

GAPS IN THE SATURATION SPECTRUM OF TREES

RONALD J. GOULD

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
Emory University, Atlanta USA

e-mail: rg@mathcs.emory.edu

PAUL HORN¹

Department of Mathematics
University of Denver USA

e-mail: paul.horn@du.edu

MICHAEL S. JACOBSON

Department of Mathematics
University of Colorado Denver, USA

e-mail: michael.jacobson@ucdenver.edu

AND

BRENT J. THOMAS

Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Utah State University, USA

e-mail: brent.thomas@usu.edu

Abstract

A graph G is H -saturated if H is not a subgraph of G but the addition of any edge from the complement of G to G results in a copy of H . The minimum number of edges (the size) of an H -saturated graph on n vertices is denoted $\text{sat}(n, H)$, while the maximum size is the well studied extremal number, $\text{ex}(n, H)$. The saturation spectrum for a graph H is the set of sizes of H -saturated graphs between $\text{sat}(n, H)$ and $\text{ex}(n, H)$. In this paper we show that paths, trees with a vertex adjacent to many leaves, and brooms have a gap in the saturation spectrum.

Keywords: saturation spectrum, tree, saturation number.

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