

Multithreshold Multipartite Graphs

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We call a graph G a k -threshold graph if there are k distinct real numbers $\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k$ and a mapping $r: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that for any two vertices $u, v \in V(G)$, we have that $uv \in E(G)$ if and only if there are odd numbers θ_i such that $\theta_i \leq r(u) + r(v)$. The least integer k such that G is a k -threshold graph is called a *threshold number* of G , and denoted by $\Theta(G)$. The well-known family of threshold graphs is a set of graphs G with $\Theta(G) \leq 1$. Jamison and Sprague in [Multithreshold graphs, *J. Graph Theory*, 94(4): 518–530, 2020] introduced the concept of k -threshold graph, and proved that $\Theta(G)$ exists for every graph G . They further obtained a number of interesting results on $\Theta(G)$. In addition, they also proposed several unsolved problems and conjectures, including the following two.

Problem: Determine the exact threshold numbers of the complete multipartite graphs.

Conjecture: For all even $n \geq 2$, there is a graph G with $\Theta(G) = n$ and $\Theta(G^c) = n + 1$. This is equivalent to that for all odd $n \geq 3$, there is a graph G with $\Theta(G) = n$ and $\Theta(G^c) = n - 1$, where G^c is the complement of G .

In this short paper, we give a partial solution of the problem and confirm the conjecture.