

TREES WITH DISTINGUISHING INDEX EQUAL DISTINGUISHING NUMBER PLUS ONE

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Abstract

The distinguishing number (index) $D(G)$ ($D'(G)$) of a graph G is the least integer d such that G has an vertex (edge) labeling with d labels that is preserved only by the trivial automorphism. It is known that for every graph G we have $D'(G) \leq D(G)+1$. In this note we characterize finite trees for which this inequality is sharp. We also show that if G is a connected unicyclic graph, then $D'(G) = D(G)$.

Keywords: automorphism group, distinguishing index, distinguishing number, tree, unicyclic graph.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C15, 05E18.

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Received 15 September 2017

Revised 4 July 2018

Accepted 13 July 2018