

CYCLIC ORTHOGONAL DOUBLE COVERS OF 6-REGULAR CIRCULANT GRAPHS BY DISCONNECTED FORESTS

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ABSTRACT. An orthogonal double cover (ODC) of a graph H is a collection $\mathcal{G} = \{G_v : v \in V(H)\}$ of $|V(H)|$ subgraphs of H such that every edge of H is contained in exactly two members of \mathcal{G} and for any two members G_u and G_v in \mathcal{G} , $|E(G_u) \cap E(G_v)|$ is 1 if u and v are adjacent in H and is 0 if u and v are nonadjacent in H . An ODC \mathcal{G} of H is *cyclic* if the cyclic group of order $|V(H)|$ is a subgroup of the automorphism group of \mathcal{G} ; otherwise it is *noncyclic*. Recently, Sampathkumar and Srinivasan settled the problem of the existence of cyclic ODCs of 4-regular circulant graphs. An ODC \mathcal{G} of H is *cyclic* (CODC) if the cyclic group of order $|V(H)|$ is a subgroup of the automorphism group of \mathcal{G} , the set of all automorphisms of \mathcal{G} ; otherwise it is *noncyclic*. In this paper, we have completely settled the existence problem of CODCs of 6-regular circulant graphs by four acyclic disconnected graphs.

Keywords: Orthogonal double covers of graphs, Labellings of graphs, Circulant graphs

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1. INTRODUCTION

Let H be any graph and let $\mathcal{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_{|V(H)|}\}$ be a collection of $|V(H)|$ subgraphs of H . \mathcal{G} is a *double cover* (DC) of H if every edge of H is contained in exactly two members in \mathcal{G} . If $G_i \cong G$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, |V(H)|\}$, then \mathcal{G} is a *DC* of H by G . If \mathcal{G} is a DC of H by G , then $|V(H)||E(G)| = 2|E(H)|$.

A DC \mathcal{G} of H is an *orthogonal double cover* (ODC) of H if there exists a bijective mapping $\phi : V(H) \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ such that for every choice of distinct vertices u and v in $V(H)$, $|E(\phi(u)) \cap E(\phi(v))|$ is 1 if $uv \in E(H)$ and is 0 otherwise. If $G_i \cong G$ for all $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, |V(H)|\}$, then \mathcal{G} is an *ODC* of H by G .

An *automorphism* of an ODC $\mathcal{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_{|V(H)|}\}$ of H is a permutation $\pi : V(H) \rightarrow V(H)$ such that $\{\pi(G_1), \pi(G_2), \dots, \pi(G_{|V(H)|})\} = \mathcal{G}$, where for $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, |V(H)|\}$, $\pi(G_i)$ is a subgraph of H with $V(\pi(G_i)) = \{\pi(v) : v \in V(G_i)\}$ and $E(\pi(G_i)) = \{\pi(u)\pi(v) : uv \in E(G_i)\}$. An ODC \mathcal{G} of H is *cyclic* (CODC) if the cyclic group of order $|V(H)|$ is a subgroup of the automorphism group of \mathcal{G} , the set of all automorphisms of \mathcal{G} ; otherwise it is *noncyclic*.

For results on ODCs of graphs, see [3], a survey by Gronau et al.

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Consider the complete graph $K_n = Circ(n; \{1, 2, 3, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\})$. Recall that: given a graph $G = (V, E)$ with $n - 1$ edges, a 1-1 mapping $\psi : V \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$ is an *orthogonal labelling* of G if:

- (i) for every $\ell \in \{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor\}$, G contains exactly *two* edges of length ℓ , and exactly *one* edge of length $\frac{n}{2}$ if n is even, and
- (ii) $\{r(\ell) : \ell \in \{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor\}\} = \{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor\}$.

Following theorem of Gronau, Mullin and Rosa [2] relates CODCs of K_n and orthogonal labellings.

Theorem 1.1. [2] *A CODC of K_n by a graph G exists if and only if there exists an orthogonal labelling of G .*

Sampathkumar and Simaringa called an orthogonal labelling as an orthogonal $\{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\}$ -labelling and generalized it to an orthogonal $\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$ -labelling, where $\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$ is a sequence of positive integers with $1 \leq d_1 < d_2 < \dots < d_k \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$.

I. *Either n is odd or n is even and $d_k \neq \frac{n}{2}$:*

Given a subgraph G of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\})$ with $2k$ edges, a labelling of G , in \mathbb{Z}_n , is an *orthogonal $\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$ -labelling* of G if:

- (i) for every $\ell \in \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$, G contains exactly *two* edges of length ℓ , and
- (ii) $\{r(\ell) : \ell \in \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}\} = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$.

II. *n is even and $d_k = \frac{n}{2}$:*

Given a subgraph G of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}, \frac{n}{2}\})$ with $2k - 1$ edges, a labelling of G , in \mathbb{Z}_n , is an *orthogonal $\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}, \frac{n}{2}\}$ -labelling* of G if:

- (i) for every $\ell \in \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}\}$, G contains exactly *two* edges of length ℓ , and G contains exactly *one* edge of length $\frac{n}{2}$, and
- (ii) $\{r(\ell) : \ell \in \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}\}\} = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_{k-1}\}$.

Following theorem, of Sampathkumar and Simaringa [4], is a generalization of Theorem 1.1. Proof of Theorem 1.2 is similar to that of Theorem 1.1.

Theorem 1.2. *A CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\})$ by a graph G exists if and only if there exists an orthogonal $\{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k\}$ -labelling of G .*

In [5] Sampathkumar and Srinivasan have completely settled the existence problem of CODCs 4-regular circulant graphs by any graph G with 4 edges,

In [6] Sampathkumar and Srinivasan have completely settled the existence problem of CODCs 5-regular circulant graphs by any graph G with 5 edges,

In [7], Sampathkumar and Srinivasan have completely settled the existence problem of CODCs of 6-regular circulant graphs by trees. In this paper we have completely settled the existence problem of CODCs of 6-regular circulant graphs by ten acyclic disconnected graphs. Recall that, for ODCs of 6-regular circulant graphs by a graph G , G has to have six edges.

Throughout the article we make use of the usual notations:

K_n for the complete graph on n vertices,

$K_{m,n}$ for the complete bipartite graph with independent sets of sizes m and n ,

K_{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k} for the complete k -partite graph in which partite sets are of sizes n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k ,

P_n for the path on n vertices,

C_n for the cycle on n vertices,

ℓG for ℓ disjoint copies of G and

$G + H$ for the disjoint union $G \cup H$ of G and H .

Let n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r , $r \geq 1$, be integers, $n_1, n_r \geq 1$ and $n_i \geq 0$ for $i \in \{2, 3, \dots, r-1\}$. The *caterpillar* $C_r(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_r)$ is the tree obtained from the path $P_r := x_1 x_2 \dots x_r$ by joining vertex x_i to n_i new vertices, $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}$.

Other terminology not defined here can be found in [1].

2. SECTION 2

Let $1 \leq d_1 < d_2 < d_3 \leq \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor$, and G be any simple acyclic disconnected graph with six edges. Then $G \in \{6K_2, P_3 + 4K_2, 2P_3 + 2K_2, K_{1,3} + 3K_2, P_4 + 3K_2, 3P_3, P_4 + P_3 + K_2, K_{1,3} + P_3 + K_2, P_5 + 2K_2, K_{1,4} + 2K_2, C_2(1, 2) + 2K_2, 2P_4, K_{1,3} + P_4, 2K_{1,3}, P_5 + P_3, K_{1,4} + P_3, C_2(1, 2) + P_3, P_6 + K_2, C_3(1, 0, 2) + K_2, C_3(1, 1, 1) + K_2, C_2(1, 3) + K_2, C_2(2, 2) + K_2, K_{1,5} + K_2\}$. In this section, we find a CODC of the circulant graph $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by G , where $G \in \{K_{1,4} + 2K_2, K_{1,5} + K_2, K_{1,3} + P_4, 2K_{1,3}\}$. By Theorem 1.2, we have to find a 1-1 mapping $\psi : V(G) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_n$ such that G contains two edges of length d_1 , two edges of length d_2 , two edges of length d_3 , and $\{r(d_1), r(d_2), r(d_3)\} = \{d_1, d_2, d_3\}$.

Theorem 2.1. *Let $n \geq 9$. A CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,4} + 2K_2$ exists if and only if $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \notin \{(\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7}), (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{n}{4}, \frac{3n}{8})\}$.*

Proof: First assume that $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \notin \{(\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7}), (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{n}{4}, \frac{3n}{8})\}$.

Case 1. $d_2 \neq 2d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{d_3 - d_1, d_3\}$ and $\{d_3 - d_1 + d_2, d_3 + d_2\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_3 - d_2, d_3\}$ and $\{d_3 - d_2 + d_1, d_3 + d_1\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{0, d_3\}$ and $\{d_3, 2d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_2, r(d_2) = d_1$, and $r(d_3) = d_3$.

Case 2. $d_2 = 2d_1$.

Subcase 2.1. $d_3 \neq 3d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_1\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of $2d_1$ are $\{n - 2d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, 2d_1\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$ and $\{0, d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_3, r(2d_1) = 2d_1$, and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Subcase 2.2. $d_3 = 3d_1$.

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \neq (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{n}{5}, \frac{3n}{10})$, edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of $2d_1$ are $\{0, 2d_1\}$ and $\{3d_1, 5d_1\}$; and ones of $3d_1$ are $\{n - 5d_1, n - 2d_1\}$ and $\{n - 3d_1, 0\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1, r(2d_1) = 3d_1$, and $r(3d_1) = 2d_1$. (If either $n - d_1 = 5d_1$ or $n - 5d_1 = d_1$, then $d_3 = 3d_1 = \frac{n}{2}$, a contradiction.) (If either $n - 2d_1 = 5d_1$ or $n - 5d_1 = 2d_1$, then $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (d_1, 2d_1, 3d_1) = (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})$, a contradiction.) (If either $n - 3d_1 = 5d_1$ or $n - 5d_1 = 3d_1$, then $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (d_1, 2d_1, 3d_1) = (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{n}{4}, \frac{3n}{8})$, a contradiction.) (If $n - 5d_1 = 5d_1$, then $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (d_1, 2d_1, 3d_1) = (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{n}{5}, \frac{3n}{10})$, a contradiction.)

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{n}{5}, \frac{3n}{10})$, edges of length $\frac{n}{10}$ are $\{0, \frac{n}{10}\}$ and $\{\frac{3n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10}\}$; ones of $\frac{n}{5}$ are $\{\frac{4n}{5}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{n}{5}\}$; and ones of $\frac{3n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{6n}{10}, \frac{9n}{10}\}$ and $\{\frac{7n}{10}, 0\}$. $r(\frac{n}{10}) = \frac{3n}{10}, r(\frac{n}{5}) = \frac{n}{5}$, and $r(\frac{3n}{10}) = \frac{n}{10}$.

Conversely, assume that $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \in \{(\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7}), (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{n}{4}, \frac{3n}{8})\}$. Suppose there exists a CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,4} + 2K_2$. As the edge set of $K_{1,4} + 2K_2$ cannot be partitioned into subsets inducing subgraphs isomorphic to P_3 , $r(d_i) = d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ is impossible; again as the edge set of $K_{1,4} + 2K_2$ cannot be partitioned into subsets inducing subgraphs isomorphic to $2K_2$, $r(d_i) \neq d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ is impossible. Hence, $r(d_i) = d_i, r(d_j) = d_k$ and $r(d_k) = d_j$ for $\{i, j, k\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$. We consider two cases and three subcases in each.

Case 1. $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})$.

Subcase 1.1. $r(d_1) = d_1, r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{n}{7}$ are $\{\frac{6n}{7}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{n}{7}\}$. The

edge of length $\frac{2n}{7}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{2n}{7}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{5n}{7}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{2n}{7}\}$. As $r(\frac{2n}{7}) = \frac{3n}{7}$, the edge of length $\frac{2n}{7}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{3n}{7}, \frac{5n}{7}\}$. This forces the edge of length $\frac{3n}{7}$ incident at 0 is $\{0, \frac{4n}{7}\}$. As $r(\frac{3n}{7}) = \frac{2n}{7}$, there is no edge of length $\frac{3n}{7}$ not incident at 0, a contradiction.

Subcase 1.2. $r(d_1) = d_3, r(d_2) = d_2$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{2n}{7}$ are $\{\frac{5n}{7}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{2n}{7}\}$. The edge of length $\frac{n}{7}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{n}{7}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{6n}{7}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{n}{7}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{7}) = \frac{3n}{7}$, the edge of length $\frac{n}{7}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{3n}{7}, \frac{4n}{7}\}$. This forces that there is no edge of length $\frac{3n}{7}$ incident at 0, a contradiction.

Subcase 1.3. $r(d_1) = d_2, r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_3$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{3n}{7}$ are $\{\frac{4n}{7}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{3n}{7}\}$. The edge of length $\frac{n}{7}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{n}{7}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{6n}{7}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{n}{7}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{7}) = \frac{2n}{7}$, the edge of length $\frac{n}{7}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{5n}{7}, \frac{6n}{7}\}$. This forces the edge of length $\frac{2n}{7}$ incident at 0 is $\{0, \frac{2n}{7}\}$. As $r(\frac{2n}{7}) = \frac{n}{7}$, there is no edge of length $\frac{2n}{7}$ not incident at 0, a contradiction.

Case 2. $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{n}{4}, \frac{3n}{8})$.

Subcase 2.1. $r(d_1) = d_1, r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{n}{8}$ are $\{\frac{7n}{8}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{n}{8}\}$. The edge of length $\frac{n}{4}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{n}{4}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{3n}{4}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{n}{4}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{4}) = \frac{3n}{8}$, the edge of length $\frac{n}{4}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{3n}{8}, \frac{5n}{8}\}$. This forces that there is no edge of length $\frac{3n}{8}$ incident at 0, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. $r(d_1) = d_3, r(d_2) = d_2$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{n}{4}$ are $\{\frac{3n}{4}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{n}{4}\}$. The edge of length $\frac{n}{8}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{n}{8}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{7n}{8}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{n}{8}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{8}) = \frac{3n}{8}$, the edge of length $\frac{n}{8}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{3n}{8}, \frac{n}{2}\}$. This forces the edge of length $\frac{3n}{8}$ incident at 0 is $\{0, \frac{5n}{8}\}$. As $r(\frac{3n}{8}) = \frac{n}{8}$, there is no edge of length $\frac{3n}{8}$ not incident at 0, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.3. $r(d_1) = d_2, r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_3$.

Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length $\frac{3n}{8}$ are $\{\frac{5n}{8}, 0\}$ and $\{0, \frac{3n}{8}\}$. The edge of length $\frac{n}{8}$ incident at 0 is either $\{0, \frac{n}{8}\}$ or $\{0, \frac{7n}{8}\}$. By symmetry, assume that it is $\{0, \frac{n}{8}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{8}) = \frac{n}{4}$, the edge of length $\frac{n}{8}$ not incident at 0 is $\{\frac{3n}{4}, \frac{7n}{8}\}$. This forces the edge of length $\frac{n}{4}$ incident at 0 is $\{0, \frac{n}{4}\}$. As $r(\frac{n}{4}) = \frac{n}{8}$, there is no edge of length $\frac{n}{8}$ not incident at 0, a contradiction.

This completes the proof.

Theorem 2.2. *Let $n \geq 8$. There is no CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,5} + K_2$.*

Proof: Suppose a CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,5} + K_2$ exists. If $r(d_i) = d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, then the edge set of $K_{1,5} + K_2$ can be partitioned into subsets each inducing a subgraph isomorphic to P_3 , which is impossible. If $r(d_i) \neq d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, then the edge set of $K_{1,5} + K_2$ can be partitioned into subsets each inducing a subgraph isomorphic to $2K_2$, which is again impossible. Hence, $r(d_i) = d_i, r(d_j) = d_k$ and $r(d_k) = d_j$, where $\{i, j, k\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$. Consequently, the edge set of $K_{1,5} + K_2$ can be partitioned into three subsets one inducing a subgraph isomorphic to P_3 and the remaining two each inducing a subgraph isomorphic to $2K_2$. As this partition is also impossible, we have the required contradiction.

This completes the proof.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $n \geq 8$. A CODC of $\text{Circ}(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,3} + P_4$ exists if and only if $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \notin \{(\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8}), (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})\}$.*

Proof: First assume that $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \notin \{(\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8}), (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})\}$.

Case 1. $n \neq d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, $n \neq d_1 + 2d_3$, $n \neq d_2 + 2d_3$, and $n \neq d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{0, d_1\}$ and $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_2, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{d_3, 2d_3\}$ and $\{d_3 + d_1, 2d_3 + d_1\}$. $r(d_1) = d_3$, $r(d_2) = d_2$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Case 2. $d_2 \neq 2d_1$, $d_3 \neq 2d_1$, $n \neq 2d_1 + d_2$, and $n \neq 2d_1 + d_3$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - 2d_1, n - d_1\}$ and $\{d_2 - 2d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - d_3, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_2$, $r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_3$.

By Cases 1 and 2, we have to consider 16 possible cases.

Case 3. $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $d_2 = 2d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - 2d_3, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - 2d_3 + d_2, n - d_3 + d_2\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $n - d_1 = n - d_3 + d_2$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, and hence $d_3 = \frac{n}{2}$, a contradiction.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_2$, then $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_1$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.)

Case 4. $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ and $d_2 = 2d_1$.

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \neq (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{4n}{9})$, edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_2, 2d_2\}$ and $\{d_2 + d_3, 2d_2 + d_3\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{0, d_3\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $d_3 = 2d_2$, then $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{4n}{9})$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - d_1 = d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = 2d_2$, and hence $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{4n}{9})$.) (If $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, then as $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $d_1 + d_3 = 2d_2$, and hence $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})$, a contradiction.) (If $n + d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = -d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $2d_2 = 2d_1 + d_3$, and hence $d_3 = 2d_1$, a contradiction to $d_2 = 2d_1$.)

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{4n}{9})$, edges of length $\frac{n}{9}$ are $\{\frac{6n}{9}, \frac{7n}{9}\}$ and $\{\frac{8n}{9}, 0\}$; ones of $\frac{2n}{9}$ are $\{\frac{5n}{9}, \frac{7n}{9}\}$ and $\{0, \frac{2n}{9}\}$; and ones of $\frac{4n}{9}$ are $\{0, \frac{4n}{9}\}$ and $\{\frac{n}{9}, \frac{5n}{9}\}$. $r(\frac{n}{9}) = \frac{2n}{9}$, $r(\frac{2n}{9}) = \frac{4n}{9}$ and $r(\frac{4n}{9}) = \frac{n}{9}$.

Case 5. $n = d_2 + 2d_3$ and $d_2 = 2d_1$.

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \neq (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{2n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$, edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_2, 2d_2\}$ and $\{d_2 + d_3, 2d_2 + d_3\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{0, d_3\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $d_3 = 2d_2$, then $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{2n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 < d_2 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction.) (If $n - d_1 = d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_2 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, and hence $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8})$, a contradiction.) (If $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, then as $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_2 = d_3$, a contradiction.) (If $n + d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = -d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = d_2 - d_1$, a contradiction.)

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{10}, \frac{2n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$, edges of length $\frac{n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{9n}{10}, 0\}$ and $\{\frac{3n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10}\}$; ones of $\frac{2n}{10}$ are $\{0, \frac{2n}{10}\}$ and $\{\frac{n}{10}, \frac{3n}{10}\}$; and ones of $\frac{4n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{4n}{10}, \frac{8n}{10}\}$ and $\{\frac{6n}{10}, 0\}$. $r(\frac{n}{10}) = \frac{4n}{10}$, $r(\frac{2n}{10}) = \frac{n}{10}$ and $r(\frac{4n}{10}) = \frac{2n}{10}$.

Case 6. $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$ and $d_2 = 2d_1$.

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \neq (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{3n}{9})$, edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - 2d_3, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - 2d_3 + d_2, n - d_3 + d_2\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $n - d_1 = n - d_3 + d_2$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, and hence $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{3n}{9})$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_2$, then $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, a

contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_1$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$.)

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{9}, \frac{2n}{9}, \frac{3n}{9})$, edges of length $\frac{n}{9}$ are $\{\frac{7n}{9}, \frac{8n}{9}\}$ and $\{0, \frac{n}{9}\}$; ones of $\frac{2n}{9}$ are $\{0, \frac{2n}{9}\}$ and $\{\frac{3n}{9}, \frac{5n}{9}\}$; and ones of $\frac{3n}{9}$ are $\{\frac{5n}{9}, \frac{8n}{9}\}$ and $\{\frac{6n}{9}, 0\}$. $r(\frac{n}{9}) = \frac{2n}{9}$, $r(\frac{2n}{9}) = \frac{3n}{9}$ and $r(\frac{3n}{9}) = \frac{n}{9}$.

Case 7. $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - 2d_3, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - 2d_3 + d_2, n - d_3 + d_2\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $n - d_1 = n - d_3 + d_2$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_2$, then $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_1$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.)

Case 8. $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1$.

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \neq (\frac{2n}{10}, \frac{3n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$, edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_2, 2d_2\}$ and $\{d_2 + d_3, 2d_2 + d_3\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{0, d_3\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $d_3 = 2d_2$, then we have a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 < d_1 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction.) (If $n - d_1 = d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = 2d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, then as $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $2d_2 = d_1 + d_3$, and hence $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{2n}{10}, \frac{3n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$.) (If $n + d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = -d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = 2(d_2 - d_1)$. This together with $d_3 = 2d_1$ implies that $d_2 = 2d_1$, and hence $d_3 = d_2$, a contradiction.)

For $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{2n}{10}, \frac{3n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10})$, edges of length $\frac{2n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{8n}{10}, 0\}$ and $\{\frac{2n}{10}, \frac{4n}{10}\}$; ones of $\frac{3n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{7n}{10}, 0\}$ and $\{\frac{9n}{10}, \frac{2n}{10}\}$; and ones of $\frac{4n}{10}$ are $\{\frac{6n}{10}, 0\}$ and $\{\frac{9n}{10}, \frac{3n}{10}\}$. $r(\frac{2n}{10}) = \frac{4n}{10}$, $r(\frac{3n}{10}) = \frac{2n}{10}$ and $r(\frac{4n}{10}) = \frac{3n}{10}$.

Case 9. $n = d_2 + 2d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_2, 2d_2\}$ and $\{d_2 + d_3, 2d_2 + d_3\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{0, d_3\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $d_3 = 2d_2$, then we have a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 < d_2 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction.) (If $n - d_1 = d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_2 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, then as $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_2 = d_3$, a contradiction.) (If $n + d_1 = 2d_2 + d_3$, then $n = -d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $d_3 = d_2 - d_1$, a contradiction.)

Case 10. $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1$.

Edges of length d_1 are $\{n - d_1, 0\}$ and $\{0, d_1\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_2\}$; and ones of d_3 are $\{n - 2d_3, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - 2d_3 + d_2, n - d_3 + d_2\}$. $r(d_1) = d_1$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$. (If $n - d_1 = n - d_3 + d_2$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_2$, then $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$.) (If $n - 2d_3 = d_1$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$.)

Case 11. $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Then $d_3 = d_1$, a contradiction.

Case 12. $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Then $n = d_1 + 2d_3 > 2d_1 + d_2 = n$, a contradiction.

Case 13. $n = d_2 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Then $d_3 = d_1$, a contradiction.

Case 14. $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Then $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3 > 2d_1 + d_2 = n$, a contradiction.

Case 15. $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_3$.

Then $d_2 = d_1$, a contradiction.

Case 16. $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_3$.

Then $d_3 = d_1$, a contradiction.

Case 17. $n = d_2 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_3$.

Then $n = d_2 + 2d_3 > 2d_1 + d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

Case 18. $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_3$.

Then $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3 > 2d_1 + d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

Conversely, assume that $(d_1, d_2, d_3) \in \{(\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8}), (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})\}$. Suppose there exists a CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $K_{1,3} + P_4$. We consider two cases.

Case 1. $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7})$.

Observe that: $Circ(n; \{\frac{n}{7}, \frac{2n}{7}, \frac{3n}{7}\}) \cong \frac{n}{7}K_7$; for each $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, any two edges of length $\frac{in}{7}$ with rotation-distance $\frac{jn}{7}$ are in the same component of $\frac{n}{7}K_7$; and in the CODC there exists $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, an edge e' of $K_{1,3}$, and an edge e'' of P_4 such that the edges e' and e'' are of same length d_i . Consequently, in the CODC, all the edges of $K_{1,3} + P_4$ are in the same component of $\frac{n}{7}K_7$. Hence, we have a component of $\frac{n}{7}K_7$ with at least 8 vertices, a contradiction.

Case 2. $(d_1, d_2, d_3) = (\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8})$.

Observe that: $Circ(n; \{\frac{n}{8}, \frac{2n}{8}, \frac{3n}{8}\}) \cong \frac{n}{8}Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$; for each $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, any two edges of length $\frac{in}{8}$ with rotation-distance $\frac{jn}{8}$ are in the same component of $\frac{n}{8}Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$; and in the CODC there exists $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, an edge e' of $K_{1,3}$, and an edge e'' of P_4 such that the edges e' and e'' are of same length d_i . Consequently, in the CODC, all the edges of $K_{1,3} + P_4$ are in the same component of $\frac{n}{8}Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$. Hence, the CODC of $\frac{n}{8}Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$ by $K_{1,3} + P_4$ yields a CODC of $Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$ by $K_{1,3} + P_4$.

Now consider a CODC of $Circ(8; \{1, 2, 3\})$ by $K_{1,3} + P_4$. If $r(1) = 1$, $r(2) = 2$ and $r(3) = 3$, then the edge set of $K_{1,3} + P_4$ can be partitioned into subsets inducing subgraphs isomorphic to P_3 , which is impossible. Thus we consider five subcases.

Subcase 2.1. $r(1) = 1$, $r(2) = 3$ and $r(3) = 2$.

Let $A = \{\{7, 0\}, \{0, 1\}\}$. Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length 1 are the edges of A . Let $B_0 = \{\{0, 2\}, \{3, 5\}\}$, $B_1 = \{\{1, 3\}, \{4, 6\}\}$, $B_2 = \{\{2, 4\}, \{5, 7\}\}$ and $B_3 = \{\{3, 5\}, \{6, 0\}\}$. The edges of length 2 are the edges of one of the sets B_0, B_1, B_2, B_3 . Let $C_0 = \{\{0, 3\}, \{2, 5\}\}$, $C_1 = \{\{1, 4\}, \{3, 6\}\}$, $C_2 = \{\{2, 5\}, \{4, 7\}\}$ and $C_3 = \{\{3, 6\}, \{5, 0\}\}$. The edges of length 3 are the edges of one of the sets C_0, C_1, C_2, C_3 . Observe that, for any $i, j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$, the subgraph induced by the edge set $A \cup B_i \cup C_j$ is not isomorphic to $K_{1,3} + P_4$, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. $r(1) = 2$, $r(2) = 1$ and $r(3) = 3$.

Let $A = \{\{0, 1\}, \{2, 3\}\}$. Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length 1 are the edges of A . Let $B_2 = \{\{2, 4\}, \{3, 5\}\}$, $B_3 = \{\{3, 5\}, \{4, 6\}\}$, $B_5 = \{\{5, 7\}, \{6, 0\}\}$ and $B_6 = \{\{6, 0\}, \{7, 1\}\}$. The edges of length 2 are the edges of one of the sets B_2, B_3, B_5, B_6 . Let $C_1 = \{\{1, 4\}, \{4, 7\}\}$, $C_4 = \{\{4, 7\}, \{7, 2\}\}$, $C_6 = \{\{6, 1\}, \{1, 4\}\}$ and $C_7 = \{\{7, 2\}, \{2, 5\}\}$. The edges of length 3 are the edges of one of the sets C_1, C_4, C_6, C_7 . Observe that, for any $i \in \{2, 3, 5, 6\}$ and for any $j \in \{1, 4, 6, 7\}$, the subgraph induced by the edge set $A \cup B_i \cup C_j$ is not isomorphic to $K_{1,3} + P_4$, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.3. $r(1) = 2$, $r(2) = 3$ and $r(3) = 1$.

Let $A = \{\{0, 1\}, \{2, 3\}\}$. Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length 1 are the edges of A . Let $B_1 = \{\{1, 3\}, \{4, 6\}\}$, $B_2 = \{\{2, 4\}, \{5, 7\}\}$, $B_3 = \{\{3, 5\}, \{6, 0\}\}$, $B_4 = \{\{4, 6\}, \{7, 1\}\}$, $B_5 = \{\{5, 7\}, \{0, 2\}\}$ and $B_7 = \{\{7, 1\}, \{2, 4\}\}$. The edges of length 2 are the edges of one of the sets $B_1, B_2, B_3, B_4, B_5, B_7$. Let $C_1 = \{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 5\}\}$, $C_2 = \{\{2, 5\}, \{3, 6\}\}$, $C_3 = \{\{3, 6\}, \{4, 7\}\}$, $C_4 = \{\{4, 7\}, \{5, 0\}\}$, $C_5 = \{\{5, 0\}, \{6, 1\}\}$

and $C_6 = \{\{6, 1\}, \{7, 2\}\}$. The edges of length 3 are the edges of one of the sets $C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5, C_6$. Observe that, for any $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7\}$ and for any $j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$, the subgraph induced by the edge set $A \cup B_i \cup C_j$ is not isomorphic to $K_{1,3} + P_4$, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.4. $r(1) = 3, r(2) = 1$ and $r(3) = 2$.

Let $A = \{\{0, 1\}, \{3, 4\}\}$. Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length 1 are the edges of A . Let $B_2 = \{\{2, 4\}, \{3, 5\}\}$, $B_3 = \{\{3, 5\}, \{4, 6\}\}$, $B_4 = \{\{4, 6\}, \{5, 7\}\}$, $B_5 = \{\{5, 7\}, \{6, 0\}\}$, $B_6 = \{\{6, 0\}, \{7, 1\}\}$ and $B_7 = \{\{7, 1\}, \{0, 2\}\}$. The edges of length 2 are the edges of one of the sets $B_2, B_3, B_4, B_5, B_6, B_7$. Let $C_0 = \{\{0, 3\}, \{2, 5\}\}$, $C_2 = \{\{2, 5\}, \{4, 7\}\}$, $C_3 = \{\{3, 6\}, \{5, 0\}\}$, $C_4 = \{\{4, 7\}, \{6, 1\}\}$, $C_5 = \{\{5, 0\}, \{7, 2\}\}$ and $C_7 = \{\{7, 2\}, \{1, 4\}\}$. The edges of length 3 are the edges of one of the sets $C_0, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5, C_7$. Observe that, for any $i \in \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ and for any $j \in \{0, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7\}$, the subgraph induced by the edge set $A \cup B_i \cup C_j$ is not isomorphic to $K_{1,3} + P_4$, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.5. $r(1) = 3, r(2) = 2$ and $r(3) = 1$.

Let $A = \{\{0, 1\}, \{3, 4\}\}$. Without loss of generality assume that the edges of length 1 are the edges of A . Let $B_2 = \{\{2, 4\}, \{4, 6\}\}$, $B_3 = \{\{3, 5\}, \{5, 7\}\}$, $B_5 = \{\{5, 7\}, \{7, 1\}\}$ and $B_6 = \{\{6, 0\}, \{0, 2\}\}$. The edges of length 2 are the edges of one of the sets B_2, B_3, B_5, B_6 . Let $C_1 = \{\{1, 4\}, \{2, 5\}\}$, $C_2 = \{\{2, 5\}, \{3, 6\}\}$, $C_3 = \{\{3, 6\}, \{4, 7\}\}$, $C_4 = \{\{4, 7\}, \{5, 0\}\}$, $C_5 = \{\{5, 0\}, \{6, 1\}\}$, $C_6 = \{\{6, 1\}, \{7, 2\}\}$ and $C_7 = \{\{7, 2\}, \{0, 3\}\}$. The edges of length 3 are the edges of one of the sets $C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4, C_5, C_6, C_7$. Observe that, for any $i \in \{2, 3, 5, 6\}$ and for any $j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$, the subgraph induced by the edge set $A \cup B_i \cup C_j$ is not isomorphic to $K_{1,3} + P_4$, a contradiction.

This completes the proof.

Theorem 2.4. *Let $n \geq 8$. A CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $2K_{1,3}$ exists if and only if $(n, d_3) = (3d_1 + 3d_2, 2d_1 + d_2)$.*

Proof: Suppose a CODC of $Circ(n; \{d_1, d_2, d_3\})$ by $2K_{1,3}$ exists. If $r(d_i) = d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$, then the edge set of $2K_{1,3}$ can be partitioned into subsets inducing subgraphs isomorphic to P_3 , which is impossible. If $r(d_i) = d_i, r(d_j) = d_k$ and $r(d_k) = d_j$ with $\{i, j, k\} = \{1, 2, 3\}$, then the edge set of $2K_{1,3}$ can be partitioned into three subsets one inducing a subgraph isomorphic to P_3 and the remaining two each inducing a subgraph isomorphic to $2K_2$, which is again impossible. Hence, $r(d_i) \neq d_i$ for every $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. Consequently, the edge set of $2K_{1,3}$ can be partitioned into subsets inducing subgraphs isomorphic to $2K_2$. Also, each vertex of degree 3 in $2K_{1,3}$ is incident with one edge of length d_1 , one edge of length d_2 , and one edge of length d_3 . Without loss of generality, assume that one vertex of degree 3 in $2K_{1,3}$ is 0 and the edge of length d_1 incident at 0 is $\{0, d_1\}$. The edge of length d_2 incident at 0 is either $\{0, d_2\}$ or $\{0, n - d_2\}$ and the edge of length d_3 incident at 0 is either $\{0, d_3\}$ or $\{0, n - d_3\}$. We consider four cases and in each of the four cases we consider two subcases.

Case 1. Edges incident at 0 are $\{0, d_1\}, \{0, d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_3\}$.

Subcase 1.1. $r(d_1) = d_2, r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1, d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, d_2, d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{n - d_2, n + d_1 - d_2\}, \{n - d_3, n + d_2 - d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_2, n + d_1 - d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$. As $n - d_2 \neq n - d_1, n - d_2 \neq d_3 - d_1$ and $n + d_1 - d_2 \neq d_3 - d_1$, we have $n + d_1 - d_2 = n - d_1$, and hence $d_2 = 2d_1$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_3, n + d_2 - d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$. As $n - d_3 \neq n - d_1, n - d_3 \neq d_3 - d_1$ and $n + d_2 - d_3 \neq d_3 - d_1$, we have $n + d_2 - d_3 = n - d_1$,

and hence $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, i.e., $d_3 = 3d_1$.

Now the edges incident at 0 are $\{0, d_1\}$, $\{0, 2d_1\}$ and $\{0, 3d_1\}$; and the edges not incident at 0 are $\{n - 2d_1, n - d_1\}$, $\{n - 3d_1, n - d_1\}$ and $\{n - d_1, 2d_1\}$; a contradiction to the fact that $2d_1$ belongs to both $K_{1,3}$'s.

Subcase 1.2. $r(d_1) = d_3$, $r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, d_2, d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{n - d_3, n + d_1 - d_3\}$, $\{n - d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$ and $\{n - d_2, d_3 - d_2\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$ and $\{n - d_3, n + d_1 - d_3\}$. As $n - d_1 \neq n - d_3$, $d_2 - d_1 \neq n - d_3$ and $d_2 - d_1 \neq n + d_1 - d_3$, we have $n - d_1 = n + d_1 - d_3$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_2, d_3 - d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_3, n + d_1 - d_3\}$. As $n - d_2 \neq n - d_3$, $d_3 - d_2 \neq n - d_3$ and $d_3 - d_2 \neq n + d_1 - d_3$, we have $n - d_2 = n + d_1 - d_3$. Consequently, $n - d_1 = n - d_2$, i.e., $d_1 = d_2$, a contradiction.

Case 2. Edges incident at 0 are $\{0, d_1\}$, $\{0, d_2\}$ and $\{0, n - d_3\}$.

Subcase 2.1. $r(d_1) = d_2$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, d_2, n - d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{n - d_2, n + d_1 - d_2\}$, $\{d_3, d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_3 - d_1, n - d_1\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_2, n + d_1 - d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_3 - d_1, n - d_1\}$. As $n - d_2 \neq n - d_1$, $n - d_2 \neq n - d_3 - d_1$ and $n - d_3 - d_1 \neq n + d_1 - d_2$ (i.e., $d_2 \neq d_3 + 2d_1$), we have $n - d_1 = n + d_1 - d_2$, and hence, $d_2 = 2d_1$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_2, n + d_1 - d_2\}$ and $\{d_3, d_3 + d_2\}$. As $n - d_2 \neq d_3$ and $n + d_1 - d_2 \neq d_3$, we have either $n - d_2 = d_3 + d_2$ or $n + d_1 - d_2 = d_3 + d_2$. Hence, we have either $n = 2d_2 + d_3$ or $n = -d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. As $d_2 = 2d_1$, we have either $n = 4d_1 + d_3$ or $n = 3d_1 + d_3$. As $d_2 = 2d_1$ and $n - d_3 - d_1$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, they are not equal, and hence $n \neq 3d_1 + d_3$. Thus, $n = 4d_1 + d_3$.

Finally, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_3, d_3 + d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_3 - d_1, n - d_1\}$. As $n - d_1 \neq d_3$, we have one of the following: $n - d_1 = d_3 + d_2$, $n - d_3 - d_1 = d_3$ and $n - d_3 - d_1 = d_3 + d_2$. As $d_2 = 2d_1$, we have one of the following: $n = 3d_1 + d_3$, $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ and $n = 3d_1 + 2d_3$. As $d_2 = 2d_1$ and $n - d_3 - d_1$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, they are not equal, and hence $n \neq 3d_1 + d_3$. Thus, we have either $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ or $n = 3d_1 + 2d_3$. If $n = 3d_1 + 2d_3$, then as $n = 4d_1 + d_3$, we have $d_1 = d_3$, a contradiction. Thus, $n = d_1 + 2d_3$.

$n = 4d_1 + d_3$ and $n = d_1 + 2d_3$ implies that $d_3 = 3d_1$ and $n = 7d_1$. Now $n - d_3 = 4d_1$ and $n + d_1 - d_2 = 4d_1$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, a contradiction.

Subcase 2.2. $r(d_1) = d_3$, $r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, d_2, n - d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$, $\{n - d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$ and $\{n - d_2 - d_3, n - d_2\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_2 - d_1\}$. As $d_3 \neq n - d_1$, $d_3 \neq d_2 - d_1$ and $d_1 + d_3 \neq d_2 - d_1$, we have $d_3 + d_1 = n - d_1$, and hence $n = 2d_1 + d_3$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_2 - d_3, n - d_2\}$. As $d_3 \neq n - d_2$, we have one of the following: $d_3 = n - d_2 - d_3$, $d_1 + d_3 = n - d_2 - d_3$, and $d_1 + d_3 = n - d_2$; i.e., we have one of the following: $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$, and $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, then as $n = 2d_1 + d_3$, we have $n = 2d_1 + d_3 < d_2 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction. If $n = d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3$, then again as $n = 2d_1 + d_3$, we have $n = 2d_1 + d_3 < d_1 + d_2 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction. If $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, then once again as $n = 2d_1 + d_3$, we have $d_1 = d_2$, a contradiction.

Case 3. Edges incident at 0 are $\{0, d_1\}$, $\{0, n - d_2\}$ and $\{0, d_3\}$.

Subcase 3.1. $r(d_1) = d_2$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, n - d_2, d_3\}$

are, respectively, $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$, $\{n - d_3 - d_2, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_3 - d_2, n - d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$. As $n - d_3 \neq n - d_1$, $n - d_3 \neq d_3 - d_1$ and $n - d_3 - d_2 \neq n - d_1$, we have $n - d_3 - d_2 = d_3 - d_1$, and hence $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_3 - d_2, n - d_3\}$. As $d_2 \neq n - d_3$, we have one of the following: $d_2 = n - d_3 - d_2$, $d_1 + d_2 = n - d_3 - d_2$, and $d_1 + d_2 = n - d_3$; i.e., we have one of the following: $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$, and $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.

If $n = 2d_2 + d_3$, then as $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, we have $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to the fact that d_3 and $d_1 + d_2$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s. Thus, we have either $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$ or $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$.

Finally, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_1, d_3 - d_1\}$. As $d_2 \neq n - d_1$, we have one of the following: $d_2 = d_3 - d_1$, $d_1 + d_2 = n - d_1$, and $d_1 + d_2 = d_3 - d_1$; i.e., we have one of the following: $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$.

As d_3 and $d_1 + d_2$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, $d_3 \neq d_1 + d_2$. Thus, we have either $n = 2d_1 + d_2$ or $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$.

If $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, then $n = 2d_1 + d_2 < d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

If $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, then $n = 2d_1 + d_2 < d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

If $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$, then as $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, we have $d_3 = 2d_1$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Hence, $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$ and $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$. Consequently, $n = 3d_1 + 3d_2$ and $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Subcase 3.2. $r(d_1) = d_3$, $r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, n - d_2, d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_1\}$, $\{n - d_1 - d_2, n - d_1\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_1\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. As $n - d_3 \neq d_2$ and $n - d_3 + d_1 \neq d_2$, we have either $n - d_3 = d_2 + d_3$ or $n - d_3 + d_1 = d_2 + d_3$. Hence, we have either $n = d_2 + 2d_3$ or $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_3, n - d_3 + d_1\}$ and $\{n - d_1 - d_2, n - d_1\}$. As $n - d_3 \neq n - d_1$, we have one of the following: $n - d_3 = n - d_1 - d_2$, $n - d_3 + d_1 = n - d_1 - d_2$, and $n - d_3 + d_1 = n - d_1$. Hence, we have one of the following: $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $d_3 = 2d_1$. If $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, then $n - d_2$ and $n - d_3 + d_1 = n - d_2$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, a contradiction. Thus, we have either $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$ or $d_3 = 2d_1$.

Finally, consider the two adjacent edges $\{n - d_1 - d_2, n - d_1\}$ and $\{d_2, d_2 + d_3\}$. As $n - d_1 \neq d_2$, we have one of the following: $n - d_1 = d_2 + d_3$, $n - d_1 - d_2 = d_2$, and $n - d_1 - d_2 = d_2 + d_3$. Hence, we have one of the following: $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, $n = d_1 + 2d_2$ and $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. If $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, then d_3 and $n - d_1 - d_2 = d_3$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, a contradiction. Thus, we have either $n = d_1 + 2d_2$ or $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$.

We consider all the eight possibilities.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, either $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$ or $d_3 = 2d_1$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2$, then $n = d_1 + 2d_2 < d_2 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3$, either $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$ or $d_3 = 2d_1$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to either $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$ or $d_3 = 2d_1$.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2$, then $n > 2d_3 = 4d_1 + 2d_2 > d_1 + 2d_2 = n$, a contradiction.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, $d_3 = 2d_1$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2$, then $d_3 = d_2$, a contradiction.

If $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, $d_3 = 2d_1$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$, then $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$, a

contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_1$.

Hence, $n = d_2 + 2d_3 - d_1$, $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_2 + d_3$. Consequently, $n = 3d_1 + 3d_2$ and $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Case 4. Edges incident at 0 are $\{0, d_1\}$, $\{0, n - d_2\}$ and $\{0, n - d_3\}$.

Subcase 4.1. $r(d_1) = d_2$, $r(d_2) = d_3$ and $r(d_3) = d_1$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, n - d_2, n - d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$, $\{d_3 - d_2, d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1 - d_3, n - d_1\}$.

First, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$ and $\{d_3 - d_2, d_3\}$. As $d_2 \neq d_3$, we have one of the following: $d_2 = d_3 - d_2$, $d_1 + d_2 = d_3 - d_2$, and $d_1 + d_2 = d_3$. Hence, we have one of the following: $d_3 = 2d_2$, $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, and $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$. If $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, then d_1 and $d_3 - d_2 = d_1$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, a contradiction. Thus, we have either $d_3 = 2d_2$ or $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$.

Next, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$ and $\{n - d_1 - d_3, n - d_1\}$. As $d_2 \neq n - d_1$, we have one of the following: $d_2 = n - d_1 - d_3$, $d_1 + d_2 = n - d_1 - d_3$, and $d_1 + d_2 = n - d_1$. Hence, we have one of the following: $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, and $n = 2d_1 + d_2$. If $n = d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, then $n - d_3 = d_1 + d_2$ and $d_1 + d_2$ are vertices of disjoint $K_{1,3}$'s, a contradiction. Thus, we have either $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$ or $n = 2d_1 + d_2$.

Finally, consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_3 - d_2, d_3\}$ and $\{n - d_1 - d_3, n - d_1\}$. As $d_3 - d_2 \neq n - d_1$ and $d_3 \neq n - d_1$, we have either $d_3 - d_2 = n - d_1 - d_3$ or $d_3 = n - d_1 - d_3$. Hence, we have either $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$ or $n = d_1 + 2d_3$.

We consider all the eight possibilities.

If $d_3 = 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, and $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$, then $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_2$.

If $d_3 = 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = 2d_2$.

If $d_3 = 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$, then $2d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, and this together with $d_3 = 2d_2$ implies that $d_3 = d_1$, a contradiction.

If $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, and either $d_3 = 2d_2$ or $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, then $n = 2d_1 + d_2 < d_1 + 2d_3 = n$, a contradiction.

If $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, and $n = d_1 + 2d_3$, then $d_3 = d_1 + d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$.

If $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2$, and $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$, then $2d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, a contradiction to $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$.

If $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$, $n = 2d_1 + d_2 + d_3$, and $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$, then $d_3 = d_1 + 2d_2$ and $n = 3d_1 + 3d_2$. As $d_3 < \frac{n}{2}$, $2d_3 < n$, and hence $2(d_1 + 2d_2) < 3d_1 + 3d_2$.

This implies that $d_2 < d_1$, a contradiction.

Subcase 4.2. $r(d_1) = d_3$, $r(d_2) = d_1$ and $r(d_3) = d_2$.

Then the edges of lengths d_1 , d_2 and d_3 not incident at vertices in $\{0, d_1, n - d_2, n - d_3\}$ are, respectively, $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$, $\{n - d_1 - d_2, n - d_1\}$ and $\{n + d_2 - d_3, d_2\}$.

Consider the two adjacent edges $\{d_3, d_1 + d_3\}$ and $\{n + d_2 - d_3, d_2\}$. As $d_3 \neq n + d_2 - d_3$, $d_3 \neq d_2$, and $d_1 + d_3 \neq d_2$, we have $d_1 + d_3 = n + d_2 - d_3$, and hence $n = d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3$, a contradiction to $d_1 < d_2$ and $2d_3 < n$.

Conversely, assume that $(n, d_3) = (3d_1 + 3d_2, 2d_1 + d_2)$. Edges of length d_1 are $\{0, d_1\}$ and $\{d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$; ones of d_2 are $\{d_1 + d_2, d_1 + 2d_2\}$ and $\{3d_1 + 2d_2, 0\}$; and ones of $d_3 = 2d_1 + d_2$ are $\{2d_1 + 3d_2, d_1 + d_2\}$ and $\{0, 2d_1 + d_2\}$. $r(d_1) = d_2$, $r(d_2) = 2d_1 + d_2$ and $r(2d_1 + d_2) = d_1$.

This completes the proof.

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