



Computing the total H -irregularity strength of edge comb product of graphs

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Abstract

A simple undirected graph $\Gamma = (V_\Gamma, E_\Gamma)$ admits an H -covering if every edge in E_Γ belongs to at least one subgraph of Γ that is isomorphic to a graph H . For any graph Γ admitting H -covering, a total labelling $\beta : V_\Gamma \cup E_\Gamma \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ is called an H -irregular total p -labelling of Γ if every two different subgraphs H_1 and H_2 of Γ isomorphic to H have distinct weights where the weight $w_\beta(K)$ of subgraph K of Γ is defined as $w_f(K) := \sum_{v \in V_K} f(v) + \sum_{e \in E_K} f(e)$. The smallest number p for which a graph Γ admits an H -irregular total p -labelling is called the total H -irregularity strength of Γ and is denoted by $ths(\Gamma)$. In this paper, we determine the total H -irregularity strength of edge comb product of two graphs.

1 Introduction

Each graph throughout this paper is simple, finite and undirected. Notation $\Gamma = (V_\Gamma, E_\Gamma)$ denotes a graph Γ with vertex set and edge set V_Γ and E_Γ , respectively. A *labelling* means any mapping that maps a set of graphs elements (vertices or edges, or both) to a set of numbers, called *labels*. If the domain of the mapping is the set of vertices (or edges) then the labelling is called a *vertex labelling* (or an *edge labelling*). If the domain is both vertices and edges then the labelling is called a *total labelling*.

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According to Chartrand G. et al. [1] for any positive integer p , an *edge irregular p -labelling* of a graph $\Gamma = (V_\Gamma, E_\Gamma)$ is a map $\beta : E_\Gamma \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ such that $w_\beta(x) \neq w_\beta(y)$ for every two distinct vertices $x, y \in V_\Gamma$ where $w_\beta(x)$ is defined as $w_\beta(x) = \sum_{xy \in E_\Gamma} \beta(xy)$. In [2] Bača M. et al. introduced a total edge irregularity strength of graphs. For a graph Γ they defined a labelling $\gamma : V_\Gamma \cup E_\Gamma \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ to be an *edge irregular total p -labelling* of Γ if for every two different edges xy and $x'y'$ in E_Γ it follows that $w_\gamma(xy) \neq w_\gamma(x'y')$, where $w_\gamma(xy) = \gamma(x) + \gamma(y) + \gamma(xy)$. The minimum p for which the graph Γ has an edge irregular total p -labelling is called *the total edge irregularity strength* of Γ , denoted by $tes(\Gamma)$.

A family of subgraphs H_1, H_2, \dots, H_t of Γ such that each of edge in E_Γ belongs to at least one of the subgraph $H_i, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, t\}$, is called an edge-covering of Γ and it is said that Γ admits an (H_1, H_2, \dots, H_t) -edge covering. If each subgraph H_i is isomorphic to a given graph H , then Γ admits an H -covering.

In 2017, Ashraf F. et al. [3] developed the irregularity strength concept for graph admitting H -covering. Let Γ be a graph admitting H -covering and α be a total p -labelling on Γ . The weight of subgraph K of Γ respect to α , denoted by $wt_\alpha(K)$ is defined as

$$wt_\alpha(K) = \sum_{v \in V_K} \alpha(v) + \sum_{e \in E_K} \alpha(e).$$

Any weight of subgraph K that isomorphic to H is called H -weight. A total p -labelling α is called an *H -irregular total p -labelling* of Γ if each two distinct subgraphs K_1 and K_2 isomorphic to H have distinct weights, that is $wt_\alpha(K_1) \neq wt_\alpha(K_2)$. The minimum positive integer p such that Γ has an H -irregular total p -labelling is called *total H -irregularity strength* of Γ and denoted by $ths(\Gamma, H)$. Furthermore, the authors of [3] also found the lower bound of $ths(\Gamma, H)$ for any graph Γ admitting H -covering, as follows:

$$ths(\Gamma, H) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{t-1}{V_H + E_H} \right\rceil$$

where t is the number of subgraphs of Γ that are isomorphic to H .

Ashraf F. et al. [3] found the total P_m -irregularity strength of P_n with m, n both integers, $2 \leq m \leq n$, the total C_m -irregularity strength of ladder graph L_n with $n \geq 3$ and $m = 4$ or $m = 6$, and the total C_3 -irregularity strength of fan graph F_n . Ashraf F. et al. [4] determined the exact value of total H -irregularity strengths of \mathcal{G} -amalgamation of graphs. Agustin I.H. et al. [5] found the total H -irregularity strength of shackle and vertex amalgamation of some graphs, namely $ths(Shack(H, v, n))$, $ths(c(Shack(H, v, n)))$,

$ths(Amal(H, v, n))$ and $ths(c(Amal(H, v, n)))$. In [6], Nisviasari R. et al. have given the total H -irregularity strengths of some triangular ladder and grid graphs. Labane H. et al. in [7] found the exact value of total H -irregularity strength of cycles graphs whenever H is a path graph.

In this paper, we investigate the lower bound of the total H -irregularity strength of edge comb product of two graphs and the exact values of the total H -irregularity strength of edge comb product of two classes of graph, including edge comb product of two cycles, edge comb product of path and any graph H , and edge comb product of star and any graph H .

2 Results

Let Γ be two connected graphs. Let e be an edge of H . The edge comb product between Γ and H , denoted by $\Gamma \triangleright H$, is a graph obtained by taking one copy of Γ and $|E_\Gamma|$ copies of H and then identifying the i -th copy of H at the edge e to the i -th edge of Γ .

By the definition of edge comb product above, it is clear that the edge comb product $H \triangleright H$ between H and its self admits an H -covering. The following theorem provides a sharp lower bound for the total H -irregularity strength of edge comb product of two connected graphs.

Theorem 2.1. *Let Γ and H be two connected graphs. Then*

(i)

$$ths(\Gamma \triangleright H, H) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{|E_\Gamma| - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H|} \right\rceil$$

if Γ does not admit H -covering.

(ii)

$$ths(\Gamma \triangleright H, H) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{t + |E_\Gamma| - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H|} \right\rceil$$

if Γ admits H -covering given by t subgraphs that are isomorphic to H .

Proof.

(i.) Let Γ be a graph that does not admit H -covering. It is obvious that $\Gamma \triangleright H$ admits H -covering given by $|E_\Gamma|$ subgraphs isomorphic to H . Assume that α is an H -irregular total p -labelling of $\Gamma \triangleright H$ with $ths(\Gamma \triangleright H, H) = p$.

The minimum possible weights for all subgraphs of $\Gamma \triangleright H$ that are isomorphic to H are $|V_H| + |E_H|$, $|V_H| + |E_H| + 1$, $|V_H| + |E_H| + 2, \dots, |V_H| + |E_H| + |E_\Gamma| - 1$. On the other hand, the maximum possible weight for any subgraph

of $\Gamma \supseteq H$ isomorphic to H is at most $p(|V_H| + |E_H|)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} p(|V_H| + |E_H|) &\geq |V_H| + |E_H| + |E_\Gamma| - 1 \\ p &\geq \frac{|V_H| + |E_H| + |E_\Gamma| - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H|}. \end{aligned}$$

Since $ths(\Gamma \supseteq H, H)$ should be an integer and we need a sharpest lower bound, it implies

$$ths(\Gamma \supseteq H, H) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{|E_\Gamma| - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H|} \right\rceil.$$

(ii.) Let Γ be a graph that admits an H -covering given by t subgraphs isomorphic to H . We have that $\Gamma \supseteq H$ is H -covering given by at least $t + |E_\Gamma|$ subgraphs isomorphic to H . Similar to above, we get

$$ths(\Gamma \supseteq H, H) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{t + |E_\Gamma| - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H|} \right\rceil.$$

□

By considering $\Gamma \cong H$, from Theorem 2.1 (ii) we obtain Corollary 2.2 below.

Corollary 2.2. *Let H be a connected graph. Then*

$$ths(H \supseteq H, H) \geq 2.$$

The following theorem shows the sharpness of bound in Theorem 2.1. We provide Theorem 2.3 for the existence of edge comb product of graphs whose H -irregularity strength satisfies the lower bound in Theorem 2.1.

Theorem 2.3. *Let $m, n \geq 3$ be positive integers. Then:*

$$ths(C_m \supseteq C_n, C_n) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{for } m \leq 2n + 1, \\ \left\lceil 1 + \frac{m-1}{2n} \right\rceil & \text{for } m > 2n + 1. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let C_m and C_n be two cycles of m and n vertices, . We define the vertex set and edge set of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ as follows.

$$V_{C_m \supseteq C_n} = \{v_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\} \cup \{u_{i,j} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n - 2\}$$

and

$$E_{C_m \supseteq C_n} = \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq m - 1\} \cup \{v_1 v_m\} \cup \{v_i u_{i,1} : 1 \leq i \leq m\} \cup$$

$$\{v_{i+1}u_{i,n-2} : 1 \leq i \leq m-1\} \cup \{v_1u_{m,n-2}\} \cup \{u_{i,j}u_{i,j+1} : 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n-3\}.$$

For $m \neq n$, $C_m \supseteq C_n$ admits C_n -covering given by m subgraphs of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ isomorphic to C_n . By applying Theorem 2.1 (i), we get

$$ths(C_m \supseteq C_n, C_n) \geq \left\lceil 1 + \frac{m-1}{2n} \right\rceil. \quad (1)$$

Furthermore, if $m \neq n$ and $m \leq 2n+1$, we obtain

$$ths(C_m \supseteq C_n, C_n) \geq 2. \quad (2)$$

For $m = n$, we have that $C_n \supseteq C_n$ admits a C_n -covering given by $n+1$ subgraphs of $C_n \supseteq C_n$ isomorphic to C_n . According to Corrolary 2.2, we have

$$ths(C_n \supseteq C_n, C_n) \geq 2. \quad (3)$$

Therefore, the Equation (1) is the lower bound of the H -irregularity strength of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ for $m > 2n+1$, meanwhile Equation (2) and (3) give the lower bound of the H -irregularity strength of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ for $m \leq 2n+1$.

Now, we consider two cases for m and n .

Case 1. $m \leq 2n+1$

We define a C_n -irregular total 2-labelling $\delta : V(C_m \supseteq C_n) \cup E(C_m \supseteq C_n) \rightarrow \{1, 2\}$ as follows

$$\delta(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1, 2 \\ 2 & \text{for } 3 \leq i \leq m \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(u_{i,j}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, m \text{ and } \\ & 1 \leq j \leq n-2 \\ \left\lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 1 & \text{for } 4 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and } \\ & j > i-3 \\ \left\lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{for } 4 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and } \\ & j \leq i-3 \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(v_i v_{i+1}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1 \\ 2 & \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq m-1 \end{cases}$$

$$\delta(v_m v_1) = 1$$

$$\delta(v_i u_{i,1}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n+1 \text{ or } i = m \\ \left\lfloor \frac{i-(n+2)}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{for } n+2 \leq i \leq m-1 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(v_{i+1}u_{i,n-2}) &= \left\lfloor \frac{i-1}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 1 \quad \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m-1 \\ \delta(v_1u_{m,n-2}) &= 1 \\ \delta(u_{i,j}u_{i,j+1}) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n+2 \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n-3, \text{ or} \\ & i = m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n-3 \\ \left\lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 1 & \text{for } n+3 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and} \\ & j > i - (n+2) \\ \left\lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{for } n+3 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and} \\ & j \leq i - (n+2). \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

It is readily seen that all the labels of the vertices and edges of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ under δ labelling above are at most 2. Let C_n^i be a subgraph of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ isomorphic to C_n with $V_{C_n^i} = \{v_i, v_{i+1 \pmod m}\} \cup \{u_{i,j} : 1 \leq j \leq n-2\}$ for any $1 \leq i \leq m$. For the case $m = n$, there is an addition subgraph isomorphic to C_n , namely C_n^0 with $V_{C_n^0} = \{v_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}$.

For the weight of subgraphs C_n^0 and C_n^i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we get the following

$$wt_\delta(C_n^0) = \sum_{v \in V_{C_n^0}} \delta(v) + \sum_{e \in E_{C_n^0}} \delta(e) = 4n - 4$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} wt_\delta(C_n^i) &= \sum_{v \in V_{C_n^i}} \delta(v) + \sum_{e \in E_{C_n^i}} \delta(e) \\ &= \begin{cases} 2n & \text{for } i = 1 \\ 2n + i & \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq m-1 \\ 2n + 1 & \text{for } i = m. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We have $wt_\delta(C_n^{i+1}) = wt_\delta(C_n^i) + 1$ for every $2 \leq i \leq m-2$. Since the weight of every subgraph C_n^i in $C_m \supseteq C_n$ is different under labeling δ , it follows that the labeling δ is the desired C_n -irregular total 2-labelling for $C_m \supseteq C_n$ with $m \leq 2n + 1$.

Case 2. $m > 2n + 1$

Let $p = \left\lceil 1 + \frac{m-1}{2n} \right\rceil$. Since $m > 2n + 1$, we have $p \geq 3$. In order to show the converse of inequality, we define a C_n -irregular total p -labelling $\alpha : V(C_m \supseteq C_n) \cup E(C_m \supseteq C_n) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$ as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
 \alpha(v_i) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1, 2 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-3}{2n-1} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } 3 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \text{ and} \\ p & \text{for } i = m-p+2 \text{ and } m \not\equiv 2 \pmod{2n} \\ p-1 & \text{for } i = m-p+2 \text{ and } m \equiv 2 \pmod{2n} \\ m-i+2 & \text{for } m-p+3 \leq i \leq m \end{cases} \\
 \alpha(u_{i,j}) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n-2 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \rfloor + 1 & \text{for } 4 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \text{ and} \\ & j > i - \lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \rfloor (2n-1) - 3 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } 4 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \text{ and} \\ & j \leq i - \lfloor \frac{i-4}{2n-1} \rfloor (2n-1) - 3 \\ m-i+1 & \text{for } m-p+1 < i \leq m \text{ and} \\ & 1 \leq j \leq n-2 \end{cases} \\
 \alpha(v_i v_{i+1}) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-2}{2n-1} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \\ p-1 & \text{for } i = m-p+2 \text{ and } m \not\equiv 2 \pmod{2n} \\ p & \text{for } i = m-p+2 \text{ and } m \equiv 2 \pmod{2n} \\ m-i+1 & \text{for } m-p+3 \leq i \leq m-1 \end{cases} \\
 \alpha(v_m v_1) &= 1 \\
 \alpha(v_i u_{i,1}) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n+1 \text{ or } i = m \\ \lfloor \frac{i-(n+2)}{2n-1} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } n+2 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \\ m-i+1 & \text{for } m-p+2 \leq i \leq m-1 \end{cases} \\
 \alpha(v_{i+1} u_{i,n-2}) &= \begin{cases} \lfloor \frac{i-1}{2n-1} \rfloor + 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \\ m-i+1 & \text{for } m-p+2 \leq i \leq m-1 \end{cases} \\
 \alpha(v_1 u_{m,n-2}) &= 1 \\
 \alpha(u_{i,j} u_{i,j+1}) &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n+2 \text{ and} \\ & 1 \leq j \leq n-3 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \rfloor + 1 & \text{for } n+3 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \text{ and} \\ & j > i - \lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \rfloor (2n-1) - (n+2) \\ \lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } n+3 \leq i \leq m-p+1 \text{ and} \\ & j \leq i - \lfloor \frac{i-(n+3)}{2n-1} \rfloor (2n-1) - (n+2) \\ m-i+1 & \text{for } m-p+1 < i \leq m \text{ and} \\ & 1 \leq j \leq n-3 \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

We can see that under labelling α , all vertices and edges of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ are at most p . Let C_n^i be a subgraph of $C_m \supseteq C_n$ isomorphic to C_n with $V_{C_n^i} = \{v_i, v_{i+1 \pmod m}\} \cup \{u_{i,j} : 1 \leq j \leq n-2\}$ for any $1 \leq i \leq m$.

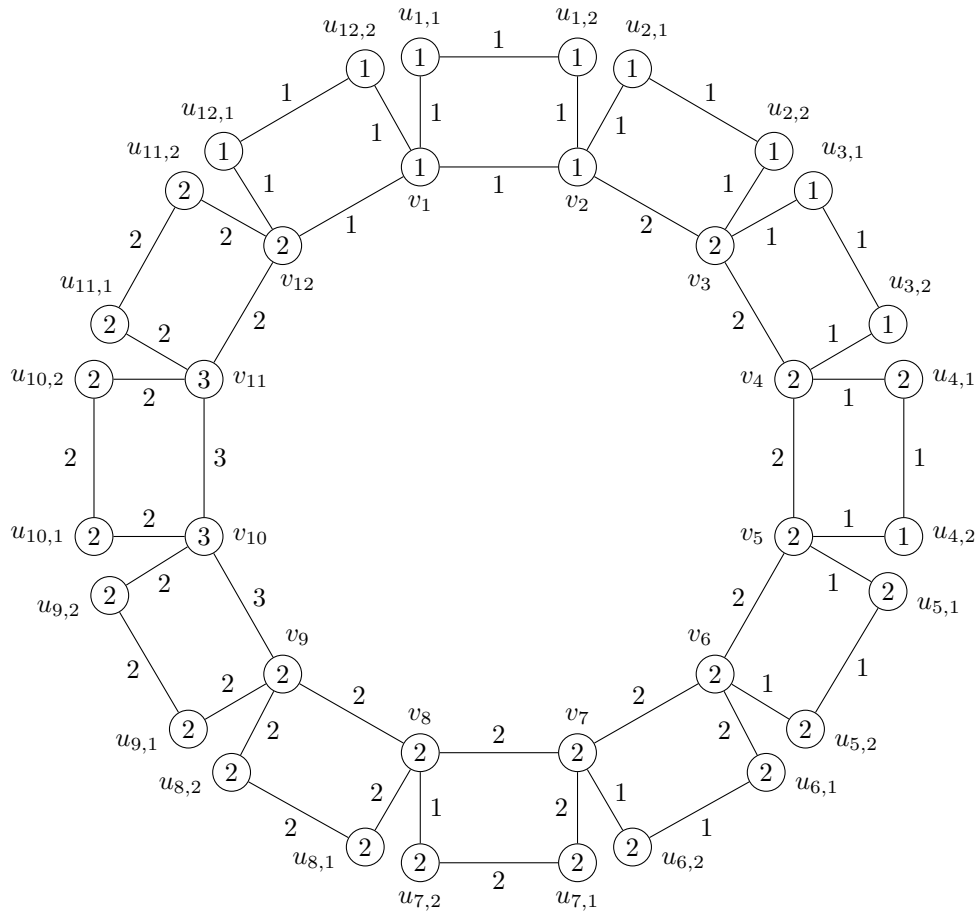


Figure 1: An C_4 -irregular total 3-labelling of $C_{12} \supseteq C_4$

For the weight of subgraphs C_n^i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, we get the following

$$wt_\alpha(C_n^i) = \sum_{v \in V_{C_n^i}} \alpha(v) + \sum_{e \in E_{C_n^i}} \alpha(e)$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2n & \text{for } i = 1 \\ i - \lfloor \frac{i-2}{2n-1} \rfloor (2n-1) + \lceil \frac{i-1}{2n-1} \rceil 2n & \text{for } 2 \leq i \leq m-p \\ (m-i+1)2n+1 & \text{for } m-p+1 \leq i \leq m. \end{cases}$$

Under the labelling α above, it is easily to check that $wt_\alpha(C_n^r) \neq wt_\alpha(C_n^s)$ for any $1 \leq r, s \leq m$, $r \neq s$. Thus, $ths(C_m \supseteq C_n) \leq \lceil 1 + \frac{m-1}{2n} \rceil$. This completes the proof. \square

Figure 1 illustrates an C_4 -irregular total 3-labelling of $C_{12} \supseteq C_4$.

In the next theorem, we determine the exact value of the total H -irregularity strength of path graph and an arbitrary 2-connected graph H .

Theorem 2.4. *Let P_m be a path graph of order $m \geq 2$ and H be any 2-connected graph. Then*

$$ths(P_m \supseteq H, H) = 1 + \lceil \frac{m-2}{|V_H| + |E_H|} \rceil.$$

Proof. As H is a 2-connected graph, we have $P_m \supseteq H$ admits H -covering and it contains exactly $m-1$ subgraphs of $P_m \supseteq H$ isomorphic to H . Let us denote the vertex set and edge set of subgraph P_m of $P_m \supseteq H$ by $V_{P_m} = \{v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ and $E_{P_m} = \{v_i v_{i+1} : 1 \leq i \leq m-1\}$, respectively. Let us also denote the elements (both vertices and edges) of the graph $P_m \supseteq H$ from the i -th copy of H that are not vertices of the P_m by the symbol a_i^j , for any $1 \leq i \leq m-1$ and $1 \leq j \leq s-2$, where $s = |V_H| + |E_H|$. We define an H -irregular total labelling β in the following way:

$$\beta(v_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } i = 1, 2 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-3}{s} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } 3 \leq i \leq m \end{cases}$$

$$\beta(a_i^j) = \begin{cases} \lfloor \frac{i-1}{s} \rfloor + 1 & \text{for } i \equiv 1 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \equiv 2 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \equiv 3 \pmod{s}, \\ & 1 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq s-2 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-1}{s} \rfloor + 2 & \text{for } i \not\equiv 1 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \not\equiv 2 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \not\equiv 3 \pmod{s}, \\ & 1 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq i - \lfloor \frac{i-4}{s} \rfloor s - 3 \\ \lfloor \frac{i-1}{s} \rfloor + 1 & \text{for } i \not\equiv 1 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \not\equiv 2 \pmod{s} \text{ or } i \not\equiv 3 \pmod{s}, \\ & 1 \leq i \leq m-1 \text{ and } i - \lfloor \frac{i-4}{s} \rfloor s - 2 \leq j \leq s-2. \end{cases}$$

If $m-1 \equiv 1 \pmod{s}$, then the maximal used label is

$$\lfloor \frac{(m-1)-1}{s} \rfloor + 1 = \frac{(m-1)-1}{s} + 1 = \frac{m-2}{s} + 1.$$

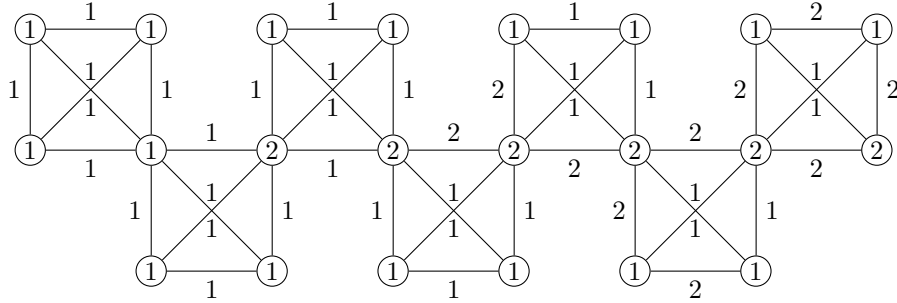


Figure 2: An K_4 -irregular total 2-labelling of $P_8 \supseteq K_4$

If $m - 1 \equiv 2 \pmod{s}$, then the maximal used label is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{m-3}{s} \right\rfloor + 2 = \left(\left\lfloor \frac{m-3}{s} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) + 1 = \left\lceil \frac{m-2}{s} \right\rceil + 1.$$

If $m - 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{s}$, then the maximal used label is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{m-3}{s} \right\rfloor + 2 = \left(\left\lfloor \frac{m-3}{s} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) + 1 = \left\lceil \frac{m-2}{s} \right\rceil + 1.$$

If $m - 1 \not\equiv 1 \pmod{s}$ or $m - 1 \not\equiv 2 \pmod{s}$ or $m - 1 \equiv 3 \pmod{s}$, then the maximal used label is

$$\left\lfloor \frac{(m-1)-1}{s} \right\rfloor + 2 = \left(\left\lfloor \frac{m-2}{s} \right\rfloor + 1 \right) + 1 = \left\lceil \frac{m-2}{s} \right\rceil + 1.$$

Thus β is $\left(\left\lceil \frac{m-2}{s} \right\rceil + 1 \right)$ -labelling.

Let H_i be a subgraph of $P_m \supseteq H$ that is isomorphic to H , $i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$, with element set as follows $V_{H_i} \cup E_{H_i} = \{v_i, v_{i+1}\} \cup \{a_i^j : 1 \leq j \leq s-2\}$. For the weight of subgraphs H_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$, we obtain

$$wt_\beta(H_i) = |V_H| + |E_H| - 1 + i.$$

Hence, under the labelling β , all H -weights form a consecutive sequence $(|V_H| + |E_H|, |V_H| + |E_H| + 1, \dots, |V_H| + |E_H| + m - 2)$. It implies that all H -weights are distinct.

By applying Theorem 2.1 (i), we have $ths(P_m \supseteq H, H) \geq 1 + \left\lceil \frac{m-2}{|V_H|+|E_H|} \right\rceil$ as the lower bound. It proves that the irregular total labelling β has the required properties. \square

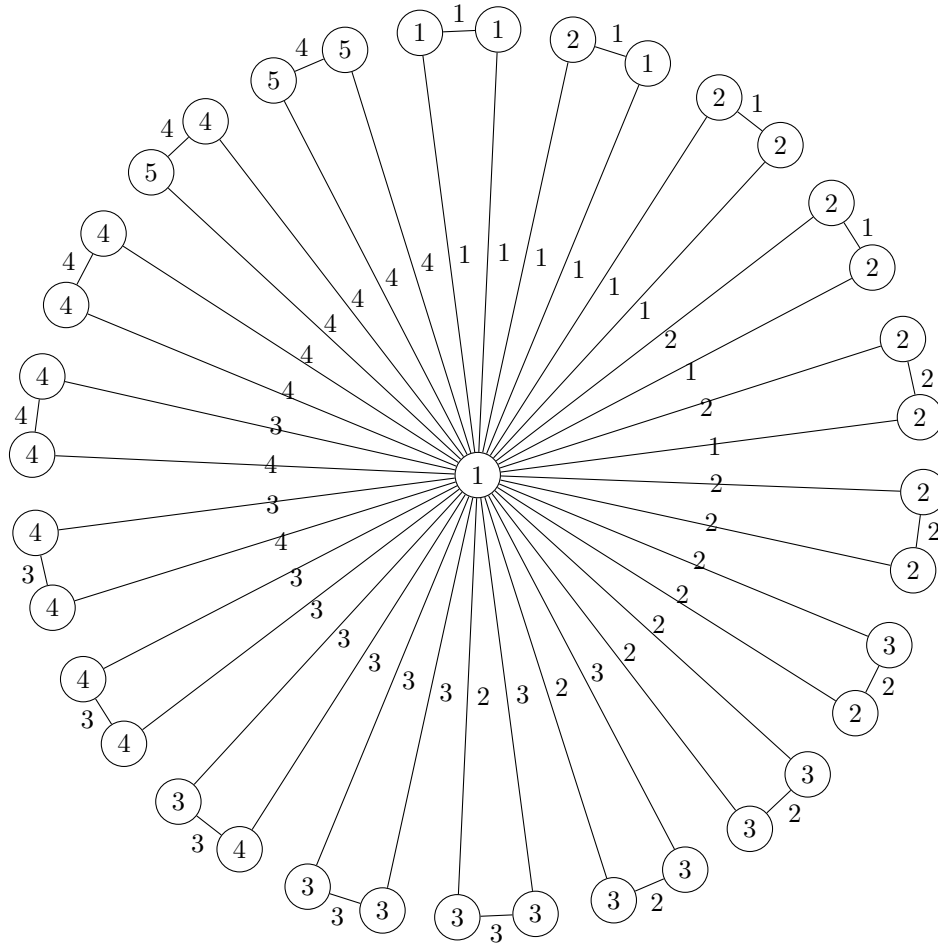


Figure 3: An C_3 -irregular total 5-labeling of $S_{18} \supseteq C_3$

As an example of Theorem 2.4, we give Figure 2 with H is the complete graph K_4 .

Theorem 2.5. *Let S_m be a star graph of order $m + 1$ with $m \geq 3$ and let H be 2-connected graph. Then*

$$ths(S_m \supseteq H) = 1 + \left\lceil \frac{m - 1}{|V_H| + |E_H| - 1} \right\rceil.$$

Proof. The edge comb product of star graph S_m and any connected graph

H is equivalent to the vertex-amalgamation $Amal(H, K_1, m)$. Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} ths(S_m \supseteq H) &= 1 + \left\lceil \frac{m-1}{|V_H| + |E_H| - |V_{K_1}| - |E_{K_1}|} \right\rceil && (\text{see [4]}) \\ &= 1 + \left\lceil \frac{m-1}{|V_H| + |E_H| - 1} \right\rceil. && \square \end{aligned}$$

Figure 3 depicts an C_3 -irregular total 5-labelling of edge comb product of S_{18} and C_3 .

3 Conclusions

In this paper we give the total H -irregularity strength $ths(\Gamma \supseteq H, H)$ of edge comb products $\Gamma \supseteq H$ of graphs Γ and H . We give an estimation on the lower bound of $ths(\Gamma \supseteq H, H)$ for any two connected graphs Γ and H . Moreover, we determine the $ths(C_m \supseteq C_n, C_n)$ for arbitrary positive integers $m, n \geq 3$, the $ths(P_m \supseteq H, H)$ for arbitrary positive integer $m \geq 2$ and arbitrary 2-connected graph H and the $ths(S_m \supseteq H, H)$ for arbitrary positive integer $m \geq 3$ and arbitrary 2-connected graph H . For future research, it will be interesting to investigate the exact value of vertex H -irregularity strength, edge H -irregularity strength and total face irregularity strength for edge comb product of graphs (see [8]). It could be investigated also some other parameters for the edge comb graphs, such as their vertex-face H -irregularity strength and edge-face H -irregularity strength (see [9]).

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