

# A FAMILY OF CHROMATICALLY UNIQUE $K_4$ -HOMEOMORPHS

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**Abstract:** We discuss the chromaticity of one family of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs which has girth 7 and has exactly 1 path of length 1, and give a sufficient and necessary condition for the graphs in the family to be chromatically unique.

**keywords:** Chromatic polynomial,  $K_4$ -homeomorph, Chromatic Uniqueness

## 1. Introduction

In this paper, we consider graphs which are simple. For such a graph  $G$ , let  $P(G; \lambda)$  denote the chromatic polynomial of  $G$ . Two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  are chromatically equivalent, denoted by  $G \sim H$ , if  $P(G; \lambda) = P(H; \lambda)$ . A graph  $G$  is chromatically unique if for any graph  $H$  such that  $H \sim G$ , we have  $H \cong G$ , i.e.,  $H$  is isomorphic to  $G$ .

A  $K_4$ -homeomorph is a subdivision of the complete graph  $K_4$ . Such a homeomorph is denoted by  $K_4(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  if the six edges of  $K_4$  are replaced by the six paths of length  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta$ , respectively, as shown in Fig.1.

So far, the study of the chromaticity of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs with at least 2 paths of length 1 has been fulfilled(see[2],[4],[5],[12]). And the study of the chromaticity of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs which have girth 3,4,5 or 6 has been fulfilled. When referring to the chromaticity of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs which has girth 7, we showed before that only three types of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs,  $K_4(1, 2, 4, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta), K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta), K_4(1, 3, 3, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  need to be solved. The type of  $K_4(1, 3, 3, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  was already solved([8]). In order to complete the study of the chromaticity of  $K_4$ -homeomorphs with girth 7, in this paper, we study another type  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  (as Fig.2).

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Project Supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China.(10671090).

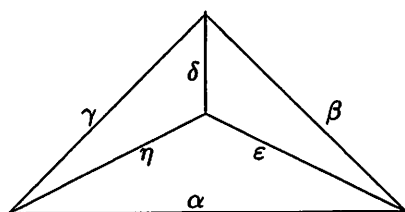


Fig.1  $K_4(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$

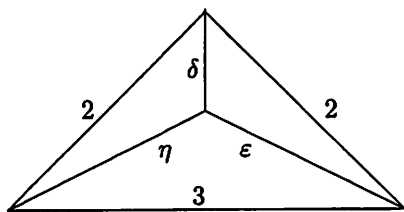


Fig.2  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$

## 2. Auxiliary results

In this section we cite some known results used in the sequel.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  are chromatically equivalent. Then

- (1)  $|V(G)| = |V(H)|$ ,  $|E(G)| = |E(H)|$  (see [3]);
- (2)  $G$  and  $H$  have the same girth and same number of cycles with the length equal to their girth(see [11]);
- (3) If  $G$  is a  $K_4$ -homeomorph, then  $H$  is a  $K_4$ -homeomorph as well(see [1]);
- (4) If  $G$  and  $H$  are homeomorphic to  $K_4$ , then both the minimum values of parameters and the number of parameters equal to this minimum value of the graphs  $G$  and  $H$  coincide (see [10]).

**Proposition 2 (Ren[9]).** Let  $G = K_4(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$ (see Fig.1) when exactly three of  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \epsilon, \eta$  are the same. Then  $G$  is not chromatically unique if and only if  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_4(s, s, s - 2, 1, 2, s)$  or  $K_4(s, s - 2, s, 2s - 2, 1, s)$  or  $K_4(t, t, 1, 2t, t + 2, t)$  or  $K_4(t, t, 1, 2t, t - 1, t)$  or  $K_4(t, t + 1, t, 2t + 1, 1, t)$  or  $K_4(1, t, 1, t + 1, 3, 1)$  or  $K_4(1, 1, t, 2, t + 2, 1)$ , where  $s \geq 3$ ,  $t \geq 2$ .

**Proposition 3 (Peng[7]).** Let  $K_4$ -homeomorphs  $K_4(1, 3, 3, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$  and  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta', \epsilon', \eta')$  be chromatically equivalent, then  $K_4(1, 3, 3, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$  is isomorphic to  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta', \epsilon', \eta')$ .

**Proposition 4 (Peng[6]).** Let  $K_4$ -homeomorphs  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$  and  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta', \epsilon', \eta')$  be chromatically equivalent, then  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \epsilon, \eta)$  is isomorphic to  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta', \epsilon', \eta')$ .

## 3. Main results

**Lemma.** If  $G \cong K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  and  $H \cong K_4(1, 2, 4, \delta', \varepsilon', \eta')$ , then we have

(1)  $P(G) = (-1)^{n+1}[r/(r-1)^2][{-r^2 - r^3 - r^4 - r^{n+1} + 2 + Q(G)}]$ , where

$$Q(G) = -2r^3 - r^\delta - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + 3r + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta}$$

where  $r = 1 - \lambda$ ,  $n$  is the number of vertices of  $G$ .

(2)  $P(H) = (-1)^{m+1}[r/(r-1)^2][{-r^2 - r^3 - r^4 - r^{m+1} + 2 + Q(H)}]$ , where

$$Q(H) = -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + 2r + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} + r^{\delta'+\varepsilon'+\eta'}$$

where  $r = 1 - \lambda$ ,  $m$  is the number of vertices of  $H$ .

(3) If  $P(G) = P(H)$ , then  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ .

**Proof(1).** Let  $r = 1 - \lambda$ . From [10], we have the chromatic polynomial of  $K_4$ -homeomorph  $K_4(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  as follows

$$P(K_4(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)) = (-1)^{n+1}[r/(r-1)^2][(r^2 + 3r + 2) - (r+1)(r^\alpha + r^\beta + r^\gamma + r^\delta + r^\varepsilon + r^\eta) + (r^{\alpha+\delta} + r^{\beta+\eta} + r^{\gamma+\varepsilon} + r^{\alpha+\beta+\varepsilon} + r^{\beta+\delta+\gamma} + r^{\alpha+\gamma+\eta} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta} - r^{n+1})]$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} P(G) &= P(K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)) \\ &= (-1)^{n+1}[r/(r-1)^2][(r^2 + 3r + 2) - (r+1)(r^3 + r^2 + r^2 + r^\delta + r^\varepsilon + r^\eta) + (r^{\delta+3} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\eta+5} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta} - r^{n+1})] \\ &= (-1)^{n+1}[r/(r-1)^2][{-r^{n+1} + 3r + 2 - r^2 - 3r^3 - r^4 - r^\delta - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta}] \\ &= (-1)^{n+1}[r/(r-1)^2][{-r^2 - r^3 - r^4 - r^{n+1} + 2 + Q(G)}] \end{aligned}$$

where

$$Q(G) = -2r^3 - r^\delta - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + 3r + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} \\ + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta}$$

**Proof(2).** We can handle this case in the same fashion as case(1), and get the result(2).

**Proof(3).** If  $P(G) = P(H)$ , then it is easy to see that  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ .

**Theorem.**  $K_4$ -homeomorphs  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  (see Fig.2) which has exactly 1 path of length 1 and has girth 7 is not chromatically unique if and only if it is  $K_4(3, 2, 2, a, 1, a+3)$ ,  $K_4(3, 2, 2, b, 1, 5)$ , where  $a > 3$ ,  $b > 3$  and

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, a, 1, a+3) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, a+2, 2, a)$$

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, b, 1, 5) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, b, 2)$$

**Proof.** Let  $G \cong K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$ . If there is a graph  $H$  such that  $P(H) = P(G)$ , then from Proposition 1, we know that  $H$  is a  $K_4$ -homeomorph  $K_4(\alpha', \beta', \gamma', \delta', \varepsilon', \eta')$  which has exactly 1 path of length 1, and the girth of  $H$  is 7. So  $H$  must be one of the following four types:

Type 1:

$$K_4(1, 2, \gamma', 2, \varepsilon', 2) (\varepsilon' \geq 4, \gamma' \geq 4)$$

Type 2:

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta', \varepsilon', \eta') (\delta' + \varepsilon' \geq 5, \varepsilon' + \eta' \geq 4, \delta' + \eta' \geq 5)$$

Type 3:

$$K_4(1, 3, 3, \delta', \varepsilon', \eta') (\delta' + \varepsilon' \geq 4, \varepsilon' + \eta' \geq 6, \delta' + \eta' \geq 4)$$

Type 4:

$$K_4(1, 2, 4, \delta', \varepsilon', \eta') (\delta' + \varepsilon' \geq 5, \varepsilon' + \eta' \geq 6, \delta' + \eta' \geq 3)$$

We now solve the equation  $P(G) = P(H)$  to get all solutions.

If  $H$  has Type 1, then from Proposition 2, we know that  $H$  is chromatically unique. Since  $G \sim H$ , we have  $G \cong H$ . But it is obvious that  $G$  is not isomorphic to  $H$ . This is a contradiction.

If  $H$  has Type 2, then from Proposition 4, we know  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

If  $H$  has Type 3, then from Proposition 3, we know  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

Suppose that  $H$  has Type 4, We solve the equation  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ . From Lemma, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q(G) &= -2r^3 - r^\delta - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + 3r + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} \\
 &\quad + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} + r^{\delta+\varepsilon+\eta} \\
 Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + 2r + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} \\
 &\quad + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} + r^{\delta'+\varepsilon'+\eta'}
 \end{aligned}$$

We denote the lowest remaining power by l.r.p. and the highest remaining power by h.r.p.. We can assume  $\varepsilon \leq \eta$  and  $\min\{\delta', \varepsilon', \eta'\} \geq 2$ . From Proposition 1, we have

$$\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta' \tag{1}$$

Since  $K_4(3, 2, 2, \delta, \varepsilon, \eta)$  has exactly 1 path of length 1 and  $\varepsilon \leq \eta$ , we have  $\delta = 1$  or  $\varepsilon = 1$ . There are two cases to be considered.

**Case 1** If  $\delta = 1$ , then  $\varepsilon > 1$  and  $\eta > 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$Q(G) : -r^2 - 2r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^4 + r^5 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5}$$

$$Q(H) : -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6}$$

Comparing the l.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the l.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\delta' = 2$  or  $\varepsilon' = 2$  or  $\eta' = 2$ .

**Case 1.1** If  $\delta' = 2$ , then we obtain the following after simplification:

$$Q(G) : -2r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^4 + r^5 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5}$$

$$Q(H) : -r^5 - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^8$$

Since  $-2r^3$  can't be cancelled by the terms in  $Q(G)$ , there are two terms in  $Q(H)$  which are equal to  $-r^3$ . So we have  $\varepsilon' = \eta' + 1 = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' = \eta' = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' + 1 = 3$ .

If  $\varepsilon' = \eta' + 1 = 3$ , then we obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Q(G) &: -2r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^4 + r^5 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} \\
 &\quad + r^{\eta+5} \\
 Q(H) &: -r^2 - 2r^3 - r^5 + r^6 + 2r^7 + r^8
 \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the l.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the l.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\varepsilon = 2$ . From  $\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta'$  (from equation(1)), and  $\delta = 1$  and  $\delta' = 2$ , we have  $\eta = 4$ . So  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , a contradiction.

If  $\varepsilon' = \eta' = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' + 1 = 3$ , we can handle these cases in the same fashion as above and get  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , a contradiction.

**Case 1.2** If  $\varepsilon' = 2$ , From  $\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta'$ , and  $\delta = 1$ , we have

$$\varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \eta' + 1 \quad (2)$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^4 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

comparing the h.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the h.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\eta+5 = \eta'+5$  or  $\eta+5 = \delta'+6$ .

If  $\eta+5 = \eta'+5$ , from equation(2), we have  $\varepsilon = \delta' + 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^{\varepsilon+1} + r^4 + r^{\varepsilon+2} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} + r^6 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\delta' = 3$  and  $\varepsilon = 4$ . So  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

If  $\eta+5 = \delta'+6$ , from equation(2), we have  $\varepsilon = \eta'$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\eta - r^{\eta+1} + r^4 + r^{\eta+2} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} + r^6 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\delta' = 3$  and  $\eta = 4$ . We get  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 1.3** If  $\eta' = 2$ , From  $\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta'$ , and  $\delta = 1$ , we have

$$\varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + 1 \quad (3)$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^5 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} + r^7 + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

comparing the h.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the h.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\eta+5 = \varepsilon'+4$  or  $\eta+5 = \delta'+6$ , where  $\delta' \geq 2$ ,  $\varepsilon' \geq 2$ .

If  $\eta+5 = \varepsilon'+4$ , then  $\varepsilon' = \eta+1$ . From equation(3), we have  $\varepsilon = \delta' + 2$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\varepsilon - r^\eta - r^{\varepsilon+1} + r^5 + r^{\varepsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\varepsilon+5} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^7 + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $r^{\eta+2}$  in  $Q(G)$  and  $-r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  in  $Q(H)$ . It is due to  $\varepsilon \leq \eta$  and  $\eta > 1$  that  $r^{\eta+2}$  can cancel none of the negative terms in  $Q(G)$ . Thus, no term in  $Q(G)$  is equal to  $-r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  (noting  $\varepsilon' = \eta+1$ ) in  $Q(H)$ . Therefore,  $-r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  must be cancelled by the positive term in  $Q(H)$  and  $r^{\eta+2}$  must equal the

positive term in  $Q(H)$ . So,  $\eta + 2 = \epsilon' + 1 = 7 = \delta' + 6$ . Thus  $\delta' = 1$  which contradicts  $\delta' \geq 2$ .

If  $\eta + 5 = \delta' + 6$ , then  $\eta = \delta' + 1$ . From equation(3), we have  $\epsilon = \epsilon'$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^3 - r^\eta - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\epsilon+2} + r^{\eta+2} + r^5 + r^{\epsilon+5} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} + r^7 + r^{\epsilon'+3} + r^{\epsilon'+4} \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\delta' = 3$  and  $\eta = 4$ . So,  $\eta = 4 = \epsilon + 2$  and  $\epsilon = \epsilon' = 2$ . We get  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 2** If  $\epsilon = 1$ , then we obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^2 - r^3 - r^\delta - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} \\ &\quad + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\epsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\epsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\epsilon'+3} + r^{\epsilon'+4} \\ &\quad + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the l.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the l.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\epsilon' = 2$  or  $\delta' = 2$  or  $\eta' = 2$ . There are three cases to be considered.

**Case 2.1** If  $\epsilon' = 2$ , From  $\delta + \epsilon + \eta = \delta' + \epsilon' + \eta'$ , and  $\epsilon = 1$ , we have

$$\delta + \eta = \delta' + \eta' + 1 \tag{4}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^\delta - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\delta'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

Comparing the l.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the l.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\min\{\delta, \eta\} = \min\{\delta', \eta'\}$ .

If  $\delta = \delta'$ , then from equation(4), we have  $\eta = \eta' + 1$ . After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\eta'} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $-r^{\eta+1}$  in  $Q(G)$  and  $r^{\eta'+2}$  in  $Q(H)$ . It is due to  $\eta = \eta' + 1$  that no term in  $Q(H)$  is equal to  $-r^{\eta+1}$ . So,  $-r^{\eta+1}$  must be cancelled by the term in  $Q(G)$  and  $r^{\eta'+2}$  must equal one of the terms in  $Q(G)$ . Therefore, there are two terms in  $Q(G)$  which are equal  $r^{\eta'+2}$ (noting  $\eta = \eta' + 1$ ), a contradiction.

If  $\delta = \eta'$ , then from equation(4), we have  $\eta = \delta' + 1$ . After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^\eta - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\delta'} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\eta'+5} \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\eta = \delta+3$ . Since  $\delta = \eta'$ , we have  $\eta = \eta'+3$ . So,  $\delta' = \delta+2$  and  $\delta' = \eta'+2$ . After simplifying, we have  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ . Let  $\delta = a(a > 3)$ . We obtain the solution where G is isomorphic to  $K_4(3, 2, 2, a, 1, a+3)$  and H is isomorphic to  $K_4(1, 2, 4, a+2, 2, a)$ . That is

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, a, 1, a+3) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, a+2, 2, a)$$

If  $\eta = \delta'$ , then from equation(4), we have  $\delta = \eta' + 1$ . After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\eta'} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $-r^{\delta+1}$  in  $Q(G)$  and  $r^{\eta'+2}$  in  $Q(H)$ . It is due to  $\delta = \eta' + 1$  that no term in  $Q(H)$  is equal to  $-r^{\delta+1}$ . So,  $-r^{\delta+1}$  must be cancelled by the term in  $Q(G)$  and  $r^{\eta'+2}$  must equal one of the terms in  $Q(G)$ . Therefore, there are two terms in  $Q(G)$  which are equal  $r^{\eta'+2}$ (noting  $\delta = \eta' + 1$ ), a contradiction.

If  $-r^\eta = -r^{\eta'}$ , then from equation(4), we have  $\delta = \delta' + 1$ . After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^\delta - r^{\delta+1} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\delta'} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to say that  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , this is a contradiction.

**Case 2.2** If  $\eta' = 2$ , From  $\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta'$ , and  $\varepsilon = 1$ , we have

$$\delta + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + 1 \tag{5}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^\delta - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} + r^4 + r^7 + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\delta'+6} \end{aligned}$$

comparing the h.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the h.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\delta+4 = \varepsilon'+4$  or  $\eta+5 = \delta'+6$  or  $\delta+4 = \delta'+6$  or  $\eta+5 = \varepsilon'+4$ . There are four cases to be considered.



**Case 2.2.1** If  $\delta + 4 = \varepsilon' + 4$ , from equation(5), we have  $\eta = \delta' + 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^\eta - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} + r^4 + r^7 \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to see that  $\eta = 5$ . So,  $\delta' = 4$ . After simplifying, we have  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ . Let  $\delta = b(b > 3)$ . We obtain the solution where G is isomorphic to  $K_4(3, 2, 2, b, 1, 5)$  and H is isomorphic to  $K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, b, 2)$ . That is

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, b, 1, 5) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, b, 2)$$

**Case 2.2.2** If  $\eta + 5 = \delta' + 6$ , then  $\eta = \delta' + 1$ . From equation(5), we have  $\delta = \varepsilon'$ . Thus, this case can be handled in the same fashion as case 2.2.1 and we get the same result as above.

**Case 2.2.3** If  $\delta + 4 = \delta' + 6$ , then  $\delta = \delta' + 2$ . From equation(5), we have  $\varepsilon' = \eta + 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &: -r^\eta - r^\delta - r^{\delta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} \\ Q(H) &: -r^5 - r^{\delta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} + r^4 + r^7 + r^{\varepsilon'+3} \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $r^{\eta+2}$  in  $Q(G)$  and  $-r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  in  $Q(H)$ . It is due to  $\varepsilon' = \eta + 1$  that  $-r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  must be equal one of  $-r^\delta$  and  $-r^{\delta+1}$ . So,  $r^{\eta+2}$  must be equal one of  $r^4$  and  $r^7$ . Thus, we have  $\delta = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 4$  or  $\delta = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 7$  or  $\delta + 1 = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 4$  or  $\delta + 1 = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 7$ .

If  $\delta = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 4$ , then G is isomorphic to H.

If  $\delta = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 7$ , then  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ . This a contradiction.

If  $\delta + 1 = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 4$ , then  $\delta = 3$ . From  $\delta = \delta' + 2$ , we have  $\delta' = 1$  which contradict  $\delta' \geq 2$ .

If  $\delta + 1 = \varepsilon' + 1 = \eta + 2 = 7$ , after simplifying, we have  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ . So, we obtain the solution where G is isomorphic to  $K_4(3, 2, 2, 6, 1, 5)$  and H is isomorphic to  $K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, 6, 2)$ . That is

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, 6, 1, 5) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, 6, 2)$$

**Case 2.2.4** If  $\eta + 5 = \varepsilon' + 4$ , then  $\eta + 1 = \varepsilon'$ . From equation(5), we have  $\delta = \delta' + 2$ . Thus, this case can be handled in the same fashion as case 2.2.3 and we get the same result as above.

**Case 2.3** If  $\delta' = 2$ , From  $\delta + \varepsilon + \eta = \delta' + \varepsilon' + \eta'$ , and  $\varepsilon = 1$ , we have

$$\delta + \eta = \varepsilon' + \eta' + 1 \tag{6}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^\delta - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} \\ &\quad + r^8 \end{aligned}$$

comparing the h.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the h.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\delta+4 = \varepsilon'+4$  or  $\delta+4 = \eta'+5$  or  $\delta+4 = 8$  or  $\eta+5 = \varepsilon'+4$  or  $\eta+5 = \eta'+5$  or  $\eta+5 = 8$ . There are six cases to be considered.

**Case 2.3.1** If  $\delta+4 = \varepsilon'+4$ , from equation(6), we have  $\eta = \eta' + 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\eta'} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\eta'+5} + r^8 \end{aligned}$$

It is due to  $\eta > 1$  that no term in  $Q(G)$  can cancel  $-r^3$  in  $Q(G)$ . So,  $r^3 = -r^{\eta'}$ . We get  $\eta' = 3$  and  $\eta = 4$ . Thus,  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ . This a contradiction.

**Case 2.3.2** If  $\delta+4 = \eta'+5$ , then  $\delta = \eta' + 1$ . From equation(6), we have  $\eta = \varepsilon'$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^{\delta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\eta'} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^8 \end{aligned}$$

It is due to  $\eta > 1$  and  $\delta > 1$  that no term in  $Q(G)$  can cancel  $-r^3$  in  $Q(G)$ . So,  $r^3 = -r^{\eta'}$ . We get  $\eta' = 3$  and  $\delta = 4$ . After simplifying  $Q(G)=Q(H)$  and comparing the degrees of both the sides of  $Q(G)=Q(H)$ , we have  $\eta = 3$  and  $\varepsilon' = 3$ . Thus, we get  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 2.3.3** If  $\delta+4 = 8$ , then  $\delta = 4$ . From equation(6), we have  $\eta+3 = \varepsilon' + \eta'$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^4 - r^\eta - r^{\eta+1} + r^6 + r^7 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\eta+5} \\ Q(H) &= -r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} \end{aligned}$$

By considering the l.r.p. in  $Q(G)$  and the l.r.p. in  $Q(H)$ , we have  $\varepsilon' = 3$  or  $\eta' = 3$  or  $\eta = \varepsilon'$  or  $\eta = \eta'$ . Noting  $\eta+3 = \varepsilon' + \eta'$  and comparing the degrees of both the sides of  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ , we get  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ , and  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 2.3.4** If  $\eta+5 = \varepsilon'+4$ , then  $\varepsilon' = \eta + 1$ . From equation(6), we have  $\delta = \eta' + 2$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^\delta - r^\eta - r^{\delta+1} + r^6 + r^{\eta+2} + r^{\delta+4} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^8 \end{aligned}$$

By considering  $-r^3$  in  $Q(G)$ , we have  $-r^3 = -r^{\eta'}$  or  $-r^3 = -r^{\varepsilon'+1}$  or  $-r^3 = -r^{\eta'+1}$ .

If  $-r^3 = -r^{\eta'}$ , then  $\eta' = 3$  and  $\delta = 5$ . After simplifying  $Q(G)=Q(H)$  and comparing the degrees of both the sides of  $Q(G)=Q(H)$ , we have  $\eta = 4$  and  $\varepsilon' = 5$ . Thus,  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , a contradiction.

If  $-r^3 = -r^{\varepsilon'+1}$ , then  $\varepsilon' = 2$ . By  $\varepsilon' = \eta + 1$ , we have  $\eta = 1$  which contradicts  $\eta > 1$ .

If  $-r^3 = -r^{\eta'+1}$ , then  $\eta' = 2$  and  $\delta = 4$ . After simplifying  $Q(G)=Q(H)$  and comparing the degrees of both the sides of  $Q(G)=Q(H)$ , we have  $\eta = 2$  and  $\varepsilon' = 3$ . Thus, we get  $Q(G) = Q(H)$ , and  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 2.3.5** If  $\eta + 5 = \eta' + 5$ , then  $\eta = \eta'$ . From equation(6), we have  $\delta = \varepsilon' + 1$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -r^3 - r^{\delta+1} + r^6 + r^{\delta+4} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\varepsilon'} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^8 \end{aligned}$$

it is easy to see that  $\varepsilon' = 3$  and  $\delta = 4$ . Thus, we get  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

**Case 2.3.6** If  $\eta + 5 = 8$ , then  $\eta = 3$ . From equation(6), we have  $\varepsilon' + \eta' = \delta + 2$ . We obtain the following after simplification:

$$\begin{aligned} Q(G) &= -2r^3 - r^4 - r^\delta - r^{\delta+1} + r^5 + r^6 + r^{\delta+3} + r^{\delta+4} \\ Q(H) &= -r^5 - r^{\varepsilon'} - r^{\eta'} - r^{\varepsilon'+1} - r^{\eta'+1} + r^{\eta'+2} + r^{\varepsilon'+3} + r^{\varepsilon'+4} + r^{\eta'+5} \end{aligned}$$

Consider  $-2r^3$  and  $-r^4$  in  $Q(G)$ . We have  $\varepsilon' = \eta' = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' = \eta' + 1 = 3$  or  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' = 3$ .

If  $\varepsilon' = \eta' = 3$ , from  $\varepsilon' + \eta' = \delta + 2$ , we have  $\delta = 4$ . Thus,  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ .

If  $\varepsilon' = \eta' + 1 = 3$ , from  $\varepsilon' + \eta' = \delta + 2$ , we have  $\delta = 3$ . Thus,  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , this is a contradiction.

If  $\varepsilon' + 1 = \eta' = 3$ , from  $\varepsilon' + \eta' = \delta + 2$ , we have  $\delta = 3$ . Thus,  $Q(G) \neq Q(H)$ , this is a contradiction.

So far, we have solved the equation  $P(G) = P(H)$  and got the solution as follows:

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, a, 1, a + 3) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, a + 2, 2, a)$$

$$K_4(3, 2, 2, b, 1, 5) \sim K_4(1, 2, 4, 4, b, 2)$$

where  $a > 3$ ,  $b > 3$ .

The proof is completed. □

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