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On the Minimal Unicyclic and Bicyclic Graphs with respect to the Neighborhood First Zagreb Index

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ABSTRACT

The neighborhood first Zagreb index has recently been introduced for characterizing the topological structure of molecular graphs. In the present study, we characterize the graphs having minimum neighborhood first Zagreb index in the class of unicyclic/bicyclic graphs on n vertices for every fixed integer $n \geq 5$.

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1. INTRODUCTION

All the graphs discussed here are simple, connected, finite and undirected. For further basic notions of graph theory, we refer the reader to some relevant books [12, 14, 29].

The first Zagreb index M_1 (appeared within a formula derived in [20]) and the second Zagreb index M_2 (introduced in [18]) for a graph H can be defined as: $M_1(H) = \sum_{v_1 \in V(H)} d(v_1)^2 = \sum_{v_1 v_2 \in E(H)} (d(v_1) + d(v_2))$ and $M_2(H) = \sum_{v_1 v_2 \in E(H)} d(v_1)d(v_2)$.

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The theory of Zagreb indices is deep rooted; for example, see the papers [1, 2, 8, 15, 16, 19, 20, 23, 24, 26, 28], recent surveys [3, 4, 6, 17] and related references listed therein.

For a vertex $w \in V(H)$, different researchers use different notations for representing the sum of degrees of the adjacent to w in literature, however, we use the notations $S_H(w)$ or Simply $S(w)$ or S_w , due to the simple reason, as S used for sum. The average-degree [32](also known as dual degree [10]) of a vertex $w \in V(H)$ is the number $\frac{s(w)}{d(w)}$ and we denote it by $a(w)$. Consider the following general graph invariants

$$\Gamma_1(H) = \sum_{w \in V(H)} g_1(S(w)) \quad \text{and} \quad \Gamma_2(H) = \sum_{vw \in E(H)} g_2(S(v), S(w)).$$

Most of the cases of the above invariants Γ_1 and Γ_2 have already been presented in mathematical chemistry. For example, if we take $g_1(S(u)) = S(u)$ or $1/\sqrt{S(u)}$ then Γ_1 gives the first Zagreb index M_1 [7] or first extended zeroth-order connectivity index [5, 30, 31, 33], respectively and if we take $g_2(S(v), S(w)) = S(v) + S(w)$ or $1/\sqrt{S(v)S(w)}$ then Γ_2 gives M_2 (see Lemma 2.6 in [7]), the first extended first-order connectivity index [5], fourth atom-bond connectivity index [11] or fifth geometric-arithmetic index [13], respectively. On the same lines, it is natural to consider [27] the following revised version of the first and second Zagreb indices:

$$NM_1(H) = \sum_{v \in V(H)} (s(v))^2 \quad \text{and} \quad NM_2(H) = \sum_{vw \in E(H)} s(v)s(w).$$

The invariant NM_1 and NM_2 was referred [27] to as the neighborhood first Zagreb index and neighborhood second Zagreb index. In this current paper, we are concerned with the neighborhood first Zagreb index NM_1 , which was initially presented in Refs. [9, 25] and referred to as the neighborhood first Zagreb index [25]. Clearly, the invariant NM_1 can be rewritten [9] as $NM_1(H) = \sum_{v \in V(H)} (d(v)a(v))^2$.

The main objective of the present study is to establish extremal results regarding the unicyclic graphs and bicyclic graph of order n with respect to NM_1 . In Section 2, we define some transformations which will decrease then neighborhood first Zagreb index. Throughout this paper, graph under discussion is either a unicycle graph or a bicyclic graph on n vertices for every fixed integer $n \geq 5$.

2. MINIMUM NEIGHBORHOOD FIRST ZAGREB INDEX OF UNICYCLIC AND BI-CYCLIC GRAPHS

We provide two transformations which will reduce the neighborhood first Zagreb index as follows:

Transformation 2.1. Let G be a simple, connected graph and select $u \in V(G)$. G^* is created from G by identifying u along with the vertex v'_j of a simple path $v'_1, v'_2, \dots, v'_n, 1 < j < n$. G^{**} is created from G^* by removing $v'_{j-1}v'_j$ and adding $v'_{j-1}v'_n$.

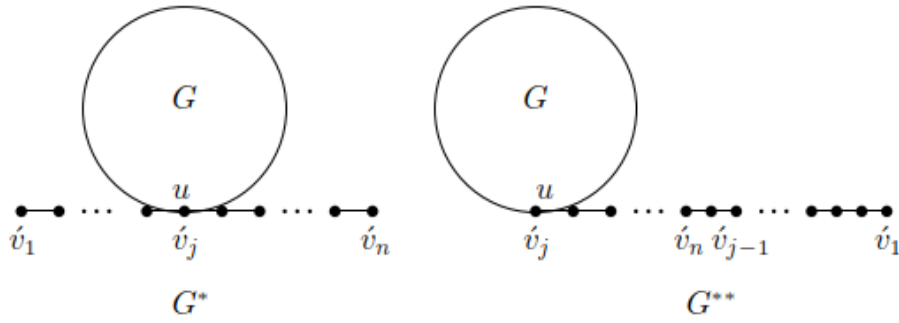


Figure 1: Graphs G^* and G^{**} (used within the Transformation 2.1).

Lemma 2.1. Suppose G^{**} and G^* be the graphs as in Transformation 2.1. Then $NM_1(G^*) > NM_1(G^{**})$.

Proof. Choose $u(= v'_j) \in V(G)$, $d(u) \geq 4$ and $N_G(u) = \{u_1, u_2\}$ and $N_{G^*}(u) \setminus N_G(u) = \{v'_{j-1}, v'_{j+1}\}$. There will be four cases regarding the length of the path.

Case I: If $j = 2$ and $n = 3$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I = \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] + d(u)^2 - 4 > 0.$$

Since $d(u)^2 - 4 \geq 12$ for $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Case II: If $j = 2$ and $n > 3$.

Sub-Case II(a): If $j = 2$ and $n = 4$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + d(u)^2 - 9 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Sub-Case II(b): If $j = 2$ and $n \geq 5$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(u)^2 - 16 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Case III: If $j > 2$ and $n = j + 1$.

Sub-Case III(a): If $j = 3$ and $n = j + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + d(u)^2 - 9 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Sub-Case III(b): If $j \geq 4$ and $n = j + 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(u)^2 - 16 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Case IV: If $j > 2$ and $n > j + 1$.

Sub-case IV(a): If $j = 3$ and $n = j + 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 - 21 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Sub-case IV(b): If $j = 3$ and $n = j + 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(u_i)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - 28 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Sub-case IV(c): If $j = 4$ and $n = j + 2$,

$$M_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(ui)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(ui)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 - 28 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$.

Sub-case IV(d): If $j \geq 4$ and $n \geq j + 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= \text{I} \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(ui)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_G(ui)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(u) + 2)^2 - 35 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $d_G(u) \geq 4$. ■

Transformation 2.2. Let $u, v \in V(G)$. G^* is constructed from G by attaching paths $u'_0 u'_1 u'_2 \dots u'_i$ and $v'_0 v'_1 v'_2 \dots v'_j$ with the vertex $u(= u'_0)$ and the vertex $v(= v'_0)$, respectively. Construct $G^{**} = G^* - uu'_1 + v'_j u'_1$.

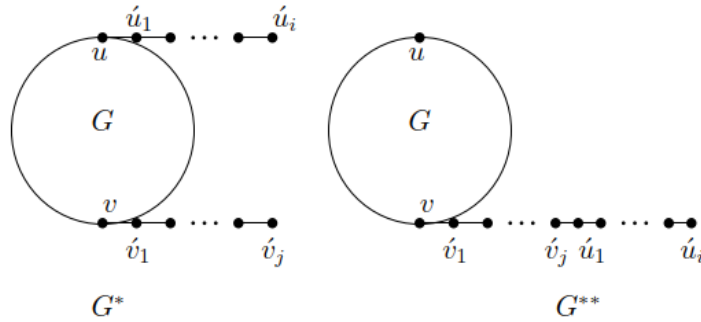


Figure 2: Graphs G^* and G^{**} (used within the Transformation 2.2).

Lemma 2.2. G^{**} and G^* be the graphs as appear in Transformation 2.2. If $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$, $i \geq 1$ and $j \geq 1$, then $\text{NM}_1(G^*) > \text{NM}_1(G^{**})$.

Proof. Bearing in mind the assumption that $j > 0$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$, there will be five cases regarding the position (location) of u and v .

Case I: If $uv \in E(G^*)$ and $N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v) = \varnothing$.

Sub-Case I(a): If $i = 1$ and $j = 1$,

$$\text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) = \text{I}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 1)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq 2d(v)^2 \geq (d(v) + 1)^2$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case I(b): If $i = 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 1$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned}
&NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
&= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 1$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
&NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
&= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 8 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ d(u)^2 - 8 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case I(c): If $i > 1$ and $j = 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
&NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
&= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ d(v)^2 + (d(u) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$, $d(v)^2 + (d(u) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
&NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
&= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\
&+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
&+ d(v)^2 + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case I(d): If $i > 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 21 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 2$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 12 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 - 16 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d\mathfrak{R} - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - 16 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Case II: If $uv \in E(G^*)$ and $|N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v)| = 1$.

Sub-Case II(a): If $i = 1$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 1)^2 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq 2d(v)^2 \geq (d(v) + 1)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case II(b): If $i = 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 1$ and $j = 2$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\ = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 1$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\ = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 8 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + d(u)^2 - 8 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case II (c): If $i > 1$ and $j = 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 1$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\ = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(u) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 1$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\ = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ + (d(u) + 2)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case II (d): If $i > 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 3$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 21 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq 2(d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{x \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 2$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - 16 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 7$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Case III: If $uv \notin E(G^*)$ and $N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v) = \varphi$.

Sub-Case III(a): If $i = 1$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 1)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq 2d(v)^2 \geq (d(v) + 1)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. $\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0$.

Sub-Case III(b): If $i = 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 1$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
& = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 1$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
& = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 8 \right] \\
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + d(u)^2 - 8 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case III(c): If $i > 1$ and $j = 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
& = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
& + (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

$$\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0. \text{ When } i \geq 3 \text{ and } j = 1,$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I \\
& = \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 &\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \right. \\
 &\left. \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Sub-Case III(d): If $i > 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 20 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 - 1 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq 2(d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 2$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= I \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right] \\
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 - 16 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Case IV: If $uv \notin E(G^*)$ and $|N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v)|=1$.

Sub-case IV(a): If $i = 1$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \right. \\ &\left. \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] + d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v+1))^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$ and $d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq 2d(v)^2 \geq (d(v) + 1)^2$.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \right. \\ &\left. \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Sub-Case IV(b): If $i = 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 1$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 1$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 8 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ d(u)^2 - 8 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case IV(c): If $i > 1$ and $j = 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \right. \\ &\left. \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0. \end{aligned}$$

When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

$$\begin{aligned} &\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \right. \\ &\left. \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Sub-case IV(d): if $i > 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 2$

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 20 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 - 1 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6, d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$ and $(d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq 2(d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 2$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u'1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$+(d(u) + 2)^2 - 16 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Case V: If $uv \notin E(G^*)$ and $|N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v)| = 2$. Let $t_1, t_2 \in N_{G^*}(u) \cap N_{G^*}(v)$.

Sub-Case V (a): If $i = 1$ and $j = 1$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 4 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 1)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') > \sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha)$, $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$ and $d(u)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq 2d(v)^2 \geq (d(u) + 1)^2$.

Sub-Case V (b): If $i = 1$ and $j > 1$. When $i = 1$ and $j = 2$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] + d(u)^2 \\ &+ (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, $d(u)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 1$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) = I$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 8 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$+d(u)^2 - 8 > 0.$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 5$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$.

Sub-Case V (c): If $i > 1$ and $j = 1$. When $i = 2$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 9 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') > \sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha)$, $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$ and $d(u)^2 + (d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 2)^2$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) + 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 + d(v)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') > \sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha)$, $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$ and $(d(u) + 1)^2 + d(v)^2 \geq d(v)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$.

Sub-Case V (d): If $i > 1$ and $j > 1$, When $i = 2$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 20 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_1, t_i\}_{i=1}^2)} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)^2_{i=1}} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &+ (d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 - 1 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, $(d(u) + 1)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 \geq 2(d(v) + 1)^2 \geq (d(v) + 2)^2$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(v) + 2)^2 + (d(v) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i = 2$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 16 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 1)^2 - 12 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$, and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. When $i \geq 3$ and $j \geq 3$,

$$\begin{aligned} NM_1(G^*) - NM_1(G^{**}) &= I \\ &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{u_{1,t_i}\})_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R}'' \in N_{G^*}(t_i)_{i=1}^2} d(\mathfrak{R}'') - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\ &\quad + (d(u) + 2)^2 - 16 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$ and $d_{G^*}(u) \geq d_{G^*}(v) \geq 3$. ■

Lemma 2.3. Suppose there exists a path u'_1, u'_2, \dots, u'_i , $i \geq 1$ attached to the vertex $u \in G^*$, where u is identified with the vertex u'_1 and $u'_1 v \in E(G^*)$. Construct $G^{**} = G^* - u'_1 v + u'_i v$, then $NM_1(G^*) > NM_1(G^{**})$.

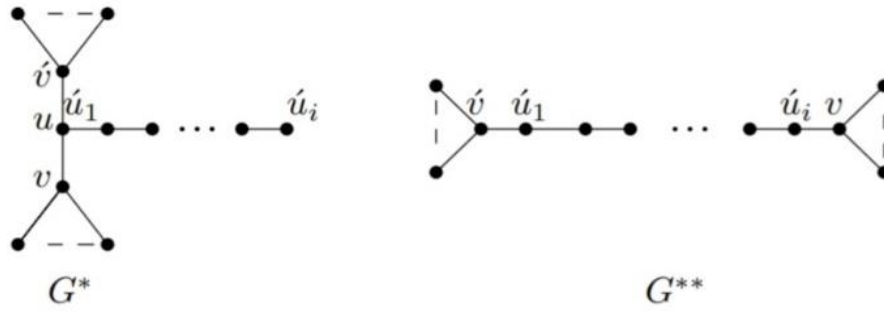


Figure 3: Graphs G^* and G^{**} (used within Lemma 2.3).

Proof. Since $d(u) \geq 3$, there will be three cases regarding the length of the path.

Case I: If $i = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= \text{I} \\
 &= \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 \\
 &\quad + \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(v)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - d(u) + 2 \right)^2 \\
 &\quad + \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \\
 &\quad + d(u)^2 - (d(u) + 1)^2 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq d(u) + 1$, implies that

$$\left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 1 \right)^2 - 1 \right] > (d(u) + 1)^2 - d(u)^2.$$

Case II: If $i = 2$,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= \text{I} \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 - 12 \right] \\
 &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - d(u) + 2 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \geq 6$.

Case III: If $i > 2$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{NM}_1(G^*) - \text{NM}_1(G^{**}) &= \text{I} \\
 &= \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma_\alpha) - 2 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &\quad + \left[\left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\gamma'_\alpha \in N_{G^*}(u)} d(\gamma'_\alpha) - d(u) + 2 \right)^2 - 19 \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &+ \left[\left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) \right)^2 - \left(\sum_{\mathfrak{R} \in N_{G^*}(\gamma_\alpha \setminus \{v, u_1\})} d(\mathfrak{R}) - 1 \right)^2 \right] \\
 &+ (d(u) + 2)^2 - (d(u) + 1)^2 > 0.
 \end{aligned}$$

■

Let U_n^i be the unicyclic graph collection derived by joining a path of length $n - i$ to the cycle C_i of length i . From Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, we have

Theorem 2.1. Let G^* be an unicyclic graph of order n and girth i . If $G^* \notin U_n^i$, then $NM_1(G^*) > NM_1(U_n^i)$.

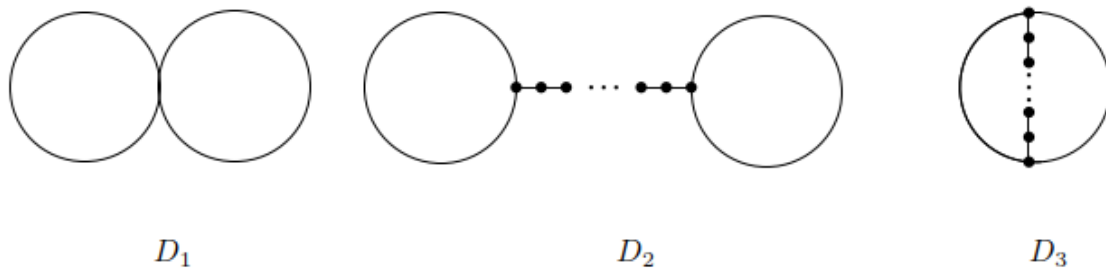


Figure 4: Graphs D_1, D_2 and D_3 (used in Theorem 2.2).

Theorem 2.2. Let C_n be the optimal (minimal) unicyclic graph from the collection of U_n with minimum neighborhood first Zegrab index.

Let D_1, D_2 and D_3 be the n -vertex bicyclic graphs showed in figure 4. From Lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, it is obvious that bicyclic graph with the minimum neighborhood first Zagreb index is one of the graphs D_1, D_2 and D_3 .

$$NM_1(D_1) = 16n + 128,$$

$$NM_1(D_2) = NM_1(D_3)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 16n + 102 & \text{if } uv \in E(D_3) \\ 16n + 96 & \text{if } uv \notin E(D_2) \text{ or } uv \notin E(D_3) \text{ and } |N(u) \cap N(v) \cap N(u) \cap N(v)| = 1; \\ 16n + 96 & \text{if } uv \notin E(D_2) \text{ or } uv \notin E(D_3) \text{ and } N(u) \cap N(v) = \phi, \end{cases}$$

So, the above findings brings closer to our extremal result that is stated below.

Theorem 2.3. The optimal (minimal) bicyclic graphs of order n with minimum neighborhood first Zagreb index are the graphs D_2 and D_3 , in which non-adjacent vertices of degree three exists without any common neighbor.

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