

## SOME CAYLEY GRAPHS WITH PROPAGATION TIME OF AT MOST TWO

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ABSTRACT. In this paper the zero forcing number as well as propagation time of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ , where  $G$  is a finite group and  $\Omega \subset G \setminus \{1\}$  is an inverse closed generator set of  $G$  is studied. In particular, it is shown that the propagation time of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is at most two for some special generators.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a simple graph of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . For a vertex  $v \in V$ , the *open neighborhood* of  $v$  is the set  $N_\Gamma(v) = \{u \in V \mid u \sim v\}$ . Also, the *close neighborhood* of vertex  $v$ ,  $N_\Gamma[v]$ , is  $N_\Gamma[v] = N_\Gamma(v) \cup \{v\}$ . The degree of a vertex  $v$  is  $deg(v) = |N_\Gamma(v)|$ . The minimum degree of a graph  $\Gamma$  denoted by  $\delta(\Gamma)$ . Let  $G$  be a non-trivial group with identity element 1 and let  $\Omega \subseteq G$  such that  $1 \notin \Omega$ ,  $\Omega = \Omega^{-1} = \{\omega^{-1} \mid \omega \in \Omega\}$ . The *Cayley graph* of  $G$ ,  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ , is a graph with vertex set  $G$  and two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent if and only if  $uv^{-1} \in \Omega$ .

Suppose that  $H_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $H_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  are two graphs with same order and  $\mu : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  is a bijection. Define the matching graph  $(H_1, H_2, \mu)$  to be the graph constructed as the disjoint union of  $H_1, H_2$  and perfect matching between  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  defined by  $\mu$ . Let each vertex of a graph  $\Gamma$  be either "black" or "white". Let  $B$  denote the (initial) set of black vertices  $\Gamma$ . If the white vertex  $v$  is the only white neighbour of a black vertex  $u$ , then  $u$  changes the color of  $v$  to black (*color-change rule*) and we say " $u$  forces  $v$ ". The set  $B$  is said to a zero forcing set of

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$\Gamma$  if all vertices of  $\Gamma$  will be turned black after finitely many applications of the color-change rule. The zero forcing number of  $\Gamma$ ,  $Z(\Gamma)$ , is the minimum cardinality among all zero forcing sets. The notation of a zero forcing sets of  $G$ , as well as the associated zero forcing number of a graph was introduced by the "AIM Minimum Rank-Special Graphs Work Group" in (2008) [1]. They used the technique of zero forcing parameter of graph  $\Gamma$  and found an upper bound for the maximum nullity of  $\Gamma$  related to zero forcing sets. For more results in zero forcing number and Cayley graph, see [2, 4, 5, 6, 12].

Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $B$  a zero forcing set of  $\Gamma$ . Also let  $B^{(0)} = B$  and for  $t \geq 0$ ,  $B^{(t+1)}$  is the set of vertices  $w$  for which there exists a vertex  $b \in \bigcup_{s=0}^t B^{(s)}$  such that  $w$  is the only neighbour of  $b$  not in  $\bigcup_{s=0}^t B^{(s)}$ . The propagation time of  $B$  in  $\Gamma$ , denoted by  $Pt(\Gamma, B)$ , is the smallest integer  $t_0$  such that  $V = \bigcup_{t=0}^{t_0} B^{(t)}$ . The minimum propagation time of  $\Gamma$  is

$$Pt(\Gamma) = \min\{Pt(\Gamma, B) \mid B \text{ is a minimum zero forcing set of } \Gamma\}.$$

The propagation time of a zero forcing set was implicit in [3] and explicit in [10]. In 2012 Hogben et al. in [7] established some results regarding graphs having propagation time 1.

In this paper, the propagation time of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is considered. Also it is shown that the propagation time of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is at most two for some special generators.

## 2. Preliminaries

For investigating the propagation time of Cayley graphs, the following basic properties are useful.

**Theorem 2.1.** [2] *For any graph  $\Gamma$ ,  $\delta(\Gamma) \leq Z(\Gamma)$ .*

**Theorem 2.2.** [6] *Let  $\Gamma$  be a connected graph of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $Z(\Gamma) = n - 1$  if and only if  $\Gamma = K_n$ .*

**Theorem 2.3.** [7] *Let  $\Gamma$  be a graph. Then any two of the following conditions imply the third:*

1.  $|\Gamma| = 2Z(\Gamma)$ .
2.  $Pt(\Gamma) = 1$ .
3.  $\Gamma$  is a matching graph.

**Lemma 2.4.** *Let  $G = \langle \Omega \rangle$  be a finite Abelian group,  $1 \notin \Omega = \Omega^{-1}$  and  $G \setminus \Omega = \{x\} \cup H$  such that  $x \notin H$ . If  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ , then  $o(x) = 2$ ,  $|H| \mid |G|/2$  and  $2 \mid [G : H]$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\Omega = \Omega^{-1}$  and  $H$  is a subgroup of  $G$ ,  $o(x) = 2$ . So  $N = \{1, x\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Let  $H = \{h_1 = 1, h_2, \dots, h_t\}$ . Then for  $i \neq j$  and  $1 \leq i, j \leq t$ , since  $h_i h_j^{-1} \in H$ ,  $Nh_i \neq Nh_j$  and so the cosets  $N = Nh_1, Nh_2, \dots, Nh_t$  are distinct. If  $G = \cup_{i=1}^t Nh_i$ , then  $[G : N] = t$ . Otherwise, there is an  $y_1 \in G \setminus \cup_{i=1}^t Nh_i$ . It is easy to see that for  $1 \leq i \leq t$  and  $0 \leq j \leq 1$ , the cosets  $Nh_i y_j$  are distinct, where  $y_0 = 1$ . If  $G = \cup_{j=0}^1 (\cup_{i=1}^t Nh_i y_j)$ , then  $[G : N] = 2t$ . Since  $G$  is a finite group, there is  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $Nh_i y_j$  for  $1 \leq i \leq t$  and  $0 \leq j \leq \ell$  are distinct and  $G = \cup_{j=0}^{\ell} (\cup_{i=1}^t Nh_i y_j)$ . Hence  $[G : N] = t(\ell + 1)$ . Therefore  $t \mid [G : N]$ .

Similarly, if  $G = H \cup Hx$ , then  $[G : H] = 2$ . Otherwise, we can assume that there is a  $y_1 \in G \setminus (H \cup Hx)$ . Then for  $0 \leq i \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq j \leq 1$ , the cosets  $Hx_i y_j$  are distinct, where  $x_0 = y_0 = 1$  and  $x_1 = x$ . Since  $G$  is a finite group, there is  $\ell \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $Hx_i y_j$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq j \leq \ell$  are distinct and  $G = \cup_{i=0}^1 (\cup_{j=0}^{\ell} Hx_i y_j)$ . Hence  $[G : H] = 2(\ell + 1)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5.** *Let  $G$  be a group and  $H$  be a proper subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $G = \langle G \setminus H \rangle$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that  $G = H \cup \langle G \setminus H \rangle$ . So  $H \subseteq \langle G \setminus H \rangle$  or  $\langle G \setminus H \rangle \subseteq H$ . If  $\langle G \setminus H \rangle \subseteq H$ , then  $G = H$ , which is a contradiction. Thus  $H \subseteq \langle G \setminus H \rangle$  and so  $G = \langle G \setminus H \rangle$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** [11] *Let  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$  be a complete multipartite graph such that  $n_i > 1$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Then  $Z(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = n_1 + \dots + n_k - 2$ .*

**Lemma 2.7.** *Let  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$  ( $n_1 \leq n_2 \leq \dots \leq n_k$ ) be a complete multipartite graph. If  $1 = n_1 = n_2 = \dots = n_{k-1}$  and  $2 \leq n_k$ , then  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = 2$ . Otherwise,  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.6,  $Z(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = k + n_k - 3 = n - 2$  where  $n = n_1 + \dots + n_k$ . Let  $V(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = \cup_{i=1}^k V_i$  and  $|V_i| = n_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Let  $1 = n_1 = n_2 = \dots = n_{k-1}$ ,  $2 \leq n_k$  and  $B = (\cup_{i=1}^k V_i) \setminus \{x, y\}$  be a zero forcing set for  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$ . Then  $x \in V_k$  and  $y \notin V_k$  or  $x \notin V_k$  and  $y \in V_k$ . Without loss of generality, we can assume that  $x \in V_k$  and  $y \in V_i$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$ . Since  $y$  is not black vertex,  $x$  cannot be forced by any black vertex in the first stage. But every black vertex in  $V_k$  forces  $y$  and second stage  $x$  is forced by  $y$ . Thus  $B^{(0)} = B$ ,  $B^{(1)} = \{y\}$ ,  $B^{(2)} = \{x\}$  and so  $V(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = B^{(0)} \cup B^{(1)} \cup B^{(2)}$ . Hence for every zero forcing set  $B$  of  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$ , we have  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}, B) = 2$ . Therefore  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = 2$ .

Let there exist  $1 \leq i, j \leq k$  such that  $2 \leq n_i \leq n_j$ ,  $a \in V_i$ ,  $b \in V_j$  and  $B = (\cup_{i=1}^k V_i) \setminus \{a, b\}$  be the initial black vertices of  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$ . Then every black vertex in  $V_i$  forces  $b$  and every black vertex in  $V_j$

forces  $a$ , in the first stage. Hence,  $B^{(0)} = B$ ,  $B^{(1)} = \{a, b\}$  and so  $V(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = B^{(0)} \cup B^{(1)}$ . Thus  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}, B) = 1$  and therefore  $Pt(K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}) = 1$ .  $\square$

### 3. PROPAGATION TIME FOR A FINITE GROUP

In this section, the propagation time of Cayley graph for some groups with special generator set is considered.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $G$  be a finite group of order  $n$  and  $H \neq \{1\}$  a proper subgroup of  $G$ . Then  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, G \setminus H)) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Set  $\Omega = G \setminus H$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $G = \langle \Omega \rangle$ . Also we have  $\Omega = \Omega^{-1}$  and  $1 \notin \Omega$ . Let  $[G : H] = k$  and  $Ha_1, Ha_2, \dots, Ha_k$  be the distinct cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ , where  $a_1 = 1$ . For  $h_1$  and  $h_2$  in  $H$ , we have  $(h_1 a_j)(h_2 a_j)^{-1} = h_1 h_2^{-1} \in H$  ( $1 \leq j \leq k$ ). Thus induced subgraphs on  $Ha_i$  in  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  are empty graph. Also suppose that  $(h a_j)(h' a_\ell)^{-1} \in H$  for  $h a_j \in Ha_j$  and  $h' a_\ell \in Ha_\ell$ . Then  $a_j a_\ell^{-1} \in H$  and so  $Ha_j = Ha_\ell$ . Which is a contradiction. Thus  $(h a_j)(h' a_\ell)^{-1} \notin H$ . Hence  $h a_j$  is adjacent to  $h' a_\ell$ . Therefore  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{n_1, \dots, n_k}$  and  $n_1 = \dots = n_k = |H| \geq 2$ . By Lemma 2.7,  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $G = \langle \Omega \rangle$  be a group of order  $n$ ,  $x \in \Omega$  and  $o(x) = 2$ . If  $H = (\Omega \setminus \{x\}) \cup \{1\}$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$ , then  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $o(x) = 2$ , so  $n$  is even. Let  $H = \{1 = h_1, h_2, \dots, h_t\}$ . Then  $h_i h_j^{-1} \in H$  and  $(h_i x)(h_j x)^{-1} \in H$  for each  $1 \leq i, j \leq t$ . So induced subgraphs on  $H$  and  $Hx = xH$  in  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  are isomorphic to complete graph  $K_t$ . Also for  $1 \leq i \leq t$ , we have  $N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}[h_i] = H \cup \{x h_i\}$  and  $N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}[x h_i] = \{h_i\} \cup Hx$ . Since  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a  $t$ -regular connected graph,  $G = H \cup Hx = H \cup xH$ , so  $n = 2t$ . Thus  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a matching graph. Let  $B = H$  be the initial black vertices in  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$ . For each  $1 \leq i \leq t$ ,  $x h_i$  is the only white neighbour of black vertex  $h_i$ , so  $x h_i$  is forced by  $h_i$ . Thus  $B$  is a zero forcing set of  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  and so  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) \leq t$ . Then by Theorem 2.1,  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = t = \frac{n}{2}$ . Hence by Theorem 2.3, we get  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be an Abelian group of order  $n$  and  $H$  a proper subgroup of  $G$  such that  $[G : H] = \alpha$ . Let  $x \in G \setminus H$ ,  $o(x) = 2$ ,  $G \setminus (H \cup \{x\}) = \Omega$  and  $G = \langle \Omega \rangle$ . Then  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$*

*Proof.* Let  $g \in G \setminus H$ . Then  $Hg \subseteq \Omega \cup \{x\}$  and induced subgraphs on  $H$  and  $Hg$  in  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  are empty. By Lemma 2.4,  $\alpha = 2k$ , for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $G = \cup_{j=1}^k Hy_jx \cup_{j=1}^k Hy_j$ , where the cosets  $Hy_jx$  and  $Hy_j$  are distinct ( $y_1 = 1$ ). By definition of Cayley graph, every vertex  $hy_jx \in Hy_jx$  is adjacent to all of the vertices of  $G \setminus (Hy_jx \cup \{hy_j\})$ . Let  $B$  be a zero forcing set of  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  such that  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = |B|$ . Since  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a vertex transitive graph, we may assume that  $1 \in B$  is the first forcing process. So there is  $C \subseteq \Omega \cap B$  such that  $|C| = |\Omega| - 1$ . So  $|\Omega| \leq Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega))$ . If there are three white vertices in  $H$ , then each black vertex has at least two white vertices in its neighborhood. Thus the forcing process is stopped, which is not possible.

So  $n - 4 \leq Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega))$ . Let  $B = G \setminus \{h_i, h_j, x, h_\ell x\}$  be the initial black vertices in  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$ , where  $h_i, h_j$  and  $h_\ell$  are distinct and belong to  $H$ . Since  $h_\ell x$  is the only white neighbour of black vertex 1, so  $h_\ell x$  is forced by 1. Since  $h_i$  is the only white neighbour of black vertex  $h_j x$ , so  $h_j x$  forces  $h_i$ . Similarly  $h_i x$  forces  $h_j$ . Also  $x$  is the only white neighbour of black vertex  $h_\ell$ , so  $x$  is forced by  $h_\ell$ . Thus  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = n - 4$ . Furthermore we have  $G = B^{(0)} \cup B^{(1)}$  and so  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ . This shows that  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.4.** *Let  $G = \langle a \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order  $2n$ , where  $n$  is odd. If  $\Omega = \{a^{2i+1} \mid 0 \leq i \leq n-1\} \setminus \{a^n\}$ , then  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* It is easy to see that if  $\langle a^2 \rangle = H$ , then  $G \setminus \Omega = H \cup \{a^n\}$ . The result follows by Theorem 3.3.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** *Let  $G = \langle \Omega \rangle$  be a finite group of order  $n \geq 5$ ,  $1 \notin \Omega = \Omega^{-1}$  and  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = |\Omega|$ .*

1. *If  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ , then  $|G \setminus \Omega| \leq |\Omega|$ .*
2. *If  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$  and  $|G \setminus \Omega| = |\Omega|$ , then  $G$  is not a simple group.*

*Proof.* Let  $B$  be a zero forcing set for  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  with minimum cardinality such that  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ . Since  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a vertex transitive graph, we may assume that  $1 \in B$  is the first forcing process. Hence  $B = \{1\} \cup \Omega \setminus \{a\}$ , for some  $a \in \Omega$ . Since  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ , for every  $x \in \Omega \setminus \{a\}$  and  $y \in G \setminus B$ , we have  $|N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(x) \cap G \setminus B| \leq 1$  and  $|N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}[y] \cap B| \geq 1$ . Thus  $|G \setminus B| \leq |B|$  and so  $|G \setminus \Omega| \leq |\Omega|$ . Now let  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$  and  $|G \setminus \Omega| = |\Omega|$ . By Theorem 2.3,  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a matching graph.

Let  $B$  be a zero forcing set for  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  with minimum cardinality such that  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ . We may assume that  $B = \{1\} \cup \Omega \setminus \{a\}$ , where  $a \in \Omega$ . Since  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is a  $|\Omega|$ -regular graph and  $|\Omega| = |B|$ , induced subgraphs on  $B$  and  $G \setminus B$  are complete graph  $K_{\frac{n}{2}}$ .

Also  $N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a] \cap \Omega = \{a\}$ . We claim that  $o(a) = 2$ . Let  $o(a) = k$  and  $k \neq 2$ . Since  $a^2$  is adjacent to  $a$ ,  $a^2 \notin \Omega$ . Thus  $k \neq 3$ . If  $k = 4$ , then since  $n \geq 5$ , there is an  $x \in B \setminus \{1, a^{-1}\}$ . Thus  $x$  is adjacent to  $a^{-1}$  in  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ . So  $xa \in \Omega$ . It is clear that  $(xa)a^{-1} = x \in \Omega$ . Hence  $xa \in \Omega$  is adjacent to  $a$ , in  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ , which is contract to this fact that  $|N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a] \cap \Omega| = 1$ . Now let  $k \geq 5$ . It is clear that  $a^2$  is adjacent to  $a$  and so  $a^2 \notin \Omega$ . Thus  $a^3$  is not adjacent to  $a$  in  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ . Hence  $a^3 \in \Omega$ . On the other hand  $a^3$  is adjacent to  $a^2$  and  $a^4$ . Thus  $a^4 \in \Omega$ . Also  $a^4$  is adjacent to  $a$ , which is contract to this fact that  $|N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a] \cap \Omega| = 1$ . Therefore  $o(a) = 2$ . This shows that for every  $x \in B$  we have  $x^{-1} \in B$ . Since induced subgraph on  $B$  is complete graph  $K_{\frac{n}{2}}$ , so  $xy^{-1} \in B$ , for every  $x$  and  $y$  belong to  $B$ . Therefore  $B$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . Furthermore  $G = B \cup Ba$  or  $[G : B] = 2$ . Hence  $B$  is a normal subgroup of  $G$  and so  $G$  is not a simple group.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $G = \langle a \rangle$  be a cyclic group of order even  $n \geq 6$  and let  $\Omega = G \setminus \{1, a^2, a^{\frac{n}{2}}, a^{n-2}\}$ . Then*

$$Pt(Cay(G, \Omega)) = \begin{cases} 1 & n \in \{8, 12\} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $n = 6$ . Then  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is isomorphic to  $C_6$ . Hence,  $Pt(Cay(G, \Omega)) = 2$ .

Let  $n = 8$ . Then  $G \setminus \Omega = \{1, a^2, a^4, a^6\}$  is a subgroup of  $G$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $Pt(Cay(G, \Omega)) = 1$ . Let  $n = 12$  and  $B$  be a zero forcing set of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  with minimum cardinality. Since  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is a vertex transitive graph, we may assume that  $1 \in B$  is the first forcing process. Then there exists  $C \subseteq \Omega$  such that  $C \subseteq B$  and  $|C| = 7$ . So  $8 \leq |B|$ . Also we have  $N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a^2] = N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a^6] = N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}[a^{10}] = G \setminus \{1, a^4, a^8\}$ . So there exist  $D \subseteq \{a^2, a^6, a^{10}\}$  such that  $D \subseteq B$  and  $|D| = 2$ . Hence,  $10 \leq |B|$ . Since  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  is not a complete graph, we have  $|B| = 10$ , it is from Theorem 2.2. Suppose that  $B = G \setminus \{a^4, a^{10}\}$ , then  $B^{(1)} = \{a^4, a^{10}\}$ . Thus  $G = B^{(0)} \cup B^{(1)}$  and so  $Pt(Cay(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ . Therefore  $Pt(Cay(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .

Now let  $n \geq 10$  be even and  $n \neq 12$ . Then  $a^{\frac{n}{2}-2} \in \Omega$ ,  $a^{\frac{n}{2}-2}$  is not adjacent to  $a^{-2}$ ,  $a^{\frac{n}{2}-2}$  is not adjacent to  $a^{\frac{n}{2}}$  and  $a^{\frac{n}{2}-2}$  is adjacent to  $a^2$ . Also we have  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+2} \in \Omega$ ,  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+2}$  is not adjacent to  $a^2$ ,  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+2}$  is not adjacent to  $a^{\frac{n}{2}}$  and  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+2}$  is adjacent to  $a^{-2}$ .

If  $X = G \setminus \{a^2, a^{\frac{n}{2}}, a^{-2}, a^{\frac{n}{2}+4}\}$  is initial black vertices in  $Cay(G, \Omega)$ , then 1 forces  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+4}$  and  $a^{\frac{n}{2}+2}$  forces  $a^{-2}$  in the first stage. Also we have  $a^{\frac{n}{2}} \in N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}(a^4)$  and  $a^2 \notin N_{Cay(G,\Omega)}(a^4)$ . So  $a^{\frac{n}{2}-2}$  forces  $a^2$  and  $a^4$  forces  $a^{\frac{n}{2}}$  in the second stage. Hence,  $X$  is a zero forcing set of  $Cay(G, \Omega)$  and so  $Z(Cay(G, \Omega)) \leq |X| = n - 4$ . By Theorem

**2.1,**  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = n - 4$ . Furthermore we have  $X^{(0)} = X$ ,  $X^{(1)} = \{a^{-2}, a^{\frac{n}{2}+4}\}$  and  $X^{(2)} = \{a^2, a^{\frac{n}{2}}\}$ . Hence,  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), X) = 2$  and so  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) \leq 2$ .

On the contrary, let  $B$  be a zero forcing set of  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  with minimum cardinality such that  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega), B) = 1$ . We may assume that  $1 \in B$  is the first forcing process. Then there exists  $a^\ell \in \Omega$  such that  $a^\ell \notin B$  and  $1$  forces  $a^\ell$ . Since  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = n - 4$ , so  $\{a^2, a^{\frac{n}{2}}, a^{-2}\} \cap B = \emptyset$ . Hence there exist  $a^j, a^k$  and  $a^r$  in  $\Omega$  such that  $a^\ell \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^k) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^j) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^r)$  and  $a^j \in N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^2)$ ,  $a^k \in N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{\frac{n}{2}})$  and  $a^r \in N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{-2})$ .

Furthermore  $a^j \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{-2}) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{\frac{n}{2}})$ ,  $a^k \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{-2}) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^2)$  and  $a^r \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{\frac{n}{2}}) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^2)$ . We have  $a^2 \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^4) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{\frac{n}{2}+2}) \cup N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(1)$ . So  $k \in \{4, \frac{n}{2} + 2\}$ . Since  $a^k \in N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{\frac{n}{2}})$ ,  $k = 4$ . We know that  $a^k \notin N_{\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)}(a^{-2})$ , so  $a^4$  is not adjacency to  $a^{-2}$ . Which is a contradiction. Therefore  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 2$ .  $\square$

Let  $U_{6n} = \langle a, b \mid a^{2n} = b^3 = 1, a^{-1}ba = b^{-1} \rangle$ . Then  $U_{6n} = \bigcup_{i=1}^2 (V_i \cup V_i b \cup V_i b^2)$ , where  $V_i = \{a^{2k-i} \mid 1 \leq k \leq n\}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . With this notations we prove the following results.

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $G \cong U_{6n}$  and  $\Omega = V_1 \cup V_1 b \cup V_1 b^2$ . Then*

$$Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1.$$

*Proof.* By the definition of Cayley graph, the induced subgraph on  $\Omega$  is empty. Since  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is  $3n$ -regular, so every vertex of  $\Omega$  is adjacent to every vertex in  $G \setminus \Omega$ . Hence,  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is isomorphic to complete bipartite graph  $K_{3n, 3n}$ . By Lemma 2.7,  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $n$  be odd,  $G \cong U_{6n}$  and  $\Omega = V_2 \setminus \{1\} \cup V_2 b \cup V_2 b^2 \cup \{a^n\}$ . Then  $Pt(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $X = V_2 \cup V_2 b \cup V_2 b^2$  and  $Y = V_1 \cup V_1 b \cup V_1 b^2$ . Then the induced subgraphs on  $X$  and  $Y$  are isomorphic to complete graph  $K_{3n}$ . Also  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  is isomorphic to graph in Figure 2.

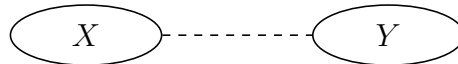


FIGURE 2: Dashed line: Every vertex of  $X$  is adjacent to exactly one vertex of  $Y$ .

Let  $X$  be the set of initial black vertices of  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$ . Then for every  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ ,  $a^{2k}$  forces  $a^{2k+n}$ ,  $a^{2k}b$  forces  $a^{2k+n}b$  and  $a^{2k}b^2$  forces  $a^{2k+n}b^2$ . Hence,  $X$  is a zero forcing set of  $\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)$  and so  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) \leq |X| = 3n$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $Z(\text{Cay}(G, \Omega)) = 3n$ . Since

$Cay(G, \Omega)$  is a matching graph and  $|Cay(G, \Omega)| = 2Z(Cay(G, \Omega))$ , by Theorem 2.3,  $Pt(Cay(G, \Omega)) = 1$ .  $\square$

**Question 3.9.** *Which Cayley graphs have propagation time one?*

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