

## FURTHER RESULTS ON HARMONIC MEAN GRAPHS

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### ABSTRACT

A Graph  $G = (V, E)$  with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges is called a Harmonic mean graph if it is possible to label the vertices  $x \in V$  with distinct labels  $f(x)$  from  $1, 2, \dots, q+1$  in such a way that when each edge  $e=uv$  is labeled with  $f(uv) = \left\lfloor \frac{2f(u)f(v)}{f(u)+f(v)} \right\rfloor$  (or)  $\left\lceil \frac{2f(u)f(v)}{f(u)+f(v)} \right\rceil$ , then the edge labels are distinct. In this case  $f$  is called Harmonic Mean Labeling of  $G$ . In this paper we prove that  $mC_n, mC_n \cup P_k, mC_n \cup C_k, mC_n \cup PC_k, nk_3 \cup C_m, nk_3 \cup PC_m, P_m \times P_3$  are Harmonic mean graphs. Also we prove that the graph obtained by joining two copies of cycle  $C_n$  by a path of arbitrary length is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Keywords:** Graph, Harmonic mean graph, path, cycle, planar grid, union of graphs,  $mG$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The graph considered here will be finite, undirected and simple. Terms not defined here are used in the sense of Harary [1]. The symbols  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  will denote the vertex set and edge set of a graph  $G$ . The square  $G^2$  of a graph  $G$  has  $V(G^2) = V(G)$ , with  $u, v$  adjacent in  $G^2$  whenever  $d(u, v) \leq 2$  in  $G$ . The union of two graphs  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  is a graph  $G = G_1 \cup G_2$  with vertex set  $V = V_1 \cup V_2$  and edge set  $E = E_1 \cup E_2$ . The Cartesian product of two graphs  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  is a graph  $G = (V, E) = G_1 \times G_2$  with  $V = V_1 \times V_2$  and two vertices  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  and  $v = (v_1, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $G_1 \times G_2$  whenever  $(u_1 = v_1 \text{ and } u_2 \text{ is adjacent to } v_2 \text{ or } u_2 = v_2 \text{ and } u_1 \text{ is adjacent to } v_1)$ . The product  $P_m \times P_n$  is called a planar grid and  $P_m \times P_2$  is called ladder graph.  $mG$  denotes the disjoint union of  $m$  copies of the graph  $G$ . Let  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n$   $n \geq 2$  be  $n$  copies of a fixed graph  $G$ . The graph obtained by adding an edge between  $G_i$  and  $G_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  is called path union of  $G$  [7].

S. Somasundaram and R. Ponraj introduced Mean labeling of Graphs in [2]. We introduced Harmonic Mean labeling of Graphs in [3] and studied their behavior in [4] and [5]. In this paper we discuss Harmonic mean labeling behavior for union of two graphs like  $C_m \cup P_n, mC_n \cup P_k, mC_n \cup C_k, mC_n \cup PC_k$  etc.

Here we shall use frequent reference to the following definition and theorems.

**Definition 1.1:** A Graph  $G$  with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges is called a harmonic mean graph if it is possible to label the vertices  $x \in V$  with distinct labels  $f(x)$  from  $1, 2, \dots, q+1$  in such a way that when each edge  $e = uv$  is labeled with

$f(e = uv) = \left\lfloor \frac{2f(u)f(v)}{f(u)+f(v)} \right\rfloor$  (or)  $\left\lceil \frac{2f(u)f(v)}{f(u)+f(v)} \right\rceil$  then the edge labels are distinct. In this case  $f$  is called a Harmonic mean labeling of  $G$ .

**Theorem 1.2[4]:**  $nK_3, nK_3 \cup P_m, m > 1, nk_3 \cup C_m, m \geq 3$  are Harmonic mean graphs.

**Theorem 1.3 [4]:**  $mC_4, mC_4 \cup P_n, n > 1, mC_4 \cup C_n, n \geq 3, nk_3 \cup mC_4$  are Harmonic mean graphs.

**Theorem 1.4 [3]:** Ladders are Harmonic mean graphs.

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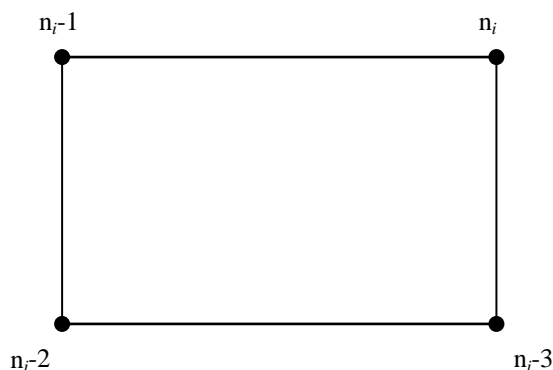
**Theorem 1.5 [6]:** The graph  $C_n^{(2)}$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

## 2. MAIN RESULT

**Theorem 2.1:**  $mC_n$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Proof:** Let the vertex set of  $mC_n$  be  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  where  $V_i = \{v_i, v_i^2, v_i^3, \dots, v_i^m\}$ . Now define a function  $f: V(mC_n) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$  by  $f(v_i^j) = m(i-1)+j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . If  $a$  and  $a+1$  are two integers, then the Harmonic mean lies between  $a$  and  $a+1$ ,  $a < \frac{2a(a+1)}{2a+1} < a+1$ .

Consider a graph with vertices  $n_{i-3}, n_{i-2}, n_{i-1}, n_i$ .

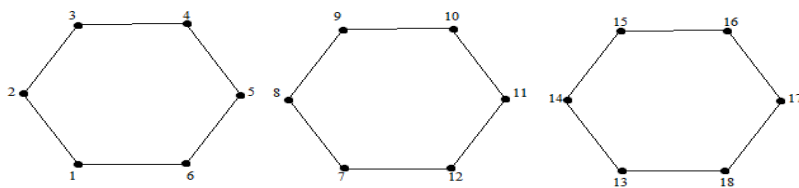


**Figure: 1**

For the edges joining the vertices  $n_{i-3}$  and  $n_{i-2}$  we may assign the edge label  $n_{i-3}$ . Similarly for the edge joining the vertices  $n_{i-2}$  and  $n_{i-1}$  we may assign the edge label  $n_{i-1}$  and for the edge joining the vertices  $n_{i-1}$  and  $n_i$  we may assign the edge label  $n_i$ .

Since  $n_{i-3} < \frac{2n_i(n_{i-3})}{2n_{i-3}} < n_i$ , we may assign the edge label  $n_{i-2}$  for the edges joining the vertices  $n_{i-3}$  and  $n_i$ . Since  $mC_n$  has distinct edge labels, it is a Harmonic Mean graph.

**Example 2.2:** The following figure shows the Harmonic mean labeling of  $3C_6$ .



**Figure: 2**

Now we investigate Harmonic mean labeling of union of  $mC_n$  with path and cycle.

**Theorem 2.3:**  $mC_n \cup P_k$  is a Harmonic mean graph for  $m \geq 1$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $k > 1$ .

**Proof:** Let the vertex set of  $mC_n$  be  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$

where

$V_i = \{v_i^1, v_i^2, v_i^3, \dots, v_i^n\}$  and the edge set be  $E = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_m$

where

$E_i = \{e_i^1, e_i^2, e_i^3, \dots, e_i^n\}$ . Let  $P_k$  be the path  $u_1 u_2 \dots u_k$ .

Define a function  $f: V(mC_n \cup P_k) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$

by  $f(v_i^j) = n(i-1)+j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$

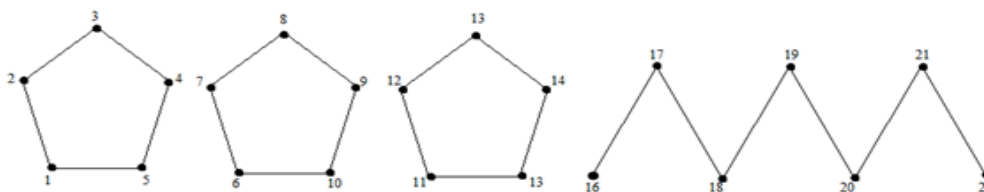
$f(u_k) = mn+i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .

Edge labels are shown below

The set of labels of the edges of  $mC_n$  is  $\{1, 2, 3 \dots mn\}$  and the set of labels of the edges of  $P_k$  is  $\{mn+1, mn+2 \dots mn+k-1\}$ .

Hence  $mC_n \cup P_k$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Example 2.4:** A Harmonic mean labeling of  $3C_5 \cup P_7$  is given below



**Figure: 3**

Next we have

**Theorem 2.5:**  $mC_n \cup C_k$  is a Harmonic mean graph for  $m \geq 3$  and  $k \geq 3$ .

**Proof:** Let  $mC_n$  be  $m$  copies of the cycle  $C_n$  and  $C_k$  be cycle with  $k$  vertices. Let the vertex set of  $mC_n$  be  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$

where  $V_i = \{v_i^1, v_i^2, \dots, v_i^n\}$  and the edge set be  $E = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \dots \cup E_m$

where  $E_i = \{e_i^1, e_i^2, e_i^3, \dots, e_i^n\}$ .

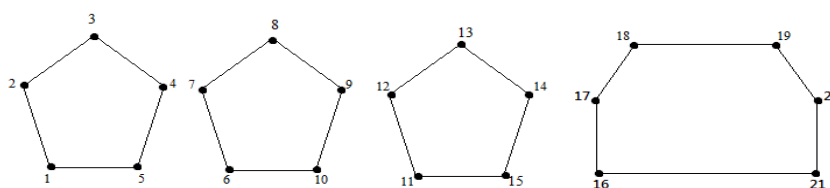
Let  $u_1 u_2 \dots u_k u_1$  be the cycle  $C_k$ .

Define a function  $f: V(mC_n \cup C_k) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$  by  $f(v_i^j) = n(i-1)+j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$

$$f(u_i) = mn+i, 1 \leq i \leq k.$$

Hence  $mC_n \cup C_k$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Example 2.6:** Harmonic mean labeling pattern of  $3C_5 \cup C_6$  is given in the following figure.



**Figure: 4**

The same argument as in Theorem 2.3 and Theorem 2.5 gives the following

**Theorem 2.7:**  $mC_n \cup PC_k$  is a Harmonic mean graph for  $n, k \geq 3$  and  $m, p > 1$ . Now we have

**Theorem 2.8:**  $nK_3 \cup mC_p$  is a Harmonic mean graph for  $p > 3$  and  $n, m > 1$

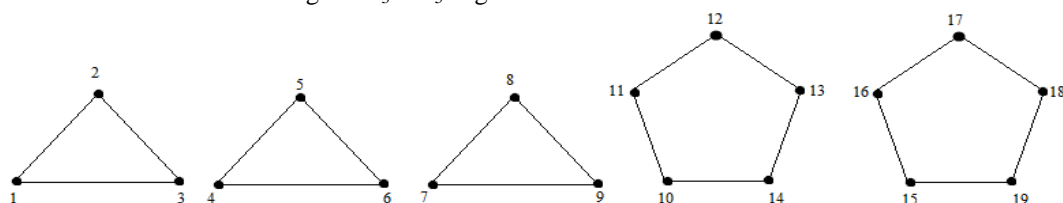
**Proof:** Let the vertex set of  $nK_3$  be  $V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_n$  where  $V_i = \{v_i^1, v_i^2, v_i^3\}$ .

Let the vertex set of  $mC_p$  be  $U = U_1 \cup U_2 \cup U_3 \cup \dots \cup U_m$  where  $U_k = \{u_k^1, u_k^2, \dots, u_k^p\}$ .

Define a function  $f: V(nK_3 \cup mC_p) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$  by  $f(v_i^j) = 3(i-1)+j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 3$  and  $f(u_k^l) = p(k-1)+3n+l$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq p$ .

Hence  $nK_3 \cup mC_p$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Example 2.9:** Harmonic mean labeling of  $4K_3 \cup 2C_5$  is given below



**Figure: 5**

Next we prove the following

**Theorem 2.10:** Two copies of cycle  $C_m$  sharing a common edge is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Proof:** Let the cycle  $C_m$  be  $u_1u_2 \dots u_mu_1$ . Consider two copies of cycle  $C_m$ .

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained from two copies of cycle  $C_m$  sharing common edge. Then  $G$  has  $2m-2$  vertices and  $2m-1$  edges. Let us take  $e = u_{m-1}u_m$  be the common edge between two copies of  $C_m$ .

Define a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$  by

$$f(u_i) = i, 1 \leq i \leq m-2$$

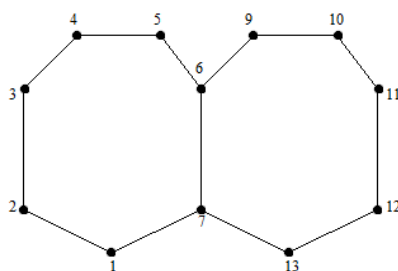
$$f(u_m) = m-1, f(u_{m-1}) = m$$

$$f(v_i) = i+1, m+1 \leq i \leq 2m-2.$$

Hence  $G$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

The following example illustrates the above theorem.

The labeling pattern of two copies of  $C_7$  sharing a common edge is shown below.



**Figure: 6**

Now we investigate the Harmonic mean labeling of a planar grid for a particular case of  $n$ .

**Theorem 2.11:** The planar grid  $P_m \times P_3$  is a Harmonic mean graph.

**Proof:** Let the vertex set of  $P_m \times P_3$  be  $V(P_m \times P_3) = \{a_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq 3\}$  and the edge set be

$$E(P_m \times P_3) = (a_{i(j-1)} a_{ij}; 1 \leq i \leq m, 2 \leq j \leq 3) \cup \{a_{(i-1)j} a_{ij}; 2 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq 3\}$$

Define  $f : V(P_m \times P_3) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$

$$f(a_{ij}) = i, i=1, 1 \leq j \leq 3$$

$$f(a_{ij}) = f(a_{(i-1)3}) + 2 + j, 2 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq 3$$

Edges are labeled with

$$f(a_{11} a_{21}) = 1$$

$$f(a_{ij} a_{i(j+1)}) = 5(i-1)+j+1, i=1, 1 \leq j \leq 2$$

$$f(a_{ij} a_{i(j+1)}) = 5(i-1)+j, 2 \leq j \leq m, 1 \leq i \leq 2$$

$$f(a_{ij} a_{i(j+1)j}) = 5(i-1)+j+2, 1 \leq i \leq m-1, 1 \leq j \leq 3$$

Here all the edges are labeled with distinct labels.

Hence  $P_m \times P_3$  is a Harmonic mean graph for  $m \geq 2$ .

**Example 2.12:** Harmonic mean labeling of  $P_4 \times P_3$  is shown in the following figure.

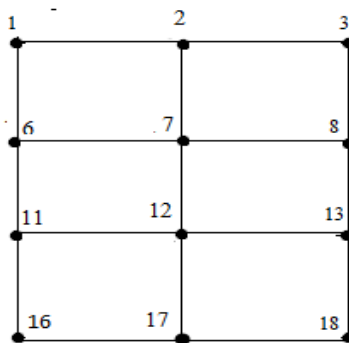


Figure: 7

Next we prove

**Theorem 2.13:** The graph obtained by joining two copies of cycle  $C_n$  by a path  $P_m$  is a Harmonic mean graph for all  $m$  and  $n$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by joining two copies of cycle  $C_n$  by a path  $P_m$ . Let  $u_1 u_2 \dots u_n$  be the vertices of first copy of cycle  $C_n$  and  $v_1 v_2 \dots v_n$  be the vertices of second copy of cycle  $C_n$ .

Let  $P_m$  be the path  $w_1 w_2 \dots w_m$  with  $u_1 = w_1$  and  $v_1 = w_m$

Define a function  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q+1\}$  by

$$f(u_i) = i, 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(v_1) = n+3$$

$$f(v_i) = n+3+i, 2 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(w_1) = n$$

$$f(w_j) = n+j-1, 2 \leq j \leq m$$

Hence  $G$  is a Harmonic mean graph

**Example 2.14:** The following example shows the graph  $G$  obtained by joining two copies of the cycle  $C_5$  by a path  $P_4$ .



Figure: 8

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