

# Difference cordial labeling of some special graphs and related to fan graphs

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**Abstract.** A *difference cordial labeling* of a graph  $G$  is an injective function  $f$  from  $V(G)$  to  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, |V(G)|\}$  such that if each edge  $uv$  is assigned the label 1 if  $|f(u) - f(v)| = 1$ , and 0 otherwise. Then the number of edges labeled with 1 and the number of edges labeled with 0 differ by at most 1. A graph with difference cordial labeling is called a *difference cordial graph*. In this paper we proved that, the graphs obtained by switching of a pendant vertex in  $P_n$ , switching of an apex vertex in  $CH_n$ , the graph obtained by duplication of each vertex of path by an edge, the graph obtained by barycentric subdivision of crown graph  $C_n \odot K_1$ , path union of  $r$  copies of fan  $P(r, F_n)$ , cycle union of  $r$  copies of fan  $C(r, F_n)$  and open star of  $r$  copies of fan  $S(r, F_n)$  graph are difference cordial graphs.

**Mathematics subject classification.** 05C78

**Keywords.** *Barycentric subdivision, Cycle union, Difference cordial labeling, Difference cordial graph, Duplication of a vertex by an edge, Open star of a graph, Path union, Switching of a vertex.*

## I. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we deal with finite, simple and undirected graphs. Graph labeling connects many branches of mathematics and is considered as one of the important blocks of graph theory. Labeled graphs play an important role in communication network addressing and models for constraint programming over finite domains [2]. Cordial labeling was first introduced in 1987 by Cahit [1], and then there has been a major effort in this area made in topics growing steadily and widely [2].

Initially the difference cordial labeling was stated in [4]. R. Ponraj et al. studied difference cordiality of some types of graphs such as path, cycle, complete graph, complete bipartite graph, star, helm, sunflower graph, lotus inside a circle, pyramid, permutation graphs, graphs which are obtained from triangular snake, quadrilateral snake, book with  $n$  pentagonal pages, double fan and some more standard graphs were investigated in [4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11]. In [14], A. Sugumaran and V. Mohan have studied the difference cordial labeling behavior of the  $P(r, P_n^2)$ ,  $C(r, P_n^2)$ ,  $S(r, P_n^2)$  and related graphs. In [12, 13], M. A. Seoud and Shakir M. Salman studied, the graph obtained by duplication of a vertex by an edge, bow graph, butterfly graph, ladder, triangular ladder, step ladder, two sided step ladder, grid are difference cordial graphs. Also they discussed some families of graphs which may be difference cordial or not, such as diagonal ladder and some types of one point union graphs. For standard terminology and notations we follow Harary [3].

**Definition 1.1.** A *difference cordial labeling* of a graph  $G$  is an injective function  $f$  from  $V(G)$  to  $\{1, 2, 3, \dots, |V(G)|\}$  such that if each edge  $uv$  is assigned the label 1 if  $|f(u) - f(v)| = 1$ , and 0 otherwise. Then the number of edges labeled with 0 and the number of edges labeled with 1 differ by at most 1. A graph with difference cordial labeling is called a *difference cordial graph*. We denote,  $e_f(0)$  and  $e_f(1)$  are the number of edges labeled with 0 and the number of edges labeled with 1 respectively.

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $G$  be a graph and let  $G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_r$ ,  $r \geq 2$  be  $r$  copies of graph  $G$ . Then the graph obtained by adding an edge from  $G_i$  to  $G_{i+1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r-1$ ) is called a *path union of  $G$*  and is denoted by  $P(r, G)$ .

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $G$  be a graph and let  $G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_r$ ,  $r \geq 2$  be  $r$  copies of graph  $G$ . Then the graph obtained by adding an edge from  $G_i$  to  $G_{i+1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r-1$ ) and  $G_r$  to  $G_1$  is called a *cycle union of  $G$*  and is denoted by  $C(r, G)$ .

**Definition 1.4.** A *fan graph*  $F_n = P_n + K_1$ , is obtained from a cycle  $P_n$ , by attaching a pendant edge at each vertex of the  $P_n$ .

**Definition 1.5.** The *barycentric subdivision* of the graph  $G$  is obtained by inserting a vertex of degree 2 into every edge of original graph  $G$ .

**Definition 1.6.** A *crown graph*  $C_n \odot K_1$ , is obtained from a cycle  $C_n$ , by attaching a pendant edge at each vertex of the  $C_n$ .

**Definition 1.7.** A *vertex switching*  $G_v$  of a graph  $G$  is obtained by taking a vertex  $v$  of  $G$ , removing the entire

edges incident with  $v$  and adding edges joining  $v$  to every vertex which are not adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ .

**Definition 1.8.** A *helm*  $H_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$  is the graph obtained from the wheel  $W_n$  by adding a pendant edge at each vertex on the rim of the wheel  $W_n$ .

**Definition 1.9.** A *closed helm*  $CH_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$  is the graph obtained from the helm  $H_n$  and adding edges between the pendant vertices.

**Definition 1.10.** Duplication of a vertex  $v_j$  by a new edge  $e = v'_j v''_j$  in a graph  $G$  produces a new graph  $G'$  such that  $N(v'_j) = \{v_j, v''_j\}$  and  $N(v''_j) = \{v_j, v'_j\}$ .

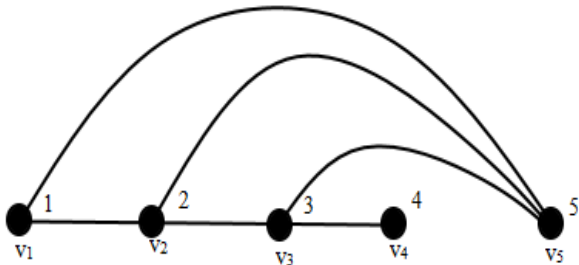
## II. MAIN RESULTS

**Theorem 2.1.** The switching of a pendant vertex in path  $P_n$  produces a difference cordial graph.

**Proof.** Let  $G = P_n$  and  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  be the successive vertices of path  $P_n$  and  $G_{v_n}$  denotes the vertex switching of  $G$  with respect to the pendant vertex  $v_n$ . It is obvious that  $|V(G_{v_n})| = n$  and  $|E(G_{v_n})| = 2n - 2$ . We define a vertex labeling function  $f : V(G_{v_n}) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, n\}$  as follows:

$$f(v_i) = i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Now we observe that  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = n - 1$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 0$ . Thus, the switching of the pendant vertex in path  $P_n$  produces a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of switching of the pendant vertex in path  $P_5$  is shown in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** The switching of the pendant vertex in path  $P_5$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** The switching of an apex vertex in closed helm  $CH_n$  produces a difference cordial graph.

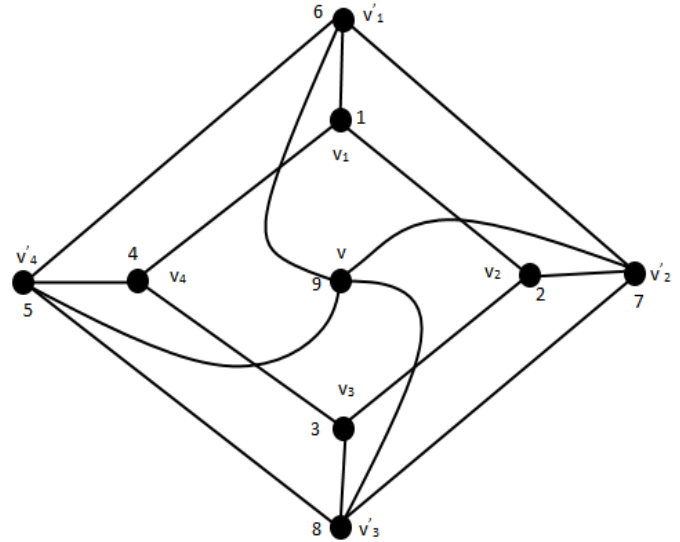
**Proof.** Let  $G = CH_n$ . Let  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n$  and let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  be the inner and outer cycle vertices of closed helm  $CH_n$  respectively. Let  $v$  be the apex vertex of  $G$  and let  $G_v$  denotes the vertex switching of  $G$  with respect to the apex vertex  $v$ . It is obvious that  $|V(G_v)| = 2n+1$  and  $|E(G_v)| = 4n$ .

We define vertex labeling function  $f : V(G_v) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 2n+1\}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f(u_i) &= i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ f(v_i) &= n+1+i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n-1, \\ f(v_n) &= n+1, \end{aligned}$$

$$f(v) = 2n+1.$$

Now we observe that  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = 2n$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 0$ . Thus, switching of an apex vertex in closed helm  $CH_n$  produces a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of the switching of an apex vertex in closed helm  $CH_4$  is shown in Figure 2.



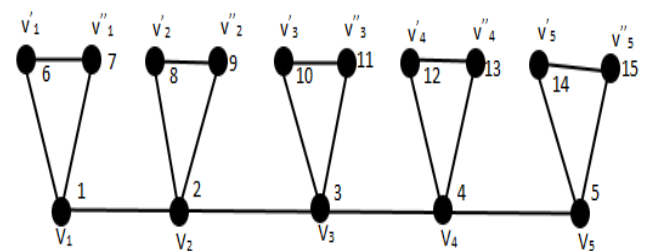
**Figure 2.** The difference cordial labeling of the switching of an apex vertex in  $CH_4$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** The graph obtained by duplication of each vertex of path by an edge is a difference cordial graph.

**Proof.** Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  be the successive vertices of path  $P_n$  and let  $G$  be the graph obtained by duplication of each vertex  $v_j$  by an edge  $v'_j v''_j$ . We note that  $|V(G)| = 3n$  and  $|E(G)| = 4n - 1$ . We define vertex labeling function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 3n\}$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i) &= i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ f(v'_j) &= (n-1) + 2i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n, \\ f(v''_j) &= n + 2i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n. \end{aligned}$$

Now we conclude that  $e_f(0) = 2n$  and  $e_f(1) = 2n - 1$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 1$ . Thus, the graph obtained by duplication of each vertex of path by an edge is a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of the graph obtained by duplication of each vertex of path  $P_5$  by an edge is shown in Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** The graph obtained by duplication of an each vertex of path  $P_5$  by an edge.

**Theorem 2.4.** The graph obtained by barycentric subdivision of crown graph  $C_n \circ K_1$  is a difference cordial graph.

**Proof.** Consider a crown graph  $C_n \circ K_1$ . Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n$  be the successive vertices in cycle  $C_n$  of  $C_n \circ K_1$ . Let  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n$  be the pendant vertices of crown graph  $C_n \circ K_1$ . Let  $G$  be the barycentric subdivision of  $C_n \circ K_1$ . To obtain barycentric subdivision, we insert new vertex  $x_i$  to each edge  $v_i v_{i+1}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ) and vertex  $x_n$  to the edge  $v_n v_1$ . Similarly, we insert new vertex  $y_i$  to each edge  $v_i u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ). We note that  $|V(G)| = 4n$  and  $|E(G)| = 4n$ . We define a vertex labeling function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, 4n\}$  as follows:

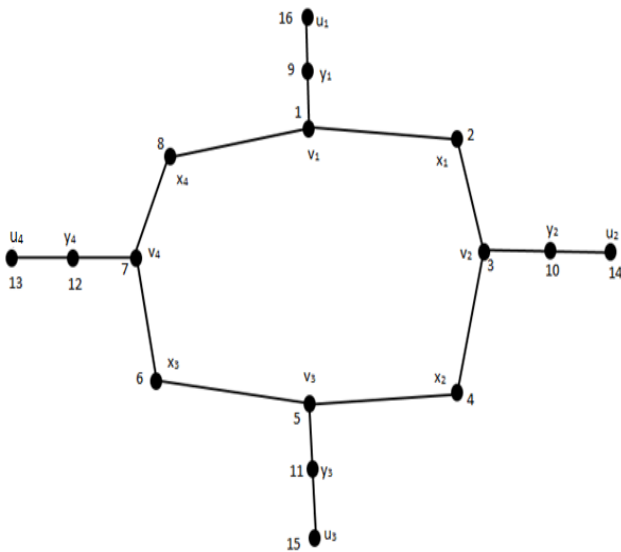
$$f(v_i) = 2i - 1, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n,$$

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

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

$$f(u_i) = 3n + i, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Finally we interchange the labels of the vertices  $u_1$  and  $u_n$ . Now we observe that  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = 2n$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 0$ . Thus, the graph obtained by barycentric subdivision of crown graph  $C_n \circ K_1$  is a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of the barycentric subdivision of crown  $C_4 \circ K_1$  is shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 4.** The difference cordial labeling of the graph obtained by barycentric subdivision of crown graph  $C_4 \circ K_1$ .

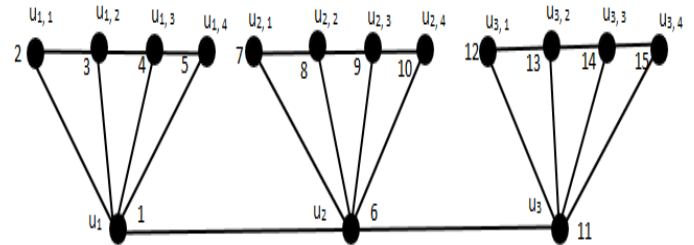
**Theorem 2.5.** The path union of finite  $r$  copies of fan  $F_n$  is a difference cordial graph.

**Proof.** Consider a fan graph  $F_n = P_n + K_1$ . Let  $G = P(r, F_n)$ . Let  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) be the apex vertex of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . Let  $u_{i,j}$  be the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vertex in  $P_n$  of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . We note that  $|V(G)| = r(n + 1)$  and  $|E(G)| = 2nr - 1$ . We define a vertex labeling function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, r(n + 1)\}$  as follows:

$$f(u_i) = 5i - 4, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r,$$

$$f(u_{i,j}) = f(u_i) + j, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

In view of the above labeling pattern  $f$ , we have  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$ . Hence, the path union of finite  $r$  copies of fan graph is a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of path union of finite 3 copies of fan graph  $F_4$  is shown in Figure 5.



**Figure 5.** The difference cordial labeling of path union of 3 copies of fan graph  $F_4$ .

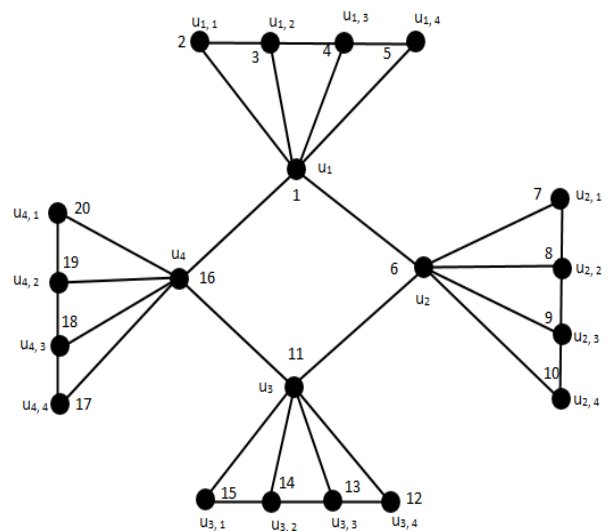
**Theorem 2.6.** The cycle union of finite  $r$  copies of fan graph is a difference cordial graph.

**Proof.** Consider a fan graph  $F_n = P_n + K_1$ . Let  $G = C(r, F_n)$ . Let  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) be the apex vertex of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . Let  $u_{i,j}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n$ ) be the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vertex in  $P_n$  of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . We note that  $|V(G)| = r(n + 1)$  and  $|E(G)| = 2nr$ . We define a vertex labeling function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, r(n + 1)\}$  as follows:

$$f(u_i) = 5i - 4, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r,$$

$$f(u_{i,j}) = f(u_i) + j, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

In view of the above labeling pattern  $f$ , we observe that  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = nr$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 0$ . Hence, the cycle union of finite  $r$  copies of fan graph is a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of cycle union of 4 copies of fan graph  $F_4$  is shown in Figure 6.



**Figure 6.** The difference cordial labeling of cycle union of 4 copies of fan graph  $F_4$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** The open star of finite  $r$  copies of fan graph is a difference cordial graph.

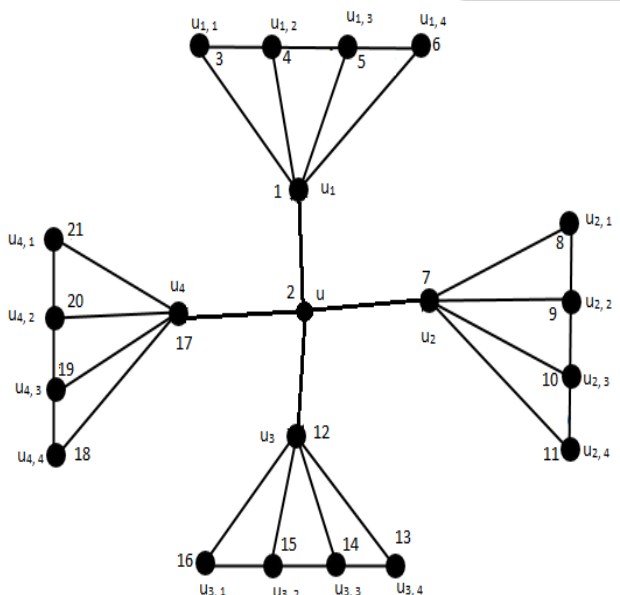
**Proof.** Consider a fan graph  $F_n = P_n + K_1$ . Let  $G = S(r, F_n)$ . Let  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ) be the apex vertex of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . Let  $u_{i,j}$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n$ ) be the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vertex in  $P_n$  of  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $F_n$ . Let  $u$  be the apex vertex of the star graph  $K_{1,r}$ . We note that  $|V(G)| = r(n+1) + 1$  and  $|E(G)| = 2nr$ . We define a vertex labeling function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, r(n+1) + 1\}$  as follows:

$$f(u) = 1,$$

$$f(u_i) = 5i - 3 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r,$$

$$f(u_{i,j}) = f(u_i) + j \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

Finally, we interchange the labels of the vertices  $u$  and  $u_1$ . In view of the above labeling pattern  $f$ , we observe that  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = nr$ . Hence  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| = 0$ . Hence, the open star of finite  $r$  copies of fan graph is a difference cordial graph. The difference cordial labeling of open star of 4 copies of fan graph  $F_4$  is shown in Figure 7.



**Figure 7.** The difference cordial labeling of open star of 4 copies of fan graph  $F_4$ .

### III. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we proved that, the graphs such as, the graph obtained by switching of a pendant vertex in  $P_n$ , the graph obtained by switching of an apex vertex in  $CH_n$ , the graph obtained by duplication of each vertex of path by an edge, the graph obtained by barycentric subdivision of crown graph  $C_n \circ K_1$ , path union of fan  $P(r, F_n)$  graph, cycle union of fan  $C(r, F_n)$  graph and open star of fan  $S(r, F_n)$  graph are difference cordial graphs.

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