

An Overview of Graceful Labelings

Calder Evans, Breelyn Cocke

Northern Arizona University
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

FAMUS

6 December 2024



Department of Mathematics and Statistics

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2. Present known results on graceful labelings.
3. Look over past research from an NAU student.
4. Introduce the Ringel-Kotzig Conjecture and state recent progress.

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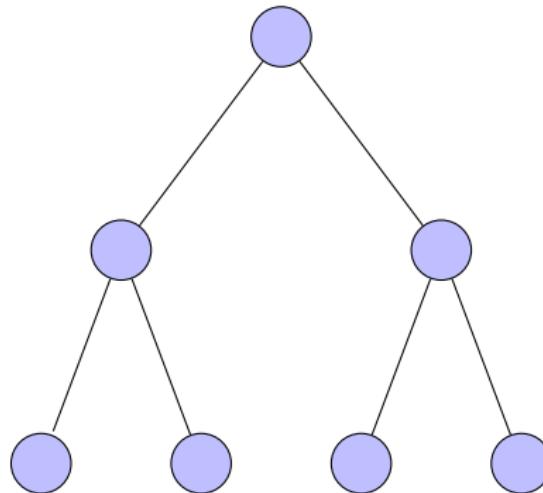
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- vertex and edge labelings are unique.

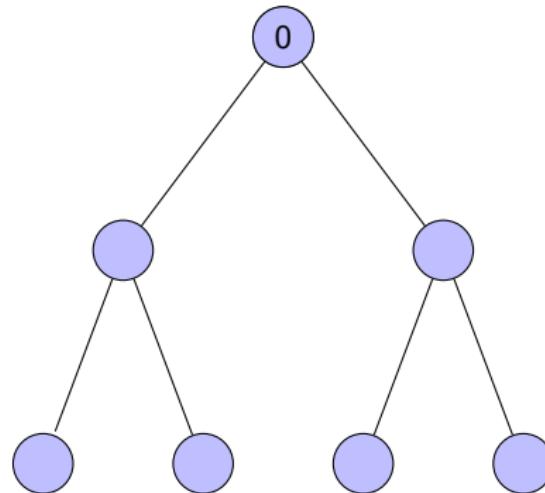
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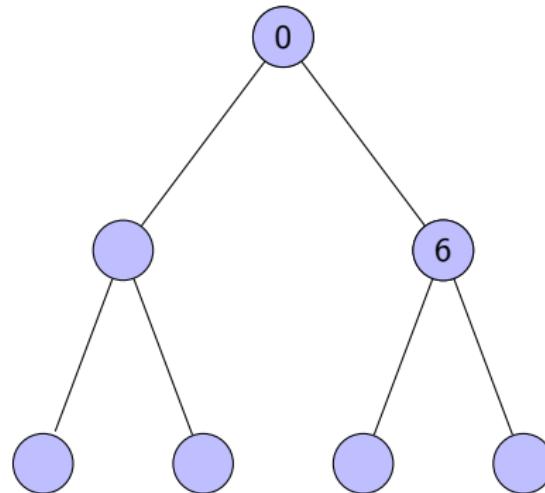
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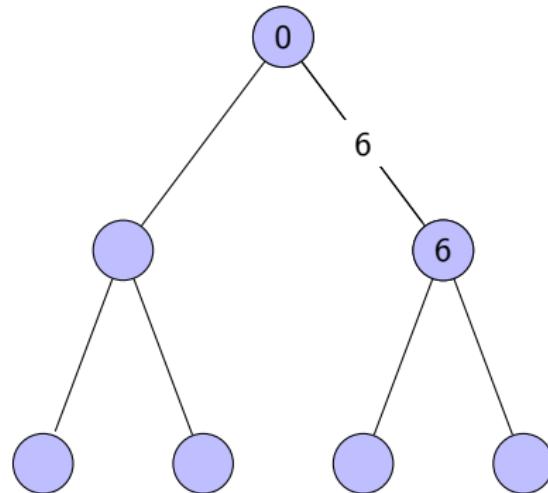
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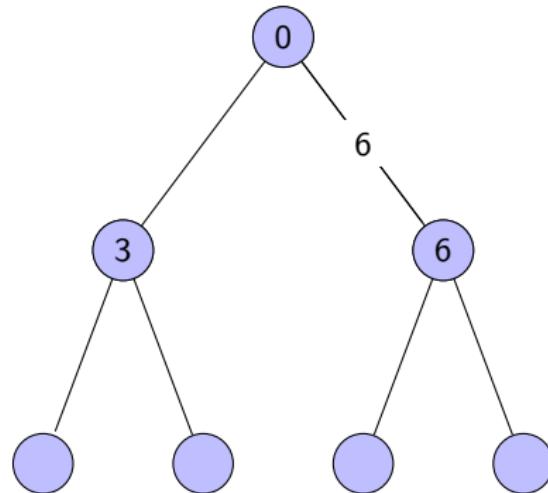
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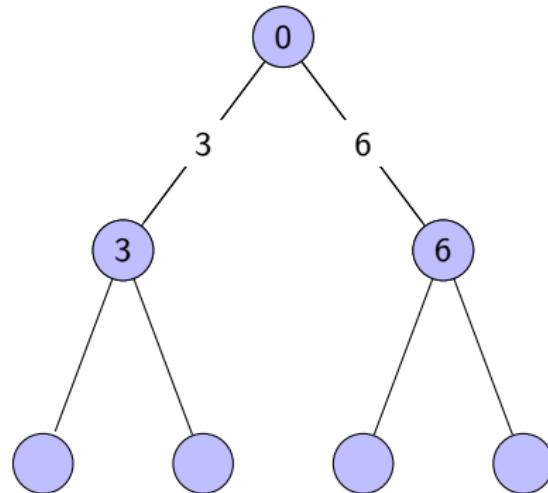
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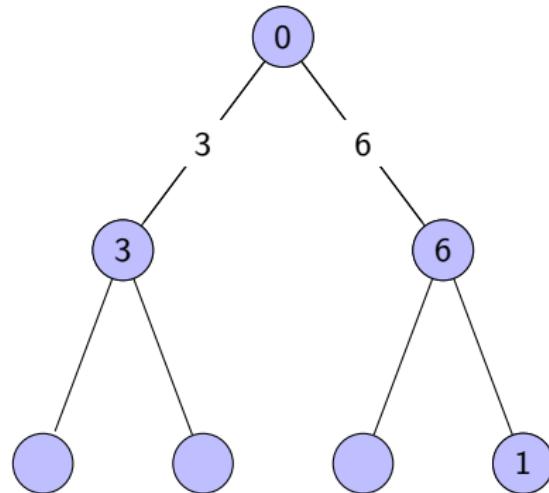
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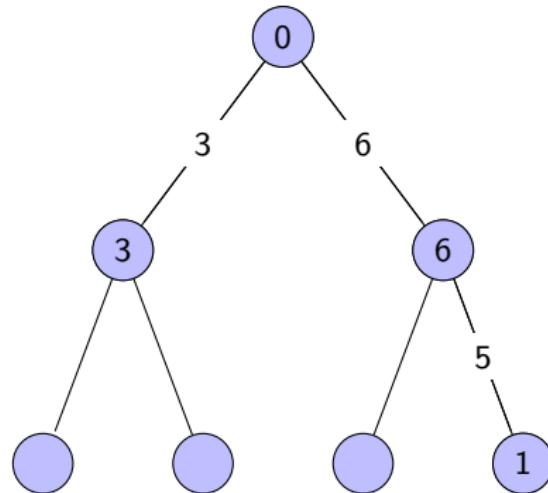
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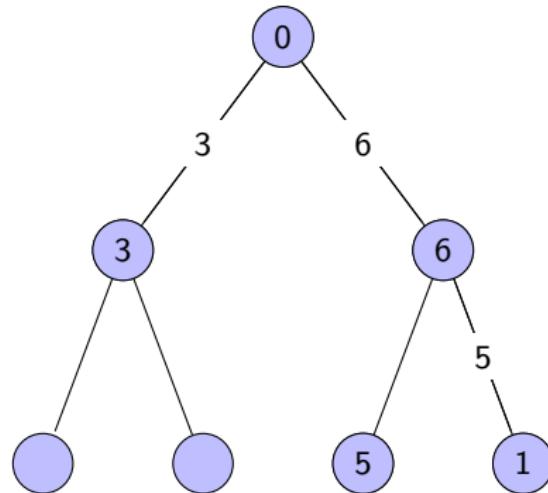
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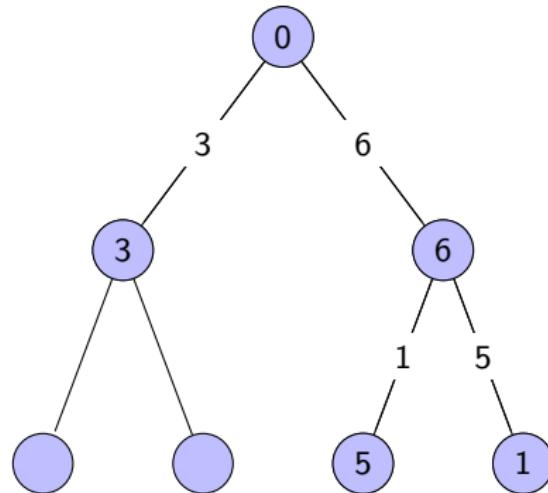
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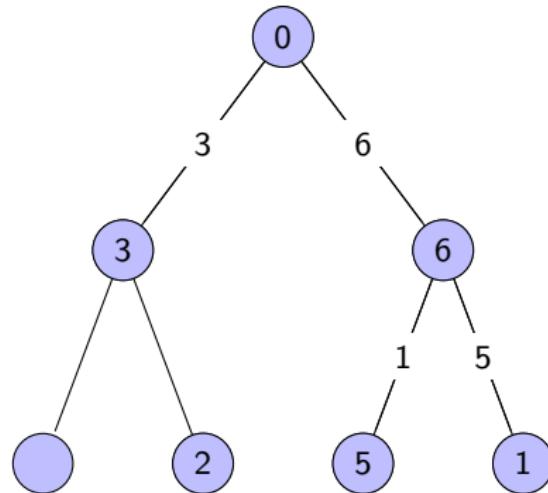
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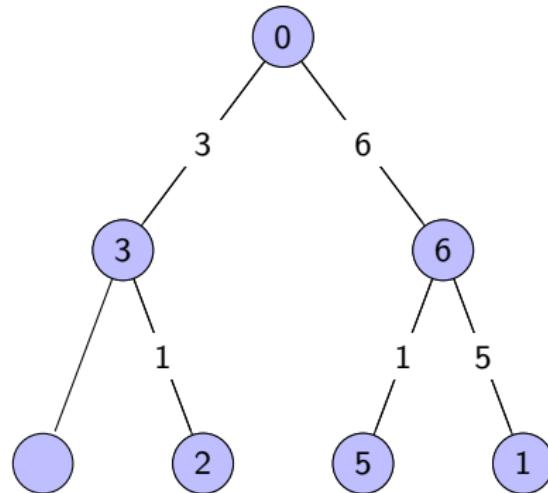
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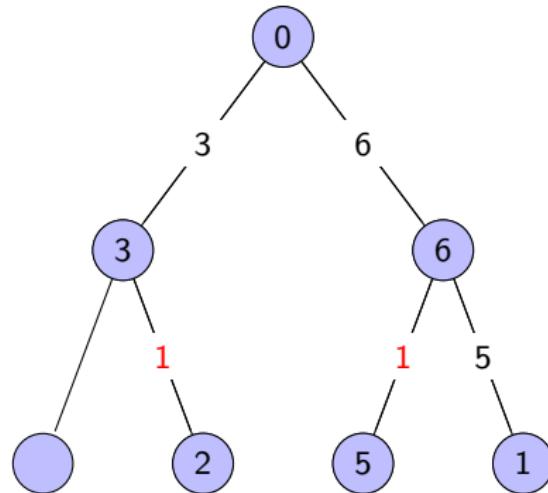


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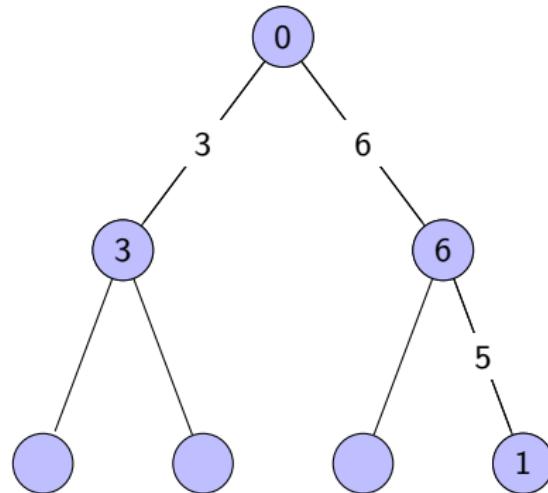


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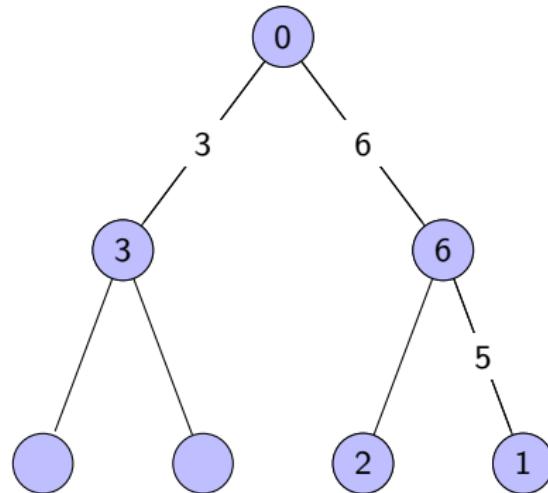
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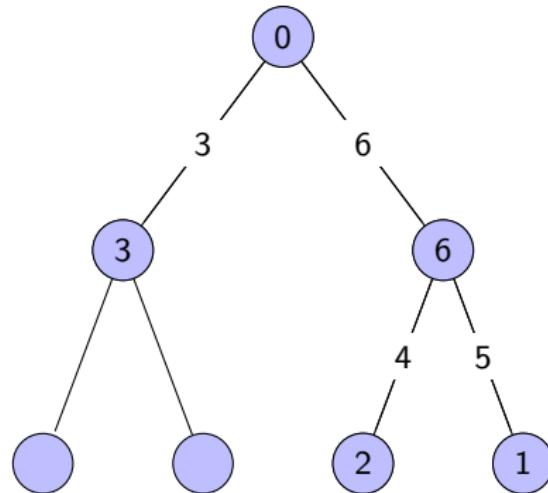
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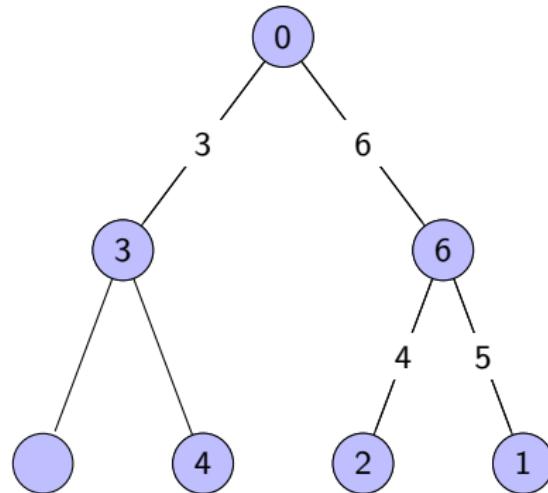
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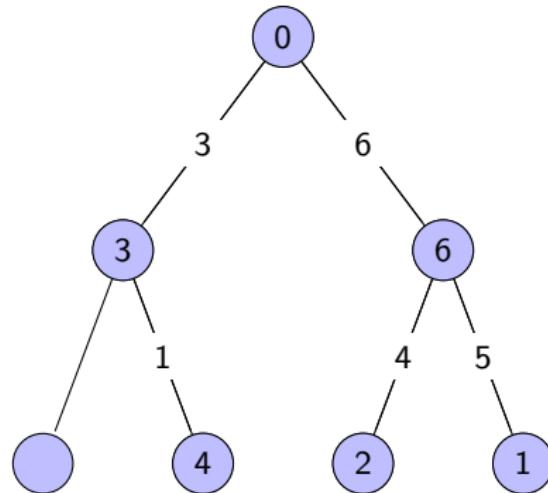
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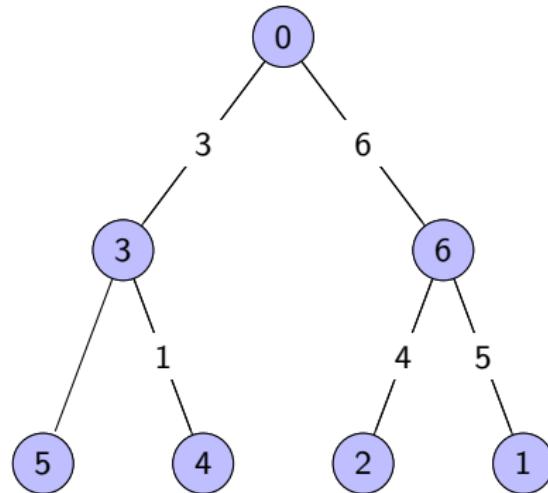
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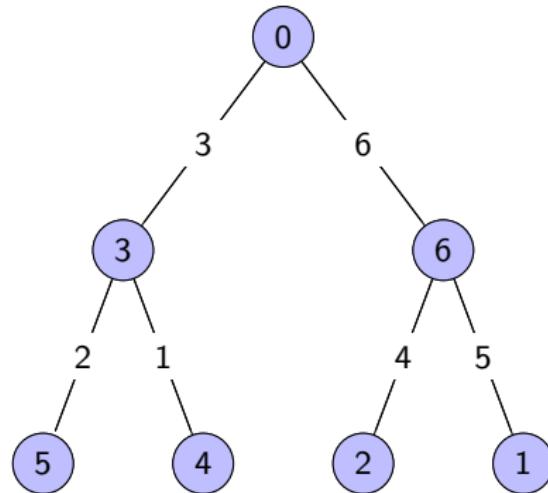
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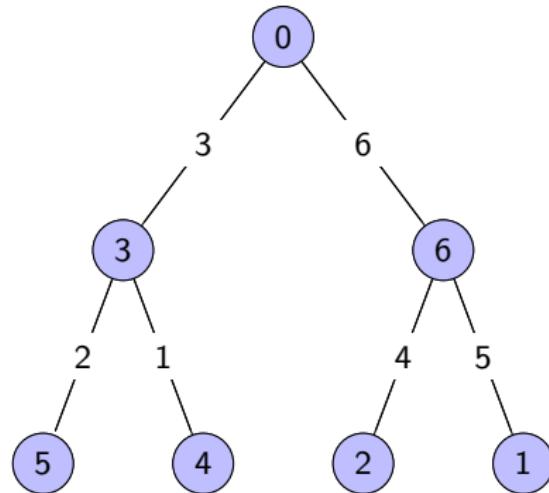
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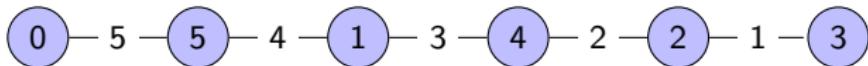


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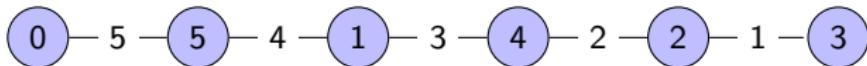


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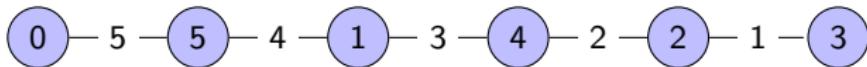


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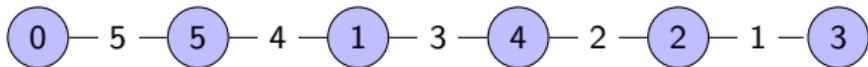


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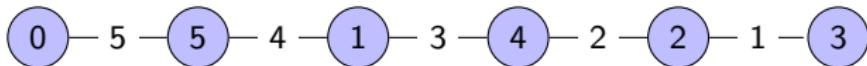


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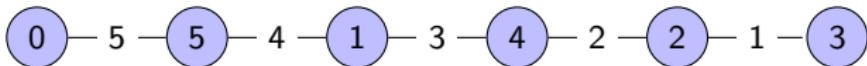


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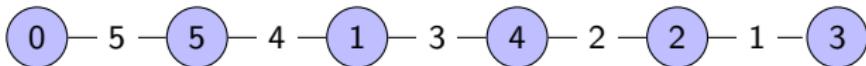


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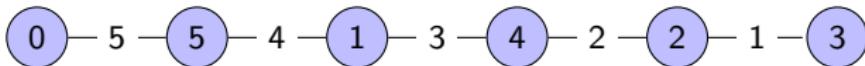


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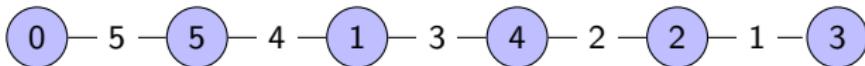


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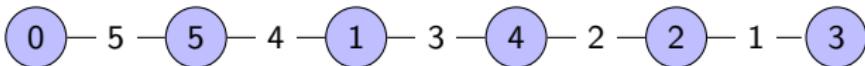


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Thus, P_6 has a graceful labeling.

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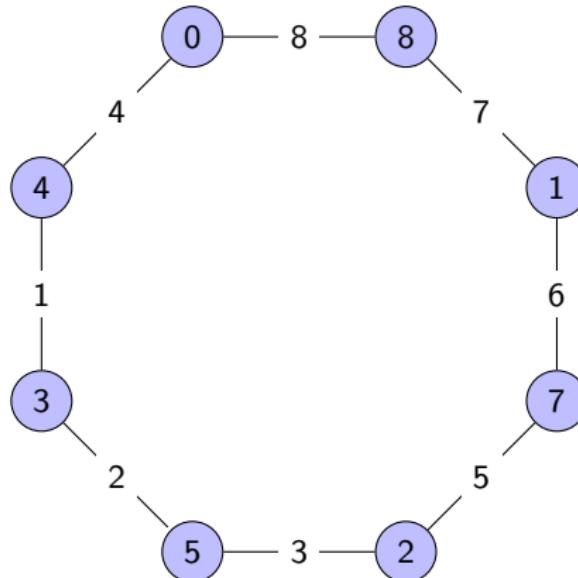


Figure: A graceful labeling of the cycle C_8 .

"The Father of Graceful-ness"

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A cycle with n vertices is graceful if and only if $n \equiv 0$ or $3 \pmod{4}$.

The labeling functions for graceful cycles are:

If $n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$:

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd,} \\ n+1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even and } i \leq \frac{n}{2}, \\ n - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even and } i > \frac{n}{2}. \end{cases}$$

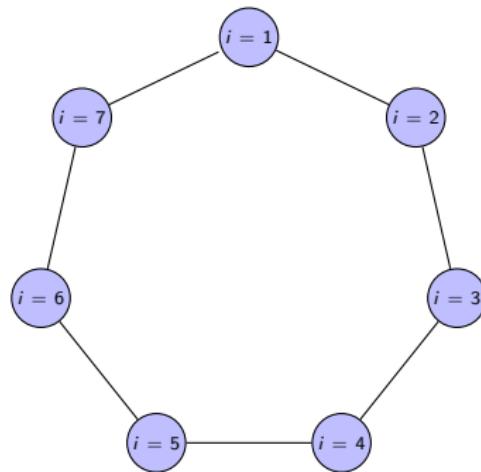
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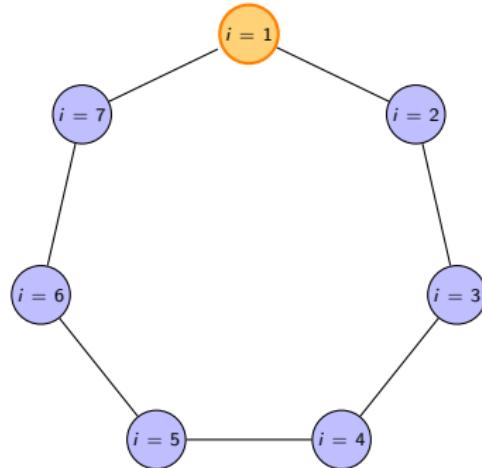
Here, the vertices of C_n are denoted v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n , where each $\{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ is an edge for all $1 \leq i \leq n-1$, as is $\{v_n, v_1\}$.

It is important to note that a given labeling function is not necessarily unique.

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

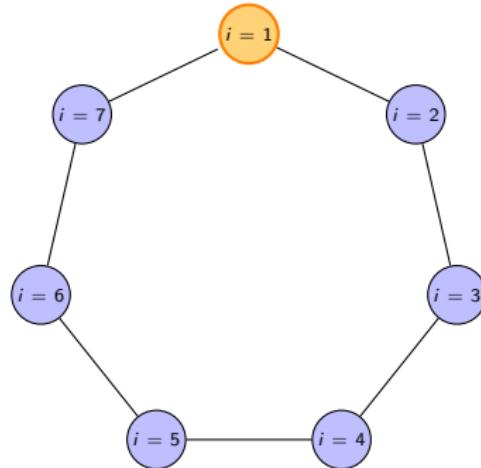


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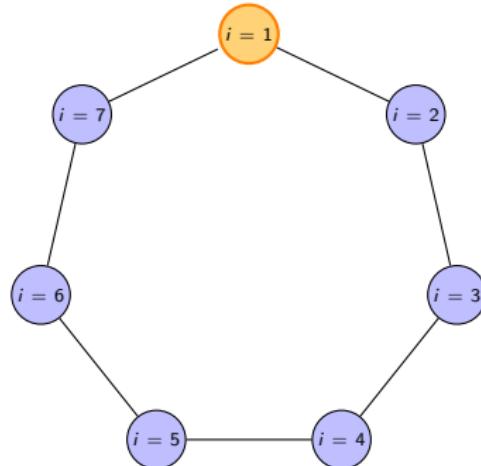
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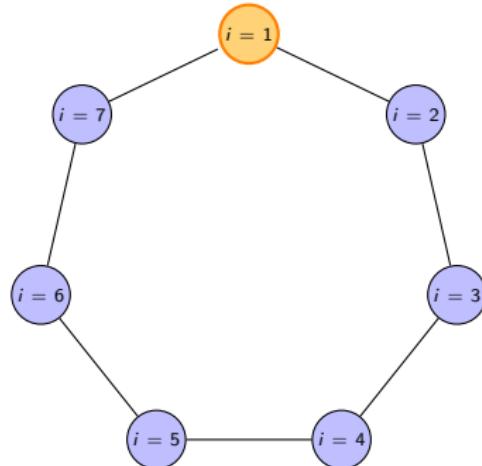
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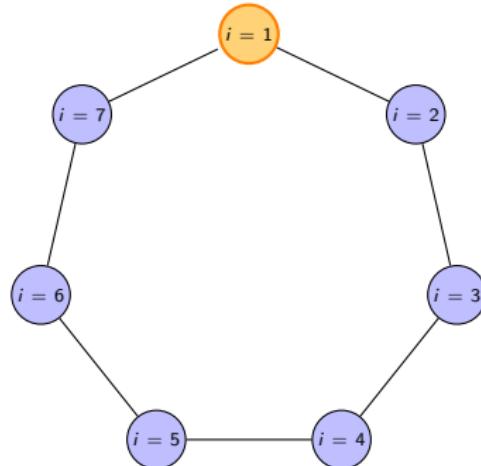
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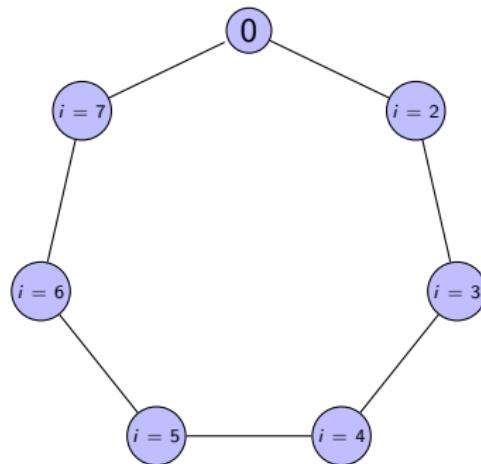
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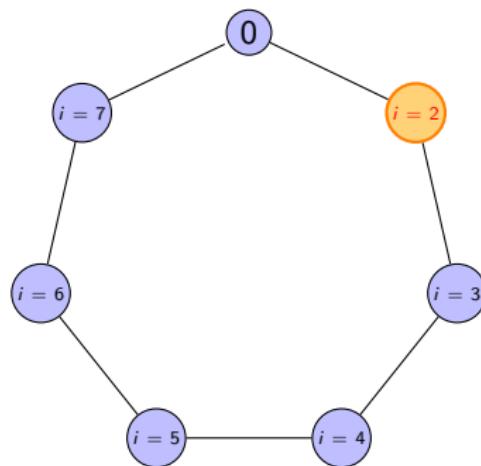


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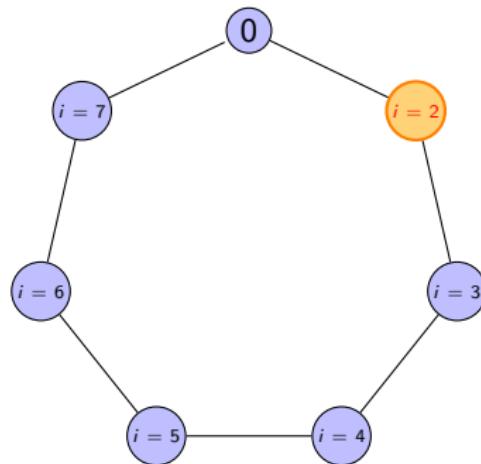


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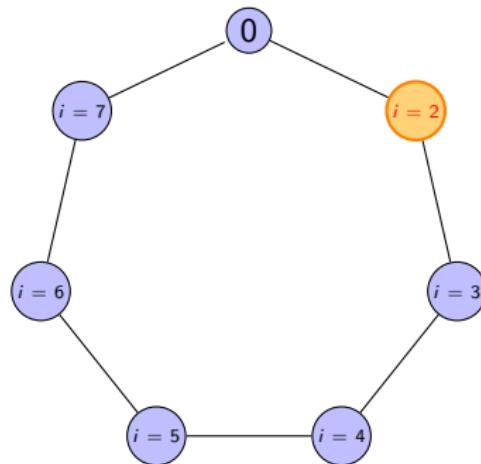
$i = 2 :$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



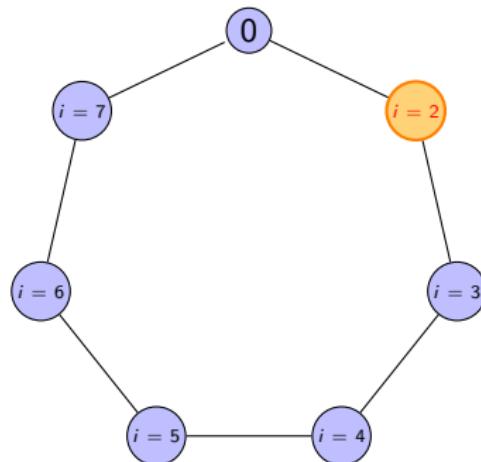
$i = 2 : 2$ is even

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



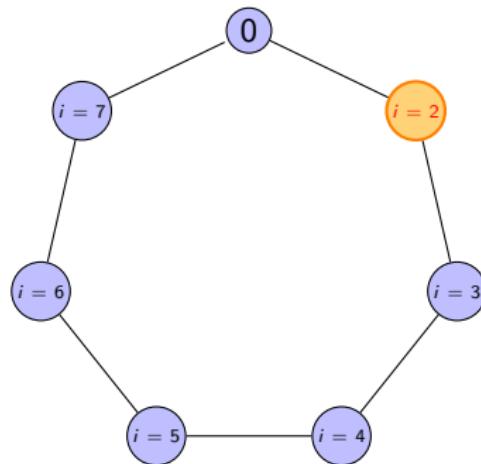
$i = 2 : 2$ is even

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$i = 2 : 2 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_2) = 7 + 1 - \frac{2}{2}$$

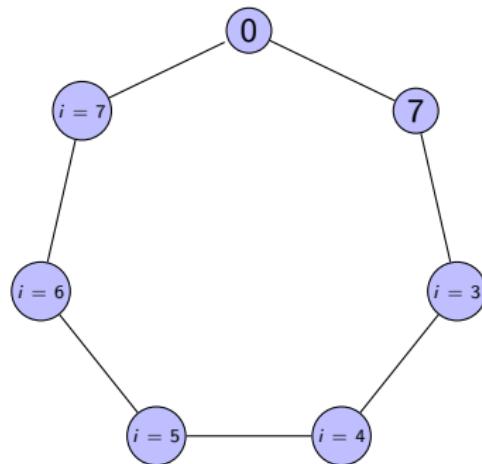
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



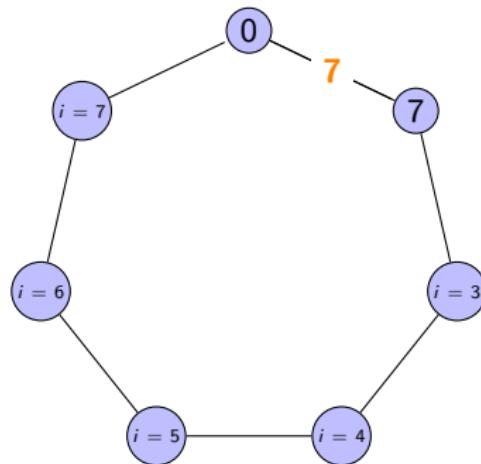
$$i = 2 : 2 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_2) = 7 + 1 - \frac{2}{2} = 7$$

Labeling Function Example

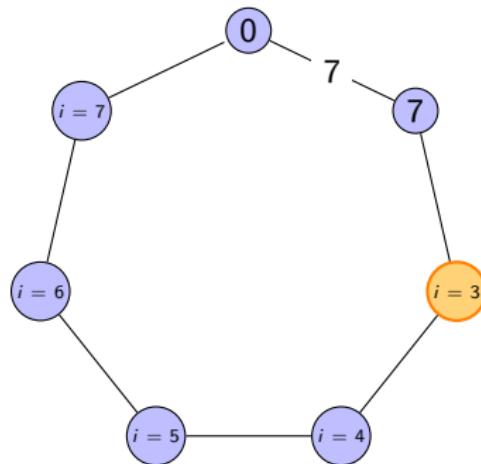
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

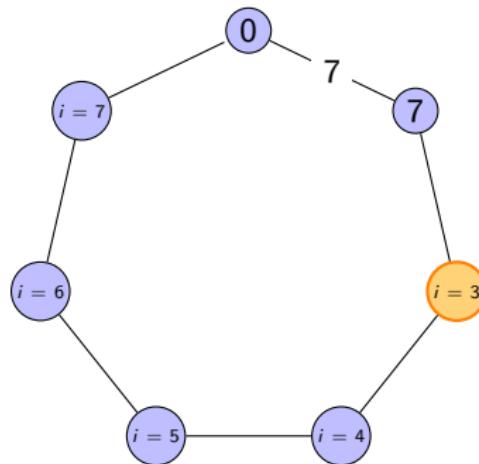


$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



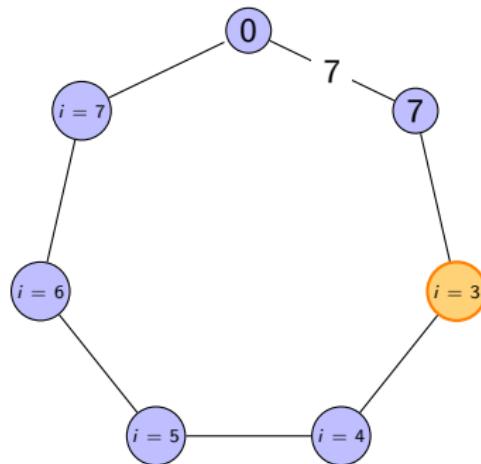
$i = 3 :$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



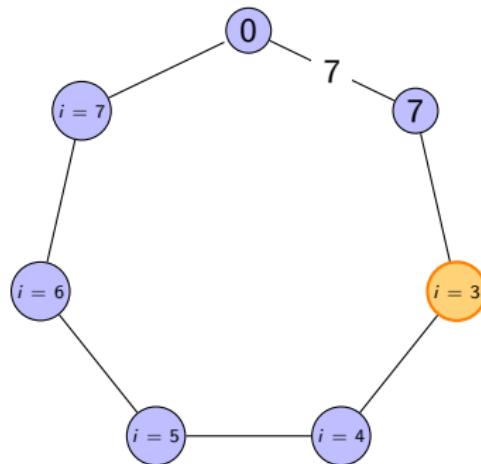
$i = 3 : 3$ is odd and $3 \leq 3$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



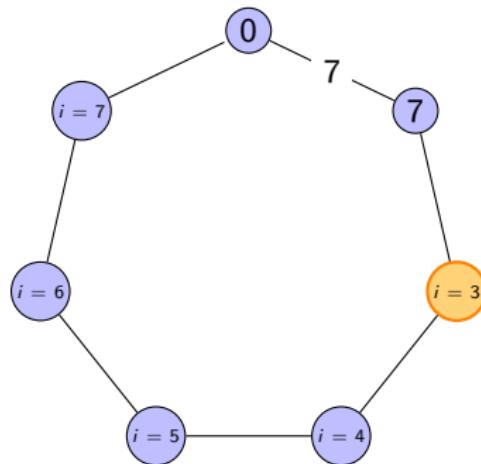
$i = 3 : 3$ is odd and $3 \leq 3$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$i = 3 : 3 \text{ is odd and } 3 \leq 3 \Rightarrow f(v_3) = \frac{3-1}{2}$$

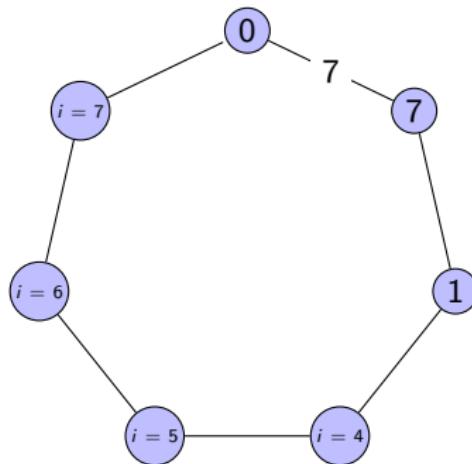
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



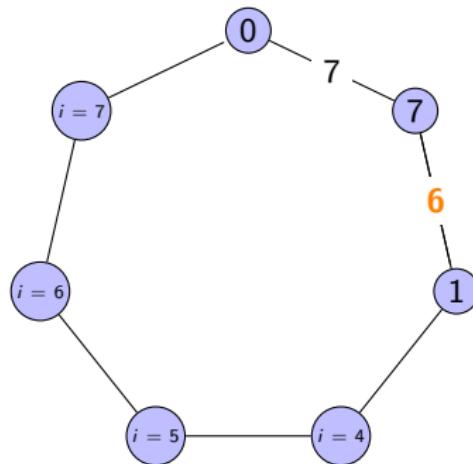
$$i = 3 : 3 \text{ is odd and } 3 \leq 3 \Rightarrow f(v_3) = \frac{3-1}{2} = 1$$

Labeling Function Example

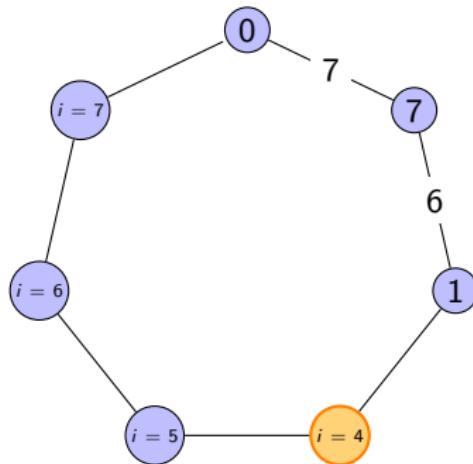
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

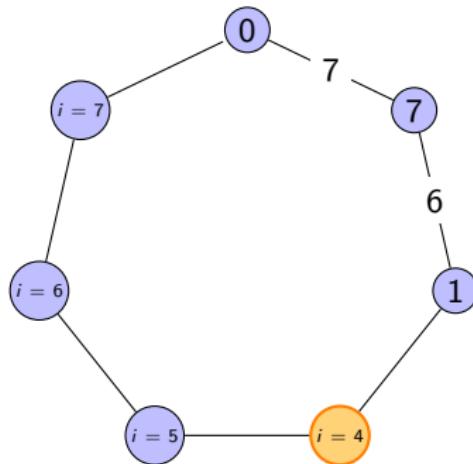


$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



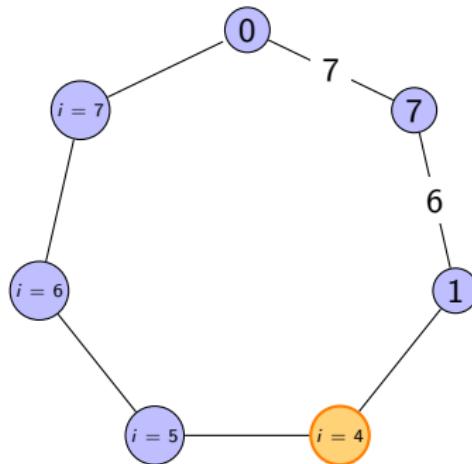
$i = 4 :$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



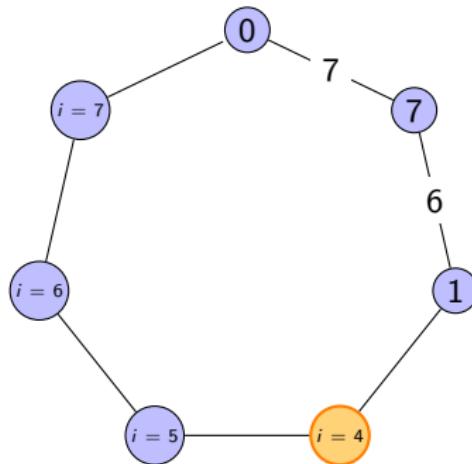
$i = 4 : 4$ is even

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



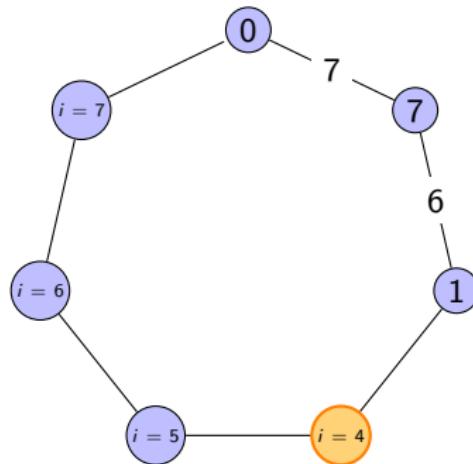
$i = 4 : 4$ is even

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$i = 4 : 4 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_4) = 7 + 1 - \frac{4}{2}$$

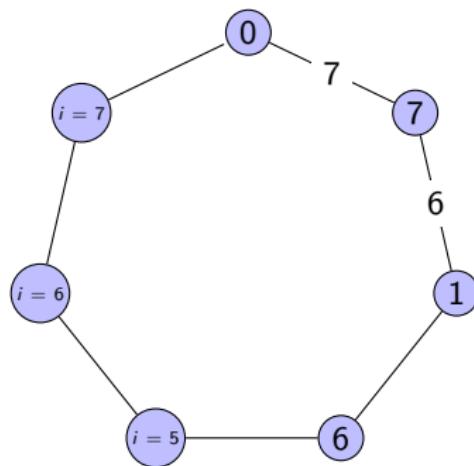
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



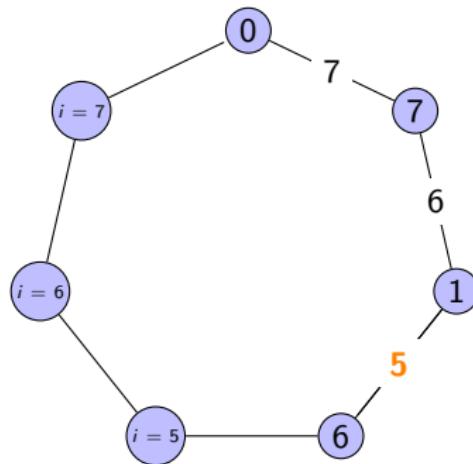
$$i = 4 : 4 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_4) = 7 + 1 - \frac{4}{2} = 6$$

Labeling Function Example

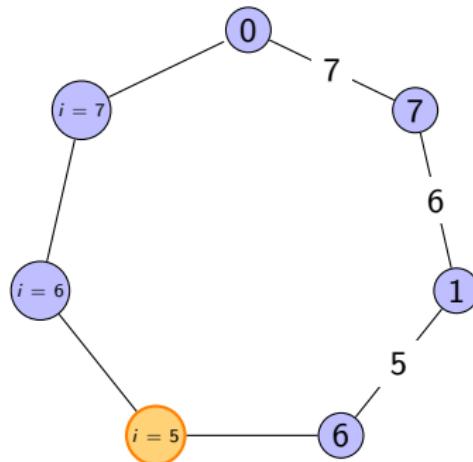
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

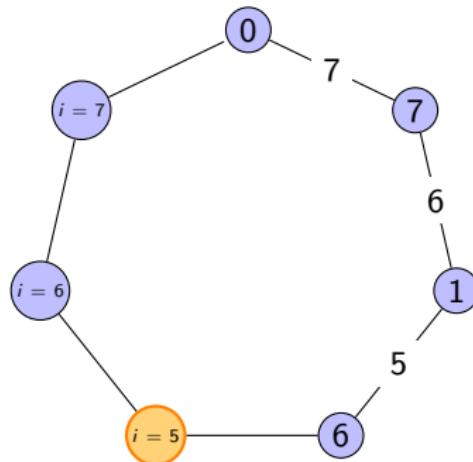


$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



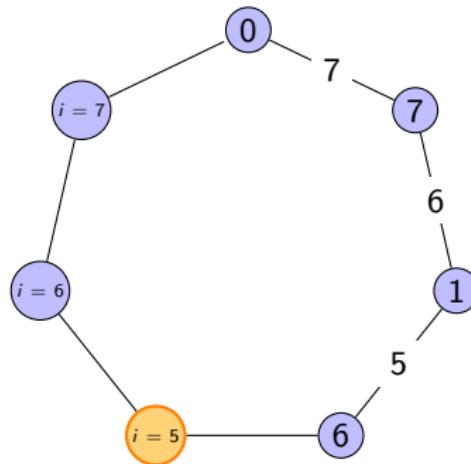
$i = 5 :$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



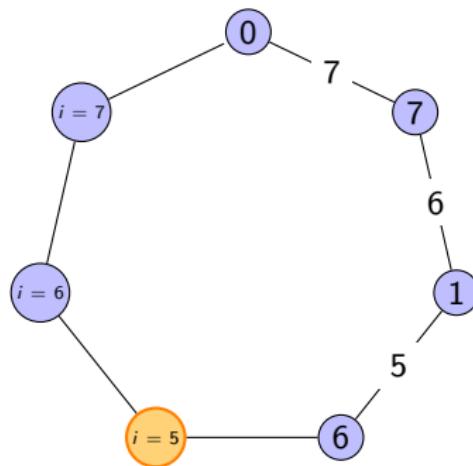
$i = 5 : 5$ is odd and $5 > 3$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



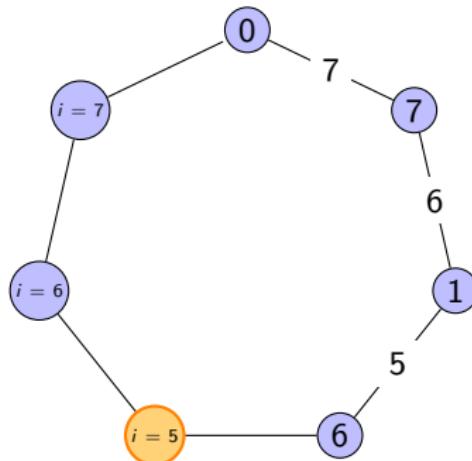
$i = 5 : 5$ is odd and $5 > 3$

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$i = 5 : 5 \text{ is odd and } 5 > 3 \Rightarrow f(v_5) = \frac{5+1}{2}$$

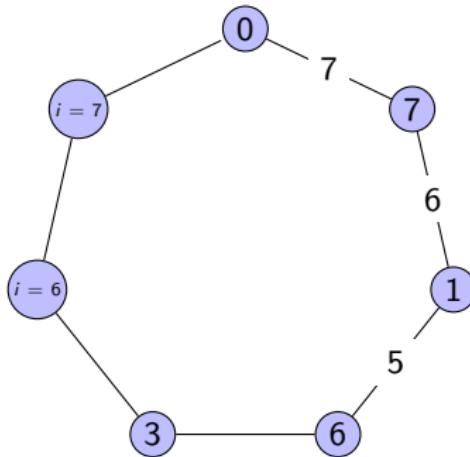
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



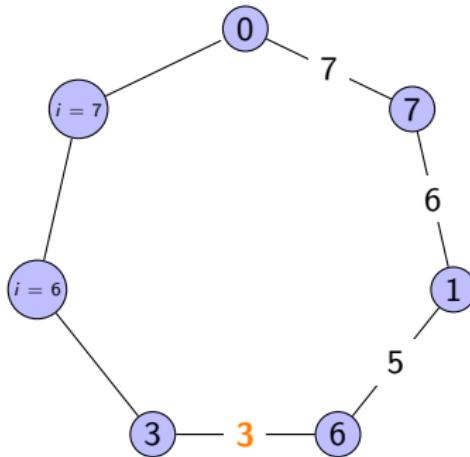
$$i = 5 : 5 \text{ is odd and } 5 > 3 \Rightarrow f(v_5) = \frac{5+1}{2} = 3$$

Labeling Function Example

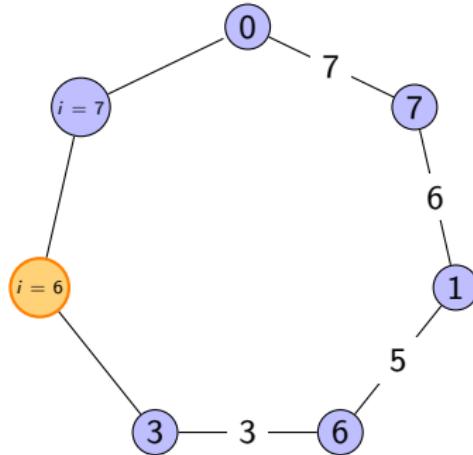
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

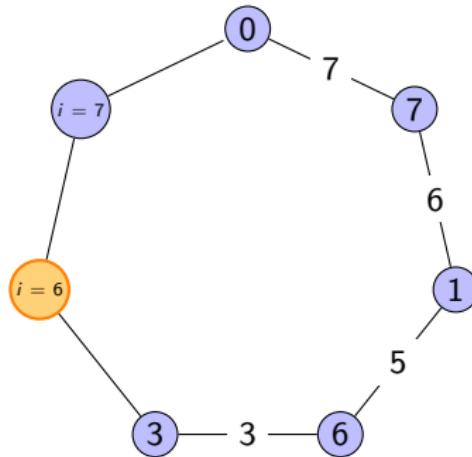


$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$i = 6 :$

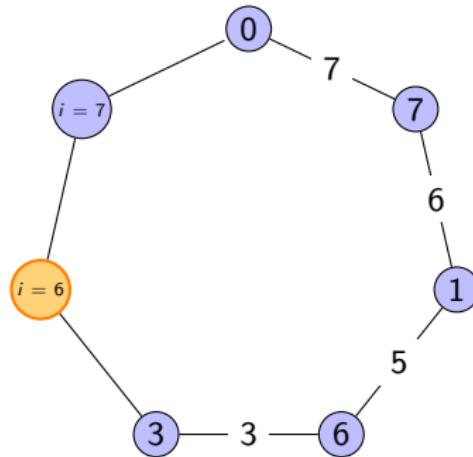
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$i = 6 : 6$ is even

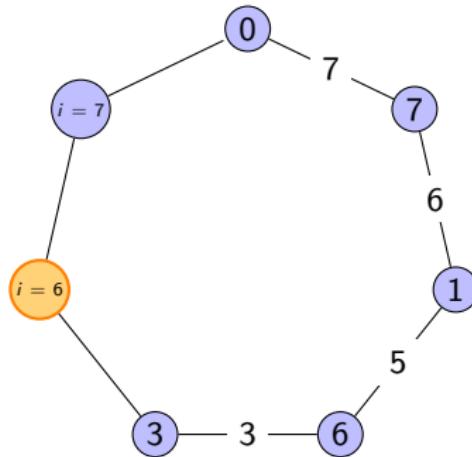
Labeling Function Example

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



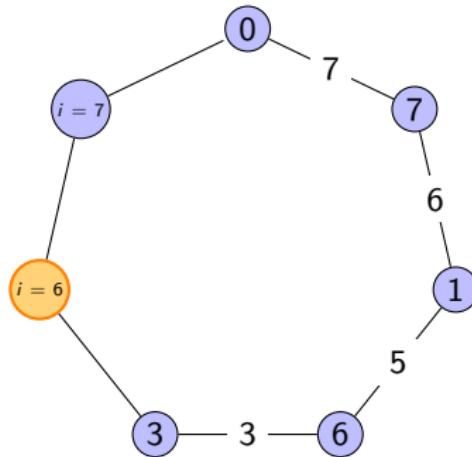
$i = 6$: 6 is even

$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$i = 6 : 6 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_6) = 7 + 1 - \frac{6}{2}$$

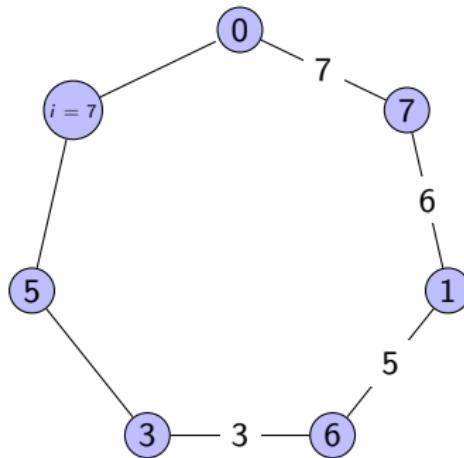
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



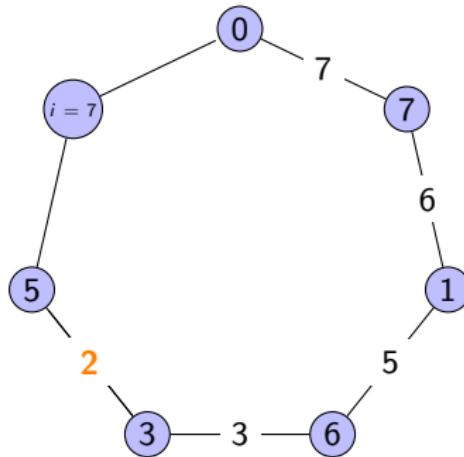
$$i = 6 : 6 \text{ is even} \Rightarrow f(v_6) = 7 + 1 - \frac{6}{2} = 5$$

Labeling Function Example

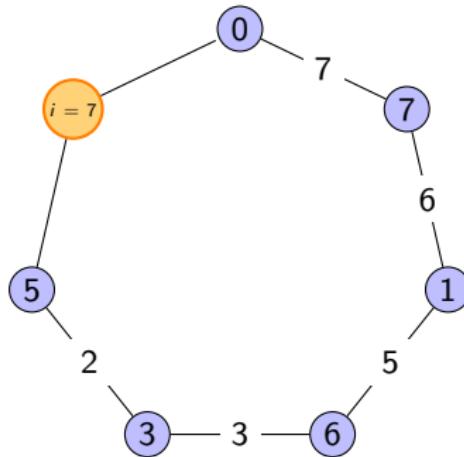
$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$



$$7 \equiv 3 \pmod{4} : f(v_i) = \begin{cases} 7 + 1 - \frac{i}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{i-1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i \leq \frac{7-1}{2} = 3, \\ \frac{i+1}{2}, & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } i > \frac{7-1}{2} = 3. \end{cases}$$

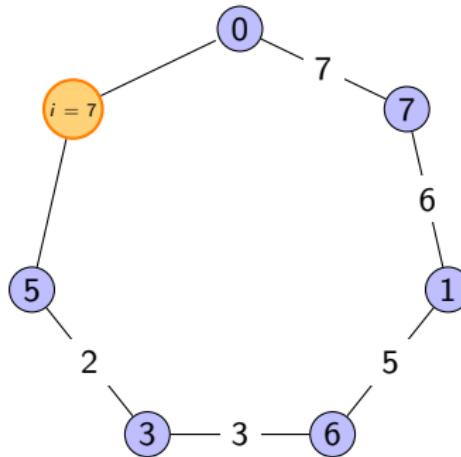


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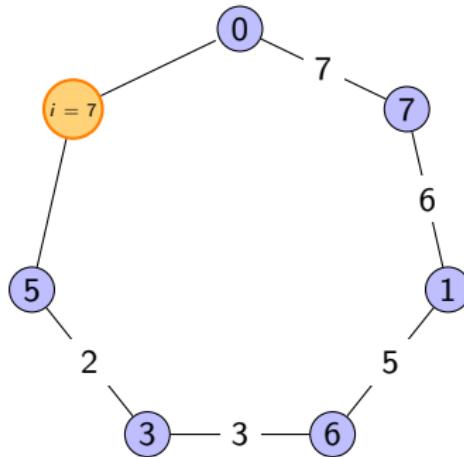
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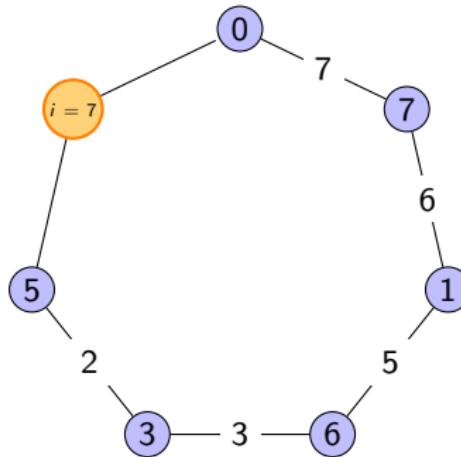
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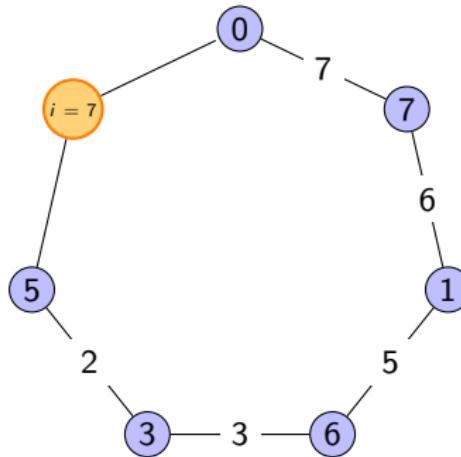
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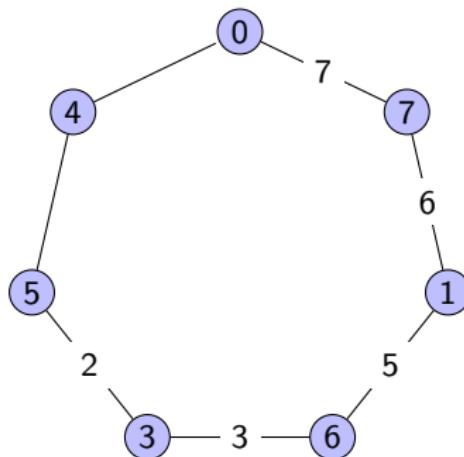
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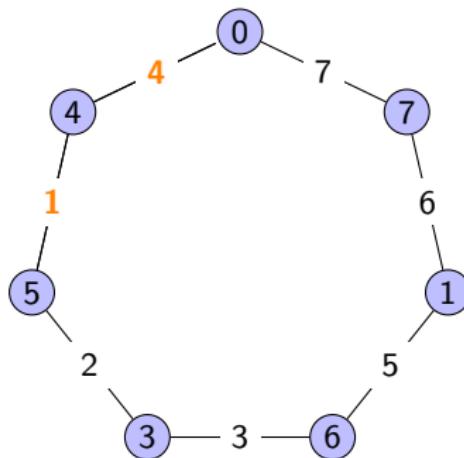
$$i = 7 : 7 \text{ is odd and } 7 > 3 \Rightarrow f(v_7) = \frac{7+1}{2} = 4$$

Labeling Function Example

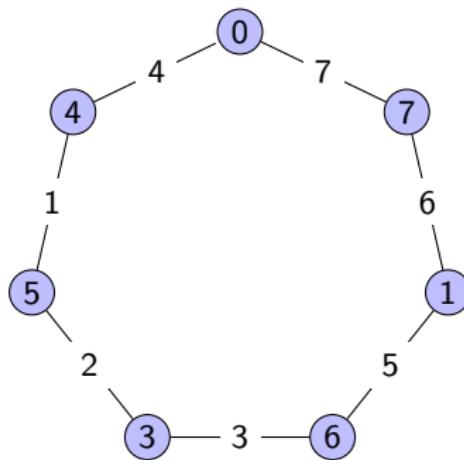
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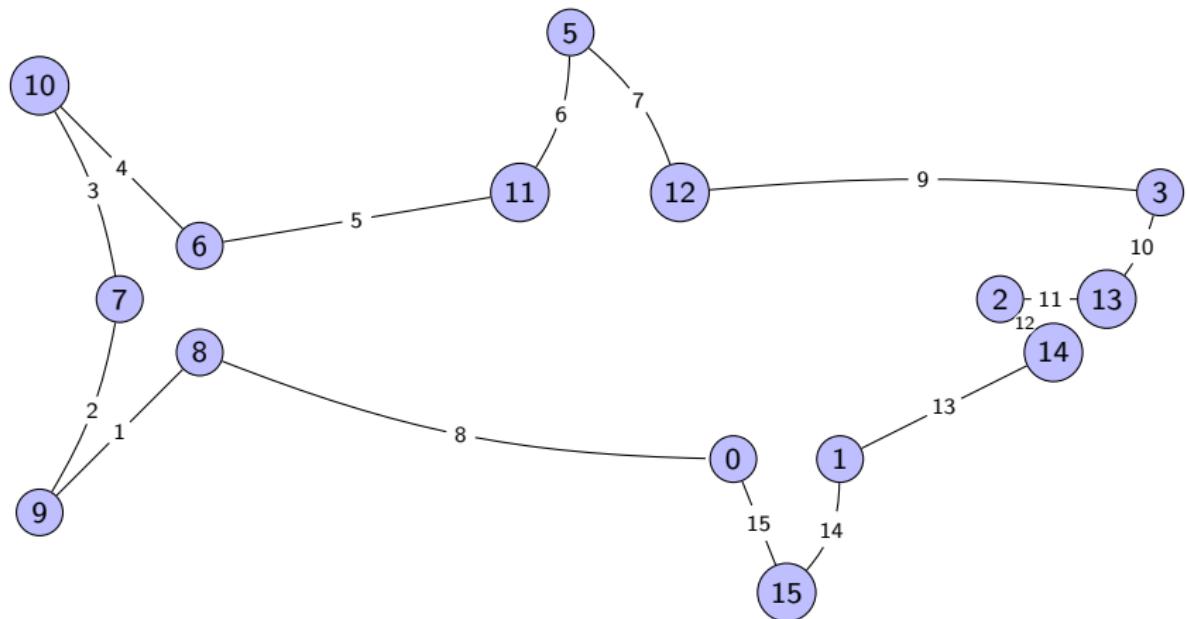


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Shark n -Cycles with $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ are Graceful

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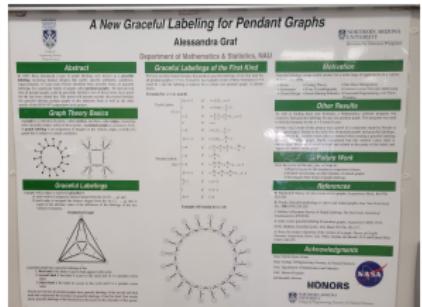
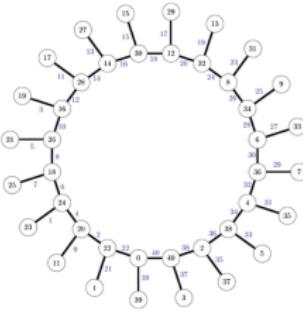
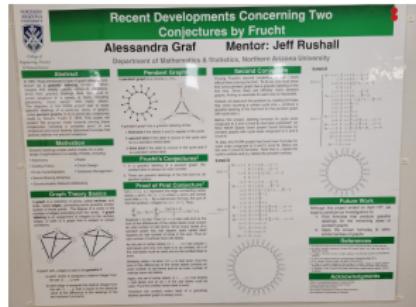


Graceful Work from an NAU student

Definition

A *pendant graph* is an n -cycle graph with one pendant vertex attached to each cycle vertex.

Dr. Alessandra Graf researched graceful labelings of pendant graphs for several semesters at NAU starting in 2013. She was able to prove that all pendant graphs that have labels 0 and $2n$, where $n \equiv 4$ or $8 \pmod{8}$ and $n \equiv 0 \pmod{16}$ can be gracefully labeled, while also finding the labeling functions for them.



Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Since Rosa first introduced the idea of graceful labeling, many mathematicians (including Dr. Alessandra Graf) have proved that certain graphs can always be gracefully labeled.

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Let's look at some of them...

Miscellaneous Graphs With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All **wheel**, web, helm, gear, grid, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various mathematicians]

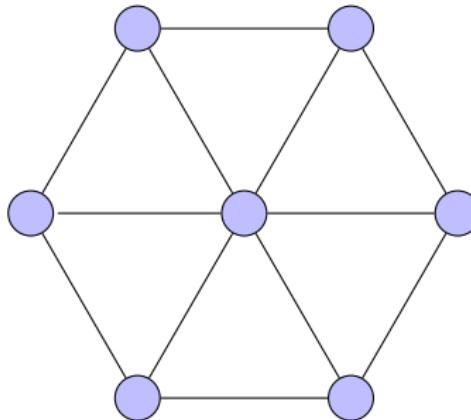


Figure: The wheel graph W_7 .

Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All wheel, *web*, helm, gear, grid, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

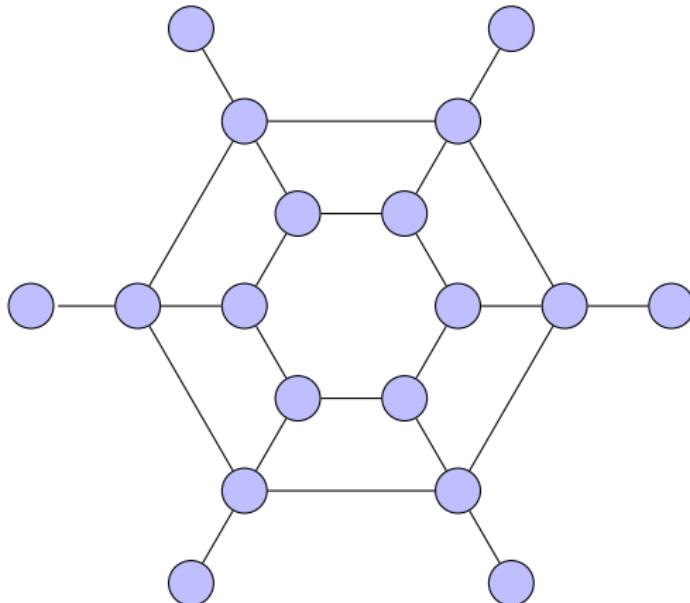


Figure: The web graph W_6 .

Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All wheel, web, **helm**, gear, grid, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

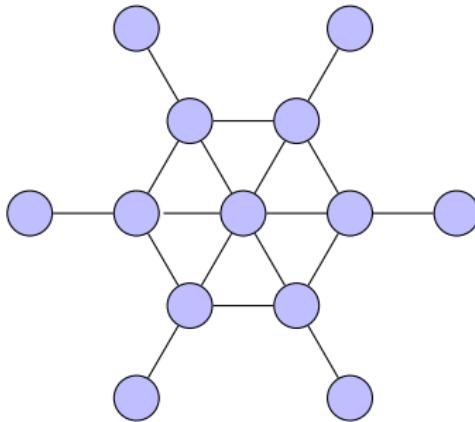


Figure: The helm graph H_6 .

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Theorem

All wheel, web, helm, gear, grid, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

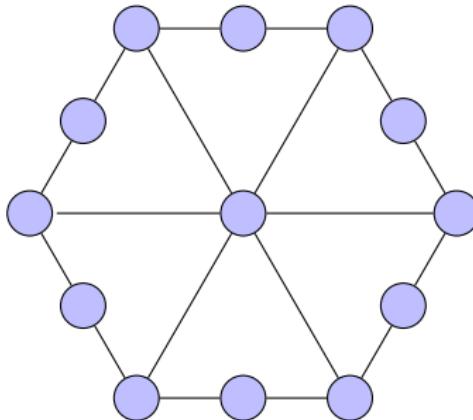


Figure: The gear graph G_6 .

Theorem

All wheel, web, helm, gear, **grid**, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

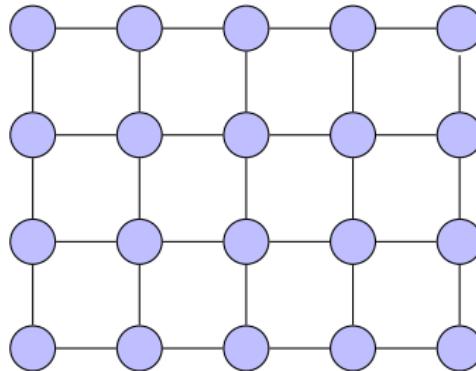


Figure: The grid graph $P_5 \times P_4$.

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All wheel, web, helm, gear, grid, star, complete, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

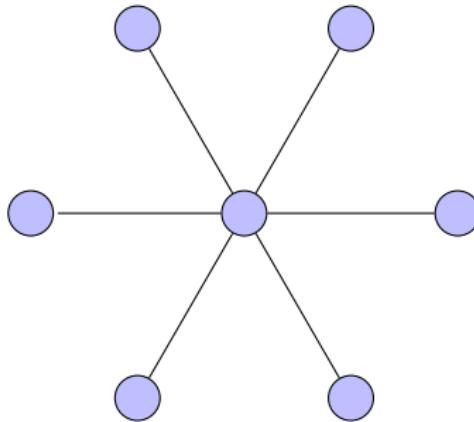


Figure: The star graph S_7 .

Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All wheel, web, helm, gear, grid, star, **complete**, banana tree, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

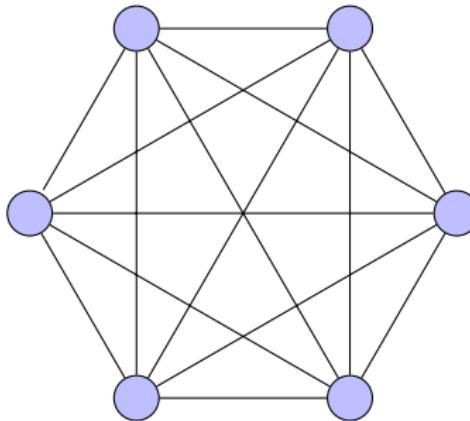


Figure: The complete graph K_6 .

Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All wheel, web, helm, gear, grid, star, complete, *banana tree*, and caterpillar tree graphs are graceful. [Various]

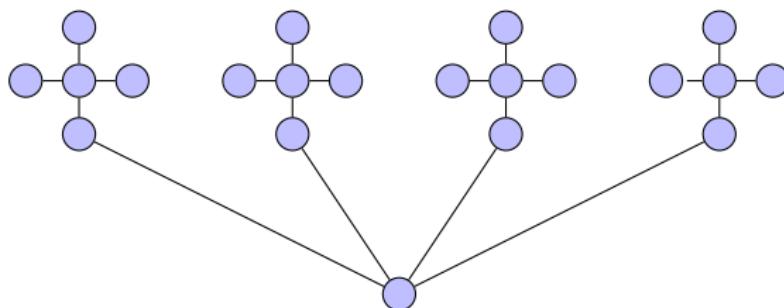


Figure: The banana tree graph $B_{4,5}$.

Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

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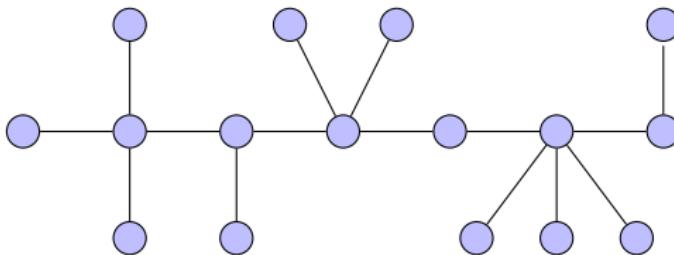
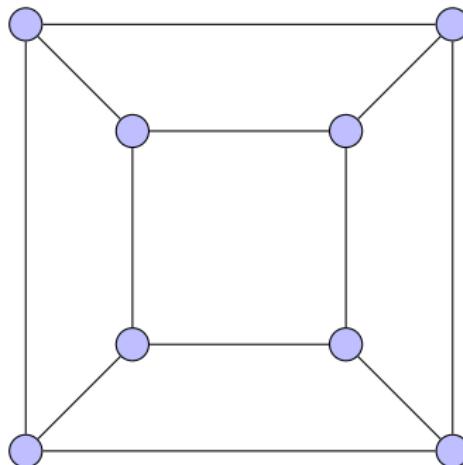


Figure: A caterpillar tree graph.

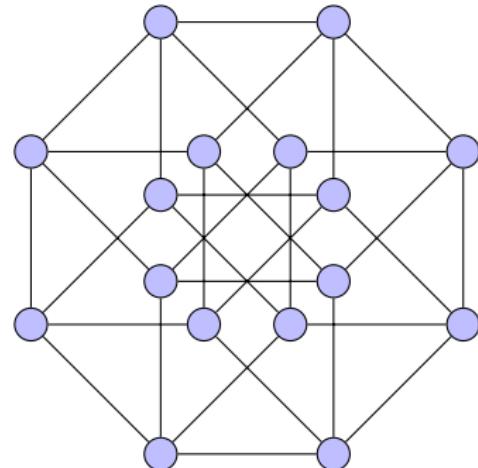
Miscellaneous Graph Families With Graceful Labelings

Theorem

All *n*-dimension hypercubes are graceful. [Kotzig, 1981]



3-dimensional hypercube



4-dimensional hypercube

The conjecture that all trees are graceful was proposed by Gerhard Ringel and Anton Kotzig, often identified as the [Ringel-Kotzig Conjecture](#).

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- It has several related (yet weaker) conjectures, many of which have proven partial results.

The Ringel-Kotzig Conjecture – Recent Progress

Mathematicians have proven all trees to be graceful up to n vertices for the following values of n :

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Questions?