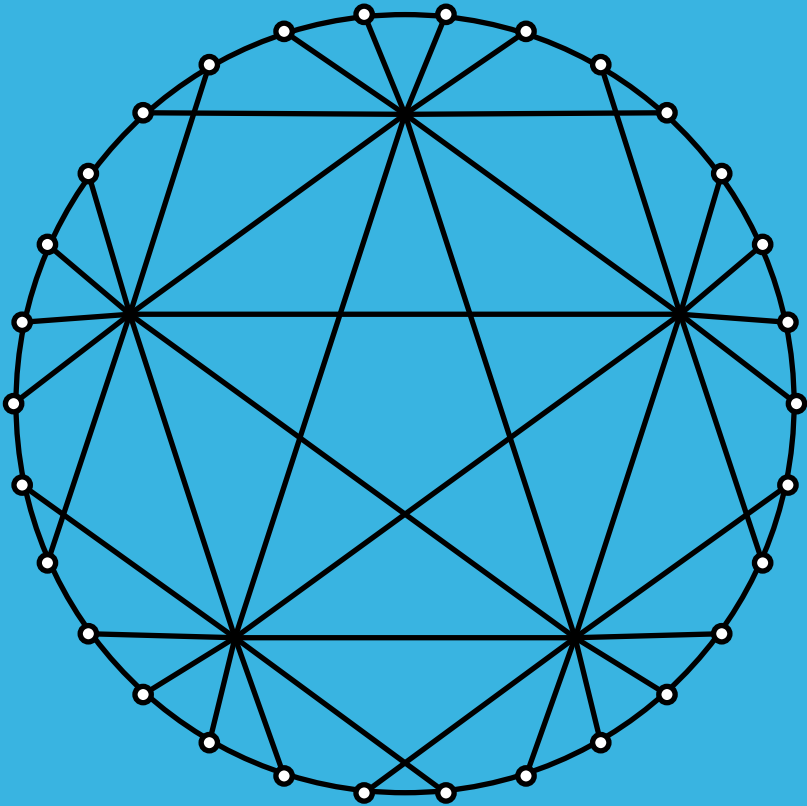


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# On local antimagic chromatic number of a corona product graph

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we provide a correct proof for the lower bounds of the local antimagic chromatic number of the corona product of friendship and fan graphs with null graph respectively as in [On local antimagic vertex coloring of corona products related to friendship and fan graph, *Indon. J. Combin.*, 5(2) (2021) 110–121]. Consequently, we obtained a sharp lower bound that gives the exact local antimagic chromatic number of the corona product of friendship and null graph.

## 1 Introduction

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a finite, undirected graph with neither loops nor multiple edges. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $|V(G)| = p$  and  $|E(G)| = q$  respectively. The *friendship graph*  $f_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) is a graph which consists of  $n$  triangles with a common vertex. The *fan graph*  $F_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) is obtained by joining a new vertex to every vertex of a path  $P_n$ . The *corona product* of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph  $G \circ H$  obtained by taking one copy of  $G$  along with  $|V(G)|$  copies of  $H$ , and join the  $i$ -th vertex of  $G$  to every vertex of the  $i$ -th copy of  $H$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq |V(G)|$ . For integers  $a < b$ , let  $[a, b] = \{a, a + 1, \dots, b\}$ . For graph-theoretic terminology, we refer to Chartrand and Lesniak [4].

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Hartsfield and Ringel [7] introduced the concept of antimagic labeling of a graph. For a graph  $G$ , let  $f : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, q\}$  be a bijection. For each vertex  $u \in V(G)$ , the weight  $w(u) = \sum_{e \in E(u)} f(e)$ , where  $E(u)$  is the set of edges incident to  $u$ . If  $w(u) \neq w(v)$  for any two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v \in V(G)$ , then  $f$  is called an antimagic labeling of  $G$ . Hartsfield and Ringel conjectured that every connected graph with at least three vertices admits antimagic labeling [7]. Interested readers can refer to [5, 6].

Arumugam et al. in [1], and independently, Bensmail et al. in [3], posed a new definition as a relaxation of the notion of antimagic labeling. They called a bijection  $f : E \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, |E|\}$  a *local antimagic labeling* of  $G$  if for any two adjacent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $V(G)$ , the condition  $w(u) \neq w(v)$  holds. Based on this notion, Arumugam et al. then introduced a new graph coloring parameter. Let  $f$  be a local antimagic labeling of a connected graph  $G$ . The assignment of  $w(u)$  to  $u$  for each vertex  $u \in V(G)$  induces naturally a proper vertex coloring of  $G$  which is called a *local antimagic vertex coloring* of  $G$ . The *local antimagic chromatic number*, denoted  $\chi_{la}(G)$ , is the minimum number of colors taken over all local antimagic colorings of  $G$  [1].

Arumugam et al. [2] obtained the local antimagic chromatic number for the graph  $G \circ O_m$ , where  $G$  is a path, cycle or complete graph and  $O_m$  is the null graph of order  $m \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 1.1** (Arumugam et al. [2]). *Let  $m \geq 2$ , then*

$$\chi_{la}(C_3 \circ O_m) = 3m + 3,$$

*except  $\chi_{la}(C_3 \circ O_1) = 5$ .*

**Theorem 1.2** (Arumugam et al. [2]). *For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_{la}(K_n \circ K_1) = 2n - 1$ .*

In [8], the authors studied  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m)$  and  $\chi_{la}(F_n \circ O_m)$  for  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \geq 1$ . We note that there are inconsistencies in the notations of  $f_n$  and  $F_n$  used. They proved that  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m) \leq m(2n + 1) + 3$  and  $\chi_{la}(F_n) \leq m(n + 1) + 3$  by providing a correct local antimagic labeling respectively. However, there are gaps in proving that  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m) \geq m(2n + 1) + 3$  and  $\chi_{la}(F_n) \geq m(n + 1) + 3$ . Motivated by this, we shall first provide correct arguments to the proofs of the lower bounds. Consequently, we showed that  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m) = m(2n + 1) + 2$  for  $n \geq 2, m = 1$ . Interested readers may refer to [9–12] for local antimagic chromatic number of graphs with pendant edges.

## 2 Lower bounds of $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m)$ and $\chi_{la}(F_n \circ O_m)$

**Lemma 2.1.** For  $n \geq 2, m \geq 1$ ,  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m) \geq m(2n + 1) + 3$  except  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1) \geq m(2n + 1) + 2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G = f_n \circ O_m$  with  $V(G) = \{x, u_i, v_i, x_j, u_j^i, v_j^i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  and  $E(G) = \{xx_j, xu_i, xv_i, u_i v_i, u_i u_j^i, v_i v_j^i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$ . Clearly,  $|E(G)| = q = m(2n + 1) + 3n$ .

Suppose  $f : E(G) \rightarrow [1, q]$  is a local antimagic labeling of  $G$ . Clearly, all the  $m(2n+1)$  pendant vertices must have distinct induced vertex colors that are at most  $q$ . Moreover,  $w(x) \geq 1+2+\dots+(2n+m) = (2n+m)(2n+m+1)/2 = s$ . Now,  $2s - 2q = (2n + m + 1)^2 + (2n + m + 1) - 6n - 2m(2n + 1) = 4n^2 + m^2 + m + 1 > 0$ . Thus,  $w(x) > q$ . Therefore,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n + 1) + 1$ . Without loss of generality, we consider the following 3 cases.

**Case 1.**  $f(u_1 v_1) = q$ . In this case,  $w(u_1) \neq w(v_1) \neq w(x) > q$  so that  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n + 1) + 3$ .

**Case 2.**  $f(xu_1) = q$  or  $f(u_1 u_1^1) = q$ . In this case,  $w(u_1) \neq w(x) > q$  so that  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n+1)+2$ . Suppose equality holds. Clearly, for each  $i \in [1, n]$ , at most one of  $u_i, v_i$  has induced vertex color  $q$ . So, there are at most  $n$  vertices in  $\{u_i, v_i\}$  with induced vertex color  $q$ . The sum of these  $n$  induced vertex colors is at least  $1+2+\dots+n(m+2) = n(m+2)[n(m+2)+1]$  and at most  $nq = n[3n+m(n+1)]$ . Since  $n \geq 2$ , it is easy to check that  $n(m+2)[n(m+2)+1] - n[3n+m(n+1)] = 2n^2(m+1) + n + \frac{1}{2}mn(mn+1) - [3n^2 + mn(2n+1)] > 0$  if and only if  $m > 1$ . Consequently,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1) + 2$  if  $m = 1$ , and  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1) + 3$  if  $m \geq 2$ .

**Case 3.**  $f(xx_1) = q$ . In this case,  $w(x_1) = q$  and  $w(u_j^i), w(v_j^i), w(x_j) < q$  ( $x_j \neq x_1$ ) so that  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n+1)+1$ . Suppose  $w(v_i) < w(u_i) \leq q$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then  $\sum_{i=1}^n [w(u_i) + w(v_i)]$  is at most  $n(2q-1)$  and at least  $1+2+\dots+n(2m+3) = n(2m+3)[n(2m+3)+1]/2$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} & n(2m+3)[n(2m+3)+1] - 2n(2q-1) \\ &= n(2m+3)[n(2m+3)+1] - 2n[2m(2n+1)+6n-1] \\ &= 4m^2n^2 + 4mn^2 - 2mn - 3n^2 + 5n > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we may assume  $w(u_1) > q$ . Since  $w(u_1) \neq w(x)$ , we have  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n+1)+2$ . Suppose equality holds. By an argument similar to that in Case 2, we have  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n+1)+2$  if  $m=1$  and  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(2n+1)+3$  if  $m \geq 2$ .  $\square$

Note that  $F_2 \circ O_m = C_3 \circ O_m$ , we next consider  $F_n \circ O_m, n \geq 3, m \geq 1$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** For  $n \geq 3, m \geq 1$ ,  $\chi_{la}(F_n \circ O_m) \geq m(n+1)+3$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G = F_n \circ O_m$  with  $V(G) = \{x, x_j, v_i, v_j^i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  and  $E(G) = \{xx_j, xv_i, v_i v_j^i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n-1\}$ . Clearly,  $|E(G)| = m(n+1) + 2n - 1 = q$ .

Let  $f$  be a local antimagic labeling of  $G$  that induces  $\chi_{la}(G)$  distinct vertex colors. Clearly, all the  $m(n+1)$  pendant vertices must have distinct induced vertex colors that are at most  $q$ . Moreover,  $w(x) \geq 1+2+\dots+(m+n)(m+n+1)/2 = s$ . Now  $2s-2q = (m+n)(m+n+1)-2[m(n+1)+2n-1] = m^2 - m + n^2 - 3n + 1 > 0$  for  $n \geq 3$ . Thus,  $w(x) > q$  and  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1)+1$ . Without loss of generality, we consider the following cases.

**Case 1.**  $f(v_1 v_2) = q$  or  $f(v_2 v_3) = q$  if  $n \geq 4$ . In this case,  $w(x) \neq w(v_1) \neq w(v_2) > q$ . Thus,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1)+3$ .

**Case 2.**  $f(xv_1) = q$  (or  $f(xv_2) = q$ ). In this case,  $w(x) \neq w(v_1) > q$  (or  $w(x) \neq w(v_2) > q$ ). Thus,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1)+2$ . Suppose equality holds. Note that if  $w(v_i) > q$  for  $3 \leq i \leq n$ , then  $w(v_i) = w(v_1)$ . Moreover,  $w(v_i) \neq w(v_{i+1})$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Suppose there are  $r \geq 1$  vertices in  $\{v_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  with induced vertex color larger than  $q$ , then there are  $n-r \geq 1$  vertices in  $\{v_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  with induced vertex color at most  $q$ . These  $n-r$  vertices are incident to a total of  $(m+2)n-1-r(m+1) = (m+1)(n-r)+n-1$  edges. Therefore, their edge labels sum under  $f$  is at most  $(n-r)q$ . However, the sum is at least  $S = 1+2+\dots+[(m+1)(n-r)+n-1] = \frac{1}{2}[(m+1)(n-r)+n-1][(m+1)(n-r)+n]$ . Note that  $n-r \geq n/2$ . Thus,

$$-r \geq -n/2 \quad \text{and} \quad 2S - 2(n-r)q \geq \frac{n}{2} \left[ \frac{m^2 n}{2} + \frac{n}{2} - 3 \right] > 0$$

except for  $n=3, m=1$ . This contradicts  $S \leq (n-r)q$  for all  $(n, m) \neq (3, 1)$ .

The second inequality is obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 2S - 2(n-r)q &= [(m+1)(n-r) + n]^2 - [(m+1)(n-r) + n] \\
 &\quad - 2(n-r)[m(n+1) + 2n] \\
 &= (m+1)^2(n-r)^2 + (2n-1)(m+1)(n-r) \\
 &\quad + n^2 - n - 2(n-r)(mn + m + 2n) \\
 &= (n-r)[m^2(n-r) + 2m(n-r) - 3m - n - r - 1] + n^2 - n \\
 &\geq (n-r)[m^2(n-r) + 2m(n-r) - 3m - \frac{3n}{2} - 1] + n^2 - n \\
 &\geq \frac{n}{2} \left[ (m^2 + 2m)\left(\frac{n}{2}\right) - 3m - \frac{3n}{2} - 1 \right] + n^2 - n \\
 &\geq \frac{n}{2} \left[ \frac{m^2n}{2} - \frac{3n}{2} - 1 + 2n - 2 \right] \\
 &= \frac{n}{2} \left[ \frac{m^2n}{2} + \frac{n}{2} - 3 \right] > 0 \text{ except when } (n, m) = (3, 1)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, consider  $G = F_3 \circ O_1$  that has  $q = 9$ . If  $G$  admits a local antimagic labeling that induces 6 distinct vertex colors, then  $w(v_1) = w(v_3) \leq 9$ . Since  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  are incident to 6 different edges, their total label sum is at least 21 so that  $w(v_1) = w(v_3) \geq 11$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1) + 3$ .

**Case 3.**  $f(v_1v_1^1) = q$  (or  $f(v_2v_1^2) = q$ ). In this case,  $w(v_1) \neq w(x) > q$  (or  $w(v_2) \neq w(x) > q$ ). Thus,  $\chi_{la}(G) \geq m(n+1) + 2$ . Suppose equality holds. By an argument similar to Case 2, we have the same contradiction.  $\square$

### 3 $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1)$

In [8], the authors obtained local antimagic labelings that correctly show that  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_m) \leq m(2n+1) + 3$  and  $\chi_{la}(F_n \circ O_m) \leq m(n+1) + 3$ . By Lemma 2.1, we shall next show that  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1) = 2n + 3$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1) = 2n + 3$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G = f_n \circ O_1$  with  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  as defined in the proof of Lemma 2.1. Suffice to define a bijection  $f : E(G) \rightarrow [1, 5n+1]$  that induces  $2n + 3$  distinct induced vertex colors. We shall use labeling matrices to describe the labeling of all the edges of  $f_n \circ O_1$ .

Suppose  $n$  is odd. We first define  $f(xx_1) = 5n + 1$ . We now arrange integers in  $[2n + 1, 5n]$  as a  $3 \times n$  matrix as follows:

- (1) In row 1, assign  $4n + (i + 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n$ ; assign  $(9n + 1)/2 + i/2$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[4n + 1, 5n]$ .
- (2) In row 2, assign  $(7n + 1)/2 + (i - 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n$ ; assign  $3n + i/2$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[3n + 1, 4n]$ .
- (3) In row 3, assign  $3n + 1 - i$  to column  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We have used integers in  $[2n + 1, 3n]$ .

The resulting matrix is given in Table 1.

Table 1: Assignment of integers in  $[2n + 2, 5n + 1]$

|                  |                  |                  |                  |         |                  |                  |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|---------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| $4n + 1$         | $\frac{9n+3}{2}$ | $4n + 2$         | $\frac{9n+5}{2}$ | $\dots$ | $5n - 1$         | $\frac{9n-1}{2}$ | $5n$             | $\frac{9n+1}{2}$ |
| $\frac{7n+1}{2}$ | $3n + 1$         | $\frac{7n+3}{2}$ | $3n + 2$         | $\dots$ | $\frac{7n-3}{2}$ | $4n - 1$         | $\frac{7n-1}{2}$ | $4n$             |
| $3n$             | $3n - 1$         | $3n - 2$         | $3n - 3$         | $\dots$ | $2n + 4$         | $2n + 3$         | $2n + 2$         | $2n + 1$         |

We next arrange integers in  $[1, 3n]$  as a  $3 \times n$  matrix as follows:

- (1) In row 1, assign  $3n + 1 - i$  to column  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . We have used integers in  $[2n + 1, 3n]$ .
- (2) In row 2, assign  $(3n + 1)/2 + (i - 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n$ ; assign  $n + i/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[n + 1, 2n]$ .
- (3) In row 3, assign  $(i + 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n$ ; assign  $(n + 1)/2 + i/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[1, n]$ .

The resulting matrix is given in Table 2.

Table 2: Assignment of integers in  $[2n + 2, 5n + 1]$

|                  |                 |                  |                 |         |                  |                 |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|---------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| $3n$             | $3n - 1$        | $3n - 2$         | $3n - 3$        | $\dots$ | $2n + 4$         | $2n + 3$        | $2n + 2$         | $2n + 1$        |
| $\frac{3n+1}{2}$ | $n + 1$         | $\frac{3n+3}{2}$ | $n + 2$         | $\dots$ | $\frac{3n-3}{2}$ | $2n - 1$        | $\frac{3n-1}{2}$ | $2n$            |
| $1$              | $\frac{n+3}{2}$ | $2$              | $\frac{n+5}{2}$ | $\dots$ | $n - 1$          | $\frac{n-1}{2}$ | $n$              | $\frac{n+1}{2}$ |

For  $1 \leq k \leq 3$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $a_{k,i}$  be the  $(k, i)$ -entry of Table 1, and  $b_{k,i}$  be the  $(k, i)$ -entry of Table 2. Note that  $b_{1,i} = a_{3,i}$ . Define  $f(u_i u_1^i) = a_{1,i}$ ,  $f(x u_i) = a_{2,i}$ ,  $f(u_i v_i) = a_{3,i}$ ,  $f(x v_i) = b_{2,i}$  and  $f(v_i v_1^i) = b_{3,i}$ . It is obvious that  $f$  is a bijective function.

Now, column sum of each column of Table 1 is  $(21n + 3)/2$ . Thus,  $w(u_i) = (21n + 3)/2$  and  $w(u_1^i) \in [4n + 1, 5n]$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Similarly, the column sum of each column of Table 2 is  $(9n + 3)/2$ . Thus,  $w(v_i) = (9n + 3)/2$  and  $w(v_1^i) \in [1, n]$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Moreover,  $w(x) = (n + 1) + \dots + (2n) + (3n + 1) + \dots + 4n + (5n + 1) = (n + 1)(5n + 1)$ . Clearly,  $w(x) \neq w(u_1^i) \neq w(u_i) \neq w(v_1^i) \neq w(v_i) \neq w(x_1) = 5n + 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Note that  $4n + 1 \leq w(v_i) = (9n + 3)/2 \leq 5n + 1$  is odd for  $n \geq 3$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a local antimagic labeling that induces  $2n + 3$  distinct vertex colors. Consequently,  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1) = 2n + 3$  for odd  $n \geq 3$ .

We now consider even  $n \geq 2$ . Figures 1 and 2 show that  $\chi_{la}(f_2 \circ O_1) = 7$  and  $\chi_{la}(f_4 \circ O_1) = 11$ .

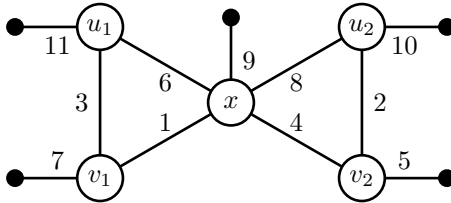


Figure 1:  $\chi_{la}(f_2 \circ O_1) = 7$  with induced vertex colors in  $\{7, 5, 9, 10, 11, 20, 28\}$

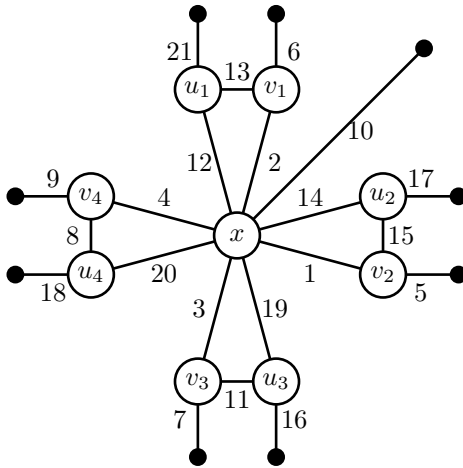


Figure 2:  $\chi_{la}(f_4 \circ O_1) = 11$  with induced vertex colors in  $\{5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 16, 17, 18, 21, 46, 85\}$



Consider  $n \geq 6$ . We first define  $f(xx_1) = 3n + 3$ ,  $f(u_nv_n) = 1$ ,  $f(u_nu_1^n) = 2n + 2$ ,  $f(xu_n) = 2n$ ,  $f(v_nv_1^n) = 2n + 3$  and  $f(xv_n) = 2n + 1$ . We now have  $w(x_1) = 3n + 3$ ,  $w(u_n) = 4n + 3$ ,  $w(u_1^n) = 2n + 2$ ,  $w(v_n) = 4n + 5$  and  $w(v_1^n) = 2n + 3$ . We now consider the remaining integers in  $[2, 2n - 1] \cup [2n + 4, 3n + 2] \cup [3n + 4, 5n + 1]$ .

We now arrange integers in  $[2n + 4, 3n + 2] \cup [3n + 4, 5n + 1]$  as a  $3 \times (n - 1)$  matrix as follows:

- (1) In row 1, assign  $4n + 3 + (i - 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n - 1$ ; assign  $9n/2 + 2 + i/2$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 2$ . We have used integers in  $[4n + 3, 5n + 1]$ .
- (2) In row 2, assign  $7n/2 + 3 + (i - 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n - 1$ ; assign  $3n + 3 + i/2$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 2$ . We have used integers in  $[3n + 4, 4n + 2]$ .
- (3) In row 3, assign  $3n + 3 - i$  to column  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[2n + 4, 3n + 2]$ .

The resulting matrix is given in Table 3.

Table 3: Assignment of integers in  $[2n + 4, 3n + 2] \cup [3n + 4, 5n + 1]$

|                    |                    |                    |                    |         |                    |                    |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| $4n + 3$           | $\frac{9n}{2} + 3$ | $4n + 4$           | $\frac{9n}{2} + 4$ | $\dots$ | $5n$               | $\frac{9n}{2} + 1$ | $5n + 1$           | $\frac{9n}{2} + 2$ |
| $\frac{7n}{2} + 3$ | $3n + 4$           | $\frac{7n}{2} + 4$ | $3n + 5$           | $\dots$ | $\frac{7n}{2} + 1$ | $4n + 1$           | $\frac{7n}{2} + 2$ | $4n + 2$           |
| $3n + 2$           | $3n + 1$           | $3n$               | $3n - 1$           | $\dots$ | $2n + 7$           | $2n + 6$           | $2n + 5$           | $2n + 4$           |

We next arrange integers in  $[2, 2n - 1] \cup [2n + 4, 3n + 2]$  as a  $3 \times n$  matrix as follows:

- (1) In row 1, assign  $3n + 3 - i$  to column  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . We have used integers in  $[2n + 4, 3n + 2]$ .
- (2) In row 2, assign  $3n/2 + (i - 1)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n - 1$ ; assign  $n + i/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 2$ . We have used integers in  $[n + 1, 2n - 1]$ .
- (3) In row 3, assign  $(i + 3)/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, n - 1$ ; assign  $n/2 + 1 + i/2$  to column  $i$  if  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, n - 2$ . We have used integers in  $[2, n]$ .

The resulting matrix is given in Table 4.

Table 4: Assignment of integers in  $[2, 2n - 1] \cup [2n + 4, 3n + 2]$

|                |                   |                    |                   |         |                    |               |                    |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| $3n + 2$       | $3n + 1$          | $3n$               | $3n - 1$          | $\dots$ | $2n + 7$           | $2n + 6$      | $2n + 5$           | $2n + 4$          |
| $\frac{3n}{2}$ | $n + 1$           | $\frac{3n}{2} + 1$ | $n + 2$           | $\dots$ | $\frac{3n}{2} - 2$ | $2n - 2$      | $\frac{3n}{2} - 1$ | $2n - 1$          |
| 2              | $\frac{n}{2} + 2$ | 3                  | $\frac{n}{2} + 3$ | $\dots$ | $n - 1$            | $\frac{n}{2}$ | $n$                | $\frac{n}{2} + 1$ |

For  $1 \leq k \leq 3, 1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , let  $c_{k,i}$  be the  $(k, i)$ -entry of Table 3, and  $d_{k,i}$  be the  $(k, i)$ -entry of Table 4. Note that  $d_{1,i} = c_{3,i}$ . Define  $f(u_i u_1^i) = c_{1,i}$ ,  $f(xu_i) = c_{2,i}$ ,  $f(u_i v_i) = c_{3,i}$ ,  $f(xv_i) = d_{2,i}$  and  $f(v_i v_1^i) = d_{3,i}$ . It is obvious that  $f$  is a bijective function.

Now, column sum of each column of Table 3 is  $21n/2 + 8$ . Thus,  $w(u_i) = 21n/2 + 8$  and  $w(u_1^i) \in [4n + 3, 5n + 1]$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Similarly, the column sum of each column of Table 4 is  $9n/2 + 4$ . Thus,  $w(v_i) = 9n/2 + 4$  and  $w(v_1^i) \in [2, n]$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Moreover,  $w(x) = [2n + (2n + 1) + (3n + 3)] + (3n + 4) + \dots + (4n + 2) + (n + 1) + \dots + (2n - 1) = (7n + 4) + (n - 1)(5n + 3) = 5n^2 + 5n + 1$ . Clearly, for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ,  $w(x) \neq w(u_1^i) \neq w(u_i) \neq w(v_1^i) \neq w(v_i) \neq w(x_1)$ . Note that  $4n + 3 \leq w(u_n) = 4n + 3 \neq w(v_n) = 4n + 5 \leq 5n + 1$  for even  $n \geq 6$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a local antimagic labeling that induces  $2n + 3$  distinct vertex colors. Consequently,  $\chi_{la}(f_n \circ O_1) = 2n + 3$  for even  $n \geq 6$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.1.** Figures 3 and 4 below give the labelings of  $f_3 \circ O_1$  and  $f_6 \circ O_1$  according to the proof in Theorem 3.1.

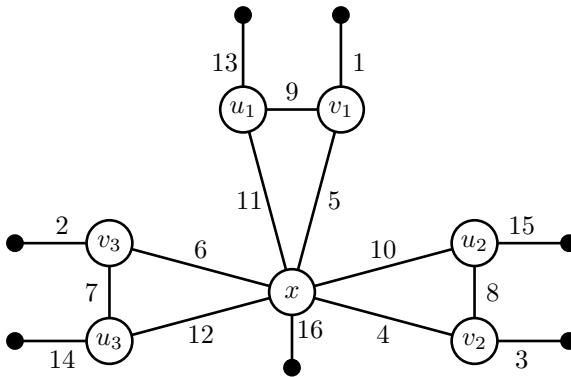


Figure 3:  $\chi_{la}(f_3 \circ O_1) = 9$  with induced vertex colors in  $[1, 3] \cup [13, 16] \cup \{33, 64\}$

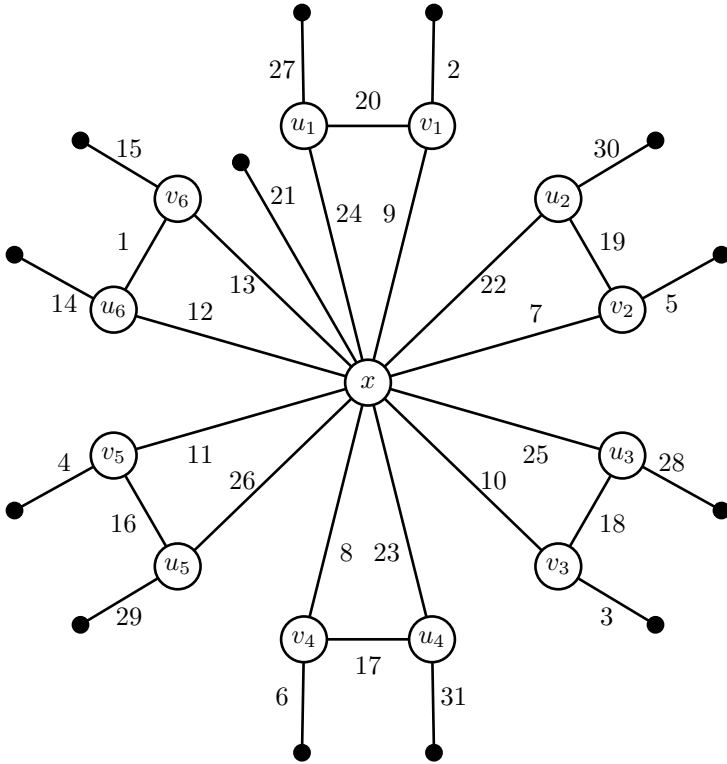


Figure 4:  $\chi_{la}(f_6 \circ O_1) = 15$  with induced vertex colors in  $[1, 6] \cup [27, 31] \cup \{21, 71, 211\}$

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