

The Structural Properties of Even Free Graphs

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we introduced Group theoretic graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} , even free graph associated with the finite abelian group (Z_{2n}, \oplus) for each $n \geq 1$, also we explore structural properties of \mathcal{E}_{2n} and including enumeration of edges and cycles in \mathcal{E}_{2n} .

General Terms

Graph theory, Group theory and Combinatorics.

Keywords

Even integers group, Even free graph, Cycles, Bipartite and Complete Bipartite graph.

1. INTRODUCTION

For standard terminology and notation in graph theory we refer Vityal [10] and Harary [6]. We look up Bhattacharya [2] for group theoretic properties. A graph G is a pair (V, E) , where V is a non-empty finite set, and E is a set of unordered pairs (x, y) of elements x and y of V . The elements of V are called the vertices of G and the elements of E are the edges of G . The study of algebraic structures using the properties of graphs has become an explicating research topic in the last twenty years. There are many papers on assigning a graph to a group, see [2,7]. The text books on algebraic graph theory by Godsil and Royal [5] provide much information about graphs and groups. The structure and various structural properties of algebraic graphs have been studied in literature see [9, 12].

In this paper, we consider even free graph of the group of additive integers modulo $2n$. This graph is inter related between two special branches of Mathematics, namely Group theory and Combinatorics.

2. NOTATION AND BASIC PROPERTIES

In this section we set up the notation, include some useful definitions and observe a few basic properties that follow directly from the definitions.

In this text all groups are assumed to be non-zero, finite commutative and with 1. As usual all graphs are finite simple undirected graphs.

For each positive integer $n \geq 1$, the algebraic structure

(Z_{2n}, \oplus) is a finite abelian group with respect to integers modulo $2n$. Further $S = \{2x : x \in Z_n\}$ is a subgroup of $(Z_n,$

$\oplus)$, which is called **even integers group** of modulus n . Especially we have $S = Z_{2n-1}$ but $S \neq Z_n$ for $n \geq 1$.

The degree of a vertex u , $deg(u)$ in G is the number of edges incident at u . If degree of each vertex is equal, say r in G , then G is called r -regular graph. Vertices u and v of a graph G are adjacent if $(u, v) \in E(G)$.

A walk in a graph G is an attending sequence of vertices and edges beginning and ending with vertices. A closed walk in which all the vertices are distinct is called a cycle. It is written as

$$C = (v_1, v_2, v_3 \dots v_n, v_1).$$

A graph is called connected if any two vertices are connected by some path and a graph in which every pair of vertices is an edge is called complete. A graph G is called bipartite if its vertex set V can be partitioned into two disjoint sets V_1 and V_2 called parts in such a way that every edge connects vertices from different sets. A complete bipartite graph is a bipartite graph in which every vertex from part V_1 is adjacent to every vertex from part V_2 .

3. THE STRUCTURE AND PROPERTIES OF THE EVEN FREE GRAPH

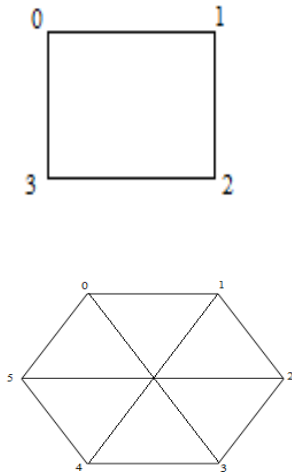
In this section we introduce the notation of the even free graph associated with group (Z_{2n}, \oplus) . For each $n \geq 1$ there exist several even free graphs. These graphs are motivated from Mangoldt graphs [8]. Now we study the structure and several properties of these even free graphs.

3.1 Definition

For each positive integer $n \geq 1$ the **even free graph** $\mathcal{E}_{2n} = G(V, E)$ is the graph whose vertex set is $V = Z_{2n}$ and in which edge set E is the set of unordered pairs (x, y) is an edge if and only if x and y are distinct elements of Z_{2n} such that $x + y$ is free from an even integer of modulo $2n$.

The graphs \mathcal{E}_{2n-1} and \mathcal{E}_{2n+1} are both null graphs for each $n \geq 1$. For this reason, the graph \mathcal{E}_n is connected if and only if n is even. Throughout the text we consider the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} for each positive integer $n \geq 1$.

Two examples of even free graphs \mathcal{E}_4 and \mathcal{E}_6 are displayed in following figures respectively.



3.2 Proposition

Let v be any vertex of the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} , then its degree, $deg(v) = n$.

Proof: Let $u, v \in Z_{2n}$ then (u, v) is an edge of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} if and only if $u + v$ is free from an even integer. So the vertex v can be written as $v = 2n - 1 - u$ for any $n \geq 1$. Thus the vertex v is adjacent to all the distinct vertices of the type $2n - 1 - u$ in \mathcal{E}_{2n} . If u is either odd or even, then the number of vertices of the type $2n - 1 - u$ in \mathcal{E}_{2n} is equal to

$$\frac{|Z_{2n}|}{2} = n.$$

Thus the number of edges incident at the vertex v is n , and hence $deg(v) = n$.

This proposition has a number of useful consequences.

3.3 Corollary

The even free Graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is n -regular for all $n \geq 1$.

Proof: The degree of a vertex v , $deg(v)$ in \mathcal{E}_{2n} is the number of edges incident at v . Due to Proposition 2.2, the degree of each vertex is equal and it is n . Hence \mathcal{E}_{2n} is n -regular for each $n \geq 1$.

Next we establish enumeration of edges in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} .

3.4 Corollary

The total number of edges in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is n^2 .

Proof: The total number of edges of \mathcal{E}_{2n} is half the total degree of \mathcal{E}_{2n} . From Proposition 2.2, all vertices of \mathcal{E}_{2n} have the same degree; we simply multiply the degree of a vertex of \mathcal{E}_{2n} by $\frac{n}{2}$. Thus the total number of edges in \mathcal{E}_{2n} is equal to

$$\frac{n}{2} |Z_{2n}| = \frac{n}{2} (2n) = n^2.$$

3.5 Corollary

The graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is Eulerian for each even integer n .

Proof: The graph is Eulerian if and only if every vertex of graphs is of even degree [6]. From Proposition 2.2, $deg(v) = n$ for each vertex of \mathcal{E}_{2n} . If n is even, and then $deg(v)$ is even. Hence the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is Eulerian if and only if n is even. Further \mathcal{E}_{2n} is non-Eulerian if and only if n is odd.

3.6 Example

The graphs \mathcal{E}_{12} and \mathcal{E}_{14} are Eulerian and non-Eulerian graphs respectively.

4. ENUMERATION OF CYCLES

In this section we enumerate number of odd and even cycles, and to study the complete bipartite property of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} .

A triad (x, y, z) is a triangle if and only if the pairs (x, y) , (y, z) , (z, x) are edges of the undirected graph, and the **triangle** is also called **3-cycle** and its length is 3, and hence it is the shortest cycle of any undirected graph.

The following theorem illustrates the enumeration of triangles, and hence to enumerate the total number of odd cycles in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} for each $n \geq 1$.

4.1 Theorem

The number of triangles in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is zero.

Proof: Let $u, v, w \in Z_{2n}$. Then u, v and w are any three vertices of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} . For any $u, v, w \in Z_{2n}$, we have at least one of $u + v, v + w, w + u$ is an even integer, it follows that at least one of the pair (u, v) , (v, w) , (w, u) is not an edge of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} . Thus a triad (u, v, w) is not a triangle in the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} . Hence the total number of triangles in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is zero.

An immediate consequence of theorem worth nothing is what occurs when k -cycle exists in \mathcal{E}_{2n} where k is odd. We see that if k is odd, then \mathcal{E}_{2n} does not contain an odd cycle. This gives \mathcal{E}_{2n} is a bipartite graph. There is a special relation between bipartite graphs and cycles, and it states that a graph is bipartite if and only if it has no odd cycles [6]. Hence \mathcal{E}_{2n} is bipartite graph.

4.2 Theorem

The even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is complete bipartite graph for each $n \geq 1$.

Proof: For each $n \geq 1$, the set $V = Z_{2n}$ is the vertex set of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} . It can be partitioned into two non-empty disjoint subsets V_1 and V_2 such that

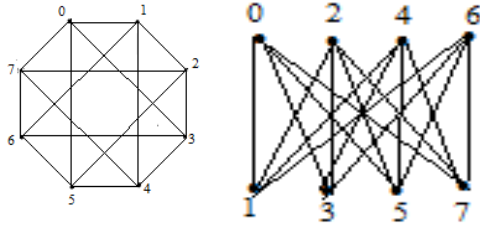
$$V_1 = \{0, 2, 4, \dots, 2n - 2\} \text{ and}$$

$$V_2 = \{1, 3, 5, \dots, 2n - 1\}$$

Here every edge of \mathcal{E}_{2n} joining a vertex of V_1 and a vertex of V_2 . Hence \mathcal{E}_{2n} is complete bipartite graph.

4.3 Example

The even free graph and its complete bipartite graph of \mathcal{E}_8 are given below.



The following theorem illustrates the enumeration of k – cycles in the even free graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} for each $n \geq 2$, where k is even.

4.4 Theorem

The total number of k - cycles in the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is $(n_{C_{k/2}})^2$ where k is even and $4 \leq k < 2n$.

Proof: Let $n \geq 2$ be a positive integer and $k \geq 4$ be an even positive integer then the k -cycles in the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is either of the form $(0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, k, 0)$ or $(0, k, k - 1, \dots, 1, 0)$. Either of these two cycles shows that between any two odd integers there exist an even integer and vice versa. Since $k \geq 4$ is an even integer .It follows that $\frac{k}{2}$ is either even or odd integer .So that the k - cycle in the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} contains $\frac{k}{2}$ even and $\frac{k}{2}$ odd integers. The number of arrangements of $\frac{k}{2}$ odd integers are arranged between different fixed $\frac{k}{2}$ even integers from a collection of $n(= \frac{2n}{2})$ integers is $n_{C_{k/2}}$ and similarly each one of these arrangements is a k - cycle of the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} . So by the product rule of Combinatorics [1, 11], the total number of k -cycles in the graph \mathcal{E}_{2n} is

$$(n_{C_{k/2}})(n_{C_{k/2}}) = (n_{C_{k/2}})^2.$$

4.5 Example

For $n = 3$, the total number of 4-cycles in the graph \mathcal{E}_6 is 9, which are represented the following vertex sequences.

$$(0, 1, 2, 3, 0), (0, 1, 2, 5, 0), (0, 3, 2, 5, 0) \\
(0, 1, 4, 3, 0), (0, 1, 4, 5, 0), (0, 3, 4, 5, 0) \\
(1, 2, 3, 4, 1), (1, 2, 5, 4, 1), (2, 3, 4, 5, 2).$$

5. CONCLUSION

In this paper, we have introduced a new graph structure, called even free graph. An important outcome of this paper is that for all even values to $2n$ of $n \geq 1$, even free graph is regular simple undirected graph. Some other properties related

to degree of vertices, enumeration of edges and cycles, and complete bipartite property has also been examined. It will be interesting to find out the number of Hamilton cycles in the even free graph.

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