1122-05-358Jill Faudree* (jrfaudree@alaska.edu), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, Fairbanks,
AK 99709, and Ron Gould, Michael Jacobson and Brent Thomas. Saturation Number and
Saturation Spectrum of Brooms.

Let H be a graph. A graph G is H-saturated if G contains no copy of H as a subgraph, but for each edge e in \overline{G} , the graph G + e contains a copy of H. The saturation number of H, written sat(n, H), is the minimum number of edges in an H-saturated graph with n vertices (assuming $n \ge |V(H)|$). A broom, $B_{s,t}$, is a tree on s+t vertices formed by identifying the end vertex of a path on s vertices with the center vertex of a $K_{1,t}$. We determine $sat(n, B_{s,t})$ for all brooms such that $t \ge 6$.

The saturation spectrum for a graph H, which is denoted spec(n, H), is the set of sizes of H-saturated graphs between sat(n, H) and ex(n, H), the extremal number of H. We prove that the saturation spectrum for a broom contains every integer from sat(n, H) to within a constant of ex(n, H). Additionally, we determine completely the saturation spectrum for a number of small brooms.

Some interesting examples and open problems will be presented.

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