

**Meeting:** 999, Nashville, Tennessee, SS 14A, Special Session on Graph Theory and Matroid Theory

999-05-253

**Guantao Chen** and **Ralph Faudree\*** (rfaudree@memphis.edu), Provost Office, Administration Building 360, University of Memphis, Memphis, TN 38152, and **Ronald Gould, Michael Jacobson, Linda Lesniak** and **Florian Pfender**. *Hamiltonian Graphs and Linear Forests*.

Given integers  $k, s, t$  with  $0 \leq t \leq s$  and  $k \geq 0$ , a  $(k, s, t)$ -linear forest  $F$  is a graph that is the vertex disjoint union of  $s$  paths with  $k$  edges and with  $t$  of the paths being single vertices. A graph  $G$  is  $(k, s, t)$ -hamiltonian if for any  $(k, s, t)$ -linear Forest  $F$  there is a hamiltonian cycle of  $G$  containing  $F$ . Given an integers  $m$  and  $n$  with  $k + s \leq m \leq n$ , a graph  $G$  of order  $n$  is  $(k, s, t, m)$ -pancyclic if for any  $(k, s, t)$ -linear forest  $F$  and any integer  $r$  with  $m \leq r \leq n$ , there is a cycle of length  $r$  containing the linear forest  $F$ . Minimum degree conditions and minimum sum of degree conditions of nonadjacent vertices that imply a graph is  $(k, s, t)$ -hamiltonian and conditions that imply a graph is  $(k, s, t, m)$ -pancyclic are proved. (Received August 24, 2004)