

## Centric connectivity index by shell matrices

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(Received January 10, 2012)

### ABSTRACT

Relative centrality  $RC$  values of vertices/atoms are calculated within the Distance Detour and Cluj-Distance criteria on their corresponding Shell transforms. The vertex  $RC$  distribution in a molecular graph gives atom equivalence classes, useful in interpretation of NMR spectra. Timed by vertex valences,  $RC$  provides a new index, called Centric Connectivity  $CC$ , which can be useful in the topological characterization of graphs and in QSAR/QSPR studies.

**Keywords:** Graph theory, Cluj matrix, Relative centrality, Centric connectivity index.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph, with no multiple bonds and loops.  $V$  is the set of vertices and  $E$  is the set of edges in  $G$ ,  $v = |V(G)|$  and  $e = |E(G)|$  being their cardinalities. A walk  $w$  is an alternating string of vertices and edges:  $w_{1,n} = (v_1, e_1, v_2, e_2, \dots, v_{n-1}, e_n, v_n)$ , with the property that any subsequent pair of vertices represent an edge:  $(v_{i-1}, v_i) \in E(G)$ .

A path  $p$  is a walk having all its vertices and edges distinct:  $v_i \neq v_j$ ,  $(v_{i-1}, v_i) \neq (v_{j-1}, v_j)$  for any  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ . The length of a path is  $l(p_{1,n}) = |E(p_{1,n})| = |V(p_{1,n})| - 1$ , with  $V(p_{1,n})$  being the vertex set of the path  $p_{1,n}$ . A closed path is a cycle (i.e., circuit).

The distance  $d_{ij}$  is the length of a shortest path joining vertices  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ :  $d_{ij} = \min l(p_{ij})$ ; otherwise  $d_{ij} = \infty$ . The detour  $\delta_{ij}$  is the length of a longest path between vertices  $v_i$  and  $v_j$ :  $\delta_{ij} = \max l(p_{ij})$ ; otherwise  $\delta_{ij} = \infty$  [1,2].

The square arrays that collect the distances and detours, in  $G$  are called the Distance **DI** and Detour **DE** matrix, respectively [3-5].

$$[\mathbf{DI}(G)]_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \min l(p_{i,j}), & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 0 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

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$$|\mathbf{DE}(G)|_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \max l(p_{i,j}), & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 0 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

In words, these matrices collect the number of edges separating the vertices  $i$  and  $j$  on the shortest and longest path  $p_{i,j}$ , respectively. The half sum of entries in the Distance and Detour matrices provide the well-known Wiener index  $W$  [6] and its analogue, the detour number  $w$  [7,8].

The *Cluj fragments* are sets of vertices obeying the relation [3-5,9-12]:

$$CJ_{i,j,p} = \left\{ v \mid v \in V(G); D_{(G-p)}(i,v) < D_{(G-p)}(j,v) \right\} \quad (3)$$

The entries in the Cluj matrix **UCJ** are taken, by definition, as the maximum cardinality among all such fragments

$$[\mathbf{UCJ}]_{i,j} = \max_p |CJ_{i,j,p}| \quad (4)$$

It is because, in graphs containing rings, more than one path can join the pair  $(i, j)$ , thus resulting more than one fragment related to  $i$  (with respect to  $j$  and path  $p$ ).

The Cluj matrix is defined by using either *distances* or *detours* [13]: when the path  $p$  belongs to the set of distances  $\text{DI}(G)$ , the suffix DI is added to the name of matrix, as in UCJDI. When the path  $p$  belongs to the set of detours  $\text{DE}(G)$ , the suffix is DE.

Two graphs are called *isomorphic*,  $G \approx G'$ , if there exists a mapping  $f: V \rightarrow V'$  that preserves adjacency (*i.e.*, if  $(i,j) \in E(G)$ , then  $(f(i), f(j)) \in E(G')$ ). The function  $f$  provides a one-to-one correspondence between the vertices of the two sets. The isomorphism of  $G$  with itself is called an automorphism. It is demonstrated that all the automorphisms of  $G$  form a group,  $\text{Aut}(G)$  [3,4].

The symmetry of a graph is often called a topological symmetry. It is defined in terms of *connectivity*, as a constitutive principle of molecules and expresses equivalence relationships among elements of the graph: vertices, bonds, faces or larger subgraphs. The topological symmetry does not fully determine the molecular geometry and it does not need to be the same as (*i.e.*, isomorphic to) the molecular point group symmetry. However, it represents the maximal symmetry which the geometrical realization of a given topological structure may possess [14-16].

Given a graph  $G=(V,E)$  and a group  $\text{Aut}(G)$ , two vertices,  $i, j \in V$  are called *equivalent* if there is a group element,  $\text{aut}(v_i) \in \text{Aut}(G)$ , such that  $j = \text{aut}(v_i)(i)$ . The set of all

vertices  $j$  (obeying the *equivalence relation*) is called the  $i$ 's class of equivalence. Two vertices  $i$  and  $j$ , showing the same vertex invariant  $In_i=In_j$  belong to the same *invariant class IC*. The process of vertex partitioning in *IC*-s leads to  $m$  classes, with  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$  vertices in each class. Note that invariant-based partitioning may differ from the orbits of automorphism since no vertex invariant is known so far to discriminate two non-equivalent vertices in any graph [3,4].

In the chemical field, the isomorphism search could answer to the question if two molecular graphs represent or not one and the same chemical compound. Two isomorphic graphs will show the same value of a topological index, so that they cannot be distinguished by topological descriptors.

## 2. CENTRIC CONNECTIVITY CC INDEX

In studies on the centrality/centricity of graphs, Bonchev *et al.* [17,18] have proposed the distance-based criteria *1D-3D* as follows:

1D: minimum vertex eccentricity:  $\min ecc_i$

2D: minimum vertex distance sum:  $\min DIS_i$

3D: minimum number of occurrence of the largest distance:  $\min [\mathbf{LM}, \mathbf{ShM}]_{i,j \max}$

When applied hierarchically, the above criteria lead to the center(s) of a graph. In the above, **LM**, **ShM** denote the layer matrix and the shell matrix (of a given square info-matrix **M**), defined as follows [19-21].

The entries in the layer matrix (of vertex property) **LM** are defined as

$$[\mathbf{LM}]_{i,k} = \sum_{v|d_{i,v}=k} p_v \quad (5)$$

Layer matrix is a collection of the above defined entries

$$\mathbf{LM}(G) = \{ [\mathbf{LM}]_{i,k}; i \in V(G); k \in [0, 1, \dots, d(G)] \} \quad (6)$$

with  $d(G)$  being the diameter of the graph (*i.e.*, the largest distance in  $G$ ). Any atomic/vertex property can be considered as  $p_i$ . More over, any square matrix **M** can be taken as *info matrix*, *i.e.*, the matrix supplying local/vertex properties as row sum *RS* or column sum *CS*. The zero column is just the column of vertex properties,  $[\mathbf{LM}]_{i,0} = p_i$ . When the vertex property is 1 (*i.e.*, the counting property), the **LM** matrix is called **LC** (the Layer matrix of Counting).

Let define the entries in the shell matrix **ShM** (of pair vertex property) as [21]

$$[\mathbf{ShM}]_{i,k} = \sum_{v|d_{i,v}=k} [\mathbf{M}]_{i,v} \quad (7)$$

The shell matrix is a collection of the above defined entries

$$\mathbf{ShM}(G) = \{ [\mathbf{ShM}]_{i,k}; i \in V(G); k \in [0,1,\dots,d(G)] \} \quad (8)$$

A shell matrix  $\mathbf{ShM}(G)$  partitions the entries of the square matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  according to the vertex (distance) partitions in the graph. It represents a true decomposition of the property collected by the info square matrix according to the contributions brought by pair vertices pertaining to shells located at the distance  $k$  around each vertex. The zero column entries  $[\mathbf{ShM}]_{i,0}$  are just the diagonal entries in the info matrix.

The distance-based functions, expressing the topology related to the center of the graph, are as follows:

$$P(i)_k = [\mathbf{LM}, \mathbf{ShM}]_{i,k} \quad (9)$$

$$CP(i) = \sum_k P(i)_k \cdot k^{-n}; k = 1, 2, \dots, d(G); n = 1, 2, \dots \quad (10)$$

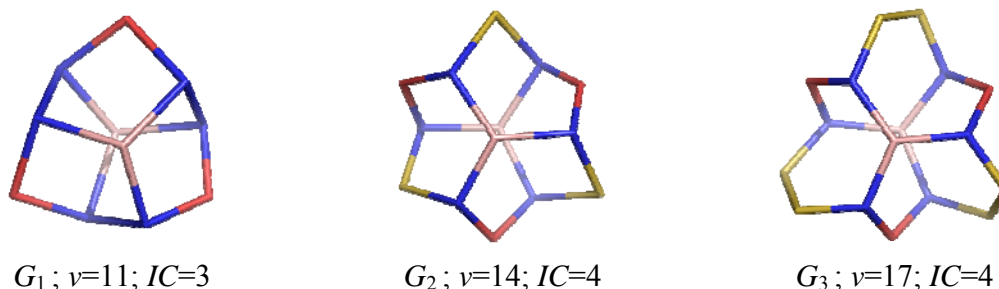
$$RC(i) = CP(i) / CP(i)_{\max} \quad (11)$$

$$RC(G) = \sum_i RC(i) \quad (12)$$

$$CC(i) = RC(i) \cdot d(i) \quad (13)$$

$$CC(G) = \sum_i CC(i) \quad (14)$$

The property  $P(i)$  (collected in  $\mathbf{LM}$  or  $\mathbf{ShM}$ , (9)) is transformed in a centric property  $CP(i)$  (10) by multiplying with the rank  $k$  of a given layer, raised at a negative power, summation running up to the diameter of  $G$ .  $CP(i)$  is thus calculated in the sense of the Bonchev's 1D-3D criteria, by virtue of the involved  $\mathbf{LM}$ ,  $\mathbf{ShM}$  matrices. There is a clear difference between  $CP(i)$  and the eccentricity  $\varepsilon(i)$  (counting the largest topological distance from  $i$  to any other vertex in  $G$ ), used in the construction of "Eccentric Connectivity index" [22]. The relative vertex centricity  $RC(i)$  (11) accounts for the deviation to the maximum centricity, equaling 1 in case of vertices being centers of the graph. The global value  $RC(G)$  (12) is useful in characterizing the distribution of the centricity function (10), particularly when is normalized by the number of vertices  $v$  of  $G$ ,  $RC(G)/v$  or by the product between the number of vertices and the number of invariant classes,  $RC(G)/(v \times IC)$ .



**Figure.** Graphs with Only Pentagons  $G_1$ , Hexagons  $G_2$  and Heptagons  $G_3$ .

Finally, the centric connectivity  $CC$  index (13,14) is hoped to be useful in QSAR/QSPR studies, their values being of the same order of magnitude as the number of vertices/atoms in the molecular graph. Relation (13) can be generalized by changing  $d(i)$  by the “remote” degrees [4,23] or by degrees of “extended connectivity” [24-28].

Tables 1 to 3 exemplify the above formulas for the molecular graphs illustrated in Figure. The invariant classes of equivalence  $IC$ -s are given at the bottom of tables, by their population (i.e., the number of vertices in each class).  $IC$ -s are important in NMR spectra interpretation.

**Table 1.** Shell matrix of Cluj matrix **CJDI**, vertex Centric property  $CP(i)$ , Relative centrality  $RC(i)$  and Centric connectivity  $CC(i)$  values, the vertex degree  $d(i)$ , number of invariant classes  $IC$ -s (in decreasing order of Centricity), the global relative centrality  $RC$  for the graph  $G_1$  and its normalized values  $RC/v$  and  $RC/vIC$

# $G_1$	ShCJDI				ShCJDI(i) $\times k^2$			$d(i)$	$IC=3: (2,6,3)$		
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3		$CP_i$	$RC_i$	$CC_i$
1	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
2	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
3	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
4	15	30	4	15	15	7.5	0.4444	3	22.9444	1	3
5	4	12	14	4	4	3	1.5556	2	8.5556	0.3729	0.7458
6	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
7	4	12	14	4	4	3	1.5556	2	8.5556	0.3729	0.7458
8	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
9	13	21	9	13	13	5.25	1	3	19.2500	0.8390	2.5169
10	15	30	4	15	15	7.5	0.4444	3	22.9444	1	3
11	4	12	14	4	4	3	1.5556	2	8.5556	0.3729	0.7458
								$RC$	$CC$	8.1525	23.3390
								$RC/v$	$RC/vIC$	0.7411	0.2470

**Table 2.** Shell matrix of Detour matrix **DE**, vertex Centric property  $CP(i)$ , Relative centrality  $RC(i)$  and Centric connectivity  $CC(i)$  values, the vertex degree  $d(i)$ , number of invariant classes  $IC$ -s (in decreasing order of Centricity), the global relative centrality  $RC$  for the graph  $G_2$  and its normalized values  $RC/v$  and  $RC/vIC$

# $G_2$	ShDE				ShDE(i) $\times k^2$				$d(i)$	IC=4:(2,6,6*); 6*=(3,3)			
	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4		$CP_i$	$RC_i$	$CC_i$	
1	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
2	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
3	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
4	33	72	33	12	33	18	3.6667	0.7500	3	55.4167	1	3	
5	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
6	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
7	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
8	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
9	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
10	33	40	55	10	33	10	6.1111	0.6250	3	49.7361	0.8975	2.6925	
11	33	72	33	12	33	18	3.6667	0.7500	3	55.4167	1	3	
12	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
13	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
14	22	48	44	36	22	12	4.8889	2.2500	2	41.1389	0.7424	1.4847	
										$RC$	$CC$	11.8391	31.0632
										$RC/v$	$RC/vIC$	0.8456	0.2114

**Table 3.** Shell matrix of Distance matrix **DI**, vertex Centric property  $CP(i)$ , Relative centrality  $RC(i)$  and Centric connectivity  $CC(i)$  values, no. of “invariant classes”  $IC$ -s (in decreasing order of Centricity), global relative centrality  $RC$  for the graph  $G_3$  and its normalized values  $RC/v$  and  $RC/vIC$

# $G_3$	ShDI						ShDI(i) = ShDI $\times k^2$						$d(i)$	IC=4:(2,6,3,6)		
	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	$CP_i$	$RC_i$		$CC_i$		
1	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
2	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
3	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
4	3	12	18	4	0	38	3	3	2	0.25	0	3	3	8.25	1	3
5	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
6	2	8	18	16	0	45	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	7	0.8485	1.6970
7	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
8	2	8	18	16	0	45	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	7	0.8485	1.6970
9	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
10	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
11	3	8	21	8	0	41	3	2	2.333	0.5	0	3	3	7.8333	0.9495	2.8485
12	3	12	18	4	0	38	3	3	2	0.25	0	3	3	8.25	1	3
13	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
14	2	8	18	16	0	45	2	2	2	1	0	2	2	7	0.8485	1.6970
15	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
16	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
17	2	6	15	20	5	49	2	1.5	1.667	1.25	0.2	2	2	6.6167	0.8020	1.6040
										$RC$	$CC$	15.0545	37.8061			
										$RC/v$	$RC/vIC$	0.8856	0.2214			

According to the normalized relative centrality  $RC/vIC$ , the ordering of the above graphs (cf. Tables 1 to 3) is:  $G_1$  (0.2470) >  $G_3$  (0.2214) >  $G_2$  (0.2114). Remark that the detour **DE** matrix provides degenerate  $IC$ -classes, so that in the above calculation  $IC(G_2)=4$  was taken.

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

The relative centrality  $RC(i)$  of vertices in a molecular graph were calculated within the Distance, Detour and Cluj-Distance criteria. The  $RC(i)$  distribution in a molecular graph gives information on the equivalence classes (as vertex invariant classes) of atoms, useful in the interpretation of NMR spectra. Timed by vertex valences,  $RC$  provides an index, called Centric Connectivity  $CC$ . By definition, there is a clear difference between the Centric Connectivity  $CC(G)$  index and the older Eccentric Connectivity index or its newer versions [29-31]. This index represents a new descriptor (an improvement of the above version, ref. [32]) which can be useful in the topological characterization of graphs and in QSAR/QSPR studies.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.** The work was supported by the Romanian CNCSIS-UEFISCSU project PN-II-ID-PCE-2011-3-0346.

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