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## $L(1, 2)$ -labeling numbers on square of cycles

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### ABSTRACT

For two positive numbers  $d$  and  $m$ , an  $m$ - $L(1, d)$ -labeling of a graph  $G$  is a mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow [0, m]$  such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$ , and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq d$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ . The *span* of  $f$  is the maximum difference among the numbers assigned by  $f$ . The  $L(1, d)$ -labeling number of  $G$ , denoted by  $\lambda_{1,d}(G)$ , is the minimum span over all  $L(1, d)$ -labelings of  $G$ . In this paper, we determine the  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling numbers of square of cycles  $C_n$  for all values  $n$ .

### KEYWORDS

$L(1, d)$ -labeling number;  
code assignment;  
direct product

### 1. Introduction

For two positive numbers  $d$  and  $m$ , an  $m$ - $L(1, d)$ -labeling of a graph  $G$  is a mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow [0, m]$  such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$ , and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq d$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ . The *span* of  $f$  is the maximum difference among the numbers assigned by  $f$ . The  $L(1, d)$ -labeling number of  $G$ , denoted by  $\lambda_{1,d}(G)$ , is the minimum span over all  $L(1, d)$ -labelings of  $G$ .

The wireless computer network is called *Packet Radio Network* (PRN) if this network communicates by radio frequencies. In PRN, there exist two major types of collisions (or interferences), one is *Direct collision*, which caused by the transmission of adjacent stations (computers); another is *Hidden terminal collision*, which caused by distance-two stations that transmit to the same receiving station at the same time.

Suppose direct interference can be ignored since it is weak in a wireless computer network. Bertossi and Bonuccelli [1] introduced an optimal code assignment to avoid the hidden terminal interference. This code assignment problem is equivalent to the  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling problem if codes are corresponded to labels.

In general, the direct interference cannot be ignored. That is, it needs to avoid hidden terminal collision as well as direct collision. In order to avoid direct interference, any two adjacent stations are required to be assigned different codes, then any two distance-two stations need to be assigned at least  $d$  apart codes in order to avoid hidden terminal interference and direct interference, here  $d \geq 1$ . Then, Jin and Yeh [6] abstracted this code assignment problem to  $L(1, d)$ -labeling problem with  $d \geq 1$ .

$L(d, 1)$ -labeling numbers of graphs for  $d \geq 1$  have been studied in many articles. Please referred to the surveys [2, 16].

By now, many researchers have paid attention to the  $L(1, d)$ -labeling numbers of graphs for  $d \geq 1$  and introduced

some results. For example, Niu [8] obtained  $L(1, d)$ -labeling numbers of paths and cycles. Griggs and Jin [4] studied  $L(1, d)$ -labeling numbers of lattices (grids). Furthermore, Jayasree and Nicholas [5] introduced  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling numbers of certain generalizes Petersen graphs and  $n$ -star. In [3], the authors introduced the  $L(j, k)$ -labeling numbers of trees and stars with maximum degree. Lam, Lin and Wu [7] worked on  $L(j, k)$ -labeling numbers of product of completed graphs. Recently, Shiu and Wu determined  $L(1, d)$ -labeling numbers of square of paths in [10]. Moreover, the authors also introduced some  $L(1, d)$ -labeling numbers of graphs in [9, 11–15].

The  $k$ th power  $G^k$  of an undirected graph  $G$  is a graph with the same set of vertices and an edge between two vertices when their distance in  $G$  is at most  $k$ .  $G^2$  is called the *square* of  $G$ .

Two labels are  $t$ -separated if the difference between them is at least  $t$ . Similarly, a set of labels is  $t$ -separated if the distance of any two labels from this set is not less than  $t$ .

For any  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $[a]_m \in [0, m)$  denotes the remainder of  $a$  upon division of  $m$ .

**Lemma 1.1.** *Let  $d$  be a positive number with  $1 \leq d$ . Suppose  $G$  is a graph and  $H$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ . Then  $\lambda_{1,d}(G) \geq \lambda_{1,d}(H)$ .*

Note that Lemma 1.1 is not true if  $H$  is not an induced subgraph. For example, graph  $K_{1,3}$  is a subgraph but not an induced subgraph of graph  $K_4$  and it is easy to verify that  $\lambda_{1,2}(K_{1,3}) = 4 > 3 = \lambda_{1,2}(K_4)$ .

**Lemma 1.2.** [10] *Let  $d$  be a positive number with  $1 \leq d < 3$ . Then  $\lambda_{1,d}(P_6^2) \geq \min\{5, 3 + d\}$ .*

### 2. $L(1, 2)$ -labeling numbers of square of cycles

In this section, the cycle  $C_n^2$  is represented by  $v_0 v_1 \cdots v_{n-1} v_0$ . The number of vertices in set  $S$  is denoted by  $|S|$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. For  $3 \leq n \leq 9$ ,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = n - 1$ .

*Proof.* For  $3 \leq n \leq 9$ , any two vertices of  $C_n^2$  are adjacent or distance two apart, this means that labels of vertices in  $V(C_n^2)$  should be different from each other. Then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq n - 1$  for  $3 \leq n \leq 9$ .

On the other hand, define an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f(v_i) = i \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

It is easy to verify that  $f$  is an  $(n - 1)$ - $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_n^2$  for  $3 \leq n \leq 9$ . Then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \leq n - 1$  for  $3 \leq n \leq 9$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. For  $n \geq 12$  and  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = 5$ .

*Proof.* For  $n = 6$ , any two vertices of  $C_6^2$  are adjacent or distance two apart, then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_6^2) \geq 5$ .

For  $n \geq 12$ ,  $P_6^2$  is an induced subgraph of  $C_n^2$ , by Lemma 1.1 and 1.2, then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq \lambda_{1,2}(P_6^2) = 5$ .

On the other hand, given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_n^2$  for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  as follows.

$$f(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ where } 0 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

It is not difficult to verify that  $f$  is a 5- $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_n^2$  for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  and  $n \geq 12$ .

Hence,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = 5$  for  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$  and  $n \geq 12$ .  $\square$

For  $n \geq 10$ , it is easy to verify that the vertices of  $C_n^2$  have the following property.

**Property 1.** For  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , vertex  $v_i$  is adjacent to vertices  $v_s$  and at distance two from  $v_t$ , where  $s = [i \pm 1]_n$ ,  $[i \pm 2]_n$ ,  $t = [i \pm 3]_n, [i \pm 4]_n$ , then  $|f(v_i) - f(v_s)| \geq 1$  and  $|f(v_i) - f(v_t)| \geq 2$ .

**Theorem 2.3.**  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{10}^2) = 8$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_{10}^2$ .

**Claim 1.** If  $v_i, v_j$  are two different vertices of graph  $C_{10}^2$  and  $f(v_i) = f(v_j)$ , then  $j = [i + 5]_{10}$  and  $|f(v_k) - f(v_i)| \geq 2$  for  $i \neq j \neq k$  and  $i, j, k \in \mathbb{Z}_{10}$ .

*Proof of Claim 1.* Suppose the claim does not hold. That is, if  $v_i, v_j$  are two different vertices of graph  $C_{10}^2$  and  $f(v_i) = f(v_j)$ , then we have the following two cases.

1. If  $j \neq [i + 5]_{10}$ , then  $j = [i + p]_{10}$ , where  $p \in \{-1, 1, -2, 2, -3, 3, -4, 4\}$ . By Property 1,  $v_i, v_j$  are adjacent or distance two apart, this means that  $|f(v_i) - f(v_j)| \geq 1$ , it contradicts to  $f(v_i) = f(v_j)$ .
2. If  $j = [i + 5]_{10}$  and  $|f(v_k) - f(v_i)| < 2$  for some  $k \neq i, j$ , this means that  $v_k$  should be adjacent to  $v_i$  or at least distance three apart from  $v_i$ . In graph  $C_{10}^2$ , only vertex  $v_{[i+5]_{10}}$  is at distance three from  $v_i$ . Since  $j = [i + 5]_{10}$  and  $k \neq j$ , then  $v_k$  should be adjacent to  $v_i$ . By the property of  $C_{10}^2$ ,  $v_k$  should be at distance two from

vertex  $v_j$ , then  $|f(v_k) - f(v_j)| \geq 2$ . It is a contradiction since  $f(v_i) = f(v_j)$ .

Hence, the claim is proved.  $\square$

Suppose  $m$  pairs of vertices have the same labels. This implies that  $(10 - 2m)$  vertices have different labels.

- If  $0 \leq m \leq 4$ , by Claim 1,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{10}^2) \geq 2(m - 1) + (10 - 2m) + 1 = 9$ .
- If  $m = 5$ , by Claim 1,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{10}^2) \geq 2(5 - 1) = 8$ .

Then,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{10}^2) \geq 8$ .

On the other hand, define an 8- $L(1, 2)$ -labeling  $f$  for  $C_{10}^2$  as following shows.

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_0) = f(v_5) = 0, \quad f(v_1) = f(v_6) = 2, \quad f(v_2) = f(v_7) \\ = 4, \quad f(v_3) = f(v_8) = 6, \quad f(v_4) = f(v_9) = 8. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that  $f$  satisfies the constraints of  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling. Hence  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{10}^2) = 8$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.**  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{11}^2) = 6$ .

*Proof.* Let  $f$  be an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_{11}^2$ . By Property 1,  $f(v_0)$  is different from  $f(v_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9, 10$ . Then we have the following cases.

- If all vertices have the different labels, then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{11}^2) \geq 10$ .
- If there exist two vertices which have the same label, by the symmetry of cycle and Property 1, without loss of generality, let  $f(v_0) = f(v_5) = a$ . Since vertices  $v_1, v_4, v_8$  are at distance two from each other,  $v_0$  is at distance two from  $v_4, v_8$ , and  $v_5$  is at distance two from  $v_1, v_8$ , then set  $\{a, f(v_1), f(v_4), f(v_8)\}$  are 2-separated. Then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{11}^2) \geq 6$ .

On the other hand, given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling  $f$  for  $C_{11}^2$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_0) = f(v_6) = 0, \quad f(v_1) = 1, \quad f(v_2) = f(v_7) = 2, \\ f(v_3) = f(v_9) = 4, \quad f(v_4) = 5, \quad f(v_5) = f(v_{10}) = 6, \quad f(v_8) = 3. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to verify that  $f$  is a 6- $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_{11}^2$ . Hence  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_{11}^2) = 6$ .  $\square$

Let  $f$  be an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $G$  and  $v_i \in V(G)$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then  $(f(v_0), f(v_1), \dots, f(v_{n-1}))$  is called *label sequence*, denoted by  $S_f(G)$ . The set of labels  $\{f(v_i) | v_i \in V(G), i \in \mathbb{Z}_n\}$  is denoted by  $f(G)$ .

**Lemma 2.5.** Let  $n$  be a positive integer. For  $n \geq 13$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq 6$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) < 6$ . Since  $P_6^2$  is an induced subgraph of  $C_n^2$  for  $n \geq 13$ , then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq \lambda_{1,2}(P_6^2) = 5$  by Lemma 1.1 and 1.2. Suppose  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = \lambda$  if  $n \geq 13$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ . Let  $f$  be a  $\lambda$ - $L(1, 2)$ -labeling of  $C_n^2$ .

If a vertex is labeled by 0, the vertex is called *0-vertex*. After removing 0-vertices from cycle  $C_n$ , the resulting graph is a disjoint union of paths. More precisely, suppose the

number of 0-vertices is  $m$ . For convenience, let the cycle  $C_n = u_1P_1u_2 \cdots u_mP_mu_1$  and  $f(u_1) = f(u_2) = \cdots = f(u_m) = 0$ , where  $P_i$  includes at least one vertex.

Note that each vertex in  $P_i$  cannot be labeled by 0.

**Claim 2.** For  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $P_i$  must include five vertices.

*Proof of Claim 2.* We consider the vertices  $u_iP_iu_{i+1}$  for an arbitrary  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, m\}$ . Without loss of generality, let  $u_iP_iu_{i+1} = v_0v_1v_2 \cdots v_pv_{p+1}$ , where  $f(v_0) = f(u_i) = f(u_{i+1}) = f(v_{p+1}) = 0$ . By **Property 1**,  $p \geq 4$ .

1. If  $p = 4$ , then  $f(v_0) = f(v_5) = 0$ , by **Property 1**,  $f(v_j) \in [2, 6)$ , where  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . According to the symmetry of cycle, without loss of generality, let  $f(v_2) \in [2, 3) \cup [3, 4)$ .

- If  $f(v_2) \in [2, 3)$ , then  $f(v_1), f(v_4) \in [3, 6)$  since  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  are at distance two from one vertex which is labeled by 0 and adjacent to  $v_2$ . Moreover,  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  are distance two apart mutually, then  $f(v_1), f(v_4) \in [3, 4) \cup [5, 6)$ . Since  $v_3$  is adjacent to  $v_1$  and  $v_4$ ,  $f(v_3) \in [4, 5)$ . Since  $v_6$  is at distance two from  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$  and adjacent to  $v_5$ , basing on the above conclusion,  $f(v_6) \geq 6$ , where index 6 should be taken in modulo  $n$ . It contradicts the hypothesis.

- If  $f(v_2) \in [3, 4)$ , then  $f(v_1), f(v_4) \in [2, 3) \cup [4, 6)$  since  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  are at distance two from one vertex which is labeled by 0 and adjacent to  $v_2$ . Moreover,  $v_1$  and  $v_4$  are distance two apart mutually, then one of  $f(v_1)$  and  $f(v_4)$  lies in  $[2, 3)$  and  $f(v_3) \in [4, 6)$ . If  $f(v_1) \in [2, 3)$ , by **Property 1**, we have  $f(v_{n-1}) \in [1, 2)$  since the length of  $[2, 3)$  is less than 1. Similarly, by **Property 1**,  $f(v_{n-2}) \in [5, 6)$ . This forces  $f(v_{n-3}) \in [4, 5)$  and hence  $f(v_{n-4}) \in [3, 4)$ . Since  $v_{n-5}$  is distance two apart from  $v_{n-1}$  and  $v_{n-2}$ , according to the above conclusion and **Property 1**,  $f(v_{n-5}) \in [3, 4)$ . It contradicts  $f(v_{n-4}) \in [3, 4)$  since the length of  $[3, 4)$  is less than 1 and vertex  $v_{n-5}$  is adjacent to vertex  $v_{n-4}$ .

Thus,  $f(v_4) \in [2, 3)$ . Since  $v_6$  is at distance two from  $v_2$ ,  $v_3$  and  $f(v_5) = 0$ ,  $f(v_6) \in [1, 2)$ . Recall that  $f(v_4) \in [2, 3)$  and  $f(v_3) \in [4, 6)$ . Since  $v_7$  is at distance two from  $v_3$ ,  $v_4$ , by **Property 1**,  $f(v_7) \in [0, 1)$ . It contradicts  $f(v_5) = 0$  since the length of  $[3, 4)$  is less than 1 and  $d(v_5, v_7) = 1$ .

2. If  $p \geq 6$ , then  $f(v_i) \in [1, 6)$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ . Since vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_6$  induce a subgraph  $P_6^2$  of  $C_n^2$ . By **Lemma 1.2**,  $\lambda_{1,2}(P_6^2) \geq 5$ , it is a contradiction since the length of  $[1, 6)$  is less than 5.

Hence,  $p = 5$ . That is, the claim is proved.

Since  $n \neq 0 \pmod{6}$ , there exists at least one part  $P_s$  which cannot include 5 vertices, for some  $s \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ . It contradicts to Claim 2. Hence,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq 6$  for  $n \neq 0 \pmod{6}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.**  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = 7$  for  $n = 15, 16$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = \lambda < 7$ . By **Lemma 2.5**,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq 6$  for  $n = 15, 16$ . Let  $f$  be a  $\lambda$ - $L(1, 2)$ -labeling for graph  $C_n^2$ ,

where  $n = 15, 16$ . It means that  $f(C_n^2) \subseteq [0, 7)$  for  $n = 15, 16$ . For convenience, let  $[0, 7) = \cup_{i=0}^6 I_i$  and the subinterval  $I_i = [i, i + 1)$ . It implies that  $n$  vertices are divided into seven parts  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_6$ , the labels of vertices in  $p_i$  lie in  $I_i$ , where  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_7$  and  $n = 15, 16$ . This forces that

$$\text{at least one part contains atleast 3 vertices.} \tag{2.1}$$

By **Property 1**, any two vertices in set  $\{v_i, v_{i+1}, v_{i+2}, v_{i+3}, v_{i+4}\}$  are labeled by 1-separated labels, where  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  and the indices should be taken in modulo  $n$ . For convenience, let  $a$ -vertex represent the vertex whose label lies in  $I_a$ .

1. If  $n = 15$ , then

$$p_i \text{ contains at most three vertices of graph } C_{15}^2, \text{ where } i \in \mathbb{Z}_7. \tag{2.2}$$

According to conclusion (2.1) and (2.2), at least one part of  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_6$  contains 3 and only 3 vertices. Let  $p_i = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ . Then the  $i$ -vertices divide graph  $C_{15}^2$  into three parts. For convenience, let  $C_{15}^2 = u_1P_1u_2P_2u_3P_3u_1$ . By **Property 1**,  $|P_s| \geq 4$ , where  $s = 1, 2, 3$ . Since  $|P_1| + |P_2| + |P_3| = 12$ , then  $|P_1| = |P_2| = |P_3| = 4$ . According to **Property 1**,  $f(P_s) \subseteq [0, i - 1) \cup [i + 2, 7)$  for  $s = 1, 2, 3$  if the intervals exist. Then the labels of 12 vertices lie in four or five subintervals. That is, we can obtain the following conclusion.

$$\text{If } p_i \text{ contains 3 vertices, then no vertex lies in } p_{i \pm 1} \text{ if the parts exist, where } i \in \mathbb{Z}_7. \tag{2.3}$$

- If  $i \neq 0, 6$ , then 12 vertices lie in four parts, say  $p_a, p_b, p_c, p_d$ . By (2.2), each of  $p_a, p_b, p_c, p_d$  contains 3 vertices. According to (2.3), the differences among  $i, a, b, c, d$  are at least 2, it is impossible since  $i, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ .

- If  $i = 0$  or 6, then 12 vertices lie in five parts, say  $p_a, p_b, p_c, p_d, p_e$ . By (2.2), at least two of  $p_a, p_b, p_c, p_d, p_e$  contain 3 vertices. Without loss of generality, let  $p_a, p_b$  contain 3 vertices. by (2.3), at least 3 parts contain no vertices. This implies that four parts contains 15 vertices. It forces that at least one part contains at least 4 vertices, it contradicts the conclusion (2.2).

2. If  $n = 16$ , by **Property 1**,  $p_i$  contains at most four vertices of graph  $C_{16}^2$ , where  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ . Suppose  $p_i$  contains four vertices of graph  $C_{16}^2$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ . Let  $p_i = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4\}$ . Then the  $i$ -vertices divide graph  $C_{16}^2$  into four parts. For convenience, let  $C_{16}^2 = u_1P_1u_2P_2u_3P_3u_4P_4u_1$ . By **Property 1**,  $|P_s| \geq 4$  for  $s = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . It is a contradiction since  $|P_1| + |P_2| + |P_3| + |P_4| + 4 \geq 20$  and  $C_{16}^2$  contains only 16 vertices. Thus,

$$p_i \text{ contains at most three vertices of graph } C_{16}^2, \text{ where } i \in \mathbb{Z}_7. \tag{2.4}$$

According to conclusion (2.1) and (2.4), at least two parts of  $p_0, p_1, \dots, p_6$  contain 3 and only 3 vertices. Let  $p_i, p_j$  contain 3 vertices for some  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_7$  and

$i \neq j$ . Without loss of generality, let  $p_i = \{v_0, v_5, v_{10}\}$  for some  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ . For convenience, let  $C_{16}^2 = v_0 P_1 v_5 P_2 v_{10} P_3 v_0$  and  $|P_3| = 5$  and  $|P_1| = |P_2| = 4$ .

- If  $i \neq 0, 6$ , then  $f(P_1), f(P_2) \subseteq [0, i-1] \cup [i+2, 7]$  if the intervals exist. It means that no entry of  $P_1, P_2$  lies in  $p_{i-1}, p_i, p_{i+1}$ . This forces that  $f(v_1), f(v_2), f(v_3)$  and  $f(v_4)$  lie in four different intervals respectively. Let  $f(v_1) \in I_a, f(v_2) \in I_b, f(v_3) \in I_c$ , and  $f(v_4) \in I_d$ , where  $\{a, b, c, d\} = \mathbb{Z}_7 \setminus \{i-1, i, i+1\}$ . Since  $d(v_1, v_4) = 2, |a-d| \geq 2$ . Similarly,  $f(v_6), f(v_7), f(v_8), f(v_9) \in I_a \cup I_b \cup I_c \cup I_d$ . Since  $v_6$  is at distance two from  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  and adjacent to  $v_4, f(v_6) \notin I_b \cup I_c \cup I_d$ , that is,  $f(v_6) \in I_a$ . This implies that  $|a-b| \geq 2$  and  $|a-c| \geq 2$ . Similar to the above discussion, we can obtain that  $f(v_7) \in I_b$  and  $f(v_8) \in I_c$ . Since  $v_7$  is distance two apart from  $v_3, v_4$  and  $d(v_8, v_4) = 2, |b-c| \geq 2, |b-d| \geq 2$  and  $|c-d| \geq 2$ . According to the above conclusion, any two numbers of  $i, a, b, c, d$  are 2-separated, it is impossible since  $i, a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}_7$ .

- If  $i = 0$  or  $6$ , according to the above case,  $j \in \{0, 6\}$ . Without loss of generality, let  $i = 0, j = 6$ . Then,  $|p_0| = |p_6| = 3$ . It means that  $p_0 = \{v_0, v_5, v_{10}\}$  and each part of  $P_1, P_2$  and  $P_3$  contains one vertex which lies in  $p_6$ . That is,  $f(v_1), f(v_2), f(v_3) \in [2, 7]$ . According to the symmetry of the graph, without loss of generality, let one of  $f(v_{11}), f(v_{12})$  and  $f(v_{13})$  lie in  $I_6$ .

- (a) If  $f(v_{11}) \in I_6$ , by the [Property 1](#),  $f(v_6) \in I_6$  and then  $f(v_1) \in I_6$ . This forces that  $f(v_3), f(v_4), f(v_7)$  lie in  $I_2, I_3, I_4$  separately. It is impossible since  $v_7$  is at distance two from vertices  $v_3$  and  $v_4$  and  $f(v_7)$  should be 2-separated from  $f(v_3)$  and  $f(v_4)$  but the length of  $I_2 \cup I_3 = [2, 4)$  is less than 2.

- (b) If  $f(v_{12}) \in I_6$ , then  $f(v_6) \in I_6$  or  $f(v_7) \in I_6$ .

- Suppose  $f(v_6) \in I_6$ . Then  $f(v_1) \in I_6$ . It forces that  $f(v_2), f(v_3), f(v_4) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . According to the above conclusion, we have that  $f(v_7) \in I_5$  and then  $f(v_{15}) \in I_1$ . That is,  $f(v_2) \in I_2, f(v_3) \in I_3, f(v_4) \in I_4$ . It forces  $f(v_{11}) \in I_3$ . Since vertex  $v_{14}$  is at distance two from vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_{11}$  and  $f(v_1), f(v_2), f(v_{11}) \in I_3 \cup I_4 \cup I_6, f(v_{14}) \in I_0 \cup I_1$ . It is impossible since  $v_{14}$  is adjacent to vertices  $v_0, v_{15}$  whose labels lie in  $I_0$  and  $I_1$ .

- Suppose  $f(v_7) \in I_6$ . According to the [Property 1](#),  $f(v_2) \in I_6$  or  $f(v_1) \in I_6$ . If  $f(v_2) \in I_6$ , then  $f(v_3), f(v_4), f(v_6), f(v_8), f(v_9) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . Since  $v_6$  is at distance two from  $v_3$  and  $v_9, f(v_3), f(v_6), f(v_9) \in I_2 \cup I_4$ . That is,  $f(v_4), f(v_8) \in I_3$ . It is a contradiction since  $d(v_4, v_8) = 2$  and the length of  $I_3$  is less than 1. Thus,  $f(v_1) \in I_6$ . Basing on the above conclusion, we have  $f(v_3), f(v_4), f(v_8), f(v_9), f(v_{13}) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . Since  $d(v_4, v_8) = d(v_9, v_{13}) = 2, f(v_4), f(v_8)$  lie in  $I_2$  and  $I_4$  separately, so do  $f(v_9), f(v_{13})$ . It means that  $f(v_8),$

$f(v_9) \in I_2 \cup I_4$ .

Recall that  $f(v_7) \in I_6$  and  $f(v_{10}) \in I_0$ , this forces  $f(v_{11}) \in I_1$ . It implies that  $f(v_9) \in I_2, f(v_8) \in I_4$ , and then  $f(v_{13}) \in I_4, f(v_4) \in I_2$ . Since  $v_{14}$  is at distance two from  $v_{11}$  and  $v_1, f(v_{14}) \in I_3$ . Similarly, we obtain that  $f(v_{15}) \in I_5$ . Since  $v_{15}$  is distance two apart from  $v_2$  and  $v_3$  which are adjacent to  $v_4, f(v_2), f(v_3) \in I_3$ . It is impossible since the length of  $I_3$  is less than 1.

- (c) If  $f(v_{13}) \in I_6$ , then  $f(v_8) \in I_6$  or  $f(v_7) \in I_6$ .
  - Suppose  $f(v_7) \in I_6$ . Then  $f(v_2) \in I_6$ . It forces that  $f(v_1), f(v_3), f(v_4), f(v_6) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . Since  $d(v_1, v_4) = 2, f(v_1), f(v_4) \in I_2 \cup I_4$ . This forces that  $f(v_3) \in I_3$ . Since  $v_3$  is distance two apart from  $v_6, f(v_6) \notin I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . It is a contradiction since  $f(v_6) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ .
  - Suppose  $f(v_8) \in I_6$ . By the symmetry of the graph and the above case,  $f(v_3) \notin I_6$ , that is,  $f(v_2) \in I_6$ . It causes  $f(v_1), f(v_4), f(v_6), f(v_9) \in I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4$ . Since  $d(v_1, v_4) = 2$ , then  $f(v_1), f(v_4)$  lie in  $I_2$  and  $I_4$  separately. Similarly,  $f(v_6), f(v_9)$  also lie in  $I_2$  and  $I_4$  separately. Since  $v_4, v_6$  are two adjacent vertices,  $f(v_4)$  and  $f(v_6)$  are 1-separated. That is,  $f(v_4)$  and  $f(v_6)$  lie in  $I_2$  and  $I_4$  separately and so do  $f(v_9)$  and  $f(v_1)$ . By the symmetry of the graph, without loss of generality, let  $f(v_9) \in I_2$  and  $f(v_1) \in I_4$ . Since  $v_{12}$  is at distance two from  $v_8, v_9$  and adjacent to  $v_{10}, f(v_{12}) \in I_4$ . Similar to the above discussion,  $f(v_{14}) \in I_2$ . Moreover,  $d(v_{11}, v_{14}) = d(v_{11}, v_8) = 2$  and  $d(v_{11}, v_{10}) = d(v_{11}, v_{12}) = 1, f(v_{11}) \notin I_0 \cup I_1 \cup I_2 \cup I_3 \cup I_4 \cup I_5 \cup I_6$ . It is a contradiction.

Thus,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq 7$  for  $n = 15, 16$ .

On the other hand, given two  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  for  $C_{15}^2, C_{16}^2$ , respectively, as follows.

$$S_{f_1}(C_{15}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7);$$

$$S_{f_2}(C_{16}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7).$$

It is easy to verify that  $f_1, f_2$  are two 7- $L(1, 2)$ -labelings of  $C_{15}^2, C_{16}^2$ , respectively.

Thus,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \leq 7$  for  $n = 15, 16$ .

Hence,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = 7$  for  $n = 15, 16$ .

**Theorem 2.7.**  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) = 6$  for  $n \geq 13, n \neq 15, 16$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.5,  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \geq 6$  for  $n \geq 13$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ .

On the other hand, define several  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

1. For  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{6}$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_1$  for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f_1(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n-2;$$

$$f_1(v_{n-1}) = 6.$$

2. For  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_2$  for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f_2(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - 15;$$

$$f_2(v_i) = [i - n + 14]_7 \text{ for } n - 14 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

3. For  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{6}$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_3$  for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f_3(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - 22;$$

$$f_3(v_i) = [i - n + 21]_7 \text{ for } n - 21 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

4. For  $n \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_4$  for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f_4(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - 29;$$

$$f_4(v_i) = [i - n + 28]_7 \text{ for } n - 28 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

5. For  $n \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_5$  for  $C_n^2$  as follows.

$$f_5(v_i) = [i]_6 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq n - 36;$$

$$f_5(v_i) = [i - n + 35]_7 \text{ for } n - 35 \leq i \leq n - 1.$$

6. For  $n = 17$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labeling  $f_6$  for  $C_{17}^2$  as follows.

$$S_{f_6}(C_{17}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6).$$

7. When  $n = 22, 23, 29$ , given an  $L(1, 2)$ -labelings  $f_7, f_8$  and  $f_9$  for  $C_{22}^2, C_{23}^2$  and  $C_{29}^2$ , respectively, as follows.

$$S_{f_7}(C_{22}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6, 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6);$$

$$S_{f_8}(C_{23}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6, 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6);$$

$$S_{f_9}(C_{29}^2) = (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6, 0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 0, 2, 3, 4, 6).$$

It is not difficult to verify that  $f_i$  satisfies the constraints of 6- $L(1, 2)$ -labeling, where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 9$ , here we omit the detail. Then  $\lambda_{1,2}(C_n^2) \leq 6$  for  $n \geq 13$ ,  $n \neq 15, 16$  and  $n \not\equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ .

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