

# A Study on Emergence of Clutch Graphs from Cycle Graphs: A Comprehensive Analysis

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## Article History:

**Received:** 28-10-2023

**Revised:** 09-12-2023

**Accepted:** 24-12-2023

## Abstract:

The clutch is one of the substantial devices for constructing vehicles in automobile engineering. In terms of network toughness against failures or disruptions, the clutch-based graph can be used to model insufficiency of primary pathways and the availability of alternative routes in communication networks. In this paper, the identification of the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  from the cycle graph  $C_n(G)$  has been proposed. A clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  generating from a cycle graph with  $3n$  vertices and  $4n$  edges ( $n \geq 4$  and even). The notions of degree, girth, and chromatic number of the clutch graph have been discussed. Further, the existence of the bipartite and Hamiltonian graphs on the clutch graph has been examined.

**Keywords:** Clutch graph, Cycle graph, Spanning tree, Bipartite, Hamiltonian.

## 1. Introduction

Graph theory explores connections between vertices and edges, offering a way to understand and analyze various real-world systems [6]. A cycle in graph theory is a closed path that starts and ends at the same vertex. A cycle graph is a graph composed of a single cycle, forming a circular structure [7]. A clutch is a mechanical device that connects or disconnects power transmission, enabling smooth control over energy transfer [8]. In this way, the authors motivated to define clutch based graph that is used to design networks. Clutch graph based network models effective in identifying the smooth control of data transmission between entities. The clutch graph inherits the properties of bipartite and Hamiltonian graphs. The chromatic number and girth have been explored with appropriate illustration.

## 2. Preliminaries

**Definition 2.1:[1]** The cycle  $C_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ , made up of  $n$  vertices  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  and edges  $\{c_1, c_2\}, \{c_2, c_3\}, \dots, \{c_{n-1}, c_n\}, \{c_n, c_1\}$ . The cycles  $c_3$  and  $c_4$  are shown in Figure 1 and Figure 2.

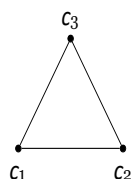


Figure 1:  $C_3(G)$

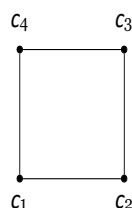


Figure 2:  $C_4(G)$

**Definition 2.2:[1]** A graph with a single cycle (at least 3 vertices) connected in a closed chain is referred to as a *cycle graph*  $C_n$  or circular graph. In  $C_n$ , the number of edges is equal to the number of vertices, and each vertex has degree 2.

**Definition 2.3:[2]** The number of edges that are incident on a vertex is the *degree* of the graph.

**Definition 2.4:[5]** The length of shortest cycle in the graph is said to be *girth*.

**Definition 2.5:[1]** The least number of colors that allows to be colored differently for the adjacent vertices is said to be *chromatic number*.

### 3. Main Results

**Definition 3.1:** A *Clutch Graph*  $Cl_{3n}(G) = (V, E)$  is a type of graph that can be derived from the cycle graph. The construction of a clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  involves specific steps as described below.

- Start with a cycle graph  $C_n(G) = (V_c, E_c)$ , with vertex set  $V_c = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$ , where  $(n \geq 4, \text{ even})$  is the number of vertices and edge set,  $E_c = \{(c_i, c_{i+1}) | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}\} \cup (c_n, c_1)$
- Add a set of vertices,  $V_p = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$  to the existing vertex set  $V_c$
- Establish the edge set,  $E_{cp}$  by joining each vertex  $c_i$  with its corresponding  $p_i$ ,  $E_{cp} = \{(c_i, p_i) | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$
- Form an edge set,  $E_p = \{(p_i, p_{i+1}) | i \in \{1, 3, 5, \dots, n-1\}\}$
- Create another set of vertices,  $V_q = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$  and add to the vertex set  $V_p$ . The resulting vertex set be  $V_{cpq} = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_n\}$
- Built an edge set  $E_{pq} = \{(p_i, q_i) | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$  connecting corresponding vertices from  $V_p$  and  $V_q$
- Finally, create an edge set,  $E_q = \{(q_i, q_{i+1}) | i \in \{2, 4, \dots, n\}\} \cup (q_n, q_1)$

By following these steps, the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  have the vertex set  $V = V_c \cup V_p \cup V_q$  and edge set  $E = E_c \cup E_{cp} \cup E_p \cup E_{pq} \cup E_q$ . The resulting clutch graph is characterized by with  $|V| = 3n$  vertices and  $|E| = 4n$  edges ( $n \geq 4$  & even).

**Example:** The clutch graph  $Cl_{18}(G)$  in Fig: 3 and  $Cl_{24}(G)$  in Fig: 4 which have been constructed from the cycle graph  $C_6(G)$  and  $C_8(G)$  respectively.

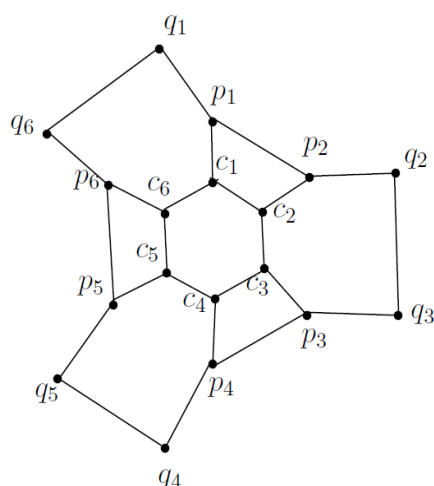


Figure 3:  $Cl_{18}(G)$

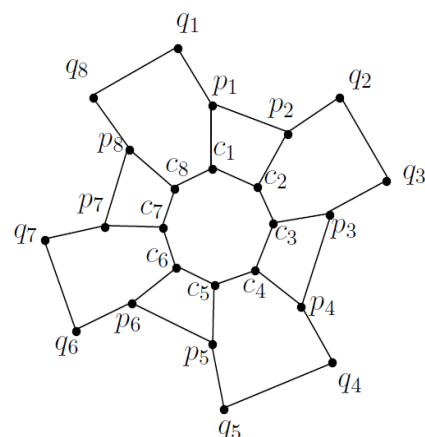


Figure 4:  $Cl_{24}(G)$

**Definition 3.2:** The *degree* of the clutch graph is represented by  $deg\ Cl_{3n}(G)$ . The degree of the vertices  $c_i$  in  $V_c$  and  $p_i$  in  $V_p$  of the clutch graph are denoted by  $s$ . The degree of the vertices  $q_i$  in  $V_q$  is denoted by  $t$ .

$$\begin{aligned} deg_{c_i \in V_c} Cl_{3n}(c_i) &= s = 3 \\ deg_{p_i \in V_p} Cl_{3n}(p_i) &= s = 3, \text{ and} \\ deg_{q_i \in V_q} Cl_{3n}(q_i) &= t = 2 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 3.3:** The *girth*  $g$  of a clutch graph ( $Cl_{3n}(G)$ ) is always 4.

$$g = \{(c_{2i-i}, p_{2i-1}, p_{2i}, c_{2i}) | i \in 1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\}$$

**Definition 3.4:** The *chromatic number* for clutch graph  $\chi(Cl_{3n}(G))$  is 2.

$$\chi(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \{(c_{2i-1}, p_{2i}, q_{2i-1}) | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\}\} \\ 2 & \text{if } \{(c_{2i}, p_{2i-i}, q_{2i}) | i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\}\} \end{cases}$$

Here 1,2 represents the colors assign to the vertices of the clutch graph.

## 4. Some properties of clutch graph

### Theorem 4.1

For every clutch graph, the sum of the degrees of vertices is equal to twice the number of edges.

### Proof

Let us consider a clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  with vertex set  $V_{cpq}$  where  $V_{cpq} = (V_c \cup V_p \cup V_q)$ . Each vertex  $c_i$  in  $V_c$  and  $p_i$  in  $V_p$  have degrees 3 and each vertex  $q_i$  in  $V_q$  have degrees 2.

$$\sum_{c_i \in V_c} deg(c_i) + \sum_{p_i \in V_p} deg(p_i) + \sum_{q_i \in V_q} deg(q_i) = 3n + 3n + 2n = 8n = 2(4n) = 2e.$$

**Example:** In Figure 3, the clutch graph  $Cl_{18}(G)$  with  $n = 6$  vertices.

$$\sum_{c_i \in V_c} \deg(c_i) + \sum_{p_i \in V_p} \deg(p_i) + \sum_{q_i \in V_q} \deg(q_i) = 18 + 18 + 12 = 48$$

$$= 2(24) = 2e.$$

**Theorem 4.2**

Let  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  be a clutch graph with vertices of degrees  $s$  (or)  $t$ , then show that  $n(2s + t) = 2e$ ,  $n$  is the number of vertices in the cycle graph.

**Proof**

Given that  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  is a clutch graph whose vertices have degree  $s$  or  $t$ . The vertices in  $V_c$  and  $V_p$  have degrees  $s$  and  $V_q$  have degrees  $t$  respectively. By Theorem [4.1], given that,

$$\sum_{c_i \in V_c} \deg(c_i) + \sum_{p_i \in V_p} \deg(p_i) + \sum_{q_i \in V_q} \deg(q_i) = 2e$$

$$ns + ns$$

$$+ nt = 2e$$

$$n(2s + t) = 2e$$

Hence proved

**Theorem 4.3**

Every clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  is constructed with  $2n$  vertices having of odd degree in  $V_c$  and  $V_p$ , and  $n$  vertices of even degree in  $V_q$ , results in a connected graph.

**Proof**

Given that  $s = 3$  be the degree of each vertex  $c_i$  in  $V_c$  and each vertex  $p_i$  in  $V_p$ . Then total sum of odd degrees for these  $2n$  vertices is

$$\sum_{i=1}^{2n} \deg(c_i) + \sum_{i=1}^{2n} \deg(p_i) = 2n.s = 6n$$

Also  $t = 2$  be the degree of each vertex  $q_i$  in  $V_q$ . The total sum of even degrees for these  $n$  vertices is

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \deg(q_i) = n.t = 2n.$$

The total sum of degrees for all vertices is  $6n + 2n = 8n$ . According to the Handshaking Lemma, in a graph

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg Cl_{3n}(G) = 2|E| = 2.4n$$

$$\sum_{v \in V} \deg Cl_{3n}(G) = 8n$$

The fact that  $\sum_{v \in V} \deg Cl_{3n}(G) = 8n$  implies  $|E| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v \in V} \deg Cl_{3n}(G) = 4n$  edges. This ensures that every vertex is incident to at least one edge, establishing connectivity in the clutch graph.

**Theorem 4.4**

For every clutch graph,  $\chi + g \leq n + 2$ , where  $\chi$  is chromatic number,  $g$  is girth and  $n$  is number of vertices.

**Example:** In Fig: 3, the clutch graph  $Cl_{18}(G)$  with  $n=6$  vertices, resulting in  $3n=18$  vertices. For every clutch graph, the chromatic number  $\chi$  is 2, and the girth  $g$  is 4. Therefore,

$$\chi + g = 2 + 4 = 6$$

$$n + 2 = 6 + 2 = 8$$

The example satisfies the inequality  $\chi + g \leq n + 2$ , illustrating the validity of the theorem for this clutch graph with  $n = 6$ .

#### Theorem 4.5

In clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$ , the number of vertices with odd degree is even.

#### Proof

The clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  has  $3n$  vertices. Since, the sum of degrees of all vertices in the clutch graph is  $2e$ ,  $e$  is the number of edges.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \deg(v_i) = 2e, v_i \in V = V_c \cup V_p \cup V_q$$

$$\sum_{c_i \in V_c} \deg(c_i) + \sum_{p_i \in V_p} \deg(p_i) + \sum_{q_i \in V_q} \deg(q_i) = 2e$$

In the clutch graph, each vertex in  $V_c$  and  $V_p$  with degree 3, and each vertex in  $V_q$  with degree 2. Let  $n$  be the number of vertices of the vertex set  $V_c$ ,  $V_p$  and  $V_q$  respectively.

$$3n + 3n + 2n = 2e$$

$$8n = 2e$$

Here the sum of degrees is even, and the degrees in  $V_q$  are all even, then the sum of degrees in  $V_c$  and  $V_p$  (which are all odd) must be even. It follows that, the number of vertices with odd degree is even.

#### Theorem 4.6

Every clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  has  $78[4n - k]^{k+1}$  spanning trees.

#### Proof

**Step 1:** Consider the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  with the vertex set  $V = V_c \cup V_p \cup V_q$  and edge sets  $E = E_c \cup E_{cp} \cup E_p \cup E_{pq} \cup E_q$ .

**Step 2:** The degrees of the vertices in  $V$  are  $\deg(v_i) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } v_i \in V_c \cup V_p \\ 2, & \text{if } v_i \in V_q \end{cases}$

Then,  $D(Cl_{3n}(G))$  is the diagonal matrix of vertex degrees which is given by

$$D(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{bmatrix} D_{cc} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & D_{pp} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & D_{qq} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 3:** Form an adjacency matrix based on the edges of the clutch graph

$$A(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if there is an edge between vertices } i \text{ and } j \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$A(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{bmatrix} A_{cc} & A_{cp} & 0 \\ A_{cp} & A_{pp} & A_{pq} \\ 0 & A_{pq} & A_{qq} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Step 4: The Laplacian matrix is defined as  $L(Cl_{3n}(G)) = D(Cl_{3n}(G)) - A(Cl_{3n}(G))$ . So**

$$L(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{bmatrix} D_{cc} - A_{cc} & -A_{cp} & 0 \\ -A_{cp} & D_{pp} - A_{pp} & -A_{pq} \\ 0 & -A_{pq} & D_{qq} - A_{qq} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then, by Kirchoff's theorem, the number of distinct spanning tree of the graph is equal to any cofactors of its Laplacian matrix. Hence, the cofactor of  $L(Cl_{3n}(G))$  is calculated by using  $(-1)^{i+j} \cdot \det(L)$  that remains after deleting  $i^{th}$  row and  $j^{th}$  column. Therefore, the clutch graph has  $n$  distinct spanning trees.

**Example:** Let's find the cofactors of Laplacian matrix for the clutch graph  $Cl_{12}(G)$  using Jupyter notebook software. Start with the construction of  $Cl_{12}(G)$ .

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

```
import numpy as np
```

```
#Points
```

```
points={
```

```
    'c1' : (1.48, 0.41),
```

```
    'c2' : (2.44, 0.41),
```

```
    'c3' : (2.46, -0.41),
```

```
    'c4' : (1.46, -0.43),
```

```
    'p1' : (0.88, 0.79),
```

```
    'q2' : (3.46, 1.39),
```

```
    'p3' : (2.86, -0.81),
```

```
    'p4' : (0.84, -0.79),
```

```
    'q1' : (0.08, 1.37),
```

```
    'q3' : (3.46, 1.37),
```

```
    'p2' : (2.88, 0.81),
```

```
    'q4' : (0.06, -1.39)
```

```
}
```

```
# Plot points
```

```
for point, coordinates in points.items():
```

```
    plt.scatter(*coordinates, label=point)
```

```
# Connect points with lines
```

```
lines = [
```

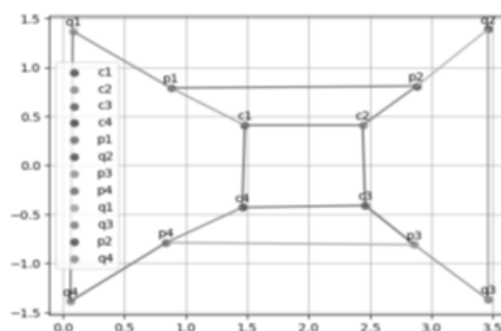
```

('c1','c2','c3','c4','c1'),
('c1','p1'),
('c2','p2'),
('c3','p3'),
('c4','p4'),
('p1','p2'),
('p3','p4'),
('p1','q1'),
('p2','q2'),
('p3','q3'),
('p4','q4'),
('q2','q3'),
('q4','q1')
]
for line in lines:
    plt.plot(*zip(*[points[point] for point in line]))

# Label points
for point, coordinates in points.items():
    plt.annotate(point, coordinates, textcoords="offset points", xytext=(0, 5), ha='center')
# Add title below the graph
fig.text(0.5, 0.02, 'Graph Diagram', ha='center', fontsize=12)

plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()

```

Figure 5:  $Cl_{12}(G)$ 

First create a Diagonal matrix  $D(Cl_{3n}(G))$ .

```
import networkx as nx
```

```
import numpy as np
```

```
# Create a graph
```

```
G = nx.Graph()
```

```
edges = [(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4), (4, 1), (1, 5), (2, 6), (3, 7), (4, 8), (5, 6), (7, 8), (5, 9),
```

```
(6, 10), (7, 11), (8, 12), (10, 11), (12, 9)]
```

```
G.add_edges_from(edges)
```

```
# Get the nodes from the edges
```

```
nodes = set(node for edge in edges for node in edge)
```

```
# Create a diagonal matrix with zeros
```

```
diagonal_matrix = np.zeros((len(nodes), len(nodes)))
```

```
# Assign diagonal values
```

```
for i, node in enumerate(nodes):
```

```
    diagonal_matrix[i, i] = G.degree(node)
```

```
# Assign a name to the matrix
```

```
D_Cl3n = diagonal_matrix
```

```
# Print the diagonal matrix with the assigned name
```

```
print("D(Cl_3n):")
```

```
print(D_Cl3n)
```

which display the output as

$$D(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Create an Adjacency matrix  $A(Cl_{3n}(G))$  using

```
import networkx as nx
```

```
import numpy as np
```

```
# Create a graph
```

```
G = nx.Graph()
```

```
G.add edges from([(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4), (4, 1), (1, 5), (2, 6), (3, 7), (4, 8),  
(5, 6), (7, 8), (5, 9), (6, 10), (7, 11), (8, 12), (10, 11), (12, 9)])\\
```

```
# Obtain the adjacency matrix
```

```
adjacency matrix = nx.adjacency matrix(G).todense()
```

```
# Assign a name to the matrix
```



$A(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \text{adjacency matrix } A$

# Print the adjacency matrix with the assigned name

```
print(f"A(Cl_{3n}(G)):\n{A(Cl_{3n}(G))}")
```

results in

$$A(Cl_{3n}(G)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next, the Laplacian matrix is given by  $L(Cl_{3n}(G)) = D(Cl_{3n}(G)) - A(Cl_{3n}(G))$ .

```
import networkx as nx
```

```
import numpy as np
```

# Create a graph

```
G = nx.Graph()
```

```
edges = [(1, 2), (2, 3), (3, 4), (4, 1), (1, 5), (2, 6), (3, 7), (4, 8), (5, 6),
(7, 8), (5, 9), (6, 10), (7, 11), (8, 12), (10, 11), (12, 9)]
```

```
G.add_edges_from(edges)
```

# Get the nodes from the edges

```
nodes = set(node for edge in edges for node in edge)
```

# Create the adjacency matrix

```
A_Cl3n = nx.adjacency_matrix(G).todense()
```

# Create the diagonal matrix

```
D_Cl3n = np.diag([G.degree(node) for node in nodes])
```

# Calculate the Laplacian matrix

```
L_Cl3n = D_Cl3n - A_Cl3n
```

# Print the Laplacian matrix

```
print("L(Cl_{3n}):")
```

```
print(L_Cl3n)
```

$$L(Cl_{3n}) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now to find the cofactor of Laplacian matrix

```
import numpy as np
```

```
# Define the Laplacian Matrix L
```

```
L = np.array([
    [3, -1, 0, -1, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
    [-1, 3, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
    [0, -1, 3, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0],
    [-1, 0, -1, 3, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 0],
    [-1, 0, 0, 0, 3, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0],
    [0, -1, 0, 0, -1, 3, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0],
    [0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 3, -1, 0, 0, -1, 0],
    [0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, -1, 3, 0, 0, 0, -1],
    [0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, -1],
    [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, 2, -1, 0],
    [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, -1, 2, 0],
    [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, -1, -1, 0, 0, 2]
])
```

```
# Function to find the cofactor of a matrix
```

```
def cofactor(matrix, row, col):
```

```
    minor_matrix = np.delete(np.delete(matrix, row, axis=0), col, axis=1)
```

```
    sign = (-1) ** (row + col)
```

```
    return sign * np.linalg.det(minor_matrix)
```

```
# Calculate the cofactor C12
```

```
row_index = 0
```

```
col_index = 1
```

```
cofactor_C12 = cofactor(L, row_index, col_index)
```

```
print(f"Cofactor C12: {cofactor_C12}")
```

Finally get the output  $C_{12}$ : 1248, which is one of the cofactor of the Laplacian matrix. Hence, for  $n = 4$  in the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$ , the number of spanning trees is 1248. Following the same approach, we found 41262 spanning trees for  $n = 6$  and 210240 for  $n = 8$ . Based on these results, we derived a general formula for calculating the number of spanning trees in the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  as  $78[4n - k]^{k+1}$ , where  $k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ . Therefore, the total number of spanning trees in the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  can be expressed by the formula  $78[4n - k]^{k+1}$ .

### Theorem 4.7

Every clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  is bipartite.

### Proof

The clutch graph has three sets of vertices:  $V_c$  (cycle vertices),  $V_p$  (vertices introduced to the cycle), and  $V_q$  (vertices introduced to  $V_p$ ). Now, consider two disjoint sets  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$  and  $V_1 \cup V_2 = V$ . Partitioned the vertex sets  $V_c, V_p, V_q$  in  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  such that, each edge  $(v_i, v_j)$  in the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  is of the form

If  $v_i \in V_1$ , then  $v_j$  must be in  $V_2$

If  $v_j \in V_2$ , then  $v_i$  must be in  $V_1$

The partition of the vertex set is

$$V_1 = \{(c_{2i-1}, p_{2i}, q_{2i-1}) \mid i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\}\}$$

$$V_2 = \{(c_{2i}, p_{2i-1}, q_{2i}) \mid i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n}{2}\}\}$$

The condition holds for every edge in the clutch graph. The graph is bipartite iff it has no odd cycles. Based on the results, the clutch graph has no odd cycles. So, it is proved that every clutch graph is bipartite.

### Theorem 4.8

Every clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$ , ( $n \geq 4$ , even) is Hamiltonian.

### Proof

Consider the clutch graph  $Cl_{3n}(G)$  with vertex set  $V$  and edge set  $E$ . Let us decompose the clutch graph into two components as  $G_1$  representing the cycle graph  $C_n(G)$  and  $G_2$  representing the additional edges connecting  $V_p$  and  $V_q$ .

$$G_1 = (V_c, E_c)$$

$$G_2 = (V_p \cup V_q, E_{cp} \cup E_{pq} \cup E_q)$$

Since  $G_1$  is a cycle graph, there exists a Hamiltonian cycle  $H_1$ . Further, Connecting the edges  $V_p$  and  $V_q$  form a Hamiltonian path  $P_2$ .

$$H_1 = (c_{i1}, c_{i2}, \dots, c_{in}, c_{i1})$$

$$P_2 = (p_{j1}, q_{j1}, p_{j2}, q_{j2}, \dots, p_{jn}, q_{jn})$$

Combine  $H_1$  and  $P_2$  to form a Hamiltonian cycle  $H$  for  $Cl_{3n}(G)$ .

$$H = (c_{i1}, c_{i2}, \dots, c_{in}, c_{i1}, p_{j1}, q_{j1}, p_{j2}, q_{j2}, \dots, p_{jn}, q_{jn}).$$

As it concluded that every clutch graph with  $n$  vertices ( $n \geq 4$ , even) has a Hamiltonian cycle.

Let's consider the case where  $n = 6$  and construct the clutch graph  $Cl_{18}(G)$ . The cycle graph with  $n = 6$  has vertices  $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6$  and edges:

$$C_n = (c_1, c_2), (c_2, c_3), (c_3, c_4), (c_4, c_5), (c_5, c_6), (c_6, c_1)$$

- Add vertices  $V_c = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4, c_5, c_6\}$ ,  $V_p = \{p_1, p_2, p_3, p_4, p_5, p_6\}$ , and  $V_q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5, q_6\}$ .
- Connect each  $c_i$  to its corresponding  $p_i$ :  $E_{cp} = \{(c_1, p_1), (c_2, p_2), \dots, (c_6, p_6)\}$ .
- Connect  $p_i$  to  $q_i$ :  $E_{pq} = \{(p_1, q_1), (p_2, q_2), \dots, (p_6, q_6)\}$ .
- Connect  $q_i$  to  $q_{i+1}$  (with  $q_6$  connecting to  $q_1$ ):  $E_q = \{(q_2, q_3), (q_4, q_5), (q_6, q_1)\}$ .
- Connect  $p_i$  to  $p_{i+1}$  (with  $p_6$  connecting to  $p_1$ ):  $E_p = \{(p_1, p_2), (p_3, p_4), (p_5, p_6)\}$ .

A Hamiltonian cycle can be traversed as

$$c_1 \rightarrow p_1 \rightarrow q_1 \rightarrow c_2 \rightarrow p_2 \rightarrow q_2 \rightarrow c_3 \rightarrow p_3 \rightarrow q_3 \rightarrow c_4 \rightarrow p_4 \rightarrow q_4 \rightarrow c_5 \rightarrow p_5 \rightarrow q_5 \rightarrow c_6 \rightarrow p_6 \rightarrow q_6 \rightarrow c_1$$

## Conclusion

This paper introduces the concept of clutch graphs from cycle graphs. The clutch graph properties, such as degree, girth, and chromatic number have been discussed. Theorems are presented to illustrate the sum of the degrees and number of distinct spanning trees in the clutch graph. Moreover, the paper establishes the existence of bipartite and hamiltonian in the clutch graph. Furthermore, the author plans to apply these concepts to network analysis.

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