

# $L(3, 1)$ -Labeling of Some Simple Graphs

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**Abstract.**  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling is a particular model for frequency assignment problem of  $L(h, k)$ -labeling. An  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling of a graph  $G$  is a function  $f$  from the set of vertex  $V(G)$  to the set of positive integers for any two vertices  $u, v$  where label difference  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 3$  for distance  $d(u, v) = 1$  and label difference  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  for distance  $d(u, v) = 2$ . In  $L(3, 1)$  labeling  $\lambda$  is the smallest positive integer which denotes the maximum label used. In this article, we consider some simple graphs like cycle, path, complete graph, complete bipartite graph, star graph, bi-star graph and tree etc. To find the bounds of  $\lambda$  for  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling. In this article, we obtained the boundary conditions for  $\lambda$  on the basis of maximum degree of  $G$ .

Keywords:  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling, graph labeling

## 1. Introduction

One of the most important area in graph theory is graph labeling, which has various applications in different areas like coding theory, x-ray crystallography, radar, astronomy, circuit design, communication network, addressing, data base management, radio frequency assignment etc. In recent era assignment of radio frequency become a very critical problem because request of frequency increases day by day due to installation of more stations. Interference is a basic problem to assign the frequency in different stations, two neighbour stations having same frequency perform a direct collision whereas station nearby the neighbour station performs hidden collision.

There exist two special type of collisions in the graph labeling problems namely direct collisions and hidden collisions. In direct collisions a station and its neigh-

bour must have different frequencies whereas when a station received same frequency from its neighbour known as hidden collision. Bertossi et al. [1,2] studied the case of avoiding hidden collision in the multi hop radio networks. To avoid collisions from its neighbour and next to neighbour station we require distinct labeling.

A communication network is composed of station or node, each of which has computing power and can transmit and receive messages over communication links, wireless or cabled. The basic network topologies include fully connected, mesh, star, ring, tree, bus. A single network may consist of several interconnected substation of different topologies. It might be useful to assign each user terminal a node label subject to the constraint that all connecting edges (communication links) receive distinct labels.

A graph theory model of frequency assignment problem introduced by Hale[4] in 1980 as vertex coloring problem. Vertices of the graph denoted as station and

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edges denoted as proximity of the station

Robert in 1991 introduced a direction in frequency assignment problem in which station are consider very close or close. Very close station are those having adjacency between them whereas close indicates those which are at distance two apart. Griggs and Yeh [3] defined  $L(2, 1)$  labeling of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  where  $f$  is a function which assigns label to every  $u, v \in V$  from the set of positive integer such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 2$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$  and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ . Now a days  $L(2, 1)$  labeling is applied on intersection graphs and cartesian product of cycles, paths etc[6-9,12,13].

Another labeling technique also present to solve various type of problem is  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling. In  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  where  $f$  is a function which assigns label to every  $u, v \in V$  from the set of positive integers such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 0$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$  and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ . Still so many applications are there in  $L(0, 1)$ -labeling [5,10,11] applied on interval graphs, cactus graphs, permutation graphs, etc.

In a particular case when interference become high between two adjacent stations then we need to assign frequency difference more than two and for next to neighbour cases difference should be more than or equal to one. In  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  where  $f$  is a function which assigns label to every  $u, v \in V$  from the set of positive integer such that  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 3$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$  and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ . The  $L(3, 1)$  labeling number,  $\lambda(G)$  of  $G$  is the smallest number  $\lambda$  such that  $G$  has an  $L(3, 1)$  labeling with  $\lambda$  as the maximum label.

In this paper, we apply  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling technique to label the graphs, cycles, paths, complete graph, complete bipartite graph, star graph, bi-star graph, tree etc.

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 1.** Let  $G$  be a graph with set of vertices  $V$  and set of edges  $E$ . Let  $f$  be a function  $f : V \rightarrow N$ , where  $f$  is an  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling of  $G$  if, for all  $u, v \in V$ ,  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 3$  if  $d(u, v) = 1$  and  $|f(u) - f(v)| \geq 1$  if  $d(u, v) = 2$ .

**Definition 2.** The difference between maximum and minimum values of  $f$  for all possible  $f$  is called span of the labeling, and it is denoted by  $\lambda_{3,1}(G)$  or simply  $\lambda(G)$  or  $\lambda$ . positive integer  $\lambda$  to be used to label a graph  $G$  by  $L(3, 1)$  labeling.

**Definition 3.** A complete graph is simple undirected graph in which every pair of distinct vertices is connected by a unique edge. A complete graph with  $n$  vertices is denoted by  $K_n$ . Here all vertices  $u, v \in V$ ,  $(u, v) \in E$ .

**Definition 4.** A graph  $G$  is called a complete bipartite graph if it vertices can be partitioned into two subsets  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that no edges has both end points in the same subset, and every possible edge that could connect vertices in different subsets is part of the graph. A complete bipartite graph with  $|V_1| = m$  and  $|V_2| = n$  is denoted by  $K_{m,n}$ . A star  $S_n$  is a complete bipartite graph  $K_{1,n}$ .

**Definition 5.** A path is a trail in which all vertices (except possibly the first and last) are distinct. A trail is a walk in which all edges are distinct. A walk of length  $k$  in a graph is an alternating sequence of vertices and edges,  $v_0, e_0, v_1, e_1, v_2, \dots, v_{k-1}, e_{k-1}, v_k$  which begins and ends with vertices. If the graph is directed, then  $e_i$  is an arc from  $v_i$  to  $v_{i+1}$ .

**Definition 6.** A simple graph with  $n$  vertices ( $n \geq 3$ ) and  $n$  edges is called a cycle graph if all its edges form a cycle of length  $n$ . If the degree of each vertex in the graph is two, then it is called a cycle graph, denoted by  $C_n$ .

**Definition 7.** Let  $G$  be a connected acyclic graph then  $G$  is known as tree.  $G$  is called an  $n$ -ary tree if  $G$  is a rooted tree such that the root has degree  $n$  and all the other vertices have degree  $n + 1$ .

## 3. Labeling of Some Special Classes of Graphs

### 3.1. Paths

First, we consider  $P_2$ . We start label one vertex by 0, so the other vertex must be at least 3. So  $\lambda(P_2) = 3$  (see figure 1).

**Proposition 1.**  $\lambda(P_3) = 4$ .

*Proof.* : For  $P_3$ , we can label the leftmost vertex 0, the middle vertex 4, and the right most vertex 1, according to figure 1. So,  $\lambda(P_3) \leq 4$ . To label  $P_3$ , we need



Fig. 1. Path with 2 vertices

0, 1, 2, 3, 4 numbers to be use to label the path with 3 vertices. Labeling can't be possible by the use of just 0, 1, 2, 3. Label 1 or 2 couldn't be use anywhere otherwise it violets the adjacency rules for  $L(3, 1)$  labeling. So we have only 0 and 3 to label three vertices. By pigeone hole principle, two of these vertices must receive the same label, which necessarily violets the condition.  $\square$

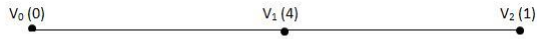


Fig. 2. Path with 3 vertices

**Lemma 1.** *If  $H$  is a subgraph of  $G$ , then  $\lambda(H) \leq \lambda(G)$ .*

*Proof.* : Let  $\lambda(G) = m$  with corresponding labeling  $f : V(G) \rightarrow 0, 1, \dots, m$ . Then  $g : V(H) \rightarrow 0, 1, \dots, m$ , defined by  $g(v) = f(v)$  for all  $v \in V(H)$ , is a labeling of  $H$  that uses no label greater than  $m$ . Thus  $\lambda(H) \leq m = \lambda(G)$ . The idea is we can use the same labels we use on  $G$  to label the corresponding vertices of  $H$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.**  $\lambda(P_4) = 4$ .

*Proof.* : Since  $P_3$  is a subgraph of  $P_4$ , from our previous result we know  $\lambda(P_4) \geq \lambda(P_3) = 3$ . Figure 2 shows we can label  $P_4$  with no label greater than 5. Thus  $\lambda(P_4) = 4$  and the result follows.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.**  $\lambda(P_n) = 5$  for  $n \geq 5$ .

*Proof.* : We have already shown  $\lambda(P_4) = 4$ . Since  $P_4$  is a subgraph of  $P_5$ , from our previous result we know  $\lambda(P_5) \geq \lambda(P_4) = 4$ . Figure 3 shows we can label  $P_5$  with no label greater than 5. Thus  $\lambda(P_5) = 5$ .

Next we show  $\lambda(P_n) = 5$  for  $n > 5$ . Let  $P_n$  be a path with more than 5 vertices. Since  $P_5$  is a subgraph of  $P_n$ , we know  $\lambda(P_n) \geq \lambda(P_5) = 5$ . It is clear from the figure 4 we can repeat the labels in  $P_n(3, 0, 4, 1, 5, 0, 4, 1, 5, 0, 4, 1, \dots)$ . Thus  $\lambda(P_n) \leq 4$ , hence the proof.  $\square$

$$\lambda(P_n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{for } n = 2 \\ 4 & \text{for } n = 3 \text{ and } n = 4 \\ 5 & \text{for } n \geq 5. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$



Fig. 3. Path with 4 vertices

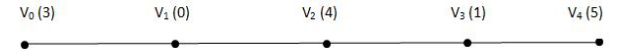


Fig. 4. Path with 5 vertices

### 3.2. Cycle:

If we join the start vertex with the end vertex of a path we get a cycle see figure 5.

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $C_n$  be a cycle of length  $n$ . Then  $\lambda(C_n) = 6$  for all  $n \geq 3$  and  $n \in N$ .*

*Proof.* : If  $n < 4$ , then it is easy to verify the result. Thus suppose that  $n > 5$ . For all  $n > 5$ ,  $C_n$  must contain a  $P_5$  as a subgraph. Hence  $\lambda(C_n) \geq \lambda(P_5) = 5$ .  $\square$

Now we are going to consider the  $L(3, 1)$  labeling of cycle  $C_n$ . Let  $v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}$  be the vertices of the cycle  $C_n$  where  $v_i$  is adjacent to  $v_{i+1}$  and  $v_0$  is adjacent to  $v_{n-1}$ . The rule of labeling of cycle  $C_n$  are given below.

1. If  $n \equiv 0(\text{mod } 3)$

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 0, & i \equiv 0(\text{mod } 3); \\ 3, & i \equiv 1(\text{mod } 3); \\ 6, & i \equiv 2(\text{mod } 3) \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

2. If  $n \equiv 1(\text{mod } 3)$ , and cycle with multiple of 4 vertices only for  $v_{n-4}, v_{n-3}, \dots, v_{n-1}$  vertices, rest will follow the rule (1).

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } i = n - 4; \\ 4, & \text{if } i = n - 3; \\ 1, & \text{if } i = n - 2; \\ 5, & \text{if } i = n - 1 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

3. If  $n \equiv 2(\text{mod } 3)$ , only for  $v_{n-2}, v_{n-1}$ , as follows.

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } i = n - 2; \\ 5, & \text{if } i = n - 1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

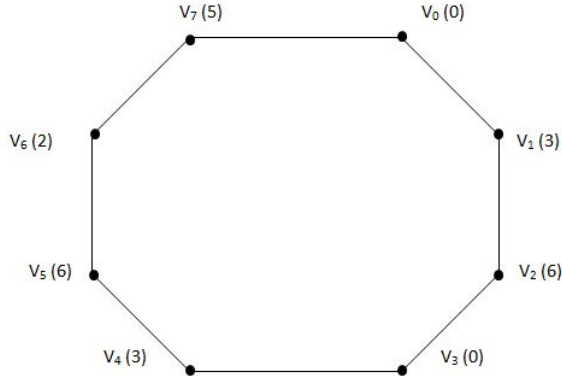


Fig. 5. Cycle with 8 vertices

### 3.3. Complete graph

Consider the complete graph on  $n$  vertices,  $K_n$ .

**Proposition 5.** For complete graph  $K_n$ ,  $\lambda(K_n) = 3n - 3$

*Proof.* : Given  $K_n$  with vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ , the function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 3n - 3\}$  defined by  $f(v_i) = 3i - 3$  is a labeling of  $K_n$ . So,  $\lambda(K_n) \leq 3n - 3$ . We claim we can't label  $K_n$  with just the numbers  $0, 1, 2, \dots, 3n - 4$ . Note that we have  $3n - 3$  labels that need to be assigned to  $n$  vertices. We can think of this as  $n - 1$  disjoint pairs of consecutive labels in which  $n$  vertices must be placed. By the pigeon hole principle, one of these pairs of consecutive labels must contain two vertices. However, since these two vertices are adjacent in  $K_n$ , this violates the labeling condition. Thus,  $\lambda(K_n) = 3n - 3$ .  $\square$

### 3.4. Complete bipartite graph

Considering the Complete Bipartite Graph with two set of vertices  $|V_1| = m$  and  $|V_2| = n$  denoted by  $K_{m,n}$ .

**Proposition 6.** For complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$ ,  $\lambda(K_{m,n}) = m + n + 1$ .

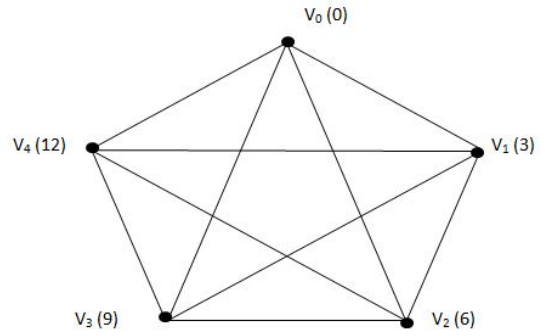


Fig. 6. Complete graph with 5 vertices

*Proof.* : Let  $K_{m,n}$  be the complete bipartite graph with two set of vertices  $|V_1| = m$  and  $|V_2| = n$ . It is clear that the vertices within a set is not connected, so each vertex in a particular set is at distance 2 where as any two vertices from different set are at distance 1. So if we labeling a particular vertex set  $|V_1| = m$  start with  $a$  by following the rule of distance 2 remaining all vertices take the label  $a + 1, a + 2, a + 3, \dots, a + m - 1$ . Next we are going to label another vertex set  $|V_2| = n$ , which are connected at distance 1. We can start label by  $a + m - 1 + 3$ , because the vertex label with  $a + m - 1$  directly connected. Rest labeling proceed with  $a + m - 1 + 3 + 1, a + m - 1 + 3 + 2, \dots, a + m - 1 + n + 2$ . Now if we start labeling with 0 it will take minimum number of integer and it becomes  $m + n + 1$ . So  $\lambda(K_{m,n}) = m + n + 1$ . This explanation is illustrated in figure 7.  $\square$

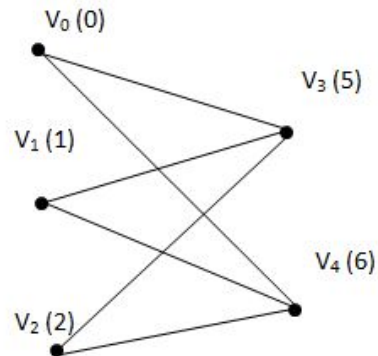


Fig. 7. Complete bipartite graph and its  $L(3, 1)$  labeling

### 3.5. Star graph

A star graph actually a bipartite graph with  $K_{1,n}$ , denoted by  $S_n$ .

**Proposition 7.** For a star graph  $S_n$ ,  $\lambda(S_n) = n + 2$ .

*Proof.* : Star graph is a complete bipartite graph where two set of vertices  $|V_1| = 1$  and  $|V_2| = n$ . Therefore, the result follows from proposition 6.  $\square$

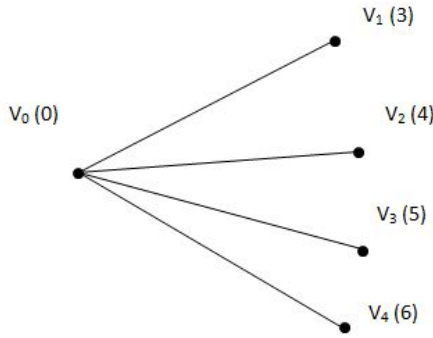


Fig. 8. Star graph

### 3.6. Bi-star graph

A bi-star graph we can obtain by joining the center (apex) vertices of two  $K_{1,n}$  by an edge, denoted by  $B_{n,n}$ .

**Proposition 8.** For a bi-star graph  $B_{n,n}$ ,  $\lambda(B_{n,n}) = n + 5$ .

*Proof.* : Bi-star graph is a two star graph whose apex connected by an edge, we already proof that for a star graph  $S_n$ ,  $\lambda(S_n) = n + 2$ . So we have two  $K_{1,n}$  connected by an edge, we can label a single  $K_{1,n}$  by  $a + n + 2$  that we have already shown in the proof of star graph. Another end of the edge can get at least  $a + n + 3$  according to the rule of  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling. If we start labeling by 0 it will take minimum labeling, so  $\lambda(B_{n,n}) = n + 3$ .  $\square$

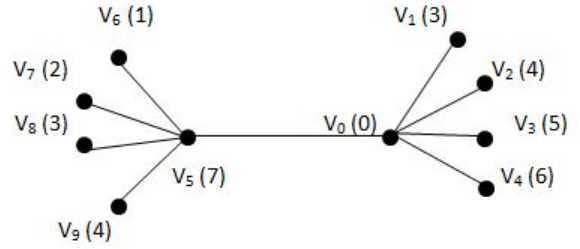


Fig. 9. Bi-star graph

### 3.7. n-ary tree

Basically a tree is a connected acyclic graph and an n-ary tree is a tree having maximum of  $n$  children.

**Proposition 9.** For n-ary tree,  $\lambda(G) \leq n + 5$ .

*Proof.* : Let  $G = (V, E)$  be an n-ary tree. We can see carefully that every induced subgraph of tree is a sun graph. For a sun graph  $S_n$ ,  $\lambda(G) = n + 2$ . From the figure 9 we can see  $v_0$  is the root of the n-ary tree,  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_n$  all these are the adjacent to the root vertex  $v_0$ , so there will be at least 3 label difference. If we label the root vertex by  $a$  then  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_n$  will take the label  $a + 3, a + 4, a + 5, \dots, a + n + 1, a + n + 2$ . We have to find the maximum label  $\lambda(G)$  so we can consider the highest label node that is  $v_n$  which is labeled by  $a + n + 2$ .

Let there exist another  $n$  adjacent vertices of  $v_n$  are  $v_{n+1}, v_{n+2}, v_{n+3}, \dots, v_{2n-1}, v_{2n}$ , only  $v_0$  is the vertex which is at distance 2 obviously there should be at least 1 label difference. So we can repeat the label of all the vertices which is adjacent to root vertex except  $v_n$ . We can label the vertices  $v_{2n}$  by  $a + n + 5$ . Again we can repeat all the above except the label of  $v_{2n}$  for the all the predecessor of  $v_{2n}$  and the process will continue. If we consider the value of  $a = 0$  then it will attain the minimum label and  $\lambda(G) \leq n + 5$ . Hence proof.  $\square$

## 4. Conclusion

In this paper, we consider the  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling problem of some simple graphs and tree. The upper bound of  $\lambda_{3,1}$  for path, cycle, complete graph, complete bipartite graph, star graph, bi-star graph and tree are provided. Basically  $L(3, 1)$ -labeling is a special form of  $L(h, k)$ -labeling problem, in future we want to use this technique to label the family of intersection graph to

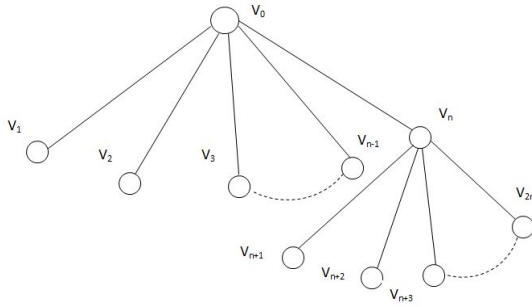


Fig. 10. n-ary tree

tune up the time complexity. Radio frequency assignment problem with minimum use of frequency with the restricted labeling like  $L(3, 1)$  is always inspire us to achieve the better result.

## 5. Acknowledgement

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