

# Integer-Magic Spectra of Trees with Diameters at most Four

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## Abstract

For any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is said to be  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -magic if there exists a labeling  $l: E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_k - \{0\}$  such that the induced vertex set labeling  $l^+: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_k$  defined by

$$l^+(v) = \sum_{u \in N(v)} l(uv)$$

is a constant map. For a given graph  $G$ , the set of all  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_+$  for which  $G$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -magic is called the integer-magic spectrum of  $G$  and is denoted by  $IM(G)$ . In this paper we will consider trees whose diameters are at most 4 and will determine their integer-magic spectra.

**Keywords:** Integer-magic Spectrum, Magic, and Non-magic graphs.  
**AMS Subject Classification:** 05C15.

# 1 Introduction

For any abelian group  $A$ , written additively, any mapping  $l : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$  is called a *labeling*, or edge-labeling. Given an edge-labeling of  $G$  one can introduce a vertex labeling  $l^+ : V(G) \rightarrow A$  as follows:

$$l^+(v) = \sum_{u \in N(v)} l(uv),$$

where  $N(v)$  denotes the set of all vertices of  $G$  that are adjacent with  $v$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be *A-magic* if there is a labeling  $l : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$  such that for each vertex  $v$ , the sum of the labels of the edges incident with  $v$  are all equal to the same constant; that is,  $l^+(v) = c$  for some fixed  $c \in A$ . We will call  $\langle G, l \rangle$  an *A-magic graph* with sum  $c$ . In general, a graph  $G$  may admit more than one labeling to become an *A-magic graph*: for example, if  $|A| > 2$  and  $l : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$  is a magic labeling of  $G$  with sum  $c$ , then  $\lambda : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$ , the inverse labeling of  $l$ , defined by  $\lambda(uv) = -l(uv)$  will provide another magic labeling of  $G$  with sum  $-c$ .

The original concept of an *A-magic graph* is due to J. Sedlacek [21, 22], who defined it to be a graph with a real-valued edge labeling such that

1. distinct edges have distinct nonnegative labels; and
2. the sum of the labels of the edges incident to a particular vertex is the same for all vertices.

Given a graph  $G$ , the problem of deciding whether  $G$  admits a magic labeling is equivalent to the problem of deciding whether a set of linear homogeneous Diophantine equations has a solution [23]. At present, given an abelian group, no general efficient algorithm is known for finding magic labelings for general graphs.

When  $A = \mathbb{Z}$ , the  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic graphs were considered in Stanley [23, 24], he pointed out that the theory of magic labeling can be put into the more general context of linear homogeneous diophantine equations. When the group is  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ , we shall refer to the  $\mathbb{Z}_k$ -magic graph as *k-magic*. Graphs which are *k-magic* had been studied in [6, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18]. For convenience, we will use the notation 1-magic instead of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic. Doob [2, 3, 4], also considered *A-magic graphs* where  $A$  is an abelian group. He determined which wheels are  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic.

A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is called *fully magic* [14, 16] if it is *A-magic* for every abelian group  $A$ , and it is called *non-magic* if for every abelian group  $A$  it is not *A-magic*. Also, a graph  $G$  is said to be  *$\mathbb{N}$ -magic* if there exists a labeling  $l : E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  such that  $l^+(v)$  is a constant, for every  $v \in V(G)$ . It is well-known that a graph  $G$  is  *$\mathbb{N}$ -magic* if and only if each edge of  $G$  is contained

in a 1-factor (a perfect matching) or a  $\{1, 2\}$ -factor [11, 20, 29]. Berge [1] called a graph *regularisable* if a regular multigraph could be obtained from  $G$  by adding edges parallel to the edges of  $G$ . In fact, a graph is regularisable if and only if it is  $\mathbb{N}$ -magic. For  $\mathbb{N}$ -magic graphs, readers are referred to [7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 27, 24, 25, 26]. The notion of  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic is weaker than  $\mathbb{N}$ -magic. Figure 1 shows a graph which is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic but not  $\mathbb{N}$ -magic.

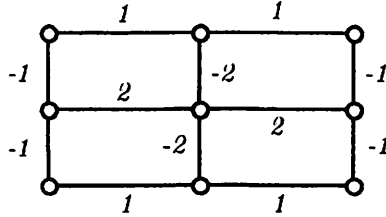


Figure 1: The graph  $P_3 \times P_3$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic but is not  $\mathbb{N}$ -magic.

**Observation 1.1.** *For any  $n \geq 3$ , the path of order  $n$  is non-magic.*

**Observation 1.2.** *Any graph with a pendant path of length two is non-magic.*

In this paper, we will denote the set of positive integers by  $\mathbb{N}$ , and for any  $k > 0$ ,

$$k\mathbb{N} = \{ kn : n \in \mathbb{N} \}, \text{ also } k + \mathbb{N} = \{ k + n : n \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

For a given graph  $G$  the set of all positive integers  $h$  for which  $G$  is  $\mathbb{Z}_h$ -magic (or simply  $h$ -magic) is called the *integer-magic spectrum* of  $G$  and is denoted by  $IM(G)$ . Since any regular graph is fully magic, then it is  $h$ -magic for all positive integers  $h \geq 2$ ; therefore,  $IM(G) = \mathbb{N}$ . In what follows we will consider trees whose diameters are at most 4 and will determine their integer-magic spectra.

## 2 Trees with diameters two; Stars

For any  $n \geq 1$ , the complete bipartite graph  $K(1, n)$  is called a *star* and is denoted by  $ST(n)$ . Note that  $K(1, 1)$  is the same as  $P_2$ , the path of order two, and it is fully magic. Also,  $K(1, 2)$  is the same as  $P_3$ , the path of order three, which is non-magic. To study the integer-magic spectrum of  $ST(n)$  we will assume that  $n \geq 3$ .

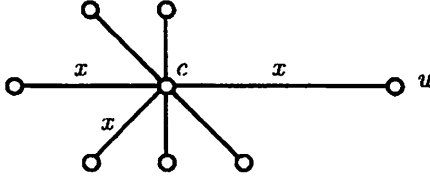


Figure 2: A typical labeling of  $ST(n)$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $n \geq 3$ , and  $p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $n - 1$ . Then  $IM(ST(n)) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* In a typical magic labeling of  $ST(n)$ , as illustrated in the Figure 2, all the edges are labeled with the same element  $x$  of the group  $\mathbb{Z}_h$ . The required condition is  $l^+(c) = l^+(u)$  or

$$(n - 1)x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}. \quad (1)$$

If  $\gcd(n - 1, h) = 1$ , then Equation (1) will become  $x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}$ , which is not an acceptable solution. Therefore, we need  $\gcd(n - 1, h) = \delta > 1$ , which implies  $h \in \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}$ , and Equation (1) will have a non-zero solution for  $x$ . On the other hand, let  $p$  be a prime factor of  $n - 1$  and let  $h \in p\mathbb{N}$ . Then the choice of  $x = \frac{h}{p}$  will work; Because,  $l^+(c) = nx = (n - 1)\frac{h}{p} + \frac{h}{p} \equiv \frac{h}{p} \pmod{h}$ .  $\square$

**Examples 2.2.**

(a)  $IM(ST(33)) = 2\mathbb{N}$ : here  $n - 1 = 32 = 2^5$ .

(b)  $IM(ST(25)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N}$ ; here  $n - 1 = 24 = 2^3 \times 3$ .

(c)  $IM(ST(361)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N} \cup 5\mathbb{N}$ : here  $n - 1 = 360 = 2^3 \times 3^2 \times 5$ .

### 3 Trees with diameters three; Double-Stars

Trees with diameter 3 are called double-stars. These graphs have two central vertices  $u$  and  $v$  plus leaves. We will use  $DS(m, n)$  to denote the double-star whose two central vertices have degrees  $m$  and  $n$ , respectively. By the Observation 1.1, if  $m = 2$  or  $n = 2$ , then  $DS(m, n)$  is non-magic.

therefore the integer-magic spectrum will be  $\emptyset$ . As a result, in what follows, we will assume that  $m \geq n \geq 3$ . Moreover, being a tree,  $DS(m, n)$  is 2-magic if and only if  $m$  and  $n$  are odd numbers.

Note that in any magic labeling of a graph the end-edges (edges incident with the end-vertices) are labeled with the same element of the group  $A$ . Therefore, for any magic labeling of a double star, as illustrated in Figure 3, we use at most two non-zero group elements  $x$  and  $y$ .

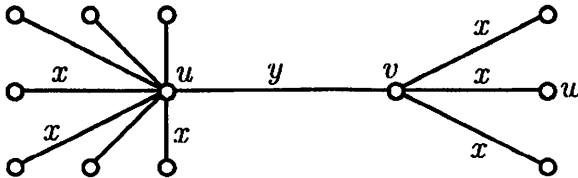


Figure 3: A typical magic labeling of  $DS(m, n)$ .

In particular, we need to have  $l^+(u) = l^+(v)$  and  $l^+(v) = l^+(w)$ . These equations, when we are using  $\mathbb{Z}_h$  will translate to:

$$(m - n)x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}; \tag{2}$$

$$(n - 2)x + y \equiv 0 \pmod{h}. \tag{3}$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *The graph  $DS(m, n)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic (or 1-magic) if and only if  $m = n$ .*

*Proof.* If  $DS(m, n)$  is  $\mathbb{Z}$ -magic, then Equation (2) would imply that  $(m - n)x = 0$ . Since  $x$  is non-zero, then we will have  $m = n$ . Conversely, if  $m = n$ , then the choices of  $x = 1$  and  $y = 2 - m$  provide a magic labeling with  $l^+ \equiv 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.**  $IM(DS(m, m)) = \mathbb{N} - \{ h \in \mathbb{N} : h > 1 \ \& \ h|(m - 2) \}$ .

*Proof.* By the Theorem 3.1,  $DS(m, m)$  is 1-magic and if  $h > m - 2$ , then the choices of  $x = 1$ ,  $y = h - m + 2$  will work with  $l^+ \equiv 1$ . Now assume that  $1 < h \leq m - 2$ . Since  $m = n$ , Equation (2) holds. It is enough to show that (3) is true. Note that  $DS(m, m)$  is  $h$ -magic if and only if  $h$  is not a divisor of  $(m - 2)$ . Because, if  $h|(m - 2)$ , then (3) becomes  $y \equiv 0 \pmod{h}$ , which is not an acceptable answer. On the other hand, if  $h$  does not divide  $(m - 2)$ , then the choices of  $x = 1$ ,  $y = 2 - m \pmod{h}$  will work with  $l^+ \equiv 1$ .  $\square$

**Examples 3.3.**

- (a)  $IM(DS(3, 3)) = \mathbb{N}$ ; here  $m - 2 = 1$  does not have any divisor bigger than 1. In fact,  $DS(3, 3)$  is the only double-star whose integer-magic spectrum is  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- (b)  $IM(DS(11, 11)) = \mathbb{N} - \{3, 9\}$ ; here  $m - 2 = 9$ , and we need to exclude its divisors that are bigger than one: namely, 3, 9.
- (c)  $IM(DS(26, 26)) = \mathbb{N} - \{2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 24\}$ ; here  $m - 2 = 24$ , and we need to exclude its divisors that are bigger than 1.

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  and  $p_1^{\beta_1} p_2^{\beta_2} \cdots p_k^{\beta_k}$  be the prime factorizations of  $m - n$  and  $n - 2$ , respectively. Then  $IM(DS(m, n)) = \cup_{i=1}^k A_i$ , where

$$A_i = \begin{cases} p_i^{1+\beta_i} \mathbb{N} & \text{if } \alpha_i > \beta_i \geq 0; \\ \emptyset & \text{if } \beta_i \geq \alpha_i \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We will prove the statement through four steps.

Step 1. Note that if  $m - n = 1$  or  $m - n$  be a divisor of  $n - 2$  or  $m - 2$ , then  $IM(DS(m, n)) = \emptyset$ . Because,  $m - n = 1$  will convert Equation (2) to  $x = 0$ , which is not an acceptable solution. Also, if  $m - 2 = q(m - n)$ , then Equation (3) becomes  $y = -(m - 2)x = -q(m - n)x = 0$ , again an unacceptable solution. This is consistent with the statement of the theorem, for in either cases  $\beta_i \geq \alpha_i$ .

Therefore, we may assume that  $m - n > 1$  and that  $m - n$  is not a divisor of  $n - 2$ .

Step 2. Let  $p$  be a prime number,  $\alpha > \beta$ ,  $p^\alpha | (m - n)$ , and  $p^\beta | (n - 2)$ , but  $p^{\beta+1}$  does not divide  $(n - 2)$ . Then the graph  $DS(m, n)$  is  $p^{\beta+1}$ -magic. Here, since  $m - n \equiv 0 \pmod{p^\alpha}$ , Equation (2) holds. Choose  $x = 1$ . Note that  $y \equiv 2 - n \equiv 2 - m \pmod{p^{\beta+1}}$  is non-zero and these labels work with  $l^+ \equiv 1$ :  $l^+(v) = m - 1 + 2 - n \equiv m - n + 1 \equiv 1 \pmod{p^{\beta+1}}$ .

Step 3. If the graph  $DS(m, n)$  is  $h$ -magic, then for every  $r \in \mathbb{N}$  the graph is  $hr$ -magic. To see this, we simply observe that if  $x, y$  are the non-zero labels modulo  $h$ , then  $rx, ry$  will be non-zero modulo  $hr$  and will be valid magic labelings. Combination of these steps shows that the integer-magic spectrum of  $DS(m, n)$  contains  $p^{\beta+1} \mathbb{N}$ .

Step 4. The previous steps show that  $\cup_{i=1}^k A_i \subset IM(DS(m, n))$ . To show that

$$IM(DS(m, n)) \subset \cup_{i=1}^k A_i,$$

suppose  $DS(m, n)$  is  $h$ -magic. Then from Equation (3),  $h$  does not divide  $(n - 2)x$ ; otherwise,  $y$  will be zero. But from Equation (2),

$h|(m-n)x$ . Therefore, in the prime factorization of  $h$  there exists a prime factor  $p^\gamma$  with the property that  $p^\gamma|(m-n)x$ , while  $p^\gamma$  does not divide  $(n-2)x$ . Choose  $\beta \geq 0$  such that  $p^{\beta+1}|(m-n)$ , but  $p^{\beta+1}$  does not divide  $n-2$ . By step 2, the graph  $DS(m, n)$  is  $p^{\beta+1}$ -magic, and by step 3,  $h \in p^{\beta+1}\mathbb{N}$ . This completes the proof of the theorem.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.5.**  $IM(DS(m, n)) = \emptyset$  if and only if  $(m-n)|(n-2)$ .

*Proof.* If  $IM(DS(m, n)) = \emptyset$ , then by 3.4,  $\beta_i \geq \alpha_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) and hence  $(m-n)|(n-2)$ . Conversely, if  $(m-n)$  divides  $n-2$ , then  $y \equiv -(n-2)x \equiv 0$ , not an acceptable solution.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.6.** If  $|m-n| = 1$ , then  $DS(m, n)$  is non-magic.

**Examples 3.7.**

- (a)  $IM(DS(9, 3)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N}$ : here  $m-n = 6 = 2 \times 3$ , while  $n-2 = 1$ .
- (b)  $IM(DS(6, 4)) = \emptyset$ : here  $m-n = 2$  is a divisor of  $n-2 = 2$ .

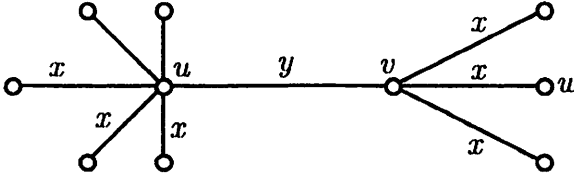


Figure 4:  $IM(DS(6, 4)) = \emptyset$ .

- (c)  $IM(DS(28, 4)) = 4\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N}$ : here  $m-n = 24 = 2^3 \times 3$ , while  $n-2 = 2$ .
- (d)  $IM(DS(16, 10)) = 3\mathbb{N}$ : here  $m-n = 6 = 2 \times 3$ , while  $n-2 = 2^3$ .
- (e)  $IM(DS(20, 14)) = \emptyset$ : here  $m-n = 6$  is a divisor of  $n-2 = 12$ .

## 4 Trees of diameter four

**Definition 4.1.** A tree of diameter four, denoted by  $TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ , consists of  $n$  stars  $ST(a_1), ST(a_2), \dots, ST(a_n)$  one of their edges is incident with a common vertex. The common vertex will be called the center of the tree and will be denoted by  $c$ .

In other words,  $TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is a tree with center-vertex  $c$ , in which  $n$  edges  $\{cu_1, cu_2, \dots, cu_n\}$  are emanated from  $c$ , and  $\deg(u_i) = a_i$  for each

$i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , as illustrated in the Figure 5. In order to have a tree of diameter four, one needs  $n \geq 2$  and  $a_i \geq 2$  for at least two values of  $i$ .

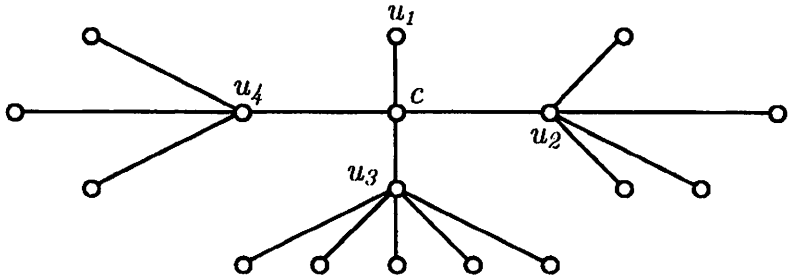


Figure 5:  $TF(4; 1, 5, 6, 4)$ ; An example of a tree of diameter 4.

**Observation 4.2.** *If one of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  is 2, then  $IM(TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)) = \emptyset$ .*

**Observation 4.3.** *Let  $b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n$  be any permutation of  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$ . Then  $TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is isomorphic with  $TF(n; b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)$ .*

As a result of these two observations, in any tree  $TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  with diameter four, we may assume that  $1 < n$ ,  $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_n$ , and  $a_i \neq 2$ .

**Theorem 4.4.** *Suppose  $3 \leq m < n$  and let  $m + n - 3 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $m + n - 3$ . Then*

$$IM(TF(2; m, n)) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N} - \{d \mid d \text{ is a divisor of } m-1, m-2, n-1, \text{ or } n-2\}$$

*Proof.* For any magic labeling of this graph, as illustrated in the Figure 6, one needs two distinct non-zero elements  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_h$ .

The condition  $l^+(u) = x$  implies

$$(m-1)x + y \equiv x \pmod{h}. \quad (4)$$

Since  $x \neq y$ ,  $h$  cannot be a divisor of  $m-1$ . Also Equation (4) can be written as  $y \equiv -(m-2)x \pmod{h}$ , which implies that  $h$  cannot be a divisor of  $m-2$  either. Similarly, from  $l^+(v) = x$  we will have

$$(n-1)x + x - y \equiv x \pmod{h}. \quad (5)$$



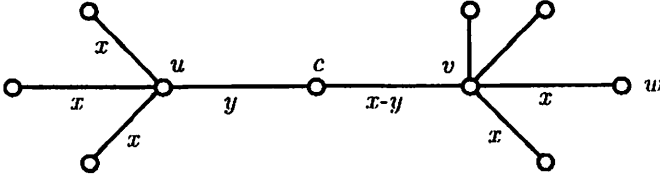


Figure 6: A typical magic labeling of  $SF(2; 4, 5)$ . Here  $x \neq y$ .

If we add the two Equations (4) and (5) we get

$$(m + n - 3)x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}. \quad (6)$$

This last equation has a non-zero solution for  $x$  if and only if  $\gcd(m + n - 3, h) > 1$ ; that is,  $h \in \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.5.** *Let  $m \geq 3$ , and  $2m - 3 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $2m - 3$ . Then  $IM(TF(2; m, m)) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}$ .*

*Proof.* Here  $m = n$  and

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N} \cap \{ d \mid d \text{ is a divisor of } m - 1 \text{ or } m - 2 \} = \emptyset.$$

$\square$

**Theorem 4.6.** *Consider the tree of diameter four  $G = TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  ( $n \geq 3$ ), and let  $\pm p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \cdots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $\sigma = 1 - 2n + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i$ . Then the integer-magic spectrum of  $G = TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is*

$$IM(G) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } \sigma \mid (a_i - 2) \text{ for some } i > k \\ \mathbb{N} - D & \text{if } \sigma = 0 \\ \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N} - D & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where  $D = \{ d \mid d \text{ is a divisor of } a_i - 2 \text{ for some } i (k + 1 \leq i \leq n) \}$ .

*Proof.* First, note that if  $a_i = 2$  for some  $i$ , then  $G$  is non-magic, and in this case  $\sigma \mid (a_i - 2)$ , which is consistent with the statement of the Theorem. Therefore, we may assume that  $a_i \neq 2$ . Let  $a_1 = a_2 = \cdots = a_k = 1$  and  $a_i \geq 3 (k + 1 \leq i \leq n)$ .

In labeling of  $G = TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ , we will use  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_h$  for all the leaves and if  $a_i \geq 3$ , we will use  $y_i \in \mathbb{Z}_h$  to label the edge  $cu_i$  (See the Figure 5). The condition  $l^+(u_i) = x$  implies  $(a_i - 1)x + y_i \equiv x \pmod{h}$  or

$$y_i \equiv -(a_i - 2)x \pmod{h} \quad (k + 1 \leq i \leq n). \quad (7)$$

Since  $y_i$  is a non-zero element of the group  $\mathbb{Z}_h$ ,  $h$  cannot be a divisor of  $a_i - 2$ . Also, the condition  $l^+(c) = x$  implies that  $kx + y_{k+1} + y_{k+2} + \dots + y_n \equiv x \pmod{h}$ , or

$$\sum_{i=k+1}^n y_i \equiv (1 - k)x \pmod{h}. \quad (8)$$

Now if we add the Equations (7) for  $i = k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n$ , we will get

$$\sum_{i=k+1}^n y_i \equiv - \sum_{i=k+1}^n (a_i - 2)x \pmod{h}, \text{ which together with (8) will give us}$$

$$(1 - 2n + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i)x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}, \text{ or}$$

$$\sigma x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}. \quad (9)$$

Now we will consider the following cases:

- Case 1. If for some value of  $i$ ,  $\sigma | (a_i - 2)$ , then  $a_i - 2 = q\sigma$  and Equation (7) gives us  $y_i \equiv -q\sigma x \equiv 0 \pmod{h}$ , which is not an acceptable answer. Therefore,  $IM(G) = \emptyset$ .
- Case 2. If  $\sigma = 0$ , Equation (9) is satisfied for all values of  $h$ , and one only needs to exclude divisors of  $a_i - 2$  to assure that Equations (7) will provide non-zero solutions for  $y_i$ . Therefore,  $IM(G) = \mathbb{N} - D$ .
- Case 3. Suppose  $\sigma \neq 0$  and  $\sigma$  is not divisor of any of  $a_i - 2$ . Then Equation (9) has non-zero solution for  $x$  if and only if  $\gcd(\sigma, h) > 1$ ; that is,  $h \in \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}$ . However, we need to exclude divisors of  $a_i - 2$  to make sure that Equations (7) will provide non-zero solutions for  $y_i$ . Therefore,  $IM(G) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N} - D$ .

This complete the proof of the Theorem. □

**Corollary 4.7.** *With the notation of Theorem 4.6, if  $a_1 \geq 3$ , then*

$$IM(G) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N} - \{ d \mid d \text{ is a divisor of } a_i - 2 \ (1 \leq i \leq n) \}.$$

*Proof.* We observe that if  $a_1 \geq 3$ , then  $\sigma = 1 - 2n + \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \geq 1 - 2n + 3(n - 1) + a_1 > a_1 - 2$ . Therefore,  $\sigma \neq 0$  and it can not be a divisor of  $a_i - 2$ . □

**Corollary 4.8.** In  $TF(n; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  let  $a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_n = m \geq 3$ ; that is choose  $n$  copies of  $ST(m)$  and identify one of their end vertices. Also let  $mn - 2n + 1 = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  be the prime factorization of  $mn - 2n + 1$ . Then

$$IM(TF(n; m, m, \dots, m)) = \{ h \mid \gcd(mn - 2n + 1, h) > 1 \} = \bigcup_{i=1}^k p_i \mathbb{N}.$$

**Examples 4.9.**

- (a)  $IM(TF(2; 4, 4)) = 5\mathbb{N}$ ; here  $2m - 3 = 5$ .
- (b)  $IM(TF(2; 6, 17)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N} - \{2, 4, 5, 8, 15, 16\}$ ; here  $a_1 + a_2 - 3 = 20$ , and we need to exclude the divisors of  $a_i - 1$ ,  $a_i - 2$ .
- (c)  $IM(TF(2; 9, 24)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N} \cup 5\mathbb{N} - \{2, 4, 8, 22\}$ ; here  $a_1 + a_2 - 3 = 30$ .
- (d)  $IM(TF(3; 5, 5, 5)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 5\mathbb{N}$ ; here  $3m - 5 = 10 = 2 \times 5$ .
- (e)  $IM(TF(3; 3, 5, 9)) = 2\mathbb{N} \cup 3\mathbb{N} - \{3\}$ ; here  $a_1 + a_2 + a_3 - 5 = 12$  and 3 is a divisor of  $a_2 - 2$ .
- (f)  $IM(TF(4; 1, 1, 3, 5)) = \emptyset$ ; here  $\sigma = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 - 7 = 3$  and  $\sigma = 3$  is a divisor of  $a_4 - 2$ .
- (g)  $IM(TF(6; 1, 1, 1, 3, 3, 4)) = \emptyset$ ; here  $\sigma = a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + a_4 + a_5 + a_6 - 11 = 2$ , which is a divisor of  $a_6 - 2$ .

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