Temha Erkoç; Utku Yilmaztürk; İsmail Ş. Güloğlu

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Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, Vol. 68 (2018), No. 3, 647–656

Persistent URL: `http://dml.cz/dmlcz/147358`

Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, 68 (143) (2018), 647–656

FINITE GROUPS WHOSE CHARACTER DEGREE GRAPHS COINCIDE WITH THEIR PRIME GRAPHS

Temha Erkoç, Utku Yilmaztürk, İsmaİl Ş. Güloğlu, İstanbul

Received October 19, 2016. Published online March 2, 2018.

Abstract. In the literature, there are several graphs related to a finite group G. Two of them are the character degree graph, denoted by $\Delta(G)$, and the prime graph, $\Gamma(G)$. In this paper we classify all finite groups whose character degree graphs are disconnected and coincide with their prime graphs. As a corollary, we find all finite groups whose character degree graphs are square and coincide with their prime graphs.

Keywords: finite groups; character degree graph; prime graph

MSC 2010: 20C15

1. Introduction

Let G be a finite group and let $\mathrm{Irr}(G)$ be the set of all irreducible complex characters of G. The set of all irreducible complex character degrees of G is denoted by $\mathrm{cd}(G)$ so that $\mathrm{cd}(G) = \{\chi(1)\colon \chi \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)\}$. The character degree graph of G, written $\Delta(G)$, is the graph whose set of vertices $\varrho(G)$ is the set of primes that divide degrees in $\mathrm{cd}(G)$ with an edge between distinct primes p and q if and only if pq divides some complex irreducible character degrees of G.

Let $\pi(m)$ denote the set of primes that divide the integer m. The prime graph of G, denoted $\Gamma(G)$, is the graph with vertex set $\pi(G) := \pi(|G|)$. In this graph, two distinct vertices p, q are connected by an edge if and only if there exists an element of order pq in G.

In this paper, we are interested in finite groups G whose character degree graph coincides with its prime graph, namely, $\pi(G) = \varrho(G)$ and G has an element of order pq if and only if there exists an irreducible character degree of G which can be

The work of the second author was supported by Scientific Research Projects Coordination Unit of Istanbul University. The project number is 48029.

DOI: 10.21136/CMJ.2018.0553-16

divisible by pq (for all p and q in $\pi(G)$). In this case we write $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$. In this paper, we classify all finite groups whose character degree graphs are disconnected and coincide with their prime graphs. The main theorems are the following.

Theorem 1.1. *Let G be a finite nonsolvable group. Then $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ and it is disconnected if and only if G is isomorphic to one of the following groups:*
(a) $\mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ *for an integer* $n \geqslant 2$,
(b) $\mathrm{PGL}(2, q)$ *where* $5 \leqslant q$ *is odd.*

Theorem 1.2. *Let G be a finite solvable group. Then $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ and it is disconnected if and only if G belongs to the following family, say $(*)$:*
"G is the semi-direct product of a Frobenius subgroup $H := \langle x\rangle \rtimes \langle y\rangle$ acting on an elementary abelian p-group V for some prime p, $C_H(V) = 1$, $\langle x\rangle$ acts irreducibly on V, $|V| = q^{o(y)}$ where q is a p-power and $o(y)$ is the order of y in G, $p \mid o(y)$ and $(q^{o(y)} - 1)/(q - 1) \mid o(x)$"

2. Disconnected graphs

In an unpublished paper, Gruenberg and Kegel have given the following classification of all finite groups with disconnected prime graph, see [7].

Theorem 2.1 (see [7])**.** *If G is a finite group whose prime graph has more than one component, then G has one of the following structures:*
(a) *Frobenius or 2-Frobenius;*
(b) *simple;*
(c) *an extension of a π_1-group by a simple group;*
(d) *simple by π_1-solvable; or*
(e) *π_1 by simple by π_1 where π_1 is the connected component of $\Gamma(G)$ containing* 2.

As a corollary, a finite solvable group whose prime graph is disconnected is Frobenius or 2-Frobenius.

Disconnected graphs have been studied extensively and the groups having disconnected character degree graph have been classified. The paper [2] contains the classification of the solvable groups G where $\Delta(G)$ is disconnected. Then, Lewis and White have completed the classification of all finite groups having disconnected character degree graph by [4].

Theorem 2.2 (see [4])**.** *Let G be a group. Then $\Delta(G)$ has three connected components if and only if $G = S \times A$ where $S \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ for an integer $n \geqslant 2$ and A is an abelian group.*

Theorem 2.3 (see [4])**.** *Let G be a nonsolvable group. Then $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components if and only if there exist normal subgroups $N \subseteq K$ such that the following conditions hold:*

(i) *$K/N \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$, where $q \geqslant 4$ is a power of a prime p.*

(ii) *If $C/N = C_{G/N}(K/N)$, then $C/N \subseteq Z(G/N)$ and G/K is abelian.*

(iii) *If $q \geqslant 5$, then p does not divide $|G : CK|$.*

(iv) *If $N > 1$, then either $K \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, q)$ or there is a normal subgroup L of G such that $K/L \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, q)$, L is elementary abelian of order q^2, and K/L acts transitively on the nonprincipal characters in $\mathrm{Irr}(L)$.*

(v) *If $p = 2$ or $q = 5$, then either $CK < G$ or $N > 1$.*

(vi) *If $p = 2$ and $N > 1$, then every nonprincipal character in $\mathrm{Irr}(L)$ extends to its stabilizer in G.*

The next theorem will be used often in the proof of Theorem 1.2.

Theorem 2.4 (see [2])**.** *Let G be a finite solvable group. Then $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components if and only if G belongs to one of the following families:*

(i) *G has a normal nonabelian Sylow p-subgroup P and an abelian p-complement K for some prime p, $P' \leqslant C_P(K)$ and every nonlinear irreducible character of P is fully ramified with respect to $P/C_P(K)$;*

(ii) *G is the semi-direct product of a subgroup H acting on a subgroup P where P is elementary abelian of order 9 and $\mathrm{cd}(H) = \{1, 2, 3\}$, $C_H(P) \leqslant Z(H)$ and $H/C_H(P) \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, 3)$;*

(iii) *G is the semi-direct product of a subgroup H acting on a subgroup P where P is elementary abelian of order 9 and $\mathrm{cd}(H) = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, $C_H(P) \leqslant Z(H)$ and $H/C_H(P) \cong \mathrm{GL}(2, 3)$;*

(iv) *G is the semi-direct product of a subgroup H acting on an elementary abelian p-group V for some prime p, $|H : F(H)| > 1$, $|V| = q^{|H:F(H)|}$ where q is a p-power, $C_H(V) \leqslant Z(H)$, $F(H)/C_H(V)$ is abelian, $F(H)$ acts irreducibly on V, $(|H : F(H)|, |F(H) : C_H(V)|) = 1$ and $(q^{|H:F(H)|} - 1)/(q - 1)$ divides $|F(H) : C_H(V)|$;*

(v) *G has a normal nonabelian 2-subgroup Q and an abelian 2-complement K such that $|G : KQ| = 2$ and G/Q is not abelian, $Q' \leqslant C_Q(K)$ and $C_K(Q)$ is central in G, every nonlinear irreducible character of Q is fully ramified with respect to $Q/C_Q(K)$ which is an elementary abelian 2-group of order 2^{2a} for some positive integer a and is an irreducible K-module, moreover, $K/C_K(Q)$ is abelian of order $2^a + 1$;*

(vi) *G is the semi-direct product of an abelian group D acting coprimely on a group T such that $[T, D]$ is a Frobenius group with nonabelian p-group* *(for a prime p), Frobenius kernel $T' = [T, D]'$ and a Frobenius complement B with $[B, D] \leqslant B$, every character in $\mathrm{Irr}(T \mid T'')$ is D-invariant, T'/T'' is B-irreducible, $|T' : T''| = q^m$ where q is a p-power, $m = |D : C_D(T')|$ and $(q^m - 1)/(q - 1)$ divides $|B|$.*

3. Subgroups of $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q))$

Let us consider the special linear group $\mathrm{SL}(2, q)$ where $q = p^f$ for some prime p. Let δ and φ be automorphisms of $\mathrm{SL}(2, q)$ whose actions on the elements of the group are

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{\delta} = \begin{bmatrix} a & \nu^{-1}b \\ \nu c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{\varphi} = \begin{bmatrix} a^p & b^p \\ c^p & d^p \end{bmatrix}$$

where ν is a fixed generator of F_q^*, the multiplicative group of the field F_q of q elements. Since the center of $\mathrm{SL}(2, q)$ is invariant under the actions of δ and φ, these maps induce the automorphisms $\overline{\delta}$ and $\overline{\varphi}$ on $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q) = \mathrm{SL}(2, q)/Z$ by $(gZ)^{\overline{\delta}} = g^{\delta}Z$ and $(gZ)^{\overline{\varphi}} = g^{\varphi}Z$, as usual. We will denote these induced automorphisms on $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$ by δ, φ as well. In this case, the outer automorphism group of $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$ is generated by the diagonal automorphism δ and the field automorphism φ and has order df, where $d = (2, q - 1)$. It is also well known that $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)\langle\delta\rangle \cong \mathrm{PGL}(2, q)$ and $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)) = \mathrm{PS}L(2, q)\langle\delta, \varphi\rangle \cong \mathrm{PGL}(2, q)\langle\varphi\rangle$.

If q is even, then δ is an inner automorphism and $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)) = \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)\langle\varphi\rangle$, and if q is odd, then δ is an outer automorphism but δ^2 is inner. Hence δ is of order $d = (2, q - 1)$ modulo inner automorphisms. Also φ is of order f. Moreover, if q is odd, then δ and φ commute modulo inner automorphisms, so that $\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q))/\mathrm{PSL}(2, q) \cong \langle\delta\rangle \times \langle\varphi\rangle$.

Lemma 3.1 (see [6]). *If $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q) < G \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q))$ with $q = p^f$, p an odd prime, then one of the following casses occurs:*

(a) *$\delta \in G$ so that $\mathrm{PGL}(2, q) \leqslant G$ and $G = \mathrm{PGL}(2, q)\langle\varphi^k\rangle$ for some $k \mid f$ with $1 \leqslant k \leqslant f$;*

(b) *$G = \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)\langle\varphi^k\rangle$ for some $k \mid f$ with $1 \leqslant k < f$;*

(c) *$G = \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)\langle\delta\varphi^k\rangle$ for some $k \mid f$ with $1 \leqslant k < f$ and f/k even.*

Theorem 3.2 (see [4]). *Let $N \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$, where $q = p^n$ for a prime p and $q > 5$. Suppose $N < G \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(N)$. If p divides $|G : N|$, then $\Delta(G)$ is a connected graph. If p does not divide $|G : N|$, then $\Delta(G)$ has exactly two connected components, $\{p\}$ and $\pi(|G : N|(q^2 - 1))$.*

Lemma 4.1. *If G is a Frobenius group, then $\Delta(G)$ is complete.*

Proof. We can say first that $F(G)$, Frobenius kernel of G, has a complete character degree graph which is a subgraph of $\Delta(G)$ and that $\chi^G \in \mathrm{Irr}(G)$, $\chi^G(1) = \chi(1)[G : F(G)] \in \mathrm{cd}(G)$ for all $\chi \in \mathrm{Irr}(F(G))$. Thus $\Delta(G)$ must be complete since $\varrho(G) = \varrho(F(G)) \cup \pi([G : F(G)])$. □

Corollary 4.2. *Let G be a finite group. If $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$, then G is not a Frobenius group.*

Proof. Assume that G is a Frobenius group. Then $\Gamma(G)$ is a disconnected graph. So we are done by Lemma 4.1 □

Now we prove Theorem 1.1.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. Let G be a finite nonsolvable group and let $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ be disconnected. By a result of Manz, Williams and Wolf the character degree graph for any finite group has at most three connected components. Thus, $\Delta(G)$ has two or three connected components since it is disconnected.

Case 1. $\Delta(G)$ has three connected components:

By Theorem 2.2, we know that $G \cong S \times A$ where $S \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ for an integer $n \geqslant 2$ and A is an abelian group. Since $\Gamma(G)$ is disconnected, $Z(G) = 1$ and so $A = 1$. Thus, $G \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ for an integer $n \geqslant 2$ as desired. By a result of Dickson ([1], page 213) which gives all subgroups of $\mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$ where $q \geqslant 4$, it follows that $\Gamma(\mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n))$ has three connected components, $\{2\}$, $\pi(2^n - 1)$ and $\pi(2^n + 1)$ where $n \geqslant 2$, and each component is a complete graph in this graph. Thus we see that $\Delta(\mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)) = \Gamma(\mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n))$ for $n \geqslant 2$ by Theorem 3.1 of [6].

Case 2. $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components:

Then G has normal subgroups N and K that satisfy conditions (i)–(vi) of Theorem 2.3.

(a) If $N = 1$ then $K \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$, $q \geqslant 4$ and q is a power of a prime p by (i).

First, suppose $p = 2$ so that $K \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$. Since $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components but $\Delta(K)$ has three connected components, we see that $K < G$. Moreover, $K < G \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K)$ since $C_G(K) \leqslant Z(G) = 1$ by (ii). Assume $q > 5$, then 2 does not divide the index $|G : K|$ and 2 is an isolated vertex in $\Delta(G)$ by Theorem 3.2. But this contradicts the fact that G/K is a 2-group by Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 4.2. Thus $q \leqslant 5$ and so $K \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 4) \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 5) \cong A_5$ where A_5 is the alternating group of degree five and so we find $G = \mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, 4)) \cong \mathrm{PGL}(2, 5) \cong S_5$ since $|\mathrm{Aut}(\mathrm{PSL}(2, 4)) : \mathrm{PSL}(2, 4)| = 2$. Indeed, $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ for $G \cong \mathrm{PGL}(2, 5)$ and these graphs have two connected components.

Now we may suppose that $p > 2$. Since $\mathrm{PSL}(2,4) \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2,5) \cong A_5$, we may assume that $q > 5$. Since $\Delta(\mathrm{PSL}(2,q))$ has two connected components by Theorem 3.1 of [6] and $\Gamma(\mathrm{PSL}(2,q))$ has three connected components, $\Delta(K) \neq \Gamma(K)$ and so $\mathrm{PSL}(2,q) \cong K < G \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K)$. Thus G is one of the groups (a), (b), (c) of Lemma 3.1. If $G = \mathrm{PGL}(2,q)$ then we know that $\mathrm{cd}(G) = \{1, q, q-1, q+1\}$ and $\mu(G) = \{p, q-1, q+1\}$ where $\mu(G)$ is the subset of elements in the set of orders of elements in G which are maximal under the divisibility relation. Therefore, we see that $\Delta(\mathrm{PGL}(2,q)) = \Gamma(\mathrm{PGL}(2,q))$ and this graph has two connected components. Now assume $G \neq \mathrm{PGL}(2,q)$. If G is one of the groups (a) and (b), then $\varphi^k \in G$ for some $k \mid f$ with $1 \leqslant k < f$ by Lemma 3.1. Since $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\varphi^k} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, φ^k centralizes an element of order p in G. On the other hand, p does not divide the index $|G : K|$ and p is an isolated vertex in $\Delta(G)$, and so $\Gamma(G)$ by Theorem 3.2. Therefore, the order of φ^k is a power of p. But this is a contradiction since $1 \neq \varphi^k K \in G/K$. Now let G be as in (c) of Lemma 3.1. Thus, $G = K\langle \delta\varphi^k \rangle$ for some proper divisor k of f. If $f \neq 2k$, then G has the element $1 \neq \varphi^{2k}$ outside K, and centralizes an element of order p of K, which is a contradiction. Thus, $f = 2k$ and so $|G : K| = 2$. In this case, we find $\Gamma(G) = \Gamma(K)$ since every involution of G lies in K. But this is also a contradiction since $\Gamma(K)$ has three connected components.

(b) If $N > 1$ then by (iv), either $K \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q)$ or there exists a normal subgroup L of G such that $K/L \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q)$, L is elementary abelian of order q^2, and K/L acts transitively on the nonprincipal characters in $\mathrm{Irr}(L)$.

Suppose that $K \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q)$. In this case $p \neq 2$. Otherwise, $K \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q) \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2,q) \cong K/N$ and so N would be trivial. This contradiction shows that $p \neq 2$. Thus we may assume that $q > 5$. Since $Z(K) \cong Z(\mathrm{SL}(2,q)) > 1$, K is a proper subgroup of G. $K/N \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2,q)$ and $K \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q)$ yield that the order of N is 2. Then we conclude that $\Gamma(G/N)$ is also disconnected since $\pi(G/N) = \pi(G)$ and $\Gamma(G)$ is disconnected. Thus, the center of G/N is trivial. By using (ii), we obtain that $\mathrm{PSL}(2,q) \cong K/N < G/N \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K/N)$. Furthermore, $\Delta(G/N)$ is disconnected by Lemma 3.1 of [4] . So, p does not divide $|G : K|$ and the connected components of $\Delta(G/N)$ are $\{p\}$ and $\pi(|G : K|(q^2 - 1))$ by Theorem 3.2. Thus, by Corollary 3.2. of [4], p is an isolated vertex in $\Delta(G)$. But $\mathrm{SL}(2,q) \cong K$, a subgroup of G, contains an element with order $2p$ and so p is not an isolated vertex in $\Gamma(G)$ (recall that we consider the case where p is not 2). This contradicts the assumption $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$.

Now we may suppose that G has a normal elemantary abelian subgroup L with order q^2 such that $K/L \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,q)$. Let $1 \neq \upsilon \in \mathrm{Irr}(L)$ and set $T = I_G(\upsilon)$ (the inertia group of υ in G). Since the action of K/L on $\mathrm{Irr}(L) - \{1\}$ is transitive, we have $|K : K \cap T| = q^2 - 1$.

First, assume that $p = 2$. Then we know that $q^2 - 1 \in \mathrm{cd}(K)$ by (vi). Suppose $K = G$, then T is a Sylow 2-subgroup of G and $q^2 - 1$ is an irreducible character degree of G. It implies that $\Delta(G)$ has two complete connected components, $\{2\}$ and $\pi(q^2-1)$ since $\pi(G) = \{2\} \cup \pi(q^2-1)$ and $\Delta(G)$ $(= \Gamma(G))$ is disconnected. Thus there exists an element g in G such that $o(g) = ab$ where $a \in \pi(q-1)$ and $b \in \pi(q+1)$. This implies that $G/L \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, q)$ has an element with order ab. But this contradicts the fact that $\Gamma(\mathrm{PSL}(2, q))$ has three connected components, $\{2\}$, $\pi(q - 1)$ and $\pi(q + 1)$. Thus K is proper in G. Since $\pi(G/L) = \pi(G)$ and $\Gamma(G)$ is disconnected, we see that $\Gamma(G/L)$ is also disconnected and so the center of G/L is trivial. Thus, by (ii), $C_{G/L}(K/L) = 1$ and so $K/L < G/L \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K/L)$. $\Delta(G/L)$ is also disconnected by Lemma 3.1 of [4]. If $q > 5$, then 2 does not divide the index $|G : K|$ and $\Delta(G/L)$ has exactly two connected components, $\{2\}$ and $\pi(|G : K|(q^2 - 1))$ by Theorem 3.2. Thus, by Corollary 3.2 of [4], 2 is an isolated vertex in $\Delta(G)$ and so in $\Gamma(G)$. Then, by Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 4.2, we see that G/K is a 2-group. This forces that $G = K$ which is a contradiction. So $q = 4$. In this case, $K/L \cong \mathrm{SL}(2, 4) \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 4) \cong A_5$. Since $K/L < G/L \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K/L) \cong S_5$, we have $G/L \cong S_5$. Since $\pi(G/L) = \pi(G)$ and $\Delta(G)$ is disconnected, we find that $\Delta(G) = \Delta(S_5)$, which is the disconnected graph with two complete connected components, $\{2, 3\}$ and $\{5\}$. But this is a contradiction because we have $15 \in \mathrm{cd}(K)$ by (vi) and so by the normality of K in G, there exists an edge between the primes 3 and 5 in $\Delta(G)$.

Now we consider in the case where $p \neq 2$. We may assume that $K < G$. Otherwise, we find the contradiction that $\Gamma(G)$ is connected since $\pi(G/L) = \pi(G)$ and $\Gamma(G/L)$ is connected. We also know that $|N| = 2|L|$ and so $\pi(G/N) = \pi(G)$. Thus $\Gamma(G/N)$ is disconnected and so $Z(G/N) = 1$. By (ii), $C_{G/N}(K/N) = 1$ and so $K/N < G/N \leqslant \mathrm{Aut}(K/N)$. By Lemma 3.1 of [4], $\Delta(G/N)$ is also disconnected. Therefore, p does not divide the index $|G : K|$ and $\Delta(G/N)$ has exactly two connected components, $\{p\}$ and $\pi(|G : K|(q^2 - 1))$ by Theorem 3.2. Thus, by Corollary 3.2 of [4], p is an isolated vertex in $\Delta(G)$ and so in $\Gamma(G)$. Finally, we see that p is an isolated vertex in $\Gamma(G/L)$. But this is a contradiction since $\mathrm{SL}(2, q) \cong K/L < G/L$ and so G/L has an element of order $2p$. So we are done with the proof of Theorem 1.1. $\square$

Let G be a nonsolvable finite group with $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$. By the proof of Theorem 1.1, we understand that $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components if and only if G is isomorphic to $\mathrm{PGL}(2, q)$ where $5 \leqslant q$ is odd, and $\Delta(G)$ has three connected components if and only if G is isomorphic to $\mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ for an integer $n \geqslant 2$.

Now we deal with the solvable case which is Theorem 1.2.

Proof of Theorem 1.2. Let G be a finite solvable group with disconnected $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$. Since $\Delta(G)$ is a disconnected graph, we know that G belongs to one of the families (i)–(vi) in Theorem 2.4. First assume that G satisfies the hypotheses of (i). Since $1 < P' \leqslant C_P(K)$ and K is abelian, we find that $\Gamma(G)$ is complete. But this contradicts the hypothesis that $\Gamma(G)$ is disconnected.

Let G satisfy the hypotheses of (ii). We know that $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components, $\{2\}$ and $\{3\}$ by Lemma 3.2 of [2], $\pi(|G|) = \{2,3\}$ since $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$. Thus we find that $\pi(|H|) = \{2,3\}$ and so $Z(H) = 1$ since $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ is disconnected and $\mathrm{cd}(H) = \{1,2,3\}$. Finally, $H \cong \mathrm{SL}(2,3)$ since $C_H(P) \leqslant Z(H) = 1$. But this is not possible because there exists an element of order 6 in $\mathrm{SL}(2,3)$.

If G satisfies the hypotheses of (iii) then $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components, $\{2\}$ and $\{3\}$ by Lemma 3.3 of [2]. Similarly, we find that $H \cong \mathrm{GL}(2,3)$, but this is also a contradiction. So G cannot be of type (iii).

Now suppose that G satisfies the hypotheses of (v). $\Delta(G)$ has two connected components, $\{2\}$ and $\pi(2^a+1)$ by Lemma 3.5 of [2]. But in this case $\Gamma(G)$ is complete, since $1 < Q' \leqslant C_Q(K)$. So we find that $\Gamma(G)$ does not coincide with $\Delta(G)$.

Finally we will assume that G satisfies the hypotheses of (vi) and look for a contradiction. We know that any solvable group with a disconnected prime graph is a Frobenius group or 2-Frobenius group. Thus G is a 2-Frobenius group by Corollary 4.2. Write F and E/F for the Fitting subgroups of G and G/F, respectively. By Lemma 3.6 of [2], we can see that $F = P$ and $E = T = PQ$ where P is a normal Sylow p-subgroup of G and Q is a p-complement. Thus E is a Frobenius group with the kernel P since G is a 2-Frobenius group. It follows that p is an isolated vertex in $\Gamma(E)$ and so in $\Gamma(G)$ since E is a normal Hall subgroup of G. But this is not possible since $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$ has two connected components, $\pi([E:F]) \cup \{p\}$ and $\pi([D : C_D(T')])$ by Lemma 3.6 of [2].

Now, let G be as in (iv). In this case, G is a 2-Frobenius group. Write F and E/F for the Fitting subgroups of G and G/F respectively. We see that $C_H(V) = Z(G) = 1$, $F = V$ and $E = VF(H)$ by Lemma 3.4 of [2]. Groups $G/V (\cong H)$ and $E = VF(H)$ are Frobenius groups since G is a 2-Frobenius group. Moreover, $G/E (\cong H/F(H))$ and $E/V (\cong F(H))$ are cyclic. Therefore, there exist $x, y \in H$ such that $H = \langle x \rangle \rtimes \langle y \rangle$. Finally, we find that G is the semi-direct product of a Frobenius subgroup $H := \langle x \rangle \rtimes \langle y \rangle$ acting on an elementary abelian p-group V for some prime p, $C_H(V) = 1$, $\langle x \rangle$ acts irreducibly on V, $|V| = q^{o(y)}$ where q is a p-power, $p \mid o(y)$ and $(q^{o(y)} - 1)/(q-1) \mid o(x)$ as desired. Conversely, for any group G of this type, $\Delta(G)$ coincides with $\Gamma(G)$ and these two graphs have two connected components, $\pi(o(x))$ and $\pi(o(y))$. □

Corollary 4.3. *Let K be a finite solvable group where $\Delta(K) = \Gamma(K)$ is square. Then $K = A \times B$ where A and B, normal Hall subgroups of K, belong to the following family, say $(**)$:*

"G is the semi-direct product of a Frobenius subgroup $H := \langle x\rangle \rtimes \langle y\rangle$ acting on an elementary abelian p-group V for some prime p, $C_H(V) = 1$, $\langle x\rangle$ acts irreducibly on V, $o(x)$ is a power for some prime r, $|V| = q^{o(y)}$ where q and $o(y)$ are a p-power and $(q^{o(y)} - 1)/(q - 1) \mid o(x)$".

Proof. Let K be a finite solvable group where $\Delta(K) = \Gamma(K)$ is square with vertex set $\varrho(K) = \{p, r, q, s\}$ and edge set $\{pq, ps, rq, rs\}$. By [3], we know that $K = A \times B$ where $\varrho(A) = \{p, r\}$ and $\varrho(B) = \{q, s\}$. A is the normal Hall $\{p, r\}$-subgroup of K and B is the normal Hall $\{q, s\}$-subgroup of K since $\Delta(K) = \Gamma(K)$ is square and $K = A \times B$. It follows that $\Delta(A) = \Gamma(A)$ is the disconnected graph with connected components $\{p\}$, $\{r\}$. Similarly $\Delta(B) = \Gamma(B)$ is the disconnected graph with the connected components $\{q\}$, $\{s\}$. Thus A and B belong to the family $(**)$ by Theorem 1.2. □

Corollary 4.4. *Let K be a finite solvable group with $F = F(K)$ abelian. Suppose that $\Delta(K) = \Gamma(K)$ and there is no complete vertex in $\Delta(K)$. Then $K = D_1 \times \ldots \times D_n$ where D_i, normal Hall subgroups of K, belong to the family $(*)$ of Theorem 1.2 for all i.*

Proof. By [5], we know that for an integer n, $F = M_1 \times \ldots \times M_n \times Z(K)$ with $M_1, \ldots, M_n$ minimal normal subgroups of K and, moreover, $K = D_1 \times \ldots \times D_n$ where $M_i \leqslant D_i$ and $\Delta(D_i)$ is disconnected for all i. Since there is no complete vertex in $\Delta(K)$ $(= \Gamma(K))$, we see that $D_1, \ldots, D_n$ are Hall subgroups of K and $\pi(|K|) = \varrho(K) = \varrho(D_1) \cup \ldots \cup \varrho(D_n)$ so that $\varrho(D_i) \cap \varrho(D_j) = \emptyset$ for every $1 \leqslant i \neq j \leqslant n$. Thus we find that $\varrho(D_i) = \pi(D_i)$ and so $\Delta(D_i) = \Gamma(D_i)$ for all i since $\Delta(K) = \Gamma(K)$. As $\Delta(D_i) = \Gamma(D_i)$ is disconnected, D_i belongs to the family $(*)$ of Theorem 1.2 for all i. □

Corollary 4.5. *Let G be a finite group and $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$. Suppose that $G = D_1 \times \ldots \times D_n$ where D_i is the normal Hall subgroup of G and $\Delta(D_i)$ is disconnected for all i.*

(a) *If G is solvable, then D_i belongs to the family $(*)$ of Theorem 1.2 for all i.*
(b) *If G is nonsolvable, then there exists only one normal Hall subgroup D_j such that $D_j \cong \mathrm{PSL}(2, 2^n)$ (for an integer $n \geqslant 2$) or $D_j \cong \mathrm{PGL}(2, q)$ ($5 \leqslant q$ is odd) and for all $i \neq j$, D_i belongs to the family $(*)$ of Theorem 1.2.*

Proof. It follows from the main theorems. □

We close this paper by asking a question which we are not able to answer. Which finite groups satisfy the property $\Delta(G) = \Gamma(G)$?

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Authors' addresses: Temha Erkoç, Utku Yilmaztürk, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Istanbul University, Vezneciler, 34134 Fatih, Istanbul, Turkey, e-mail: erkoctemha@gmail.com, uyilmazturk@gmail.com; İsmail Ş. Güloğlu, Department of Mathematics, Doğuş University, Hasanpaşa Mah., Zeamet Sok. No: 21, 34722 Acıbadem, Istanbul, Turkey, e-mail: iguloglu@dogus.edu.tr.