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## Weighted-1-antimagic graphs of prime power order

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## ABSTRACT

Suppose  $G$  is a graph,  $k$  is a non-negative integer. We say  $G$  is weighted- $k$ -antimagic if for any vertex weight function  $w : V \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , there is an injection  $f : E \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, |E| + k\}$  such that for any two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$ ,  $\sum_{e \in E(v)} f(e) + w(v) \neq \sum_{e \in E(u)} f(e) + w(u)$ . There are connected graphs  $G \neq K_2$  which are not weighted-1-antimagic. It was asked in Wong and Zhu (in press) [13] whether every connected graph other than  $K_2$  is weighted-2-antimagic, and whether every connected graph on an odd number of vertices is weighted-1-antimagic. It was proved in Wong and Zhu (in press) [13] that if a connected graph  $G$  has a universal vertex, then  $G$  is weighted-2-antimagic, and moreover if  $G$  has an odd number of vertices, then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic. In this paper, by restricting to graphs of odd prime power order, we improve this result in two directions: if  $G$  has odd prime power order  $p^z$  and has total domination number 2 with the degree of one vertex in the total dominating set not a multiple of  $p$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic. If  $G$  has odd prime power order  $p^z$ ,  $p \neq 3$  and has maximum degree at least  $|V(G)| - 3$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

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## 1. Introduction

Assume  $G$  is a graph with vertex set  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  and edge set  $\{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m\}$ . A labeling  $f$  of the edges of  $G$  with distinct integer labels is called *antimagic* if for any two distinct vertices  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $\sum_{e \in E(i)} f(e) \neq \sum_{e \in E(j)} f(e)$ , where  $E(i)$  is the set of edges incident to vertex  $i$ . If  $G$  has an antimagic labeling using labels  $\{1, 2, \dots, m + k\}$ , then  $G$  is called  *$k$ -antimagic*. We call  $G$  *antimagic* if  $G$  is 0-antimagic. Hartsfield and Ringel [5] introduced the concept of antimagic labeling of graphs in 1990, and conjectured that every connected graph other than  $K_2$  is antimagic. Alon et al. [2] proved that graphs  $G$  with minimum degree  $\delta(G) \geq C \log |V(G)|$  (for some absolute constant  $C$ ) or with maximum degree  $\Delta(G) \geq |V(G)| - 2$  are antimagic. Kaplan et al. [8] proved that if a tree  $T$  has at most one vertex of degree 2, then  $T$  is antimagic (cf. [9]). The Cartesian products of various graphs are shown to be antimagic in [3,4,11,12].

In the study of antimagic labeling of graphs, Hefetz [6] introduced the concept of  $(w, k)$ -antimagic labeling of graphs. Suppose  $G$  is a graph and  $w : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is a vertex weight function, which assigns to each vertex  $v$  a weight  $w(v)$ . A labeling  $f$  of the edges of  $G$  with distinct integer labels is called a  *$w$ -antimagic* labeling of  $G$  if for any two distinct vertices  $i$  and  $j$ ,  $\sum_{e \in E(i)} f(e) + w(i) \neq \sum_{e \in E(j)} f(e) + w(j)$ . The sum  $\sum_{e \in E(i)} f(e) + w(i)$  is called the *vertex sum* at  $i$  (with respect to

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labeling  $f$  and  $w$ ). Suppose  $k$  is a non-negative integer. A  $(w, k)$ -antimagic labeling of  $G$  is a  $w$ -antimagic labeling of  $G$  such that  $f(e) \in \{1, 2, \dots, m + k\}$  for every edge  $e$ . We say  $G$  is *weighted- $k$ -antimagic* if for any vertex weight function  $w$ ,  $G$  has a  $(w, k)$ -antimagic labeling.

Observe that if  $G$  has a spanning subgraph  $H$  which is weighted- $k$ -antimagic, then  $G$  itself is weighted- $k$ -antimagic. It was proved in [6] that if  $H$  has a 2-factor consisting of circuits of length 3, and the total number of vertices is  $n = 3^k$  for some positive integer  $k$ , then  $H$  is weighted-0-antimagic. As a consequence, if a graph  $G$  has  $n = 3^k$  vertices and has a 2-factor consisting of circuits of length 3, then  $G$  is antimagic. This result is further improved in [7], where the number 3 is replaced with any prime number. I.e., if  $p$  is a prime, the number of vertices of  $G$  is a power of  $p$ , and  $G$  has a 2-factor consisting of circuits of length  $p$ , then  $G$  is weighted-0-antimagic. In particular, if  $G$  has a Hamilton cycle and its order is a prime, then  $G$  is weighted-0-antimagic, and hence antimagic.

The proof of Alon et al. [2] actually shows that graphs  $G$  with minimum degree  $\delta(G) \geq C \log |V(G)|$  are weighted-0-antimagic.

Nevertheless, not every connected graph  $G \neq K_2$  is weighted-0-antimagic. It is observed in [13] that any star is not weighted-0-antimagic, and any star on an even number of vertices is not weighted-1-antimagic. Then they asked the following questions.

**Question 1.** *Is it true that every connected graph  $G \neq K_2$  is weighted-2-antimagic?*

**Question 2.** *Is it true that every connected graph  $G$  on an odd number of vertices is weighted-1-antimagic?*

In [13], it is proved that if  $G$  has an odd number of vertices and has domination number 1 (i.e., has a universal vertex), then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic; if  $G \neq K_2$  has an even number of vertices and has domination number 1, then  $G$  is weighted 2-antimagic; if  $G$  has a prime number of vertices and having a Hamilton path, then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

A set  $X$  of  $V(G)$  is called a *total dominating set* if every vertex of  $V(G)$  (including vertices in  $X$ ) is adjacent to some vertex in  $X$ . The *total domination number* of  $G$  is the cardinality of a smallest total dominating set. In this paper, by restricting to graphs of prime power order, we improve the result in [13] about graphs having a universal vertex in two directions: assume  $G$  has prime power number of vertices. If  $G$  has total domination number 2, then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic if the degree of one vertex in the total dominating set is not a multiple of  $p$ . If  $G$  is a graph on  $p^z$  vertices, where  $p \geq 5$  is a prime and  $z$  is an integer, whose maximum degree is at least  $|V(G)| - 3$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

## 2. Preliminaries

We associate to each edge  $e_j$  of  $G$  a variable  $x_j$ . For each vertex  $i$  of  $G$ , let  $v_{G,\bar{x}}(i) = \sum_{e_j \in E(i)} x_j$ . Let  $w$  be a vertex weight function of  $G$ , where  $w_i$  is the weight of  $i$ . Let  $Q_{G,w}$  be the polynomial defined as

$$Q_{G,w}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} (x_i - x_j) \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\bar{x}}(i) + w_i - v_{G,\bar{x}}(j) - w_j).$$

It is obvious that a mapping  $f : E(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is a  $w$ -antimagic labeling of  $G$  if and only if  $Q_{G,w}(f(e_1), f(e_2), \dots, f(e_m)) \neq 0$ . So to find a  $w$ -antimagic labeling of  $G$  is equivalent to finding a non-zero assignment for the polynomial  $Q_{G,w}$ . For the purpose of proving the existence of such an assignment, we use Combinatorial Nullstellensatz.

**Theorem 3 ([1]).** *Let  $F$  be a field and let  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m)$  be a polynomial in  $F[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m]$ . Suppose the degree of  $P$  is equal to  $\sum_{j=1}^m t_j$  and the coefficient of  $\prod_{j=1}^m x_j^{t_j}$  in the expansion of  $P$  is nonzero. Then for any subsets  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_m$  of  $F$  with  $|S_j| = t_j + 1$ , there exist  $s_1 \in S_1, s_2 \in S_2, \dots, s_m \in S_m$  so that*

$$P(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_m) \neq 0.$$

The polynomial  $Q_{G,w}$  has degree  $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2}$ . By Theorem 3, if  $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2} = \sum_{i=1}^m t_i$  and the monomial  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i^{t_i}$  in the expansion of  $Q_{G,w}$  has nonzero coefficient, then for any list assignment  $L$  which assigns to  $e_i$  a set  $L(e_i)$  of  $t_i + 1$  permissible labels, there is a  $w$ -antimagic labeling  $f$  of  $G$  with  $f(e) \in L(e)$  for every edge  $e$ . Let

$$Q_G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq m} (x_i - x_j) \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\bar{x}}(i) - v_{G,\bar{x}}(j)).$$

If  $\binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2} = \sum_{i=1}^m t_i$ , then the monomial  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i^{t_i}$  has the same coefficient in  $Q_{G,w}$  and  $Q_G$ . Thus we have the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.** *Let  $Q_G$  be the polynomial defined as above. If there is a monomial  $\prod_{i=1}^m x_i^{t_i}$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^m t_i = \binom{n}{2} + \binom{m}{2}$  and whose coefficient in the expansion of  $Q_G$  is nonzero, then for any vertex weight function  $w$  and for any list assignment  $L$  such that  $|L(e_i)| \geq t_i + 1$ , there is a  $w$ -antimagic labeling  $f$  of  $G$  with  $f(e) \in L(e)$  for every edge  $e$ .*

Assume that  $G$  is a tree. Hence the number of edges is  $n - 1$ .

Let  $a$  be the coefficient of the monomial  $\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} x_j^{a_j}$  in  $Q_G(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1})$ . By Lemma 4, if  $a \neq 0$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

To calculate the coefficient  $a$ , we use the following lemma proved in [10].

**Lemma 5.** *If  $P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}]$  is of degree  $\leq s_1 + s_2 + \dots + s_{n-1}$ , where  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_{n-1}$  are nonnegative integers, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}\right)^{s_1} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}\right)^{s_2} \dots \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n-1}}\right)^{s_{n-1}} P(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-1}) \\ &= \sum_{a_1=0}^{s_1} \dots \sum_{a_{n-1}=0}^{s_{n-1}} (-1)^{s_1+a_1} \binom{s_1}{a_1} \dots (-1)^{s_{n-1}+a_{n-1}} \binom{s_{n-1}}{a_{n-1}} P(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

Apply Lemma 5 to the polynomial  $Q_G$  with  $s_i = n - 1$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , we conclude that the coefficient  $a$  of the monomial  $\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} x_j^{n-1}$  in  $Q_G$  satisfies the following equality.

$$\begin{aligned} a \cdot ((n - 1)!)^{n-1} &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}\right)^{n-1} \dots \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x_{n-1}}\right)^{n-1} Q_G(x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \\ &= \sum_{a_1=0}^{n-1} \dots \sum_{a_{n-1}=0}^{n-1} (-1)^{n-1+a_1+\dots+a_{n-1}} \binom{n-1}{a_1} \dots \binom{n-1}{a_{n-1}} Q_G(a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) \\ &= \sum_{\sigma} (-1)^{n-1+\sigma(1)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} \binom{n-1}{\sigma(1)} \dots \binom{n-1}{\sigma(n-1)} Q_G(\sigma(1), \dots, \sigma(n-1)), \end{aligned}$$

where the last sum runs over all the mappings  $\sigma : \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ . However, if  $\sigma$  is not injective, then  $Q_G(\sigma(1), \sigma(2), \dots, \sigma(n - 1)) = 0$ , so the sum can be taken to run over all injective mappings  $\sigma : \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ .

Let  $\Gamma$  be the set of injective mappings from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  to  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ . For  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} v_{G,\sigma}(i) &= \sum_{e_j \in E(i)} \sigma(j), \\ a(\sigma) &= \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\sigma}(i) - v_{G,\sigma}(j)), \\ b(\sigma) &= \binom{n-1}{\sigma(1)} \dots \binom{n-1}{\sigma(n-1)} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (\sigma(i) - \sigma(j)). \end{aligned}$$

The coefficient  $a$  of the monomial  $\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} x_j^{n-1}$  is non-zero if and only if

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} b(\sigma) a(\sigma) \neq 0. \tag{A}$$

Let  $V'$  be the set of leaves of  $G$ . Let  $E'$  be the set of edges incident to  $V'$ . Assume  $|V \setminus V'| = k$ . Let the vertices in  $V'$  be labeled by  $k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1$  and let the edge of  $E'$  incident to  $i \in V'$  be labeled by  $e_i$ . For  $i \in \{k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ , vertex  $i$  is incident to  $e_i$  only, i.e.,  $E(i) = \{e_i\}$ . Hence for  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , for  $i \in \{k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ ,  $\sigma(i) = v_{G,\sigma}(i)$ .

Let  $\Theta$  be the subgroup of the automorphism group  $Aut(G)$  of  $G$  that fix every non-leaf vertex of  $G$ . Thus each automorphism in  $\Theta$  is a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  which fixes  $0, 1, \dots, k - 1$ . Given a permutation  $\tau$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  that fixes  $\{1, 2, \dots, k - 1\}$ , let  $v_\tau$  be the permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  that fixes  $\{0, 1, \dots, k - 1\}$  and equals to  $\tau$  on  $\{k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ . It is obvious that if  $v_\tau \in \Theta$  and  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , then  $v_{G,\sigma \circ \tau} = v_{G,\sigma} \circ v_\tau$ . Moreover, it is easy to see that

$$\begin{aligned} a(\sigma \circ \tau) &= \text{sign}(\tau) a(\sigma), \\ b(\sigma \circ \tau) &= \text{sign}(\tau) b(\sigma). \end{aligned}$$

Consequently,

$$b(\sigma \circ \tau) a(\sigma \circ \tau) = b(\sigma) a(\sigma).$$

For  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , let  $[\sigma] = \{\sigma \circ \tau : v_\tau \in \Theta\}$ . Then  $\{[\sigma] : \sigma \in \Gamma\}$  partitions  $\Gamma$  into parts of cardinality  $|\Theta|$ . Thus

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} b(\sigma) a(\sigma) = |\Theta| \sum_{[\sigma]} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} b(\sigma) a(\sigma),$$

where the second summation runs over all the equivalence classes  $\{[\sigma] : \sigma \in \Gamma\}$ .

In the following, we assume that  $n = p^z$  is an odd prime power. For  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ , we define the sign of  $\sigma$  as  $(-1)$  to the power of the number of pairs  $i < j$  such that  $\sigma(i) > \sigma(j)$ .

**Lemma 6.** For any  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ ,  $b(\sigma) = \text{sign}(\sigma)c$  for some constant  $c$ .

**Proof.** Assume the range of  $\sigma$  is  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\} \setminus \{\ell\}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} b(\sigma) &= \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (i-j) \left( \binom{n-1}{\ell} \ell!(n-1-\ell)! \right)^{-1} \\ &= \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_{i=0}^{n-1} \binom{n-1}{i} \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (i-j) ((n-1)!)^{-1}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

To prove (A), it is equivalent to prove that

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{[\sigma]} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} \text{sign}(\sigma)a(\sigma) &= \frac{1}{|\Theta|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} \text{sign}(\sigma)a(\sigma) \\ &\neq 0. \end{aligned}$$

For an integer  $q$ , the order of  $q$  with respect to  $p$  is

$$\text{ord}(q) = \max\{j : p^j | q\}.$$

Let  $s = \text{ord}(\prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (i-j))$ . Instead of proving the inequality above directly, we prove the following stronger statement.

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Gamma} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} \text{sign}(\sigma)a(\sigma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^{s+1}}. \tag{B}$$

**Lemma 7.** For  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ ,

$$\text{ord} \left( \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\sigma}(i) - v_{G,\sigma}(j)) \right) \geq s$$

and equality holds if and only if  $v_{G,\sigma}(i) \not\equiv v_{G,\sigma}(j) \pmod{n}$  for all  $i \neq j$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $\sigma \in \Gamma$ . For  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $j = 0, 1, \dots, p^i - 1$ , let

$$\alpha_{i,j} = |\{t : v_{G,\sigma}(t) \equiv j \pmod{p^i}\}|.$$

Then

$$\text{ord} \left( \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\sigma}(i) - v_{G,\sigma}(j)) \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=0}^{p^i-1} \binom{\alpha_{i,j}}{2}.$$

For each  $i \geq 1$ ,  $\sum_{j=0}^{p^i-1} \alpha_{i,j} = n = p^z$ . It is obvious that the order

$$\text{ord} \left( \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\sigma}(i) - v_{G,\sigma}(j)) \right)$$

is minimum if and only if for any  $i$ ,  $\alpha_{i,j} = n/p^i = p^{z-i}$  is a constant for all  $j$ . This happens if and only if  $v_{G,\sigma}(i) \not\equiv v_{G,\sigma}(j) \pmod{n}$  for every  $i \neq j$ . In this case,

$$\text{ord} \left( \prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n-1} (v_{G,\sigma}(i) - v_{G,\sigma}(j)) \right) = s. \quad \square$$

A mapping  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  is called *faithful* if  $v_{G,\sigma}(i) \not\equiv v_{G,\sigma}(j) \pmod{n}$  for any two distinct vertices  $i$  and  $j$  of  $G$ .

Let

$$\Omega = \{\sigma \in \Gamma : \sigma \text{ is faithful}\}.$$

By Lemma 7, the summation in (B) can be restricted to faithful  $\sigma$ 's in  $\Gamma$ , i.e., (B) is equivalent to

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} (-1)^{\sigma(1)+\sigma(2)+\dots+\sigma(n-1)} \text{sign}(\sigma)a(\sigma) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p^{s+1}}. \tag{C}$$

**Claim 1.** If  $\sigma$  is faithful, then  $\sigma$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ .

**Proof.** As  $\sigma \in \Gamma$  is an injection from  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  to  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ , there is exactly one element  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  which is not in the range of  $\sigma$ . As  $n$  is odd, we have

$$1 + 2 + \dots + (n - 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n},$$

and hence  $\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sigma(j) \equiv -i \pmod{n}$ . Since  $\sigma$  is faithful,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} v_{G,\sigma}(j) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}.$$

On the other hand,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} v_{G,\sigma}(j) = 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \sigma(j) \equiv -2i \pmod{n}.$$

As  $n$  is odd, we have  $i = 0$ . Hence  $\sigma$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ .  $\square$

For  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , let  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(i) \equiv v_{G,\sigma}(i) \pmod{n}$ . Then  $v_{G,\sigma}^*$  is a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  and  $\sigma$  is a permutation of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ . By Lemma 7, to prove (C), it suffices to show that

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \text{sign}(\sigma) \text{sign}(v_{G,\sigma}^*) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}. \tag{D}$$

Extend  $\sigma$  to a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  by letting  $\sigma(0) = 0$ . Then

$$\text{sign}(\sigma) \text{sign}(v_{G,\sigma}^*) = \text{sign}(\sigma^{-1} \circ v_{G,\sigma}^*).$$

By our labeling of the vertices and edges of  $G$ , we know that  $\sigma(i) = v_{G,\sigma}^*(i)$  for  $i \in \{k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1\}$ . Hence, the restriction of  $\sigma^{-1} \circ v_{G,\sigma}^*$  to  $\{k, k + 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  is identity, and the restriction of  $\sigma^{-1} \circ v_{G,\sigma}^*$  to  $\{0, 1, \dots, k - 1\}$ , which we denote by  $\sigma^*$ , is a permutation of  $\{0, 1, \dots, k - 1\}$ . Moreover,

$$\text{sign}(\sigma^{-1} \circ v_{G,\sigma}^*) = \text{sign}(\sigma^*).$$

To prove the coefficient  $a$  is nonzero, it suffices to show that

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} \sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \text{sign}(\sigma^*) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}. \tag{E}$$

### 3. Double star

A tree whose non-leaf vertices induces a  $K_2$  is called a *double star*. This section proves the following theorem.

**Theorem 8.** If  $G$  is a double star of prime power order  $n = p^z$  and the degree of one non-leaf vertex (and hence of both non-leaf vertices) is relatively prime to  $n$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

**Proof.** Assume  $G$  is a double star with exactly two non-leaf vertices: 0 and 1.

For  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , let  $\sigma^*$  be the permutation over  $\{0, 1\}$  defined as in the previous section.

Let  $T_1 = \{\sigma \in \Omega : \sigma^*(i) = i \text{ for } i = 0, 1\}$ , and  $T_2 = \{\sigma \in \Omega : \sigma^*(i) = 1 - i \text{ for } i = 0, 1\}$ . So  $\text{sign}(\sigma^*) = 1$  if  $\sigma \in T_1$  and  $\text{sign}(\sigma^*) = -1$  if  $\sigma \in T_2$ . To prove (E), we need to show that

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} (|T_1| - |T_2|) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Let  $U_1 = \{2, 3, \dots, k\}$  be the set of leaves adjacent to 0, and let  $U_2 = \{k + 1, k + 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  be the set of leaves adjacent to 1. Then  $|\Theta| = (k - 1)!(n - k - 1)!$ .

For  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , let  $X_\sigma = \sum_{i \in U_1} \sigma(i)$  and  $Y_\sigma = \sum_{i \in U_2} \sigma(i)$ . Since  $\sigma \in \Omega$ ,  $\sigma(i) \neq 0$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Therefore  $X_\sigma + Y_\sigma + \sigma(1) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

Observe that  $\sigma^*(0) = 0$  means that  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(0) = \sigma(0) = 0$ , i.e.,  $\sum_{e_j \in E(0)} \sigma(j) = X_\sigma + \sigma(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . This is equivalent to  $Y_\sigma \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ , as  $X_\sigma + Y_\sigma + \sigma(1) = 1 + 2 + \dots + n - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . So the following equalities are equivalent:

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma^*(0) &= 0 \\ X_\sigma + \sigma(1) &\equiv 0 \pmod{n} \\ Y_\sigma &\equiv 0 \pmod{n} \\ \sigma^*(1) &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\sigma \in T_1$  if and only if  $X_\sigma + \sigma(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . Similarly,  $\sigma \in T_2$  if and only if  $X_\sigma \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

For  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ , let  $A_j$  be the set of solutions to the equation

$$y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_j \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

subject to the condition that  $y_i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  and  $y_i$  are pairwise distinct. Let  $\alpha_j = |A_j|$ .

If  $\sigma(1), \sigma(2), \dots, \sigma(k)$  are chosen so that  $X_\sigma + \sigma(1) \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ , then arbitrary assigning  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\} \setminus \{\sigma(1), \sigma(2), \dots, \sigma(k)\}$  to  $\sigma(k + 1), \sigma(k + 2), \dots, \sigma(n - 1)$ , we obtain an element of  $T_1$ . So

$$|T_1| = \alpha_k \cdot (n - 1 - k)!$$

Similarly, we have

$$|T_2| = \alpha_{k-1} \cdot (n - k)!$$

and hence

$$|T_2| - |T_1| = (n - k - 1)!(n - k)\alpha_{k-1} - \alpha_k.$$

Observe that  $\alpha_{k-1}$  is a multiple of  $(k - 1)!$ , because given a solution to the equation  $y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_{k-1} \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  with  $y_i$  pairwise distinct, any permutation of  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{k-1}$  is also a solution. So

$$\frac{n\alpha_{k-1}}{(k - 1)!} \equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Hence

$$\frac{1}{|\Theta|} (|T_2| - |T_1|) = \frac{1}{(k - 1)!(n - k - 1)!} (|T_2| - |T_1|) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

if and only if

$$\frac{1}{(k - 1)!} (k\alpha_{k-1} + \alpha_k) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

Instead of calculating  $\alpha_j$  directly, we consider a slightly different parameter. Let  $B_j$  be the set of solutions to the equation

$$y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_j \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$$

subject to the condition that  $y_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  and  $y_i$  are pairwise distinct. Let  $\beta_j = |B_j|$ . There is a simple formula for  $\beta_j$ . Let

$$\Psi(j) = \{(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) : y_i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}, \text{ and } y_i \text{ are pairwise distinct}\}.$$

Then  $|\Psi(j)| = n(n - 1) \dots (n - j + 1)$ .

Let  $\sim$  be the equivalence relation on  $\Psi(j)$  defined as  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) \sim (y'_1, y'_2, \dots, y'_j)$  if there is a constant  $d$  such that  $y_i \equiv y'_i + d \pmod{n}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, j$ . Observe that if  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j)$  and  $(y'_1, y'_2, \dots, y'_j)$  are equivalent but distinct, then  $\sum_{i=1}^j y_i \equiv \sum_{i=1}^j y'_i + jd \pmod{n}$  for some  $0 < d \leq n - 1$ . If  $j$  and  $n$  are coprime, then there is no such  $d$ . Hence each equivalence class of  $\sim$  contains exactly one  $j$ -tuple of  $B_j$ . As each equivalence class contains  $n$  tuples, we have

$$\beta_j = |B_j| = |\Psi(j)|/n = (n - 1)(n - 2) \dots (n - j + 1).$$

If  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) \in B_j$ , then either none of the  $y_i$ 's is equal to 0, and hence  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j) \in A_j$  or exactly one of  $y_i$ 's is 0. If  $y_i = 0$ , then  $(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{i-1}, y_{i+1}, \dots, y_j) \in A_{j-1}$ . Therefore

$$\beta_j = \alpha_j + j\alpha_{j-1}.$$

Since, by assumption,  $(k, n) = 1$ , we have

$$\frac{1}{(k - 1)!} (k\alpha_{k-1} + \alpha_k) = \frac{1}{(k - 1)!} \beta_k = \frac{(n - 1)(n - 2) \dots (n - k + 1)}{(k - 1)!} \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$$

The last inequality holds because for  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , we have  $\text{ord}(i) = \text{ord}(n - i)$ . This completes the proof of [Theorem 8](#).  $\square$

**Corollary 9.** *If  $G$  is of prime power order  $p^z$  and has a spanning tree which is a double star such that the degree of one non-leaf vertex is relatively prime to  $n$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic. In particular, if  $G$  is of prime order and has total domination number 2, then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.*

### 4. Graphs with large maximum degree

It was proved in [2] that graphs  $G$  of order  $n$  and maximum degree at least  $n - 2$  are antimagic, i.e., 0-antimagic. It was proved in [6] that for  $k \geq 3$ , graphs  $G$  of order  $n$  and maximum degree at least  $n - k$  are  $(3k - 7)$ -antimagic. In this section, we assume that  $p \geq 5$  is a prime and  $z$  is an integer. We prove that if  $G$  is a graph of order  $n = p^z$  and whose maximum degree is at least  $n - 3$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.

**Lemma 10.** *Assume  $G$  is a tree with vertices  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  and edges  $e_i = 0i$  for  $i = 4, 5, \dots, n - 1$  and  $e_1 = 01, e_2 = 12, e_3 = 23$ . Then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.*

**Proof.** Given  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , let  $X_\sigma = \sum_{i=4}^{n-1} \sigma(i)$ . Then

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(0) \equiv X_\sigma + \sigma(1) \pmod{n},$$

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(1) \equiv \sigma(1) + \sigma(2) \pmod{n},$$

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(2) \equiv \sigma(2) + \sigma(3) \pmod{n}.$$

As  $\sigma$  is faithful and  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(i) = \sigma(i)$  for  $i = 3, 4, \dots, n - 1$ , we know that

$$\{v_{G,\sigma}^*(0), v_{G,\sigma}^*(1), v_{G,\sigma}^*(2)\} = \{0, \sigma(1), \sigma(2)\}.$$

Since none of  $\sigma(1), \sigma(2)$  is congruent to 0 modulo  $n$ , we conclude that  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(1) \neq \sigma(1), \sigma(2)$ , and hence  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(1) = 0$ . Thus  $\sigma(1) = n - \sigma(2)$ . As  $\sigma(3)$  is not congruent to 0 modulo  $n$ , we know that  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(2) \neq \sigma(2)$  and hence

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(2) = \sigma(1), \quad v_{G,\sigma}^*(0) = \sigma(2).$$

This implies that for any  $\sigma \in \Omega, \sigma^* = (210)$ . Moreover, we have  $\sigma(3) \equiv 2\sigma(1) \pmod{n}$ . As  $p \neq 3$ , for any  $a \in \mathbb{Z}_n \setminus \{0\}, a, n - a, 2a \pmod{n}$  are distinct elements. By assigning  $a$  to  $\sigma(1), n - a$  to  $\sigma(2)$  and  $2a \pmod{n}$  to  $\sigma(3)$ , and arbitrarily assigning the  $n - 4$  remaining elements in  $\{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  to the remaining edges, we obtain an element  $\sigma$  of  $\Omega$ . Therefore  $|\Omega| = (n - 1) \cdot (n - 4)!$ . As  $|\Theta| = (n - 4)!$ , we conclude that  $\sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \frac{1}{|\Theta|} \text{sign}(\sigma^*) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ . Hence  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.  $\square$

**Lemma 11.** *Assume  $G$  is a tree with vertices  $\{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  and edges  $e_i = 0i$  for  $i = 5, 6, \dots, n - 1$  and  $e_1 = 01, e_2 = 02, e_3 = 13, e_4 = 24$ . Then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.*

**Proof.** Given  $\sigma \in \Omega$ , let  $X_\sigma = \sum_{i=5}^{n-1} \sigma(i)$ . Then

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(0) \equiv X_\sigma + \sigma(1) + \sigma(2) \pmod{n}$$

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(1) \equiv \sigma(1) + \sigma(3) \pmod{n}$$

$$v_{G,\sigma}^*(2) \equiv \sigma(2) + \sigma(4) \pmod{n}.$$

Again, we have

$$\{v_{G,\sigma}^*(0), v_{G,\sigma}^*(1), v_{G,\sigma}^*(2)\} = \{\sigma(1), \sigma(2), 0\}.$$

Similarly as in the previous lemma, we know that  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(1) \neq \sigma(1)$  and  $v_{G,\sigma}^*(2) \neq \sigma(2)$ . In other words, the permutation  $\sigma^*$  over  $\{0, 1, 2\}$  satisfies  $\sigma^*(1) \neq 1$  and  $\sigma^*(2) \neq 2$ . Therefore,  $\sigma^*$  has three possibilities:

- (1)  $\sigma^* = (021)$ ; (2)  $\sigma^* = (012)$ ; (3)  $\sigma^* = (12)$ .

It is straightforward to verify that  $\sigma^*$  is of type (1) if and only if for some  $a, b \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  such that  $b \not\equiv a, -a, -2a, -\frac{1}{2}a \pmod{n}$ , the following hold

$$\sigma(1) \equiv a + b \pmod{n},$$

$$\sigma(2) = a,$$

$$\sigma(3) \equiv -(a + b) \pmod{n},$$

$$\sigma(4) = b.$$

Since  $p \geq 5$  is a prime and  $n = p^z$  for a positive integer  $z$ , for any  $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$ , the four elements  $a, -a \pmod{n}, -2a \pmod{n}, -\frac{1}{2}a \pmod{n}$  are distinct. So  $a$  has  $n - 1$  choices, and  $b$  has  $n - 5$  choices, implying that there are  $(n - 1)(n - 5)(n - 5)!$  permutations  $\sigma \in \Omega$  of type (1). Type (1) and type (2) are symmetric. So there are  $(n - 1)(n - 5)(n - 5)!$  permutations  $\sigma \in \Omega$  are of type (2). A permutation  $\sigma \in \Omega$  is of type (3) if and only if for some  $a, b \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$  such that  $b \not\equiv a, -a, -2a \pmod{n}$ , the following hold

$$\sigma(1) \equiv a + b \pmod{n},$$

$$\sigma(2) = b,$$

$$\sigma(3) \equiv -a \pmod{n},$$

$$\sigma(4) = a.$$

As  $p \geq 5$ , for any  $a \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$ , the three elements  $a$ ,  $-a \pmod{n}$ ,  $-2a \pmod{n}$  are distinct. So  $a$  has  $n-1$  choices, and  $b$  has  $n-4$  choices, implying that there are  $(n-1)(n-4)(n-5)!$  permutations  $\sigma \in \Omega$  are of type (3).

For  $\sigma$  of type (1) and type (2),  $\text{sign}(\sigma^*) = 1$ . For  $\sigma$  of type (3),  $\text{sign}(\sigma^*) = -1$ . Therefore

$$\sum_{\sigma \in \Omega} \frac{1}{|\Theta|} \text{sign}(\sigma^*) = (n-1)(2 \cdot (n-5) - (n-4)) \equiv (n-1)(n-6) \not\equiv 0 \pmod{p}.$$

This completes the proof of Lemma 11.  $\square$

**Theorem 12.** *If  $p \geq 5$  is a prime,  $G$  is a connected graph of order  $n = p^z$  for some integer  $z$  and has maximum degree at least  $n-3$ , then  $G$  is weighted-1-antimagic.*

**Proof.** If  $G$  is a connected graph of maximum degree at least  $n-3$ , then  $G$  has a spanning tree which is either a star or a double star with one vertex of degree 2 or 3, or a tree as described in Lemma 10 or in Lemma 11. The results above show that such a tree is weighted-1-antimagic. Therefore  $G$  itself is weighted-1-antimagic.  $\square$

**Remark.** We may define a graph  $G$  to be *weighted- $k$ -antimagic choosable* if the following hold: for any list assignment  $L$  which assigns to each edge  $e$  a set  $L(e)$  of  $|E| + k$  permissible weights (integers) and for any weight function  $w$  on the vertex set of  $G$ , there is a mapping  $f$  which assigns to each edge  $e$  a distinct weight  $f(e) \in L(e)$  so that for any two vertices  $i, j$ ,  $\sum_{e \in E(i)} f(e) + w(i) \neq \sum_{e \in E(j)} f(e) + w(j)$ . The graphs proved to be weighted-1-antimagic are actually weighted-1-antimagic choosable graphs.

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