

## ON SUPER MEAN GRAPHS

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### Abstract

Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$  graph and let  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q\}$  be an injection. For each edge  $e = uv$ , let  $f^*(e) = (f(u) + f(v))/2$  if  $f(u) + f(v)$  is even and  $f^*(e) = (f(u) + f(v) + 1)/2$  if  $f(u) + f(v)$  is odd. Then  $f$  is called a super mean labeling if  $f(V) \cup \{f^*(e) : e \in E(G)\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q\}$ . A graph that admits a super mean labeling is called a super mean graph. In this paper we present several infinite families of super mean graphs.

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**Keywords:** super mean labeling, super mean graph, armed crowns.

**2000 Mathematics Subject Classification:** 05C78

### 1. Introduction

By a graph we mean a finite, simple and undirected one. The vertex set and edge set of a graph  $G$  are denoted by  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  respectively. The union of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is the graph  $G_1 \cup G_2$  with  $V(G_1 \cup G_2) = V(G_1) \cup V(G_2)$  and  $E(G_1 \cup G_2) = E(G_1) \cup E(G_2)$ . The disjoint union of  $m$  copies of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $mG$ . The corona  $G_1 \odot G_2$  of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is obtained by taking one copy of  $G_1$  (with  $p$  vertices) and  $p$  copies of  $G_2$  and then joining the  $i^{th}$  vertex of  $G_1$  to every vertex in the  $i^{th}$  copy of  $G_2$ . Armed crown  $C_n \odot P_m$  is the graph obtained from a cycle  $C_n$  by identifying the pendent vertex of a path  $P_m$  at each vertex of the cycle. Bi-armed crown  $C_n \odot 2P_m$  is a graph obtained from a cycle  $C_n$  by identifying the pendent vertices of two vertex disjoint paths of same

length  $m - 1$  at each vertex of the cycle. The graph  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle$  is the graph obtained by subdividing the central edge of the bistar  $B_{n,n}$  with the vertex  $w$ . The graph  $S_{m,n}$  is obtained from a star with  $n$  spokes in which each spoke is a path of length  $m$ . Terms and notations not defined here are used in the sense of Harary[1].

## 2. Preliminary Results

The concept of super mean labeling was introduced in [3]. Let  $G$  be a  $(p, q)$ -graph and  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q\}$  be an injection. For each edge  $e = uv$ , let  $f^*(e) = (f(u) + f(v))/2$  if  $f(u) + f(v)$  is even and  $f^*(e) = (f(u) + f(v) + 1)/2$  if  $f(u) + f(v)$  is odd. Then  $f$  is called a super mean labeling if  $f(V) \cup \{f^*(e) : e \in E(G)\} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q\}$ . A graph that admits a super mean labeling is called a super mean graph. The following results have been proved in [3]:

- Path, Comb and any cycle of odd length are super mean graphs.
- If  $n > 3$ ,  $K_{1,n}$  is not a super mean graph.
- The bistar  $B_{m,n}$  is a super mean graph for  $m = n$  or  $n + 1$ .
- The graph  $L_n \odot K_1$  is a super mean graph.
- If  $n > 3$ ,  $K_n$  is not a super mean graph.
- The graph  $P_n^2$  is a super mean graph.
- $C_m \cup P_n$  is a super mean graph for all  $m \geq 3$  and  $n \geq 2$ .

In [2], super mean labeling of graphs of order 5 are discussed. We use the following results in the subsequent theorems.

**Theorem 2.1.** [3] *Union of two super mean graphs is a super mean graph.*

**Theorem 2.2.** [3] *Let  $G_1$  be a  $(p_1, q_1)$ -graph and  $G_2$  be a  $(p_2, q_2)$ -graph with super mean labelings  $f$  and  $g$  respectively. Let  $f(u) = p_1 + q_1$  and  $g(v) = 1$ . Then the graph  $(G_1)_f * (G_2)_g$  obtained from  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  by identifying the vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is also a super mean graph.*

## 3. Super Mean Graphs

**Theorem 3.3.** *The armed crown  $C_n \odot P_m$  is a super mean graph for all  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 3$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n$  be the vertices of the cycle. let  $v_i^1, v_i^2, v_i^3, \dots, v_i^m$  be the vertices of the path of length  $m - 1$  attached with  $u_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) with identification of  $u_i$  and  $v_i^m$ .

**Case (i)**  $n$  is odd.

Then  $n = 2k + 1$  for some  $k$ . Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 2mn\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_1^i) &= 2i - 1 && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, 1 \leq j \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ even}, 1 \leq j \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, k + 1 \leq j \leq 2k, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ even}, k + 1 \leq j \leq 2k, 1 \leq i \leq m. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling.

**Case (ii)**  $n$  is even.

Then  $n = 2k$  for some  $k$ .

*Subcase (i)*  $k \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ .

Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 2mn\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_1^i) &= 2i - 1 && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, 1 \leq j \leq k - 1, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ even}, 1 \leq j \leq k - 1, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i + 2(j + 1)m && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, k \leq j \leq 2k - 3, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i + 2(j + 1)m && \text{for } j \text{ even}, k \leq j \leq 2k - 3, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{2k-1}^{m+1-i}) &= (4k - 2)m + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{2k}^1) &= (4k - 4)m + 1 && \text{and} \\ f(v_{2k}^{1+i}) &= (4k - 4)m + 2 + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling.

*Subcase (ii)*  $k \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .

Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 2mn\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_1^i) &= 2i - 1 && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, 1 \leq j \leq k - 1, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i - 1 + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ even}, 1 \leq j \leq k - 1, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{1+j}^{m+1-i}) &= 2i + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ odd}, k \leq j \leq 2k - 3, 1 \leq i \leq m \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 f(v_{1+j}^i) &= 2i + 2jm && \text{for } j \text{ even}, k \leq j \leq 2k - 3, 1 \leq i \leq m \\
 f(v_{2k-1}^{m+1-i}) &= (4k - 2)m + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m \\
 f(v_{2k}^1) &= (4k - 4)m + 1 && \text{and} \\
 f(v_{2k}^{1+i}) &= (4k - 4)m + 2 + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m - 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling. Hence  $C_n \odot P_m$  is a super mean graph for all  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 3$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.4.** A super mean labeling of  $C_{12} \odot P_5$  is given in Figure 1.

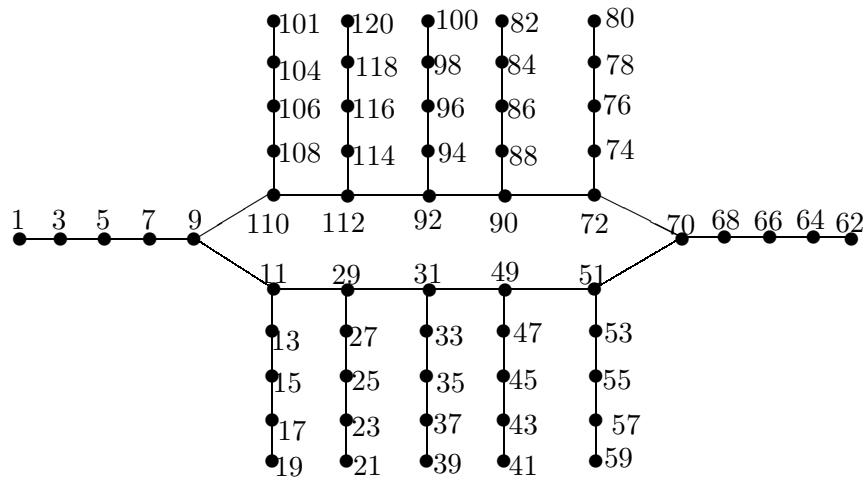


Figure 1.

In [3] we have shown that  $K_{1,4}$  is not a super mean graph. The following theorem shows that  $nK_{1,4}, n > 1$  is a super mean graph.

**Theorem 3.5.** The disconnected graph  $nK_{1,4}, n > 1$  is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* The super mean labeling of  $2K_{1,4}$  and  $3K_{1,4}$  are given in Figures 2 and 3.

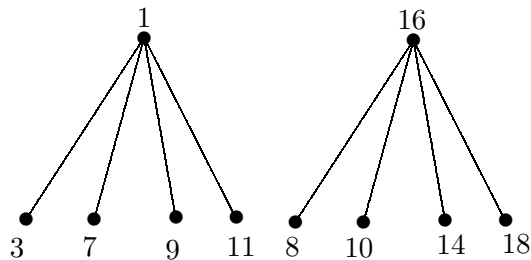


Figure 2.

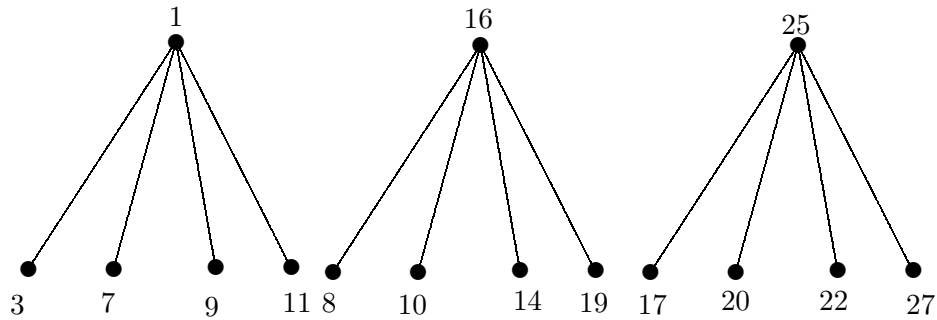


Figure 3.

Let  $G_1 = 2K_{1,4}$  and  $G_2 = 3K_{1,4}$ . Now  $G_1 \cup G_1 = 4K_{1,4}$  and  $G_1 \cup G_2 = 5K_{1,4}$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $4K_{1,4}$  and  $5K_{1,4}$  are super mean graphs. Again  $G_1 \cup G_1 \cup G_1 = G_1 \cup 4K_{1,4} = 6K_{1,4}$  and  $G_1 \cup G_1 \cup G_2 = G_1 \cup 5K_{1,4} = 7K_{1,4}$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $6K_{1,4}$  and  $7K_{1,4}$  are super mean graphs. Now for any integer  $m \geq 2$ ,  $mG_1 = 2mK_{1,4}$  and  $(m - 1)G_1 \cup G_2 = (2m + 1)K_{1,4}$  are super mean graphs. Hence  $nK_{1,4}$  is a super mean graph for all  $n > 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6.** Let  $\wp$  be the collection of paths  $P_n^i = (u_1^i, u_2^i, u_3^i, \dots, u_n^i), 1 \leq i \leq m$ . Let  $1 \leq t \leq n$ . Let  $G$  be the graph with  $V(G) = \bigcup_{i=1}^m V(P_n^i)$  and  $E(G) = \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m E(P_n^i) \right) \cup \{u_i^i u_{i+1}^i : 1 \leq i \leq m - 1\}$ . Then  $G$  is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 2mn - 1\}$  by  $f(u_i^1) = 2i - 1$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ;  $f(u_{n+1-j}^{2k}) = f(u_n^{2k-1}) + 2j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and  $1 \leq k \leq \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ ,  $f(u_j^{2k+1}) = f(u_1^{2k}) + 2j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n$  and  $1 \leq k \leq r$  where  $r = \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$  if  $m$  is odd and  $r = \lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor$  if  $m$  is even.

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling of  $G$ . Hence  $G$  is a super mean graph.  $\square$

**Example 3.7.** An illustration Theorem 3.6 with  $m = 3$  and  $n = 4$  is given in Figure 4.

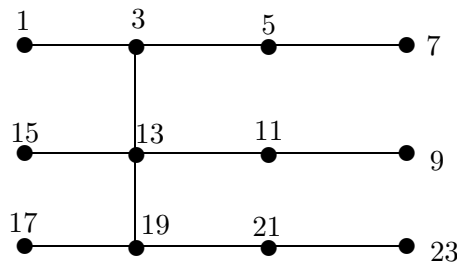


Figure 4.

**Theorem 3.8.** The graph  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle$  obtained by the subdivision of the central edge of  $B_{n,n}$  with a vertex  $w$ , is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* Let  $V(\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle) = \{u, v, w, u_i, v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and  $E(\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle) = \{uw, vw, uu_i, vv_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ .

**Case (i)**  $n$  is even.

Then  $n = 2k$  for some  $k$ . Define  $f : V(\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q = 4n + 5\}$  by  $f(u) = 1$ ;  $f(w) = 4n + 5$ ;  $f(v) = 4n + 3$ ;  $f(u_i) = 4i - 1$  if  $1 \leq i \leq 2k$  and if  $i \neq k + 1$ ;  $f(u_{k+1}) = 4k + 2$  and  $f(v_i) = 4i + 1$  if  $1 \leq i \leq 2k$ . Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling.

**Case (ii)**  $n$  is odd.

Then  $n = 2k + 1$  for some  $k$ . Define  $f : V(\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle) \rightarrow \{1, 2, 3, \dots, p + q = 4n + 5\}$  by  $f(u) = 1$ ;  $f(w) = 4n + 5$ ;  $f(v) = 4n + 3$ ;  $f(u_i) = 4i - 1$  if  $1 \leq i \leq 2k + 1$ ;  $f(v_i) = 4i + 1$  if  $1 \leq i \leq 2k + 1$  and if  $i \neq k + 1$  and  $f(v_{k+1}) = 4k + 4$ . Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling. Hence  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle$  is a super mean graph.  $\square$

**Example 3.9.** A super mean labeling of  $\langle B_{6,6} : w \rangle$  is given in Figure 5.

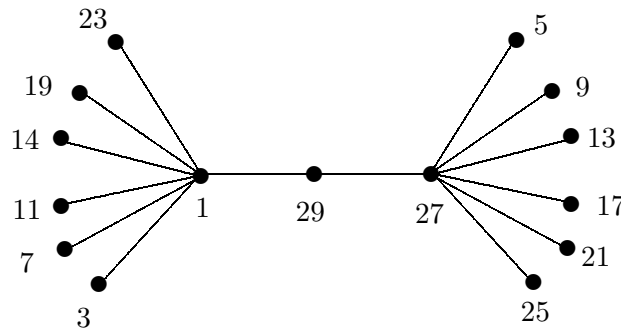


Figure 5.

**Theorem 3.10.** The graph  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle @P_m$  obtained by attaching a path  $P_m$  with the central vertex  $w$  of  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle$  is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* Let  $V(\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle) = \{u, v, w, u_i, v_i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Let  $P_m = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m)$ . The path  $P_m$  is a super mean graph [3]. Now it follows from Theorem 3.8 and Theorem 2.2  $\langle B_{n,n} : w \rangle @P_m$  is a super mean graph.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.11.** The bi-armed crown  $C_n \odot 2P_m$  is a super mean graph for all odd  $n \geq 3$  and  $m \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $C_n = (u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n, u_1)$ . Let  $(v_{i1}^1, v_{i1}^2, v_{i1}^3, \dots, v_{i1}^m)$  and  $(v_{i2}^1, v_{i2}^2, v_{i2}^3, \dots, v_{i2}^m)$  be the paths of length  $m - 1$  with  $v_{i1}^m = v_{i2}^m$  and attached with  $u_i$  and  $v_{i1}^m = v_{i2}^m$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) with identification of  $u_i$  and  $v_{i1}^m = (v_{i2}^m)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

Let  $n = 2k + 1$  for some  $k$ . Define  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 4mn - 2n\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_{j1}^i) &= 4(j - 1)m - (2j - 1) + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq k + 1, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{j2}^{m+1-i}) &= 2(2j - 1)m - (2j + 1) + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq k, 2 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{k+12}^{m-1}) &= 2(2k + 1)m - (2k + 2) \\ f(v_{k+12}^{m-1-i}) &= 2(2k + 1)m - 2k + 2 + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq m - 2 \\ f(v_{k+1+j1}^i) &= 4(j + k)m - 2(k + j) + 2i && \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq k, 1 \leq i \leq m \\ f(v_{k+1+j2}^{m+1-i}) &= (4j + 4k + 2)m - 2(k + 1 + j + 2i) && \text{for } 1 \leq j \leq k, 2 \leq i \leq m. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling. Hence  $C_n \odot 2P_m$  is a super mean graph for all odd  $n \geq 3$  and  $m \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.12.** A super mean labeling of  $C_5 \odot 2P_4$  is given in Figure 6.

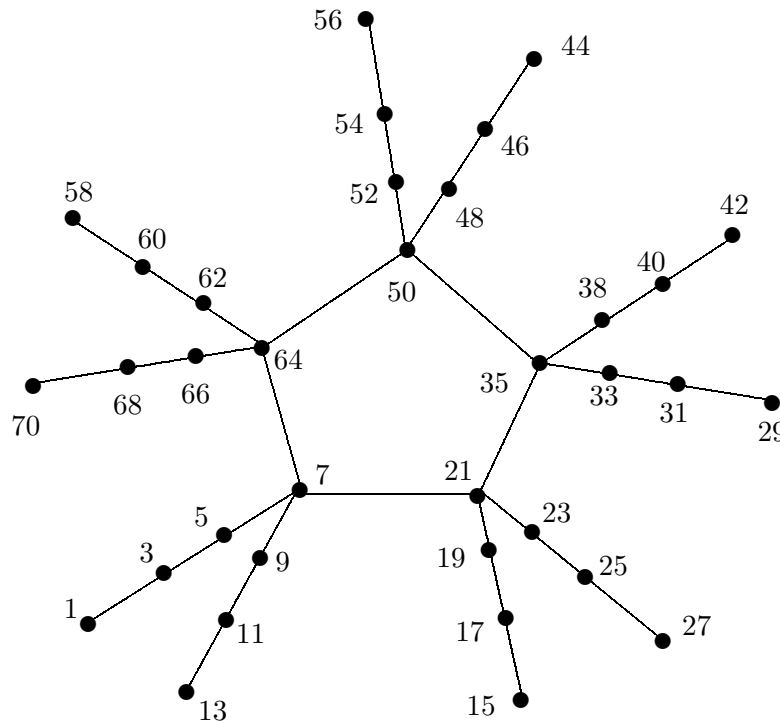


Figure 6.

The graph  $S_{1,3}$  is the star  $K_{1,3}$  which is a super mean graph [3]. Next we prove that  $S_{m,3}$  is a super mean graph for  $m > 1$ .

**Theorem 3.13.** The graph  $S_{m,3}, m > 1$  is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* Let  $v_0$  be the centre of the star and  $v_i^j$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$  and  $j = 1, 2, 3$  be the vertices of  $S_{m,3}$ . The graph  $S_{m,3}$  has  $3m + 1$  vertices and  $3m$  edges. Define  $f : V(S_{m,3}) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 6m + 1\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i^1) &= 2i - 1 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_0) &= 2m + 1; \\ f(v_{m+1-i}^2) &= 2m - 1 + 2i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m - 1; & f(v_1^2) &= 4m + 2; \\ f(v_1^3) &= 4m + 3; & f(v_i^3) &= 4m + 1 + 2i \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq m - 2; \\ f(v_{m-1}^3) &= 6m + 1; & f(v_m^3) &= 6m - 2. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling. Hence  $S_{m,3}, m > 1$  is a super mean graph. □

**Example 3.14.** A super mean labeling of  $S_{5,3}$  is given in Figure 7.

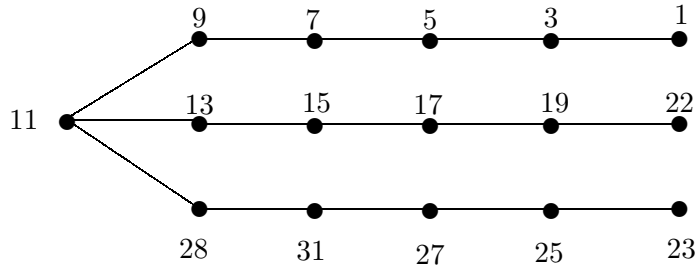


Figure 7.

The graph  $S_{1,4}$  is the star  $K_{1,4}$  which is not a super mean graph [3]. We now prove that  $S_{m,4}$  is a supermean graph for all  $m \geq 2$ .

**Theorem 3.15.** The graph  $S_{m,4}, m \geq 2$  is a super mean graph.

*Proof.* A super mean labeling of  $S_{2,4}$  is given in Figure 8.

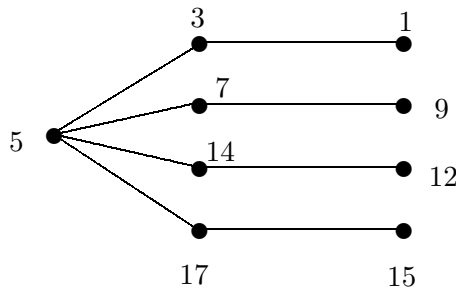


Figure 8.



Now  $m \geq 3$ . Let  $v_o$  be the centre of the star and  $v_i^j, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$  and  $j = 1, 2, 3, 4$  be the vertices of  $S_{m,4}$ . The graph  $S_{m,4}$  has  $4m + 1$  vertices and  $4m$  edges.

**Case (i)**  $m$  is odd.

Define  $f : V(S_{m,4}) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 8m + 1\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i^1) &= 2i - 1 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_o) &= 2m + 1; \\ f(v_{m+1-i}^2) &= 2m + 1 + 2i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_1^3) &= 4m + 4; \\ f(v_i^3) &= 4m + 2 + 2i \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_i^4) &= 6m + 4i - 3 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{m-1}{2}; \\ f(v_{\frac{m+1}{2}}^4) &= 8m + 1; & f(v_{m+1-i}^4) &= 6m + 4i - 2 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{m-1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling.

**Case (ii)**  $m$  is even.

Define  $f : V(S_{m,4}) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, p + q = 8m + 1\}$  by

$$\begin{aligned} f(v_i^1) &= 2i - 1 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_o) &= 2m + 1; \\ f(v_{m+1-i}^2) &= 2m + 1 + 2i \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_1^3) &= 4m + 4; \\ f(v_i^3) &= 4m + 2 + 2i \text{ for } 2 \leq i \leq m; & f(v_i^4) &= 6m + 4i - 3 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{m-1}{2}; \\ f(v_{\frac{m}{2}}^4) &= 8m - 4; & f(v_{\frac{m+2}{2}}^4) &= 8m + 1; \\ f(v_{m+1-i}^4) &= 6m + 4i - 2 \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{m-1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Then  $f$  is a super mean labeling. Hence  $S_{m,4}, m \geq 3$  is a super mean graph. □

**Example 3.16.** A super mean labeling of  $S_{6,4}$  is given in Figure 9.

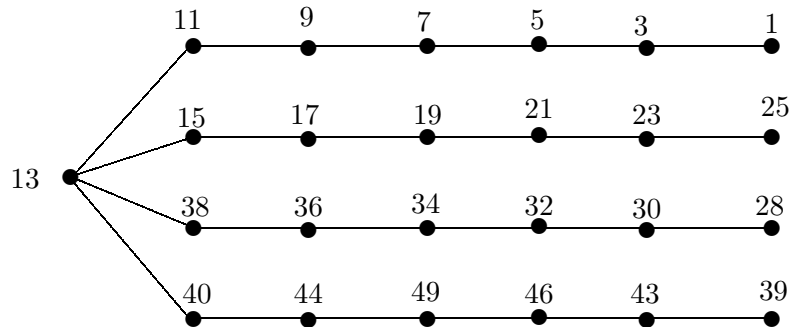


Figure 9.

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