

# A Study on The Gamma Graph of Cycle $C_{3K+1}$

Rakhimol Iassc<sup>1</sup> and Krupali Bhatt<sup>2</sup>

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## Abstract

For a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a set  $S \subseteq V$  is a dominating set if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to at least one vertex in  $S$ . The domination number  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  equals the minimum cardinality of a dominating set in  $G$ . A dominating set is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$  if  $|S| = \gamma(G)$ . A gamma graph  $\gamma G$  of a graph  $G$  is a graph with  $S$  as a vertex set, if  $S_1, S_2$  are adjacent iff there exist two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$  such that  $u \in S_1$  and  $v \in S_2$ . In this paper we initiate the study of gamma graph of cycle  $C_{3k+1}$ .

**Key words:** Dominating Set, Gamma Set, Gamma Graph

**AMS classification:** 05C38, 05C69

## 1 Introduction

We consider only finite simple graphs  $G = (V, E)$ . We use standard notations of graph theory, as in Balakrishnan and Ranganathan [2]. For an introduction to the theory of domination in graphs we refer to Haynes et al. [8]. A set  $S \subseteq V$  of vertices in a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is called a dominating set if every vertex  $v \in V$  is either an element of  $S$  or is adjacent to an element of  $S$ . The domination number  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  equals the minimum cardinality of a dominating set  $S$  in  $G$  and the set  $S$  is known as  $\gamma$ -set.

The concept of the gamma graph is introduced by Sridharan and Subramanian [9]. The  $\gamma$  graph of  $G$ , denoted by  $\gamma G$  and defined as the graph with vertex set  $S$  where  $S$  is the collection of all  $\gamma$ -sets in a graph  $G$  and any two vertices  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  are adjacent if  $|s_1 \cap s_2| = \gamma(G) - 1$ . In 2011 G. H. Fricke et al. [7] inadvertently defined gamma graphs as  $G(\gamma) = (V(\gamma), E(\gamma))$  of  $G$  to be the graph whose vertices  $v(\gamma)$  corresponds 1-to-1 with the  $\gamma$ -sets of  $G$ , and two  $\gamma$ -sets, say  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are adjacent in  $E(\gamma)$  if there exists a vertex  $V \in S_1$  and a vertex  $W \in S_2$  such that  $v$  is adjacent to  $W$  and  $S_1 = S_2 - \{w\} \cup \{v\}$  or equivalently,  $S_2 = S_1 - \{v\} \cup \{w\}$ . Note that both the definitions of gamma graphs are different from each other. Throughout the paper, we use the definition of gamma graphs given by Subramanian and Sridharan.

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, faculty of Science, Atmiya University, rajkot, Gujarat, India.  
Email: rakhimol.issac@atmiyauni.ac.in

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, faculty of Science, Atmiya University, rajkot, Gujarat, India.  
Email:krupalibhatt1612@gmail.com

Many researchers have studied on gamma graphs. Gamma graphs of some special classes of trees are studied by Bien [3]. Modified  $\gamma$  graph-  $G(\gamma_m)$  of some grid graphs is studied by Anusuya and Kala [1] while Sridharan et al. [10] discussed induced subgraph of gamma graphs and they used the definition provided in [9]. Also the gamma graphs of trees are studied by Finbow and Bommel [6]. Connelly et al. [5] have investigated when the gamma graph is disconnected. Bommel [4] is given the note on bipartite graph that is not the gamma graph of a bipartite graph in the context of definition provided in [7]. Some gamma graphs of cycles were determined by G. H. Fricke et al. [7] and that is, for  $k \geq 2, C_{3k}(\gamma) \cong \overline{K}_3$  and  $C_{3k+2}(\gamma) \cong C_{3k+2}$ . As mentioned in [3] every graph  $G(\gamma)$  is a spanning subgraph of  $\gamma.G$ . These existing results in the literature inspire us to characterize the order of  $\gamma.C_{3k+1}$ .

## 2. Construction of Gamma Graph of Cycle $C_{3k+1}$

We discuss the induction method of obtaining gamma graphs of  $C_{3k+1}$ .

### Method of obtaining gamma sets for $C_{3k+1}$

Let  $C_4$  be the cycle with vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  and  $v_4$  since  $\gamma(C_4) = \lceil \frac{4}{3} \rceil$ , The  $\gamma$ -sets of  $C_4$  will be of cardinality 2. The gamma sets of  $C_4$  can be  $S_1 = v_1, v_2, S_2 = v_2, v_3, S_3 = v_3, v_4, S_4 = v_1, v_4, S_5 = v_2, v_4, S_6 = v_1, v_3$ . These  $\gamma$ -sets will be the vertices of  $\gamma.C_4$  by definitions of gamma graphs. Hence  $|V(\gamma.C_4)| = 6$

Since  $\gamma(C_7) = \lceil \frac{7}{3} \rceil = 3$ , We need  $\gamma$ -sets with cardinality 3. We obtain  $\gamma$ -sets of  $C_7$  from  $\gamma.C_4$  by the following procedure:

1. Include  $v_5, v_6$  and  $v_7$  in  $S_1, S_2$  and  $S_3$  respectively, We got distinct gamma sets of order 3 say,  $P_1 = v_1, v_2, v_5, P_2 = v_2, v_3, v_6, P_3 = v_3, v_4, v_7$ .
2. By keeping the vertex  $v_5$  and one of its adjacent vertex fix in  $C_7$  we get  $P_4 = \{v_1, v_4, v_5\}$  and  $P_5 = \{v_2, v_5, v_6\}$  respectively. Similarly, by keeping the vertex  $v_6$  and its adjacent vertex fix in  $C_7$  we get  $P_7 = \{v_1, v_4, v_7\}$ .
3. Fix non adjacent vertices of above  $\gamma$ -sets  $P_i; (i = 1, 2, \dots, 7)$  to obtain other  $\gamma$ -sets. Thus the  $\gamma$ -sets are  $P_8 = v_1, v_3, v_5, P_9 = v_1, v_3, v_6, P_{10} = v_2, v_4, v_6, P_{11} = v_2, v_4, v_7, P_{12} = v_1, v_4, v_6, P_{13} = v_2, v_5, v_7$  and  $P_{14} = v_3, v_5, v_7$  respectively.

Thus, we get 14  $\gamma$ -sets with cardinality 3 and hence,  $|V(\gamma.C_7)| = 14$ .

since  $\gamma(C_{10}) = 4$  we obtain  $\gamma$ -sets of  $C_{10}$  with cardinality 4 by the following ways:

1. Include  $v_8, v_9$  and  $v_{10}$  in  $P_1, P_2$  and  $P_3$  as well as in  $P_4, P_5$  and  $P_6$  respectively, We

- get gamma sets of order 4 say,  $T_1 = v_1, v_2, v_5, v_8, T_2 = v_2, v_3, v_6, v_9, T_3 = v_3, v_4, v_7, v_{10}, T_4 = v_1, v_4, v_5, v_8, T_5 = v_2, v_5, v_6, v_9, T_6 = v_3, v_6, v_7, v_{10}$ .
2. In  $C_{10}$  keep the vertex  $v_8$  and one of its adjacent vertices fix we get  $T_7 = \{v_1, v_4, v_7, v_8\}$  and  $T_8 = \{v_2, v_5, v_8, v_9\}$  respectively. By keeping the vertex  $v_9$  and  $v_{10}$  fix we get  $T_9 = \{v_3, v_6, v_9, v_{10}\}$ , Similarly, keep the vertex  $v_{10}$  and  $v_1$  fix we get  $T_{10} = \{v_1, v_4, v_7, v_{10}\}$ ,
  3. Fix any three non-adjacent vertices of above  $\gamma$ -sets ( $T_i$ ) to obtain other  $\gamma$ -sets. Thus the  $\gamma$ -sets are  $T_{11} = v_1, v_3, v_5, v_8, T_{12} = v_3, v_5, v_8, v_{10}, T_{13} = v_2, v_4, v_6, v_9, T_{14} = v_1, v_3, v_6, v_9, T_{15} = v_2, v_4, v_7, v_{10}, T_{16} = v_3, v_5, v_7, v_{10}, T_{17} = v_1, v_4, v_6, v_8, T_{18} = v_2, v_5, v_8, v_{10}, T_{19} = v_3, v_6, v_8, v_{10}, T_{20} = v_1, v_4, v_7, v_9$  and  $T_{21} = v_2, v_5, v_8, v_{10}$ .
  4. Fix any two non-adjacent vertices of above  $\gamma$ -sets ( $T_i$ ) to obtain other  $\gamma$ -set. Thus the  $\gamma$ -sets are  $T_{22} = v_2, v_4, v_7, v_9, T_{23} = v_1, v_4, v_6, v_9, T_{24} = v_1, v_3, v_6, v_8$  and  $T_{25} = v_2, v_5, v_7, v_{10}$ .
- Thus, we get 25  $\gamma$ -sets of  $C_{10}$  with cardinality 4. so,  $|V(\gamma.C_{10})| = 25$ .
- Proceeding in this way we can obtain  $\gamma$ -sets for  $C_{3k+1}$ .

**Theorem 2.1**  $|V(\gamma.C_{3k+1})| = \frac{(3k+1)(k+2)}{2}; k \geq 1$ .

proof: Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{3k+1}$  be the vertex set of  $C_{3k+1}$ . Since  $\gamma(C_{3k+1}) = \lceil \frac{3k+1}{3} \rceil = k+1$  we obtain  $\gamma$ -sets of  $C_{3k+1}$  with cardinality  $k+1$ ,

As per the procedure mentioned earlier, we can obtain  $\gamma$ -sets for  $C_{3k+1}$  in the following ways:

1. With one adjacent pair of vertices; As the cycle is of length  $3k+1$ .
2. with alternate pair of vertices; As there are  $3k+1$  choice for the first pair of alternate vertices and each  $\gamma$ -sets have  $k$  choices for other pair where some  $\gamma$ -sets occurs twice. So, the total number of  $\gamma$ -sets with alternate vertices is  $\frac{(3k+1)k}{2}$ .

Hence, the no of  $\gamma$ -sets for

$$\begin{aligned} C_{3k+1} &= (3k+1) + \frac{(3k+1)k}{2} \\ &= \frac{(6k+2) + (3k^2+k)}{2} \\ &= \frac{3k^2+7k+2}{2} \\ &= \frac{(k+2)(3k+1)}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $|V(\gamma.C_{3k+1})| = \frac{(k+2)(3k+1)}{2}; k \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 2.2** The gamma graph of  $C_{3k+1}$  is 4-regular.

proof. Let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{3k+1}$  be the vertex set of cycle  $C_{3k+1}$ . By the method of obtaining  $\gamma$ -sets we observe:

1. The set  $S_1 = v_1, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-2}, v_{3k+1}$  is the  $\gamma$ -set with one pair of adjacent vertices.
2. The set  $S_1 = v_1, v_2, v_6, \dots, v_{3k-3}, v_{3k+1}$  is the  $\gamma$ -set with alternate pair of vertices of 4.
3. The  $\gamma$ -set  $S_1$  is adjacent to

$$\begin{aligned} s_3 &= \{v_1, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-2}, v_{3k-1}\}, \\ s_4 &= \{v_3, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-2}, v_{3k+1}\}, \\ s_5 &= \{v_2, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-2}, v_{3k+1}\}, \\ s_6 &= \{v_1, v_4, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-2}, v_{3k}\} \end{aligned}$$

4. The  $\gamma$ -set  $S_2$  is adjacent to

$$\begin{aligned} s_7 &= \{v_1, v_3, v_6, \dots, v_{3k-3}, v_{3k}\}, \\ s_8 &= \{v_1, v_3, v_5, \dots, v_{3k-3}, v_{3k-1}\}, \\ s_9 &= \{v_3, v_6, v_7, \dots, v_{3k-1}, v_{3k+1}\}, \\ s_{10} &= \{v_1, v_4, v_6, \dots, v_{3k-3}, v_{3k-1}\}. \end{aligned}$$

In this way each  $\gamma$ -set is adjacent with 4 other  $\gamma$ -sets. Hence  $\gamma.C_{3k+1}$  is 4-regular.

### 3 Conclusion

Gamma graph of  $C_{3k+2}$  is isomorphic to itself and that of  $C_{3k}$  is isomorphic to complement of  $K_3$ . We have taken the initiative to study on the nature of gamma graph of cycle  $C_{3k+1}$  and observed that it is a regular graph.

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