $E(G)$ of pairs of distinct vertices (*edge set* of G). Such a graph is denoted by $(V(G), E(G))$ (Simply (V, E)). An *empty graph* is a graph without edges while a *complete graph* is a graph with all possible edges.

Two distinct vertices u and v of a graph G are *adjacent* if $\{u, v\} \in E(G)$. An edge $\{u, v\}$ of G is denoted by uv while u and v are called *endpoints* of the edge uv . Two distinct edges e and e' of a graph G are *adjacent edges* if they have a common endpoint. A *neighbor* of a vertex u in a graph G is a vertex adjacent to u , the *neighborhood* of u denoted by $N_G(u)$

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is the set of neighbors of u and the *neighborhood of a subset* X of $V(G)$ represented by $N_G(X)$ is the union of the neighborhoods of every vertex in X . The *degree* of u denoted by $d_G(u)$ is $d_G(u) = |N_G(u)|$. The *complement* of a graph G is the graph \bar{G} such that $V(\bar{G}) = V(G)$ and $E(\bar{G}) = \{\{u, v\} : u \neq v \in V(G), \{u, v\} \notin E(G)\}$. For undefined notions and notations in the graph theory, see [8]. In particular, a graph $H = (W, F)$ is a *subgraph* of a graph $G = (V, E)$ if $W \subseteq V$ and $F \subseteq E$. Given a subset X of the vertex set of a graph $G = (V, E)$, the subgraph $G[X] = (X, E \cap \{xy, x \neq y \in X\})$ is called the subgraph *induced* by X . The subgraph $G[V(G) \setminus X]$ is denoted by $G - X$. Considering a vertex x , the subgraph $G - \{x\}$ is also denoted by $G - x$. For a vertex u outside a vertex subset X of a graph G , $u \sim_G X$ denotes when u is either adjacent to all or none of the elements of X .

In a graph G , a vertex subset M is a *module* of G if every vertex outside M is either adjacent to all or none of the elements of M . This concept was introduced in [6]. The empty set, the singleton sets and the full set $V(G)$ of vertices are *trivial modules*. A module of a graph G distinct from $V(G)$ is a *proper module* of G . A graph is *indecomposable* if all its modules are trivial, otherwise it is *decomposable*. Clearly, all graphs with at most two vertices are indecomposable. Given a 3-vertex graph G , if G is complete or empty, then each 2-element vertex subset is a non-trivial module of G , otherwise G has a unique non-trivial module $\{u, v\}$ where uv is the unique edge of G or \bar{G} . Thus, all 3-vertex graphs are decomposable. Indecomposable graphs with at least four vertices are called *prime* graphs.

An *isomorphism* f from a graph $G = (V, E)$ onto a graph $G' = (V', E')$ is a bijection from V onto V' such that for all $x, y \in V$, $xy \in E \Leftrightarrow f(x)f(y) \in E'$. We denote $G \simeq G'$ the graphs G and G' which are called *isomorphic* if there is an isomorphism from G onto G' .

In order to state our theorem, we introduce the following new graphs, along with some known graphs.

Recall the known small graphs used in this paper.

First, the graph $P_4 = (\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}, \{v_1v_2, v_2v_3, v_3v_4\})$ (illustrated in Figure 1).

Second, the graph $\beta = (\{a, a', x, x', y\}, \{ax', ay, aa', a'x', a'y, xy\})$ (shown in Figure 2).

Finally, the *Taurus* (resp. the *House*) is the graph with the vertex set $\{a, x_1, x'_1, x_2, x'_2\}$ and the edge set $\{ax'_1, ax'_2, x'_1x'_2, x_1x'_1, x_2x'_2\}$, (resp. $\{ax'_1, ax'_2, x'_1x'_2, x_1x'_1, x_2x'_2, x_1x_2\})$ as illustrated in Figure 3.

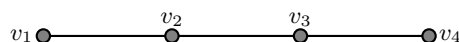


Figure 1: P_4

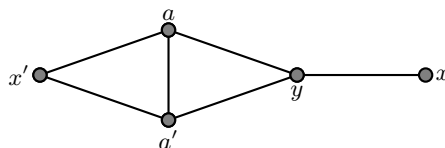


Figure 2: β

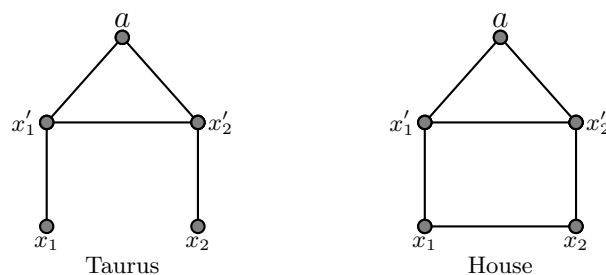


Figure 3: Taurus and House

Let's define the following two graph families:

Definition 1. Let k and q be two non-negative integers with $k \geq 2$.

A Palace $P_{k,q}$ is a graph (V, E) satisfying the following:

There is $a \in V$ such that, by denoting $Z = N_{P_{k,q}}(a)$ and $X = V \setminus (Z \cup \{a\})$, $|Z| \geq k$, $|X| = k$ and $|Z| - k = q$. Moreover, by denoting $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$, there is a k -element subset $X' = \{x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_k\}$ of Z such that $P_{k,q}[X']$ is a complete graph, the set of edges between X and X' is $\{x_i x'_i : 1 \leq i \leq k\}$ and the subset $Y = Z \setminus X'$ satisfies the following conditions:

- (i) For every $y \in Y$, $P_{k,q}[\{a, y\} \cup X']$ is a complete graph.
- (ii) For every $y \in Y$, either $1 < |N_{P_{k,q}[X \cup \{y\}]}(y)| < k$ or $(|N_{P_{k,q}[X \cup \{y\}]}(y)| \in \{1, k\}$ and $\exists z \in Y \setminus \{y\}$ such that $zy \notin E$).
- (iii) For any $y_1 \neq y_2 \in Y$, $N_{P_{k,q}[X \cup y_1]}(y_1) \neq N_{P_{k,q}[X \cup y_2]}(y_2)$.

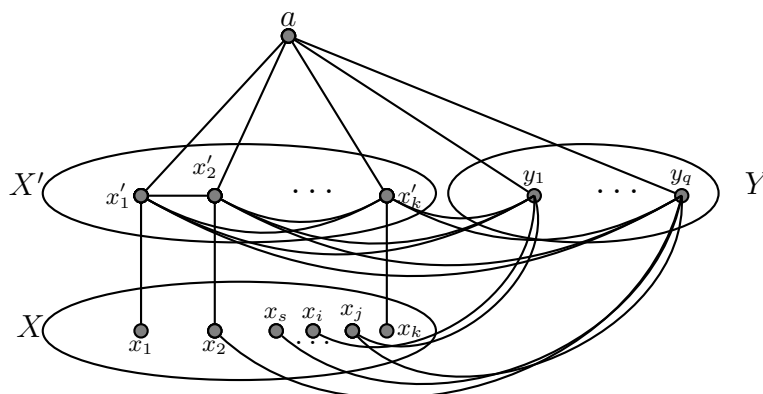


Figure 4: Palace $P_{k,q}$ ($k \geq 2, q \geq 0$)

Definition 2. Let $k \geq 2$ and q be two non-negative integers. A Palace $\beta_{k,q}$ is a graph obtained from a palace $P_{k,q}$ by replacing the module $\{a\}$ with the module $\{a, a'\}$ where $\beta_{k,q}[\{a, a'\}]$ is isomorphic to the graph K_2 , as illustrated in Figure 5.

Notation:

The family of graphs isomorphic to the graph β or a palace $\beta_{k,q}$, for some $k \geq 2$ and $q \geq 0$,

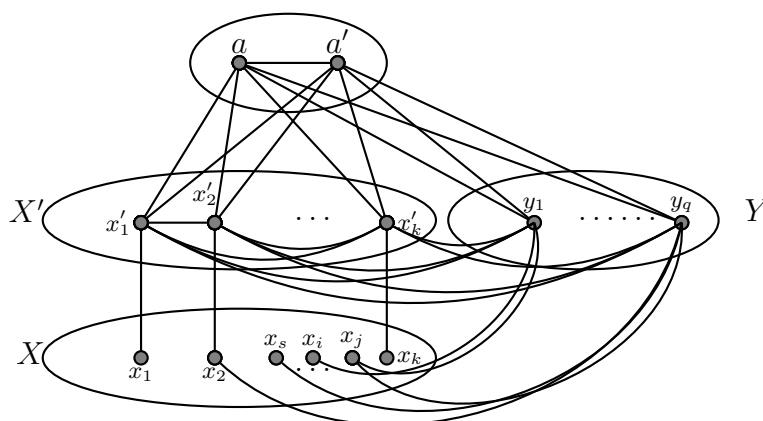


Figure 5: Palace $\beta_{k,q}$ ($k \geq 2, q \geq 0$)

is denoted by \mathcal{B} .

1.1. Gallai's decomposition

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph. An equivalence relation is denoted by \cong between the pairs of vertices of G for x and y as well as u and v . $xy \in E$ if and only if $uv \in E$ defines $\{x, y\} \cong \{u, v\}$.

To recall the basic properties of the modules, we introduce the following notation:

Given a graph G on the vertex set V and two disjoint vertex subsets X and Y of V , X and Y are *equivalent* ($X \sim Y$) if, for any vertices x and x' in X and y and y' in Y , $\{x, y\} \cong \{x', y'\}$.

Proposition 1. *Let G be a graph on the set of vertices V .*

- (i) \emptyset, V and $\{u\}$ where $u \in V$ are modules of G .
- (ii) Considering a non-empty vertex subset W of V , if M is a module of G , then $M \cap W$ is a module of $G[W]$.
- (iii) If M and N are modules of G , then $M \cap N$ is a module of G .
- (iv) If M and N are modules of G such that $M \cap N \neq \emptyset$, then $M \cup N$ is a module of G .
- (v) If M and N are modules of G such that $M \setminus N \neq \emptyset$, then $N \setminus M$ is a module of G .
- (vi) If M and N are disjoint modules of G , then $M \sim N$.

A partition \mathcal{P} of the vertex set $V(G)$ of a graph G is a *modular partition* of G if all its elements are modules of G . Based on the last assertion of Proposition 1, it follows that

the elements of \mathcal{P} may be considered as the vertices of a new graph. The *quotient* of G by \mathcal{P} is G/\mathcal{P} defined on \mathcal{P} as follows: for the distinct elements X and Y of \mathcal{P} , $XY \in E(G/\mathcal{P})$ if $xy \in E(G)$ for every x and y where $x \in X$ and $y \in Y$. A module X of a graph G is a *strong module* of G if, for every module Y of G , $X \cap Y \neq \emptyset$. Hence, either $X \subseteq Y$ or $Y \subseteq X$. If $|V(G)| \geq 2$, then $\mathcal{P}(G)$ denotes the family of maximal proper strong modules of G , equipped with the inclusion.

The following theorem shows Gallai's decomposition result.

Theorem 1. [4, 5] *Let G be a graph with at least two vertices. The class $\mathcal{P}(G)$ is a modular partition of G and the quotient $G/\mathcal{P}(G)$ is a prime, complete or empty graph.*

Taking in consideration a graph G with more than one vertex, the elements of $\mathcal{P}(G)$ are the *modular components* of G , $\mathcal{P}(G)$ is its *canonical partition* and the quotient $G/\mathcal{P}(G)$ is its *frame*.

2. Preliminary Results

2.1. Prime graphs and their prime subgraphs

Ehrenfeucht and Rozenberg [3] constructed prime subgraphs of a larger size than a given prime subgraph as follows. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph. Given a proper subset X of V such that $G[X]$ is prime, consider the following subsets of $V \setminus X$:

- $Ext(X)$ is the set of $x \in V \setminus X$ such that $G[X \cup \{x\}]$ is prime.
- $\langle X \rangle$ is the set of $x \in V \setminus X$ such that X is a module of $G[X \cup \{x\}]$.
- For $u \in X$, $X(u)$ is the set of $x \in V \setminus X$ such that $\{x, u\}$ is a module of $G[X \cup \{x\}]$.

The family of the non-empty elements of the union

$$\{Ext(X), \langle X \rangle\} \cup \{X(u) : u \in X\}$$

is denoted by \mathcal{P}_X .

Lemma 1. [3] *taking into account a graph $G = (V, E)$, consider a proper subset X of V such that $G[X]$ is prime. The family \mathcal{P}_X realizes a partition of $V \setminus X$. Moreover, the following assertions hold.*

- 1) *Let $u \in X$. For $x \in X(u)$ and $y \in V \setminus (X \cup X(u))$, if $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is not prime, then $\{u, x\}$ is a module of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$.*
- 2) *For $x \in \langle X \rangle$ and $y \in V \setminus (X \cup \langle X \rangle)$, if $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is not prime, then $X \cup \{y\}$ is a module of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$.*
- 3) *For two distinct vertices x and y in $Ext(X)$, if $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is not prime, then $\{x, y\}$ is a module of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$.*

D. P. Sumner obtained the following result:

Lemma 2. [7] *If G is a prime graph, then G contains a path P_4 as an induced subgraph.*

2.2. Prime graphs and their subgraphs with prime frames

The following notations introduced by Y. Boudabbous and P. Ille [2] generalize those mentioned in the previous Section.

Given a proper vertex subset X of a graph G such that $|X| \geq 4$ and the frame of $G[X]$ is prime, consider the following subsets of $V(G) \setminus X$:

- $\langle X \rangle$ is the set of x outside X such that X is a module of $G[X \cup \{x\}]$.
- $Ext(X)$ is the set of x outside X such that the frame of $G[X \cup \{x\}]$ is prime and $\{x\} \in \mathcal{P}(G[X \cup \{x\}])$.
- For each C in $\mathcal{P}(G[X])$, $X(C)$ is the set of x outside X such that the frame of $G[X \cup \{x\}]$ is prime and $C \cup \{x\} \in \mathcal{P}(G[X \cup \{x\}])$.

The family of the non-empty elements of the union

$$\{Ext(X), \langle X \rangle\} \cup \{X(C) : C \in \mathcal{P}(G[X])\}$$

is denoted by \mathcal{Q}_X .

The following theorem is essential to prove some results in this paper.

Theorem 2. [2] *Taking into account a graph $G = (V, E)$, consider a proper vertex subset X of G with at least four vertices such that the frame of $G[X]$ is prime.*

- 1) *The family \mathcal{Q}_X forms a partition of $V \setminus X$.*
- 2) *If the graph G is prime, then there are two vertices x and y outside X such that the frame of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is prime and $\{x\}, \{y\} \in \mathcal{P}(G[X \cup \{x, y\}])$. More precisely:*
 - (i) *If $\langle X \rangle \neq \emptyset$, then there is a vertex x in $\langle X \rangle$ and a vertex y outside $X \cup \langle X \rangle$ such that the frame of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is prime and $\{x\}, \{y\} \in \mathcal{P}(G[X \cup \{x, y\}])$.*
 - (ii) *Given an element C of $\mathcal{P}(G[X])$, if $|C \cup X(C)| \geq 2$ and $Ext(X) = \emptyset$, then there is a vertex x in $X(C)$ and a vertex y outside $X \cup X(C)$ such that the frame of $G[X \cup \{x, y\}]$ is prime and $\{x\}, \{y\} \in \mathcal{P}(G[X \cup \{x, y\}])$.*

3. Main result

Proposition 2. *Let k and q be non-negative integers with $k \geq 2$. Let G be a graph. If G is a $P_{k,q}$ graph, then G is prime.*

Proof. Let k and q be non-negative integers with $k \geq 2$. Let G be a $P_{k,q}$ graph.

First, if $q = 0$, then G is a $P_{k,0}$ graph. Assume that $|X_k| = |X'_k| = k$ where $X_k = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ and $X'_k = \{x'_1, x'_2, \dots, x'_k\}$ are

two disjoint sets. Using the induction on k ($k = |X|$), we prove that G is a prime graph.

On the one hand, if $k = 2$, then G is the Taurus (resp. the House) where x_1 is non-adjacent (resp. adjacent) to x_2 . Thus, G is a prime graph.

On the other hand, $k \geq 2$. Assume that, for every $P_{k,0}$ graph H , H is prime. We prove that every $P_{k+1,0}$ graph H' is prime.

Let $X_{k+1} = X_k \cup \{x_{k+1}\}$ and $X'_{k+1} = X'_k \cup \{x'_{k+1}\}$ such that $x'_{k+1}x_{k+1} \in E(H')$ and $S = X_k \cup X'_k \cup \{a\}$. Based on Definition 1, there is a $P_{k,0}$ graph H_1 such that $H'[S] \simeq H_1$. Then, by the induction hypothesis, $H'[S]$ is prime. Using the definition of the graph H' , $\{a, x'_{k+1}\}$ is adjacent to X'_k but non-adjacent to X_k . Thus, $x'_{k+1} \in S(a)$. According to the definition of the graph H' , x_{k+1} is adjacent to x'_{k+1} but non-adjacent to the vertex a . Consequently, $\{a, x'_{k+1}\}$ is not a module in $G[S \cup \{x_{k+1}, x'_{k+1}\}]$. Based on assertion 1 of Lemma 1, H' is prime.

Second, $q \geq 1$. Let $a \in V$. Consider X, X', Y and Z as mentioned in Definition 1. Suppose $W = X \cup X' \cup \{a\}$. $Y \neq \emptyset$. On the contrary, consider a non-trivial module M of G . The fact that $G[W]$ is prime implies that $M \cap W = W$, $M \cap W$ is empty or $M \cap W$ is a singleton.

Firstly, if $M \cap W = W$, then $W \subset M$. Let $y \in V \setminus M$. As a consequence, $y \sim W$. Thus, $|N_{G[X \cup \{y\}]}(y)| = k$ and by definition y is unique in Y . There is $z \in Y \setminus \{y\}$ such that $zy \notin E$ and there is $x \in X$ such that $zx \notin E$ and, for all $x' \in X'$, $zx' \in E$, which is a contradiction.

Secondly, if $M \cap W = \emptyset$, then $M \subset Y$, which contradicts the fact that $N_{G[X \cup \{y_1\}]}(y_1) \neq N_{G[X \cup \{y_2\}]}(y_2)$ for any $y_1 \neq y_2 \in Y$.

Thirdly, there is α in V such that $M \cap W = \{\alpha\}$. Let $t \in M \setminus \{\alpha\}$, $t \in Y$. Then, there is $x \in X$ such that $xt \in E$.

$\alpha \neq a$ because, for all $x \in X$, $ax \notin E$ and $tx \in E$.

$\alpha \notin X$ since, for every $x \in X$, $ax \notin E$ and $at \in E$.

Otherwise, there is $x' \in X'$ such that $\alpha = x'$. Then, there is $x \in X$ such that $xx' \notin E$ and $ax' \in E$, which is a contradiction. Thus, $\alpha \notin X'$.

Therefore, G is prime.

Lemma 3. *Let H be a decomposable graph with a prime frame. For any module $M \in \mathcal{P}(H)$, there are two distinct vertices $y, z \in V(H) \setminus M$ such that $y \in N_H(M)$, $z \notin N_H(M)$ and $yz \notin E(H)$.*

Proof. Let $H = (V, E)$ be a decomposable graph with a prime frame. Let $M \in \mathcal{P}(H)$ be a module of H . As H has a prime frame, $N_H(M) \neq \emptyset$ and $V \setminus (M \cup N_H(M)) \neq \emptyset$.

On the contrary, suppose that, for any $y \in N_H(M)$ and $z \notin (M \cup N_H(M))$, $yz \in E$. It follows that $\forall y \in N_H(M)$ and $\forall t \in V \setminus N_H(M)$, $yt \in E$. Then, $\{N_H(M), (V \setminus N_H(M))\}$

is a modular partition of H with two elements. As $M \neq V \setminus N_H(M)$, $M \subset V \setminus N_H(M)$, which contradict the fact that $M \in \mathcal{P}(H)$.

To prove the main result, we use the following five lemmas.

Lemma 4. *Let G be a decomposable graph with a prime frame such that $G \in \mathcal{B}$. If e is an edge in \overline{G} , then $G + e$ is a decomposable graph.*

Proof. Let $G \in \mathcal{B}$ and $e \in \overline{G}$. Consider the graph $H = G + e$.

Firstly, if $|V(G)| = 5$, then $G \simeq \beta$. If e is one of the edges $x'x$ and $x'y$, then $\{a, a'\}$ is still a module in $G + e$. Thus, $G + e$ is a decomposable graph.

Otherwise, $e = ax$ or $e = a'x$. Without loss of generality, we add ax . Then, $\{x, x', a', y\}$ is a non-trivial module. As a result, $G + e$ is a decomposable graph.

Secondly, $|V(G)| \geq 6$. If the edge $e = \alpha\beta$ where α and β are two vertices in $X \cup Y$, then $\{a, a'\}$ is still a module in $G + e$. Thus, $G + e$ is a decomposable graph.

Otherwise, $e = ax$ or $e = a'x$ for $x \in X$. Assume, without loss of generality, that $e = ax$ and there is exactly one vertex x' in X' such that $xx' \in E$. Thus, $\{ax'\}$ is a module in $G + e$. Therefore, $G + e$ is a decomposable graph.

Lemma 5. *Let G be a decomposable graph with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module M . If $G[M] = \overline{K_2}$, then there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.*

Proof. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a decomposable graph with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module $M = \{a, a'\}$ such that $G[M] = \overline{K_2}$ and $e \in E(\overline{G})$. Consider $H = G + e$.

Based on Lemma 3, there is $x \notin N_G(M)$ and $x' \in N_G(M)$ such that $xx' \notin E(G)$. If $e = ax$, then $H[\{x, a, x', a'\}]$ is a P_4 .

$H - a = G - a$ is prime. As $H[\{x, a, x', a'\}]$ is a path P_4 , in H , $a \notin \langle V \setminus \{a\} \rangle$, $a \notin (V \setminus \{a\})(a')$, $a \notin (V \setminus \{a\})(x)$ and $a \notin (V \setminus \{a\})(x')$. If H is not prime, then there is y in $V \setminus \{a, a', x, x'\}$ such that $a \in (V \setminus \{a\})(y)$. Hence, $a'y \notin E(H)$ because $a'a \notin E(H)$. Thus, $ya \notin E(H)$ and $\{xy, x'y\} \subseteq E(H)$. In this case, we choose the graph $H' = G + e'$ where $e' = ay$. Notice that $H'[\{a, a', x, x', y\}]$ is a Taurus.

$H' - a = G - a$ is prime. Since $H'[\{a, a', x, x', y\}]$ is a Taurus, $a \notin \langle V \setminus \{a\} \rangle$ and $a \notin (V \setminus \{a\})(\alpha)$ with $\alpha \in \{a', x, x', y\}$. We prove that H' is prime using contradiction. Assume that H' is not prime. Then, there is z in $V \setminus \{a, a', x, x', y\}$ such that $a \in (V \setminus \{a\})(z)$. Moreover, $za' \notin E(H')$ because $aa' \notin E(H')$. As $\{a, a'\}$ is a module in G , $za \notin E(H')$, $\{x'z, yz\} \subseteq E(H')$ and $xz \notin E(H')$. Knowing that $za \notin E(H')$ and $zy \in E(H')$ contradict the fact that $\{a, y\}$ is a module in H , H' is prime.

Lemma 6. *Let G be a decomposable graph with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module M . If $G[M] = K_2$ and $G \notin \mathcal{B}$, then an edge e exists in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.*

Proof. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a decomposable graph with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module $M = \{a, a'\}$ such that $G[M] = K_2$ and $G \notin \mathcal{B}$. Let $e \in E(\overline{G})$. Consider that $H = G + e$.

Suppose $Z = N_G(M)$, $X = V \setminus (Z \cup \{a, a'\})$. Let $W = V \setminus \{a\}$. Since the frame of G is prime, $X \neq \emptyset$ and $Z \neq \emptyset$.
 Let $B = \{b : b \in X \text{ and } bz \notin E, \forall z \in Z\}$ ($B \neq X$ because the frame is prime).

Firstly, $B \neq \emptyset$.

As $G - a$ is prime, there is $y \in B$ and $x \in X \setminus B$ such that $xy \in E$. Consider $H = G + e$ where $e = ay$.

Notice that $G - a = H - a$ is prime.

Knowing that, $ax \notin E(H)$ and $aa' \in E(H)$, $a \notin \langle W \rangle$ in H .

As $ya \in E(H)$ and $ya' \notin E(H)$, $a \notin W(a')$ in H .

Since, for all $\beta \in Z$, $y\beta \notin E(H)$ and $ya \in E(H)$, $a \notin W(\beta)$ in H .

Knowing that, for all $\alpha \in X \setminus \{y\}$, $a'a \in E(H)$ and $a'\alpha \notin E(H)$, $a \notin W(\alpha)$ in H .

Given that $xa \notin E(H)$ and $xy \in E(H)$, $a \notin W(y)$ in H .

Thus, using Lemma 1 in H , $a \in Ext(W)$. Therefore, $H = G + e$ is prime.

Secondly, $B = \emptyset$. Distinguish two cases:

First, assume that there is $x \in X$ where, for all $x' \in Z$, $\{a, x'\}$ is not a module in $H = G + ax$. Notice that $H - a = G - a$ is prime.

As $X \neq \emptyset$ and $aa' \in E(H)$, $a \notin \langle W \rangle$ in H .

Knowing that, for all $t \in X \setminus \{x\}$, $a't \notin E(H)$ and $a'a \in E$, $a \notin W(t)$ in H .

Since $a'a \in E(H)$ and $a'x \notin E(H)$, $a \notin W(x)$ in H .

Given that, for all $x' \in Z$, $\{a, x'\}$ is not a module in H , $a \notin W(x')$ in H .

As $xa \in E(H)$ and $xa' \notin E(H)$, $a \notin W(a')$ in H .

As a consequence, based on by Lemma 1, $a \in Ext(W)$. Therefore, H is prime.

Second, assume that, for all $x \in X$, there is $x' \in Z$ such that $\{a, x'\}$ is a new module in $H = G + ax$. Since $a'a \in E(H)$ and $xa \in E(H)$, $a'x' \in E(H)$ and $x'x \in E(H)$.

We show that, for all $t \in V \setminus \{a, a', x, x'\}$, $t \sim_H \{a, a', x'\}$.

Indeed, as $\{a, a'\}$ is a module in G , for all $t \in V \setminus \{a, a'\}$, $t \sim_G \{a, a'\}$. Hence, $t \sim_H \{a, a'\}$.

Given that $\{a, x'\}$ is a module in H , for all $t \in V \setminus \{a, a', x, x'\}$, $t \sim_H \{a, x'\}$. Thus, for

all $t \in V \setminus \{a, a', x, x'\}$, $t \sim_H \{a, a', x'\}$.

Let X' be the greatest clique of Z (i.e. $G[X']$ is a complete graph) such that $X' = \{x' : x' \in Z \text{ and } |N_{G[X \cup \{x'}]}(x')| = 1\}$ and $X'' = Z \setminus X'$.

As $G - a$ is prime, for all $x \in X$, there is a unique $x' \in X'$ such that $xx' \in E(G)$. As a result, $|X| = |X'|$.

If $X'' = \emptyset$, then G is a $\beta_{k,0}$ graph, which contradicts the fact that $G \notin \mathcal{B}$.

Otherwise, $X'' \neq \emptyset$ and $q \geq 1$. Since G is not a $\beta_{k,q}$ graph and $G - a = H - a$ is prime,

$G - a$ is not a $P_{k,q}$ graph and $k \geq 3$. We distinguish two subcases.

In the first subcase, there is $y \in X''$ such that $|N_{G[X \cup \{y\}]}(y)| = 1$ (resp. $|N_{G[X \cup \{y\}]}(y)| = k$) and $\forall t \in X'' \setminus \{y\}, ty \in E$. Thus, $y \in X'$, which contradicts the fact that X' is the greatest clique of Z (resp. $y \in \langle V \setminus \{y\} \rangle$, which contradicts the fact that $G - a$ is prime).

In the second subcase, there is $y \neq z \in X''$ such that $N_{G[X \cup \{y\}]}(y) = N_{G[X \cup \{z\}]}(z)$, so $\{y, z\}$ is a non-trivial module in $G - a$, which contradicts the fact that $G - a$ is prime.

Lemma 7. *Let G be a decomposable graph with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module M . If $G[M]$ is a prime graph, then there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.*

Proof. Let G be a decomposable graph on V with a prime frame containing only one non-trivial module M such that $G[M]$ is a prime graph. Suppose $a \in M$ and $X = V \setminus \{a\}$. Since the frame of G is prime and the only non-trivial module is M , there is $b \in V \setminus M$ such that $b \notin N_G(M)$. Consider $e = ab$ and $H = G + e$. It's clear that $H - a = G - a$ is a graph with a prime frame having only non-trivial module $M \setminus \{a\}$.

As $b \notin N_H(M \setminus \{a\})$ and $ab \in E(H)$, $a \notin X(M \setminus \{a\})$ in H .

Given that $G[M]$ is prime, there are two vertices $y, z \in M \setminus \{a\}$ such that $ya \in E(G)$ and $za \notin E(G)$. Thus, $a \notin \langle X \rangle$ in H .

For all $t \in (V \setminus M)$, $t \in N_G(M)$ or $t \notin N_G(M)$. If $t \in N_G(M)$, then $zt \in E(G)$. As a result, $a \notin X(t)$ in H . If $t \notin N_G(M)$, then $yt \notin E(G)$. Thus, $a \notin X(t)$ in H .

Therefore, using assertion 1 of Theorem 2, $a \in Ext(X)$ in H .

Based on assertion 2 of Theorem 2, if $N \in \mathcal{P}(H)$ where N is a non-trivial module, then N is a non-singleton module of $H[M \setminus \{a\}]$. Hence, N is a module of $H - a$. Moreover, $a \sim_H N$. Then, $a \sim_G N$ contradicts the fact that $G[M]$ is prime. Consequently, H does not contain any non-trivial module. Therefore, H is a prime graph.

Lemma 8. *Let G be a decomposable graph with an empty frame containing only one non-trivial module M . If $|M| = |V(G)| - 1$ and $G[M]$ is a prime graph, then an edge e exists in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.*

Proof. Let G be a decomposable graph on V with an empty frame containing only one non-trivial module M such that $V(G) = M \cup \{b\}$ and $G[M]$ is a prime graph.

Let $P = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k)$ be the longest prime path in $G[M]$ with length k . Using Lemma 2, $k \geq 4$. Consider $e = bx_1$ and $H = G + e$. $H - b = G - b = G[M]$ is a prime graph. As $H[\{b, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}]$ is a path of a length greater than 4, $H[\{b, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}]$ is prime. Hence, $b \notin \langle M \rangle$ in H and $b \notin M(x_i)$ in H for all $1 \leq i \leq k$. If H is not prime, then, using Lemma 1, there is $t \in M \setminus \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$ such that $b \in M(t)$. Thus, $H[\{t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}] = G[\{t, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}]$ is a path of length $k + 1$, which is a contradiction. As a consequence, based on Lemma 1, $b \in Ext(M)$. Therefore, H is a prime graph.

Our main result is the following theorem:

Theorem 3. *Let G be a decomposable graph with at least 4 vertices having exactly one non-trivial module M . There is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is a prime graph if and only if one of the following assertions holds.*

- (i) G has a prime frame and $G[M]$ is a prime graph or $\overline{K_2}$.
- (ii) G has a prime frame, $G[M]$ is K_2 and $G \notin \mathcal{B}$.
- (iii) G has an empty frame and $G[M]$ is a prime graph with $|M| = |V(G)| - 1$.

Proof. Let G be a decomposable graph with at least 4 vertices having exactly one non-trivial module M .

On the one hand, if G has a prime frame, then $G[M]$ is $\overline{K_2}$, K_2 or prime.

First, if $G[M] = \overline{K_2}$, then, according to Lemma 5, there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.

Second, if $G[M] = K_2$ and $G \notin \mathcal{B}$, then, based on Lemma 6, there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.

Third, if $G[M]$ is a prime graph, then, using Lemma 7, there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.

On the other hand, if G has an empty frame and $V(G) = M \cup \{b\}$ where $G[M]$ is a prime graph, then, based on Lemma 8, there is an edge e in \overline{G} such that $G + e$ is prime.

Inversely, assume that there is e in \overline{G} where $G + e$ is prime. It's clear that the frame of G is not complete.

On the one hand, if the frame of G is prime since M is the only non-trivial module in G , then M does not contain any non-trivial module. Thus, $G[M]$ is a prime graph or $G[M] \in \{K_2, \overline{K_2}\}$. Assume that $G[M] = K_2$. As $G + e$ is prime, the Lemma 4 implies $G \notin \mathcal{B}$.

On the other hand, if the frame is empty knowing that each element of $\mathcal{P}(G)$ is a module of G and G contains only one non-trivial module M , then $V \setminus M$ is a module. Given that M is the unique non-trivial module, $V \setminus M$ is a trivial module. Thus, $V \setminus M$ is a singleton. Therefore, the frame of G is isomorphic to $\overline{K_2}$, $G[M]$ is a prime graph and $|M| = |V(G)| - 1$.

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