

## 3-product cordial labeling of some snake graphs

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### Abstract

Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph. A mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  is called 3-product cordial labeling if  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for any  $i, j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , where  $v_f(i)$  denotes the number of vertices labeled with  $i$ ,  $e_f(i)$  denotes the number of edges  $xy$  with  $f(x)f(y) \equiv i \pmod{3}$ . A graph with 3-product cordial labeling is called 3-product cordial graph. In this paper we investigate the 3-product cordial behavior of alternate triangular snake, double alternate triangular snake and triangular snake graphs.

**Keywords** : cordial labeling, product cordial labeling, 3-product cordial labeling, 3-product cordial graph, alternate triangular snake, double alternate triangular snake, triangular snake graph.

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## 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges. All graphs considered here are simple, finite, connected and undirected. For basic notations and terminology, we follow [3]. A graph labeling is an assignment of integers to the vertices or edges or both, subject to certain conditions. There are several types of labeling and a complete survey of graph labeling is available in [2]. Cordial labeling is a weaker version of graceful labeling and harmonious labeling introduced by Cahit in [1]. Let  $f$  be a function from the vertices of  $G$  to  $\{0, 1\}$  and for each edge  $xy$  assign the label  $|f(x) - f(y)|$ .  $f$  is called a cordial labeling of  $G$  if the number of vertices labeled 0 and the number of vertices labeled 1 differ by at most 1, and the number of edges labeled 0 and the number of edges labeled 1 differ at most by 1. Let  $f$  be a function from  $V(G)$  to  $\{0, 1\}$ . For each edge  $uv$ , assign the label  $f(u)f(v)$ . Then  $f$  is called product cordial labeling if  $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$  where  $v_f(i)$  and  $e_f(i)$  denotes the number of vertices and edges respectively labeled with  $i$  ( $i = 0, 1$ ). Sundaram et al. introduced the concept of EP-cordial labeling in [9]. A vertex labeling  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 0, 1\}$  is said to be an EP-cordial labeling if it induces the edge labeling  $f^*$  defined by  $f^*(uv) = f(u)f(v)$  for each  $uv \in E(G)$  and if  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for any  $i \neq j$ ,  $i, j \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ , where  $v_f(x)$  and  $e_f(x)$  denotes the number of vertices and edges of  $G$  having the label  $x \in \{-1, 0, 1\}$ . In [8] it is remarked that any EP-cordial labeling is 3-product cordial labeling. A mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  is called 3-product cordial labeling if  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for any  $i, j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ , where  $v_f(i)$  denotes the number of vertices labeled with  $i$ ,  $e_f(i)$  denotes the number of edges  $xy$  with  $f(x)f(y) \equiv i \pmod{3}$ . A graph with 3-product cordial labeling is called 3-product cordial graph. Jeyanthi and Maheswari [4]-[7] proved that the graphs  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle$ ,  $C_n \cup P_n$ ,  $C_m \circ \overline{K_n}$  if  $m \geq 3$  and  $n \geq 1$ ,  $P_m \circ \overline{K_n}$  if  $m, n \geq 1$ , duplicating arbitrary vertex of a cycle  $C_n$ , duplicating arbitrary edge of a cycle  $C_n$ , duplicating arbitrary vertex of a wheel  $W_n$ , middle graph of  $P_n$ , the splitting graph of  $P_n$ , total graph of  $P_n$ ,  $P_n[P_2]$ ,  $P_n^2$ ,  $K_{2,n}$ , vertex switching of  $C_n$ , ladder  $L_n$ , triangular ladder  $TL_n$ , graph  $\langle w_n^{(1)}, w_n^{(2)} \dots w_n^{(k)} \rangle$ , splitting graphs  $S'(K_{1,n})$ ,  $S'(B_{n,n})$ , shadow graph  $D_2(B_{n,n})$ , square graph  $B_{n,n}^2$  and star graphs are 3-product cordial graphs. Also they proved that a complete graph  $K_n$  is a 3-product cordial graph if and only if  $n \leq 2$ .

In addition, they proved that if  $G(p, q)$  is a 3-product cordial graph  
 (i)  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  then  $q \leq \frac{p^2 - 2p + 7}{3}$ . (ii)  $p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  then  $q \leq \frac{p^2 - p + 4}{3}$  (iii)

$p \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$  then  $q \leq \frac{p^2-3p+6}{3}$  and if  $G_1$  is a 3-product cordial graph with  $3m$  vertices and  $3n$  edges and  $G_2$  is any 3-product cordial graph then  $G_1 \cup G_2$  is also 3-product cordial graph.

We use the following definitions in the subsequent section.

**Definition 1.1.** A triangular snake  $T_n$  is obtained from a path  $P_n$  by replacing each edge of the path by a triangle  $C_3$ .

**Definition 1.2.** An alternate triangular snake  $A(T_n)$  is obtained from a path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  by joining  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+1}$  (alternately) to a new vertex  $v_i$ . That is every alternate edge of path is replaced by  $C_3$ . We have three types of alternate triangular snake namely (i).  $A_1(T_n)$ - the triangle starts from  $u_1$  and ends with  $u_n$ , (ii).  $A_2(T_n)$  - the triangle starts from  $u_1$  and ends with  $u_{n-1}$  (or the triangle starts from  $u_2$ , ends with  $u_n$ ) and (iii).  $A_3(T_n)$  - if the triangle starts from  $u_2$  and ends with  $u_{n-1}$ .

**Definition 1.3.** A double alternate triangular snake  $DA(T_n)$  consists of two alternate triangular snakes that have a common path. That is, a double alternate triangular snake is obtained from a path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  by joining  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+1}$  (alternately) to two new vertices  $v_i$  and  $w_i$ . We have three types of double alternate triangular snake namely (i).  $DA_1(T_n)$  - the double triangle starts from  $u_1$  and ends with  $u_n$ , (ii).  $DA_2(T_n)$  - the double triangle starts from  $u_1$  and ends with  $u_{n-1}$  (or the triangle starts from  $u_2$ , ends with  $u_n$ ) and (iii).  $DA_3(T_n)$  - the double triangle starts from  $u_2$  and ends with  $u_{n-1}$ . For any real number  $n$ ,  $\lceil n \rceil$  denotes the smallest integer  $\geq n$  and  $\lfloor n \rfloor$  denotes the greatest integer  $\leq n$ .

## 2. Main Results

In this section we investigate the 3-product cordial behaviour of alternate triangular snake, double alternate triangular snake and triangular snake graphs.

Let  $A(T_n)$  be an alternate triangular snake graph obtained from a path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  by joining  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+1}$  (alternately) to a new vertex  $v_i$  where  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  for even  $n$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n-2$  for odd  $n$ .

Therefore,  $V(A(T_n)) = \{u_i, v_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\}$ .

We note that  $|V(A(T_n))| = \begin{cases} \frac{3n}{2}, & n \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ \frac{3n-1}{2}, & n \equiv 1(\text{mod}2), \end{cases}$  and

$$|E(A(T_n))| = \begin{cases} 2n - 1, & n \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2n - 2, & n \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 2.1.** (1). An alternate triangular snake graph  $A_1(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph if and only if  $n \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}3)$ .

(2). An alternate triangular snake graph  $A_2(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph.

(3). An alternate triangular snake graph  $A_3(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph.

**Proof.** (1). Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(A_1(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the following two cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(A_1(T_n))| = \frac{9k}{2}$  and  $|E(A_1(T_n))| = 6k - 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k, \\ f(u_i) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k, \\ f(v_i) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) + 1 = e_f(2) = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(A_1(T_n))| = \frac{9k+3}{2}$  and  $|E(A_1(T_n))| = 6k + 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1, \\ f(u_i) &= \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}, f(v_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k+1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k+1}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) - 1 = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

Conversely assume that  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and take  $n = 3k + 2$ . Then  $|V(A_1(T_n))| = 3 \left( \frac{3k+2}{2} \right)$  and  $|E(A_1(T_n))| = 6k + 3$ . Hence we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k+2}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 2k + 1$ . If either  $f(u_i) = 0$  or  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{3k}{2} + 1$  then  $e_f(0) = 3k + 2$ . If  $f(u_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$  and  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$  then  $e_f(0) = 2k + 2$ . If  $f(u_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$  and  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$  then  $e_f(0) = \frac{5k}{2} + 2$ . In each case we get  $e_f(0) > 2k + 1$ . Hence,  $f$  is not a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

(2). Here  $|V(A_2(T_n))| = \frac{3n-1}{2}$  and  $|E(A_2(T_n))| = 2n - 2$ . Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(A_2(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the following three cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(A_2(T_n))| = \frac{9k}{2} - 1$  and  $|E(A_2(T_n))| = 6k - 2$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k, \\ f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } k > 1, 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k-1}{2}, f(v_i) = 0;$$

$$\text{For } i = \frac{k-1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k, \\ f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) - 1 = v_f(2) = \frac{3k-1}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) + 1 = e_f(2) + 1 = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(A_2(T_n))| = \frac{9k+2}{2}$  and  $|E(A_2(T_n))| = 6k - 1$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) - 1 = v_f(2) = \frac{3k}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (iii).**  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Then  $|V(A_2(T_n))| = \frac{9k+5}{2}$  and  $|E(A_2(T_n))| = 6k + 2$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 2,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}, f(v_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k+1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) - 1 = \frac{3k+1}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) + 1 = 2k + 1$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

(3). Here  $|V(A_3(T_n))| = \frac{3n-2}{2}$  and  $|E(A_3(T_n))| = 2n - 3$ .

Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(A_3(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the following three cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(A_3(T_n))| = \frac{9k}{2} - 1$  and  $|E(A_3(T_n))| = 6k - 3$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

For  $k > 2$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k-2}{2}$ ,  $f(v_i) = 0$ ;

$$\text{For } i = \frac{k-2}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 2k - 1$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(A_3(T_n))| = \frac{9k+1}{2}$  and  $|E(A_3(T_n))| = 6k - 1$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1$ ,

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

For  $k > 1$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k-1}{2}$ ,  $f(v_i) = 0$ ;

$$\text{For } i = \frac{k-1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k+1}{2}$  and  $e_f(0) + 1 = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (iii).**  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ ,  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Then  $|V(A_3(T_n))| = \frac{9k+4}{2}$  and  $|E(A_3(T_n))| = 6k + 1$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1$ ,

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

$$f(u_n) = 2;$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ ,  $f(v_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = \frac{k}{2} + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = \frac{3k}{2} + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) - 1 = 2k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ .

□

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $A_1(T_{10})$  is shown in Figure 1.

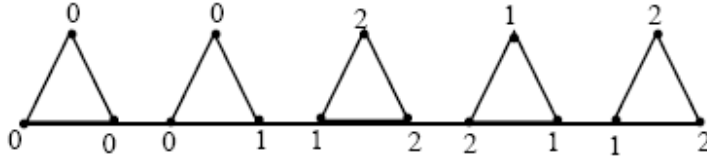


Figure 1

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $A_2(T_9)$  is shown in Figure 2.

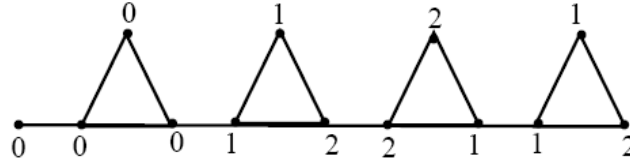


Figure 2

**Theorem 2.2.** (1). A double alternate triangular snake graph  $DA_1(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph.

(2). A double alternate triangular snake graph  $DA_2(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph if and only if  $n \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}3)$ .

(3). A double alternate triangular snake graph  $DA_3(T_n)$  is a 3-product cordial graph.

**Proof.** (1). Here  $|V(DA_1(T_n))| = 2n$  and  $|E(DA_1(T_n))| = 3n - 1$ . Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(DA_1(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the



following two cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(DA_1(T_n))| = 6k$  and  $|E(DA_1(T_n))| = 9k - 1$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k$ ,

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = f(w_i) = 0$ ;

For  $i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) + 1 = 3k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(DA_1(T_n))| = 6k + 2$  and  $|E(DA_1(T_n))| = 9k + 2$ .

For  $k > 1, 1 \leq i \leq k - 1, f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k - 1 + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 2$ ;

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}, f(v_i) = f(w_i) = 0$ ;

For  $i = \frac{k+1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) + 1 = 3k + 1$ . Thus we have

$|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (iii).**  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Then  $|V(DA_1(T_n))| = 6k + 4$  and  $|E(DA_1(T_n))| = 9k + 5$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 2,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k + 1,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2} + 1, f(w_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = \frac{k}{2} + 1 + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) - 1 = v_f(2) = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) + 1 = e_f(2) = 3k + 2$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ .

(2). Suppose that  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ ,  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Hence  $|V(DA_2(T_n))| = 6k + 3$  and  $|E(DA_2(T_n))| = 9k + 3$ .

Assume that  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling. Hence we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k + 1$ . If  $f(u_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 2k + 1$  then  $e_f(0) = 6k + 3$ .

If  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$  and  $f(w_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  then  $e_f(0) = 4k + 2$ . If  $f(u_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}$  and  $f(w_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}$  then  $e_f(0) = 3k + 2$ . In either case we get a contradiction. Hence,  $f$  is not a 3-product cordial labeling if  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ .

Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(DA_2(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the following two cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(DA_2(T_n))| = 6k - 1$  and  $|E(DA_2(T_n))| = 9k - 3$ . For  $k \succ 1, 1 \leq i \leq k - 1, f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k - 1 + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1,$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

For  $k \succ 1, 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k-1}{2}, f(v_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = \frac{k-1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}; \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}; \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}, f(w_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = \frac{k+1}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k - 1,$

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k - 1$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . Take  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(DA_2(T_n))| = 6k + 1$  and  $|E(DA_2(T_n))| = 9k$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1,$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = f(w_i) = 0$ ;

For  $i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2}; \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}. \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) + 1 = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

(3). Here  $|V(DA_3(T_n))| = 2n - 2$  and  $|E(DA_3(T_n))| = 3n - 5$ . Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(DA_3(T_n)) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  by considering the following three cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(DA_3(T_n))| = 6k - 2$  and  $|E(DA_3(T_n))| = 9k - 5$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ ,  $f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k - 1 + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1$ ,

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}$ ,  $f(v_i) = f(w_i) = 0$ ;

For  $i = \frac{k}{2} + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k - 1$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) + 1 = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) - 1 = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k - 2$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 1$ .

Then  $|V(DA_3(T_n))| = 6k$  and  $|E(DA_3(T_n))| = 9k - 2$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = k + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1$ ,

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

For  $k > 1$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k-1}{2}$ ,  $f(v_i) = 0$ ;

For  $i = \frac{k-1}{2} + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{k+1}{2}$ ,  $f(w_i) = 0$ ; For  $i = \frac{k+1}{2} + j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k - 1$ ,

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) + 1 = e_f(2) + 1 = 3k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (iii).**  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Then  $|V(DA_3(T_n))| = 6k + 2$  and  $|E(DA_3(T_n))| = 9k + 1$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0; \text{ For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 2,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 2, 3(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 1(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{k}{2}, f(v_i) = f(w_i) = 0;$$

$$\text{For } i = \frac{k}{2} + j, 1 \leq j \leq k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2); \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(w_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) - 1 = 3k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ .

□

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $DA_3(T_{10})$  is shown in Figure 3.

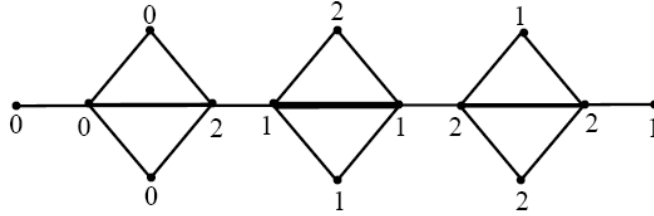


Figure 3

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $DA_2(T_7)$  is shown in Figure 4.

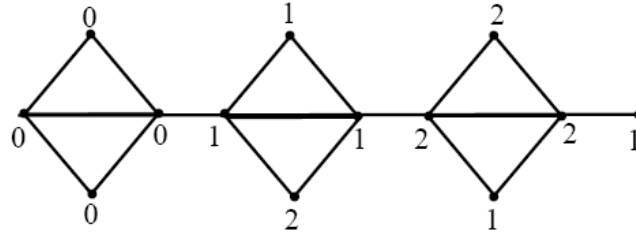


Figure 4

**Theorem 2.3.** *A triangular snake  $T_n$  admits 3-product cordial labeling if (i).  $n \equiv 0(mod3)$ . (ii).  $n \equiv 1(mod3)$ ,  $n$  is odd. Also  $T_n$  is not a 3-product cordial graph if  $n \equiv 2(mod3)$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $P_n$  be the path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ . Let  $V(T_n) = V(P_n) \cup \{v_i/1 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$  and  $E(T_n) = E(P_n) \cup \{u_i v_i, v_i u_{i+1}/1 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$ . In this graph  $|V(T_n)| = 2n - 1$  and  $|E(T_n)| = 3n - 3$ .

Define a vertex labeling  $f : V(T_n) \rightarrow 0, 1, 2$  by considering the following cases.

**Case (i).**  $n \equiv 0(mod3)$ . Take  $n = 3k$ .

Then  $|V(T_n)| = 6k - 1$  and  $|E(T_n)| = 9k - 3$ .

For  $1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = 0$ ; For  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1, f(v_i) = 0$ ;

$$\text{For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k - 1,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(u_{3k}) = 2;$$

$$\text{For } i = k - 1 + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2), k \text{ is even} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2), k \text{ is even}; \end{cases}$$

and

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2), k \text{ is odd} \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2), k \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) + 1 = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k - 1$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod}3)$ .

**Case (ii).**  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$ , Take  $n = 3k + 1$ ,  $k$  is even.  
Then  $|V(T_n)| = 6k + 1$  and  $|E(T_n)| = 9k$ .

$$\text{For } 1 \leq i \leq k, f(u_i) = f(v_i) = 0;$$

$$\text{For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k + 1,$$

$$f(u_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 1, 2(\text{mod}4) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 0, 3(\text{mod}4); \end{cases}$$

$$\text{For } i = k + j, 1 \leq j \leq 2k,$$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } j \equiv 0(\text{mod}2) \\ 2, & \text{if } j \equiv 1(\text{mod}2). \end{cases}$$

In view of the above labeling pattern we have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) - 1 = v_f(2) = 2k$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k$ . Thus we have  $|v_f(i) - v_f(j)| \leq 1$  and  $|e_f(i) - e_f(j)| \leq 1$  for all  $i, j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence,  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling when  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod}3)$  if  $k$  is even.

**Case (iii).**  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ . Take  $n = 3k + 2$ .

Then  $|V(T_n)| = 6k + 3$  and  $|E(T_n)| = 9k + 3$ . Assume that  $f$  is a 3-product cordial labeling. We have  $v_f(0) = v_f(1) = v_f(2) = 2k + 1$  and  $e_f(0) = e_f(1) = e_f(2) = 3k + 1$ . If we assign  $f(u_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$  and  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  then  $e_f(0) = 3k + 2$ .

If we assign  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  and  $f(v_i) = 0$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k + 1$  then  $e_f(0) = 3k + 2$ .

In either case we get a contradiction. Hence,  $f$  is not a 3-product cordial labeling if  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod}3)$ .  $\square$

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $T_7$  is shown in Figure 5.

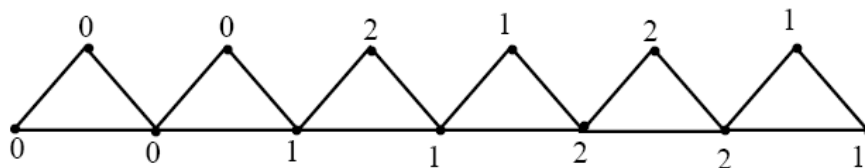


Figure 5

An example of 3-product cordial labeling of  $T_9$  is shown in Figure 6.

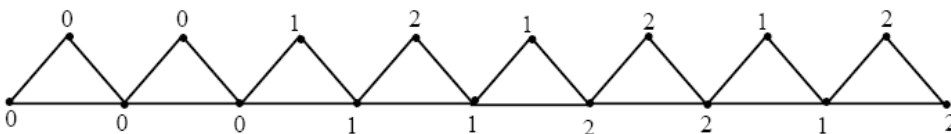


Figure 6

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