On Degree Cordial Labelings of Certain Families of Graphs

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ABSTRACT. In this paper, we define a new graph labeling called Degree Cordial labeling and call a graph Degree Cordial if it admits a Degree Cordial labeling. Let G = (V, E) be a graph and let $f : E \to \{0, 1\}$ be a function. We call f a Degree Cordial labeling if for each vertex $v \in V$, the number of edges incident on v with edge label 0 and 1 differ by atmost 1. Here we discuss Degree Cordial labeling for the following graphs: Paths, Cycles, Wheel graphs, Helms, Closed Helms, Generalised Webs, Flower, Sunflower, Combs, Complete Bipartite graph and some Complete graphs.

Keywords: Paths, Cycles, Wheels, Helms, Webs, Flower Graphs, Combs, Complete Bipartite, New Graph Labeling.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The origins of Graph Labeling methods go back to the pioneering work of Rosa [22] in 1967 or to the method given by Graham and Sloane [15] in 1980. Rosa introduced the concept of β (beta) valuation of a graph G with q edges as an injection f from the vertex set V(G) of G to $\{1, 2, \ldots, q\}$ such that when each edge uv in G is assigned the label |f(u) - f(v)|, the edge labels are distinct. Such a labeling was called Graceful by Golomb [14]. Cahit [10] introduced a variation of graceful labeling by defining a function f from the vertex set of G to $\{0, 1\}$ which assigns to each edge uv of G the label |f(u) - f(v)|. The function f is called a Cordial labeling of G if the number of vertices labeled 0 and 1 viz. $v_f(0)$ and $v_f(1)$, differ by atmost 1 and the number of edges labeled 0 and 1 viz. $e_f(0)$ and $e_f(1)$, differ by atmost 1. A graph G is called a cordial graph if it admits a cordial labeling. A large number of graphs have been shown to be cordial by a host of authors and variations of cordial labelings have been studied. A complete literature survey can be found on this in [13]. For expository work in graph labelings you may refer to work by [10], [13], [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [9], [8]). For variations of graph labelings refer to work of [13], [18], [19], [20], [11], [12], [7], [23], [14], [15], [17], [24] Ng and Lee [21] defined edge cordial labeling in 1988. Yilmaz and Cahit [25] in 1997 renamed edge cordial labeling as e-cordial labeling.

Definition 1.1. Let G = (V, E) be a graph with |E| = e. Let $f : E \to \{0, 1\}$ be a function and the induced vertex labels for this function be $f(v) = \sum_{\forall u} f(u, v)$ (mod 2), where $\{u, v\} \in E$. Let $v_f(i)$, $e_f(i)$, for i = 0, 1 denote the number of vertices and edges labeled 0 and 1 respectively. f is called an e-cordial labeling if $|v_f(0) - v_f(1)| \leq 1$ and $|e_f(0) - e_f(1)| \leq 1$. The graph G is called e-cordial if it admits an e-cordial labeling.

In this paper we introduce Degree Cordial labeling, another variation of e-cordial labeling and describe various graphs which admit such a labeling. All our graphs will be finite, connected and undirected. For basic definitions in graph theory refer to [16].

Definition 1.2. Let G = (V(G), E(G)) be a graph and let $f : E(G) \to \{0, 1\}$ be a function. For each vertex v in G, let $f_0(v) =$ number of edges incident on v with the label 0, that is $f_0(v) = |\{u \in V(G) \mid uv \in E(G) \text{ and } f(uv) = 0\}|$ and $f_1(v) =$ number of edges incident on v with the label 1, that is $f_1(v) = |\{u \in V(G) \mid uv \in$ E(G) and $f(uv) = 1\}|$. We say that f is a Degree Cordial labeling if for every $v \in V(G), |f_0(v) - f_1(v)| \leq 1$, i.e. the number of edges incident on v with the label 0 and 1, differ by at most 1. The graph G will be called Degree Cordial if it admits a Degree Cordial labeling.

2. Degree Cordial labelings of certain graphs

Theorem 2.1. All Paths are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let P_n be a path with vertex set $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$ and edge set $E(P_n) = \{v_i v_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\}$. Let $f : E(P_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

 $f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 0$, if *i* is odd; = 1, if *i* is even.

Then $f_0(v_1) = 1$, $f_1(v_1) = 0$; $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 1$, $\forall i, 2 \le i \le n - 1$. Finally, for the vertex v_n , we have $f_0(v_n) = 1$, $f_1(v_n) = 0$, if n is even $f_0(v_n) = 0$, $f_1(v_n) = 1$, if n is odd. Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling and every Path is a Degree Cordial graph. \Box **Theorem 2.2.** A cycle of length n is Degree Cordial iff n is even.

Proof. Let C_n be a cycle with vertex set $V(C_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and edge set $E(C_n) = \{v_i v_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_n v_1\}$. Case 1: n is even Let $f : E(C_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n-1$, $f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 0$, if i is odd = 1, if i is even

$$f(v_n v_1) = 1.$$

Basically we label the edges on the cycle, alternately by 0's and 1's. Then $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 1, \forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n$. Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling and every cycle with an even number of vertices is a Degree Cordial graph.

Case 2: n is odd

Since there are exactly 2 edges incident on every vertex, one edge will have to receive the label 0 and one the label 1, hence alternately the edges will have to be labeled as $0, 1, 0, 1, \ldots$ or $1, 0, 1, 0, \ldots$; however this forces both edges incident on v_n to receive the label 0 in the first case and the label 1 in the latter. Hence C_n cannot be Degree Cordial when n is odd.

Theorem 2.3. All Wheels are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let W_n be a wheel with vertex set $V(W_n) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$ and edge set $E(W_n) = \{vv_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{v_iv_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_nv_1\}.$ Case 1: *n* is even Let $f : E(W_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

$$f(vv_i) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is even.}$$

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

 $f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 0$, if *i* is odd = 1, if *i* is even

 $f(v_n v_1) = 1.$

Then $f_0(v) = f_1(v) = \frac{n}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \le i \le n$, $f_0(v_i) = 2$, $f_1(v_i) = 1$, if *i* is odd and $f_0(v_i) = 1$, $f_1(v_i) = 2$, if *i* is even. Thus *f* is a Degree Cordial labeling. Case 2: n is odd Let $f: E(W_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

$$f(vv_i) = 0$$
, if *i* is odd
= 1, if *i* is even

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 1, \text{if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 0, \text{if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_n v_1) = 1.$$

Then $f_0(v) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, $f_1(v) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, $f_0(v_i) = 1$, $f_1(v_i) = 2$, if *i* is odd and $f_0(v_i) = 2$, $f_1(v_i) = 1$, if *i* is even. Thus *f* is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.4. All Helms are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let H_n be a helm with vertex set $V(H_n) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ and edge set $E(H_n) = \{vv_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_n v_1\} \cup \{v_i w_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}.$ Case 1: n is even Let $f : E(H_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n$,

$$f(vv_i) = 0, \text{if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_iw_i) = 1, \text{if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 0, \text{if } i \text{ is even}$$

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_n v_1) = 1.$$

Then $f_0(v) = f_1(v) = \frac{n}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq n, f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 2$, and $f_0(w_i) + f_1(w_i) = 1$. Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling. Case 2: n is odd Let $f : E(H_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$f(vv_i) = 0$$
, if i is odd
= 1, if i is even.

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 1$$
, if *i* is odd
= 0, if *i* is even
 $f(v_n v_1) = 1$.

For $2 \leq i \leq n$,

$$f(v_i w_i) = 0, \text{if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$= 1, \text{if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$f(v_1 w_1) = 0.$$

Then $f_0(v) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, $f_1(v) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \le i \le n$, $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 2$, $f_0(w_i) + f_1(w_i) = 1$. Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.5. All Closed Helms are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let CH_n be a closed helm with vertex set $V(CH_n) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ and edge set $E(CH_n) = \{vv_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1}, w_i w_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_n v_1, w_n w_1\} \cup \{v_i w_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}.$ Case 1: n is even Let $f : E(CH_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n$,

$$f(vv_i) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_iw_i) = 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is even.}$$

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = f(w_i w_{i+1}) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$\text{and} f(v_n v_1) = f(w_n w_1) = 1.$$

It can be verified that f is a Degree Cordial labeling. Case 2: n is odd Let $f: E(CH_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n$,

$$f(vv_i) = 0$$
, if *i* is odd
= 1, if *i* is even

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = f(w_i w_{i+1}) = 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
and $f(v_n v_1) = f(w_n w_1) = 1.$

For $2 \leq i \leq n$,

$$f(v_i w_i) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$f(v_1 w_1) = 0.$$

Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.6. All Generalised Webs are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let W(t,n) be a generalised web with t cycles of length n each. Let the vertices on the k^{th} cycle be denoted by $v_{k1}, v_{k2}, \ldots, v_{kn}$; the apex vertex or the central vertex be denoted by v and the pendant vertices attached to the outermost cycle be denoted by w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n . Then the edge set

 $E(W(t,n)) = \bigcup_{k=1}^{t} (\{v_{ki}v_{ki+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_{kn}v_{kn+1}\}) \cup \{vv_{1i}, v_{ti}w_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}.$

Case 1: n is even Let $f: E(W(t, n)) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le k \le t$,

$$f(v_{ki}v_{ki+1}) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$

= 1, if i is even, where $1 \le i \le n-1$
and $f(v_{kn}v_{kn+1}) = 1;$

i.e. on each cycle we label the edges as $0, 1, 0, 1, \ldots, 0, 1$. Along any radiating segment starting from the vertex to the pendant vertex i.e. along $vv_{1i}, v_{1i}v_{2i}, \ldots, v_{ti}w_i$, we label the edges as $0, 1, 0, 1, \ldots$ if i is odd and $1, 0, 1, 0, \ldots$ if i is even. It can be verified that f is a Degree Cordial labeling. Case 2: n is odd Let $f: E(W(t, n)) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

for $1 \leq k \leq t$,

$$\begin{split} f(v_{ki}v_{ki+1}) &= 1, \text{if } i \text{ is odd} \\ &= 0, \text{if } i \text{ is even, where } 1 \leq i \leq n-1 \\ \text{and } f(v_{kn}v_{kn+1}) &= 1; \end{split}$$

i.e. on each cycle we label the edges as $1, 0, 1, 0, \ldots, 0, 1$. Along any radiating segment starting from the vertex to the pendant vertex i.e. along $vv_{1i}, v_{1i}v_{2i}, \ldots, v_{ti}w_i$, we label the edges as $0, 1, 0, 1, \ldots$ if i is odd, $i \neq 1$ and $1, 0, 1, 0, \ldots$ if i is even; for i = 1, we label all edges as 0 i.e. $f(vv_{11}) = f(v_{11}v_{21}) = \ldots = f(v_{t1}w_1) = 0$. Then f is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.7. All Combs are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let $P_n \odot K_1$ be a comb with vertex set $V(P_n \odot K_1) = \{u_i, v_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}$ and edge set $E(P_n \odot K_1) = \{u_i u_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{u_i v_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\}.$ Let $f : E(P_n \odot K_1) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n-1$, $f(u_i u_{i+1}) = 1$ and for $1 \le i \le n$, $f(u_i v_i) = 0$. Thus f is clearly a Degree Cordial labeling. \Box

Theorem 2.8. All Flower Graphs are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let Fl_n be a flower graph with vertex set $V(Fl_n) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ and edge set $E(Fl_n) = \{vv_i, v_iw_i, vw_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{v_iv_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_nv_1\}.$ Let $f: E(Fl_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n$, $f(vv_i) = f(v_iw_i) = 0$, $f(vw_i) = 1$, for $1 \le i \le n-1$, $f(v_iv_{i+1}) = 1$, $f(v_nv_1) = 1$. Then $f_0(v) = f_1(v) = n$ and for $1 \le i \le n$, $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 2$, and $f_0(w_i) = f_1(w_i) = 1$. Thus f is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.9. All Sunflower graphs are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let SF_n be a sunflower graph with vertex set $V(SF_n) = \{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ and edge set $E(SF_n) = \{vv_i, v_iw_i \mid 1 \le i \le n\} \cup \{v_iv_{i+1}, w_iv_{i+1} \mid 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_nv_1, w_nv_1\}.$ Case 1: *n* is even Let $f : E(SF_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

for $1 \leq i \leq n$,

$$f(vv_i) = 0$$
, if *i* is odd
= 1, if *i* is even
and $f(v_iw_i) = 0$.

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_n v_1) = 1,$$
$$f(w_i v_{i+1}) = f(w_n v_1) = 1.$$

Then $f_0(v) = f_1(v) = \frac{n}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \le i \le n$, $f_0(v_i) = 2$, $f_1(v_i) = 3$, if *i* is even $f_0(v_i) = 3$, $f_1(v_i) = 2$ if *i* is odd; finally $f_0(w_i) = f_1(w_i) = 1$. Thus *f* is a Degree Cordial labeling. Case 2: *n* is odd $f : E(SF_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: for $1 \le i \le n$, $f(uw_i) = 0$ if *i* is odd

$$f(vv_i) = 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$

= 1, if $i \text{ is even}$
and $f(v_iw_i) = 0.$

For $1 \leq i \leq n-1$,

$$f(v_i v_{i+1}) = 1, \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$
$$= 0, \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$
$$f(v_n v_1) = 1,$$
$$f(w_i v_{i+1}) = f(w_n v_1) = 1.$$

Then $f_0(v) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, $f_1(v) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, and $\forall i, 1 \le i \le n, i \ne 1$, $f_0(v_i) = 2$, $f_1(v_i) = 3$, if *i* is even $f_0(v_i) = 3$, $f_1(v_i) = 2$ if *i* is odd, $f_0(v_1) = 2$, $f_1(v_1) = 3$; finally $f_0(w_i) = f_1(w_i) = 1$. Thus *f* is a Degree Cordial labeling.

Theorem 2.10. All Complete Bipartite graphs are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let $K_{m,n}$ be a complete bipartite graph with vertex set $V(K_{m,n}) = \{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_m, v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$ and edge set

 $E(K_{m,n}) = \{u_i v_j \mid 1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n\}.$ Let $f : E(K_{m,n}) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

$$f(u_i v_j) = 0, \text{ if } i + j \text{ is even}$$

= 1, if $i + j$ is odd.

Case 1: *m* and *n* are both even Here $f_0(u_i) = f_1(u_i) = \frac{n}{2}$, for all $i, 1 \le i \le m$ and $f_0(v_j) = f_1(v_j) = \frac{m}{2}$, for all $j, 1 \le j \le n$. Case 2: *m* is even, *n* is odd Now, for $1 \le i \le m$, $f_0(u_i) = \frac{n+1}{2}, f_1(u_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, if *i* is odd and $f_0(u_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}, f_1(u_i) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, if *i* is even. For all $j, 1 \le j \le n, f_0(v_j) = 1, f_1(v_j) = \frac{m}{2}$. Case 3: *m* and *n* are both odd Now, for $1 \le i \le m$, $f_0(u_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}, f_1(u_i) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, if *i* is odd and $f_0(u_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}, f_1(u_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, if *i* is even. For $1 \le j \le n, f_0(v_j) = \frac{m-1}{2}, f_1(v_j) = \frac{m+1}{2}$, if *j* is odd and $f_0(v_j) = \frac{m+1}{2}, f_1(v_j) = \frac{m-1}{2}$, if *j* is even. For $1 \le j \le n, f_0(v_j) = \frac{m-1}{2}, f_1(v_j) = \frac{m-1}{2}$, if *j* is odd and $f_0(v_j) = \frac{m+1}{2}, f_1(v_j) = \frac{m-1}{2}$, if *j* is even.

Theorem 2.11. The Complete graph K_n is Degree Cordial, for even values of n.

Proof. Let K_n be a complete graph with $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$ and n be even. Let $f : E(K_n) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as:

$$f(v_i v_j) = 0, \text{ if } i + j \text{ is odd}$$

= 1, if $i + j$ is even; for $1 \le i, j \le n, i \ne j$.

Then $f_0(v_i) = \frac{n+1}{2}$, $f_1(v_i) = \frac{n-1}{2}$, for $1 \le i \le n$. Hence f is a Degree Cordial labeling on K_n .

Theorem 2.12. The Complete graphs K_5 and K_9 are Degree Cordial.

Proof. Let K_n be a complete graph with $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ and let e_{ij} denote the edge $\{v_i, v_j\}$. Let $f : E(K_5) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: $f(e_{12}) = 0, f(e_{13}) = 1, f(e_{14}) = 0, f(e_{15}) = 1, f(e_{23}) = 0, f(e_{24}) = 1, f(e_{25}) = 1,$ $f(e_{34}) = 1, f(e_{35}) = 0, f(e_{45}) = 0.$ Then $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 2$, for $1 \le i \le 5$. Hence f is a Degree Cordial labeling on K_5 . Next, let $f : E(K_9) \to \{0, 1\}$ be defined as: $f(e_{12}) = 0, f(e_{13}) = 1, f(e_{14}) = 0, f(e_{15}) = 1, f(e_{16}) = 0, f(e_{17}) = 1, f(e_{18}) = 0,$ $\begin{aligned} f(e_{19}) &= 1, \ f(e_{23}) = 1, \ f(e_{24}) = 0, \ f(e_{25}) = 1, \ f(e_{26}) = 0, \ f(e_{27}) = 1, \ f(e_{28}) = 0, \\ f(e_{29}) &= 1, \ f(e_{34}) = 0, \ f(e_{35}) = 0, \ f(e_{36}) = 1, \ f(e_{37}) = 0, \ f(e_{38}) = 1, \ f(e_{39}) = 0, \\ f(e_{45}) &= 0, \ f(e_{46}) = 1, \ f(e_{47}) = 1, \ f(e_{48}) = 1, \ f(e_{49}) = 1, \ f(e_{56}) = 1, \ f(e_{57}) = 0, \\ f(e_{58}) &= 1, \ f(e_{59}) = 0, \ f(e_{67}) = 0, \ f(e_{68}) = 0, \ f(e_{69}) = 1, \ f(e_{78}) = 1, \ f(e_{79}) = 0, \\ f(e_{89}) &= 0. \end{aligned}$

Then $f_0(v_i) = f_1(v_i) = 4$, for $1 \le i \le 9$.

Hence f is a Degree Cordial labeling on K_9 .

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