



## THE UPPER TOTAL MONOPHONIC NUMBER OF A GRAPH

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### ABSTRACT

A set  $M$  of vertices of a connected graph  $G$  is a monophonic set if every vertex of  $G$  lies on an  $x$ - $y$  monophonic path for some elements  $x$  and  $y$  in  $M$ . The minimum cardinality of a monophonic set of  $G$  is the monophonic number of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $m(G)$ . A monophonic set of cardinality  $m(G)$  is called a  $m$ -set of  $G$ . Any monophonic set of order  $m(G)$  is a minimum monophonic set of  $G$ . A monophonic set  $M$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal monophonic set if no proper subset of  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . The total monophonic set  $M$  of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices, and is denoted by  $m_t(G)$ . The upper total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a minimal total monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices. The upper total monophonic number is the maximum cardinality of a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $m_t^+(G)$ . The upper monophonic numbers of some connected graphs are realized. It is proved that for any integers,  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $c$  such that  $2 \leq a \leq b < c$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $m(G)=a$ ,  $m_t(G)=b$  and  $m_t^+(G)=c$ .

Keywords: Monophonic set, monophonic number, total monophonic number, upper total monophonic number.

### 1. Introduction

By a graph  $G = (V, E)$  we mean a simple graph of order at least two. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $p$  and  $q$ , respectively. For basic graph theoretic terminology, we refer to Harary [5]. The neighborhood of a vertex  $v$  is the set  $N(v)$  consisting of all vertices  $u$  which are adjacent with  $v$ . The closed neighborhood of a vertex  $v$  is the set  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . A vertex  $v$  is an extreme vertex if the sub graph induced by its neighbors is complete. A vertex  $v$  is a semi-extreme vertex of  $G$  if the sub graph induced by its neighbors has a full degree vertex in  $N(v)$ . In particular, every extreme vertex is a semi - extreme vertex and a semi - extreme vertex need not be an extreme vertex.

For any two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(x, y)$  is the length of a shortest  $x$ - $y$  path in  $G$ . An  $x$ - $y$  path of length  $d(x, y)$  is called an  $x$ - $y$  geodesic. A vertex  $v$  is said to lie on an  $x$ - $y$  geodesic  $P$  if  $v$  is a vertex of  $P$  including the vertices  $x$  and  $y$ .



The closed interval  $I[x, y]$  consists of all vertices lying on some  $x$ - $y$  geodesic of  $G$ , while for  $S \subseteq V$ ,  $I[S] = \cup_{x,y \in S} I[x, y]$ . A set  $S$  of vertices is a geodetic set if  $I[S] = V$ , and the minimum cardinality of a geodetic set is the geodetic number  $g(G)$ . A geodetic set of cardinality  $g(G)$  is called a  $g$ -set. The geodetic number of a graph was introduced in [1, 6] and further studied in [2, 3, 4, 5]. A set  $S$  of vertices of a graph  $G$  is an edge geodetic set if every edge of  $G$  lies on an  $x$ - $y$  geodesic for some elements  $x$  and  $y$  in  $S$ . The minimum cardinality of an edge geodetic set of  $G$  is the edge geodetic number of  $G$  denoted by  $eg(G)$ . The edge geodetic number was introduced and studied in [8]. The total edge geodetic set of a graph  $G$  is an edge geodetic set  $S$  such that the subgraph induced by  $S$  has no isolated vertices. The minimum cardinality of a total edge geodetic set of  $G$  is the total edge geodetic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $eg_t(G)$ .

A chord of a path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  in  $G$  is an edge  $u_i u_j$  with  $j \geq i + 2$ . A  $u$ - $v$  path  $P$  is called a monophonic path if it is a chordless path. A set  $M$  of vertices is a monophonic set if every vertex of  $G$  lies on a monophonic path joining some pair of vertices in  $M$ , and the minimum cardinality of a monophonic set of  $G$  is the monophonic number of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $m(G)$ . A monophonic set of cardinality  $m(G)$  is called a  $m$ -set of  $G$ . Any monophonic set of order  $m(G)$  is a minimum monophonic set of  $G$ . A monophonic set  $M$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal monophonic set if no proper subset of  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . The monophonic number of a graph  $G$  was studied in [9]. A monophonic set  $M$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal monophonic set if no proper subset of  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . The upper monophonic number  $m^+(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal set of  $G$ . The upper monophonic number of a graph  $G$  was studied in [10]. The total monophonic set  $M$  of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices, and is denoted by  $m_t(G)$ . The upper total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a minimal total monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertices. The upper total monophonic number is the maximum cardinality of a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $m_t^+(G)$ .

The following Theorems will be used in the sequel.

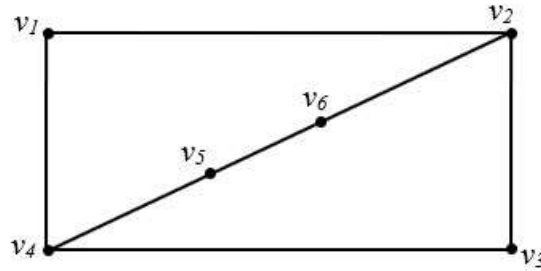
**Theorem 1.1 [9]** : Each extreme vertex of a connected graph  $G$  belongs to every monophonic set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.2 [10]** : Let  $G$  be a connected graph with diameter  $d$ . Then  $m(G) \leq p-d+1$ . Throughout this paper  $G$  denotes a connected graph with atleast two vertices

## 2. UPPER TOTAL MONOPHOIC NUMBER OF A GRAPH

**Definition 2.1:** The total monophonic set  $M$  in a connected graph  $G$  is called a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  if no proper subset of  $M$  is the total monophonic set of  $G$ . The upper total monophonic number  $m_t^+(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ .

**Example 2.2:** For the graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.1,  $M_1 = \{v_2, v_4\}$ ,  $M_2 = \{v_4, v_6\}$ ,  $M_3 = \{v_2, v_5\}$  are the only three minimum monophonic sets of  $G$ , so that  $m(G)=3$ . The set  $M_4 = \{v_1, v_3, v_5\}$  and  $M_5 = \{v_1, v_3, v_6\}$  are minimal monophonic sets of  $G$ . The set  $M_6 = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ ,  $M_7 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_6\}$  are the minimal total monophonic sets of  $G$ , so that  $m_t^+(G) \geq 4$ . It is easily verified that no five elements of  $G$  is minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m_t^+(G) = 4$ .



**Figure 2.1 : G**

**Remark 2.3:** Every minimum total monophonic set of  $G$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  and the converse is not true. For the graph  $G$  given in figure 2.1,  $M_6 = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  but not a minimum total monophonic set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.4 :** For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $2 \leq m(G) \leq m_t^+(G) \leq p$ .

**Proof :** Any monophonic set needs atleast 2 vertices and so  $m(G) \geq 2$ . Since every minimal total monophonic set is a monophonic set  $m(G) \leq m_t^+(G)$ . Also since  $V(G)$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ , it is clear that  $m_t^+(G) \leq p$ . Thus  $2 \leq m(G) \leq m_t^+(G) \leq p$ .

**Theorem 2.5 :** For the complete graph  $K_p$  ( $p \geq 2$ ),  $m_t^+(K_p) = m^+(K_p) = p$ .

**Proof :** Since every vertex of the complete graph  $K_p$  ( $p \geq 2$ ) is an extreme vertex, the vertex set of  $K_p$  is the unique monophonic set. Thus  $m^+(K_p) = m_t^+(K_p)$ .

**Theorem 2.6 :** For a connected graph  $G$  of order  $p$ , the following are equivalent:

- i.  $m_t^+(G) = p$
- ii.  $m(G) = p$
- iii.  $G = K_p$

**Proof :** (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii). Let  $m_t^+(G) = p$ . Then  $M = V(G)$  is the unique minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Since no proper subset of  $M$  is a monophonic set, it is clear that  $M$  is the unique minimum total monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m(G) = p$ .

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii). Let  $m(G) = p$ . If  $G \neq K_p$ , then by theorem 1.3,  $m(G) \leq p-1$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore  $G = K_p$ . (iii)  $\Rightarrow$  (i). Let  $G = K_p$ . Then by Theorem 2.5,  $m_t^+(G) = p$ .

**Theorem 2.6 :** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with cut vertices and  $M$  be a minimal monophonic set of  $G$ . If  $v$  is a cut vertex of  $G$ , Then every component of  $G-v$  contains an element of  $M$ .

**Proof :** Suppose that there is a component  $G_1$  of  $G-v$  such that  $G_1$  contains no vertex of  $M$ . By Theorem 1.2,  $G_1$  does not contain any end vertex of  $G$ . Thus  $G_1$  contains atleast one vertex, say  $u$ . Since  $M$  is a minimal monophonic set, there exists vertices  $x, y \in M$  such that  $u$  lies on the  $x$ - $y$  monophonic path  $P : x = u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u, \dots, u_t = y$  in  $G$ . Let  $P_1$  be a  $x$ - $u$  sub path of  $P$  and  $P_2$  be a  $u$ - $y$  subpath of  $P$ . Since  $v$  is a cut vertex of  $G$ , both  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  contain  $v$  so that  $P$  is not a path, which is a contradiction. Thus every component of  $G-v$  contains an element of  $M$ .

**Theorem 2.7:** For any connected graph  $G$ , no cut vertex of  $G$  belongs to any minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ .



**Proof :** Let  $M$  be a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  and  $v \in M$  be any vertex. We claim that  $v$  is not a cut vertex of  $G$ . Suppose that  $v$  is a cut vertex of  $G$ . Let  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r (r \geq 2)$  be the components of  $G-v$ . By theorem 2.6, each component  $G_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$  contains an element of  $M$ . We claim that  $M_1 = M - \{v\}$  is also a monophonic set of  $G$ . Let  $x$  be a vertex of  $G$ . Since  $M$  is a minimal monophonic set of  $G$ ,  $x$  lies on a monophonic path  $P$  joining a pair of vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $M$ . Assume without loss of generality that  $u \in G_1$ . Since  $v$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex of each  $G_i (1 \leq i \leq r)$ , assume that  $v$  is adjacent to  $z$  in  $G_k, k \neq 1$ . Since  $M$  is a monophonic set,  $z$  lies on a monophonic path  $Q$  joining  $v$  and a vertex  $w$  of  $M$  such that  $w$  must necessarily belongs to  $G_k$ . Thus  $w \neq v$ . Now, since  $v$  is a cut vertex of  $G$ ,  $P \cup Q$  is a path joining  $u$  and  $w$  in  $M$  and thus the vertex  $x$  lies on this monophonic path joining two vertices of  $M_1$ . Hence it follows that  $M_1$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . Since  $M_1 \subsetneq M$ , this contradicts the fact that  $M$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence  $v \notin M$  so that no cut vertex of  $G$  belongs to any minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.8 :** For any Tree  $T$  with  $k$  end vertices,  $m_t^+(T) = m^+(T) = m(T) = k$ .

**Proof:** By Theorem 1.1, any monophonic set contains all the end vertices of  $T$ . By Theorem 2.7, no cut vertices of  $T$  belongs to a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence it follows that, the set of all end vertices of  $T$  is the unique minimal total monophoni set of  $T$  so that  $m^+(T) = m_t^+(T) = m(T) = k$ .

**Theorem 2.9:** For a cycle  $G = C_p (p \geq 4)$ ,  $m_t^+(G) = 3$ .

**Proof :** First suppose that  $G = C_3$ . It is a complete graph, by Theorem 2.5, we have  $m_t^+(G) = 3$ . For any cycle suppose that  $m_t^+(G) > 3$ , then there exist a minimal total monophonic set  $M_1$  such that  $|M_1| \geq 3$ . Now it is clear that monophonic set  $M \subsetneq M_1$ , which is a contradiction to  $M_1$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Therefore  $m_t^+(G) = 3$ .

**Theorem 2.9:** For the complete bipartite graph  $G = K_{m,n}$ .

- (i)  $m_t^+(G) = 2$  if  $m = n = 1$
- (ii)  $m_t^+(G) = n+1$  if  $m = 1, n \geq 2$
- (iii)  $m_t^+(G) = \min\{m, n\} + 1$ , if  $m, n \geq 2$ .

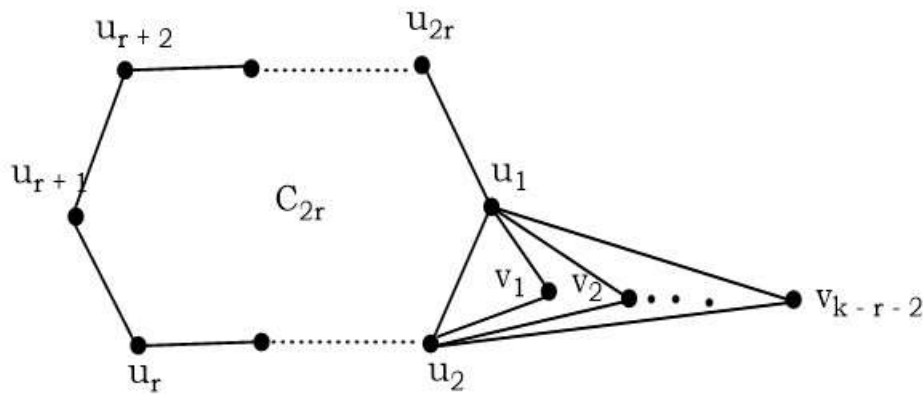
**Proof:** (i) and (ii) follows from Theorem 2.7. (iii) Let  $m, n \geq 2$ . Assume without loss of generality that  $m \leq n$ . First assume that  $m < n$ . Let  $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $Y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$  be a bipartition of  $G$ . Let  $M = Y$ . We prove that  $M$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Any vertex  $y_i (1 \leq i \leq n)$  lies on a monophonic path  $y_i y_k$  for  $k \neq 1$  so that  $M$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . Let  $M' \subsetneq M$ . Then there exists a vertex  $y_j \in M$  such that  $y_j \notin M'$ . Then the vertex  $y_j (1 \leq j \leq m)$  does not lie on a monophonic path joining a pair of vertices of  $M'$ . Thus  $M'$  is not an monophonic set of  $G$ . This shows that  $M$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence  $m_t^+(G) \geq n$ . Let  $M_1$  be a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$  such that  $|M_1| \geq n+1$ . Since the vertex  $x_i (1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n)$  lies on a monophonic path  $x_i x_k$  for any  $k \neq i$ , it follows that  $X$  is monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence  $M_1$  cannot contain  $X$ . Similarly since  $Y$  is a minimal monophonic set of  $G$ ,  $M_1$  cannot contain  $Y$  also. Hence  $M_1 \subsetneq X' \cup Y'$  where  $X' \subsetneq X$  and  $Y' \subsetneq Y$ . Hence there exist a vertex  $x_i \in X (1 \leq i \leq m)$  and a vertex  $y_j \in Y (1 \leq j \leq n)$  such that  $x_i y_j \notin M_1$ . Hence the edge  $x_i y_j$  does not lie on a monophonic path joining a pair of vertices of  $M_1$ . It follows that  $M_1$  is not a monophonic set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $M$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ . Hence  $m_t^+(G) = \min\{m, n\} + 1$ .

### 3. Realization Results :

**Theorem 3.1 :** For positive integers  $r, d$  and  $k \geq d + 2$  with  $r \leq d \leq 2r$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $\text{rad } G = r$ ,  $\text{diam } G = d$  and  $m_t^+(G) = k$ .

**Proof :** If  $r = 1$ , then  $d = 1$  or  $2$ . For  $d = 1$ , let  $G = K_k$ . Then by theorem 2.9  $m_t^+(G) = k$ .  
 Now, let  $r \geq 2$ . We construct a graph  $G$  with the desired properties as follows:

**Case 1.  $r = d$ .** Let  $C_{2r}: u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2r}, u_1$  be a cycle of order  $2r$ . Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by adding the new vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{k-r-2}$  and joining each  $v_i (1 \leq i \leq k-r-2)$  with  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  of  $c_{2r}$ . The graph  $G$  is as shown in Figure 3.1



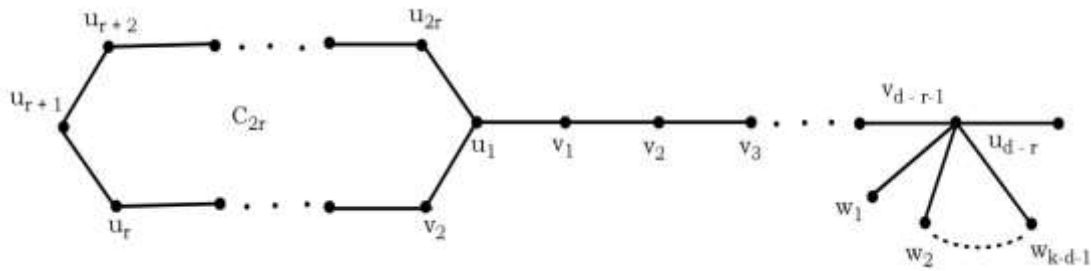
**Figure 3.1 : G**

It is easily verified that the eccentricity of each vertex of  $G$  is  $r$  so that  $\text{rad } G = \text{diam } G = r$ . If  $k = r + 2$ , then  $G = c_{2r}$  and so by Theorem 2.7,  $m_t^+(G) = r + 2 = k$ .

If  $k > r + 2$ , then  $M = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{k-r-2}\}$  is the set of all extreme vertices of  $G$ . It is clear that  $M$  is not a monophonic set of  $G$ . Let  $M_I = M \cup \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r, u_{r+1}, u_{r+2}\}$ . It is clear that  $M_I$  is a minimum connected monophonic set of  $G$ , also  $M_I$  is also a minimal connected monophonic set of  $G$  so that  $m^+(G) \geq |M_I| = k$ .

It is clear that  $M_I = M \cup \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r, u_{r+1}, u_{r+2}\}$  is a upper total monophonic set of  $G$  so that,  $m_t^+(G) = k$ .

**Case 2 :  $r < d$ .**



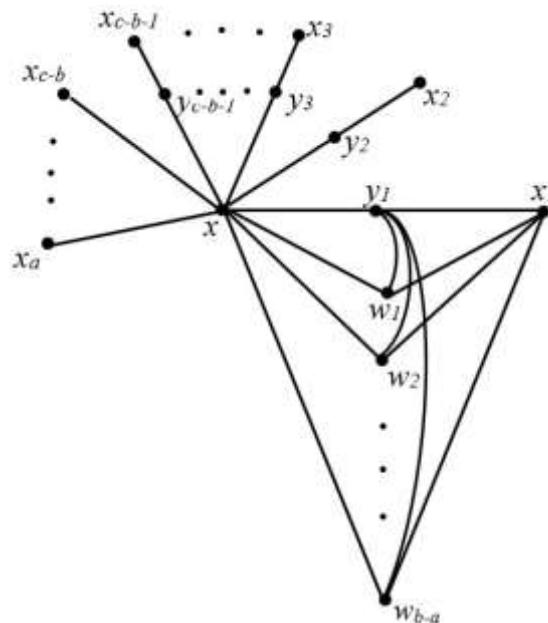
**Figure 3.2 : G**

Let  $c_{2r} : u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2r}, u_1$  be a cycle of order  $2r$  and let  $P_{d-r+1} : v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{d-r}$  be a path of order  $d-r+1$ . Let  $H$  be a graph obtained from  $c_{2r}$  and  $P_{d-r+1}$  by identifying  $u_1$  in  $C_{2r}$  and  $v_0$  in  $P_{d-r+1}$ . Now, we add  $k-d-1$  new vertices  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{k-d-1}$  to the graph  $H$  and join each vertex  $w_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k-d-1$ ) to the vertex  $v_{d-r-1}$  and also join  $u_r$  with  $u_{r+2}$ , to obtain the graph  $G$  in Figure 3.2. Then  $\text{rad } G = r$  and  $\text{diam } G = d$ .

Let  $M' = \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{d-r-1}, v_{d-r}, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{k-d-1}, u_{r+1}\}$ . It is clear that  $M'$  is not a monophonic set of  $G$ . Let  $M_1' = M' \cup \{u_2, u_3, \dots, u_r\}$ . It is clear that  $M_1'$  is a minimum connected monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $M_1'$  is also a minimal connected monophonic set of  $G$ .  $m^+(G) = k$ . It is clear that  $M_1' = M'' \cup \{u_2, u_3, \dots, u_r\}$  is an upper total monophonic set of  $G$  so that  $m_t^+(G) = k$ .

**Theorem 3.2 :** For any positive integers  $2 \leq a \leq b < c$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $m(G) = a, m^+(G) = b, m_t^+(G) = c$ .

**Proof :** Take a copy of star  $K_{1,a}$  with leaves  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_a$  and the support vertex  $x$ . Subdivide the edge  $xx_i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq c-b-1$ , calling the new vertices  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{c-b-1}$  where  $x_i$  is adjacent to  $y_i$  and  $y_i$  is adjacent to  $x$  for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, c-b-1\}$ . Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by adding  $b-a$  new vertices  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{b-a}$  and joining each  $w_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq b-a$ ) with  $x, x_1$ . The graph  $G$  is shown in figure 3.3.



**Figure 3.3 : G**



Let first we show that  $m(G) = a$ . Let  $M$  be a monophonic set of  $G$  and let  $W = \{x_2, x_3 \dots x_a\}$  be the set of all extreme vertices of  $G$ . It is clear that  $W$  is not a monophonic set of  $G$ . By theorem 1.1, every monophonic set of  $G$  contains  $W$ . Clearly  $M = W \cup \{x_1\}$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m(G) = a$ .

Let  $M_1 = M \cup \{w_1, w_2 \dots w_{b-a}\}$ . Then  $M_1$  is a minimal monophonic set of  $G$ . If  $M_1$  is not a minimal monophonic set of  $G$ , then there is a proper subset  $T$  of  $M_1$  such that  $T$  is a monophonic set of  $G$ . Then there exists  $w \in M_1$  such that  $w \notin T$ . By theorem 1.1  $w \neq x_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq a$ ). Therefore  $w = w_i$  for some  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq b - a$ ). Since  $w_i w_j$  ( $1 \leq i, j \leq b - a$ ),  $i \neq j$  is a chord,  $w_i$  does not lie on a monophonic path joining some vertices of  $T$  and so  $T$  is not a monophonic set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $M_1$  is a minimal monophonic set of  $G$  and so  $m^+(G) = b$ .

Let  $M_2 = M_1 \cup \{y_1, y_2 \dots y_{c-b-1}, x\}$ . It is clear that  $M_2$  is a minimal total monophonic set of  $G$ , so that  $m_t^+(G) = c$ .

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