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# Difference cordiality of product related graphs

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#### Abstract

Let G be a (p,q) graph. Let  $f: V(G) \to \{1, 2, \ldots, p\}$  be a function. For each edge uv, assign the label |f(u) - f(v)|. f is called a difference cordial labeling if f is an injective map and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$  where  $e_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0)$  denote the number of edges labeled with 1 and not labeled with 1 respectively. A graph which admits a difference cordial labeling is called a difference cordial graph. In this paper, we investigate the difference cordiality of torus grids  $C_m \times C_n, K_m \times P_2$ , prism, book, mobius ladder, Mongolian tent and n-cube.

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### 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper we have considered only simple and undirected graph. Let G = (V, E) be a (p, q) graph. The number |V| is called the order of G and the number |E| is called the size of G. The origin of the graph labeling problem is graceful labeling which was introduced by Rosa [11] in the year 1967. Ibrahim cahit [1] introduced the concept of cordial labeling in the year 1987. M. Sundaram, R. Ponraj and S. Somasundaram defined product cordial labeling of graphs. Cordial labeling and Product cordial labeling behavior of numerous graphs were studied by several authors [2, 12, 13, 14]. On similar line, the notion of difference cordial labeling was introduced by R. Ponraj, S. Sathish Narayanan and R. Kala in [5]. In [5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10], difference cordial labeling behavior of several graphs like path, cycle, complete graph, complete bipartite graph, bistar, wheel, web and some more standard graphs have been investigated. Here, we investigate the difference cordial labeling behavior of prism, Mongolian tent, book, young tableau,  $K_m \times P_2$ , torus grids, *n*-cube. Also we have proved that if  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  graphs with  $q_1 \ge p_1$  and  $q_2 \ge p_2$ , then  $G_1 \times G_2$  is not difference cordial. Let x be any real number. Then the symbol  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the largest integer less than or equal to x and  $\lceil x \rceil$  stands for the sense of Harary [4].

### 2 Difference cordial labeling

**Definition 2.1.** Let G be a (p,q) graph. Let f be a map from V(G) to  $\{1, 2, ..., p\}$ . For each edge uv, assign the label |f(u) - f(v)|. f is called difference cordial labeling if f is 1 - 1 and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$  where  $e_f(1)$  and  $e_f(0)$  denote the number of edges labeled with 1 and not labeled with 1 respectively. A graph with a difference cordial labeling is called a difference cordial graph.

The following results (theorem 2.2 to 2.8) are used in the subsequent section.

**Theorem 2.2.** [5] Any Path is a difference cordial graph.

**Theorem 2.3.** [5] Any Cycle is a difference cordial graph.

**Theorem 2.4.** [5] If G is a (p,q) difference cordial graph, then  $q \leq 2p-1$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** [5]  $K_{2,n}$  is difference cordial iff  $n \leq 4$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** [5]  $K_{3,n}$  is difference cordial iff  $n \leq 4$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** [5] The wheel  $W_n$  is difference cordial.

**Theorem 2.8.** [5]  $K_n$  is difference cordial iff n < 4.

The product graph  $G_1 \times G_2$  is defined as follows: Consider any two points  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  and v = $(v_1, v_2)$  in  $V = V_1 \times V_2$ . Then u and v are adjacent in  $G_1 \times G_2$  whenever  $[u_1 = v_1 \text{ and } u_2 \text{ adj } v_2]$ or  $[u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_1$  adj  $v_1$ ].

**Theorem 2.9.** If  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are  $(p_1, q_1)$  and  $(p_2, q_2)$  graphs respectively, with  $q_1 \ge p_1$  and  $q_2 \ge p_2$ , then  $G_1 \times G_2$  is not difference cordial.

*Proof.* Clearly,  $G_1 \times G_2$  is a  $(p_1p_2, p_1q_2 + p_2q_1)$  graph. Suppose  $G_1 \times G_2$  is difference cordial. Then by theorem 2.4,  $2p_1p_2 - 1 \ge p_1q_2 + p_2q_1 \ge p_1p_2 + p_1p_2 \ge 2p_1p_2$ . This implies  $-1 \ge 0$ , a contradiction. Q.E.D.

The graph  $C_m \times C_n$  is called a Torus grid.

**Corollary 2.10.** Torus grids  $C_m \times C_n$  are not difference cordial.

Prisms are graphs of the form  $C_m \times P_n$ . We now look into the graph prism  $C_n \times P_2$ .

**Theorem 2.11.** The prism  $C_n \times P_2$  is difference cordial.

*Proof.* Let  $V(C_n \times P_2) = \{u_i, v_i : 1 \le i \le n\}$  and  $E(C_n \times P_2) = \{u_1u_n, v_1v_n\} \cup \{u_iv_i : 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{u_iv_i : 1 \le i \le n\}$  $\{u_i u_{i+1}, v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n-1\}$ . Define a map  $f: V(C_n \times P_2) \to \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$  as follows: Case 1. n is even.

Define  $f(u_1) = 1$ ,  $f(u_2) = 4$ ,  $f(v_1) = 2$ ,  $f(v_2) = 3$ .

$f\left(u_{2i+2}\right)$	=	4i + 1,	$1 \le i \le \frac{n-2}{2}$
$f\left(u_{2i+1}\right)$	=	4i + 4,	
$f\left(v_{2i+2}\right)$	=	4i + 2,	$1 \le i \le \frac{n-2}{2}$
$f\left(v_{2i+1}\right)$	=	4i + 3,	$1 \le i \le \frac{n-2}{2}.$

The following table 1 shows that f is a difference cordial labeling.

Nature of $n$	$e_{f}\left(0 ight)$	$e_{f}\left(1\right)$
$n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$	$\frac{3n}{2}$	$\frac{3n}{2}$
$n \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$	$\frac{3n+1}{2}$	$\frac{3n-1}{2}$

TABLE 1.

### Case 2. n is odd.

Assign the labels to the vertices  $u_i$  and  $v_i$   $(1 \le i \le n-1)$  as in case 1. Define  $f(u_n) = 2n$  and  $f(u_{n-1}) = 2n - 1$ . Clearly, this labeling is a difference cordial labeling of  $C_n \times P_2$  when n is odd. Q.E.D. Difference cordiality of product related graphs

**Theorem 2.12.** The graph  $K_m \times P_2$  is difference cordial iff  $m \leq 3$ .

*Proof.* Since  $K_1 \times P_2 \cong P_2$ , by theorem 2.2,  $K_1 \times P_2$  is difference cordial. The graph  $K_2 \times P_2 \cong C_4$ . By theorem 2.3,  $K_2 \times P_2$  is difference cordial.  $K_3 \times P_2$  is a prism and hence difference cordial by theorem 2.11. Suppose  $K_m \times P_2$  is difference cordial (m > 3). Clearly,  $K_m \times P_2$  has 2m vertices and  $m^2$  edges. Using theorem 2.4,  $m^2 \leq 4m - 1$ . This is possible only when  $m \leq 3$ . Q.E.D.

**Theorem 2.13.** Let G be a (p,q) connected graph. If  $n \ge 5$ , then  $G \times K_n$  is not difference cordial.

Proof. The order and size of  $G \times K_n$  are np and  $nq + \binom{n}{2}p$  respectively. Suppose  $G \times K_n$  is difference cordial with  $n \ge 5$ . Then, by theorem 2.4,  $nq + \binom{n}{2}p \le 2np-1$ ,  $\Rightarrow 5np-2 \ge 2nq+n^2p \ge 2n(p-1)+n^2p$ .  $\Rightarrow 8 \ge 10p$ , a contradiction.

**Theorem 2.14.** If G is a (p,q) connected graph. Then  $G \times W_n$   $(n \ge 3)$  is difference cordial iff p = 1.

*Proof.* The order and size of  $G \times W_n$  are (n+1)p and 2np+(n+1)q respectively. Suppose  $G \times W_n$  is difference cordial with  $p \ge 2$ . Then, by theorem 2.4,  $2np+(n+1)q \le 2(n+1)p-1 \Rightarrow 2p-1 \ge (n+1)q \ge 4q \ge 4(p-1)$ .  $\Rightarrow 3 \ge 2p \ge 4$ , a contradiction. When p = 1,  $G \cong K_1$ . By theorem 2.7,  $K_1 \times W_n \cong W_n$  is difference cordial.

The book  $B_m$  is the graph  $S_m \times P_2$  where  $S_m$  is the star with m+1 vertices.

**Theorem 2.15.** The book  $B_m$  is difference cordial iff  $m \leq 6$ .

*Proof.* Let  $V(B_m) = \{u, v, u_i, v_i : 1 \le i \le m\}$  and  $E(B_m) = \{uv, uu_i, vv_i, u_iv_i : 1 \le i \le m\}$ . For  $m \le 6$ , the difference cordial labeling f is given in table 2.

n	u	v	$u_1$	$u_2$	$u_3$	$u_4$	$u_5$	$u_6$	$v_1$	$v_2$	$v_3$	$v_4$	$v_5$	$v_6$
2	4	3	1	6					2	5				
3	3	4	1	8	6				2	7	5			
4	4	3	1	5	7	9			2	6	8	10		
5	4	3	1	5	7	9	11		2	6	8	10	12	
6	4	3	1	5	7	9	11	13	2	6	8	10	12	14

#### TABLE 2.

Suppose m > 6. Let f be a difference cordial labeling of  $B_m$ . Claim:  $e_f(1) \le m + 3$ .

**Case 1.** Labels of u and v are consecutive numbers.

Let f(u) = t and f(v) = t + 1. There are at most two edges  $uu_i$  and  $vv_j$  with label 1. The maximum value of  $e_f(1)$  is attained when  $u_i$  and  $v_i$  receive the consecutive numbers. This forces  $e_f(1) \le m + 1 + 2 = m + 3$ .

**Case 2.** f(u) is neither successor nor predecessor of f(v).

In this case, there are at most four edges  $uu_i$  and  $vv_j$  with label 1. Also, at least one of  $u_iv_i$   $(1 \le i \le m)$  receive the label 0. Therefore,  $e_f(1) \le 4 + m - 1 = m + 3$ . Hence,  $e_f(0) \ge q - (m+3) \ge 2m - 2$ . This implies,  $e_f(0) - e_f(1) \ge m - 5 \ge 2$ , a contradiction. Q.E.D.

The graph  $L_n = P_n \times P_2$  is called ladder.

**Theorem 2.16.** Let G be a graph obtained from a ladder  $L_n$  by subdividing each step exactly once. Then G is difference cordial.

*Proof.* Let  $V(G) = \{u_i, v_i, w_i : 1 \le i \le n\}$  and  $E(G) = \{u_i w_i, w_i v_i : 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{u_i u_{i+1}, v_i v_{i+1} : i \le n\}$  $1 \le i \le n-1$ . Define a map  $f: V(G) \to \{1, 2, ..., 3n\}$  by  $f(u_i) = i, 1 \le i \le n, f(v_i) = n+1+i, 1 \le i \le n$  $i \leq n, f(w_i) = 2n + 1 + i, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1, f(w_n) = n + 1$ . Since  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = 2n - 1, f$  is a difference cordial labeling of G.

Next is the Möbius ladder. The Möbius ladder  $M_n$  is the graph obtained from the ladder  $L_n$ by joining the opposite end vertices of two copies of  $P_n$ .

**Theorem 2.17.** The Möbius ladder  $M_n$  is difference cordial.

*Proof.* Let  $V(M_n) = \{u_i, v_i : 1 \le i \le n\}$  and  $E(M_n) = \{u_i v_i : 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{u_i u_{i+1}, v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n\}$  $i \leq n-1 \cup \{u_1v_n, v_1u_n\}$ . Clearly,  $M_n$  consists of 2n vertices and 3n edges. Case 1. n is even.

Define a map  $f: V(M_n) \to \{1, 2 \dots 2n\}$  by

$f(u_{2i-1})$	=	4i - 3,	$1 \leq i \leq$	$\left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil$
$f(u_{2i})$	=	4i - 2,	$\begin{array}{l} 1 \leq i \leq \\ 1 \leq i \leq \end{array}$	$\left \frac{n}{2}\right $
$f(v_{2i-1})$	=	4i,	$1 \leq i \leq$	$\frac{n}{2}$
$f(v_{2i})$	=	4i - 1,	$1 \leq i \leq$	$\left[\frac{\bar{n}}{2}\right]$

Case 2. n is odd.

Label the vertices  $u_{2i-1}$   $(1 \le i \le \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)$  and  $u_{2i}, v_{2i-1}, v_{2i}$   $(1 \le i \le \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor)$  as in case 1 and define  $f(v_n) = 2n$ . The following table 3 proves that f is a difference cordial labeling of  $M_n$ 

Nature of $n$	$e_{f}\left(0 ight)$	$e_f(1)$
$n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$	$\frac{3n}{2}$	$\frac{3n}{2}$
$n \equiv 1 (\mathrm{mod}\ 2), n \neq 3$	$\frac{3n+1}{2}$	$\frac{3n-1}{2}$
n = 3	4	5

TABLE 3.

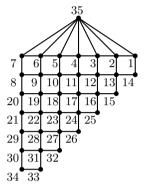
Q.E.D.

A Young tableau is a sub graph of  $P_m \times P_n$  obtained by retaining the first two rows of  $P_m \times P_n$ and deleting the vertices from the right hand end of other rows in such a way that the lengths of the successive rows form a non increasing sequence.

**Theorem 2.18.** Let G be a graph obtained from a Young tableau which is obtained from the grid  $P_n \times P_n$  (n odd), by adding an extra vertex above the top row of a Young tableau and joining every vertex of the top row to the extra vertex. Then G is difference cordial.

*Proof.* Consider the right corner vertex of the top row. Label that vertex by 1. Then assign the labels  $2, 3 \dots n$  to the preceding vertices of the top row. That is, the left corner vertex of the top row receive the label n. Then we move to the second row. Assign the label n+1 to the left corner vertex of the second row. Then assign the labels  $n + 1, n + 2, \dots 2n$  to the successive vertices of the second row. Then we move to the right corner vertex of the third row and label it by 2n + 1and the preceding vertices of third row are labeled by  $2n + 2, 2n + 3, \ldots 3n - 1$ . Then we move to the left corner vertex of the fourth row and so on. Finally, assign the label p to the extra vertex. Obviously, this vertex labeling is difference cordial labeling. Q.E.D.

A difference cordial labeling of G with n = 7 is given in figure 1.



#### FIGURE 1.

A Mongolian tent  $MT_{m,n}$  is a graph obtained from  $P_m \times P_n$ , n odd, by adding one extra vertex above the grid and joining every other vertex of the top row of  $P_m \times P_n$  to the new vertex.

**Theorem 2.19.** The Mongolian tent  $MT_{m,n}$  (n odd) is difference cordial.

Proof. Let  $V(MT_{m,n}) = \{u, u_{i,j} : 1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n\}$  and  $E(MT_{m,n}) = \{u_{i,j} : 1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n-1\} \cup \{u_{i,j}u_{i,j+1} : 1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n-1\} \cup \{u_{i,j}u_{i+1,j} : 1 \le i \le m-1, 1 \le j \le n\}$ . The order and size of  $MT_{m,n}$  are mn + 1 and 2mn - m respectively. Define an injective map f from the vertices of  $MT_{m,n}$  to the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, mn+1\}$  as follows:

$$f(u_{4i-3,1}) = 4n(i-1)+1 \quad 1 \le i \le \frac{m}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 1 \le i \le \frac{m-3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 3 \pmod{4} .$$

$$f(u_{4i-3,j}) = f(u_{4i-3,j-1}) + 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+3}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}.$$

$$f(u_{4i-2,j}) = f(u_{4i-2,j-1}) - 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+2}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}.$$

$$f(u_{4i-1,j}) = f(u_{4i-1,j-1}) - 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}.$$

$$f(u_{4i,j}) = f(u_{4i,j-1}) + 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

$$f(u_{4i,j}) = f(u_{4i,j-1}) + 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 2 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m+1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 3 \pmod{4}.$$

$$f(u_{4i,j}) = f(u_{4i,j-1}) + 1 \quad 2 \le j \le n$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

$$1 \le i \le \frac{m-1}{4} \quad \text{if} \quad m \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

and f(u) = mn + 1. The following table 4 shows that f is a difference cordial labeling of the Mongolian tent  $MT_{m,n}$ .

Nature of $m$	$e_{f}\left(0 ight)$	$e_f(1)$
$m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$	$\frac{2mn-m}{2}$	$\frac{2mn-m}{2}$
$m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$	$\frac{2mn-m+1}{2}$	$\frac{2mn-m-1}{2}$

TABLE 4.

Q.E.D.

Finally, we investigate the n-cube.

**Theorem 2.20.**  $K_2 \times K_2 \times \cdots \times K_2$  (*n* times) is difference cordial.

Proof. Let  $G = K_2 \times K_2 \times \ldots \times K_2$  (*n* times). Let  $V(G) = \{u_i, v_i, w_i, x_i : 1 \le i \le n-1\}$  and  $E(G) = \{u_i v_i, v_i x_i, x_i w_i, w_i u_i : 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{u_i u_{i+1}, v_i v_{i+1}, w_i w_{i+1}, x_i x_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n-2\}$ . Define a map  $f : V(G) \to \{1, 2, \ldots, 4n-4\}$  by  $f(u_i) = i, 1 \le i \le n-1, f(v_{n-i+1}) = n-1+i, 1 \le i \le n-1, f(w_i) = 2n-2+i, 1 \le i \le n-1, f(x_{n-i+1}) = 3n-3+i, 1 \le i \le n-1$ . Since  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = 4n-6, f$  is a difference cordial labeling of G. Q.E.D.

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