

*Dedicated to Professor Mircea Diudea  
on the Occasion of His 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

## THEORETICAL STUDY OF NANOSTAR DENDRIMERS

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**ABSTRACT.** In this paper, we give some theoretical results about nanostar dendrimers by topological indices. Formulas for computing topological indices based on distance and degree in a graph such as eccentric connectivity, total eccentricity, fourth version of atom-bond connectivity and fifth version of geometric-arithmetic indices of two types of nanostar dendrimers are presented.

**Keywords:** *Dendrimers, Eccentric, Vertex-degree, Connectivity indices.*

### INTRODUCTION

Dendrimers are large and complex molecules with well tailored chemical structures. There are numerous topological descriptors that have found applications in theoretical chemistry, particularly in QSPR/QSAR research [1]. Among them, topological indices have a prominent place. In some research papers [2-9], the authors have computed some topological indices of nanostar dendrimers, nanostructures and other graphs.

In this paper, we discuss four topological descriptors, namely  $\xi^c$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $ABC_4$  and  $GA_5$  indices for two types of nanostar dendrimers. The article is organized as follows: within the second part of this work, we give the necessary definitions. Section 3 contains our main results. Conclusions and references will close this article.

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## DEFINITIONS

Now, we introduce some notations and terminology which is needed for the rest of the paper. A molecular graph is a simple graph such that its vertices correspond to the atoms and the edges to the bonds of a molecule. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple molecular graph without directed and multiple edges and without loops, the vertex and edge sets of it are represented by  $V = V(G)$  and  $E = E(G)$ , respectively. The degree (i.e., the number of first neighbors) of a vertex  $u \in V(G)$  is denoted by  $\text{deg}_G(u)$ . The edge connecting the vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is denoted by  $uv$ . The distance between  $u$  and  $v$  in  $V(G)$ ,  $d(u, v)$ , is the length of a shortest  $u$ - $v$  path in  $G$ . For a vertex  $u$  of  $V(G)$  its eccentricity  $\varepsilon_G(u)$  is the largest distance between  $u$  and any other vertex  $v$  of  $G$ ,  $\varepsilon_G(u) = \max\{d(u, v) \mid v \in V(G)\}$ . The maximum and minimum eccentricity over all vertices of  $G$  are called the diameter and radius of  $G$  and denoted by  $d(G)$ ,  $r(G)$  respectively. In 2011, Doslić et al. [10], have proposed the eccentric connectivity polynomial. This polynomial is defined as follows:

$$\xi^c(G, x) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} \text{deg}_G(u) x^{\varepsilon_G(u)},$$

where  $x$  is a dummy variable. A topological index is a real number derived from molecular graphs of chemical compounds. The oldest topological index is the Wiener index, introduced by Harold Wiener [11]. The eccentric-connectivity index of the molecular graph  $G$ ,  $\xi^c(G)$ , was proposed by Sharma et al. [12]. It is easy to see that the eccentric-connectivity index of a graph can be obtained from the corresponding polynomials by evaluating its first derivative, at  $x = 1$ . The eccentric and total connectivity indices of  $G$  are defined as follows:

$$\xi^c(G) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} \text{deg}_G(u) \varepsilon_G(u), \quad \theta(G) = \sum_{u \in V(G)} \varepsilon_G(u).$$

We encourage readers to references [13–15] to study some properties of eccentric-connectivity index of some nanostructures.

Among topological connectivity indices, the atom-bond connectivity ( $ABC$ ) index and geometric-arithmetic ( $GA$ ) index are of great importance. For other studies on these topological indices, we suggest refs. [16,17]. In 2010, Ghorbani et al. [18] introduced a new version of atom-bond connectivity ( $ABC_4$ ) index. It is defined as follows:

$$ABC_4(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \sqrt{\frac{S_u + S_v - 2}{S_u S_v}},$$

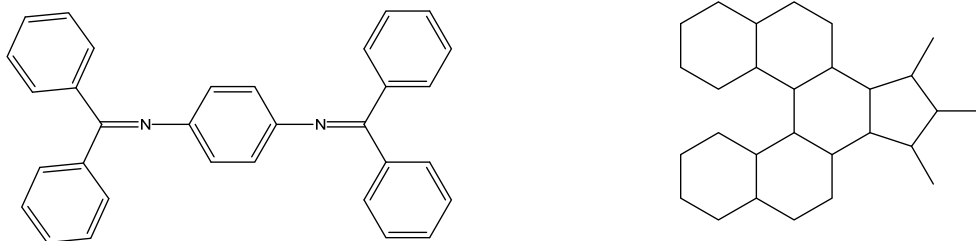
where  $S_u$  is the sum of degrees of all vertices adjacent to vertex  $u$ . In other words,  $S_u = \sum_{v \in N_G(u)} \text{deg}_G(v)$  and  $N_G(u) = \{v \in V(G) \mid uv \in E(G)\}$ .

Recently a fifth version of geometric-arithmetic ( $GA_5$ ) index is proposed by Graovac et al. [19] in 2011, as follows:

$$GA_5(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} \frac{2\sqrt{S_u S_v}}{S_u + S_v}.$$

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The main aim of this section is to compute the eccentric-connectivity polynomial, eccentric-connectivity, total eccentricity, fourth version of atom-bond connectivity and fifth version of geometric-arithmetic indices of the molecular graph of two types of nanostar dendrimers (see Figure 1). In this paper,  $D_1[n]$  and  $D_2[n]$  denotes the  $n^{\text{th}}$  growth of nanostar dendrimer for every infinite integer  $n$ . For background materials, see *references* [20, 21].



**Figure 1.** First generation of diphenylazomethine dendrimer (left) and Wang's Helicene-based dendrimers (right).

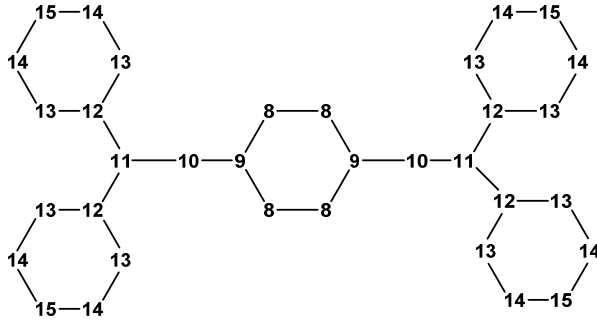
### Calculation of polynomials and topological Indices

Before we proceed to our main results, we explain the examples which will be further used.

**Example 1.** Let us consider the first kind of nanostar dendrimer, of which grown 1 – 3 steps are denoted by  $D_1[n]$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3$ .

Obviously, for  $n = 1$ ,  $|V| = 34$  and  $|E| = 38$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

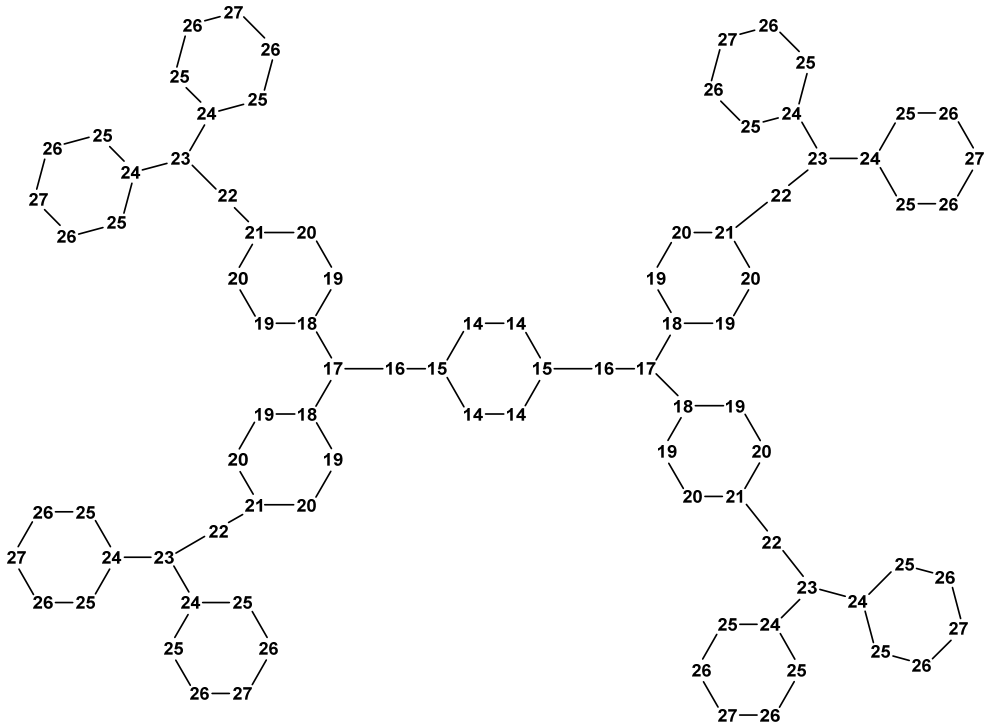
$$\xi^c(D_1[1], x) = 8x^{15} + 16x^{14} + 16x^{13} + 12x^{12} + 6x^{11} + 4x^{10} + 6x^9 + 8x^8.$$



**Figure 2.** The molecular graph of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n = 1$ .

For  $n = 2$ ,  $|V| = 90$  and  $|E| = 102$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

$$\xi^c(D_1[2], x) = 16x^{27} + 32x^{26} + 32x^{25} + 24x^{24} + 12x^{23} + 8x^{22} + 12x^{21} + 16x^{20} + 16x^{19} + 12x^{18} + 6x^{17} + 4x^{16} + 6x^{15} + 8x^{14}.$$



**Figure 3.** The molecular graph of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n = 2$ .

Also, for  $n = 3$ ,  $|V| = 202$  and  $|E| = 230$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_1[3], x) = & 32x^{39} + 64x^{38} + 64x^{37} + 48x^{36} + 24x^{35} + 16x^{34} + 24x^{33} + 32x^{32} \\ & + 32x^{31} + 24x^{30} + 12x^{29} + 8x^{28} + 12x^{27} + 16x^{26} + 16x^{25} + 12x^{24} \\ & + 6x^{23} + 4x^{22} + 6x^{21} + 8x^{20}. \end{aligned}$$

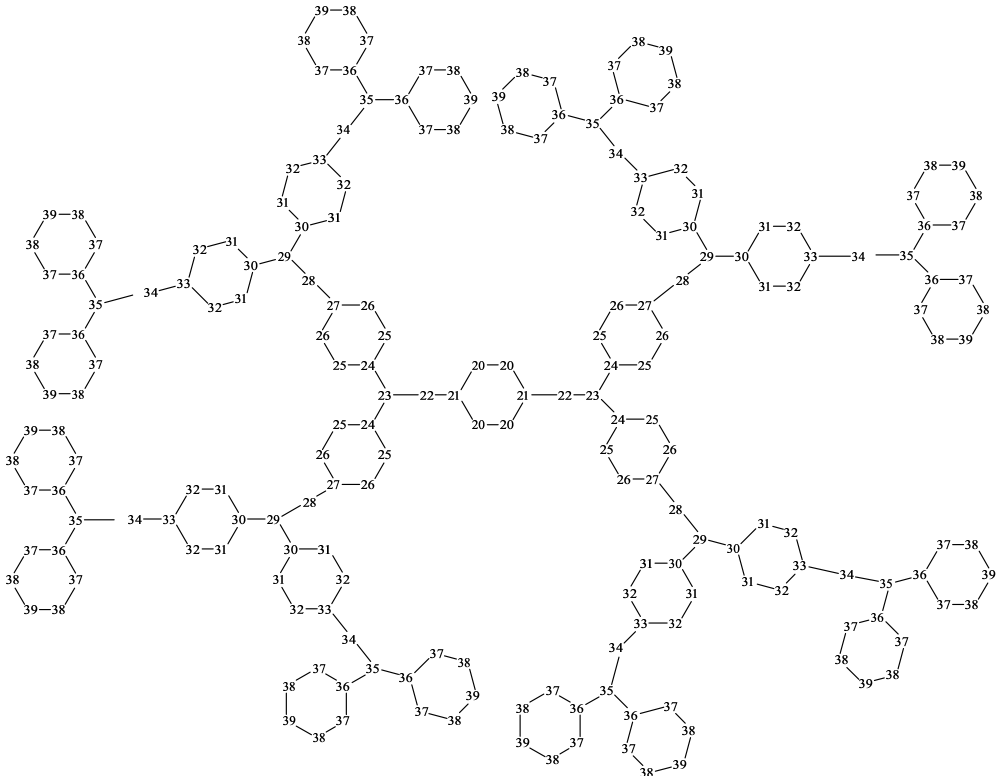


Figure 4. The molecular graph of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n = 3$ .

Using calculations given above, it is possible to evaluate the eccentric-connectivity polynomial of this class of nanostar dendrimers.

**Theorem 2.** The eccentric-connectivity polynomial of the nanostar dendrimer  $D_1[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  is given by the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_1[n], x) = & 2^{n+2} x^{12n+3} + 2^{n+3} x^{12n+2} + \sum_{k=1}^n 2^k (8x^{6(n+k)+1} + 6x^{6(n+k)} \\ & + 3x^{6(n+k)-1} + 2x^{6(n+k)-2} + 3x^{6(n+k)-3} + 4x^{6(n+k)-4}). \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** To prove the theorem, we apply induction on  $n$ . By considering the general form of this graph,  $|V(D_1[n])| = 28 \times 2^n - 22$  and  $|E(D_1[n])| = 32 \times 2^n - 26$ . We compute maximum vertex eccentric connectivity and minimum vertex eccentric connectivity for nanostar dendrimer graph  $D_1[n]$ . For  $u \in V(D_1[n])$ , we have  $d(D_1[n]) = 12n + 3$  and  $r(D_1[n]) = 6n + 2$ . The degrees, frequencies and eccentricities of these vertices are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The representatives of vertices of  $D_1[n]$  with their degree, eccentricity and frequency of occurrence, for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

Vertex type	Degree	Eccentricity	Frequency
1	2	$12n + 3$	$2^{n+1}$
2	2	$12n + 2$	$2^{n+2}$
3	2	$6n + 6k + 1$	$2^{k+2}$
4	3	$6n + 6k$	$2^{k+1}$
5	3	$6n + 6k - 1$	$2^k$
6	2	$6n + 6k - 2$	$2^k$
7	3	$6n + 6k - 3$	$2^k$
8	2	$6n + 6k - 4$	$2^{k+1}$

By using data in Table 1 and definition of eccentric-connectivity polynomial calculation may be achieved.

From Theorem 2, it is possible to calculate the eccentric-connectivity index of these nanostar dendrimers. We have:

**Theorem 3.** The eccentric-connectivity index of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  is computed as follows:

$$\xi^c(D_1[n]) = 2^n(768n - 332) - 312n + 360.$$

**Proof.** From the definition, we have  $\xi^c(D_1[n]) = \frac{\partial(\xi^c(D_1[n],x))}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=1}$ .

Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_1[n]) &= 2^{n+2}(12n + 3) + 2^{n+3}(12n + 2) \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^n 2^k \left( (8(6(n+k) + 1)) + 6(6(n+k)) + (3(6(n+k) - 1)) \right. \\ &\left. + (2(6(n+k) - 2)) + (3(6(n+k) - 3)) + (4(6(n+k) - 4)) \right) \\ &= 2^n(768n - 332) - 312n + 360. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.** The total eccentricity index of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  is computed as follows:

$$\theta(D_1[n]) = 2^n(336n - 138) - 132n + 152.$$

**Proof.** The total eccentricity index of a graph is the sum of eccentricities of all the vertices. Therefore by the calculations given in Table 1, the theorem is proved.

**Theorem 5.** The fourth atom-bond connectivity index of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  is computed as follows:

$$ABC_4(D_1[n]) = \frac{4355257157954373 \times 2^{n+2}}{1125899906842624} + \frac{4625405229014641 \times 2^n}{2251799813685248} - \frac{3896323959238067}{281474976710656}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $D_1[n]$  be the graph of first kind of nanostar dendrimer. We compute the edge partition of  $D_1[n]$  based on the degree sum of neighbors of end vertices of each edge (Table 2).

**Table 2.** The edge partition of  $D_1[n]$  based on the degree sum of neighbors of the end vertices of each edge.

$(S_u, S_v)$ $uv \in E(D_1[n])$	No. edges	$(S_u, S_v)$ $uv \in E(D_1[n])$	No. edges
(4,4)	$2^{n+2}$	(8,6)	$2^{n+1} - 2$
(5,4)	$2^{n+2}$	(6,6)	$2^{n+1} - 2$
(7,5)	$2^{n+3} - 8$	(6,5)	$2^{n+2} - 4$
(7,8)	$2^{n+2} - 4$	(5,5)	$2^{n+2} - 6$

Now, we use this partition to compute  $ABC_4$  index of  $D_1[n]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} ABC_4(D_1[n]) &= \sum_{uv \in E(D_1[n])} \sqrt{\frac{S_u + S_v - 2}{S_u S_v}} \\ &= 2^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{4+4-2}{4 \times 4}} + 2^{n+2} \sqrt{\frac{5+4-2}{5 \times 4}} + (2^{n+3} - 8) \sqrt{\frac{7+5-2}{7 \times 5}} \\ &\quad + (2^{n+2} - 4) \sqrt{\frac{7+8-2}{7 \times 8}} \\ &\quad + (2^{n+1} - 2) \sqrt{\frac{8+6-2}{8 \times 6}} + (2^{n+1} - 2) \sqrt{\frac{6+6-2}{6 \times 6}} + (2^{n+2} - 4) \sqrt{\frac{6+5-2}{6 \times 5}} \\ &\quad + (2^{n+2} - 6) \sqrt{\frac{5+5-2}{5 \times 5}}. \end{aligned}$$

After an easy simplification, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 ABC_4(D_1[n]) &= 2^{n+2} \left( \frac{\sqrt{35} + \sqrt{30} + 4\sqrt{2}}{10} + \frac{14\sqrt{6} + 16\sqrt{14} + \sqrt{728}}{56} \right) + 2^n \left( \frac{3 + \sqrt{10}}{3} \right) \\
 &\quad - \left( \frac{6 + 2\sqrt{10}}{6} + \frac{4\sqrt{30} + 24\sqrt{2}}{10} + \frac{\sqrt{728} + 16\sqrt{14}}{14} \right) \\
 &= \frac{4355257157954373 \times 2^{n+2}}{1125899906842624} + \frac{4625405229014641 \times 2^n}{2251799813685248} \\
 &\quad - \frac{3896323959238067}{281474976710656},
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the theorem.

**Theorem 6.** The fifth geometric-arithmetic index of  $D_1[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  is computed as follows:

$$GA_5(D_1[n]) = \frac{2238947875180617 \times 2^{n+2}}{281474976710656} - \frac{3636956611970403}{140737488355328}.$$

**Proof.** By using definition of  $GA_5$  index and Table 2, one can see that:

$$\begin{aligned}
 GA_5(D_1[n]) &= \sum_{uv \in E(D_1[n])} \frac{2\sqrt{S_u S_v}}{S_u + S_v} \\
 &= 2^{n+2} \frac{2\sqrt{4 \times 4}}{4+4} + 2^{n+2} \frac{2\sqrt{5 \times 4}}{5+4} + (2^{n+3} - 8) \frac{2\sqrt{7 \times 5}}{7+5} + (2^{n+2} - 4) \frac{2\sqrt{7 \times 8}}{7+8} \\
 &\quad + (2^{n+1} - 2) \frac{2\sqrt{8 \times 6}}{8+6} + (2^{n+1} - 2) \frac{2\sqrt{6 \times 6}}{6+6} + (2^{n+2} - 4) \frac{2\sqrt{6 \times 5}}{6+5} + (2^{n+2} - 6) \frac{2\sqrt{5 \times 5}}{5+5}.
 \end{aligned}$$

After a bit calculation, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 GA_5(D_1[n]) &= 2^{n+2} \left( \frac{4\sqrt{5} + 3\sqrt{35}}{9} + \frac{75 + 8\sqrt{14}}{30} + \frac{22\sqrt{3} + 14\sqrt{30}}{77} \right) \\
 &\quad - \left( \frac{120 + 20\sqrt{35} + 16\sqrt{14}}{15} + \frac{88\sqrt{3} + 56\sqrt{30}}{77} \right) \\
 &= \frac{2238947875180617 \times 2^{n+2}}{281474976710656} - \frac{3636956611970403}{140737488355328},
 \end{aligned}$$

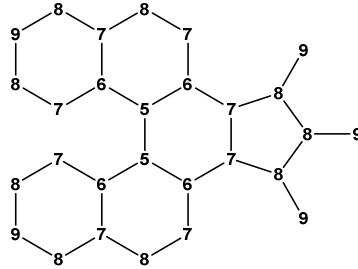
that proves our theorem.



**Example 7.** We consider now the second kind of nanostar dendrimer, with the grown 1 – 3 steps denoted by  $D_2[n]$  for  $n = 1, 2, 3$ .

Obviously, for  $n = 1$ ,  $|V| = 28$  and  $|E| = 33$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

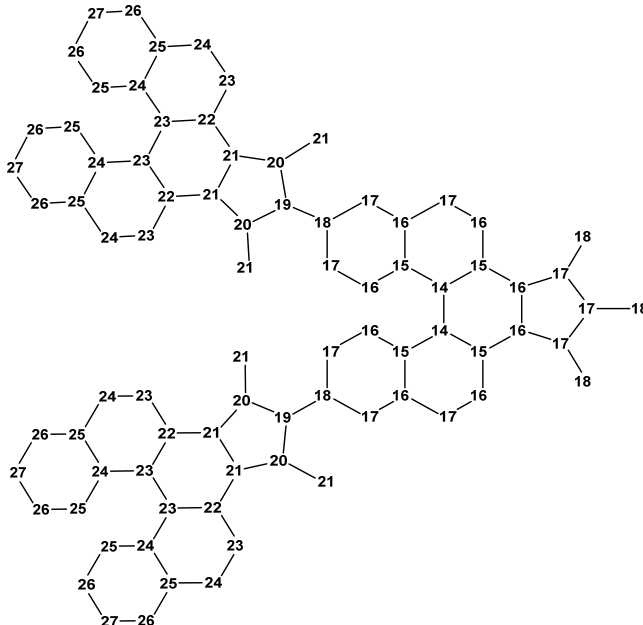
$$\xi^c(D_2[1], x) = 7x^9 + 21x^8 + 20x^7 + 12x^6 + 6x^5.$$



**Figure 5.** The molecular graph of  $D_2[n]$  for  $n = 1$ .

For  $n = 2$ ,  $|V| = 82$  and  $|E| = 99$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

$$\xi^c(D_2[2], x) = 8x^{27} + 16x^{26} + 20x^{25} + 20x^{24} + 20x^{23} + 12x^{22} + 16x^{21} + 12x^{20} + 6x^{19} + 9x^{18} + 21x^{17} + 20x^{16} + 12x^{15} + 6x^{14}.$$



**Figure 6.** The molecular graph of  $D_2[n]$  for  $n = 2$ .

Also, for  $n = 3$ ,  $|V| = 190$  and  $|E| = 231$ . The eccentric-connectivity polynomial is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_2[3], x) = & 16x^{45} + 32x^{44} + 40x^{43} + 40x^{42} + 40x^{41} + 24x^{40} + 32x^{39} \\ & + 24x^{38} + 12x^{37} + 12x^{36} + 16x^{35} + 20x^{34} + 20x^{33} + 20x^{32} \\ & + 12x^{31} + 16x^{30} + 12x^{29} + 6x^{28} + 9x^{27} + 21x^{26} + 20x^{25} \\ & + 12x^{24} + 6x^{23}. \end{aligned}$$

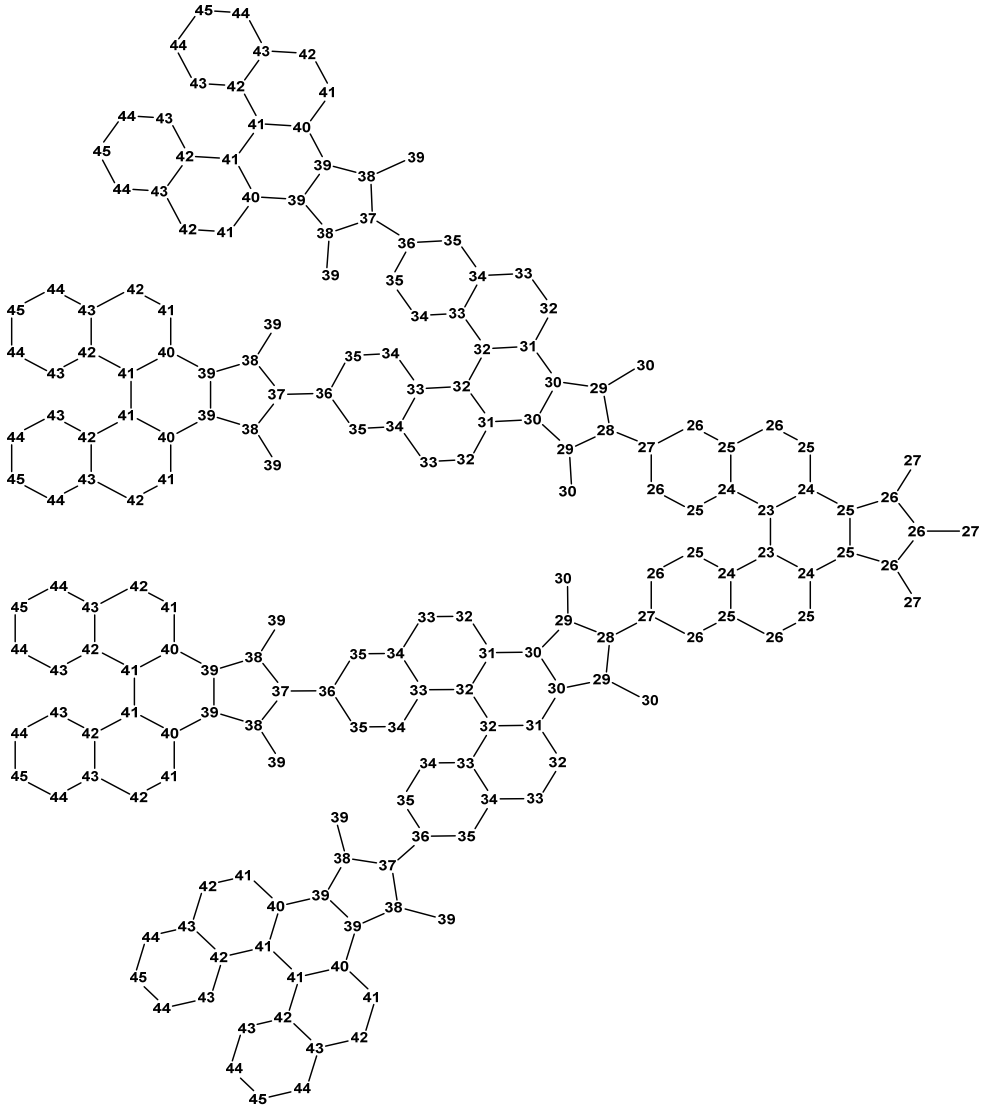


Figure 7. The molecular graph of  $D_2[n]$  for  $n = 3$ .

Similar to the proof of Theorem 2, we can prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 8.** The eccentric-connectivity polynomial of the nanostar dendrimer  $D_2[n]$  for  $n \geq 3$  is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_2[n], x) &= 2^{n+1} x^{18n-9} + 9x^{9n} + 21x^{9n-1} + 20x^{9n-2} + 12x^{9n-3} + 6x^{9n-4} \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} 2^k (8x^{9(n+k)-1} + 10x^{9(n+k)-2} + 10x^{9(n+k)-3} + 10x^{9(n+k)-4} \\ &+ 6x^{9(n+k)-5} + 8x^{9(n+k)-6} + 6x^{9(n+k)-7} + 3x^{9(n+k)-8}) \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{n-2} 2^k (6x^{9(n+k)}) \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** Using a simple calculation, one can show that  $|V(D_2[n])| = 27 \times 2^n - 26$  and  $|E(D_2[n])| = 33 \times 2^n - 33$ . For  $u \in V(D_2[n])$ , we have  $d(D_2[n]) = 18n - 9$  and  $r(D_2[n]) = 9n - 4$ . By considering the general form of this second nanostar dendrimer, we can fill the Table 3. By using data in this table the proof is straightforward.

**Table 3.** The representatives of vertices of  $D_2[n]$  with their degree, eccentricity and frequency of occurrence, for  $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$  and  $n \geq 3$ .

Vertex type	Degree	Eccentricity	Frequency
1	2	$18n - 9$	$2^n$
2	3	$9n$	2
3	1	$9n$	3
4	3	$9n - 1$	3
5	2	$9n - 1$	6
6	3	$9n - 2$	4
7	2	$9n - 2$	4
8	3	$9n - 3$	4
9	3	$9n - 4$	2
10	2	$9n + 9k - 1$	$2^{k+2}$
11	3	$9n + 9k - 2$	$2^{k+1}$
12	2	$9n + 9k - 2$	$2^{k+1}$
13	3	$9n + 9k - 3$	$2^{k+1}$
14	2	$9n + 9k - 3$	$2^{k+1}$
15	3	$9n + 9k - 4$	$2^{k+1}$
16	2	$9n + 9k - 4$	$2^{k+1}$
17	3	$9n + 9k - 5$	$2^{k+1}$

Vertex type	Degree	Eccentricity	Frequency
18	3	$9n + 9k - 6$	$2^{k+1}$
19	1	$9n + 9k - 6$	$2^{k+1}$
20	3	$9n + 9k - 7$	$2^{k+1}$
21	3	$9n + 9k - 8$	$2^k$
22	3	$\sum_{k=1}^{n-2} 9n + 9k$	$\sum_{k=1}^{n-2} 2^{k+1}$

By Table 3 and some simple calculations by MATLAB, we can prove the following theorem:

**Theorem 9.** The eccentric-connectivity index and total eccentricity index of  $D_2[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  are computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \xi^c(D_2[n]) &= 2^n(1188n - 1439) - 594n + 1569, \\ \theta(D_2[n]) &= 2^n(486n - 582) - 234n + 633. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 10.** The fourth atom-bond connectivity index and fifth geometric-arithmetic index of  $D_2[n]$  for  $n \geq 1$  are computed as:

$$\begin{aligned} GA_5(D_2[n]) &= \frac{286724064989901 \times 2^n}{8796093022208} - \frac{2298465931078229}{70368744177664}, \\ ABC_4(D_2[n]) &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}(3 \times 2^n - 4)}{5} + \frac{1072236973249725 \times 2^n}{70368744177664} - \frac{251086321269759}{17592186044416}. \end{aligned}$$

**Proof.** These results are proven like Theorem 5 and Theorem 6 therefore, we omit the proofs.

**Table 4.** The edge partition of  $D_2[n]$  based on the degree sum of neighbors of the end vertices of each edge.

$(S_u, S_v)$ $uv \in E(D_2[n])$	No. edges	$(S_u, S_v)$ $uv \in E(D_2[n])$	No. edges
(3,7)	$2^{n+1} - 1$	(5,5)	$3 \times 2^n - 4$
(7,7)	2	(5,7)	$4(2^n - 1)$
(7,9)	$5(2^n) - 8$	(4,5)	$2^{n+1}$
(9,9)	$2^{n+1} - 2$	(4,4)	$2^n$
(9,8)	$6(2^n - 1)$	(7,8)	$2^{n+1} - 2$
(8,5)	$4(2^n - 1)$	(6,7)	$4(2^{n-1} - 1)$

## CONCLUSIONS

Among topological descriptors, topological indices are very important and they play a prominent role in Mathematical Chemistry. In this paper, we studied the nanostar dendrimers. As main results, we derived exact formulas for the eccentric-connectivity index, total eccentricity index, fourth version of atom-bond connectivity index and fifth version of geometric-arithmetic index of two types of nanostar dendrimers.

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