

# A lower bound for 2-rainbow domination number of generalized Petersen graphs $P(n,3)^*$

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## Abstract

Assume we have a set of  $k$  colors and we assign an arbitrary subset of these colors to each vertex of a graph  $G$ . If we require that each vertex to which an empty set is assigned has in its neighborhood all  $k$  colors, then this assignment is called the  $k$ -rainbow dominating function of a graph  $G$ . The minimum sum of numbers of assigned colors over all vertices of  $G$ , denoted as  $\gamma_{rk}(G)$ , is called the  $k$ -rainbow domination number of  $G$ . In this paper, we prove that  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3)) \geq \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil$ .

*Keywords:* Domination, 2-Rainbow domination, Generalized Petersen graph

## 1 Introduction

We only consider finite undirected graphs without loops or multiple edges.

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Let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ . The *open neighborhood* of  $v \in V(G)$  is denoted by  $N(v) = \{u \in V(G) | uv \in E(G)\}$ , and its *closed neighborhood* is denoted by  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ .

Let  $f$  be a function that assigns to each vertex a set of colors chosen from the set  $\{1, \dots, k\}$ ; that is,  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\{1, \dots, k\})$ . If  $\bigcup_{u \in N(v)} f(u) = \{1, \dots, k\}$  for each vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $f(v) = \emptyset$ , then  $f$  is called a *k-rainbow dominating function* (*kRDF*) of  $G$ . The *weight*,  $w(f)$ , of a function  $f$  is defined as  $w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} |f(v)|$ . The minimum weight of a *kRDF* is called the *k-rainbow domination number* of  $G$ , which is denoted by  $\gamma_{rk}(G)$ . For  $k = 1$ , this concept coincides with the ordinary domination.

Brešar, Henning and Rall [2, 4] introduced the concept of 2-rainbow domination of a graph  $G$  and connected this concept to usual domination in (products of) graphs. Brešar and Šumenjak [3] found the exact values of 2-rainbow domination number of paths, cycles and suns.

For  $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$ , the *generalized Petersen graph*  $P(n, k)$ , defined by Watkins [10], is a graph on  $2n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) vertices with  $V(P(n, k)) = \{v_i, u_i : 0 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$  and  $E(P(n, k)) = \{v_i v_{i+1}, v_i u_i, u_i u_{i+k} : 0 \leq i \leq n - 1, \text{subscripts modulo } n\}$ .

Domination and its variations of the generalized Petersen graphs have been studied extensively in recent years [1, 5–8, 12, 13]. Brešar and Šumenjak [3] determined that  $\lceil \frac{4n}{5} \rceil \leq \gamma_{r2}(P(n, k)) \leq n$  for relatively prime numbers  $n$  and  $k$ , and  $\lceil \frac{4n}{5} \rceil \leq \gamma_{r2}(P(n, 2)) \leq \lceil \frac{4n}{5} \rceil + \alpha$ , where  $\alpha = 0$  for  $n \pmod{10} = 3, 9$  and  $\alpha = 1$  for  $n \pmod{10} = 1, 5, 7$ . Tong et al. [9] further determined that  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 2)) = \lceil \frac{4n}{5} \rceil + \alpha$ , where  $\alpha = 0$  for  $n \pmod{10} = 0, 4$  and  $\alpha = 1$  for  $n \pmod{10} = 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8$ . Xu [11] showed that  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3)) \leq \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil + \alpha$ , where  $\alpha = 0$  for  $n \pmod{16} = 0, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15$  and  $\alpha = 1$  for  $n \pmod{16} = 1, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12$ . And he suspected that  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3))$  is equal to the upper bound. In this paper, we will prove that  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3)) \geq \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil$ . This is consistent with the suspicion of [11].

## 2 The lower bound for 2-Rainbow Domination Number of $P(n, 3)$

Let

$$\begin{aligned} V_0 &= \{v \in V(P(n, 3)) : f(v) = \emptyset\}, \\ V_1 &= \{v \in V(P(n, 3)) : f(v) \in \{\{1\}, \{2\}\}\}, \\ V_2 &= \{v \in V(P(n, 3)) : f(v) = \{1, 2\}\}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
V_{i, i_2} &= \{v \in V_0 : |N(v) \cap V_i| = i_t, t = 1, 2\}, \\
E_1 &= \{uv \in E(P(n, 3)) : u, v \in V_1\}, \\
E_2 &= \{uv \in E(P(n, 3)) : u, v \in V_2\}, \\
E_{12} &= \{uv \in E(P(n, 3)) : u \in V_1, v \in V_2\}.
\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned}
V_0 &= \bigcup_{S \in \{V_{20}, V_{30}, V_{01}, V_{11}, V_{21}, V_{02}, V_{12}, V_{03}\}} S, \\
S_1 \cap S_2 &= \emptyset, S_1 \neq S_2 \text{ and } S_1, S_2 \in \{V_{20}, V_{30}, V_{01}, V_{11}, V_{21}, V_{02}, V_{12}, V_{03}\}, \\
V(P(n, 3)) &= \bigcup_{S \in \{V_0, V_1, V_2\}} S, \\
S_1 \cap S_2 &= \emptyset, S_1 \neq S_2 \text{ and } S_1, S_2 \in \{V_0, V_1, V_2\},
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
(1) \quad & 3|V_1| - 2|E_1| - |E_{12}| = 2|V_{20}| + 3|V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + |V_{12}|, \\
(2) \quad & 3|V_2| - 2|E_2| - |E_{12}| = |V_{01}| + |V_{11}| + |V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 2|V_{12}| + 3|V_{03}|.
\end{aligned}$$

By (1) + 2 × (2), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& 3|V_1| + 6|V_2| - 2|E_1| - 4|E_2| - 3|E_{12}| \\
&= 2|V_{20}| + 3|V_{30}| + 2|V_{01}| + 3|V_{11}| + 4|V_{21}| + 4|V_{02}| + 5|V_{12}| + 6|V_{03}|.
\end{aligned}$$

It follows

$$\begin{aligned}
3|V_1| + 6|V_2| &= 2|V_{20}| + 3|V_{30}| + 2|V_{01}| + 3|V_{11}| + 4|V_{21}| + 4|V_{02}| + 5|V_{12}| \\
&\quad + 6|V_{03}| + 2|E_1| + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|, \\
3|V_1| + 6|V_2| &= 2(|V_{20}| + |V_{30}| + |V_{01}| + |V_{11}| + |V_{21}| + |V_{02}| + |V_{12}| + |V_{03}|) \\
&\quad + |V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 3|V_{12}| + 4|V_{03}| + 2|E_1| \\
&\quad + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|, \\
3|V_1| + 6|V_2| &= 2(2n - |V_1| - |V_2|) + |V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 3|V_{12}| \\
&\quad + 4|V_{03}| + 2|E_1| + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|, \\
5|V_1| + 10|V_2| &= 4n + 2|V_2| + |V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 3|V_{12}| + 4|V_{03}| \\
&\quad + 2|E_1| + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|, \\
5w(f) &= 4n + 2|V_2| + |V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 3|V_{12}| + 4|V_{03}| \\
&\quad + 2|E_1| + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|.
\end{aligned}$$

Let

$$\beta = 2|V_2| + |V_{30}| + |V_{11}| + 2|V_{21}| + 2|V_{02}| + 3|V_{12}| + 4|V_{03}| + 2|E_1| + 4|E_2| + 3|E_{12}|.$$

Then we have Lemma 2.1.

**Lemma 2.1.**  $5w(f) = 4n + \beta$ . □

Let

$$V'(i, l) = \{v_j, u_j : i \leq j \leq i + l - 1, 0 \leq l \leq n - 1\}.$$

For  $S \subseteq V$ , let

$$\begin{aligned}
 n_1(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_1, u, v \in S\}|, \\
 n'_1(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_1, |\{u, v\} \cap S| = 1\}|, \\
 n_2(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_2, u, v \in S\}|, \\
 n'_2(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_2, |\{u, v\} \cap S| = 1\}|, \\
 n_{12}(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_{12}, u, v \in S\}|, \\
 n'_{12}(S) &= |\{uv : uv \in E_{12}, |\{u, v\} \cap S| = 1\}|, \\
 \beta(S) &= 2|V_2 \cap S| + |V_{30} \cap S| + |V_{11} \cap S| + 2|V_{21} \cap S| + 2|V_{02} \cap S| \\
 &\quad + 3|V_{12} \cap S| + 4|V_{03} \cap S| + 2n_1(S) + n'_1(S) + 4n_2(S) + 2n'_2(S) \\
 &\quad + 3n_{12}(S) + \frac{3}{2}n'_{12}(S).
 \end{aligned}$$

We have Lemma 2.2.

**Lemma 2.2.** If  $\beta(V'(i, 4)) \leq 1$ , then  $\beta(V'(i - 4, 8)) \geq 5$  or  $\beta(V'(i, 8)) \geq 3$  or  $\beta(V'(i, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(i, 12)) \geq 5$ .

*Proof.* Suppose to the contrary that  $\beta(V'(i - 4, 8)) \leq 4$ ,  $\beta(V'(i, 8)) \leq 2$  and  $(\beta(V'(i, 8)) \leq 1 \vee \beta(V'(i, 12)) \leq 4)$ . By symmetry, we may assume  $i=4$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 4)) \leq 1$ , we have  $v_j, u_j \notin V_2$  ( $4 \leq j \leq 7$ ),  $v_j u_j \notin E_1$  ( $4 \leq j \leq 7$ ),  $v_i v_{i+1} \notin E_1$  ( $4 \leq j \leq 6$ ) and  $u_i u_{i+3} \notin E_1$  ( $4 \leq j \leq 6$ ). We need only consider six cases as follows:

Case 1.  $v_4 \in V_0, u_4 \in V_0, v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_3 \in V_2$  and  $v_6 \in V_1$ . It follows  $u_6, v_7 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ ,  $u_3 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_9 \in V_1$ . If  $u_7 \in V_0$ , then  $v_8 \in V_1$  and  $u_{10} \in V_2$ . It follows  $u_8, v_9 \in V_0$ . Since  $f(u_8) \neq f(v_6)$  and  $f(u_9) \neq f(v_8)$ , we have  $f(u_9) = f(v_8)$ . It follows  $v_{10} \notin V_0$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 5$  (see Fig.1(1), where white dot, black dot and odot (a small black dot inside a white dot) stand for the vertex of  $V_0, V_1, V_2$  respectively), a contradiction. Hence  $u_7 \in V_1$ . It follows  $v_8 \notin V_2$ .  
 Case 1.1.  $v_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_8, v_9 \notin V_2$ . It follows  $u_8, v_9 \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.1(2)), a contradiction.

Case 1.2.  $v_8 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_8, v_9, u_{10} \in V_0$  and  $v_{10}, v_{11} \notin V_2$ . It forces  $v_{10} \in V_1$ . It follows  $v_{11}, u_{11}, u_{12}, u_{13} \in V_0, v_{12} \in V_1, u_{14} \in V_2$  and at least one vertex of  $\{v_{13}, v_{14}\}$  has to belong to  $V_1 \cup V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4, 12)) \geq 7$  (see Fig.1(3)), a contradiction.

Case 2.  $v_4 \in V_0, u_4 \in V_0, v_5 \in V_1$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_6 \in V_0$  and  $v_3 \notin V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(i - 4, 8)) \leq 4$ , we have  $u_3 \notin V_2$ .

Case 2.1.  $u_6 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_7 \in V_1$ . It follows  $u_7 \in V_0, u_1 \in V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ ,  $v_1, v_2 \in V_0$  and  $u_2, v_3 \in V_1$ . Since  $f(u_2) \neq f(v_3)$  and  $f(v_5) \neq f(v_3)$ , we have  $f(u_2) = f(v_5)$ . It follows  $u_8 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ ,  $u_3 \in V_0$ . It follows  $u_9 \in V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 3$  (see Fig.2(1)), a contradiction.

Case 2.2.  $u_6 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_9 \notin V_2$ .

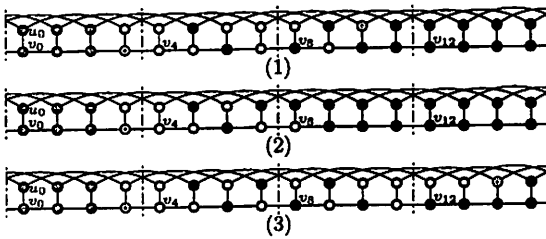


Fig. 1. The case for  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$

Case 2.2.1.  $v_7 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $|\{v_8, u_{10}\} \cap V_2| \neq 2$ . It follows  $u_7, v_8 \in V_1$ .

If  $u_8 \in V_1$ , then  $u_9, v_9, u_{10} \in V_0$  and  $v_{10} \in V_1$ . since  $f(u_7) \neq f(v_8)$  and  $f(v_{10}) \neq f(v_8)$ , we have  $f(u_7) = f(v_{10})$ . It follows  $u_{13} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 3$  (see Fig.2(2)), a contradiction. Hence  $u_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_{11} \in V_1$  and  $v_9 \notin V_2$ .

If  $v_9 \in V_1$ , then  $u_9, u_{10}, v_{10} \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_{11} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.2(3)), a contradiction. Hence,  $v_9 \in V_0$ .

If  $u_9 \in V_1$ , then  $v_{10}, u_{10} \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_{11} \in V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.2(4)), a contradiction. Hence,  $u_9 \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_{10}, u_{11} \in V_1$ ,  $v_{11} \in V_0$  and  $u_{12} \notin V_0$ . Since  $f(u_7) \neq f(v_8)$  and  $f(v_{10}) \neq f(v_8)$ , we have  $f(u_7) = f(v_{10})$ . It forces  $u_{13} \in V_1$ . Since  $f(v_8) \neq f(v_{10})$  and  $f(v_8) \neq f(u_{11})$ , we have  $f(v_{10}) = f(u_{11})$ . It forces  $v_{12} \in V_1$ ,  $v_{13} \in V_0$  and  $u_{12} \in V_1$ . Since  $f(v_{10}) \neq f(v_{12})$  and  $f(v_{10}) \neq f(u_{13})$ , we have  $f(v_{12}) = f(u_{13})$ . It forces  $v_{14} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4, 12)) \geq 5$  (see Fig.2(5)), a contradiction.

Case 2.2.2.  $v_7 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_3 \in V_1$  and  $u_7, v_8 \in V_0$  and  $u_1 \in V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_{11} \notin V_2$ . It follows  $u_8 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ ,  $v_1, v_2 \in V_0$ . It follows  $u_2 \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 4)) \geq 2$  (see Fig.2(6)), a contradiction.

Case 3.  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_1$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_6 \in V_1$ ,  $u_6, v_7, u_7 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $v_8, u_{10} \notin V_2$ . It follows  $v_8, u_{10} \in V_1$  and  $u_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $f(u_5) \neq f(v_6)$  and  $f(v_8) \neq f(v_6)$ , we have  $f(u_5) = f(v_8)$ . It forces  $u_{11} \in V_1$  and at least one vertex of  $\{v_9, v_{10}, v_{11}\}$  has to belong to  $V_1 \cup V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 3$  (see Fig.3), a contradiction.

Case 4.  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_1$ ,  $v_5 \in V_1$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_6, u_7 \in V_0$ .

Case 4.1.  $u_6 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_7 \in V_1$ .

Case 4.1.1.  $v_3 \in V_0$ . Since  $f(u_4) \neq f(v_5)$  and  $f(v_7) \neq f(v_5)$ , we have  $f(u_4) = f(v_7)$ . It follows  $u_{10} \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $v_8, v_{10} \in V_0$ ,  $u_9, u_{11} \notin V_2$ . It forces  $u_8, v_9 \in V_1$ ,  $u_9, v_{11}, u_{11} \in V_0$ ,  $v_{12} \in V_2$  and  $u_{12} \in V_1$ ,

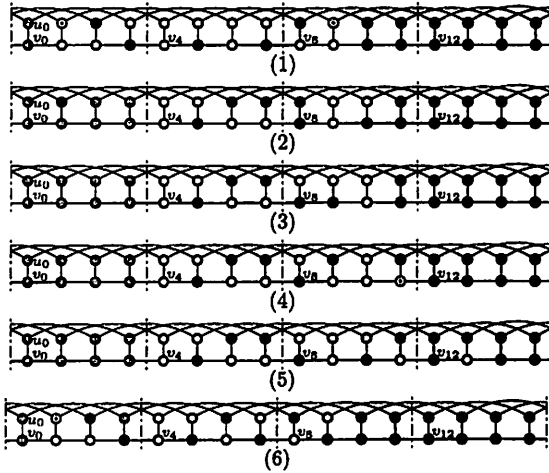


Fig. 2. The case for  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_1$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$



Fig. 3. The case for  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_1$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$

$\beta(V'(4, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4, 12)) \geq 7$  (see Fig.4(1)), a contradiction.

Case 4.1.2.  $v_3 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ , we have  $u_3 \notin V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_9 \in V_1$  and  $u_{11} \notin V_2$ . It follows  $u_8 \in V_1$  and  $u_2 \in V_0$ . Since  $f(v_7) \neq f(v_5)$  and  $f(u_8) \neq f(v_5)$ , we have  $f(v_7) = f(u_8)$ . It follows  $v_9 \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.4(2)), a contradiction.

Case 4.2.  $u_6 \in V_1$ .

Case 4.2.1.  $v_7 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_8 \in V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ , we have  $u_8, v_3, u_3 \in V_0$ . It forces  $v_2 \in V_2$  and  $u_2 \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \geq 5$  (see Fig.4(3)), a contradiction.

Case 4.2.2.  $v_7 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_8, u_9, u_{10} \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $v_{10}, u_{11} \notin V_2$ . It follows  $u_8, v_9 \in V_1$ ,  $v_{10}, u_{11}, u_{12} \in V_0$ ,  $v_{11} \in V_1$ ,  $v_{12} \in V_0$  and  $u_{13}, u_{15} \in V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4, 12)) \geq 6$  (see Fig.4(4)), a contradiction.

Case 5.  $v_4 \in V_1$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$ . Then  $v_6 \in V_1$ . It follows  $u_6, v_7 \in V_0$ .

Case 5.1.  $u_7 \in V_0$ . Then  $u_{10} \in V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ , we have  $v_8 \in V_1$ ,  $v_3, u_8, v_9, v_{10} \in V_0$ . It follows  $u_2 \in V_2$ ,  $u_9 \in V_1$ ,  $u_3 \in V_0$ ,  $v_2 \notin V_0$ ,  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \geq 5$  (see Fig.5(1)), a contradiction.

Case 5.2.  $u_7 \in V_1$ . Then  $v_8 \notin V_2$ .

Case 5.2.1.  $v_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $f(v_4) \neq f(v_6)$  and  $f(u_7) \neq f(v_6)$ , we have

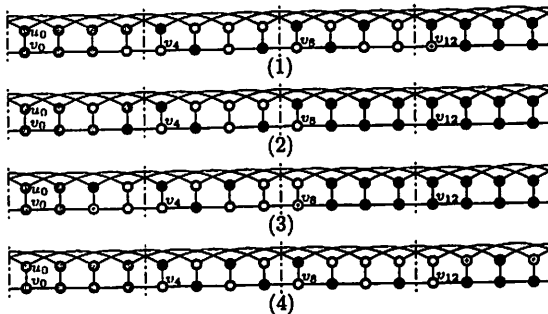


Fig. 4. The case for  $v_4 \in V_0$ ,  $u_4 \in V_1$ ,  $v_5 \in V_1$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$

$f(v_4) = f(u_7)$ . It follows  $u_1 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ , we have  $u_8, v_9 \in V_1$ . It follows  $u_9, v_{10}, u_{10}, u_{11} \in V_0$  and  $v_{11} \in V_1$ . Since  $f(u_8) \neq f(v_9)$  and  $f(v_{11}) \neq f(v_9)$ , we have  $f(u_8) = f(v_{11})$ . It follows  $u_{14} \in V_1$ ,  $v_{12} \in V_0$  and  $u_{12}, u_{13} \in V_1$ . Since  $f(v_{11}) \neq f(v_9)$  and  $f(u_{12}) \neq f(v_9)$ , we have  $f(v_{11}) = f(u_{12})$ . It follows  $v_{13} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4, 12)) \geq 5$  (see Fig.5(2)), a contradiction.

Case 5.2.2.  $v_8 \in V_1$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ , we have  $u_8 \in V_0$ . It follows  $u_2 \in V_2$ . Since  $\beta(V'(0, 8)) \leq 4$ , we have  $v_2, v_3 \in V_0$ . It follows  $u_3 \in V_1$ . Since  $f(u_3) \neq f(v_4)$  and  $f(v_6) \neq f(v_4)$ , we have  $f(u_3) = f(v_6)$ . It follows  $u_9 \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 4)) \geq 2$  (see Fig.5(3)), a contradiction.

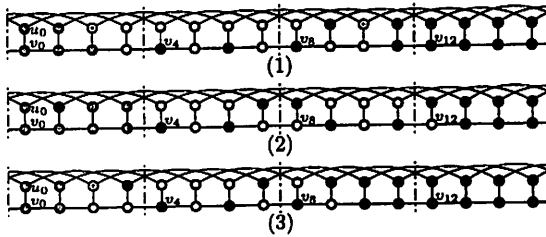


Fig. 5. The case for  $v_4 \in V_1$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_0$

Case 6.  $v_4 \in V_1$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$ .

Case 6.1.  $v_6 \in V_0$ . Then  $u_6, v_7 \in V_1$ . It follows  $u_7 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_{10} \in V_1$  and  $v_8, v_9, v_{10} \notin V_2$ . If  $v_8 \in V_1$ , then  $u_8, v_9, v_{10} \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_{10} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.6(1)), a contradiction. Hence  $v_8 \in V_0$ . If  $u_8 \in V_1$ , then  $v_9, v_{10} \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_{10} \in V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 4$  (see Fig.6(2)), a contradiction. Hence  $u_8 \in V_0$ . It follows  $v_9, u_{11} \in V_1$ ,  $u_9, v_{10} \in V_0$ . Since  $f(v_9) \neq f(v_7)$  and  $f(u_{10}) \neq f(v_7)$ , we have  $f(v_9) = f(u_{10})$ . It forces  $v_{11} \in V_1$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 3$  (see Fig.6(3)), a contradiction.

Case 6.2.  $v_6 \in V_1$ . Then  $u_6, v_7, u_8 \in V_0$ . Since  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \leq 2$ ,  $u_{10} \notin V_2$ .

It follows  $u_7 \in V_1$ ,  $v_8 \in V_0$  and  $v_9 \in V_2$ ,  $\beta(V'(4, 8)) \geq 3$  ( see Fig.6(4)), a contradiction.

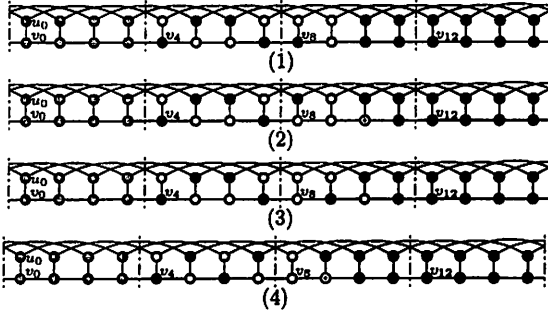


Fig. 6. The case for  $v_4 \in V_1$ ,  $u_4 \in V_0$ ,  $v_5 \in V_0$  and  $u_5 \in V_1$

From cases 1-6, we conclude the proof. □

**Theorem 2.3.**  $\gamma_{r,2}(P(n, 3)) \geq \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil$ .

**Proof.** By Lemma 2.2, if  $\beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1$ , then  $\beta(V'(4(i-1), 8)) \geq 5$  or  $\beta(V'(4i, 8)) \geq 3$  or  $\beta(V'(4i, 8)) = 2 \wedge \beta(V'(4i, 12)) \geq 5$ . If  $\beta(V'(4(i-1), 8)) \geq 5$ , then  $\beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \leq 1$  or  $\beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \geq 2$ . If  $\beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \leq 1$ , then  $\beta(V'(4(i-3), 4)) \leq 1$  or  $\beta(V'(4(i-3), 4)) \geq 2$ .

Let

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{1151} &= \{V'(4(i-3), 4), V'(4(i-2), 4), V'(4(i-1), 4), V'(4i, 4) : \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1, \beta(V'(4(i-1), 8)) \geq 5, \beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \leq 1, \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4(i-3), 4)) \leq 1\}, \\
 S_{151} &= \{V'(4(i-2), 4), V'(4(i-1), 4), V'(4i, 4) : \beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1, \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4(i-1), 8)) \geq 5, \beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \leq 1, \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4(i-3), 4)) \geq 2\}, \\
 S_{51} &= \{V'(4(i-1), 4), V'(4i, 4) : \beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1, \beta(V'(4(i-1), 8)) \geq 5, \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4(i-2), 4)) \geq 2\}, \\
 S_{13} &= \{V'(4i, 4), V'(4(i+1), 4) : V'(4i, 4) \notin S_{1151} \cup S_{151} \cup S_{51}, \\
 &\quad \beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1, \beta(V'(4i, 8)) \geq 3\}, \\
 S_{115} &= \{V'(4i, 4), V'(4(i+1), 4), V'(4(i+2), 4) : V'(4i, 4) \notin S_{1151} \cup S_{151} \\
 &\quad \cup S_{51}, \beta(V'(4i, 4)) \leq 1, \beta(V'(4i, 8)) = 2, \beta(V'(4i, 12)) \geq 5\}, \\
 S_2 &= \{V'(4i, 4) : V'(4i, 4) \notin S_{1151} \cup S_{151} \cup S_{51} \cup S_{13} \cup S_{115}\},
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $4x$  of  $V'(4x, 4y)$  is modulo  $n$ .



By Lemma 2.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 20w(f) &= 16n + 4\beta \\
 &\geq 16n + \frac{|S_{1151}|}{4} \times 6 + \frac{|S_{151}|}{3} \times 5 + \frac{|S_{51}|}{2} \times 5 + \frac{|S_{13}|}{2} \times 3 + \frac{|S_{115}|}{3} \times 5 \\
 &\quad + |S_2| \times 2 \\
 &= 16n + |S_{1151}| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_{151}| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_{151}| \times \frac{1}{6} + |S_{51}| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_{51}| \\
 &\quad + |S_{13}| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_{115}| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_{115}| \times \frac{1}{6} + |S_2| \times \frac{3}{2} + |S_2| \times \frac{1}{2} \\
 &\geq 16n + (|S_{1151}| + |S_{151}| + |S_{51}| + |S_{13}| + |S_{115}| + |S_2|) \times \frac{3}{2} \\
 &= 16n + n \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{35n}{2}.
 \end{aligned}$$

i.e.  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3)) \geq \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil$ . □

**Corollary 2.4.**  $\gamma_{r2}(P(n, 3)) = \lceil \frac{7n}{8} \rceil$ , for  $n \pmod{16} = 0, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 13, 14, 15$ .

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