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*Research article*

## Uniquely identifying vertices and edges of a heptagonal snake graph using distance formulas

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**Abstract:** Consider a city with a network of roads where surveillance cameras are positioned at key intersections. To uniquely determine the position of any car, the minimal number of cameras needed is determined by using the metric dimension of the network. Similarly, if we desire to differentiate each individual road segment using cameras, we depend on the edge metric dimension. These concepts are essential in applications such as transportation planning, autonomous navigation and network monitoring. Let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a connected graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ , a subset  $R \subseteq V(G)$  is called a resolving set, if each vertex of  $G$  has unique distance with respect to  $R$ . The cardinality of the smallest resolving set is called the metric dimension, denoted as  $\dim(G)$ . Similarly, a set of vertices  $R \subseteq V(G)$  is called an edge resolving set if for every pair of distinct edges  $e_1, e_2 \in E(G)$ , there exists a vertex  $v \in R$  such that  $d(e_1, v) \neq d(e_2, v)$ , where  $d(e, v)$  is defined as  $d(e = uv, v) = \min\{d(u, v), d(w, v)\}$ . The edge metric dimension is defined as the number of elements in the smallest edge resolving set. Finding these dimensions is an NP-hard problem, making efficient computations precious. In this article, we explored the metric dimension, edge metric dimension, partition dimension and edge partition dimension of the heptagonal snake graph ( $HPS_k$ ).

**Keywords:** metric dimension; resolving set; edge metric dimension; edge resolving set; partition dimension; partition resolving set; edge partition dimension; edge partition resolving set; heptagonal snake graph

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 05C12, 05C90

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## 1. Introduction

Graph theory is a branch of discrete mathematics that focuses on the studies of structures (*graphs*), which are composed of nodes (also called vertices) and edges (also called links) connecting them. Formally, a graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  consists of a set  $V(G)$  of nodes (*vertices*) and a set  $E(G)$  of edges (*links*), in which each edge represents a relationship between two nodes. One of the key concepts in graph theory is distance, which measures how far apart two elements are within the graph. The distance between two nodes  $u$  and  $w$ , denoted as  $d(u, w)$ , is the length of the shortest path connecting nodes  $p$  and  $q$ , where the length is determined by the number of edges or weighted values if the graph is weighted. Similarly, the distance between an edge and a node is defined as the shortest distance from the vertex to any point on the edge, often calculated as the minimum of the distances between the node and the edge's endpoints. Formally, the distance between an edge  $e = uw$  and a node  $p$ , denoted  $d(e, p)$ , is defined as the minimum of the distances from the endpoints of the edge to the node, mathematically defined as  $d(e = uw, p) = \min\{d(u, p), d(w, p)\}$ , where  $u$  and  $w$  are the endpoints of the edge  $e$ . Graph theory relies heavily on distance, which is useful in centrality measurements, clustering and shortest path algorithms, as well as determining the efficiency of network connections. It finds extensive usage in contexts where maximizing distance may result in reduced costs and enhanced performance, including communication systems, transportation networks and social networks [1]. Graph theory performs a vital role in numerous fields [2], including social sciences (modeling relationships and influence in social networks) [3], biology (analyzing molecular structures and ecological networks) [4] and computer science (network routing and data structures) [5]. Its capability to model complicated structures and optimize solutions makes it an essential tool in both theoretical studies and real-world applications. Application of graph theory in other areas such as transmission networks, communication network design, computing systems and distributive architectures are present in [6–8]. Applications of graph theory in architectures are explored in [9]. Abbreviations used in our article are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1.** List of abbreviations.

Abbreviation	Full term
<i>iff</i>	if and only if
<i>RS</i>	Resolving set
<i>MD</i>	Metric dimension
<i>ERS</i>	Edge resolving set
<i>EMD</i>	Edge metric dimension
<i>PRS</i>	Partition resolving set
<i>PD</i>	Partition dimension
<i>EPRS</i>	Edge partition resolving set
<i>EPD</i>	Edge partition dimension
<i>HPS<sub>k</sub></i>	Heptagonal snake graph

In graph theory, the concept of a resolving set (*RS*) was first introduced by Slater in 1975 [10, 11]. Harary and Melter independently studied the same concept under the name “location number” in 1976, focusing on applications in network location problems [12]. An *RS* is a subset of vertices that uniquely determines the position of each vertex in the graph based on distances. Formally, given a connected

graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$ , a subset  $R \subseteq V(G)$  is called an *RS* if, for every pair of different vertices  $u, w \in V(G)$ , there exists at least one vertex  $s \in R$  such that  $d(s, u) \neq d(s, w)$ . This ensures that every vertex within the graph has a unique distance-based representation with respect to  $R$ . The metric dimension (*MD*) of a graph is denoted as  $dim(G)$  and is defined as the minimum number of vertices required to resolve the vertex set of the graph. The concepts of resolving sets play an important role in numerous applications, including chemistry (for molecular structure identification), in robotics, where they assist in robot positioning and mapping of environments, as well as network topology, where they help in efficient navigation and localization of nodes. Additionally, they are used in combinatorial optimization and even in cybersecurity for detecting anomalies in network structures. Understanding resolving sets helps in optimizing various processes where precise identification of elements in a network is necessary. The importance of observability in high-dimensional systems has been explored in various contexts, such as in sensor selection for swarm systems [13].

The concept of an edge resolving set (*ERS*) was introduced by Kelenc et al. in 2018 as an extension of the classical concept of an *RS* in graph theory. While the concept of resolving sets focuses on uniquely identifying vertices of the graph, the *ERS* shifts this perspective to edges, ensuring that each edge of the graph has a unique distance-based representation with respect to a selected subset of vertices. Formally, a set of vertices  $R \subseteq V(G)$  is called an *ERS* if for every pair of distinct edges  $e_1, e_2 \in E(G)$ , there exists a vertex  $v \in R$  such that  $d(e_1, v) \neq d(e_2, v)$ , where  $d(e, v)$  is defined as  $d(e = uv, v) = \min\{d(u, v), d(w, v)\}$ . The edge metric dimension (*EMD*) of a graph  $G$  is denoted as  $edim(G)$  and defined as the smallest cardinality of the *ERS* [14]. The concept of an *ERS* plays a crucial role in biological networks where it aids in understanding structural properties of molecular graphs, in transportation systems for optimizing routes and identifying critical pathways and in network security by enhancing fault detection and monitoring. The *MD* of the line graph and subdivision of line graphs are explored in [15]. The *MD* and *EMD* of the starphene graph and applications of *MD* and *EMD* of the starphene graph in electronics are discussed in [16]. The *MD* and *EMD* of the Jahangir graph and heptagonal circular ladder graphs are discussed in [17, 18]. NP-hardness and computational complexity of the resolvability parameters are explored in [19–21]. The researchers are motivated by numerous practical applications of the *MD* in daily life, which has been the subject of extensive research. The *MD* is extensively employed in a variety of scientific disciplines, including computer networks [22], robot navigation [23], location problems, sonar and coastguard Loran [10], pharmaceutical chemistry [20], combinatorial optimization [24], weighing problems [25], and image processing. For additional information, we refer the reader to [26, 27]. The partition dimension (*PD*) also has a wide range of real-world applications, including the popular Djokovic-Winkler relation [28], the procedure of verifying and discovering a network [29] and strategy, decoding and coding of mastermind games [30]. There are numerous applications to investigate, and we recommend exploring [12, 20, 31]. Applications of *MD* in digital geometry are discussed in [32, 33]. To explore more results on *MD* and *EMD* of different structures, see Table 2 below.

In graph theory, a partition resolving set (*PRS*) in a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a partition of the vertex set  $V$  that uniquely identifies every vertex based on its distances to these partitions. Formally, let  $\Phi = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k\}$  be a partition of  $V$ . The distance vector of a vertex  $m \in V$  with respect to  $\Phi$  is defined as  $r(m|\Phi) = (d(m, X_1), d(m, X_2), \dots, d(m, X_k))$ , where  $d(m, X_i) = \min\{d(m, x) | x \in X_i\}$  represents the shortest distance from  $m$  to any vertex in  $X_i$ . The partition  $\Phi$  is referred to as a *PRS* if each vertex in  $G$  has a unique distance vector, ensuring that for any two different vertices  $m, n \in V$ ,

we have  $r(m|\Phi) \neq (n|\Phi)$ . The number of elements in the smallest *PRS* is called the *PD*, denoted as  $pdim(G)$  [19]. *PRS*s have numerous applications in different areas. In robotics and navigation, it helps in localization and path planning. In network topology, it is used to identify nodes and optimize routing uniquely. It also has applications in chemistry, molecular chemistry and transportation networks for efficient monitoring, identification and resource optimization.

**Table 2.** Metric dimension and edge metric dimension of various structures.

Structures	References
Nanotube	Sikander [34]
Cellulose network	Imran [35]
Kayak paddle graph	Ahmad [36]
Starphene structure	Ahmad [16]
Convex polytopes	Imran [37]
Hypercube	Beardon [38]
Crystal cubic carbon structure	Zhang [39]
1-Pentagonal carbon nanocone networks	Hussaini [40]
H-Naphtalenic and <i>VC5C7</i> nanotube networks	Siddiqui [41]
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons structure	Azeem [42]
Convex polytopes structure	Ahsan [43]
k-Multiwheel graph	Bataineh [44]
Families of trees	Adawiyah [45]
Generalized Petersen graphs	Kartelj [46]
Windmill graphs	Sharma [47]
Möbius networks	Nadeem [48]
Patched network	Bukhari [49]

The idea of an edge partition resolving set (*EPRS*) is a generalization of the *PRS* idea, applied to edges rather than vertices. Given a linked graph  $G = (V, E)$ , an edge partition  $\Phi = \{Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_k\}$  is a partition of the vertex set  $V$  into disjoint subsets. For each edge  $e \in E$ , the distance vector with respect to  $\Phi$  is described as  $r(e|\Phi) = (d(e, Y_1), d(e, Y_2), \dots, d(e, Y_k))$ , where  $d(e, Y_i) = \min\{d(e, s) | s \in Y_i\}$  represents the shortest distance from edge  $e$  to any vertex in  $Y_i$ . The partition  $\Phi$  is referred to as an *EPRS* if every edge in  $G$  has a unique distance vector, ensuring that for any two different edges  $e_1, e_2 \in E$ , we have  $r(e_1|\Phi) \neq (e_2|\Phi)$ . The *EPD* of  $G$  is denoted as  $epdim(G)$  and defined as the smallest cardinality *EPRS* [50]. The concept of *EPRS* has applications in transportation systems, network design and fault-tolerant communication, where distinguishing edges efficiently can enhance connectivity and optimization techniques. Distance-based parameters in graph theory, such as *MD* and its variants, play a crucial role in broader topics like observability, fault-tolerant detection and dynamic networks. In observability, these parameters help determine the minimum number of nodes required to uniquely identify the state of a system. For fault-tolerant detection, they ensure that even with node or link failures, critical information about network states can still be recovered. In dynamic networks, distance-based measures support efficient tracking and adaptation by providing compact yet informative node representations, enhancing real-time monitoring and control. To explore other parameters of resolvability, see Table 3.

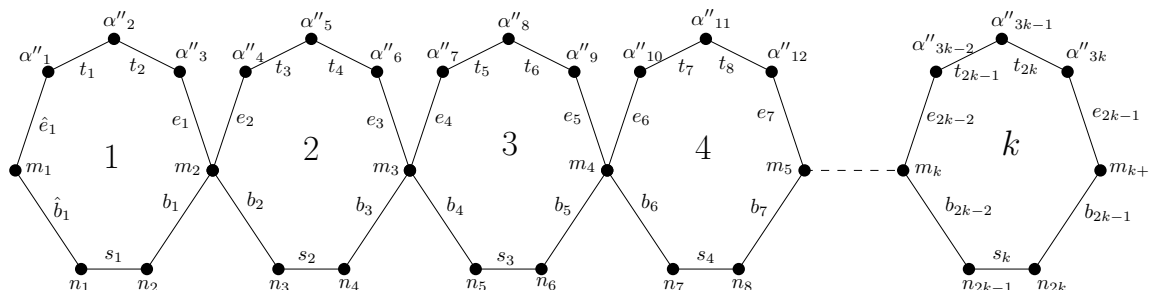
**Table 3.** Parameters of resolvability.

Parameters of resolvability	References
Local metric dimension	Okamoto et al. [51]
Local edge metric dimension	Adawiyah et al. [52]
Dominant metric dimension	Susilowati et al. [53]
Dominant edge metric dimension	Siddiqui et al. [54]
Dominant mixed metric dimension	Alfarisi et al. [55]
Multiset dimension	Vetrik et al. [56]
Local multiset dimension	Dafik et al. [57]
Fractional metric dimension	Mathew et al. [58]
Local fractional metric dimension	Benish et al. [59]
Strong metric dimension	Oellermann et al. [60]
Fractional strong metric dimension	E. Yi et al. [61]

## 2. Main results

In the section, we compute the  $MD$ ,  $EMD$ ,  $PD$  and edge partition dimension ( $EPD$ ) of the heptagonal snake graph ( $HPS_k$ ).

In Figure 1, the graph is a heptagonal snake graph. The heptagonal graph is represented by  $HPS_k$ , where  $k \geq 1$  (see Figure 1). In  $HPS_k$ , the number of 2-degree and 4-degree vertices are  $6k$ ,  $k - 1$ , respectively.

**Figure 1.** Heptagonal snake graph  $HPS_k$ .

The vertex and edge set of the  $HPS_k$  are given below:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(HPS_k) &= \{\alpha''_i; 1 \leq i \leq 3k\} \cup \{m_i; 1 \leq i \leq k+1\} \cup \{n_i; 1 \leq i \leq 2k\}, \\
 E(HPS_k) &= \{\alpha''_i \alpha''_{i+1} = t_i; 1 \leq i \leq 2k\} \cup \{n_i n_{i+1} = s_i; 1 \leq i \leq k\} \\
 &\quad \cup \{\alpha''_i m_i = \hat{e}_i; i = 1\} \cup \{m_i n_i = \hat{b}_i; i = 1\} \\
 &\quad \cup \{\alpha''_i m_j = e_p; i = 3, 6, 9, \dots, 3k; 2 \leq j \leq k+1; p = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1\} \\
 &\quad \cup \{\alpha''_i m_j = e_p; i = 4, 7, 10, \dots, 3k-2; 2 \leq j \leq k; p = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k-2; k \geq 2\} \\
 &\quad \cup \{n_i m_j = b_p; i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k; 2 \leq j \leq k+1; p = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1\} \\
 &\quad \cup \{n_i m_j = b_p; i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1; 2 \leq j \leq k; p = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k-2; k \geq 2\}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The order and size of the  $HPS_k$  are given below:

$$|V(HPS_k)| = 6k + 1, \quad |E(HPS_k)| = 7k.$$

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $HPS_k$  be the graph of the heptagonal snake graph with  $k \geq 2$ . Then,  $\dim(HPS_k) = 2$ .

*Proof.* To prove that the MD of the  $HPS_k$  is 2, let  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$  be a proper subset of the vertex set of the  $HPS_k$ . To show that  $R$  is the RS of the heptagonal snake graph, we will show that each vertex of the vertex set of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$ . The distance formulas below show the unique representation of each vertex of the heptagonal snake graph with respect to  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} r(\alpha''_i | m_1) &= i, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 3k, \\ r(m_i | m_1) &= 3i - 3, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1, \\ r(n_i | m_1) &= \begin{cases} \frac{3i-1}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1, \\ \frac{3i-2}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, \end{cases} \\ r(\alpha''_i | m_{k+1}) &= -i + 3k + 1, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 3k, \\ r(m_i | m_{k+1}) &= -3i + 3k + 3, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1, \\ r(n_i | m_{k+1}) &= \begin{cases} \frac{-3i+6k+1}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1, \\ \frac{-3i+6k+2}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $s$  and  $s'$  be two arbitrary vertices of  $HPS_k$ , and  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\} \subseteq V(HPS_k)$ . To show that  $R$  uniquely represents vertices of the  $HPS_k$ , we have the following cases.

**Case 1:** Let  $s$  and  $s'$  be two vertices of the  $HPS_k$ . If  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , then  $s = s'$ .

**Subcase 1:** Let  $s = \{\alpha''_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 3k$ , and let  $s' = \{\alpha''_{i'}\}$ ,  $1 \leq i' \leq 3k$ . Then the distances of  $s$  and  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = i$ ,  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = -i + 3k + 1$ ,  $d(s', m_1) = i'$  and  $d(s', m_{k+1}) = -i' + 3k + 1$ . Since we take  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $i = i'$  and  $-i + 3k + 1 = -i' + 3k + 1$ . By solving two equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $s = s'$ .

**Subcase 2:** Let  $s = \{m_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$ , and let  $s' = \{m_{i'}\}$ ,  $1 \leq i' \leq k + 1$ . Then the distances of  $s$  and  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = 3i - 3$ ,  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = -3i + 3k + 3$ ,  $d(s', m_1) = 3i' - 3$  and  $d(s', m_{k+1}) = -3i' + 3k + 3$ . Since we take  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $3i - 3 = 3i' - 3$  and  $-3i + 3k + 3 = -3i' + 3k + 3$ . By solve  $3i - 3 = 3i' - 3$ , we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $s = s'$ .

**Subcase 3:** Let  $s = \{n_i\}$ ,  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k - 1$ , and let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k - 1$ . Then the distances of  $s$  and  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ ,  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = \frac{-3i+6k+1}{2}$ ,  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_{k+1}) = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $\frac{-3i+6k+1}{2} = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . By solving two equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $s = s'$ .

**Subcase 4:** Let  $s = \{n_i\}$ ,  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k$ , and let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k$ . Then the distances of  $s$  and  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = \frac{3i-2}{2}$ ,  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = \frac{-3i+6k+2}{2}$ ,  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_{k+1}) = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-2}{2} = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $\frac{-3i+6k+2}{2} = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $s = s'$ .

**Subcase 5:** Let  $s = \{\alpha''_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 3k$ , and then the distances of  $s$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = i$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = -i + 3k + 1$ . Let  $s' = \{m_{i'}\}$ ,  $1 \leq i' \leq k + 1$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s', m_1) = 3i' - 3$  and  $d(s', m_{k+1}) = -3i' + 3k + 3$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ ,

therefore,  $i = 3i' - 3$  and  $-i + 3k + 1 = -3i' + 3k + 3$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $i' = \frac{-1}{6}$ . As  $i$  and  $i'$  are integers, this case is impossible. Hence,  $d(s, m_1) \neq d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) \neq d(s', m_{k+1})$ .

**Subcase 6:** Let  $s = \{\alpha''_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 3k$ , and then the distances of  $s$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = i$  and  $d(s, m_k + 1) = -i + 3k + 1$ . Let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k - 1$ , and then the distances of  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_k + 1) = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $i = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $-i + 3k + 1 = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $-1 = 0$ . This case is impossible.

**Subcase 7:** Let  $s = \{\alpha''_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 3k$ , and then the distances of  $s$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = i$  and  $d(s, m_k + 1) = -i + 3k + 1$ . Let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k$ , and then the distances of  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_k + 1) = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $i = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $-i + 3k + 1 = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $-1 = 0$ . This case is impossible.

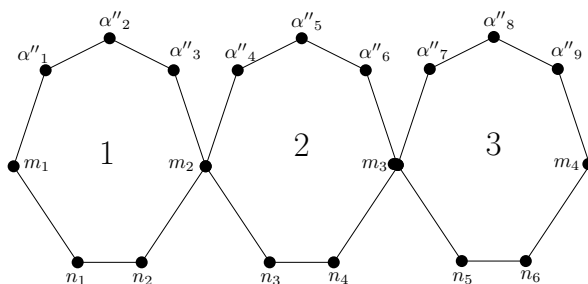
**Subcase 8:** Let  $s = \{m_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$ , and then the distances of  $s$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = 3i - 3$  and  $d(s, m_k + 1) = -3i + 3k + 3$ . Let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k$ , and then the distances of  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_k + 1) = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $3i - 3 = \frac{3i'-2}{2}$  and  $-3i + 3k + 3 = \frac{-3i'+6k+2}{2}$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $i' = 2i - \frac{4}{3}$ . This case is impossible.

**Subcase 9:** Let  $s = \{m_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$ , and then the distances of  $s$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s, m_1) = 3i - 3$  and  $d(s, m_k + 1) = -3i + 3k + 3$ . Let  $s' = \{n_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k - 1$ , and then the distances of  $s'$  with respect to  $R$  are  $d(s', m_1) = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $d(s', m_k + 1) = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(s, m_1) = d(s', m_1)$  and  $d(s, m_{k+1}) = d(s', m_{k+1})$ , therefore,  $3i - 3 = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$  and  $-3i + 3k + 3 = \frac{-3i'+6k+1}{2}$ . By solving two linear equations, we get  $i' = 2i - \frac{5}{3}$ . This case is impossible.

From the above cases, we showed that each vertex of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R$ . Therefore,  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$  is the  $RS$  of the  $HPS_k$ . Hence, the  $RS$  of the  $HPS_k$  is 2, which means  $\dim(HPS_k) \leq 2$ . Now to show that  $\dim(HPS_k) \geq 2$ , let the  $MD$  of the heptagonal snake graph be 1. Harary and Melter [12] showed that  $\dim(G) = 1$ , iff  $G = P_n$ , which contradicts our assumption. Therefore,  $R = \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$  is the smallest cardinality  $RS$  of the  $HPS_k$ .

Hence, the outcome is  $\dim(HPS_k) = 2$ .

The unique distances of the vertices of  $HPS_3$  (see Figure 2) are presented in Table 4.



**Figure 2.** Heptagonal snake graph  $HPS_3$ .

**Table 4.** Unique representation of vertices of  $HPS_3$  with respect to  $R = \{m_1, m_4\}$ .

Vertices	$m_1$	$m_4$
$\alpha''_1$	1	9
$\alpha''_2$	2	8
$\alpha''_3$	3	7
$\alpha''_4$	4	6
$\alpha''_5$	5	5
$\alpha''_6$	6	4
$\alpha''_7$	7	3
$\alpha''_8$	8	2
$\alpha''_9$	9	1
$m_1$	0	9
$m_2$	3	6
$m_3$	6	3
$m_4$	9	0
$n_1$	1	8
$n_2$	2	7
$n_3$	4	5
$n_4$	5	4
$n_5$	7	2
$n_6$	8	1

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $HPS_k$  be the graph of the heptagonal snake graph with  $k = 2$ . Then,  $\text{edim}(HPS_k) = 3$ .

*Proof.* To prove that the  $EMD$  of the  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$  is 3, let  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$  be a proper subset of the vertex set of the  $HPS_k$ . To show that  $R$  is the  $ERS$  of the  $HPS_k$ , for this we will show that each edge of the edge set of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$ . The following are unique distances of the edges of the  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$  with respect to  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$ .

$$r(t_i|\alpha''_1) = \begin{cases} 2i - 2, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ 2i - 3, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, \end{cases}$$

$$r(b_i|\alpha''_1) = \begin{cases} i + 2, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ i + 1, & \text{for } i = 2, \end{cases}$$

$$r(\hat{b}_i|\alpha''_1) = i, \text{ for } i = 1,$$

$$r(\hat{e}_i|\alpha''_1) = i - 1, \text{ for } i = 1,$$

$$r(s_i|\alpha''_1) = 3i - 1, \text{ for } i = 1, 2,$$

$$r(t_i|\alpha''_4) = \begin{cases} \frac{-3i+9}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ \frac{-i+6}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, \end{cases}$$

$$r(b_i|\alpha''_4) = \begin{cases} i, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ i, & \text{for } i = 2, \end{cases}$$

$$r(\hat{b}_i|\alpha''_4) = i + 2, \text{ for } i = 1,$$

$$r(\hat{e}_i|\alpha''_4) = i + 3, \text{ for } i = 1,$$



$$\begin{aligned} r(s_i|\alpha''_4) &= i, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \\ r(t_i|n_3) &= \begin{cases} \frac{-i+7}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ \frac{i+2}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, \end{cases} \\ r(b_i|n_3) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, \\ 0, & \text{for } i = 2, \end{cases} \\ r(\hat{b}_i|n_3) &= i + 2, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\ r(\hat{e}_i|n_3) &= i + 3, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\ r(s_i|n_3) &= -2i + 4, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2. \end{aligned}$$

From the above distance formulas, we will show that each edge of the  $HPS_k$  has unique distance with respect to  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$ . Therefore,  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$  is the  $ERS$  of the  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$ . Hence, the cardinality of the  $ERS$  of the  $HPS_k$  is 3, which means  $edim(HPS_k) \leq 3$ . Now to show that  $dim(DSC_m) \geq 3$ , let the  $EMD$  of the heptagonal snake graph be 2. Then we have the following contrary cases.

**Case 1:** Let  $R' = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_2, \alpha''_3, m_1, m_2, n_1, n_2\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R'$ , then  $r(e_7|R) = r(b_7|R)$ , which contradicts our assumption.

**Case 2:** Let  $R'' = \{\alpha''_4, \alpha''_5, \alpha''_6, m_2, m_3, n_3, n_4\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(e_1|R) = r(b_1|R)$ , which contradicts our assumption.

**Case 3:** Let  $R'' = \{\alpha''_i, \alpha''_4, \alpha''_5, \alpha''_6\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , where  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(b_1|R) = r(b_2|R)$ .

**Case 4:** Let  $R'' = \{\alpha''_i, n_3, n_4, m_3\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , where  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(b_1|R) = r(e_2|R)$ .

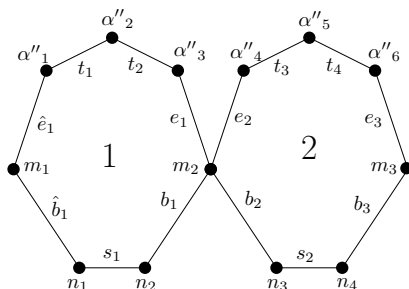
**Case 5:** Let  $R'' = \{n_i, \alpha''_4, \alpha''_5, \alpha''_6\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(b_2|R) = r(e_2|R)$ .

**Case 6:** Let  $R'' = \{n_i, n_3, n_4, m_3\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , where  $i = 1, 2$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(e_1|R) = r(e_2|R)$ .

**Case 7:** Let  $R'' = \{m_1, \alpha''_4, \alpha''_5, \alpha''_6\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(b_2|R) = r(e_1|R)$ .

**Case 8:** Let  $R'' = \{m_1, n_3, n_4, m_3\} \subseteq V(HPS_2)$ , and if we take any subset of cardinality 2 from  $R''$ , then  $r(e_1|R) = r(e_2|R)$ .

The above cases contradicts our assumption. Therefore,  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$  is the smallest cardinality  $ERS$  of  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$ . Hence, the outcome is  $edim(HPS_k) = 3$ . The unique representation of edges of  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$  (Figure 3) are presented in Table 5.  $\square$



**Figure 3.** Heptagonal snake graph  $HPS_2$ .

**Table 5.** The unique distances of edges of the  $HPS_k$  for  $k = 2$  with respect to  $R = \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, n_3\}$ .

Edges	$m_1$	$m_4$	$n_3$
$t_1$	0	3	3
$t_2$	1	2	2
$t_3$	4	0	2
$t_4$	5	1	3
$b_1$	3	1	1
$b_2$	3	1	0
$b_3$	5	3	1
$e_1$	2	1	1
$e_2$	3	0	1
$e_3$	6	2	2
$s_1$	2	2	2
$s_2$	4	2	2
$\hat{e}_1$	0	4	4
$\hat{b}_1$	1	3	3

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $HPS_k$  be the graph of the heptagonal snake graph with  $k \geq 3$ . Then,  $\text{edim}(HPS_k) = k$ .

*Proof.* To prove that the  $EMD$  of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k$ , let  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k - 2\}$  be a proper subset of the vertex set  $V(HPS_k)$  of the  $HPS_k$ . To show that  $R_e$  is the  $ERS$  of the  $HPS_k$ , we will show that each edge of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k - 2\}$ . The following are the generalized unique representations of each edge of  $HPS_k$  with respect to  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k - 2\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 r(t_i|R_e) &= \begin{cases} (0, 3, 6, 9, \dots, 3k-3), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (1, 2, 5, 8, \dots, 3k-4), & \text{for } i = 2, \\ \left(\frac{3i}{2}-1, \frac{3i}{2}-4, \frac{3i}{2}-7, \dots, 8, 5, 1, \right. \\ \quad \left. 2, 5, 8, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2}+3k-4, \frac{-3i}{2}+3k-1\right), & \text{for } i = 4, 6, 8, \dots, 2k, \\ \left(\frac{3i-1}{2}, \frac{3i-1}{2}-3, \frac{3i-1}{2}-6, \dots, 10, 7, 4, \right. \\ \quad \left. 0, 3, 6, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-3}{2}\right), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \end{cases} \\
 r(e_i|R_e) &= \begin{cases} \left(\frac{3i}{2}, \frac{3i}{2}-3, \frac{3i}{2}-6, \dots, 6, 3, 0, \right. \\ \quad \left. 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2}+3k-5, \frac{-3i}{2}+3k-2\right), & \text{for } i = 4, 6, 8, \dots, 2k, \\ \left(\frac{3i+3}{2}, \frac{3i+3}{2}-3, \frac{3i+3}{2}-6, \dots, 6, 2, 1, \right. \\ \quad \left. 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-7}{2}\right), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \end{cases} \\
 r(\hat{e}_i|R_e) &= (0, 4, 7, 10, \dots, 3k-2), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\
 r(\hat{b}_i|R_e) &= (1, 3, 6, 9, \dots, 3k-3), \quad \text{for } i = 1,
 \end{aligned}$$

$$r(b_i|R_e) = \begin{cases} (3, 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k-5), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (\frac{2i+5}{3}, \frac{2i+5}{3}-3, \frac{2i+5}{3}-6, \dots, 3, 1), & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k-2, \\ 3, 6, 9, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2}+3k-3), & \\ (\frac{3i+1}{2}, \frac{3i+1}{2}-3, \frac{3i+1}{2}-6, \dots, 3, 1), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \\ 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-7}{2}), & \end{cases}$$

$$r(s_i|R_e) = \begin{cases} (2, 2, 5, 8, \dots, 3k-4), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (3i-2, 3i-5, 3i-8, \dots, 4, 2, 2, & \text{for } i = 2, 3, 4, \dots, k. \\ 5, 8, \dots, -3i+3k-4, -3i+3k-1), & \end{cases}$$

Let  $r$  and  $r'$  be two arbitrary edges of  $HPS_k$  and  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k-2\} \subseteq V(HPS_k)$ . To show that  $R_e$  uniquely represents edges of the  $HPS_k$ , then we have the following cases.

**Case 1:** Let  $r$  and  $r'$  be two edges of the  $HPS_k$ . If  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , then  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 1:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$  and let  $r' = \{t_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'}{2} - 1$ . Since we take  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{3i'}{2} - 1$ . By solving the linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 2:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k-1$  and let  $r' = \{t_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k-1$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$ . Since we take  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$ . By solving the linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 3:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$  and let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2}$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . By solving the linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 4:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k-1$  and let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k-1$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+3}{2}$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+3}{2} = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . By solving linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 5:** Let  $r = \{b_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k-2$  and let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k-2$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{2i+5}{3}$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{2i+5}{3} = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . By solving the linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 6:** Let  $r = \{b_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k-1$  and let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k-1$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+1}{2}$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+1}{2} = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving linear equations, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 7:** Let  $r = \{s_i\}$ ,  $i = k$  and let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = 3i-2$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i'-2$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $3i-2 = 3i'-2$ . By solving the linear equation, we get  $i = i'$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 8:** Let  $r = \{s_i\}$ ,  $i = 1$  and let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 1$ , and then the distances of  $r$  and  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  are  $d(r|R_e) = 3k-4$ ,  $d(r'|R_e) = 3k-4$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $3k-4 = 3k-4$ . As  $i = i' = 1$ . Hence,  $r = r'$ .

**Subcase 9:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{t_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k-1$ , and then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{3i'-1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are integers. Hence, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 10:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are

integers. Hence, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 11:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are integers. Hence, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 12:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers. Hence, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 13:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 2$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{4i'}{9} + \frac{10}{9}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers. Hence, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 14:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2} - 1$ . Let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i' - 2$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} - 1 = 3i' - 2$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = 2i' - \frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers. Hence, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 15:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{3i'}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 16:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{e_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{3i'+3}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{4}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 17:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 18:** Let  $r = \{t_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i-1}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 2$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i-1}{2} = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{4i'}{9} + \frac{7}{9}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 19:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case contradicts our assumption.

**Subcase 20:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 2$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{4i'}{9} + \frac{10}{9}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case contradicts our assumption.

**Subcase 21:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i' - 2$ . Since we consider

$d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i}{2} = 3i' - 2$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = 2i' - \frac{4}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 22:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+3}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 2$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+3}{2} = \frac{2i'+5}{3}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{4i'}{9} + \frac{1}{9}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case contradicts our supposition.

**Subcase 23:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+3}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+3}{2} = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = i' + \frac{2}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is not possible.

**Subcase 24:** Let  $r = \{e_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+3}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i' - 2$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+3}{2} = 3i' - 2$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = 2i' - \frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case contradicts our assumption.

**Subcase 25:** Let  $r = \{b_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 2$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{2i+5}{3}$ . Let  $r' = \{b_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = 2k - 1$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{2i+5}{3} = \frac{3i'+1}{2}$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{9i'}{4} - \frac{7}{4}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is impossible.

**Subcase 26:** Let  $r = \{b_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 2$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{2i+5}{3}$ . Let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i' - 2$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{2i+5}{3} = 3i' - 2$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = \frac{9i'}{2} - \frac{11}{2}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case contradicts our assumption.

**Subcase 27:** Let  $r = \{b_i\}$ ,  $i = 2k - 1$ , and then the distance of  $r$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r|R_e) = \frac{3i+1}{2}$ . Let  $r' = \{s_{i'}\}$ ,  $i' = k$ , then the distance of  $r'$  with respect to  $R_e$  is  $d(r'|R_e) = 3i' - 2$ . Since we consider  $d(r|R_e) = d(r'|R_e)$ , therefore,  $\frac{3i+1}{2} = 3i' - 2$ . By solving the equation we get  $i = 2i' - \frac{5}{3}$ . Since  $i$  and  $i'$  are positive integers, this case is not possible.

From above cases we showed that  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k - 2\}$  uniquely represents each edge of the  $HPS_k$ . Therefore,  $R_e$  is the *ERS* of the  $HPS_k$ . Hence, the cardinality of the *ERS* of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k$ . Now to prove that the *EMD* of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k$ , here, we use the double inequality method. The above generalized distance formulas show that  $\text{edim}(HPS_k) \leq k$ . Now to show that  $\text{edim}(HPS_k) \geq 2$ , let the *EMD* of the heptagonal snake graph is  $k - 1$ . Then we have the following contrary cases.

**Case 1:** Let  $R_{e_1} = \{\alpha''_i; i = 4, 7, 10, \dots, 3k - 2\}$  be a proper subset of vertex set of the  $HPS_k$ , and then  $|R_{e_1}| = k - 1$  but  $r(e_1|R_{e_1}) = r(b_1|R_{e_1})$ , which contradicts our assumption.

**Case 2:** Suppose  $R = R_e|\alpha''_i$ , where  $i = 4, 7, 10, \dots, 3k - 2$ , and then  $|R| = k - 1$  but  $r(e_{\frac{2i-2}{3}}|R) = r(b_{\frac{2i-5}{3}}|R)$ , which contradicts our assumption.

Therefore,  $R_e = \{\alpha''_i; i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k - 2\}$  is the smallest cardinality *ERS* of  $HPS_k$ . Hence, our final result is  $\text{edim}(HPS_k) = k$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $HPS_k$  be the graph of the heptagonal snake graph with  $k \geq 2$ . Then,  $\text{pdim}(HPS_k) = 3$ .

*Proof.* To prove that the *PD* of the  $HPS_k$  is 3, let  $R_p = \{R_{p_1}, R_{p_2}, R_{p_3}\}$  be a partition of the vertex set of the  $HPS_k$ , where  $R_{p_1} = \{m_1\}$ ,  $R_{p_2} = \{m_{k+1}\}$  and  $R_{p_3} = V(HPS_k) \setminus \{m_1, m_{k+1}\}$ . To show that  $R_p$  is the *PRS* of the  $HPS_k$ , for this we will show that each vertex of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R_p = \{R_{p_1}, R_{p_2}, R_{p_3}\}$ . The generalized distance formulas below show the unique representation of each

vertex of the  $HPS_k$  with respect to  $R_p$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 r(\alpha''_i|m_1) &= i, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 3k, \\
 r(m_i|m_1) &= 3i - 3, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1, \\
 r(n_i|m_1) &= \begin{cases} \frac{3i-1}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1, \\ \frac{3i-2}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, \end{cases} \\
 r(\alpha''_i|m_{k+1}) &= -i + 3k + 1, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq 3k, \\
 r(m_i|m_{k+1}) &= -3i + 3k + 3, \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq k + 1, \\
 r(n_i|m_{k+1}) &= \begin{cases} \frac{-3i+6k+1}{2}, & \text{for } i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k-1, \\ \frac{-3i+6k+2}{2}, & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k, \end{cases} \\
 r(m_i|R_{p_3}) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } i = 1, k + 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases} \\
 r(n_i|R_{p_3}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i, \\
 r(\alpha''_i|R_{p_3}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i.
 \end{aligned}$$

From the above generalized distance formulas we showed each vertex of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R_p = \{R_{p_1}, R_{p_2}, R_{p_3}\}$ . Therefore,  $R_p = \{R_{p_1}, R_{p_2}, R_{p_3}\}$  is the  $PRS$  of the  $HPS_k$ . Hence, the cardinality of  $PRS$  of the  $HPS_k$  is 3, which means  $pdim(HPS_k) \leq 3$ . Now we will show that  $pdim(HPS_k) \geq 3$ , let the  $PD$  of the heptagonal snake graph be 2. Chartrand [19] showed that  $pdim(G) = 2$ , iff  $G = P_n$ , which contradicts our assumption. Therefore,  $R_p = \{R_{p_1}, R_{p_2}, R_{p_3}\}$  is the smallest cardinality  $PRS$  of heptagonal snake graph  $HPS_k$ .

Hence, the outcome is  $pdim(HPS_k) = 3$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $HPS_k$  be the graph of the heptagonal snake graph with  $k \geq 3$ . Then,  $epdim(HPS_k) = k + 1$ .

*Proof.* To prove that the  $EPD$  of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k + 1$ , let  $R_{p_e} = \{R_p = \{R_{p_{e_1}}, R_{p_{e_2}}, R_{p_{e_3}}, \dots, R_{p_{e_n}}\}, R_{p_{e_{n+1}}}\}$  be a partition of the vertex set  $V(HPS_k)$  of the  $HPS_k$ , where  $R_{p_{e_1}} = \{\alpha''_1\}$ ,  $R_{p_{e_2}} = \{\alpha''_4\}$ ,  $R_{p_{e_3}} = \{\alpha''_7\} \dots$ ,  $R_{p_{e_n}} = \{\alpha''_{3k-2}\}$  and  $R_{p_{e_{n+1}}} = V(HPS_k) \setminus \{\alpha''_1, \alpha''_4, \alpha''_7, \dots, \alpha''_{3k-2}\}$ . To show that  $R_{p_e}$  is the  $PERS$  of the  $HPS_k$ , for this we will show that each edge of the edge set  $E(HPS_k)$  of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R_{p_e} = \{R_p = \{R_{p_{e_1}}, R_{p_{e_2}}, R_{p_{e_3}}, \dots, R_{p_{e_n}}\}, R_{p_{e_{n+1}}}\}$ . The following are the generalized unique distances of each edge of  $HPS_k$  with respect to  $R_{p_e}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 r(t_i|R_p) &= \begin{cases} (0, 3, 6, 9, \dots, 3k-3), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (1, 2, 5, 8, \dots, 3k-4), & \text{for } i = 2, \\ (\frac{3i}{2} - 1, \frac{3i}{2} - 4, \frac{3i}{2} - 7, \dots, 8, 5, 1, \\ 2, 5, 8, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2} + 3k-4, \frac{-3i}{2} + 3k-1), & \text{for } i = 4, 6, 8, \dots, 2k, \\ (\frac{3i-1}{2}, \frac{3i-1}{2} - 3, \frac{3i-1}{2} - 6, \dots, 10, 7, 4, \\ 0, 3, 6, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-3}{2}), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \end{cases} \\
 r(e_i|R_p) &= \begin{cases} (\frac{3i}{2}, \frac{3i}{2} - 3, \frac{3i}{2} - 6, \dots, 6, 3, 0, \\ 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2} + 3k-5, \frac{-3i}{2} + 3k-2), & \text{for } i = 4, 6, 8, \dots, 2k, \\ (\frac{3i+3}{2}, \frac{3i+3}{2} - 3, \frac{3i+3}{2} - 6, \dots, 6, 2, 1, \\ 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-7}{2}), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
r(\hat{e}_i|R_p) &= (0, 4, 7, 10, \dots, 3k-2), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\
r(\hat{b}_i|R_p) &= (1, 3, 6, 9, \dots, 3k-3), \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\
r(b_i|R_p) &= \begin{cases} (3, 1, 4, 7, \dots, 3k-5), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (\frac{2i+5}{3}, \frac{2i+5}{3} - 3, \frac{2i+5}{3} - 6, \dots, 3, 1), & \text{for } i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, 2k-2, \\ 3, 6, 9, \dots, \frac{-3i}{2} + 3k-3), & \\ (\frac{3i+1}{2}, \frac{3i+1}{2} - 3, \frac{3i+1}{2} - 6, \dots, 3, 1), & \text{for } i = 3, 5, 7, \dots, 2k-1, \\ 4, 7, 10, \dots, \frac{-3i+6k-7}{2}), & \end{cases} \\
r(s_i|R_p) &= \begin{cases} (2, 2, 5, 8, \dots, 3k-4), & \text{for } i = 1, \\ (3i-2, 3i-5, 3i-8, \dots, 4, 2, 2, & \text{for } i = 2, 3, 4, \dots, k, \\ 5, 8, \dots, -3i + 3k-4, -3i + 3k-1), & \end{cases} \\
r(t_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i, \\
r(e_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i, \\
r(\hat{e}_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\
r(\hat{b}_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for } i = 1, \\
r(b_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i, \\
r(s_i|R_{p_{n+1}}) &= 0, \quad \text{for each } i.
\end{aligned}$$

From the above generalized distance formulas, we showed that each edge of the  $HPS_k$  has a unique distance with respect to  $R_{p_e} = \{R_p = \{R_{p_{e_1}}, R_{p_{e_2}}, R_{p_{e_3}}, \dots, R_{p_{e_n}}\}, R_{p_{e_{n+1}}}\}$ . Therefore,  $R_{p_e} = \{R_p = \{R_{p_{e_1}}, R_{p_{e_2}}, R_{p_{e_3}}, \dots, R_{p_{e_n}}\}, R_{p_{e_{n+1}}}\}$  is the  $EPRS$  of the  $HPS_k$ . Hence, the cardinality of the  $EPRS$  of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k+1$ . Now to prove that the  $EPD$  of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k+1$ , in Theorem 2.3, we proved that the  $EMD$  of the  $HPS_k$  is  $k$ . Therefore,  $R_{p_e} = \{R_p = \{R_{p_{e_1}}, R_{p_{e_2}}, R_{p_{e_3}}, \dots, R_{p_{e_n}}\}, R_{p_{e_{n+1}}}\}$  is the smallest cardinality  $EPRS$  of the  $HPS_k$ . Hence, our final result is  $epdim(HPS_k) = k+1$ .  $\square$

### 3. Conclusions

In this article, we analyzed the structural properties of the  $HPS_k$  by computing its  $MD$ ,  $EMD$ ,  $PD$  and  $EPD$ . Our findings reveal that the  $MD$  of the  $HPS_k$  is 2, indicating that two vertices are enough to uniquely determine the location of each vertex of the  $HPS_k$ . The  $EMD$  was determined to be  $k$ , reflecting  $k$  number of vertices required for edge-based unique identification for an  $HPS_k$ . Further, the  $PD$  was found to be 3, highlighting the minimal number of vertex partitions essential to distinguish all vertices uniquely of the  $HPS_k$ . Lastly, we computed that the  $EPD$  is  $k+1$ , demonstrating the partitioning complexity for edge identification. These results provide precious insights into resolving properties of the  $HPS_k$ , which have potential applications in nanotechnology, network topology and chemistry. In the future, we can explore other parameters of resolvability for the  $HPS_k$ , such as mixed metric dimension, strong metric dimension, fault-tolerant metric dimension, fractional metric dimension and multiset dimension. Investigating these additional parameters will further enhance our expertise in the structural complexity and applications of the  $HPS_k$  in numerous scientific domains.

## Author contributions

F. B. Farooq, F. Ahmad and M. K. Jamil: Conceptualization, Formal analysis, Methodology, Writing–review and editing; A. Javed and N. A. Alqahtani: Formal analysis, Investigation, Writing–original draft, Writing–review and editing. All authors have read and agree to publish the paper.

## Use of Generative-AI tools declaration

The authors declare they have not used Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in the creation of this article.

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## Conflict of interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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