

# Some Relations between Kekulé Structure and Morgan–Voyce Polynomials

İNCI GÜLTEKİN<sup>1,\*</sup> AND BÜNYAMIN ŞAHİN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Atatürk University, 25240 Erzurum, Turkey

<sup>2</sup>Department of Elementary Mathematics Education, Faculty of Education, Bayburt University, 69000 Bayburt, Turkey

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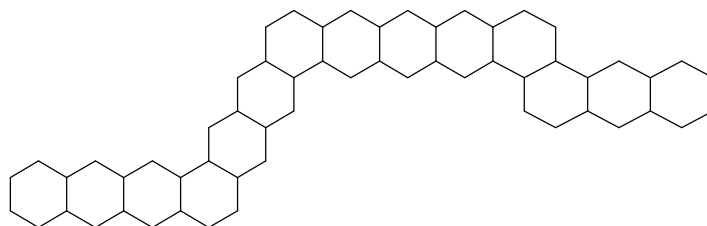
## ABSTRACT

In this paper, Kekulé structures of benzenoid chains are considered. It has been shown that the coefficients of a  $B_n(x)$  Morgan–Voyce polynomial equal to the number of  $k$ -matchings ( $m(G, k)$ ) of a path graph which has  $N = 2n + 1$  points. Furthermore, two relations are obtained between regularly zig–zag non-branched catacondensed benzenoid chains and Morgan–Voyce polynomials and between regularly zig–zag non branched catacondensed benzenoid chains and their corresponding caterpillar trees.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

A benzenoid system is obtained by using the regular hexagons consecutively so that two hexagons are either disjoint or have a common edge [1]. An example of benzenoid chain is illustrated in Figure 1.



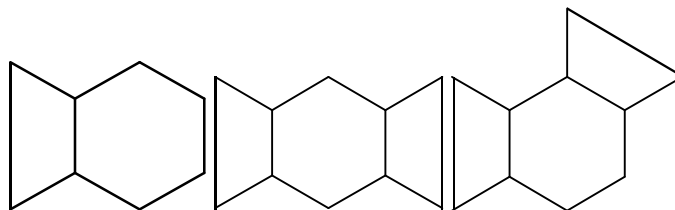
**Figure 1.** A Benzenoid Chain.

In connection with the benzenoid chains the  $LA$ -sequence is defined as an ordered  $h$ -tuple ( $h > 1$ ) of the symbols  $L$  and  $A$ . The  $i$ -th symbol is  $L$  if the  $i$ -th hexagon is of

\*Corresponding Author (Email: shnbnymn25@gmail.com)

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mode  $L_1$  or  $L_2$ . The  $i$ -th symbol is  $A$  if the  $i$ -th hexagon is of mode  $A$ . The definition of  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$  and  $A$  modes of hexagons is clear from Figure 2.



**Figure 2.** Illustration of  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$  and  $A$  modes of hexagons, respectively.

For instance, the  $LA$ -sequence of the benzenoid chain in Figure 1 is  $LLLALLLLAALL$  or, in the abbreviated form  $L^3AL^2AL^3A^2L^2$ . Each perfect matching of a benzenoid system (if any exists) represents a Kekulé structure. The number of Kekulé structures of benzenoid chains is called its “ $K$  number”. The  $K$ -number of a benzenoid chain is calculated by its  $LA$ -sequence.

Balaban and Tomescu coined the term isoarithmicity for the benzenoid chains which their  $K$  numbers are same [2]. It is denoted by  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$  the class of isoarithmic benzenoid chains with the  $LA$ -sequence

$$L^{x_1}AL^{x_2}A \dots AL^{x_n}$$

where  $n \geq 1$ , and  $x_1 \geq 1$ ,  $x_n \geq 1$ ,  $x_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1$ . For example isoarithmic class of the benzenoid chain which is depicted in Figure 1 is  $\langle 3, 2, 3, 0, 2 \rangle$ .

Every benzenoid chain can be represented in this form. It is denoted by  $K_n \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$  the number of Kekulé structures of the chain  $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$ . It is defined for the initial terms of the  $K$  numbers such that ([1])  $K_0 = 1, K_1 \langle x_1 \rangle = 1 + x_1$ .

**Theorem 1.** If  $n \geq 2$  then for arbitrary  $x_1 \geq 1$ ,  $x_n \geq 1$ ,  $x_i \geq 0$ , ( $i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1$ ), the following recurrence relation holds [1]

$$K_n \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle = (x_n + 1)K_{n-1} \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle + K_{n-2} \langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-2} \rangle.$$

## 2. THE HOSOYA INDEX AND MORGAN-VOYCE POLYNOMIALS

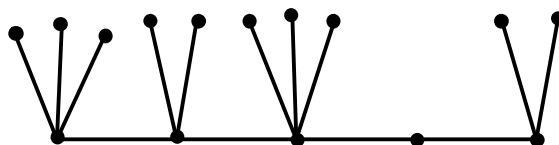
The Hosoya or  $Z$ -index was defined by Hosoya in 1971 [3] and the Hosoya index of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $Z(G)$ . The  $Z(G)$ , is the total number of  $k$ -matchings which are the number of  $k$  choosing from a graph  $G$  such that the  $k$  lines are non-adjacent where  $N$  is the number of points.

**Definition 1.** The number of  $k$ -matchings is denoted by  $m(G, k)$  and the  $Z(G)$  is defined as  $Z(G) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor N/2 \rfloor} m(G, k)$  such that  $m(G, 0) = 1$  for any graph  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.** The number of  $k$ -matchings of the path graph is calculated by the following equation [4]

$$m(G, k) = \binom{N-k}{k}, \text{ for } 0 \leq k \leq \lfloor N/2 \rfloor.$$

Relations between topological indices and some orthogonal polynomials for example Hermite, Laguerre and Chebyshev polynomials were found by Hosoya ([5]). Another relation between the sextet polynomial of a hexagonal chain and the matching polynomial of a caterpillar tree was discovered by Gutman [6]. As a result of this paper, it has been shown that the  $K$ -number of a hexagonal chain is equal to the Hosoya index of the corresponding caterpillar [7]. For instance, corresponding caterpillar tree of the hexagonal chain which is depicted in Figure 1 is on the below.



**Figure 3.** The hexagonal chain in Figure 1 has 14 hexagons and the corresponding caterpillar tree has 14 edges.

The caterpillar tree of the hexagonal chain in Figure 3 is  $C_5(4, 3, 4, 1, 3)$ .

**Definition 2.** The Morgan–Voyce polynomials  $B_n(x)$  is defined by [8] as

$$B_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n+i+1}{n-i} x^i$$

and the first five Morgan–Voyce polynomials are found from this equation like that

$$B_0(x) = 1$$

$$B_1(x) = x + 2$$

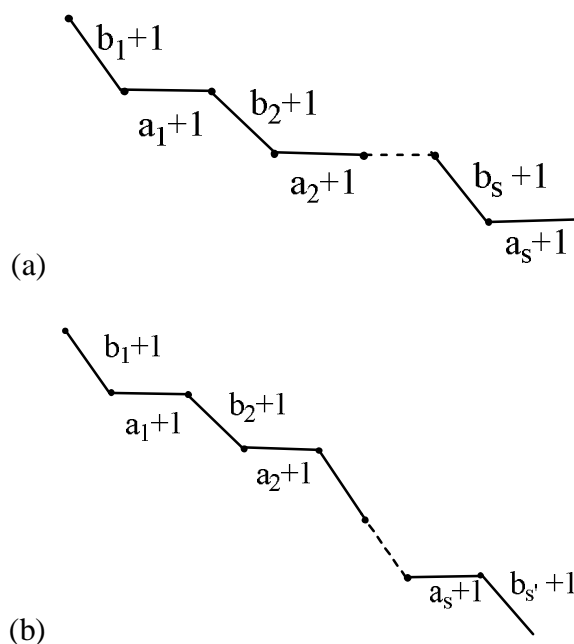
$$B_2(x) = x^2 + 4x + 3$$

$$B_3(x) = x^3 + 6x^2 + 10x + 4$$

$$B_4(x) = x^4 + 8x^3 + 21x^2 + 20x + 5.$$

### 3. REGULARLY ZIG–ZAG NON–BRANCHED CATACONDENSED BENZENOIDS

The Kekulé number of regularly zig–zag non-branched cata condensed benzenoids was found by He, He and Xie [9] by Peak–Valley matrix.

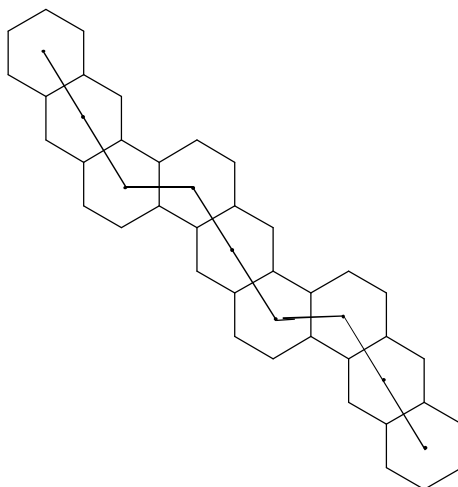


**Figure 4.** Dualist graph of a general non-branched cata-condensed benzenoids.

In Figure 4,  $a_i \in \mathcal{N}(i = 1, 2, \dots, s)$  and  $b_i \in \mathcal{N}(i = 1, 2, \dots, s')$  where  $s' = s$  for Figure 4(a) and  $s' = s + 1$  for Figure 4(b).  $a_i + 1$  and  $b_i + 1$  represent the numbers of linearly condensed six-membered rings horizontally and diagonally, respectively. For the benzenoid shown in Figure 4(a) and 4(b), the Peak-Valley matrix is as follows.

$$A_n = \begin{bmatrix} t_1 & 1 & 0 & & \\ 1 & t_2 & 1 & & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & t_3 & & \\ & & & \ddots & 1 & 0 \\ & 0 & & 1 & t_{N-1} & 1 \\ & & & 0 & 1 & t_N \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $t_i = \begin{cases} b_{k+1} + 2, & \text{if } i = \sum_{j=0}^k a_j + 1 \\ 2, & \text{if } i \neq \sum_{j=0}^k a_j + 1 \end{cases}$ ,  $k = 1, 2, \dots, s$ ;  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Here  $N$  is the number of peaks (or valleys) in a graph  $G$ . The Kekulé number of a graph  $G$  is shown by  $K_n(G)$  ( $n = 1, \dots, N$ ).



**Figure 5.** Simple binary regularly cata-condensed benzenoids.

**Lemma 1.** From Figure 5, the  $K$ -number of the graph  $G$  is calculated by the following tri-diagonal determinantal expression[9]:

$$K_n(G) = \det A_n = \begin{vmatrix} b+2 & 1 & 0 & & & \\ 1 & b+2 & 1 & & 0 & \\ 0 & 1 & b+2 & & & \\ & & & \ddots & 1 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 & b+2 & 1 \\ & & & 0 & 1 & b+2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

The order of the above determinant is  $s + 1$ , where  $s$  is the repeat times of horizontal linear segments on the graph  $G$ .

#### 4. CONTINUANTS AND CATERPILLAR TREES

**Lemma 2.** If  $H$  is a hexagonal chain whose  $LA$ -sequence is  $L^{x_1}AL^{x_2}A \dots L^{x_{n-1}}AL^{x_n}$ , then the number  $K(H)$  of its Kekulé structures is equal to the  $Z$ -index of the caterpillar tree  $C_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ [7].

If it is written  $C(H)$  for caterpillar tree of a  $H$  hexagonal chain, Lemma 2 is equivalent to the equality  $K(H) = Z(C(H))$ .

**Definition 3.** The continuants (or continuant polynomials) are introduced by Euler [10] as  $L_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_n L_{n-1}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}) + L_{n-2}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-2})$  with initial conditions  $L_0() = 1$ ,  $L_1(x_1) = x_1$  and  $L_2(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 + 1$ .

From this it is shown that the  $Z$ -index of the caterpillar trees coincides with Euler's continuant like the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.**  $Z(C_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)) = L_n(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)[7]$ .

## 5. MAIN RESULTS

**Theorem 3.** The coefficients of a  $B_n(x)$  Morgan–Voyce polynomial are equal to the number of  $k$ -matchings ( $m(G, k)$ ) of a path graph which has  $N = 2n + 1$  points.

**Proof.** We denote the coefficients of Morgan–Voyce polynomials with

$$C(B_n(x)) = \binom{n+i+1}{n-i}$$

such that  $0 \leq i \leq n$  and we take the point number of the path graph  $N = 2n + 1$ . The number of  $k$ -matchings of a path graph for  $0 \leq k \leq \lfloor N/2 \rfloor$  is

$$m(G, k) = \binom{N-k}{k}$$

and  $\lfloor N/2 \rfloor = \lfloor (2n+1)/2 \rfloor = n$  by the definition of the Hosoya index. Now we demonstrate the coefficients of the Morgan–Voyce polynomials in combinatorial form with respectively for  $0 \leq i \leq n$

$$C(B_n(x)) = \binom{n+1}{n}, \binom{n+2}{n-1}, \dots, \binom{2n}{1}, \binom{2n+1}{0}$$

and  $m(G, k) = \binom{N-k}{k}$  for  $0 \leq k \leq \lfloor N/2 \rfloor = n$  with respectively

$$m(G, k) = \binom{2n+1}{0}, \binom{2n}{1}, \dots, \binom{n+2}{n-1}, \binom{n+1}{n}.$$

It is clear that  $C(B_n(x))$  and  $m(G, k)$  are same in reverse order. From this we say for every  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree Morgan–Voyce polynomial there is a path graph ( $P_N$ ) which has  $N = 2n + 1$  points such that the coefficients of the Morgan–Voyce polynomials equal to the number of  $k$ -matchings of  $P_N$ .

**Example 1.** We show an application of the previous theorem for the first three Morgan–Voyce polynomials. For  $B_0(x)$ ,  $C(B_0(x)) = 1$  equals to  $m(G, k)$  for  $N = 2 \times 0 + 1 = 1$ . For  $B_1(x)$ ,  $C(B_1(x)) = 1, 2$  equal to  $m(G, k)$  for  $N = 2 \times 1 + 1 = 3$ . For  $B_2(x)$ ,  $C(B_2(x)) = 1, 4, 3$  equal to  $m(G, k)$  for  $N = 2 \times 2 + 1 = 5$ .

**Lemma 4.** If  $b_1 + 1 = b_2 + 1 = \dots = b_s + 1 = b + 1$  (numbers of the regular hexagons on diagonal wise are same) like in Figure 5 and we take  $x$  instead of  $b_i$ , then

(the right equation is used to express many properties of the Morgan–Voyce polynomials like in [8])

$$K_n(G) = \det A_n = B_n(x).$$

**Proof.**

$$\begin{aligned} K_1(G) &= \begin{vmatrix} x+2 \end{vmatrix} = x+2 = B_1(x) \\ K_2(G) &= \begin{vmatrix} x+2 & 1 \\ 1 & x+2 \end{vmatrix} = (x+2)(x+2) - 1 = x^2 + 4x + 3 = B_2(x) \\ K_3(G) &= \begin{vmatrix} x+2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & x+2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & x+2 \end{vmatrix} = x^3 + 6x^2 + 10x + 4 = B_3(x) \end{aligned}$$

and by the determinant of the tri-diagonal matrix in Lemma 1,

$$K_n(G) = B_n(x) = (x+2)B_{n-1}(x) - B_{n-2}(x).$$

In Lemma 1, the  $(n)$  indice on the notation  $K_n$  is the number of the repetition of the diagonal hexagons. We also take the number of the hexagons  $b_i + 1$  on diagonal wise like the previous lemma. For Figure 5,  $b_1 + 1 = b_2 + 1 = \dots = b_s + 1 = b + 1$  and its corresponding caterpillar tree is  $C_{2n}(b+1, 1, b, 1, \dots, b, 1)$ .

There is a relation between the  $K$ -number of the hexagonal chain in Figure 5 and  $Z$ -index of its corresponding caterpillar tree as noted in the next theorem.

**Theorem 4.**  $K_n(G) = Z(C_{2n}(G))$ .

**Proof.** Induct on  $n$ . For  $n = 1$ ,  $K_1(G) = Z(C_2(b+1, 1)) = b+2$ , as desired. We assume that the equality is true for  $n \leq k$  and we will show that it is true for  $n = k+1$ . This means

$$K_{k+1}(G) = Z(C_{2k+2}(b+1, 1, b, 1, \dots, b, 1)).$$

By assumption

$$K_k(G) = Z(C_{2k}(b+1, 1, b, 1, \dots, b, 1))$$

and

$$K_{k-1}(G) = Z(C_{2k-2}(b+1, 1, b, 1, \dots, b, 1)).$$

By Lemma 1,

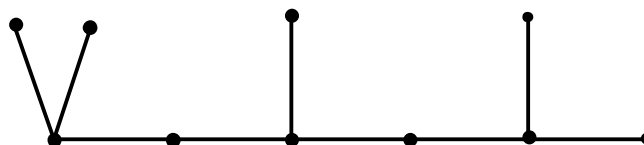
$$\begin{aligned} K_{k+1}(G) &= (b+2)K_k(G) - K_{k-1}(G) \\ &= (b+2)Z(C_{2k}(G)) - Z(C_{2k-2}(G)) \\ &= bZ(C_{2k}(G)) + 2[Z(C_{2k-1}(G)) + Z(C_{2k-2}(G))] - Z(C_{2k-2}(G)) \\ &= bZ(C_{2k}(G)) + Z(C_{2k-1}(G)) + Z(C_{2k-1}(G)) + Z(C_{2k-2}(G)) \\ &= Z(C_{2k+1}(G)) + Z(C_{2k}(G)) = Z(C_{2k+2}(G)) \end{aligned}$$

This complete the proof.

**Example 2.** We calculate the Kekulé number of simple binary regularly catacondensed benzenoid in Figure 5 by two ways mentioned in the Theorem 4. The matrix form of  $K$ -number of the chain shown in Figure 5 is

$$K_3(G) = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $K_3(G) = \det A = 56$ . Now we use the corresponding caterpillar tree of the hexagonal chain as the follows:



**Figure 6.** The hexagonal chain in Figure 5 has 9 hexagons and the corresponding caterpillar tree has 9 edges.

This caterpillar tree is denoted by  $C_6(3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1)$  and  $Z(C_6(3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1)) = 56$ . So that  $K_3(G) = Z(C_6(3, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1))$ .

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