

# Uniquely dimensional graphs

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## Abstract

A set  $W \subseteq V(G)$  is called a resolving set, if for each two distinct vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$  there exists  $w \in W$  such that  $d(u, w) \neq d(v, w)$ , where  $d(x, y)$  is the distance between the vertices  $x$  and  $y$ . A resolving set for  $G$  with minimum cardinality is called a metric basis. A graph with a unique metric basis is called a uniquely dimensional graph. In this paper, we study some properties of uniquely dimensional graphs.

**Keywords:** Resolving set; Metric basis; Uniquely dimensional.

## 1 Introduction

Throughout the paper,  $G = (V, E)$  is a finite, simple, and connected graph of order  $n$ . The distance between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$ , denoted by  $d(u, v)$ , is the length of a shortest path between  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$ . For a vertex  $v \in V(G)$ ,  $\Gamma_i(v) = \{u \mid d(u, v) = i\}$ . The diameter of  $G$  is  $\text{diam}(G) = \max\{d(u, v) \mid u, v \in V(G)\}$ . The girth of  $G$  is the length of a shortest cycle in  $G$ . The set of all adjacent vertices to a vertex  $v$  is denoted by  $N(v)$  and  $|N(v)|$  is the degree of a vertex  $v$ ,  $\deg(v)$ . The maximum degree and the minimum degree of a graph  $G$ , are denoted by  $\Delta(G)$  and  $\delta(G)$ , respectively. The notations  $u \sim v$  and  $u \not\sim v$  denote the adjacency and non-adjacency relations between  $u$  and  $v$ , respectively.

For an ordered set  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  and a vertex  $v$  of  $G$ , the  $k$ -vector

$$r(v|W) = (d(v, w_1), d(v, w_2), \dots, d(v, w_k))$$

is called the *metric representation* of  $v$  with respect to  $W$ . The set  $W$  is called a *resolving set* for  $G$  if distinct vertices have different metric representations. A resolving set for  $G$  with minimum cardinality is called a *metric basis*, and its cardinality is the *metric dimension* of  $G$ , denoted by  $\beta(G)$ . If  $\beta(G) = k$ , then  $G$  is said to be  $k$ -dimensional.

In [14], Slater introduced the idea of a resolving set and used a *locating set* and the *location number* for what we call a resolving set and the metric dimension, respectively. He described

the usefulness of these concepts when working with U.S. Sonar and Coast Guard Loran stations. Independently, Harary and Melter [7] discovered the concept of the location number as well and called it the metric dimension. For more results related to these concepts see [3, 4, 6, 11]. The concept of a resolving set has various applications in diverse areas including coin weighing problems [13], network discovery and verification [1], robot navigation [11], mastermind game [3], problems of pattern recognition and image processing [12], and combinatorial search and optimization [13].

It is obvious that to see whether a given set  $W$  is a resolving set, it is sufficient to consider the vertices in  $V(G) \setminus W$ , because  $w \in W$  is the unique vertex in  $G$  for which  $d(w, w) = 0$ . When  $W$  is a resolving set for  $G$ , we say that  $W$  *resolves*  $G$ . In general, we say an ordered set  $W$  resolves a set  $T \subseteq V(G)$ , if for each two distinct vertices  $u, v \in T$ ,  $r(u|W) \neq r(v|W)$ .

The following bound is the known upper bound for the metric dimension.

**Theorem A.** [5] *If  $G$  is a connected graph of order  $n$  and diameter  $d$ , then  $\beta(G) \leq n - d$ .*

In [9, 10], the properties of  $k$ -dimensional graphs in which every  $k$  subset of vertices is a metric basis are studied. Such graphs are called randomly  $k$ -dimensional graphs. In the opposite point there are graphs which have a unique metric basis.

**Definition.** *A graph  $G$  is called uniquely dimensional if  $G$  has a unique metric basis. A uniquely dimensional graph  $G$  with  $\beta(G) = k$  is called a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph.*

In this paper, we first obtain some upper bounds for the metric dimension of uniquely dimensional graphs. Then, we give some construction for uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs of the given order. Finally, we obtain a lower bound and an upper bound for the minimum order of uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs in terms of  $k$ .

## 2 Some upper bounds

In this section we obtain some upper bounds for the metric dimension of uniquely dimensional graphs.

Two vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$  are called *twin* vertices if  $N(u) \setminus \{v\} = N(v) \setminus \{u\}$ . It is known that, if  $u$  and  $v$  are twin vertices, then every resolving set  $W$  for  $G$  contains at least one of the vertices  $u$  and  $v$ . Moreover, if  $u \notin W$  then  $(W \setminus v) \cup \{u\}$  is also a resolving set for  $G$ . [8]

For a uniquely dimensional graph we have the following fact.

**Lemma 1.** *If  $G$  is a uniquely dimensional graph, then  $G$  contains no twin vertices.*

**Proof.** Let  $B$  be the unique metric basis of  $G$ . If  $u, v \in V(G)$  are twin vertices, then  $u, v \in B$ ; otherwise we can replace the one in  $B$  with the other one. Now, since  $B \setminus \{u\}$  is not a basis of  $G$ , there is exactly one vertex  $w \in V(G) \setminus B$  such that  $r(u|B \setminus \{u\}) = r(w|B \setminus \{u\})$ . Consequently,  $(B \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{w\}$  is a metric basis of  $G$  different from  $B$ , which is a contradiction. ■

**Theorem 1.** *If  $G$  is a uniquely dimensional graph of order  $n$  and diameter  $d$ , then  $\beta(G) \leq n - d - 2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $(v_0, v_1, \dots, v_d)$  be a path of length  $d$  in  $G$ . Two sets  $V(G) \setminus \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_d\}$  and  $V(G) \setminus \{v_0, v_1, \dots, v_{d-1}\}$  are two resolving set of  $G$  of size  $n - d$ . Hence, if  $G$  is uniquely dimensional, then  $\beta(G) \leq n - d - 1$ . To complete the proof we show that  $\beta(G) \neq n - d - 1$ .

Let  $\beta(G) = n - d - 1$  and for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $\Gamma_i = \Gamma_i(v_0)$ . We claim that for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $\Gamma_i$  is an independent set or a clique; otherwise there exists an  $i$  for which  $\Gamma_i$  contains vertices  $x, y, z$  such that  $x \sim y$  and  $x \approx z$ . Therefore,  $V(G) \setminus \{y, z, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  is a metric basis of  $G$ . Now, if  $y \approx z$ , then  $V(G) \setminus \{x, z, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  and if  $y \sim z$ , then  $V(G) \setminus \{x, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  is another metric basis of  $G$ , respectively, which both are contradictions. Consequently, for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $\Gamma_i$  is an independent set or a clique.

Now let for some  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $|\Gamma_i| \geq 2$ . Then, all vertices in  $\Gamma_i$  are adjacent to all vertices in  $\Gamma_{i-1}$ ; otherwise there exist  $a \in \Gamma_{i-1}$  and  $x \in \Gamma_i$  such that  $a \approx x$ . Therefore,  $x$  has a neighbor in  $\Gamma_{i-1}$ , say  $b$ . Assume that  $y \in \Gamma_i$  and  $y \neq x$ . Clearly  $i \geq 2$ . Thus,  $V(G) \setminus \{a, b, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-2}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  is a metric basis of  $G$ . Now, if  $y \sim a$ , then  $V(G) \setminus \{b, x, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-2}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$ , and if  $y \approx b$ , then  $V(G) \setminus \{a, x, y, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-2}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  is another metric basis of  $G$ , respectively. These contradictions imply that  $y \approx a$  and  $y \sim b$ . Hence,  $V(G) \setminus \{a, b, x, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-2}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_d\}$  is a metric basis of  $G$ , which is also a contradiction. Consequently, all vertices in  $\Gamma_i$  are adjacent to all vertices in  $\Gamma_{i-1}$ .

The above two facts imply that, if  $|\Gamma_i| \geq 2$  and  $|\Gamma_{i+1}| \geq 2$ , then all vertices in  $\Gamma_i$  have the same neighbors in  $\Gamma_{i-1} \cup \Gamma_i \cup \Gamma_{i+1}$ . Therefore, all vertices  $u, v \in \Gamma_i$  are twin vertices, which by Lemma 1 this is impossible. Thus,  $|\Gamma_i| \geq 2$  implies that  $|\Gamma_{i+1}| = 1$  and  $|\Gamma_{i-1}| = 1$ . Hence, if  $|\Gamma_i| > 2$ , then since  $\Gamma_{i+1} = \{v_{i+1}\}$ , by the Pigeonhole principle there are two vertices  $u, v \in \Gamma_i$  with the same adjacency relation with  $v_{i+1}$ . Therefore,  $u$  and  $v$  are twin vertices, which is impossible. That is, for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq d$ ,  $|\Gamma_i| \leq 2$ . Now let  $j$  be the largest integer in  $\{1, 2, \dots, d\}$  with  $|\Gamma_j| = 2$  and  $\Gamma_j = \{v_j, y_j\}$ , where  $y_j$  is the vertex with no neighbor in  $\Gamma_{j+1}$ . Therefore, the sets  $\{v_0, v_d\}$  and  $\{v_0, y_j\}$  are two metric bases of  $G$ . This contradiction implies that  $\beta(G) \neq n - d - 1$ . ■

**Theorem 2.** *If  $G$  is a uniquely dimensional graph of order  $n$  and girth  $g$ , then  $\beta(G) \leq n - g + 1$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $C_g = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_g, v_1)$  be a shortest cycle in  $G$ . Then  $V(G) \setminus \{v_3, v_4, \dots, v_g\}$  and  $V(G) \setminus \{v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{g-1}\}$  are two resolving set for  $G$  of size  $n - g + 2$ . Since  $G$  has a unique basis, none of these two sets is a metric basis of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\beta(G) \leq n - g + 1$ . ■

**Theorem 3.** *If  $G$  is a uniquely dimensional graph of order  $n$ , then  $\beta(G) < \frac{n}{2}$ .*

**Proof.** By the contrary assume that  $G$  has a unique metric basis  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  and  $n \leq 2k$ . Since  $k \leq n - 1$ ,  $W = (V(G) \setminus B) \cup \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2k-n}\} \neq B$  with  $|W| = k$ . Therefore,  $W$  is not a basis of  $G$  and there exist vertices  $x, y \in V(G) \setminus W \subseteq B$  such that  $r(x|W) = r(y|W)$ . Say  $x = v_i$  and  $y = v_j$ . Hence, for each  $v \in V(G) \setminus B$ ,  $d(v, v_i) = d(v, v_j)$ . By this reason,  $B \setminus \{v_i\}$  resolves  $V(G) \setminus B$ . Therefore, there is exactly one vertex  $u \in V(G) \setminus B$  such that  $r(u|B \setminus \{v_i\}) = r(v_i|B \setminus \{v_i\})$ . Consequently,  $(B \setminus \{v_i\}) \cup \{u\}$  is a metric basis of  $G$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $2\beta(G) < n$ . ■

### 3 Construction of uniquely $k$ -dimensional graphs

In this section, we provide some construction for uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs of given order. Then we end with giving a lower bound and an upper bound for the minimum number of vertices in such graphs in terms of  $k$ .

**Remark 1.** *Note that, if  $G$  is a graph of diameter  $d$ , then every  $W \subseteq V(G)$  can resolve at most  $d^{|W|}$  vertices of  $V(G) \setminus W$ . Hence, every  $k$ -dimensional graph of diameter  $d$  has at most  $k + d^k$  vertices.*

In [2], Buczkowski et al. constructed a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph with diameter 2 and order  $k + 2^k$ .

**Theorem B.** [2] *For  $k \geq 2$ , there exists a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n = k + 2^k$ , diameter 2, and maximum degree  $n - 1$ .*

In the following theorem regarding to constructing uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs with diameter  $d$ , we obtain two necessary conditions for the existence of  $k$ -dimensional graphs with diameter  $d$  and order  $k + d^k$ .

**Theorem 4.** *If  $G$  is a  $k$ -dimensional graph with diameter  $d$  and order  $k + d^k$ , then*

- (i)  $d \leq 3$ .
- (ii) *For a basis  $B$  and every  $v \in B$ ,  $|\Gamma_d(v)| \geq d^{k-1}$ .*

**Proof.** (i) Let  $G$  be a  $k$ -dimensional graph of diameter  $d \geq 4$  and order  $k + d^k$ . Thus,  $V(G) = U \cup B$ , where  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{d^k}\}$  and the ordered set  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  is a basis of  $G$ . Clearly,  $\{r(u_i|B) \mid 1 \leq i \leq d^k\} = [d]^k$ , where  $[d]^k$  denotes the set of all  $k$ -tuples with entries in  $\{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $r(u_1|B) = (1, 1, \dots, 1)$  and  $r(u_2|B) = (4, 1, \dots, 1)$ . Therefore,  $d(v_1, v_2) \leq 2$  and  $d(u_2, v_1) \leq d(u_2, v_2) + d(v_2, v_1) \leq 3$ , a contradiction. Thus,  $d \leq 3$ .

(ii) Let  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ . By the order and diameter of  $G$ , each  $k$ -vector with coordinates in  $\{1, 2, \dots, d\}$  is the metric representation of a vertex  $u \in V(G) \setminus B$  with respect to  $B$ . Therefore, for each  $v \in B$ , there are  $d^{k-1}$  vertices of  $G$  that the  $i$ -th coordinate of their metric representations is  $d$ . Thus,  $|\Gamma_d(v)| \geq d^{k-1}$ . ■

In the following, we give a construction for uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs of diameter 3 and order  $k + 3^k$ .

**Theorem 5.** *For every integer  $k \geq 2$ , there exists a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of diameter 3 and order  $k + 3^k$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $U \cup W$ , where  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$  is an independent set and  $W$  is the set of all  $k$ -tuples with entries in  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  and two vertices  $x, y \in W$  are adjacent if they are different in exactly one coordinate and this difference is one. Moreover, the vertex  $(2, 2, \dots, 2)$  is adjacent to all vertices in  $W$ . Also,  $w \in W$  is adjacent to  $u_i \in U$  if the  $i$ -th coordinate of  $w$  is 1.

The vertex  $(2, 2, \dots, 2)$  is adjacent to all vertices in  $W$  and  $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$  is adjacent to all vertices in  $U$ , thus  $\text{diam}(G) \leq 3$ . On the other hand,  $d((3, 3, \dots, 3), u_1) = 3$ . Therefore,  $\text{diam}(G) = 3$ . Since  $\text{diam}(G) = 3$  and the order of  $G$  is  $k + 3^k$ , by Remark 1,  $\beta(G) \geq k$ . For each  $w \in W$ ,  $r(w|U) = w$ , thus,  $U$  is a resolving set for  $G$  of size  $k$ . Hence,  $U$  is a metric basis of  $G$ .

Now since  $\text{diam}(W) = 2$ , for each  $w \in W$ ,  $|\Gamma_1(w) \cup \Gamma_2(w)| \geq 3^k - 1$  and hence  $|\Gamma_3(w)| \leq k < 3^{k-1}$ . Therefore, by Theorem 4(ii), no vertex of  $W$  is in a metric basis of  $G$ . Consequently,  $U$  is the unique metric basis of  $G$ . ■

By Theorems 1 and 3, if  $G$  is a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n$ , then  $n \geq k + d + 2$  and  $n \geq 2k + 1$ . Let

$$n_0(k) = \min\{n \mid \text{there exists a uniquely } k\text{-dimensional graph of order } n\}.$$

Hence, we have  $\max\{2k + 1, k + d + 2\} \leq n_0(k)$ .

The following theorem shows that if a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n_0$  exists, then for every  $n \geq n_0$ , a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n$  exists.

**Theorem 6.** *If  $G$  is a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n_0$ , then for every  $n \geq n_0$ , there exists a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $G$  be a given uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $n_0$  and  $u$  be a vertex in the basis  $B$ . Assume that  $v_0 \in V(G) \setminus B$  is a vertex that  $d(v_0, u) = \max\{d(v, u) \mid v \in V(G) \setminus B\}$ . We construct a graph  $G'$  by identifying an end vertex of a path  $P$  of length  $n - n_0$  by  $v_0$ . By the property of  $v_0$ ,  $B$  is also a resolving set for  $G'$ . Thus,  $\beta(G') \leq k$ . On the other hand, since every basis of  $G'$  contains at most one vertex of the path  $P$ , by replacing that vertex by  $v_0$ , we obtain a basis for  $G$ . Thus,  $G'$  is also a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph. ■

In the following theorem we give a recursive construction for uniquely dimensional graphs to obtain an upper bound for  $n_0(G)$ .

**Theorem 7.** *If  $G_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ , is a uniquely  $k_i$ -dimensional graph of order  $n_i$  with  $\Delta(G_i) = n_i - 1$ , then there exists a uniquely  $(k_1 + k_2)$ -dimensional graph  $G$  of order  $n_1 + n_2 - 1$  with  $\Delta(G) = n_1 + n_2 - 2$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $G_i$  be a uniquely  $k_i$ -dimensional graph of order  $n_i$  with the basis  $B_i$  and  $v_i \in V(G_i)$  such that  $\deg(v_i) = n_i - 1$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $G$  be a graph that obtained from joining  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , and then identifying  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ , say  $v_0$ . Thus,  $\deg(v_0) = n_1 + n_2 - 2$ . Since for every  $u \in V(G_1) \setminus \{v_1\}$  and  $v \in V(G_2) \setminus \{v_2\}$ ,  $d(u, v) = 1$ , if  $B$  is a basis of  $G$ , then  $B \cap V(G_i)$  is a basis of  $G_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Therefore,  $B$  is the unique basis of  $G$ . ■

**Proposition 1.** *There exists a uniquely 3-dimensional graph of order 9 and maximum degree 8.*

**Proof.** Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$  and  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_6\}$ . Also let  $G$  be graph with  $V(G) = U \cup W$  and  $E(G) = \{w_i w_j \mid 1 \leq i \neq j \leq 6\} \cup \{u_i w_j \mid 1 \leq i \leq 3, j = i, i + 1, 6\}$ . We show that  $U$  is the unique basis of  $G$ .

Clearly,  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$ . Since  $|V(G)| = 9$ , by Remark 1,  $\beta(G) \geq 3$ . It is easy to see that  $U$  is resolving set and consequently is a basis of  $G$ . Now let  $B$  be another basis of  $G$ . Since  $\langle W \rangle$  is a complete graph,  $B \not\subseteq W$ . Therefore,  $|B \cap W| = 1$  or  $2$ . If  $|B \cap W| = 1$ , then five vertices of  $W$  have the same representation with respect to  $B \cap W$  while since  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$ ,  $B \setminus W$  can not resolve five vertices. If  $|B \cap W| = 2$ , then four vertices of  $W$  have the same representation with respect to  $B \cap W$  while  $B \setminus W$  can not resolve 4 vertices. These contradictions imply that  $U$  is the unique basis of  $G$ . ■

In the following theorem, based on the recursive construction in Theorem 7, we obtain an upper bound for  $n_0(k)$ .

**Theorem 8.** *For every  $k$ ,  $k \geq 2$ , there exists a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $\lceil \frac{5k}{2} + 1 \rceil$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $k$  be a positive integer. If  $k = 2k'$ , then the graph  $G$  obtained by the recursive construction given in Theorem 7 from  $k'$  copies of the uniquely 2-dimensional graph of order 6, constructed in Theorem B is a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $6k' - (k' - 1) = 5k' + 1 = \frac{5k}{2} + 1$ .

If  $k = 2k' + 1$ , then the graph  $G$  obtained by the recursive construction given in Theorem 7 from  $k' - 1$  copies of the uniquely 2-dimensional graph of order 6, constructed in Theorem B and one copy of the uniquely 3-dimensional graph of order 9 given in Proposition 1, is a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $6(k' - 1) - (k' - 2) + 8 = 5k' + 4 = \lceil \frac{5k}{2} + 1 \rceil$ . ■

Although the above theorem provides the recursive construction for uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs of order  $\lceil \frac{5k}{2} + 1 \rceil$ , to get the more explicit construction, we construct uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graphs of order  $3k$ , in the following theorem.

**Theorem 9.** *For each  $k \geq 2$ , there exists a uniquely  $k$ -dimensional graph of order  $3k$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k\}$  and  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_{2k}\}$ . Also, let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G) = U \cup W$  such that the induced subgraph  $\langle W \rangle$  of  $G$  be a complete graph,  $U$  be an independent set,  $u_k$  be adjacent to  $w_{2i}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , and for each  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ ,  $u_i$  be adjacent to  $w_{2i-1}$  and  $w_{2i}$ . We prove that  $G$  is the desired graph.

Let  $w_i$  and  $w_j$  be two arbitrary vertices of  $V(G) \setminus U = W$ . If  $i$  and  $j$  have different parity, then  $d(w_i, u_k) \neq d(w_j, u_k)$ . If  $i$  and  $j$  have the same parity, then  $\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \rfloor \neq \lfloor \frac{j}{2} \rfloor$  and hence  $d(w_i, u_i) \neq d(w_j, u_i)$ . Therefore,  $U$  is a resolving set for  $G$  of size  $k$  and  $\beta(G) \leq k$ .

Now let  $B$  be a metric basis of  $G$ . If  $u_k \notin B$ , then to resolve the set  $\{u_1, w_1, w_2, w_{2k-1}, w_{2k}\}$ ,  $B$  should contain at least three vertices from this set, since  $\langle W \rangle$  is a complete graph, while

replacing these three vertices by  $u_1$  and  $u_k$  provides a resolving set with smaller size. This contradiction implies that  $u_k \in B$ . If for some  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ ,  $u_i \notin B$ , then to resolve the set  $\{u_i, w_{2i-1}, w_{2i}, w_{2k-1}, w_{2k}\}$ ,  $B$  should contain at least two vertices from  $\{w_{2i-1}, w_{2i}, w_{2k-1}, w_{2k}\}$ , because  $\langle W \rangle$  is a complete graph. But replacing these two vertices by  $u_i$  provides a resolving set with smaller size. This contradiction implies that  $U \subseteq B$ . Since  $U$  is a resolving set,  $U = B$  is the unique metric basis of  $G$ . ■

By Theorems 3 and 8, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.** *Let  $k \geq 2$  be an integer. Then  $2k + 1 \leq n_0(k) \leq \lceil \frac{5k}{2} + 1 \rceil$ .*

For  $k = 2$ ,  $n \geq 4 + d$  implies  $n \geq 6$ . Hence,  $n_0(2) = 6$ . It can be seen, there is no uniquely 3-dimensional graph of order 7. Thus,  $8 \leq n_0(3) \leq 9$ . The determination of  $n_0(k)$ , for every integer  $k$  could be an nontrivial interesting problem.

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