

# $(a, b)$ - $KA$ Indices of Benzenoid Systems and Phenylenes: The General Case

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**Abstract:** In a recent paper by Kulli, two new vertex-degree-based (VDB) topological indices were put forward, called  $(a,b)$ - $KA$  indices, depending on real-number parameters  $a$  and  $b$ . The majority of hitherto studied VDB indices are special cases of  $(a,b)$ - $KA$  indices, for particular values of  $a$  and  $b$ . In this paper, we give generally valid expressions for  $(a,b)$ - $KA$  indices of benzenoid systems and phenylenes, as well as of the respective coindices.

**Keywords:** Topological index, first  $(a, b)$ - $KA$  index, second  $(a, b)$ - $KA$  index, benzenoid system, phenylene.

**Mathematics Subject Classification:** 05C05, 05C07, 05C90

## I. Introduction

Nowadays there exist several dozens of vertex-degree-based (VDB) topological indices [1,2], proposed in order to serve as molecular structure descriptors. In a recent paper [3], one of the present authors introduced two more VDB indices, named first and second  $(a, b)$ - $KA$  indices, that depend on real-number parameters  $a$  and  $b$ . For a molecular graph  $G$  whose vertex and edge sets are  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$ , respectively, these indices are defined as [3]

$$KA_{a,b}^1(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} [d_G(u)^a + d_G(v)^a]^b \quad (1)$$

and

$$KA_{a,b}^2(G) = \sum_{uv \in E(G)} [d_G(u)^a \cdot d_G(v)^a]^b \quad (2)$$

where  $d_G(u)$  is the degree (= number of first neighbors) of the vertex  $u \in V(G)$ , and where the summation goes over all pairs  $u, v$  of adjacent vertices of  $G$ . The respective coindices are defined as [3].

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^1(G) = \sum_{uv \notin E(G)} [d_G(u)^a + d_G(v)^a]^b \quad (3)$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^2(G) = \sum_{uv \notin E(G)} [d_G(u)^a \cdot d_G(v)^a]^b \quad (4)$$

where the summation goes over all pairs of non-adjacent vertices, assuming that  $u \neq v$ .

The significance of the  $KA$ -indices lies on the fact that their special cases, for pertinently chosen values of the parameters  $a$  and  $b$ , coincide with the vast majority of previously considered VDB descriptors. For instance, for  $a = b = 1$ ,  $KA_{a,b}^1$  coincides with the half-century old “first Zagreb index” [4], whereas for  $a = 1, b = -1/2$ ,  $KA_{a,b}^2$  reduces to the classical “Randić index” [5]. For  $a = 2, b = -1/2$ ,  $KA_{a,b}^1$  is equal to the recently conceived “Sombor index” [6]. For more details see in [3].

In [3], the two  $KA$ -indices and their coindices were calculated for several families of benzenoid hydrocarbons. However, the general case was not solved. In what follows we fill this gap, and offer formulas for  $KA_{a,b}^1, KA_{a,b}^2$  and their coindices, valid for all benzenoid systems. In order to do this, we need to recall some basic facts of the topological theory of benzenoid molecules [7].

## II. Elements of the theory of benzenoid systems

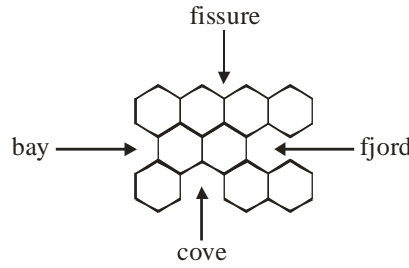
Let  $B$  be the molecular graph of a benzenoid hydrocarbon. In what follows we refer to it as a “benzenoid system” [7]. The main topological properties of benzenoid systems are determined by three parameters, namely:

- $n = n(B)$ , the number of vertices (i.e., number of carbon atoms in the underlying benzenoid molecule),
- $h = h(B)$ , the number of hexagons (i.e., the number of six-membered rings of the underlying benzenoid molecule),
- $r = r(B)$ , the number of inlets.

The number of inlets is equal to the number of strings of 3-degree vertices on the boundary of  $B$ . Namely, when going along the boundary of the benzenoid system  $B$ , one encounters vertices of degree 2 and of degree 3. The feature determined



by the sequence 232 is said to be a “fissure”. The features pertaining to the sequences 2332, 23332, and 233332, are referred to as “bay”, “cove”, and “fjord”, respectively. For an illustrative example see Figure 1.



**Figure1.** A benzenoid system and the features on its boundary. It has 4 fissures, one bay, one cove, and one fjord. Thus its number of inlets  $isr = 4+1 + 1 + 1 = 7$ .

All vertices of a benzenoid system  $B$  are either of degree 2 or of degree 3. Their numbers are

$$\begin{aligned} n_2 &= n_2(B) = 2h - 2 \\ n_3 &= n_3(B) = n - 2h + 2. \end{aligned}$$

The edges of  $B$  connect either two vertices of degree 2, or two vertices of degree 3, or a vertex of degree 2 with a vertex of degree 3. Their numbers are  $m_{22}$ ,  $m_{33}$ , and  $m_{23}$ , respectively. It has been shown [7,8] that

$$\begin{aligned} m_{22} &= m_{22}(B) = n - 2h - r + 2 \\ m_{33} &= m_{33}(B) = 3h - r - 3 \\ m_{23} &= m_{23}(B) = 2r. \end{aligned}$$

If we denote by  $\bar{m}_{ij}$  the number of pairs of non-adjacent vertices of  $B$  having degrees  $i$  and  $j$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{m}_{22} &= \bar{m}_{22}(B) = \binom{n_2}{2} - m_{22} \\ \bar{m}_{33} &= \bar{m}_{33}(B) = \binom{n_3}{2} - m_{33} \\ \bar{m}_{23} &= \bar{m}_{23}(B) = n_2 n_3 - m_{23}. \end{aligned}$$

We see that all structural details of  $B$ , needed in the subsequent section, are determined by the three fundamental parameters  $n$ ,  $h$ , and  $r$ .

### III. General expressions for $(a, b)$ -KA indices of benzenoid systems

Bearing in mind the considerations in the previous section, Eqs. (1), (2), (3), and (4) can be rewritten as

$$KA_{a,b}^1(B) = [2^a + 2^a]^b m_{22}(B) + [3^a + 3^a]^b m_{33}(B) + [2^a + 3^a]^b m_{23}(B)$$

$$KA_{a,b}^2(B) = [2^a \times 2^a]^b m_{22}(B) + [3^a \times 3^a]^b m_{33}(B) + [2^a \times 3^a]^b m_{23}(B)$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^1(B) = [2^a + 2^a]^b \bar{m}_{22}(B) + [3^a + 3^a]^b \bar{m}_{33}(B) + [2^a + 3^a]^b \bar{m}_{23}(B)$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^2(B) = [2^a \times 2^a]^b \bar{m}_{22}(B) + [3^a \times 3^a]^b \bar{m}_{33}(B) + [2^a \times 3^a]^b \bar{m}_{23}(B)$$

from which it follows

$$KA_{a,b}^1(B) = 2^{(a+1)b} (n - 2h - r + 2) + 2^b 3^{ab} (3h - r - 3) + 2(2^a + 3^a)^b r \tag{5}$$

$$KA_{a,b}^2(B) = 2^{2ab} (n - 2h - r + 2) + 3^{2ab} (3h - r - 3) + 2 \cdot 6^{2ab} r \tag{6}$$

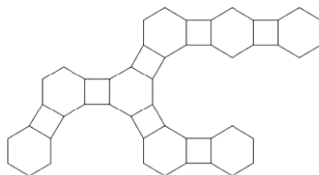
$$\begin{aligned} \overline{KA}_{a,b}^1(B) &= 2^{(a+1)b} [(h-1)(2h-3) - (n-2h-r+2)] \\ &\quad + 2^b 3^{ab} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (n-2h+2)(n-2h+1) - (3h-r-3) \right] + 2(2^a + 3^a)^b [(h-1)(n-2h+2) - r] \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{KA}_{a,b}^2(B) &= 2^{2ab} [(h-1)(2h-3) - (n-2h-r+2)] + 3^{2ab} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (n-2h+2)(n-2h+1) - (3h-r-3) \right] \\ &\quad + 2 \cdot 6^{ab} [(h-1)(n-2h+2) - r]. \end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

These formulas enable the calculation of KA-indices and coindices of any benzenoid system, for which the easily established parameters  $n$ ,  $h$ ,  $r$  are known.

#### IV. Elements of the theory of phenylenes

Phenylenes are a kind of chemical compounds whose carbon atoms form 6 and 4 members cycles in it. Every 4-membered cycle (or square) is next to two disjoint 6-membered cycles (or hexagons) and no two hexagons are found to be next to each other. By calculation, we obtain that a phenylene  $P$  has  $6h$  vertices and  $8h - 2$  edges, where  $h$  is the member of hexagons in  $P$ [8]. The graph of  $P$  with 8 hexagons is shown in Figure 2.



PH

Figure 2. Graph of a phenylene  $P$ .

As for the example of phenylenes, a fissuse, bay, cove, fjord, and lagoon are considered in the same manner as the benzenoid systems [8].

All vertices of a phenylene  $P$  are either of degree 2 or of a degree 3. Their numbers are

$$p_2 = p_2(P) = 2h + 4$$

$$p_3 = p_3(P) = 4h - 4.$$

The edge set  $E(P)$  can be divided into three partitions [8]:

$$e_{22} = e_{22}(P) = 2h - r + 4 = n - 4h - r + 4$$

$$e_{33} = e_{33}(P) = 6h - r - 6$$

$$e_{23} = e_{23}(P) = 2r.$$

If we denote by  $\bar{e}_{ij}$  the number of pairs of non-adjacent vertices of  $P$  having degree  $i$  and  $j$ , then

$$\bar{e}_{22}(P) = \binom{p_2}{2} - e_{22}$$

$$= (h+2)(2h+3) - (n-4h-r+4)$$

$$\bar{e}_{33}(P) = \binom{p_3}{2} - e_{33}$$

$$= (2h-2)(4h-5) - (6h-r-6)$$

$$\bar{e}_{23}(P) = p_2 p_3 - e_{23}$$

$$= (2h+4)(4h-4) - 2r.$$

We see that all structural details of  $P$ , needed in the subsequent section, are computed by the three fundamental parameters  $n$ ,  $h$ , and  $r$ .

#### V. General expressions for $(a, b)$ -KA indices of phenylenes

Bearing in mind the considerations in the previous section, Eqs. (1), (2), (3) and (4) can be rewritten as

$$KA_{a,b}^1(P) = [2^a + 2^a]^b e_{22}(P) + [3^a + 3^a]^b e_{33}(P) + [2^a + 3^a]^b e_{23}(P)$$

$$KA_{a,b}^2(P) = [2^a \times 2^a]^b e_{22}(P) + [3^a \times 3^a]^b e_{33}(P) + [2^a \times 3^a]^b e_{23}(P)$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^1(P) = [2^a + 2^a]^b \bar{e}_{22}(P) + [3^a + 3^a]^b \bar{e}_{33}(P) + [2^a + 3^a]^b \bar{e}_{23}(P)$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^2(P) = [2^a \times 2^a]^b \bar{e}_{22}(P) + [3^a \times 3^a]^b \bar{e}_{33}(P) + [2^a \times 3^a]^b \bar{e}_{23}(P)$$

from which it follows.

$$KA_{a,b}^1(P) = 2^{(a+1)b} (n - 2h - r + 4) + 2^b 3^{ab} (6h - r - 6) + 2(2^a + 3^a)^b r$$

$$KA_{a,b}^2(P) = 2^{2ab} (n - 4h - r + 4) + 3^{2ab} (6h - r - 6) + 2 \times 6^{2ab} r$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^1(P) = 2^{(a+1)b} [(h+2)(2h-3) - (n-4h-r+4)] + 2^b 3^{ab} [(2h+2)(4h-5) - (6h-r-6)]$$

$$+ 2(2^a + 3^a)^b [(2h+4)(4h-4) - 2r]$$

$$\overline{KA}_{a,b}^2(P) = 2^{2ab} [(h+2)(2h+3) - (n-4h-r+4)] + 3^{2ab} [(2h+2)(4h-5) - (6h-r-6)]$$

$$+2 \times 6^{ab} [(2h-4)(4h-4) - 2r].$$

These formulas enable the calculation of KA-indices and coindices of any phenylene for which the easily obtained parameters  $n$ ,  $h$ ,  $r$  are known.

## VI. Conclusion

In this study, the  $(a, b)$ -KA indices and coindices of benzenoid systems and phenylenes are determined.

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