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# Some Special V<sub>4</sub>-magic Graphs

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Abstract. For any abelian group *A*, a graph G = (V, E) is said to be *A*-magic if there exists a labeling  $l : E(G) \to A - \{0\}$  such that the induced vertex set labeling  $l^+ : V(G) \to A$  defined by  $l^+ := \sum \{l(uv)/uv \in E(G)\}$  is a constant map. In this paper, we consider the Klein-four group  $V_4 = Z_2 \oplus Z_2$  and investigate graphs that are  $V_4$ -magic

## 1. Introduction

For any abelian group *A*, written additively, any mapping  $l : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$  is called a labeling. Given a labeling on the edge set of *G*, one can introduce a vertex set labeling  $l^+ : V(G) \rightarrow A$  as follows:  $l^+(v) = \Sigma\{l(uv)/uv \in E(G)\}$ . A graph *G* is said to be *A*-magic if there is a labeling  $l : E(G) \rightarrow A - \{0\}$  such that for each vertex *v*, the sum of the labels of the edges incident with *v* are all equal to the same constant; that is,  $l^+(v) = c$  for some fixed  $c \in A$ .

The original concept of *A*-magic graph is due to Sedlacek [1,2], who defined it to be a graph with a real-valued edge labeling such that

- (1) distinct edges have distinct nonnegative labels; and
- (2) the sum of the labels of the edges incident to a particular vertex is the same for all vertices.

Observation 1.1. Any regular graph is fully magic.

**Observation 1.2.** If *G* is *A*-magic, then so is  $G \times K_2$ , hence so is  $G \times Q_n$ .

**Observation 1.3.** For any  $n \ge 3$ , the path of order *n* is non-magic.

**Observation 1.4.**  $C_4$ , the cycle of order four, with a pendant edge is non-magic. In fact, any even cycle  $C_{2n}$  with a pendant edge is non-magic.

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## 2. Existing results

**Theorem 2.1** ([3]). A tree T is  $V_4$ -magic if and only if all its vertices have odd degrees.

**Theorem 2.2** ([3]). For  $m, n \ge 2$ , the complete bipartite graph K(m, n) is  $V_4$ -magic.

**Theorem 2.3** ([3]). For any n > 3,  $K_n - e$ , the complete graph with one edge removed, is  $V_4$ -magic.

- **Theorem 2.4** ([3]). (a) Any even cycle with k pendant edges is  $V_4$ -magic if and only if k is even.
  - (b) Any odd cycle with k pendant edges is  $V_4$ -magic if and only if k is odd.

**Theorem 2.5** ([3]). The wheel  $W_n$  is  $V_4$ -magic ( $n \ge 3$ ).

### 3. Main results

**Definition 3.1.** A *shell*  $S_{n,n-3}$  of width n is a graph obtained by taking n - 3 concurrent chords in a cycle  $C_n$  on n vertices. The vertex at which all the chords are concurrent is called *apex*. The two vertices adjacent to the apex have degree 2, apex has degree n - 1 and all the other vertices have degree 3.

**Theorem 3.2.** Shell graphs  $S_{n,n-3}$  are  $V_4$ -magic.

## Proof. Case 1. n is even.

Let n = 2r + 2. Then the number of edges is 4r + 1. Number of chords are n - 3. Let the vertices and edges be as follows:

$$V(S_{n,n-3}) = \{a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, \dots, a_r, b_r\},\$$
  
$$E(S_{n,n-3}) = \{a_i b_i, a_i b_{i-1}/0 \le i \le r\} \cup \{b_r \nu / \nu \ne a_0, a_r\}.$$

Label the edges as  $l(b_rv) = c$ ,  $v \neq a_0$ ,  $a_r, l(b_ra_r) = l(a_rb_{r-1}) = a$ . Then label all the edges b, a, b, a, ..., up to  $b_0a_0$ . Then  $l(a_0b_r) = b$ . So  $l^+(b_r) = a + b + c + (n-2)c$ ,  $l^+(a_0) = 2b = 0$ .  $l^+(a_r) = 2a = 0$ .  $l^+(b_i) = a + b + c = 0$ , i = 0, 1, 2, ..., r - 1.  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c = 0$ , i = 1, 2, ..., r - 1.

Thus  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all vertices.

# *Case* 2. *n* is odd.

Let n = 2r + 3. Number of chords is n - 3.  $V(S_{n,n-3}) = \{a_0, b_0, \dots, a_r, b_r\} \cup \{a_{r+1}\}, E(S_{n,n-3}) = \{a_i b_i, a_i b_{i-1}/1 \le i \le r\} \cup \{a_{r+1}\nu/\nu \ne a_0, b_r\} \cup \{a_0 b_0, a_0 a_{r+1}\}.$ The labeling of edges is as follows:

 $l(a_{r+1}b_r) = l(a_rb_r) = a$ . Then consecutively we label the edges by b, a, b, a, ...up to the edge  $b_0a_0$ . Then  $l(a_0a_{r+1}) = a$ ,  $l(a_{r+1}v) = c$ ,  $v \neq a_0$ ,  $b_r$ . Then  $l^+(a_r) = 2rc + 2a = 0$ .  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c = 0$ , for i = 1, 2, ..., r,  $l^+(b_i) = a + b + c = 0$ , for i = 0, 1, 2, ..., r - 1,  $l^+(a_0) = 2a = 0$ ,  $l^+(b_r) = 2a = 0$ . Then  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all vertices. Hence, shell graphs are  $V_4$ -Magic.

**Definition 3.3.** For positive integers  $n, k, 1 \le k \le n-3$ , the family C(n,k) is the family of graphs obtained by taking k concurrent chords in a cycle  $C_n$  on nvertices. In general C(n, k) consists of many graphs. The shell graph  $S_{n,n-3}$  is the unique member of C(n, n-3). If we take maximum number of alternate concurrent chords, then for n = 2s there is unique such graph. It belongs to C(2s, s - 1). For n = 2s + 1, we cannot take maximum number of alternate chords without taking some consecutive ones. Here we are interested in alternate chords symmetrically placed on two sides of the apex. If  $n \equiv 1 \mod 4$ , we have to take two consecutive chords exactly in the middle. This graph is denoted by  $S_{4t+1,2t}$ . If  $n \equiv 3 \mod 4$ , we have to take four consecutive chords in the middle. This graph is denoted by  $S_{4t+3,2t+2}$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** The graph C(2s, s-1), with alternative concurrent chords is  $V_4$ -magic.

## Proof. Case 1. s = 2t.

Let the graph be denoted by  $S_{4t,2t-1}$ . This graph has 4t vertices and 6t - 1 edges. Let the vertex set be  $\{a_0, b_0, \dots, a_{2t-1}, b_{2t-1}\}$ , with the cycle  $C = (a_0, b_0, \dots, a_{2t-1}, b_{2t-1})$ . Let  $a_0$  be the apex vertex with the chords  $a_0a_1, a_0a_2, \dots, a_0a_{2t-1}$ . Label the edges as  $l(a_0a_i) = c$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2t - 1$ . And label the edges of C as  $a, a, b, b, \dots$ , starting with  $a_0b_0, b_0a_1, a_1b_1, b_1a_2, \dots$ . Then  $l^+(a_0) = a + b + c + (2t - 2)c = 0$ ,  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 2t - 1$ ,  $l^+(b_i) = a + a = 0$ ,  $i = 0, 2, 4, \dots, 2t - 2$ ,  $l^+(b_i) = b + b = 0$ ,  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, 2t - 1$ . Thus  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all  $v \in V$ .

## *Case* 2. s = 2t + 1.

Let the graph be denoted by  $S_{4t+2,2t}$ . This graph has 4t + 2 vertices and 6t + 2 edges. Let the vertex set be  $\{a_0, b_0, \ldots, a_{2t}, b_{2t}\}$ , with the cycle  $C = (a_0, b_0, \ldots, a_{2t}, b_{2t})$  and the chords are  $a_0a_1, a_0a_2, \ldots, a_0a_{2t}$ .

Label the edges as  $l(a_0a_i) = c$ , for i = 1, 2, ..., 2t. And edges of *C* as a, a, b, b, ..., starting with  $a_0b_0, b_0a_1, a_1b_1, b_1a_2, ...$  Then  $l^+(a_0) = a + a + 2tc = 0$ ,  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c = 0$ , for i = 1, 2, ..., 2t,  $l^+(b_i) = a + a = 0$ , for i = 0, 2, 4, ..., 2t.  $l^+(b_i) = b + b = 0$ , for i = 1, 3, 5, ..., 2t - 1. Thus  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all the vertices. Hence the graph is  $V_4$ -magic.

**Theorem 3.5.** *The graphs*  $S_{4t+1,2t}$ *,*  $S_{4t+3,2t+2}$ *,*  $t \ge 1$  *are*  $V_4$ *-magic.* 

### *Proof. Case* 1. n = 4t + 1.

Consider the odd cycle on the vertices  $a_0, b_0, \ldots, a_{2t-1}, b_{2t-1}, a_{2t}$  with 2*t* chords  $a_t a_i/i \neq t$ . Label the edges as follows:  $l(a_t a_i) = c$  for  $i \neq t$  and  $l(a_0 a_{2t}) = a$ . From the edge  $a_0 a_{2t}$ , we label as  $b, b, a, a, b, b, \ldots$ , on both sides up to the vertex  $a_t$ . Then  $l^+(a_t) = 2tc + 2b = 0$  if *t* is odd, 2tc + 2a = 0 if *t* is even.  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c = 0$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, t - 1$ ,  $t + 1, \ldots, 2t$ .  $l^+(b_i) = 2b = 0$  or  $l^+(b_i) = 2a = 0$ ,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots, 2t - 1$ . Thus  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all the vertices. R. Sweetly and J. Paulraj Joseph

# *Case* 2. n = 4t + 3.

Let  $V = \{a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, ..., a_{2t}, b_{2t}, 4a_{2t+1}\}$ . The edge set is given by  $E = \{a_i b_i, b_i a_{i+1}, 0 \le i \le 2t\} \cup \{a_{2t+1} a_0\} \cup \{a_0 a_i, a_0 b_{t-1+i}, 1 \le i \le t+1\}$ . There are 2t+2 chords. Label all the chords as c.  $l(a_0 a_i) = l(a_0 b_{t-1+i}) = c, 1 \le i \le t+1$ , and  $l(b_r a_{r+1}) = a$ . On both sides of  $b_r a_{r+1}$  label the edges as b, a, a, b, b, a, a, b, b, ..., on both sides up to  $a_0$ .

Then

$$l^{+}(a_{0}) = \begin{cases} (2t+2)c+2a, & \text{if } t \text{ is odd,} \\ (2t+2)c+2b, & \text{if } t \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$
$$l^{+}(a_{i}) = \begin{cases} a+b+c, & \text{if } i=1,2,\ldots,t+1. \\ 2a \text{ or } 2b, & \text{if } i=t+2,\ldots,2t+1. \end{cases}$$
$$l^{+}(b_{i}) = 2b \text{ or } 2a, & \text{if } i=0,1,2,\ldots,t-1. \\ l^{+}(b_{i}) = a+b+c, & \text{if } i=t,t+1,\ldots,2t. \end{cases}$$

Then  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all the vertices.

**Theorem 3.6.** The graph  $S_{2s+1,s}$  is  $V_4$ -magic.

*Proof.* Let the vertex set be  $\{a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, \dots, a_{s-1}, b_{s-1}, a_s\}$  with cycle *C* =  $\{a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, \dots, b_{s-1}, a_s\}$ . The chords are  $\{a_0a_i, 1 \le i \le s-1\}$  and  $a_0b_{s-1}$ . Label the chords as  $l(a_0a_i) = l(a_0b_{s-1}) = c$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s-1$  and  $l(a_{s-1}b_{s-1}) = a$ . Both sides of  $a_{s-1}b_{s-1}$ , we label the edges  $b, b, a, a, \dots$ , up to  $a_0$ . Then  $l^+(a_0) = sc + 2b$  if s is even, (s-1)c + a + b + c if s is odd.  $l^+(a_i) = a + b + c$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, s-1$ ,  $l^+(a_s) = 2b$ ,  $l^+(b_{s-1}) = a + b + c$ .  $l^+(b_i) = 2a$  or 2b,  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, s-2$ . Then  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all the vertices. □

**Definition 3.7.** A *snake graph* is formed by taking n copies of a cycle  $C_m$  and identifying exactly one edge of each copy to a distinct edge of the path  $P_{n+1}$ , which we will call the backbone of the snake. We will use  $T_n^{(m)}$  to denote this snake graph.

**Theorem 3.8.** All snake graphs  $T_n^{(m)}$  are  $V_4$ -magic.

## *Proof.* Label all the edges as *a* or *b*.

Then  $l^+(v) = 0$  for all the vertices; Otherwise label all the edges of first cycle  $C_m$  as a and the edges of second cycle  $C_m$  as b. By labeling the edges of cycles as a and b alternatively, every vertex of degree four have  $l^+(v) = 2a + 2b = 0$ . Other vertices of degree two has  $l^+(v) = 2a$  or 2b = 0.

**Definition 3.9.** Let  $\{(G_i, x_i, y_i)\}$  be a finite collection of graphs, each with a fixed edge which is oriented, Then the edge amalgamation Edgeamal  $\{(G_i, x_i, y_i)\}$  is formed by taking the union of all the *G* and identifying their fixed edges, all with the same orientation.

When we consider the edge amalgamation of cycles, we have a generalization of the book graph  $S_n \times P_2$ . When  $\{G_i\}$  is a collection of cycles, we call Edgeamal

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 $\{(G_i, x_i, y_i)\}$  a generalized book. The spine *xy* of the generalized book is the edge we obtain from the identification of the edges  $x_i, y_i$  and each cycle  $G_i$  containing this edge is called a page. For each page  $G_i = xyv_1v_2...v_{ki}x$  of length  $k_i + 2$ , we say that  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_{ki}$  is the non spine path of a cycle.

Note that for edge amalgamation of collections of cycles, the choice of edges and orientations is irrelevant. For this reason, we simply use Edgeamal  $\{G_i\}$  to denote the edge amalgamation of a collection of cycles.

**Theorem 3.10.** All generalized books are V<sub>4</sub>-magic.

*Proof.* Let *G* be a generalized book. We consider the following cases.

If the number of pages is odd, then all the vertices of generalized books will be even. We label all the edges by *a*. Then  $l^+(v) = 0$ .

If the number of pages is even, we can label the common edge by *a*, the other edges of first page by *b*, and all other pages by *c*. Then  $l^+(v) = 0$ .

**Corollary.** Let G be a generalized book with  $P_m$  as a spine, where  $m \ge 2$ . Then G is  $V_4$  magic.

**Theorem 3.11.**  $C_n^{(t)}$ , one point union of t cycles each of length n is  $V_4$ -magic whenever t is odd or even.

*Proof.* If *t* is odd, label the edges of first cycle by *a*, second cycle by *b*, and the remaining cycles by *c*. Then  $l^+(v) = 0$ .

If *t* is even, label the edges of all cycles by *a*. Then  $l^+(v) = 0$ .

**Theorem 3.12.** Ladders  $L_{n+2}$  with n steps are  $V_4$ -magic.

*Proof.* Let  $u_0, u_1, ..., u_{n+1}$  and  $v_0, v_1, ..., v_{n+1}$  be the vertices of a ladder *G* such that  $E(G) = \{u_i u_{i+1} / i = 0, 1, 2, ..., n\} \cup \{v_j v_{j+1} / j = 0, 1, 2, ..., n\} \cup \{u_i v_i / i = 1, 2, ..., n\}$ . Label all the edges by *a*. Then  $l^+(v) = a$ . □

**Theorem 3.13.** Ladders  $P_2 \times P_n$  is  $V_4$ -magic.

*Proof.* Let  $u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n$  and  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \ldots, v_n$  be the vertices of a ladder  $L_n$  such that  $E(G) = \{u_i u_{i+1} / i = 1, 2, \ldots, n\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} / j = 1, 2, \ldots, n\} \cup \{u_i v_i / i = 1, 2, \ldots, n\}.$ 

## *Case* **1.** *n* is odd.

Label the edges as follows:

 $l(u_1v_1) = l(u_iu_{i+1}) = l(v_iv_{i+1}) = a$ , for i = 1, 3, ..., n - 2,  $l(u_nv_n) = l(u_iu_{i+1}) = l(v_iv_{i+1}) = b$ , for i = 2, 4, ..., n - 1,  $l(u_iv_i) = c$ , for i = 2, ..., n - 1. Then  $l^+(u_1) = l^+(v_1) = 2a = 0$ ,  $l^+(u_n) = l^+(v_n) = 2b = 0$  and  $l^+(v) = a + b + c = 0$  for all other vertices.

# *Case* 2. *n* is even.

Label the edges as follows:

 $l(u_1v_1) = l(u_nv_n) = l(u_iu_{i+1}) = l(v_iv_{i+1}) = a$ , for i = 1, 3, 5, ..., n-1,  $l(u_iu_{i+1}) = l(v_iv_{i+1}) = b$ , for i = 2, 4, ..., n-2 and  $l(u_iv_i) = c$ , for i = 2, 3, ..., n-1. Then

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 $l^+(u_1) = l^+(v_1) = l^+(v_n) = l^+(u_n) = 2a = 0$  and  $l^+(v) = a + b + c = 0$  for remaining vertices.

**Definition 3.14.** The graph *G* with the vertex set  $\{u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\}$  and edge set  $\{u_i u_{i+1}, v_i v_{i+1}, v_i u_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{u_i v_i : 1 \le i \le n\}$  is called *a semi ladder* of length *n*.

**Theorem 3.15.** Semi ladders are V<sub>4</sub>-magic.

**Proof.** Let *G* be a semi ladder of length *n*. Then *G* has 2n vertices and 4n - 3 edges. Label the edges as follows:

$$\begin{split} l(u_1v_1) &= l(u_iu_{i+1}) = a, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \ l(u_nv_n) = l(v_iv_{i+1}) = b, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1, \ l(u_iv_i) = c, \text{ for } i = 2, 3, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } l(v_iu_{i+1}) = c, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1. \text{ Then } l^+(u_1) = 2a = 0, \ l^+(v_n) = 2b = 0, \ l^+(u_i) = 2a + 2c = 0, \\ \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq n-1, \ l^+(u_n) = l^+(v_1) = a + b + c = 0 \text{ and } l^+(v_i) = 2b + 2c = 0, \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq n-1. \end{split}$$

**Definition 3.16.** The composition of two graphs G[H] has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as vertex set in which  $(g_1, h_1)$  is adjacent to  $(g_2, h_2)$  whenever  $g_1g_2 \in E(G)$  or  $g_1 = g_2$  and  $h_1h_2 \in E(H)$ .

**Theorem 3.17.** The composition  $P_n[K_2^c]$  is  $V_4$ -magic.

**Proof.** Let  $P_n = (v_1, v_2, ..., v_n)$ . Let x, y be the vertices of  $K_2^c$ . Denote the vertex  $(v_i, x)$  of  $P_n[K_2^c]$  by  $u_i$ , and  $(v_i, y)$  by  $u'_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ . The size of  $P_n[K_2^c]$  is given by q = 4n - 4.

Label the edges as follows:

 $l(u_{i}u_{i+1}) = l(u'_{i}u_{i'+1}) = a, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1 \text{ and } l(u_{i}u_{i'+1}) = l(u'_{i}u_{i+1}) = a,$ for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ . Then  $l^{+}(u_{i}) = l^{+}(u'_{i}) = 4a = 0$ , for  $2 \le i \le n-1$  and  $l^{+}(u_{1}) = l^{+}(u_{n}) = l^{+}(u'_{1}) = l^{+}(u'_{n}) = 2a = 0$ . Hence  $P_{n}[K_{2}^{c}]$  is  $V_{4}$ -magic.  $\Box$ 

Note. Paths are not  $V_4$ -magic. But Cartesian product of paths  $P_m \times P_n$  is  $V_4$ -magic.

**Theorem 3.18.** The planar grid  $P_m \times P_n$  is  $V_4$ -magic.

*Proof.* The planar gird  $P_m \times P_n$ ,  $m, n \ge 2$  contains mn vertices and 2mn - (m + n) edges. Note that 4 vertices are of degree 2 each, 2(m+n-4) vertices are of degree 3 each and (m-2)(n-2) are of degree 4 each. Let  $V(P_m \times P_n) = \{u_{ij}, 1 \le i \le n, 1 \le j \le m\}$ .  $E(P_m \times P_n) = \{u_{ij}u_{i(j+1)} : 1 \le i \le n, 1 \le j \le m-1\}U\{u_{ij}u_{(i+1)j} : 1 \le i \le n-1, 1 \le j \le m\}$ .

*Case* **1**. Both *m* and *n* are even.

Label the edges as follows:

$$\begin{split} l(u_{1j}u_{1j+1}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = b, \text{ for } j = 1,3,5,\ldots,m-1, i = 1,3,5,\ldots,n-1, \\ l(u_{1j}u_{1(j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = c, \text{ for } j = 2,4,\ldots,m-2, i = 2,4,6,\ldots,n-2, \\ l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) &= l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) = b, \text{ for } i = 1,3,\ldots,n-1, j = 1,3,5,\ldots,m-1, \\ l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) &= l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) = c, \text{ for } i = 2,4,\ldots,n-2, j = 2,4,\ldots,m-2 \text{ and} \end{split}$$

l(e) = a for all remaining edges. Then  $l^+(u_{11}) = l^+(u_{1m}) = l^+(u_{n1}) = l^+(u_{nm}) = 2b = 0, l^+(u_{1j}) = a + b + c = 0, 2 \le j \le m - 1, l^+(u_{nj}) = a + b + c = 0, 2 \le j \le m - 1, l^+(u_{i1}) = a + b + c = 0, 2 \le i \le n - 1$ .  $l^+(u_{i1}) = a + b + c = 0, 2 \le i \le n - 1$  and  $l^+(u_{im}) = a + b + c = 0, 2 \le i \le n - 1$ . For the remaining vertices  $l^+(v) = 2a = 0$ .

### *Case* **2.** Both *m* and *n* are odd.

Label the edges as follows:

$$\begin{split} l(u_{1j}u_{1(j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = b, \text{ for } i = 1,3,5,\ldots,n-2, \ j = 1,3,5,\ldots,m-2, \\ l(u_{1j}u_{(1j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = c, \ \text{ for } i = 2,4,\ldots,n-1, \\ j = 2,4,\ldots,m-1, \\ l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) &= l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) = c, \ \text{ for } i = 1,3,5,\ldots,n-2, \\ j = 1,3,5,\ldots,m-2, \\ l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) &= l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) = b, \ \text{ for } i = 2,4,\ldots,n-1, \\ j = 2,4,6,\ldots,m-1 \\ \text{ and } l(e) = a \ \text{ for all remaining edges. Then } l^+(u_{11}) = l^+(u_{nm}) = 2b = 0, \\ l^+(u_{n1}) &= l^+(u_{1m}) = 2c = 0, \ l^+(u_{1j}) = l^+(u_{nj}) = a + b + c = 0, \ 2 \leq j \leq m-1, \\ l^+(u_{i1}) &= l^+(u_{im}) = a + b + c = 0, \ 2 \leq i \leq n-1. \\ \end{split}$$

Case 3. *m* is odd and *n* is even.

#### Label the edges as follows:

$$\begin{split} l(u_{1j}u_{1(j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = b, \text{ for } i = 1,3,\ldots,n-1, j = 1,3,\ldots,m-2, \\ l(u_{1j}u_{1j+1}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = c, \text{ for } i = 2,4,6,\ldots,n-2, \\ j = 2,4,\ldots,m-1, \\ l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) &= l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) = b, \text{ for } j = 1,3,5,\ldots,m-2, \\ i = 2,4,6,\ldots,n-2, \\ l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) &= l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) = c, \text{ for } j = 2,4,\ldots,m-1, \\ i = 1,3,\ldots,n-1 \\ \text{and } l(e) &= a \text{ for the remaining edges. Then } l^+(u_{11}) = l^+(u_{n1}) = 2b = 0, \\ l^+(u_{1m}) &= l^+(u_{nm}) = 2c = 0, \\ l^+(u_{nj}) &= l^+(u_{1j}) = a + b + c = 0, \\ 2 \leq j \leq m-1 \\ \text{ and } l^+(u_{im}) = l^+(u_{i1}) = a + b + c = 0, \\ \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq n-1. \\ \text{ For the remaining vertices } \\ l^+(v) &= 2a = 0. \end{split}$$

*Case* **4.** *m* is even and *n* is odd.

### Label the edges as follows:

 $\begin{array}{ll} l(u_{1j}u_{1(j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = b, \ \text{for} \ j = 1,3,m-1, \ i = 1,3,\ldots,n-2, \\ l(u_{1j}u_{1(j+1)}) &= l(u_{i1}u_{(i+1)1}) = c, \ \text{for} \ j = 2,4,\ldots,m-2, i = 2,4,\ldots,n-1, \\ l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) &= l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) = c, \ \text{for} \ j = 1,3,\ldots,m-1, \ i = 2,4,\ldots,n-1, \\ l(u_{nj}u_{n(j+1)}) &= l(u_{im}u_{(i+1)m}) = b, \ \text{for} \ j = 2,4,\ldots,m-2, \ i = 1,3,5,\ldots,n-2 \\ \text{and} \ l(e) &= a \ \text{for} \ \text{the remaining edges}. \ \ \text{Then} \ l^+(u_{11}) = l^+(u_{1m}) = 2b = 0, \\ l^+(u_{n1}) &= l^+(u_{nm}) = 2c = 0, \ l^+(u_{1j}) = l^+(u_{nj}) = a + b + c = 0, \ 2 \leq j \leq m-1 \\ \text{and} \ l^+(u_{im}) &= l^+(u_{i1}) = a + b + c = 0, \ 2 \leq i \leq n-1. \ \text{For the remaining vertices} \\ l^+(v) &= 2a = 0. \ \text{Hence the planar grid is} \ V_4\text{-magic}. \end{array}$ 

**Definition 3.19.** The sequential join of graphs  $G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_n$  is formed from  $G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \ldots \cup G_n$  by adding edges joining each vertex of  $G_i$  with each vertex of  $G_{i+1}$  for 1 < i < n-1.

**Theorem 3.20.** The sequential join of m copies of  $K_2$ , m > 2 is  $V_4$ -magic.

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*Proof.* The sequential join of *m* copies of *K*<sub>2</sub> contains 2*m* vertices and 5*m*−4 edges.  $V(G) = \{u_1, u_2, ..., u_n, v_1, v_2, ..., v_n\}$ .  $E(G) = \{u_i u_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \le i \le n-1\} \cup \{u_i v_i : i = 1, 2, ..., n\} \cup \{v_i u_{i+1}, u_i v_{i+1} : i = 1, 2, ..., n-1\}$ Label the edges as follows:  $l(u_i v_i) = l(u_i v_{i+1}) = l(u_i u_{i+1}) = l(v_i v_{i+1}) = l(v_i u_{i+1}) = c$ . Then  $l^+(u_1) = l^+(v_1) = l^+(u_n) = l^+(v_n) = 3c = c$ ,  $l^+(u_i) = l^+(v_i) = 5c = c$ ,  $2 \le i \le n-1$ . □

**Definition 3.21.** A comb is a graph obtained by joining a single edge to each vertex of a path.

**Theorem 3.22.** Comb is not  $V_4$ -magic.

**Proof.** Let  $P_n = (u_1, u_2, ..., u_n)$  and  $v_i$  be the pendent vertex attached to  $u_i$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ . Suppose comb is  $V_4$ -magic, then  $l^+(v_i) = l^+(u_i)$ ,  $1 \le i \le n$ . Hence  $l(u_1v_1) = l(u_1v_1) + l(u_1u_2) = 0$ . This implies  $l(u_1u_2) = 0$ . which is a contradiction. Hence comb is not  $V_4$ -magic.

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