

On (1,2)-Strongly Indexable Spiders

Sin-Min Lee

Department of Computer Science
San Jose State University
San Jose, California 95192
U.S.A.

Sheng-Ping Bill Lo,
Cisco Systems, Inc.
170, West Tasman Drive
San Jose, CA 95134

ABSTRACT

For any integers $k, d \geq 1$, a (p, q) -graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$, $p = |V(G)|$ and $q = |E(G)|$, is said to be (k, d) -strongly indexable (in short (k, d) -SI) if there exists a function pair (f, f^*) which assigns integer labels to the vertices and edges, i.e., $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ and $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \square \{k, k+d, k+2d, \dots, k+(q-1)d\}$ are onto, where $f^*(u, v) = f(u) + f(v)$ for any $(u, v) \in E(G)$. We determine here classes of spiders that are $(1, 2)$ -SI graphs. We show that every given $(1, 2)$ -SI spider can extend to an $(1, 2)$ -SI spider with arbitrarily many legs.

1. Introduction. In 1990, Acharya and Hegde [2] have introduced the concept of strongly k -indexable graphs: A (p, q) -graph $G = (V; E)$ with p vertices and q edges is said to be **strongly k -indexable** if its vertices can be assigned distinct numbers $0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1$ so that the values of the edges, obtained as the sums of the numbers assigned to their end vertices form an arithmetic progression $k, k+1, k+2, \dots, k+(q-1)$. When $k=1$ strongly k -indexable graph is simply called strongly indexable graph. Later, they extend the concept to the following

Definition 1.1. For any integers $k, d \geq 1$, a graph G with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$, $p = |V(G)|$ and $q = |E(G)|$, is said to be **(k, d) -strongly indexable** (in short (k, d) -SI) if there exists a function pair (f, f^*) which assigns integer labels to the vertices and edges, i.e.,

$f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ and $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{k, k+d, k+2d, \dots, k+(q-1)d\}$ are onto, where $f^*(u, v) = f(u) + f(v)$ for any $(u, v) \in E(G)$.

Thus strongly k -indexable graph are $(k, 1)$ -strongly indexable and strongly indexable graph is $(1, 1)$ -strongly indexable.

If we relaxed the definition of f in strongly (k, d) -indexable graph by $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, then we have the concept of (k, d) -arithmetic graphs of Acharya and Hegde [1].

For any $k, d \geq 1$, we denote the class of all (k, d) -SI graphs by $\Omega(k, d)$.

Example 1. Figure 1 shows that the disconnected graph $3K_2$ is $(1, 4)$ -, $(2, 3)$ -, $(3, 2)$ -, and $(4, 1)$ -SI.

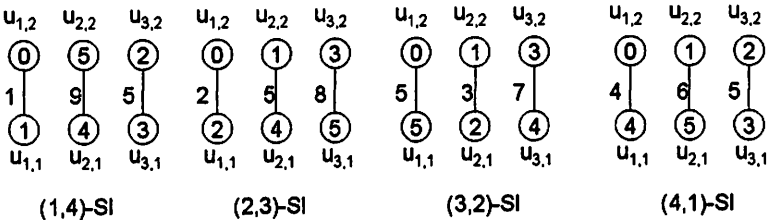


Figure 1. The forest $3K_2$ admits different (k, d) -SI labelings.

Example 2. The following are two different $(1, 1)$ -SI labelings of $K_2 \times C_3$.

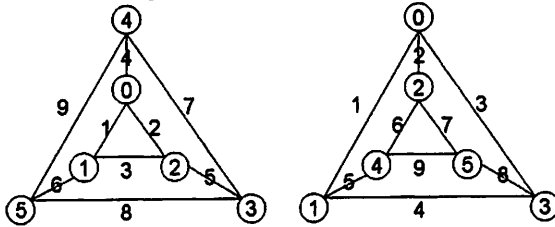


Figure 2. $K_2 \times C_3$ has different $(1, 1)$ -SI labelings.

Example 3. The tree $CT(3; 3^{[3]})$ is $(7, 1)$ -SI and $(10, 1)$ -SI.

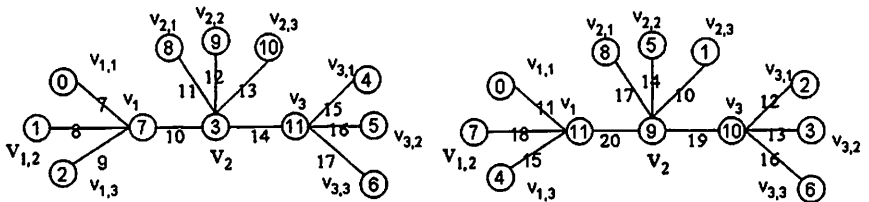


Figure 3. Tree which is $(7, 1)$ -SI and $(10, 1)$ -SI.

Acharya and Hegde showed that the only non-trivial regular graphs that are strongly indexable are K_2 , K_3 and $K_2 \times K_3$, and that every strongly indexable graph has exactly one non-trivial component that is either a star or a triangle. Results on strongly indexable graphs are meager. There are few examples of strongly indexable graphs were known. There are many interesting questions left

open.

In [7], it is shown that

Theorem 1.1. The caterpillar T is (1,2)-SI if and only if its bipartition (M,N) has the property that $||M|-|N|| \leq 1$.

A tree is called a *spider* if it has a center vertex c with degree $x > 1$ while each of the other vertices is either a leaf or has degree 2. Thus, a spider is an amalgamation of k paths with various lengths. If it has x_1 paths with length a_1 , x_2 paths with length a_2 , etc., we denote the spider by $SP(a_1^{x_1}, a_2^{x_2}, \dots, a_m^{x_m})$, where $x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_m = x$. (See Figure 4.)

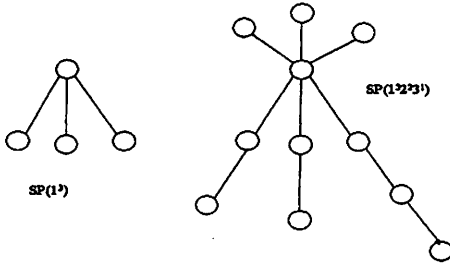


Figure 4.

General (k, d)-SI graphs were considered by the first author in [6]. Lee et al [7] determine classes of graphs that are (1, 2)-SI and (2, 2)-SI. We determine here classes of spiders that are (1,2)-SI.

2. (1,2) - SI Spiders with three legs.

Lemma 2.1. The path P_n has a natural (1,2)-SI labeling.

If $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$, then the labeling $f(v_i) = i-1$ is clearly (1,2)-SI labeling.

Lemma 2.2. If n is even, then the path P_n has another (1,2)-SI labeling which is defined as follows:

$$g(v_i) = i \quad \text{if } i \text{ is odd,}$$

and $g(v_i) = i-2 \quad \text{if } i \text{ is even.}$

We will call this labeling as twist(1,2)-SI labeling.

Example 4. Figure 5 shows P_8 with natural and twist (1,2)-SI labelings.

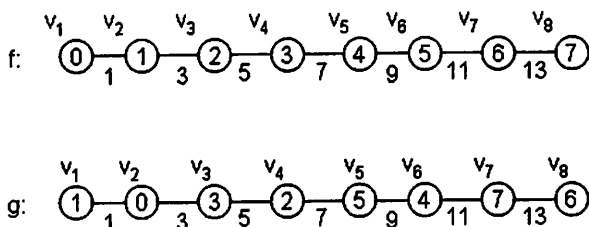
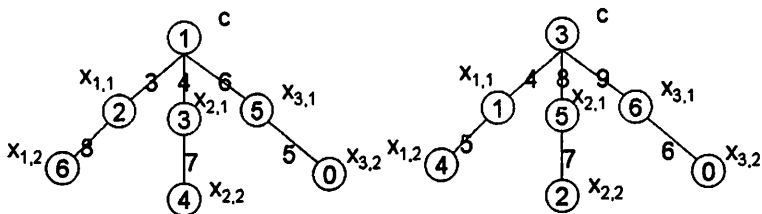


Figure 5.

The condition of Theorem 1.1. is not sufficient for spiders to be (1,2)-SI.

Example 5. Consider the spider $SP(2,2,2)$ which is the spider with three legs of length 2. We see that it is (3,1)-SI and (4,1)-SI (see Figure 5). However, it is not (1,2)-SI.



$SP(2,2,2)$ is (3,1)-SI

$SP(2,2,2)$ is (4,1)-SI

Figure 6. Spider $SP(2,2,2)$ is (3,1)-SI and (4,1)-SI.

The following result provide an infinite many (1,2)-SI spiders with three legs.

Theorem 2.2: For $n \geq 2$, and $m \geq n$ the spider $SP(n, m, m+1)$ is (1,2)- SI .

Proof. $SP(n, m, m+1)$ has $n+m+m+1+1 = n+2m+2$ vertices and $n+2m+1$ edges.

We need to prove that there is vertex labeling

$f: V(SP(n, m, m+1)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n+2m+1\}$ with the induced edge labeling

$f^+(E(SP(n, m, m+1))) \rightarrow \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2(n+2m+1)-1\}$.

Let us denote the vertices of $SP(n, m, m+1)$ as in figure below (Figure 7) :

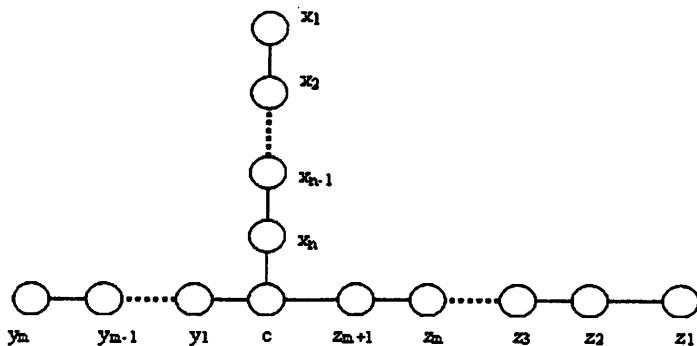


Figure 7.

We will label the vertices x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n with $0, 1, \dots, n-1$, center vertex c with n , label y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m with $n+1, n+2, \dots, n+m$, and label z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{m+1} with $n+m+1, n+m+2, \dots, n+m+m+1$, respectively. i.e. $f: V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{n+2m+2}$ is

$$f(x_i) = i-1 \text{ for } i=1,2,\dots,n.$$

$$f(y_i) = n+i \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, m.$$

$$f(c) = n,$$

$$f(z_i) = n+m+i \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, m+1.$$

Now let us check the induced edge labels. It can be seen that

$$f^*({x_i, x_{i+1}}) = 2i-1, \text{ for } i=1,2,\dots,n-1.$$

$$f^*({x_n, c}) = 2n-1,$$

$$f^*({c, y_1}) = 2n+1,$$

$$f^*({y_i, y_{i+1}}) = (n+i)+(n+i+1) = 2n+2i+1, \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, m-1.,$$

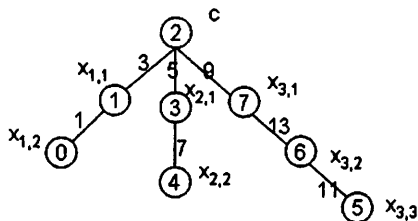
$$f^*({c, z_{m+1}}) = n+(n+m+m+1) = 2n+2m+1,$$

$$f^*({z_i, z_{i+1}}) = (n+m+i)+(n+m+i+1) = 2n+2m+2i+1, \text{ for } i=1,2,\dots,m.$$

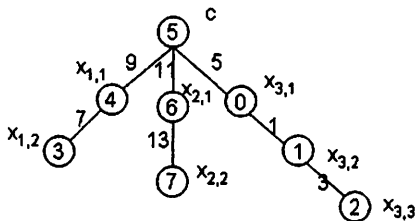
From the above, we can see f^* has range

$$\begin{aligned} R &= \{2i-1: i=1,2,\dots,n-1\} \cup \{2n-1, 2n+1\} \cup \{2n+2i+1: i=1,2,\dots,m-1\} \cup \\ &\quad \{2n+2m+1\} \cup \{2n+2m+2i+1: i=1,2,\dots,m\} \\ &= \{1,3,5,\dots,2n-3,2n-1,2n+1,2n+3,\dots,2n+2m-1, 2n+2m+1, 2n+2m+3, \dots, \\ &\quad 2n+4m+1\}. \square \end{aligned}$$

Example 6. Spider $SP(2,2,3)$ with two different (1,2)-SI labelings.



$SP(2,2,3)$ is (1,2)-SI



$SP(2,2,3)$ is (1,2)-SI

Figure 8.

We have shown in [6] a general construction of (k, d) -SI graph from two given (k, d) -SI graphs. We illustrate here the usefulness of this method by presenting a recursive construction of infinite families of $(1, 2)$ -SI spiders with three legs.

Ingredient: Suppose G is a (p_1, q_1) -graph in $\Omega(k_1, d)$ and H is a (p_2, q_2) -graph in $\Omega(k_2, d)$ with labelings g, h respectively.

Constraint: d is a divisor of $2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)$ and $[2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)] / d - q_1 \geq 0$.

We can construct a new graph on $V(G) \cup V(H)$ as follows:

Keep the original (k_1, d) -labeling on G and extend the vertex labeling on H by $h \oplus p_1$ where $(h \oplus p_1)(v) = h(v) + p_1$ for all $v \in V(H)$.

Under the $h \oplus p_1$ labeling H becomes a $(2p_1 + k, d)$ -SI graphs.

Let $t = [2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)] / d - q_1 \geq 0$.

If $t = 0$, then the disjoint union $G \cup H$ is (k_1, d) -SI.

If $t > 0$, let us fill in t edges which connect vertices of G and H by the following scheme :

Pick u in G with label x and v in H with label $2p_1 + y$ join them so that its induced edge label $2p_1 + x + y$ is range from $k_1 + q_1 d$ to $k_1 + (q_1 + 1)d, \dots, k_1 + (q_1 + t - 1)d$. We denote the set of these edges by Π . That is $\Pi = \{(u, v): g(u) = x \text{ and } h(v) = y \text{ and } x + y = k_1 + q_1 d, k_1 + (q_1 + 1)d, \dots, k_1 + (q_1 + t - 1)d\}$.

Then $E(G) \cup E(H) \cup \Pi$ is (k_1, d) -SI.

We denote this graph by $G \oplus \Pi \oplus H$.

Theorem 2.2. If G is a (p_1, q_1) -graph in $\Omega(k_1, d)$ and H is a (p_2, q_2) -graph in $\Omega(k_2, d)$ and d is a factor of $2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)$ with $[2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)] / d - q_1 \geq 0$, then there exists a $(p_1 + p_2, q_2 + [2p_1 + (k_2 - k_1)] / d)$ graph in $\Omega(k_1, d)$ which contains G, H as induced subgraphs.

Theorem 2.3. For any (p_1, q_1) -graph $G, (p_2, q_2)$ -graph H in $\Omega(k, 2)$, with $p_1 \geq q_1$ we can construct a $(k, 2)$ -SI graph which contains G, H as induced subgraph.

Now let us consider $k=1$. We will illustrate the above construction by the following example.

Example 5. Using $G = P_7, H = P_5$ and $\Pi = \{(x_{1,3}, y_{1,5})\}$. We see that $G \oplus \Pi \oplus H = SP(2, 4, 5)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI.

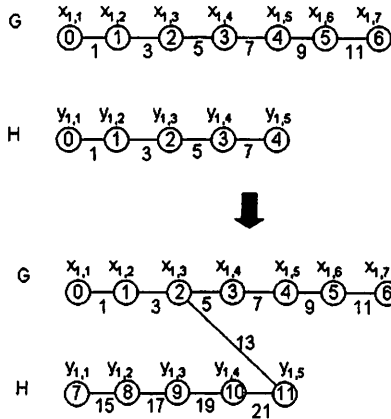


Figure 9.

Theorem 2.3: For $n \geq 1$, and $m \geq 1$, the spider $SP(n, n+1, m)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI.

Proof. Let $G = P_{n+m+1}$ and $H = P_{m+1}$ with the natural $(1, 2)$ -SI labeling and $\Pi = \{(x_{1,i}, y_{1,m})\}$. We see that $G \oplus \Pi \oplus H = SP(n, n+1, m)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI. \square

Corollary 2.4: For $k \geq 1$, the spider $SP(1, 2, k)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI.

Proof: Let us label the vertices of $SP(1, 2, k)$ as in the figure below:

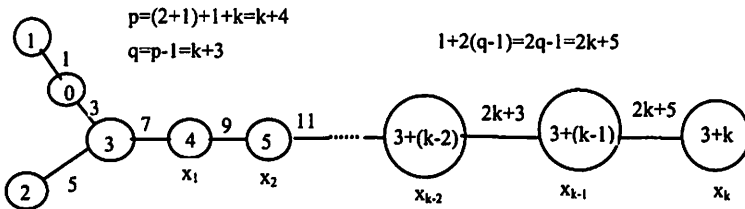


Figure 10.

It is clear from the figure above that $SP(1, 2, k)$ has $p = k+4$ vertices and $q = k+3$ edges and the vertex labeling induces the edge labeling of $\{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2(q-1)\} = \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2k+5\}$. This proves $SP(1, 2, k)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI for any positive integer.

Theorem 2.5: For $k \geq 1$, the spider $SP(2k, 2k, 2k+2)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI.

Proof. Let $G = P_{4k+1}$ with the natural $(1, 2)$ -SI labeling and $H = P_{2k+3}$ with the reverse twist $(1, 2)$ -SI labeling and $\Pi = \{(x_{1, 2k+1}, y_{1, 1})\}$. We see that $G \oplus \Pi \oplus H = SP(2k, 2k, 2k+2)$ is $(1, 2)$ -SI. \square

Example 6. Spider $SP(4,4,6)$ with its $(1,2)$ -SI labelings.

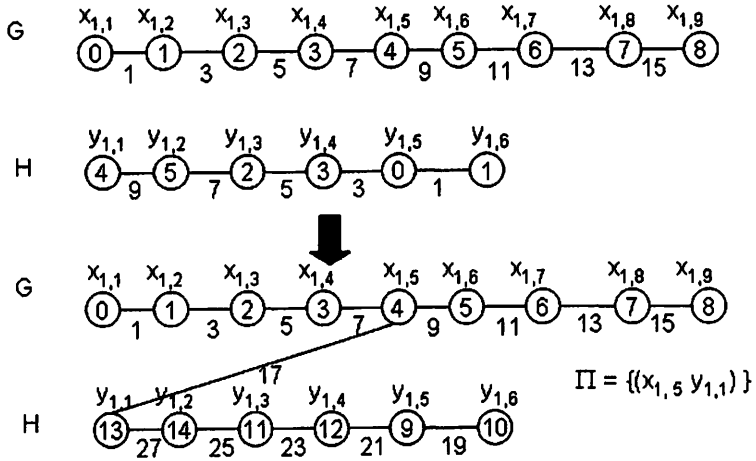


Figure 11.

3. $(1,2)$ - SI Spiders with more than three legs.

Theorem 3.1. The spider $SP(1^{[n]}, 2, 2)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI if and only if $n=1$ and 2 .

Proof. If $n=1$ and $n=2$, we see that $SP(1, 2, 2)$ and $SP(1, 2, 2, 2)$ are $(1,2)$ -SI.

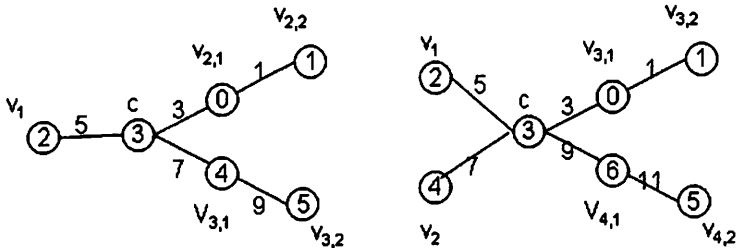


Figure 12.

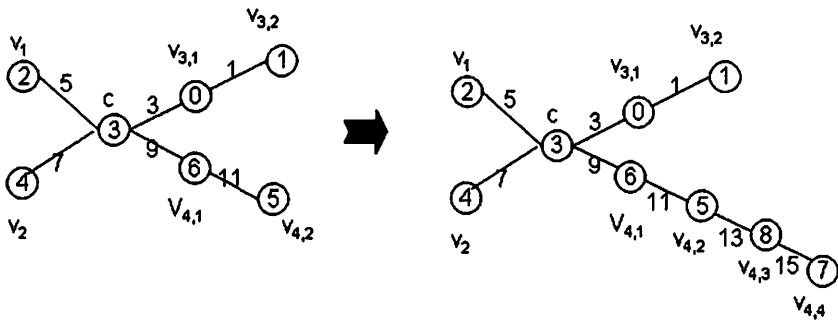
However, if $n \geq 3$, then the bipartition (M, N) of the spider $SP(1^{[n]}, 2, 2)$ has the property that $\|M\| - \|N\| > 1$. Therefore $SP(1^{[n]}, 2, 2)$ is not $(1,2)$ -SI. \square

Theorem 3.2. The spider $SP(1, 1, 2, 2k)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI for all $k \geq 1$.

Proof. For $k=1$, we see in Theorem 3.1. that it is $(1,2)$ -SI.

Assume the statement is true for $k=n$, i.e. $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI. We want to show that $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n+2)$ is also $(1,2)$ -SI. We can extend $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n)$ to $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n+2)$ by adding two vertices $\{x_{4,2k+1}, x_{4,2k+2}\}$ and two edges $(x_{4,2k}, x_{4,2k+1})$, $(x_{4,2k+1}, x_{4,2k+2})$. Now we extend the original $(1,2)$ -SI labeling f of $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n)$ to $SP(1, 1, 2, 2n+2)$ by setting

$$f(x_{4,2k+1}) = 2k+4, \quad f(x_{4,2k+2}) = 2k+3.$$



. Figure 13.

It is clear that this is a (1,2)-SI labeling (see Figure 13.□

Theorem 3.3 The spider $SP(1^{[n]}, 2^{[3]})$ is not (1,2)-SI for all n .

Proof: First we show that for $n=1$ and 2, $SP(1^{[n]}, 2^{[3]})$ is not (1,2)-SI. For easier describe the labelings of vertices, let us denote the spiders as

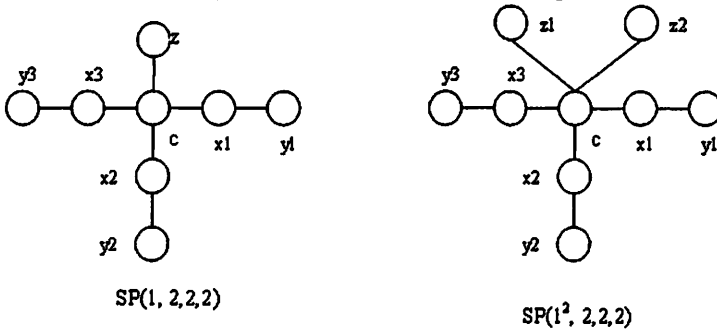


Figure 14.

For $SP(1,2,2,2)$: c can have odd or even label.

(I) c has even label. Then x_1, x_2, x_3 and z must have odd labels.

1) c has label 0.

(i) z has label 1. So $\{3, 5, 7\}$ are labels of x_1, x_2 and x_3 and it makes no difference which one has which, so say x_1 has label 3, x_2 has label 5 and x_3 has label 7. So y_3 must have label 6. Now no vertex can have label 2. Since if y_1 were 2, then edges (x_1, y_1) and (c, x_2) will have label 5; if y_2 were 2, then edges (x_2, y_2) and (c, x_3) both have label 7. Hence this is not a $Q(1,2)$ -VG labeling.

(ii) z has label 3. Similar as above. No vertex can have label 2.

(iii) z has label 5. Similar as above. No vertex can have label 2.

(iv) z can not have label 7. since no way to get edge label 13.

- 2) c has label 2.
- (i) z can not label 1. Since no way to get edge label of 1.
 - (ii) z has label 3. So $\{1, 5, 7\}$ are labels of $\{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$. Since vertex of label 0 has to be adjacent to vertex of label 1 to generate edge label of 1 and vertex of label 6 has to be adjacent to vertex of label 7 to generate edge label 13. This means vertex of label 4
 - (iii) z has label 5. Similar as above. No vertex can have label 4.
 - (iv) z can not have label 7. since no way to get edge label 13.
- 3) c has label 4.
- (i) z can not be 1, since no edge will have 1.
 - (ii) z has label 3, 5 or 7, then x_1 has label 1 and y_1 must have label 0. Then no way to get edge label 3.
- 4) c has label 6. Similar as case 3). x_1 must be 1 and y_1 must be 0. Hence no way to generate edge label 3 again.
- (II) c has odd label. Then x_1, x_2, x_3 and z must have even labels.
- (i) c has label 1. z cannot not be 0. Since 7 has to be adjacent to 6 to generate edge label 13. If z is 0, then no vertex can have 3. If z is nonzero, then x_1 is 0, then y_1 cannot have any label.
 - (ii) c has label other than 1, then x_1 must be 0 and x_2 must be 6 and y_1 must be 1 and y_2 must be 7 to generate edge label 1 and 13, respectively. This means y_3 has to be 5. Then x_3 cannot have a label 2 or 4.

If $n \geq 2$, then the bipartition (M, N) of the spider $SP(1^{[n]}, 2^{[3]})$ has the property that $\|M\| - \|N\| > 1$. Therefore $SP(1^{[n]}, 2, 2)$ is not $(1, 2)$ -SI. \square

Example 11. Spider $SP(1, 2, 2, 2)$ is $(3, 1)$ -SI, $(4, 1)$ -SI and $(5, 1)$ -SI but not $(1, 2)$ -SI.

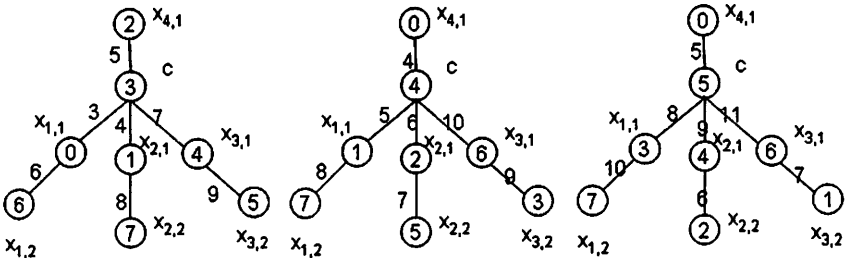


Figure 15.

However, we see

Theorem 3.3. The spider $SP(1,2,n,n+1)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI for all $n \geq 1$.

Proof. Let $G = SP(1,2,n)$ with the $(1,2)$ -SI labeling as Corollary 2.4. and $H = P_{n+1}$ with the reverse twist $(1,2)$ -SI labeling and $\Pi = \{(x_{1,2k+1}, y_{1,1})\}$. We see that $G \oplus \Pi \oplus H = SP(2k,2k,2k+2)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI. \square

Example 12. Figure 16 illustrates the labeling scheme for $n=3$ and 4.

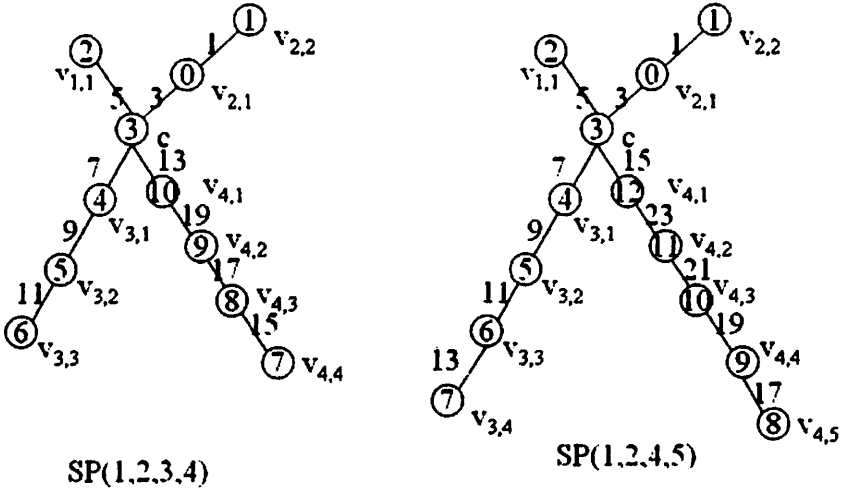


Figure 16.

Theorem 3.4. The spider $SP(1^{[n]},2^{[2]},3)$ is $(1,2)$ -SI if and only if $n=1$.

Proof. If $n=1$, Figure 17 depicts a $(1,2)$ -SI labeling for spider $SP(1,2^{[2]},3)$.

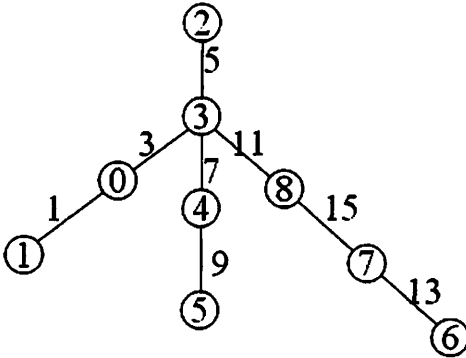


Figure 17.

We want to show that the spider $SP(1^{[n]},2^{[2]},3)$ is not $(1,2)$ -SI for $n > 1$. For the bipartition (M,N) of $SP(1^{[n]},2^{[2]},3)$ is $\|M\| - \|N\| > 1$. Therefore $SP(1^{[n]},2^{[2]},3)$ is not $(1,2)$ -SI. \square

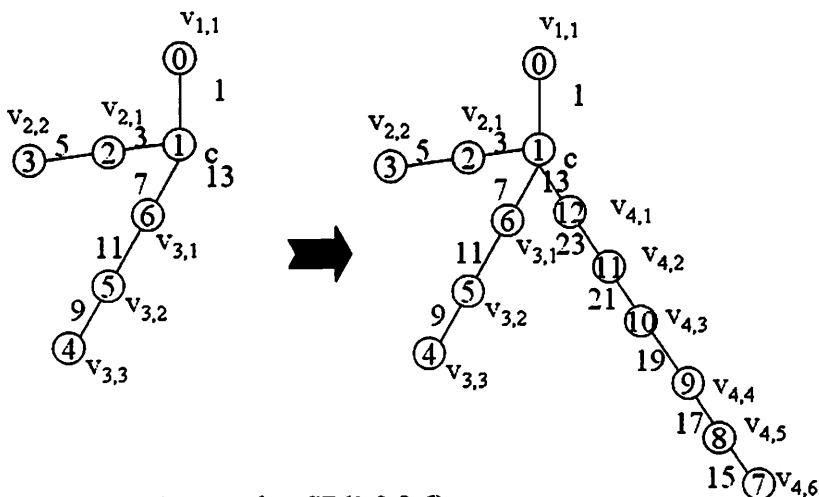
4. Extension and Open Problem.

In this section we want to show some applications of previous results.

Theorem 4.1. Given a (1,2)-SI spider $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ with $a_1 \leq a_2 \leq \dots \leq a_k$, we can extend to a (1,2)-SI spider $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, a_{k+1})$ where $a_{k+1} = x+2-c$, where c is the vertex label of the center vertex of the spider, $x+1$ is the largest vertex label of the leg a_k .

Proof: Let c be the center vertex of the (1,2)-SI spider $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$. Assume the leg of length a_k of the spider $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ has the highest edge label $2x+1$ which has adjacent vertices of labels x and $x+1$. The vertex label $x+1$ is the highest vertex label in $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$. Now we can extend $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k)$ by adding another leg of length $(x+2-c)$ in such a way that the vertex adjacent to center vertex have vertex label $2x+3-c$ which will induce the edge $(c, 2x+3-c)$ with edge label $2x+3$, the rest vertices of a_{k+1} from the end vertex have vertex labels $(x+2), (x+3), \dots, (2x+2-c)$. It is clear we have a (1,2)-SI labeling for $SP(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k, a_{k+1})$. \square

Example 13. Figure 18 depicts the way to extend a (1,2)-SI spider $SP(1,2,3)$ to a (1,2)-SI spider $SP(1,2,3,6)$. We see c has label 1, the highest edge label of $SP(1,2,3)$ is $2x+1 = 11$. Thus the highest vertex label in $SP(1,2,3)$ is $x+1 = 6$. Thus by append a path P_7 of length $x+2-c = 7-1 = 6$ and label the vertices $v_{4,6}, v_{4,5}, v_{4,4}, v_{4,3}, v_{4,2}, v_{4,1}$ by 7,8,9,10,11,12. We obtain a (1,2)-SI labeling of $SP(1,2,3,6)$.



SP(1,2,3) extend to SP(1,2,3,6)

Figure 18.

One can see that many spiders such as $SP(2,2,2,2)$ is $(3,1)$ -SI, $(4,1)$ -SI and $(5,1)$ -SI but not $(1,2)$ -SI. However, they satisfy the bipartition condition $||M|-|N|| \leq 1$.

We propose here the following open problem.

Problem. Characterize spider T such that T is $(1,2)$ -SI.

References

- [1] B. D. Acharya and S. M. Hegde, Arithmetic graphs, *J. Graph Theory*, 14(3) (1990), 275-299.
- [2] B.D. Acharya and S.M. Hegde, Strongly indexable graphs, *Discrete Mathematics*, 93(1991), 123-129.
- [3] J.A. Gallian, A dynamic survey of graph labeling, *The Electronic J. of Combin.* (2001), # DS6, 12ed edition, 1-219.
- [4] S. M. Hegde, On indexable graphs, *J. Combinatorics, Informations and System Sciences*, 17(3-4) (1992), 316-331.
- [5] S.M.Hegde and S. Shetty, On arithmetic graphs, *Indian J. of Pure Appl. Math.*, 33(8) (2002), 1275-1283.
- [6] Alexander Nien-Tsu Lee and Sin-Min Lee, On a construction of (k,d) -strongly indexable graphs, unpublished manuscript.
- [7] Wen Yi-Hui, Alexander Nien-Tsu Lee, Sin-Min Lee and Hugo Sun, On $(1,2)$ - and $(2,2)$ -strongly indexable graphs, unpublished manuscript.