

## On the Cordiality of Corona Graphs

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**Abstract:** Let  $G_1, G_2$  be simple graphs with  $n_1, n_2$  vertices and  $m_1, m_2$  edges respectively. The *Corona graph*  $G_1 \circ G_2$  of  $G_1$  with  $G_2$  is obtained by taking one copy of  $G_1$ ,  $n_1$  copies of  $G_2$  and then joining each vertex of  $G_1$  to all the vertices of a copy of  $G_2$ .

For a graph  $G$ , by the *index of cordiality*  $i(G)$  we mean  $\min\{|e_f(0) - e_f(1)|\}$ , where the minimum is taken over all the binary labelings of  $G$  with  $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| \leq 1$ . In this paper, we investigate the cordiality of  $G \circ \overline{K}_t$ ,  $K_n \circ \overline{K}_t$  and  $G \circ C_t$  where  $G$  is a graph with the index of cordiality  $k$ .

### Introduction

Throughout this paper, all graphs are finite, simple and undirected. Let  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  denote the vertex set and edge set of a graph  $G$ . A mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is called a binary vertex labeling of  $G$  and  $f(v)$  is called the label of the vertex  $v$  under  $f$ . For an edge  $e = uv$ , the induced edge labeling  $\overline{f} : E(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is given by  $\overline{f}(e) = |f(u) - f(v)|$ . Let  $v_f(0), v_f(1)$  be the number of vertices in  $G$  having labels 0 and 1 respectively under  $f$ . Let  $e_f(0), e_f(1)$  be the number of edges having labels 0 and 1 respectively under  $\overline{f}$ .

**Definition:** For a graph  $G$ , by the *index of cordiality*  $i(G)$  we mean  $\min\{|e_f(0) - e_f(1)|\}$  where the minimum is taken over all the binary labelings of  $G$  with  $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| \leq 1$ .

A graph  $G$  is called a *cordial graph* if  $i(G) \leq 1$  and a binary labeling  $f$  of  $G$  is called a *cordial labeling* if  $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$ .

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One can easily see that  $i(K_{2t}) = t = i(K_{2t+1})$  and  $i(C_{4t}) = 0, i(C_{4t+1}) = 1 = i(C_{4t+3}), i(C_{4t+2}) = 2$ .

Cordial graphs were first introduced by Cahit as a weaker version of both graceful and harmonious graphs [7]. In the same paper, Cahit proved the following:

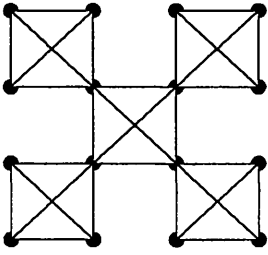
**Theorem 1:** If  $G$  is an Eulerian graph with  $e$  edges, where  $e \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then  $G$  has no cordial labeling.

In [1] several families of wheel related graphs were shown to be cordial. A fan  $F_m$  is a cycle  $C_m$  with  $m - 3$  concurrent chords. Shee and Ho [9] proved that the one point union  $F_m^{(n)}$  of  $n$  copies of the fan (shell)  $F_m$  are cordial for all  $m \geq 3, n \geq 1$ . In [2], this result was generalized for one point union of fans of arbitrary sizes, that is, multiple shells. A  $t$ -uniform homeomorph  $P_t(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is obtained by replacing each edge of the graph  $G$  by a path of length  $t$ . In [3], the cordiality of  $P_t(G)$  was investigated while in [4], a necessary and sufficient conditions for the cordiality of the  $t$ -uniform homeomorphs of complete graphs were found. A ply is a vertex disjoint union of many paths having common end points. An elongated ply is a graph each of whose blocks is a ply and whose block-cut-vertex tree is a path. In [5], [6] it was proved that plys as well as elongated plys are cordial if and only if they are not ruled out by Theorem 1.

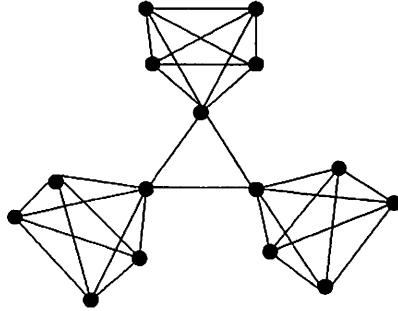
**Definition:** Let  $G_1, G_2$  be two graphs with  $|V(G_i)| = n_i, |E(G_i)| = m_i, i = 1, 2$ . The *Corona* graph  $G_1 \circ G_2$  of  $G_1$  with  $G_2$  is the graph obtained by taking one copy of  $G_1$  and  $n_1$  copies of  $G_2$  and then joining the  $i$ th vertex of  $G_1$  to all the vertices in the  $i$ th copy of  $G_2$ .

This term was introduced in [8]. Clearly this graph operation is not commutative and  $|V(G_1 \circ G_2)| = n_1(1 + n_2), |E(G_1 \circ G_2)| = m_1 + n_1(m_2 + n_2)$ . In this paper, we investigate the cordiality of  $G \circ \overline{K}_t$  and  $G \odot C_t$ . The following figure gives  $K_4 \circ K_3$  and  $K_3 \circ K_4$ .

Let  $G$  be a graph with  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $i(G) = k$ . Let  $V(\overline{K}_t) =$



$K_4 \circ K_3$



$K_3 \circ K_4$

$\{v_1, \dots, v_t\}$ . The edge set  $E(\overline{K_t})$  is empty. Let  $g$  be a binary labeling of  $G$  such that  $|v_g(0) - v_g(1)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_g(0) - e_g(1)| = k$ . If necessary by interchanging the labels 0 and 1 in the labeling  $g$ , we can assume that  $v_g(0) \geq v_g(1)$ . Whenever possible, we extend this labeling  $g$  of  $G$  to a cordial labeling  $f$  of  $G \circ \overline{K_t}$  and of  $G \circ C_t$ .

**Method of Extension:** There are  $v_g(0)$  vertices of  $G$  which are assigned label 0 by  $G$ . In  $G \circ \overline{K_t}$  there are  $t \cdot v_g(0)$  new vertices adjacent to these vertices. While constructing  $f$ , we will choose  $x$  number of these new vertices and assign them label 0. Similarly, there are  $v_g(1)$  vertices of  $G$  which are assigned label 1 by  $G$ . In  $G \circ \overline{K_t}$  there are  $t \cdot v_g(1)$  new vertices adjacent to these vertices. While constructing  $f$ , we will choose  $y$  number of these new vertices and assign them label 0. All the remaining new vertices will be assigned the value 1 by the labeling  $f$ . The values  $x$  and  $y$  will be chosen suitably in each case so as to make the labeling cordial. It follows that for the labeling  $f$ , so constructed,

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + x + y, \\
 v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + (t \cdot v_g(0) - x) + (t \cdot v_g(1) - y), \\
 e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + x + (t \cdot v_g(1) - y), \\
 e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + (t \cdot v_g(0) - x) + y.
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{**}$$

### Cordiality of $G \circ \overline{K_t}$ .

We split the analysis into two parts, according to the parity of  $t$ . Both the proofs are similar.

**Theorem 2:** Let  $g$  be a binary labeling of a graph  $G$  such that  $i(G) = |e_g(0) - e_g(1)|$ , then  $g$  can be extended (by the method of extension) to a cordial labeling of  $G \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  if and only if  $n$  is not even with  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ .

**Proof:** Here  $t = 2m$ . Let  $k = 4p + r, 0 \leq r \leq 3$  and  $n = 2q + s, s = 0, 1$ .

**Case 1:**  $n$  is even, that is  $n = 2q$  where  $q$  is even. This means  $v_g(0) = q = v_g(1)$ . Further  $|V(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})| = n + 2nm = 2q + 4mq$  and  $|E(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})| = |E(G)| + 2nm = |E(G)| + 4mq$ . From the above it is clear that  $|V(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})|$  is even, whereas  $|E(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})|$  is even or odd according as  $|E(G)|$  is even or odd. Thus  $|E(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})|$  is even if and only if  $k$  is even. Hence if  $f$  is to be a cordial labeling of  $G \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$ , then  $v_f(0)$  must be equal to  $v_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1)$  or  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 1$  depending on whether  $k$  is even or odd. Note that for this case we are assuming that  $k \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . The following table gives the chosen values of  $x$  and  $y$  in various cases.

$r$	Case	$x$	$y$	$e_f(0)$	$e_f(1)$
0	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p$	$mq + p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p$	$mq - p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p$
1	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p$	$mq + p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p$	$mq - p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + 1$
3	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p - 1$	$mq + p + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + 3$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + 2$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p + 1$	$mq - p - 1$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + 2$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + 3$

Using equations (\*\*), one can easily see that in all these cases  $v_f(0) =$

$q(1 + 2m) = v_f(1)$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 2:**  $n$  is odd, that is  $n = 2q + 1$  and  $s = 1$ . This means  $v_g(0) = q + 1, v_g(1) = q$  and  $|V(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})| = (2q + 1)(2m + 1) = 4mq + 2q + 2m + 1$  and  $|E(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}})| = |E(G)| + 2m(2q + 1)$ . Again, the following table gives the chosen values of  $x$  and  $y$  in various cases.

$r$	Case	$x$	$y$	$e_f(0)$	$e_f(1)$
0	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p$ $+m$	$mq + p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p$ $+m$	$mq - p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$
1	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p$ $+m$	$mq + p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p$ $+m$	$mq - p$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$
2	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p$ $+m - 1$	$mq + p$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p$ $+m$	$mq - p$ $-1$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$
3	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$mq - p - 1$ $+m$	$mq + p + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$	$e_g(1) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 2$
	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$mq + p + 1$ $+m$	$mq - p - 1$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 2$	$e_g(0) + 2mq$ $+2p + m + 1$

Using equations (\*\*), one can easily see that in all these cases  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

Now we assume that  $k = 4p + 2$  and  $n$  is even. In this case, we show that no values of  $x$  and  $y$  are possible such that the extension  $f$  of  $g$  is cordial. Suppose  $f$  is a cordial labeling for some  $x$  and  $y$ . Since  $v_f(0) - v_f(1) = 2x + 2y - 4mq$ , which is even, it must be zero. This gives  $x + y = 2mq$ . Also, either  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$  or  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$ . Similarly,  $e_f(0) - e_f(1) = 2x - 2y + 4p + 2$  or  $e_f(0) - e_f(1) = 2x - 2y - 4p - 2$ , which is again even. Hence, it must be zero. This gives either  $y - x = 2p - 1$

or  $x - y = 2p + 1$ . Solving these equations, we get  $x = \frac{2mq - 2p - 1}{2}$  or  $x = \frac{2mq + 2p + 1}{2}$  which are not integers. Hence, no cordial extension  $f$  of  $g$  is possible.

**Remark:** If we take  $e_f(0) - e_f(1) = 2$  instead of 0, one gets  $x = mq - p, y = mq + p$  or  $x = mq + p + 1, y = mq - p - 1$ . We will thus get a binary extension  $f$  of  $g$  to  $G \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  such that  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 2$ . Thus,  $i(G \circ \overline{K_{2m}}) \leq 2$ , that is, this corona graph is either cordial or has index of cordiality 2.

**Corollary:** If  $G$  is a cordial graph on  $n$  vertices and  $g$  is a cordial labeling of  $G$ , then  $g$  can be extended to a cordial labeling of  $G \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$ .

**Theorem 3:** The corona  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  is cordial if and only if  $n \not\equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ .

**Proof:** We know that  $i(K_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ . Let  $g$  be a binary labeling of  $K_n$  which assigns the label 0 to  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  vertices of  $K_n$  and the label 1 to  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  vertices of  $K_n$ . Then  $v_g(0) = v_g(1)$  or  $v_g(0) = v_g(1) + 1$  and  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$ , where  $k = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ . From Theorem 2, we know that this labeling cannot be extended to a cordial labeling  $f$  of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  if and only if  $n$  is even with  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . Thus we get a cordial labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  whenever  $n$  is not of the form  $2k, k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , that is,  $n = 4q$  where  $q$  is odd. We note that  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  has  $n + 2nm$  vertices and  $2q(4q - 1) + 2nm$  edges. Thus if  $f$  is to be a cordial labeling for  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$ , then  $v_f(0)$  must be equal to  $v_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0)$  must be equal to  $e_f(1)$ .

If possible, let  $f$  be a cordial labeling of labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m}}$  where  $n = 4q$ , with  $q$  odd. Let  $g$  be the restriction of  $f$  to the vertices of  $K_n$  in this corona graph. Let  $v_g(0) = a$  and  $v_g(1) = n - a$ . One can easily see

that  $e_g(0) = \frac{a(a-1)}{2} + \frac{(n-a)(n-a-1)}{2}$  and  $e_g(1) = a(n-a)$ . Then

$$v_f(0) = a + x + y,$$

$$v_f(1) = (n-a) + (2am-x) + (2m(n-a)-y)$$

$$= n-a + amn - x - y,$$

$$e_f(0) = \frac{a(a-1)}{2} + \frac{(n-a)(n-a-1)}{2} + x + (2m(n-a)-y),$$

$$e_f(1) = a(n-a) + (2am-x) + y.$$

The conditions on the vertex labels and edge labels given by  $f$  imply

$$x + y = 4mq + 2q - a$$

$$x - y = 4aq - a^2 + 2am - 4mq - 4q^2 + q.$$

Solving these two equations, we get  $x = 2aq + am - 2q^2 - \frac{a(a+1)}{2} + \frac{3q}{2}$ .

In this expression, all but the last term are integers and the last term  $3q/2$  is not since  $q$  is odd, that is for no value of  $a$  do we have integral solutions  $x$  and  $y$ . Hence  $K_{4q} \odot \overline{K_{2m}}$  cannot have a cordial labeling.  $\square$

The proof of the next theorem is similar to that of Theorem 2. Hence, we give only the values of  $x$  and  $y$ .

**Theorem 4:** Let  $g$  be a binary labeling of a graph  $G$ , such that  $i(G) = |e_g(0) - e_g(1)|$ , then  $g$  can be extended (by method of extensin) to a cordial labeling of  $G \odot \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  if and only if  $G$  does not satisfy the following:

- (a)  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$
- (b)  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  with  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$
- (c)  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  with  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$
- (d)  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$
- (e)  $k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  with  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$
- (f)  $k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ ,  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , with  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$ .

Moreover, in those cases,  $i(G \odot \overline{K_{2m+1}}) \leq 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $k = 4p + r$ ,  $n = 4q + s$ ,  $0 \leq r, s \leq 3$ . The table below gives

values of  $x$  and  $y$  for the cases in which  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

$r$	$s$	Case	$x$	$y$
0	0	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + q - p$	$2mq + q + p$
0	0	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + q + p$	$2mq + q - p$
0	1	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + q + p$
0	1	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + m + q + p$	$2mq + q - p$
0	3	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + 2m + q + 1 - p$	$2mq + m + q + p$
0	3	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + 2m + q + 1 + p$	$2mq + m + q - p$
1	0	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + q - p$	$2mq + q + p$
1	0	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + q + p$	$2mq + q - p$
1	1	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + q + p$
1	2	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + m + q + p + 1$
1	2	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + m + q + 1 + p$	$2mq + m + q - p$
1	3	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + 2m + q + 1 + p$	$2mq + m + q - p$
2	1	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + q + p$
2	1	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + m + q + p + 1$	$2mq + q - p - 1$
2	2	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + m + q + p + 1$
2	2	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + m + q + 1 + p$	$2mq + m + q - p$
2	3	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + 2m + q - p$	$2mq + m + q + 1 + p$
2	3	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + 2m + q + p + 1$	$2mq + m + q - p$
3	0	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + q - p - 1$	$2mq + q + p + 1$
3	0	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + q + p + 1$	$2mq + q - p - 1$
3	1	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + q + p + 1$	$2mq + q - p - 1$
3	2	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + m + q + p + 1$
3	2	$e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$	$2mq + m + q + 1 + p$	$2mq + m + q - p$
3	3	$e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$	$2mq + m + q - p$	$2mq + m + q + p + 1$

It can be shown, by proving that the only possible values of  $x, y$  for cordiality are not integers, that the cordial extension  $f$  of  $g$  is not possible



in the remaining cases which are listed in the statement of the Theorem. As before, it can be shown that in all these cases,  $i(G \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}) \leq 2$ .

**Corollary:** Let  $G$  be a cordial graph on  $n$  vertices. Any cordial labeling  $g$  of  $G$  can be extended to a cordial labeling of  $G \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  if and only if  $G$  does not satisfy any of the following:

(a)  $G$  has an even number of edges and  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ .

(b)  $G$  has an odd number of edges and either  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , with  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + 1$  or  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , with  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + 1$ .

**Theorem 5:** The corona graph  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  is cordial if and only if  $n \not\equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .

**Proof:** As before  $i(K_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor = k$ . By Theorem 4, any binary labeling  $g$  of  $K_n$  with  $v_g(0) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ ,  $v_g(1) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  and  $e_g(1) = e_g(0) + k$ , can be extended to a cordial labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  in all except six cases. We now check which of the six cases apply in this context.

Case (i) If  $n$  is even, write  $n = 4q + s$ ,  $s = 0, 2$ .

If  $s = 0$ , then  $n = 4q$ ,  $k = 2q$  for some integer  $q$ . If  $q$  is even, then  $k \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . If  $q$  is odd, then  $k \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . Moreover, this also implies  $n \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ . Thus the condition (d) in Theorem 4 applies and an extension of  $g$  to a cordial labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  is not possible. If  $s = 2$ , then  $k = 2q + 1$  that is  $k$  is odd. Hence,  $k \not\equiv 0 \pmod{4}$ . Thus condition (a) does not apply.

Case (ii) If  $n$  is even write  $n = 4q + s$ ,  $s = 1, 3$ . Clearly conditions (c) and (d) of Theorem 4 do not apply since in those cases  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + k$ . Hence we look at only conditions (b) and (f).

If  $s = 1$ , then  $n = 4q + 1$ ,  $k = 2q$  for some integer  $q$ . Clearly  $k$  is even and hence not equivalent to 1 modulo 4, that is condition (b) does not apply. If  $s = 3$ , then  $n = 4q + 3$  and  $k = 2q + 1$ . If  $q$  is even, then  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ ,

that is condition (f) does not apply. If  $q$  is odd, then  $k \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$  and  $n = 4q + 3$  implies  $n \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ . Thus condition (f) applies if and only if  $n \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .

This means that  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  is cordial whenever  $n \not\equiv 4, 7 \pmod{8}$ . We consider these cases separately.

**Case 1:**  $n = 8z + 4$ . Let  $g$  be a binary labeling of  $K_n$  with  $v_g(0) = 4z + 3, v_g(1) = 4z + 1$ . Then  $e_g(0) = (4z + 3)(2z + 1) + (4z + 1)(2z), e_g(1) = (4z + 3)(4z + 1)$ . Let  $x, y$  be as explained earlier. Then

$$\begin{aligned} v_f(0) &= (4z + 3) + x + y, \\ v_f(1) &= (4z + 1) + (2m + 1)(4z + 3) - x + (2m + 1)(4z + 1) - y \\ &= 16mz + 8m + 12z + 5 - x - y, \\ e_f(0) &= (4z + 3)(2z + 1) + (4z + 1)(2z) + x + (2m + 1)(4z + 1) - y \\ &= 16z^2 + 8mz + 2m + 16z + 4 + x - y, \\ e_f(1) &= (4z + 3)(4z + 1) + (2m + 1)(4z + 3) - x + y \\ &= 16z^2 + 8mz + 6m + 20z + 6 - x + y. \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  implies  $x + y = 8mz + 4m + 4z + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1)$  implies  $x - y = 2m + 2z + 1$ . Solving these two equations we get  $x = 4mz + 3m + 3z + 1, y = 4mz + m + z$ . One can easily verify that  $v_f(0) = 8mz + 4m + 8z + 4 = v_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0) = 16z^2 + 8mz + 18z + 4m + 5 = e_f(1)$ . Thus we obtain a cordial labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  even in the case when  $n \equiv 4 \pmod{8}$ .

**Case 2:**  $n = 8z + 7$ . We prove that no binary labeling of  $K_n$  can be extended to a cordial labeling of  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$ . Let  $g$  assign the label 0 to  $a$

of the vertices and the label 1 to the remaining  $n - a$  vertices of  $K_n$ . Then

$$v_g(0) = a,$$

$$v_g(1) = n - a,$$

$$e_g(0) = a(a - 1)/2 + (n - a)(n - a - 1)/2.$$

$$e_g(1) = a(n - a).$$

Let  $f, x$  and  $y$  be as described earlier. Then

$$v_f(0) = a + x + y.$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_f(1) &= (n - a) + [(2m + 1)a - x] + [(2m + 1)(n - a) - y] \\ &= 2mn + 2n - a - x - y \end{aligned}$$

$$e_f(0) = a(a - 1)/2 + (n - a)(n - a - 1)/2 + x + [(2m + 1)(n - a) - y],$$

$$e_f(1) = a(n - a) + [(2m + 1)a - x] + y.$$

Now,  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  implies that  $x + y = mn + n - a$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1)$  implies that  $x - y = 2am - mn + an - a^2 + a - n/4 - n^2/4$ . Solving these two equations, we get  $x = am + 4az + 4a - a/2(a + 1) + 3z + 22/8 - 8q^2 - 14q - 6$ . Every term on the right hand side of this equation except  $22/8$  is an integer. Consequently,  $x$  cannot be an integer. Hence in this case,  $K_n \circ \overline{K_{2m+1}}$  is not cordial when  $n \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$ .  $\square$

**Remark:** Even in the cases where an extension of  $g$  is not possible,  $G \circ \overline{K_t}$  may very well be cordial.

## Cordiality of $G \circ C_t$

Let  $G$  be a cordial graph. Then there exists a labeling  $g$  of  $G$  such that  $|v_g(0) - v_g(1)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_g(0) - e_g(1)| \leq 1$ . Whenever possible we extend this labeling to a cordial labeling of  $G \circ C_t$ .

**Theorem 6:** Let  $G$  be a cordial graph on  $n$  vertices with a cordial labeling  $g$ . Then  $g$  can be extended to a cordial labeling of  $G \circ C_t$  if  $t \neq 4m + 3$ , with  $n$  odd and  $e_g(0) = e_g(1)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $|V(G)| = n$  and  $V(C_t) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_t\}$ ,  $E(C_t) = \{v_i v_{i+1}, v_t v_1 \mid 1 \leq i \leq t-1\}$ . Clearly  $|V(G \circ C_t)| = n + nt = n(1+t)$  and  $|E(G \circ C_t)| = |E(G)| + 2nt$ .

The edges which connect the  $i$ th vertex of  $G$  to each of the vertices of the  $i$ th copy of  $C_t$  will henceforth be called the **connecting edges**. Note that there will be  $nt$  such connecting edges in  $G \circ C_t$ . Let  $t = 4m + r, 0 \leq r \leq 3$ . **Case 1:**  $r = 0$ , that is  $t = 4m$ . Let  $f$  be a binary labeling of  $G \circ C_t$  defined as follows:  $f(u) = g(u)$  for each  $u \in V(G)$ . In each copy of  $C_t$ , label the vertices as 1, 1, 0, 0,  $\dots$ , that is in each copy of  $C_t$ , let  $f(v_i) = 1, i \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4)$  and  $f(v_i) = 0, i \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4)$ .

It is clear that in each copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m$  edges as well as  $2m$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m$  edges as well as  $2m$  vertices receive the label 1. Of the  $4mt$  connecting edges,  $2mt$  will have the label 0 and  $2mt$  will have the label 1. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |v_f(0) - v_f(1)| &= |v_g(0) - v_g(1)| \leq 1, \\ |e_f(0) - e_f(1)| &= |e_g(0) - e_g(1)| \leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 2:**  $r = 1$ , that is  $t = 4m + 1$ . Let  $f$  be a binary labeling of  $G \circ C_t$  defined as follows:

Define  $f(u) = g(u)$  when  $u$  belongs to  $V(G)$ . In the  $v_g(0)$  copies of  $C_t$  adja-

cent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$ , use the labeling  $1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1$  that is, define  $f(u_i) = 1, i \equiv 1, 2(\pmod{4})$  and  $f(u_i) = 0, i \equiv 0, 3(\pmod{4})$ .

On each such copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m + 1$  vertices receive the label 1. Further, on each such copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m + 1$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  receive the label 1. Among the connecting edges connecting any one such vertex of  $G$  to a copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m + 1$  receive the label 1.

In the  $v_g(1)$  copies of  $C_t$  adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$  use the labeling  $0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, \dots, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0$  that is

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + 2mv_g(0) + (2m + 1)v_g(1) \\
 &= (2m + 1)[v_g(0) + v_g(1)] \\
 &= (2m + 1)n. \\
 v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + 2mv_g(1) + (2m + 1)v_g(1) \\
 &= (2m + 1)n. \\
 e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + v_g(0)[2m + (2m + 1)] + v_g(1)[(2m + 1) + 2m] \\
 &= e_g(0) + (4m + 1)n. \\
 &= e_g(0) + nt. \\
 e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + v_g(0)[(2m + 1) + 2m] + v_g(1)[2m + (2m + 1)] \\
 &= e_g(1) + (4m + 1)n \\
 &= e_g(1) + nt.
 \end{aligned}$$

We thus have

$$|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = |e_g(0) - e_g(1)| \leq 1.$$

Hence  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 3:**  $r = 2$ , that is  $t = 4m + 2$ .

**Case 3A:** Let  $n$  be even. Then  $v_g(0) = v_g(1) = n/2$ . Let  $f$  be a binary labeling of  $G \circ C_t$  defined as follows:

Define  $f(u) = g(u)$  when  $u$  belongs to  $V(G)$ . In the  $v_g(0)$  copies of  $C_t$  adjacent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$ , use the labeling 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1,  $\dots$ , 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1

that is, for  $1 \leq i \leq 4m - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i) &= 0, i \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ &= 1, i \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4) \\ &= 0, i = 4m, 4m + 1 \\ &= 1, i = 4m + 2. \end{aligned}$$

In each such copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m + 2$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m$  vertices the label 1. Further, in each such copy,  $2m$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m + 2$  the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges connecting any one such vertex of  $G$  to a copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m + 2$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  receive the label 1.

In the  $v_g(1)$  copies of  $C_t$  adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$ , use the labeling 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0,  $\dots$ , 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0

that is for  $1 \leq i \leq 4m - 1$

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i) &= 1, i \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ &= 0, i \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4) \\ &= 1, i = 4m, 4m + 1 \\ &= 0, i = 4m + 2. \end{aligned}$$

In each such copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m + 2$  vertices the label 1. Further, in each such copy,  $2m$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m + 2$  the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges connecting any one such vertex of  $G$  to a copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m + 2$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  receive

the label 1. Hence

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + v_g(0)(2m + 2) + v_g(1)2m \\
 &= (n/2)(2m + 3) + (n/2)2m \\
 &= (n/2)(4m + 3),
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + v_g(0)(2m) + v_g(1)(2m + 2) \\
 &= (n/2)(4m + 3).
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + v_g(0)[2m + (2m + 2)] + v_g(1)[2m + (2m + 2)] \\
 &= e_g(0) + n(4m + 2) \\
 &= e_g(0) + nt.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + v_g(0)[(2m + 2) + 2m] + v_g(1)[(2m + 2) + 2m] \\
 &= e_g(1) + n(4m + 2) \\
 &= e_g(1) + nt.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 3B:** Let  $n$  be odd. Then, without loss of generality we can assume that  $v_g(0) = (n + 1)/2, v_g(1) = (n - 1)/2$ . In the  $(n - 1)/2$  copies of  $C_t$ , adjacent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$  as well as the  $(n - 1)/2$  copies of  $C_t$  adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$ ,  $f$  assigns labels as in Case 3(A). For the one remaining copy of  $C_t$  adjacent to a vertex labeled 0 in  $G$ , use the labeling  $1, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 1$ . On this copy,  $2m$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m + 2$  vertices receive the label 1. Further, on this copy,  $2m + 2$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  edges receive the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges associated with this copy,  $2m$  edges receive the label 0

and  $2m + 2$  edges receive the label 1.

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + (2m + 2)(n - 1)/2 + 2m(n - 1)/2 + 2m \\
 &= (n + 1)/2 + (n - 1)(4m + 2)/2 + 2m \\
 &= (n + 1)/2 + (n - 1)(2m + 1) + 2m, \\
 v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + (n - 1)2m/2 + (n - 1)(2m + 2)/2 + (2m + 2) \\
 &= (n - 1)/2 + (n - 1)(2m + 1) + 2m + 2 \\
 &= (n + 1)/2 + (n - 1)(2m + 1) + 2m + 1, \\
 e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + (n - 1)[2m + (2m + 2)]/2 \\
 &\quad + (n - 1)[2m + (2m + 2)]/2 + 4m + 2, \\
 e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + (n - 1)[(2m + 2) + 2m]/2 \\
 &\quad + (n - 1)[(2m + 2) + 2m]/2 + 4m + 2.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| = 1$  and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = |e_g(0) - e_g(1)| \leq 1$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 4:**  $r = 3$ , that is  $t = 4m + 3$ .

**Case 4A:** Let  $n$  be even. Then  $v_g(0) = v_g(1) = n/2$ . In the  $n/2$  copies of  $C_t$  connected to vertices having the label 0 in  $G$  assign the labels as  $0, 0, 1, 1, \dots, 0, 0, 1, 1$ , that is  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $i \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod } 4)$  and  $f(v_i) = 1$  for  $i \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod } 4)$ . In such copies of  $C_t$ ,  $(2m + 2)$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $(2m + 1)$  vertices receive the label 1. Of the connecting edges associated with each such copy,  $(2m + 2)$  edges receive the label 0 and  $(2m + 1)$  edges receive the label 1. In the  $n/2$  copies of  $C_t$  connected to vertices having the label 1 in  $G$  assign the labels as  $1, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 1, 0, 0$ , that is  $f(v_i) = 1$  for  $i \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod } 4)$  and  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $i \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod } 4)$ . In such copies of  $C_t$ ,  $(2m + 2)$  vertices receive the label 1 and  $(2m + 1)$  vertices receive the label



0. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
 v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + v_g(0)(2m+2) + v_g(1)(2m+1) \\
 &= n(4m+4)/2, \\
 v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + v_g(0)(2m+1) + v_g(1)(2m+2) \\
 &= n(4m+4)/2, \\
 e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + v_g(0)(4m+3) + v_g(1)(4m+3) \\
 &= e_g(0) + nt, \\
 e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + v_g(0)(4m+3) + v_g(1)(4m+3) \\
 &= e_g(1) + nt.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = |e_g(0) - e_g(1)| \leq 1$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling.

**Case 4B:** Let  $n$  be odd. Again without loss of generality, we assume that  $v_g(0) = v_g(1) + 1$ .

We first consider the case  $e_g(0) = e_g(1) + 1$ . For  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$  and  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$  we use the labeling as described in Case A. For the one remaining copy of  $C_t$ , adjacent to a vertex labeled 0 in  $G$ , use the labeling  $1, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 1, 0$ . Then on this copy of  $C_t$ ,  $(2m+1)$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $(2m+2)$  vertices receive the label 1, whereas  $2m+1$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m+2$  edges receive the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges with this copy,  $2m+1$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m+2$  edges receive the label 1. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + 2m+1 \\
&= (n+1)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 2m+1 \\
&= (n-1)(4m+4)/2 + 2m+2 \\
&= n(2m+2), \\
v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + 2m+2 \\
&= (n-1)(4m+4)/2 + 2m+2 \\
&= n(2m+2), \\
e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 4m+2 \\
&= e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3) + 4m+3, \\
e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 4m+4 \\
&= e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3) + 4m+4.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0) + 1 = e_f(1)$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling. Next consider the case  $e_g(0) + 1 = e_g(1)$ . For  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$  and for  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$ , we use the labeling as described in Case A. For the one remaining copy of  $C_t$  adjacent to a vertex labeled 0 in  $G$ , use the labeling 1, 1, 0, 0,  $\dots$ , 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1. Then on this copy of  $C_t$ ,  $2m+1$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $2m+2$  vertices receive the label 1, whereas  $2m+3$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  edges receive the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges with this copy,  $2m+3$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m$  edges receive the label 1. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}
v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + 2m+1 \\
&= n(2m+2),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + 2m+2 \\
&= n(2m+2).
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
e_f(0) &= e_g(0) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (2m+1) + (2m+3) \\
&= e_g(0) + (n-1)(4m+3) + 4m+4,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
e_f(1) &= e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (2m+2) + 2m \\
&= e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3) + 4m+3.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $v_f(0) = v_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1)$ , that is,  $f$  is a cordial labeling.  $\square$

**Remark:** If  $n$  is odd,  $e_g(1) = e_g(0)$  and  $t = 4m + 3$ . then we can prove that  $i(G \circ C_t) \leq 2$ . For  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 0 in  $G$  and  $(n-1)/2$  copies adjacent to the vertices labeled 1 in  $G$ , we use the labeling as described in Case A. For the one remaining copy of  $C_t$ , adjacent to a vertex labeled 0 in  $G$  use the labeling  $1, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 1, 0$ . Then on this copy of  $C_t$ ,  $(2m+1)$  vertices receive the label 0 and  $(2m+2)$  vertices receive the label 1. whereas  $2m+1$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m+2$  edges receive the label 1. Amongst the connecting edges with this copy,  $2m+1$  edges receive the label 0 and  $2m+2$  edges receive the label

1. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned}v_f(0) &= v_g(0) + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + 2m+1 \\ &= (n+1)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 2m+1 \\ &= (n-1)(4m+4)/2 + 2m+2 \\ &= n(2m+2),\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}v_f(1) &= v_g(1) + (n-1)(2m+1)/2 + (n-1)(2m+2)/2 + 2m+2 \\ &= (n-1)(4m+4)/2 + 2m+2 \\ &= n(2m+2),\end{aligned}$$

$$e_f(0) = e_g(0) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 4m+2,$$

$$e_f(1) = e_g(1) + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + (n-1)(4m+3)/2 + 4m+4.$$

From the above it follows that  $e_f(0) + 2 = e_f(1)$ . Hence  $i(G \circ C_t) \leq 3$ .  $\square$

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