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## Some results on centered triangular graceful graphs

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### ABSTRACT

Let  $G$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges. The  $n^{\text{th}}$  centered triangular number is denoted by  $C_n$ , where  $C_n = \frac{1}{2}(3n^2 - 3n + 2)$ . A centered triangular graceful labeling of a graph  $G$  is a one-to-one function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_q\}$  that induces a bijection  $f^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_q\}$  of the edges of  $G$  defined by  $f^*(e) = |f(u) - f(v)|$ , for all  $e = uv \in E(G)$ . The graph which admits such labeling is called a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Keywords:** Centered triangular numbers, centered triangular graceful labeling, centered triangular graceful graphs

### 1. INTRODUCTION AND DEFINITIONS

The graph considered in this paper are finite, undirected and without loops or multiple edges. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges. Undefined terms are used in the sense of Harary [1], Parthasarathy [2] and Bondy and Murthy [3]. For number theoretic terminology, we refer to [4] and [5].

Graph labeling is one of the fascinating areas of graph theory with wide ranging applications. Graph labeling was first introduced in 1960's. A graph labeling is an assignment

of integers to the vertices or edges or both subject to certain conditions. If the domain of the mapping is the set of vertices (edges / both) then the labeling is called the vertex (edge / total) labeling. Most popular graph labeling trace their origin to one introduced by Rosa [6]. Rosa called a function (labeling)  $f$  a  $\beta$ -valuation of a graph in the year 1966 and Golomb [7] called it as graceful labeling. There are several types of graph labeling and a detailed survey is found in [8].

The concept of a sum graph was introduced by Harary [9] in 1990 and was defined as a graph whose vertices can be labeled with distinct positive integers so that the sum of the labels on each pair of adjacent vertices is the label of some other vertex. In 1991, Harary et al. [10] defined a real sum graph. One of the earliest interesting results was due to Ellingham [11] who proved the conjecture of Harary [12].

Labeled graphs are becoming an increasing useful family of mathematical models for a broad range of application like designing X-Ray crystallography, formulating a communication network addressing system, determining an optimal circuit layouts, problems in additive number theory etc.

In [13], the concept of centered triangular sum labeling was introduced. Jeyanthi et al. [14] introduced centered triangular mean labeling. M.P. Syed Ali Nisaya [15-20] introduced centered triangular graceful labeling. In this paper, we have studied the centered triangular graceful labeling of some graphs. For more information related to graceful graphs, see [21-46].

The following definitions are necessary for present study.

**Definition 1.1:** A graph  $G$  is a finite non-empty set of objects called vertices together with a set of unordered pairs of distinct vertices of  $G$  called edges. The vertex set and the edge set of  $G$  are denoted by  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  respectively. The number of elements of  $V(G) = p$  is called the order of  $G$  and the number of elements of  $E(G) = q$  is called the size of  $G$ . A graph of order  $p$  and size  $q$  is called a  $(p,q)$  - graph. If  $e = uv$  is an edges of  $G$ , we say that  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent and that  $u$  and  $v$  are incident with  $e$ .

**Definition 1.2:** A connected acyclic graph is called a tree.

**Definition 1.3:** A Path  $P_n$  is obtained by joining  $u_i$  to the consecutive vertices  $u_{i+1}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ .

**Definition 1.4:** The Fork graph, sometimes also called the chair graph, is the 5-vertex tree.

**Definition 1.5:** F- Tree on  $n+2$  vertices denoted by  $FP_n$ , is obtained from a path  $P_n$  by attaching exactly two pendant vertices to the  $n-1$  and  $n^{\text{th}}$  vertex of  $P_n$ .

**Definition 1.6:** Y-tree on  $n+1$  vertices, denoted by  $Y_n$ , is obtained from a path  $P_n$  by attaching exactly a pendant vertex to the  $(n-1)^{\text{th}}$  vertex of  $P_n$ .

**Definition 1.7:** The complete bipartite graph  $K_{1,n}$  is called a Star graph.

**Definition 1.8:** A graph in which any two distinct points are adjacent is called a complete graph. The complete graph with  $n$  points is denoted by  $K_n$ .

**Definition 1.9:** The corona  $G_1 \odot G_2$  of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  where  $G_1$  has  $m$  vertices and  $n$  edges is defined as the graph  $G_1$  obtained by taking one copy of  $G_1$  and  $m$  copies of  $G_2$ , and the joining by an edge the  $i^{th}$  vertex of  $G_1$  to every vertex in the  $i^{th}$  copy of  $G_2$ .

**Definition 1.10:** A graph, which can be formed from a given graph  $G$  by breaking up each edge into exactly two segments by inserting intermediate vertices between its two ends, is called a sub division graph. It is denoted by  $S(G)$ .

**Definition 1.11:** A caterpillar is a tree with a path  $P_m: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$ , called spine with leaves (pendant vertices) known as feet attached to the vertices of the spine by edges known as legs. If every spine vertex  $v_i$  is attached with  $n_i$  number of leaves then the caterpillar is denoted by  $S(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m)$ .

**Definition 1.12:** The double star graph  $ST(n, m)$  is a graph that is formed by two stars  $ST(n)$  and  $ST(m)$  via joining their centers by an edge.

**Definition 1.13:** A centered triangular number is a centered figurate number that represents a triangle with a dot in the center and all other dots surrounding the center in successive triangular layers. If the  $n$ th centered triangular number is denoted by  $C_n$ , then  $C_n = \frac{1}{2}(3n^2 - 3n + 2)$ . The first few centered triangular numbers are 1, 4, 10, 19, 31, 46, 64, 85, 109, 136, 166, 199, 235, 274,...

**Definition 1.14:** A centered triangular graceful labeling of a graph  $G$  is a one-to-one function  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_q\}$  that induces a bijection  $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_q\}$  of the edges of  $G$  defined by  $f^*(e) = |f(u) - f(v)|$ , for all  $e = uv \in E(G)$ . The graph which admits such labeling is called a centered triangular graceful graph.

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

**Theorem 2.1:** The Fork graph is a centered triangular graceful graph

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be Fork graph.

Let  $V(G) = \{v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$E(G) = \{v_1 v_i / i = 2, 3\} \cup \{v_3 v_i / i = 4, 5\}$

Here  $G$  has 5 vertices and 4 edges.

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_4\}$  as follows

$$f(v_1) = 1,$$

$$f(v_2) = 5,$$

$$f(v_3) = 0,$$

$$f(v_4) = 10,$$

$$f(v_5) = 19,$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and the edge values, the absolute difference of adjacent vertices are  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_t\}$

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.2:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of Fork graph is given in Fig. 1.

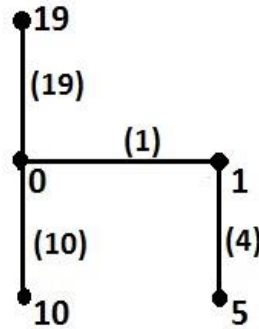


Fig. 1

**Theorem 2.3:**  $F$ -tree  $FP_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$  is a centered triangular graceful graph

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a  $F$ -tree  $FP_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{u, v, v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$E(G) = \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n-1\} \cup \{uv_{n-1}, vv_n\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $n + 2$  vertices and  $n + 1$  edges.

Let  $t = n + 1$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v_1) = 0,$$

$$f(v_i) = f(v_{i-1}) - C_{t-i+2} \text{ if } i \text{ is odd and } 2 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$= f(v_{i-1}) + C_{t-i+2} \text{ if } i \text{ is even and } 2 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$f(v) = f(v_n) - 1,$$

$$f(u) = f(v_{n-1}) - 4.$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(v_i v_{i+1}) = C_{t-i+1} ; 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

$$f^*(uv_{n-1}) = C_2$$

$$f^*(vv_n) = C_1$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = FP_n$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.4:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $FP_6$  is given in Fig. 2.

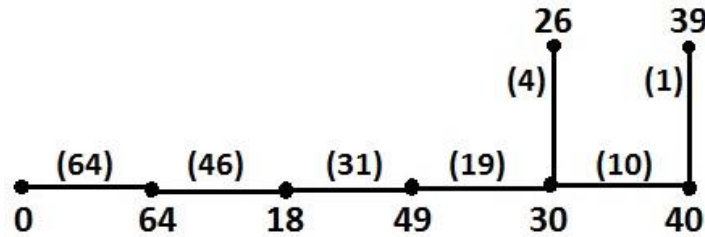


Fig. 2

**Theorem 2.5:** Any  $Y_n$ -tree is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the  $Y_n$ -tree.

Let  $V(G) = \{v, v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$E(G) = \{v_i v_{i+1}, v v_{n-1} : 1 \leq i \leq n-1\}$ .

$G$  has  $n + 1$  vertices and  $n$  edges.

Let  $t = n$ .

Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v_1) = 0$$

$$f(v_i) = f(v_{i-1}) - C_{t-i+2} \text{ if } i \text{ is odd and } 2 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$= f(v_{i-1}) + C_{t-i+2} \text{ if } i \text{ is even and } 2 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$f(v) = f(v_{n-1}) - 1$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(v_i v_{i+1}) = C_{t-i+1} ; 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

$$f^*(v v_{n-1}) = C_1$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = Y_n$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.6:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $Y_6$  is given in Fig. 3.

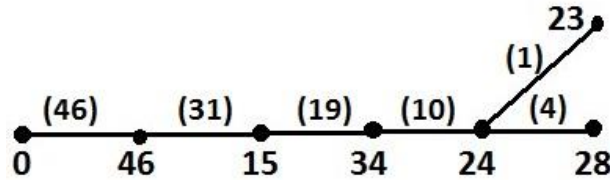


Fig. 3

**Theorem 2.7:** Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by identifying a pendant vertex of  $P_m$  with a leaf of  $K_{1,n}$ . Then  $G$  is centered triangular graceful for all  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by identifying the pendant vertex  $v_1$  of  $P_m$  with a leaf  $u_n$  of  $K_{1,n}$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{u, u_i, v_j : 1 \leq i \leq n-1, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  and

$E(G) = \{uu_i, uv_1, v_j v_{j+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n-1, 1 \leq j \leq m-1\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $m+n$  vertices and  $m+n-1$  edges.

Let  $t = m+n-1$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1,\dots,C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(u) = 0$$

$$f(u_i) = C_{t-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n-1$$

$$f(v_1) = f(u_n) = C_m$$

$$f(v_j) = f(v_{j-1}) + C_{n-(j-2)} \text{ if } j \text{ is odd } 2 \leq j \leq m.$$

$$= f(v_{j-1}) - C_{n-(j-2)} \text{ if } j \text{ is even } 2 \leq j \leq m.$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{1,4,\dots,C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(uu_i) = C_{t-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

$$f^*(uv_1) = f^*(u_n) = C_m$$

$$f^*(v_j v_{j+1}) = C_{m-j} ; 1 \leq j \leq m-1.$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1,4,\dots,C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.8:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of identifying a pendant vertex of  $P_5$  with a leaf of  $K_{1,6}$  is given in Fig. 4.

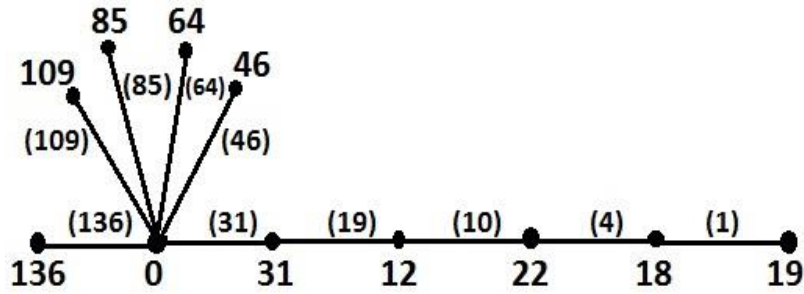


Fig. 4

**Theorem 2.9:** The graph obtained from  $P_n \odot K_1$  by subdividing the edges of the path  $P_n$  is centered triangular graceful for all  $n \geq 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the graph obtained from  $P_n \odot K_1$  by subdividing the edges of the path  $P_n$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{v_i, u_i, w_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n-1\}$  and

$E(G) = \{v_i w_i, v_j u_j, w_k v_{k+1} : 1 \leq i \leq n-1, 1 \leq j \leq n, 1 \leq k \leq n-1\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $3n - 1$  vertices and  $3n - 2$  edges.

Let  $t = 3n - 2$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v_1) = 0$$

$$f(v_i) = f(w_{i-1}) - C_{t-1-(2(i-2))} ; 2 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(w_j) = f(v_j) + C_{t-2(j-1)} ; 1 \leq j \leq n-1$$

$$f(u_i) = f(v_i) + C_{n-i+1} ; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(v_i w_i) = C_{t-2(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

$$f^*(v_j u_j) = C_{n-j+1} ; 1 \leq j \leq n.$$

$$f^*(w_k v_{k+1}) = C_{t-2k+1} ; 1 \leq k \leq n-1.$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.10:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $P_3 \odot K_1$  by subdividing the edges of the path  $P_3$  is given in Fig. 5.

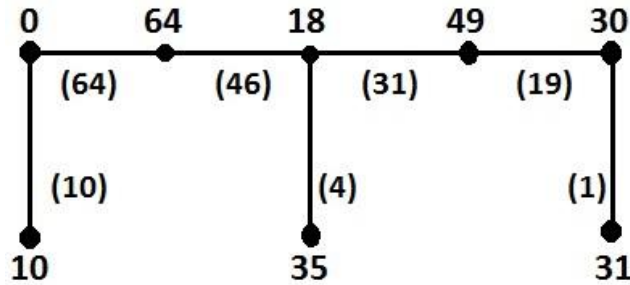


Fig. 5

**Theorem 2.11:** Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by identifying the leaves of  $K_{1,n}$  with the central vertex of  $K_{1,2}$ . Then  $G$  centered triangular graceful for all  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the graph obtained by identifying the leaves of  $K_{1,n}$  with the central vertex of  $K_{1,2}$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{ v, v_i, v_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq 2 \}$  and

$E(G) = \{ vv_i, v_i v_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq 2 \}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $3n + 1$  vertices and  $3n$  edges.

Let  $t = 3n$ .

Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v) = 0$$

$$f(v_i) = C_{3(n-(i-1))}; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$f(v_{ij}) = f(v_i) - C_{t-(i-1)n-j}; 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq 2.$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(vv_i) = C_{3(n-(i-1))}; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$f^*(v_i v_{ij}) = C_{t-(i-1)n-j}; 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq 2.$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G$  is a centered triangular graceful graph for all  $n \geq 1$ .

**Example 2.12:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of identifying the leaves of  $K_{1,2}$  with the central vertex of  $K_{1,2}$  is given in Fig. 6.



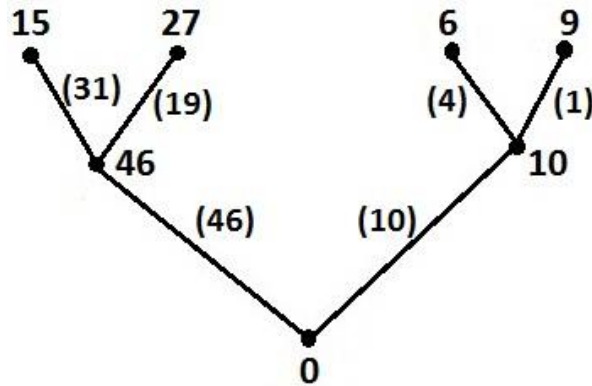


Fig. 6

**Theorem 2.13:**  $K_{1,n} \odot K_1$  is centered triangular graceful graph.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the graph  $K_{1,n} \odot K_1$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{v, v_i, u_i, w : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$E(G) = \{vv_i, v_iu_i, vw : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $2n + 2$  vertices and  $2n + 1$  edges.

Let  $t = 2n + 1$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v) = 0$$

$$f(v_i) = C_{t-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(w) = C_{t-n}$$

$$f(u_i) = f(v_i) - C_{n-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(vv_i) = C_{t-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

$$f^*(vw) = C_{t-n}.$$

$$f^*(v_iu_i) = C_{n-(i-1)} ; 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = K_{1,n} \odot K_1$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.14:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $K_{1,4} \odot K_1$  is given in Fig. 7.

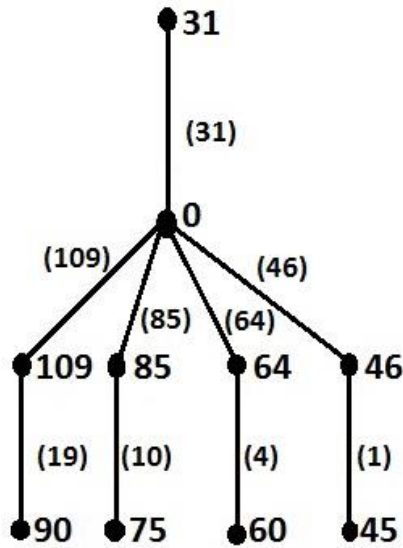


Fig. 7

**Theorem 2.15:** The caterpillar  $S(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be the graph  $S(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m)$ .

Let  $V(G) = \{v_i, v_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n_m\}$  and

$E(G) = \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq m-1\} \cup \{v_i v_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n_m\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_m + m$  vertices and  $n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_m + m - 1$  edges.

Let  $t = n_1 + n_2 + \dots + n_m + m - 1$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(v_1) = 0$$

$$f(v_{1j}) = C_{t-(j-1)} ; 1 \leq j \leq n_1$$

For  $2 \leq i \leq m$ ,

$$f(v_i) = f(v_{i-1}) - C_{t-n_1-n_2-\dots-n_{i-1}-(i-2)} \text{ if } i \text{ is odd}$$

$$= f(v_{i-1}) + C_{t-n_1-n_2-\dots-n_{i-1}-(i-2)} \text{ if } i \text{ is even}$$

$$f(v_{ij}) = f(v_{i-1}) - C_{t-n_1-n_2-\dots-n_{i-1}-(i-2)-i} , 1 \leq j \leq n_m$$

Clearly the vertex labels are distinct and the resulting edge labels are of the form  $\{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_t\}$

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = S(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.16:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $S(3, 4, 5, 6)$  is given in Fig. 8.

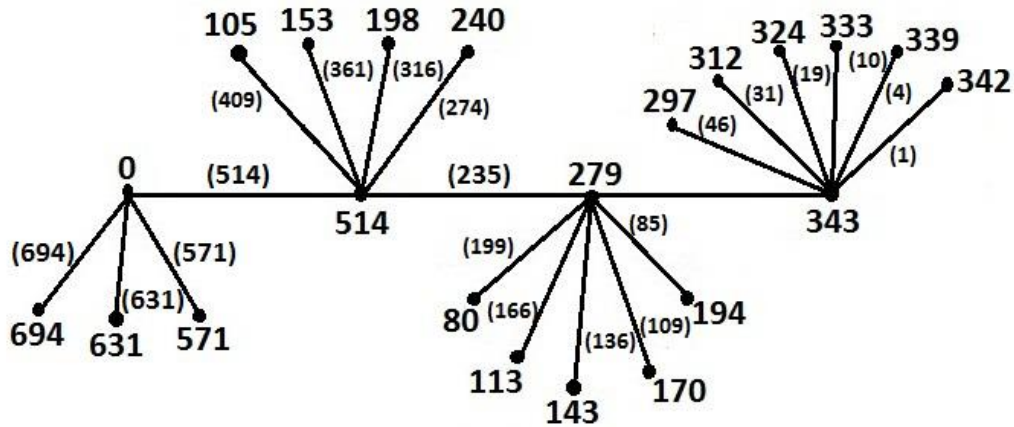


Fig. 8

**Corollary 2.16.1:** The double star  $ST(n, m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a double star  $ST(n, m)$  graph.

Let  $V(G) = \{u, u_i, v, v_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  and

$E(G) = \{uv, uu_i, vv_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $n + m + 2$  vertices and  $n + m + 1$  edges.

Let  $t = n + m + 1$ .

Define  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(u) = C_1$$

$$f(u_i) = C_{i+1} + 1, 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(v) = 0,$$

$$f(v_j) = C_{n+1+j}, 1 \leq j \leq m$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^*: E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(uv) = C_1,$$

$$f^*(uu_i) = C_{i+1}, 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f^*(vv_j) = C_{n+1+j}, 1 \leq j \leq m$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = ST(n, m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.16.2:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $ST(5, 4)$  is given in Fig. 9.

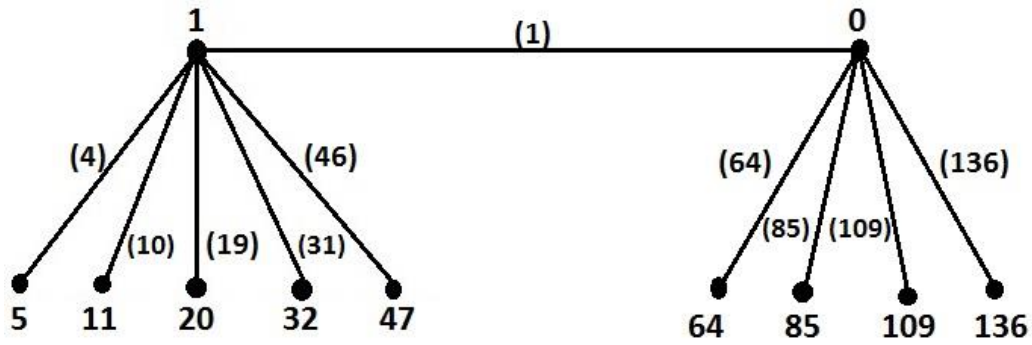


Fig. 9

**Corollary 2.16.3:**  $ST(n, 0, m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph

**Proof:** Let  $G = ST(n, 0, m)$  be a double star with one vertex joining the end vertices of stars.

Let  $V(G) = \{u, v, w, u_i, w_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  and

$E(G) = \{uu_i, uv, vw, ww_j : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$ .

Here  $G$  has  $n + m + 3$  vertices and  $n + m + 2$  edges.

Let  $t = n + m + 2$ .

Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, C_t\}$  as follows

$$f(u) = C_1,$$

$$f(u_i) = C_{i+1} + 1, 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f(v) = 0,$$

$$f(w) = C_t,$$

$$f(w_j) = C_t - C_{n+1+j}, 1 \leq j \leq m$$

Clearly  $f$  is injective and  $f$  induces a bijective function  $f^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 4, \dots, C_t\}$  as

$$f^*(uu_i) = C_{i+1}, 1 \leq i \leq n$$

$$f^*(uv) = C_1,$$

$$f^*(vw) = C_t,$$

$$f^*(ww_j) = C_{n+1+j}, 1 \leq j \leq m$$

Hence the edge labels are  $1, 4, \dots, C_t$ .

Thus  $f$  is a centered triangular graceful labeling of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $G = ST(n, 0, m)$  is a centered triangular graceful graph.

**Example 2.16.4:** Centered triangular graceful labeling of  $ST(5, 0, 4)$  is given in Fig. 10.

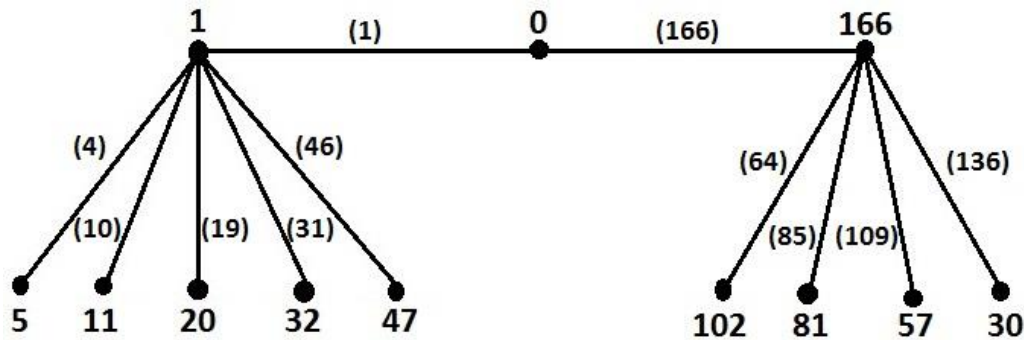


Fig. 10

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper, we have studied the centered triangular graceful labeling of some tree related graphs. This work contributes several new results to the theory of graph labeling. The centered triangular graceful can be verified for many other graphs. Also some more centered triangular graceful labeling can be investigated.

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