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Let G be a k -connected graph of order n and let α and $c(G)$ be the independence number of G and the circumference of G , respectively. If $\alpha \leq k$, Chvátal and Erdős showed that G is hamiltonian. For $\alpha \geq k \geq 2$, Fouquet and Jolivet in 1978 made the conjecture that $c(G) \geq \frac{k(n+\alpha-k)}{\alpha}$, which was recently confirmed by Suil O, D. B. West and H. Wu. Under the same condition, we obtained the following two results:

1. $c(G) \geq \min \left\{ n, \max \left\{ \frac{k(n+\alpha-k)}{\alpha}, k \left\lfloor \frac{n+2\alpha-2k}{\alpha} \right\rfloor \right\} \right\};$

2. For every nonempty induced subgraph H , there is a cycle C in G such that $|V(C) \cap V(H)| \geq \min \left\{ |H|, k \left\lfloor \frac{|H|+\alpha(H)-k}{\alpha(H)} \right\rfloor \right\}.$

Set $f(G) := \min \left\{ |G|, \max \left\{ \frac{k(|G|+\alpha(G)-k)}{\alpha(G)}, k \left\lfloor \frac{|G|+2\alpha(G)-2k}{\alpha(G)} \right\rfloor \right\} \right\}$. Notice that $f(G)$ is not monotonic according to the inclusion order of subgraphs. We further improve the first result by showing that

$$c(G) \geq \max \{ f(H) : H \text{ is any nonempty induced subgraph of } G \}.$$

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