

Chromatically Unique Bipartite Graphs with Certain 3-independent Partition Numbers II

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Abstract. For integers p, q, s with $p \geq q \geq 2$ and $s \geq 0$, let $\mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$ denote the set of 2-connected bipartite graphs which can be obtained from $K_{p,q}$ by deleting a set of s edges. In this paper, we prove that for any graph $G \in \mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$ with $p \geq q \geq 3$ and $1 \leq s \leq q-1$, if the number of 3-independent partitions of G is $2^{p-1} + 2^{q-1} + s + 4$, then G is chromatically unique. This result extends the similar theorem by Dong et al. [Discrete Math. 224(2000) 107–124], and the result in [4].

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1. Introduction

All graphs considered here are simple graphs. For a graph G , let $V(G)$, $E(G)$, $\delta(G)$, $\Delta(G)$ and $P(G, \lambda)$ be the vertex set, edge set, minimum degree, maximum degree and the chromatic polynomial of G , respectively. Two graphs G and H are said to be *chromatically equivalent* (or simply χ -*equivalent*), symbolically $G \sim H$, if $P(G, \lambda) = P(H, \lambda)$. The equivalence class determined by G under \sim is denoted by $[G]$. A graph G is *chromatically unique* (or simply χ -*unique*) if $H \cong G$ whenever $H \sim G$, i.e. $[G] = \{G\}$ up to isomorphism. For a set \mathcal{G} of graphs, if $[G] \subseteq \mathcal{G}$ for every $G \in \mathcal{G}$, then \mathcal{G} is said to be χ -*closed*. For two sets \mathcal{G}_1 and \mathcal{G}_2 of graphs, if $P(G_1, \lambda) \neq P(G_2, \lambda)$ for every $G_1 \in \mathcal{G}_1$ and $G_2 \in \mathcal{G}_2$, then \mathcal{G}_1 and \mathcal{G}_2 are said to be *chromatically disjoint*, or simply χ -*disjoint*.

For integers p, q, s with $p \geq q \geq 2$ and $s \geq 0$, let $\mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ (resp. $\mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$) denote the set of connected (resp. 2-connected) bipartite graphs which can be obtained from $K_{p,q}$ by deleting a set of s edges.

For a bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$ with bipartition A and B and edge set E , let $G' = (A', B'; E')$ be the bipartite graph induced by the edge set $E' = \{xy \mid xy \notin E\}$

$E, x \in A, y \in B \}$, where $A' \subseteq A$ and $B' \subseteq B$. We write $G' = K_{p,q} - G$, where $p = |A|$ and $q = |B|$.

In [1], Dong et al. proved the following result.

Theorem 1.1. *For integers p, q, s with $p \geq q \geq 2$ and $0 \leq s \leq q - 1$, $\mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$ is χ -closed.*

Throughout this paper, we fix the following conditions for p, q and s :

$$p \geq q \geq 3 \quad \text{and} \quad 1 \leq s \leq q - 1.$$

For a graph G and a positive integer k , a partition $\{ A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k \}$ of $V(G)$ is called a k -independent partition in G if each A_i is a non-empty independent set of G . Let $\alpha(G, k)$ denote the number of k -independent partitions in G .

For any bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$, define

$$\alpha'(G, 3) = \alpha(G, 3) - (2^{|A|-1} + 2^{|B|-1} - 2).$$

In [1], the authors found the following sharp bounds for $\alpha'(G, 3)$.

Theorem 1.2. *For $G \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ with $p \geq q \geq 3$ and $0 \leq s \leq q - 1$,*

$$s \leq \alpha'(G, 3) \leq 2^s - 1,$$

where $\alpha'(G, 3) = s$ iff $\Delta(G') = 1$ and $\alpha'(G, 3) = 2^s - 1$ iff $\Delta(G') = s$.

For $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, let $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ denote the set of graphs $G \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ with $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + t$. Thus, $\mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ is partitioned into the following subsets:

$$\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 0), \quad \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 1), \quad \dots, \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 2^s - s - 1).$$

Assume that $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t) = \emptyset$ for $t > 2^s - s - 1$.

Lemma 1.1. (Dong et al. [2]) *For $p \geq q \geq 3$ and $0 \leq s \leq q - 1$, if $0 \leq t \leq 2^{q-1} - q - 1$, then*

$$\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t) \subseteq \mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q).$$

Dong et al. [1] have shown that if G is a 2-connected graph in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 0) \cup \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 2^s - s - 1)$, then G is χ -unique. In [2], Dong et al. proved that every 2-connected graph in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ is χ -unique for $1 \leq t \leq 4$. In [4], we extended this result for $t = 5$. In this paper, we prove the chromatic uniqueness of graphs in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 6)$.

2. Preliminary results and notation

For any graph G of order n , we have (see [3]):

$$P(G, \lambda) = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha(G, k) \lambda(\lambda - 1) \cdots (\lambda - k + 1).$$

Thus, we have

Lemma 2.1. *If $G \sim H$, then $\alpha(G, k) = \alpha(H, k)$ for $k = 1, 2, \dots$*

By Theorem 1.1, the following two results were obtained in [2].

Theorem 2.1. *The set $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t) \cap \mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$ is χ -closed for all $t \geq 0$.*

Corollary 2.1. *If $0 \leq t \leq 2^{q-1} - q - 1$, then $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ is χ -closed.*

Let $\beta_i(G)$, or simply β_i , denote the number of vertices in G with degree i , $n_i(G)$ denote the number of i -cycles in G and P_n denote the path with n vertices. Then Dong et al. [2] established the next two results.

Lemma 2.2. *For $G = (A, B; E) \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$,*

- (i) *if $\Delta(G') \leq 2$, then $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + \beta_2(G') + n_4(G')$;*
- (ii) *if $\Delta(G') = 3$, then $\alpha'(G, 3) \geq s + \beta_2(G') + 4\beta_3(G') + n_4(G')$, where equality holds iff $|N_{G'}(u) \cap N_{G'}(v)| \leq 2$ for all $u, v \in A'$ or $u, v \in B'$;*
- (iii) *$\alpha'(G, 3) \geq 2^{\Delta(G')} + s - 1 - \Delta(G')$.*

For two disjoint graphs H_1 and H_2 , let $H_1 \cup H_2$ denote the graph with vertex set $V(H_1) \cup V(H_2)$ and edge set $E(H_1) \cup E(H_2)$. Let $kH = \underbrace{H \cup \dots \cup H}_k$ for $k \geq 1$

and let kH be null if $k = 0$.

Lemma 2.3. *Let $G \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$. If $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + t \leq s + 4$, then either*

- (i) *each component of G' is a path and $\beta_2(G') = t$, or*
- (ii) *$G' \cong K_{1,3} \cup (s - 3)K_2$.*

Now for convenient we define the graphs Y_n and Z_1 as in Figure 1.

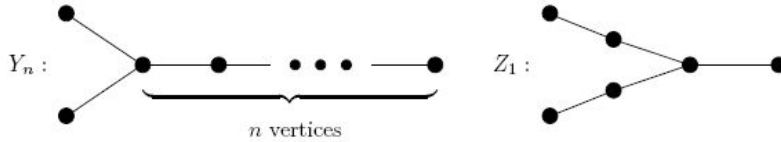


Figure 1. The graphs Y_n and Z_1

The following result is an extension of Lemma 2.3.

Lemma 2.4. *Let $G \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$. If $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + 6$, then one of the following holds.*

- (i) *each component of G' is a path and $\beta_2(G') = 6$,*
- (ii) *$G' \cong K_{1,3} \cup P_4 \cup (s - 6)K_2$,*
- (iii) *$G' \cong K_{1,3} \cup 2P_3 \cup (s - 7)K_2$,*
- (iv) *$G' \cong C_4 \cup P_3 \cup (s - 6)K_2$,*
- (v) *$G' \cong Y_4 \cup (s - 5)K_2$,*
- (vi) *$G' \cong Y_3 \cup P_3 \cup (s - 6)K_2$,*
- (vii) *$G' \cong Z_1 \cup (s - 5)K_2$,*
- (viii) *$G' \cong C_6 \cup (s - 6)K_2$.*

Proof. Since $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + 6$, $\Delta(G') \leq 3$ by Lemma 2.2(iii). If $\Delta(G') \leq 3$, by Lemma 2.2(ii), we have $\beta_2(G') = 2$, $n_4(G') = 0$ and $\beta_3(G') = 1$. Thus $G' \cong K_{1,3} \cup P_4 \cup (s - 6)K_2$, or $G' \cong K_{1,3} \cup 2P_3 \cup (s - 7)K_2$, or $G' \cong Y_4 \cup (s - 5)K_2$, or $G' \cong Y_3 \cup P_3 \cup (s - 6)K_2$, or $G' \cong Z_1 \cup (s - 5)K_2$. If $\Delta(G') = 2$, we have $\beta_2(G') + n_4(G') = 6$ by Lemma 2.2(i), and thus either G' contain no cycles or

only have one cycle. Hence, when $\Delta(G') = 2$, either each component of G' is a path, and $\beta_2(G') = 6$, or $G' \cong C_4 \cup P_3 \cup (s-6)K_2$, or $G' \cong C_6 \cup (s-6)K_2$, by Lemma 2.2(i). \square

By Lemma 2.4, we establish the following result.

Theorem 2.2. *Let $G \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ and $\alpha'(G, 3) = s + 6$, then*

$$G' \in \left\{ \begin{array}{l} P_8 \cup (s-7)K_2, P_7 \cup P_3 \cup (s-8)K_2, P_6 \cup 2P_3 \cup (s-9)K_2, \\ 2P_5 \cup (s-8)K_2, P_5 \cup 3P_3 \cup (s-10)K_2, P_4 \cup P_6 \cup (s-8)K_2, \\ P_4 \cup P_5 \cup P_3 \cup (s-9)K_2, 3P_4 \cup (s-9)K_2, 2P_4 \cup 2P_3 \cup (s-10)K_2, \\ P_4 \cup 4P_3 \cup (s-11)K_2, 6P_3 \cup (s-12)K_2, K_{1,3} \cup P_4 \cup (s-6)K_2, \\ K_{1,3} \cup 2P_3 \cup (s-7)K_2, C_4 \cup P_3 \cup (s-6)K_2, Y_4 \cup (s-5)K_2, \\ Y_3 \cup P_3 \cup (s-6)K_2, Z_1 \cup (s-5)K_2, C_6 \cup (s-6)K_2 \end{array} \right\}$$

where $H \cup (s-i)K_2$ does not exist if $s < i$.

For a bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$, let

$$\Omega(G) = \{ Q \mid Q \text{ is an independent sets in } G \text{ with } Q \cap A \neq \emptyset, Q \cap B \neq \emptyset \}.$$

For a bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$, the number of 4-independent partitions $\{A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4\}$ in G with $A_i \subseteq A$ or $A_i \subseteq B$ for all $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$ is

$$\begin{aligned} & (2^{|A|-1} - 1)(2^{|B|-1} - 1) + \frac{1}{3!}(3^{|A|} - 3 \cdot 2^{|A|} + 3) + \frac{1}{3!}(3^{|B|} - 3 \cdot 2^{|B|} + 3) \\ &= (2^{|A|-1} - 2)(2^{|B|-1} - 2) + \frac{1}{2}(3^{|A|-1} + 3^{|B|-1}) - 2. \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$\alpha'(G, 4) = \alpha(G, 4) - \{ (2^{|A|-1} - 2)(2^{|B|-1} - 2) + \frac{1}{2}(3^{|A|-1} + 3^{|B|-1}) - 2 \}.$$

Observe that for $G, H \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$,

$$\alpha(G, 4) = \alpha(H, 4) \quad \text{iff} \quad \alpha'(G, 4) = \alpha'(H, 4).$$

The following five lemmas (see [2]) will be used to prove our main results.

Lemma 2.5. *For $G = (A, B; E) \in \mathcal{K}^{-s}(p, q)$ with $|A| = p$ and $|B| = q$,*

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha'(G, 4) &= \sum_{Q \in \Omega(G)} (2^{p-1-|Q \cap A|} + 2^{q-1-|Q \cap B|} - 2) + \\ & \quad \left| \{ \{ Q_1, Q_2 \} \mid Q_1, Q_2 \in \Omega(G), Q_1 \cap Q_2 = \emptyset \} \right|. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 2.6. *For a bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$, if uvw is a path in G' with $d_{G'}(u) = 1$ and $d_{G'}(v) = 2$, then for any $k \geq 2$,*

$$\alpha(G, k) = \alpha(G + uv, k) + \alpha(G - \{u, v\}, k - 1) + \alpha(G - \{u, v, w\}, k - 1).$$

For a bipartite graph $G = (A, B; E)$, let $\beta_i(G, A)$ (resp., $\beta_i(G, B)$) be the number of vertices in A (resp., B) with degree i .

Lemma 2.7. *For $G \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$, if each component of G' is a path, then*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{Q \in \Omega(G)} (2^{p-1-|Q \cap A|} + 2^{q-1-|Q \cap B|} - 2) \\ &= s(2^{p-2} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + t(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + (2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3})\beta_2(G', A'). \end{aligned}$$

Let $p_i(G)$ denote the number of paths P_i in G .

Lemma 2.8. *For $G \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$, if each component of G' is a path, then*

$$|\{ \{Q_1, Q_2\} \mid Q_1, Q_2 \in \Omega(G), Q_1 \cap Q_2 = \emptyset \}| = \binom{s+t}{2} - 3t - 3p_4(G') - p_5(G').$$

For $G \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$, define

$$(2.1) \quad \alpha''(G, 4) = \alpha'(G, 4) - \left[s(2^{p-2} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + t(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + \frac{(s+t)(s+t-1)}{2} - 3t \right].$$

Observe that for $G, H \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$,

$$\alpha''(G, 4) = \alpha''(H, 4) \quad \text{iff} \quad \alpha(G, 4) = \alpha(H, 4).$$

Lemma 2.9. *For $G \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$, if each component of G' is a path, then*

$$\alpha''(G, 4) = (2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})\beta_2(G', A') - 3p_4(G') - p_5(G').$$

3. Main result

Dong et al. [1] have shown that any graph G in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 0) \cup \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 2^s - s - 1)$, if G is 2-connected, is χ -unique. In [2], Dong et al. proved that every 2-connected graph in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ is χ -unique for $1 \leq t \leq 4$. In [4], we proved this result for $t = 5$. In this section, we shall prove that every 2-connected graph in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ is χ -unique for $t = 6$.

The following theorem is our main result.

Theorem 3.1. *Let p, q and s be integers with $p \geq q \geq 3$ and $0 \leq s \leq q - 1$. For every $G \in \mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 6)$, if G is 2-connected, then G is χ -unique.*

Proof. By Theorem 2.1, $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t) \cap \mathcal{K}_2^{-s}(p, q)$ is χ -closed for all $t \geq 0$. Hence, to show that every 2-connected graph in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$ is χ -unique, it suffices to show that for every two graphs G and H in $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, t)$, if $G \not\cong H$, then either $\alpha(G, 4) \neq \alpha(H, 4)$ or $\alpha(G, 5) \neq \alpha(H, 5)$. Recall that $\alpha''(G, 4) = \alpha''(H, 4)$ iff $\alpha(G, 4) = \alpha(H, 4)$ and $\alpha'(G, 4) = \alpha'(H, 4)$ iff $\alpha(G, 4) = \alpha(H, 4)$.

The set $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 6)$ contains 59 graphs by Theorem 2.2, named as $G_{6,1}, G_{6,2}, G_{6,3}, \dots, G_{6,59}$ (see Table 1). These graphs are shown in this table with the values $\alpha''(G_{6,1}, 4), \alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4), \dots, \alpha''(G_{6,59}, 4)$. For each graph $G_{6,i}$, if every component of $G'_{6,i}$ is a path, then $\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$ can be obtained by Lemma 2.9; otherwise, we must find $\alpha'(G_{6,i}, 4)$ by Lemma 2.5, and then we find $\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$ by using Equation (2.1).

Partition $\mathcal{B}(p, q, s, 6)$ into 13 subsets:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{T}_1 &= \{ G_{6,1}, G_{6,2}, G_{6,3} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_2 &= \{ G_{6,4}, G_{6,5}, G_{6,6}, G_{6,7} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_3 &= \{ G_{6,8}, G_{6,9}, G_{6,10}, G_{6,11} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_4 &= \{ G_{6,12}, G_{6,13}, G_{6,14} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_5 &= \{ G_{6,15}, G_{6,16}, G_{6,17}, G_{6,18} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_6 &= \{ G_{6,19}, G_{6,20}, G_{6,21}, G_{6,22}, G_{6,23}, G_{6,24}, G_{6,25} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_7 &= \{ G_{6,26}, G_{6,27}, G_{6,28}, G_{6,29}, G_{6,30}, G_{6,31}, G_{6,32}, G_{6,33} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_8 &= \{ G_{6,34}, G_{6,35}, G_{6,36} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_9 &= \{ G_{6,37}, G_{6,38}, G_{6,39}, G_{6,40}, G_{6,41} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_{10} &= \{ G_{6,42}, G_{6,43}, G_{6,44}, G_{6,45}, G_{6,46}, G_{6,47}, G_{6,48} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_{11} &= \{ G_{6,49}, G_{6,50}, G_{6,51}, G_{6,52} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_{12} &= \{ G_{6,53}, G_{6,54}, G_{6,55} \} \\
\mathcal{T}_{13} &= \{ G_{6,56}, G_{6,57}, G_{6,58}, G_{6,59} \}
\end{aligned}$$

For non-empty sets W_1, W_2, \dots, W_k of graphs, let $\eta(W_1, W_2, \dots, W_k) = 0$ if $\alpha(G_1, 4) \neq \alpha(G_2, 4)$ for every two graphs $G_1 \in W_i$ and $G_2 \in W_j$, where $i \neq j$, and let $\eta(W_1, W_2, \dots, W_k) = 1$ otherwise.

The values of $\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$ for $i = 2, 3; 20, \dots, 25; 49, \dots, 59$ are not given by Lemma 2.9, but they can be obtained by Lemma 2.5 and Equation (2.1). For example, we show a detail computation of $\alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4)$ below.

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(i) } \alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4) &= \left[s(2^{p-2} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + 3(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + 2(2^{q-3} + 2^{p-2} - 2) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. (2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + \left\{ 12(s-6) + \binom{s-6}{2} + 29 \right\} \right] - \\
&\quad \left[s(2^{p-2} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + 6(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-2} - 2) + \binom{s+6}{2} - 18 \right] \\
&= 2^{p-2} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we obtained $\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$ for other values of i .

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{(ii) } \alpha''(G_{6,3}, 4) &= 3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 2^{q-1} - 19. \\
\text{(iii) } \alpha''(G_{6,20}, 4) &= -2^{p-4} - 9. \\
\text{(iv) } \alpha''(G_{6,21}, 4) &= 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 9. \\
\text{(v) } \alpha''(G_{6,22}, 4) &= 3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 9. \\
\text{(vi) } \alpha''(G_{6,23}, 4) &= 2^{p-1} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9. \\
\text{(vii) } \alpha''(G_{6,24}, 4) &= 5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9. \\
\text{(viii) } \alpha''(G_{6,25}, 4) &= 6 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 13 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9. \\
\text{(ix) } \alpha''(G_{6,49}, 4) &= 3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 28. \\
\text{(x) } \alpha''(G_{6,50}, 4) &= 4 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 28. \\
\text{(xi) } \alpha''(G_{6,51}, 4) &= 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 12. \\
\text{(xii) } \alpha''(G_{6,52}, 4) &= 5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 12. \\
\text{(xiii) } \alpha''(G_{6,53}, 4) &= 3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 24.
\end{aligned}$$

- (xiv) $\alpha''(G_{6,54}, 4) = 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 24.$
- (xv) $\alpha''(G_{6,55}, 4) = 5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 24.$
- (xvi) $\alpha''(G_{6,56}, 4) = 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 18.$
- (xvii) $\alpha''(G_{6,57}, 4) = 5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 18.$
- (xviii) $\alpha''(G_{6,58}, 4) = 3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 18.$
- (xix) $\alpha''(G_{6,59}, 4) = 2^{p-1} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 18.$

and we showed them in Table 1.

Claim 1. $\eta(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_3, \dots, \mathcal{T}_{13}) = 0.$

Proof of Claim 1. Note that if 2^k (k is an integer ≥ 1) is not a factor of x , then 2^h is also not a factor of x for any integer $h \geq k$. Similarly, if 2^k (k is an integer ≥ 1) is a factor of x , then 2^h is also a factor of x for any integer $1 \leq h \leq k$.

- (a) For $s \leq 5$, only \mathcal{T}_{11} and \mathcal{T}_{12} are non-empty. Observe that $\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4) \neq \alpha''(G_{6,j}, 4)$ for $G_{6,i} \in \mathcal{T}_{11}$ ($i = 49, 50$) and $G_{6,j} \in \mathcal{T}_{12}$ ($j = 54, 55$). Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_{11}, \mathcal{T}_{12}) = 0.$
- (b) For $s \geq 6$, $\alpha''(G, 4)$ is odd if $G \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2 \cup \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_6 \cup \mathcal{T}_7 \cup \mathcal{T}_9$ and even if $G \in \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_8 \cup \mathcal{T}_{10} \cup \mathcal{T}_{11} \cup \mathcal{T}_{12} \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_2 \cup \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_6 \cup \mathcal{T}_7 \cup \mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_8 \cup \mathcal{T}_{10} \cup \mathcal{T}_{11} \cup \mathcal{T}_{12} \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}) = 0.$
- (c) For $s \geq 6$, 2^4 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 19$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_9$, 2^4 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 19$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_2 \cup \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_6 \cup \mathcal{T}_7$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_1 \cup \mathcal{T}_9, \mathcal{T}_2 \cup \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_6 \cup \mathcal{T}_7) = 0.$
- (d) For $s \geq 6$, 2^5 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 3$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_9$, but 2^5 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 3$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_1$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_1, \mathcal{T}_9) = 0$
- (e) For $s \geq 6$, 2^4 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 15$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_2$, 2^2 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 15$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_6$, and 2^2 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 15$ but 2^4 is not for $G \in \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_7$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_2, \mathcal{T}_6, \mathcal{T}_4 \cup \mathcal{T}_7) = 0.$
- (f) For $s \geq 6$, 2^3 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 11$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_4$ but 2^3 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 11$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_7$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_4, \mathcal{T}_7) = 0.$
- (g) For $s \geq 6$, 2^2 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 28$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_{10} \cup \mathcal{T}_{11} \cup \mathcal{T}_{12}$, but 2^2 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 28$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_8 \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_{10} \cup \mathcal{T}_{11} \cup \mathcal{T}_{12}, \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_8 \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}) = 0.$
- (h) For $s \geq 6$, 2^4 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4)$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_{10}$, 2^3 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4)$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_{11}$, and 2^3 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4)$ but 2^4 is not for $G \in \mathcal{T}_{12}$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_{10}, \mathcal{T}_{11}, \mathcal{T}_{12}) = 0.$
- (i) For $s \geq 6$, 2^3 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 18$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}$ but 2^3 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 18$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_8$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_5 \cup \mathcal{T}_{13}, \mathcal{T}_3 \cup \mathcal{T}_8) = 0.$
- (j) For $s \geq 6$, 2^4 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 10$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_5$ but 2^4 is not a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 10$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_{13}$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_5, \mathcal{T}_{13}) = 0.$
- (k) For $s \geq 6$, 2^4 is a factor of $\alpha''(G, 4) + 14$ for $G \in \mathcal{T}_3$ but it is not for every $G \in \mathcal{T}_8$. Hence $\eta(\mathcal{T}_3, \mathcal{T}_8) = 0.$

By (a) – (k), Claim 1 holds.

The remaining work is to compare every two graphs in each \mathcal{T}_i for $1 \leq i \leq 13$. Since this comparison process is standard, long and rather repetitive, we shall not discuss all here. In the following we only show detail comparisons of every two graphs in \mathcal{T}_i for $i = 1, 2$ and 3 . The reader may refer to [5] for complete comparisons.

- (1) \mathcal{T}_1

(1.1) When $p = q$, $G_{6,2} \cong G_{6,3}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha''(G_{6,1}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4) &= (3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19) - (2^{p-2} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19) \\ &= 2^{p-3} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

(1.2) When $p > q$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,3}, 4) &= (2^{p-2} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19) - (3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 2^{q-1} - 19) \\ &= -2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha''(G_{6,3}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,1}, 4) &= (3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 2^{q-1} - 19) - (3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19) \\ &= -2^{q-3} < 0. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\alpha''(G_{6,2}, 4) < \alpha''(G_{6,3}, 4) < \alpha''(G_{6,1}, 4).$$

(2) \mathcal{I}_2

(2.1) When $p = q$, $G_{6,4} \cong G_{6,7}$, $G_{6,5} \cong G_{6,6}$ and we can easily see that $\alpha''(G_{6,4}, 4) = \alpha''(G_{6,5}, 4)$. Thus, we need to compare $\alpha(G_{6,4}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5)$. By using Lemma 2.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha(G_{6,4}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5) \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,4} + a_1 b_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1, c_1\}, 4) \right] - \\ &\quad \left[\alpha(G_{6,5} + a_2 b_2, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2, c_2\}, 4) \right] \\ &= \alpha(G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1, c_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2, c_2\}, 4) \\ &\quad \text{since } G_{6,4} + a_1 b_1 \cong G_{6,5} + a_2 b_2, \text{ and } G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1\} \cong G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2\} \\ &= \alpha''(G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1, c_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2, c_2\}, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1, c_1\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-2, s-2, 5), \quad \text{and} \\ G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2, c_2\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-2, 5), \end{aligned}$$

by Lemma 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} &\alpha(G_{6,4}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5) \\ &= \alpha''(G_{6,4} - \{a_1, b_1, c_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,5} - \{a_2, b_2, c_2\}, 4) \\ &= \left[3(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-5}) - 3 \cdot 4 - 3 \right] - \left[3(2^{p-5} - 2^{q-4}) - 3 \cdot 4 - 3 \right] \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^{q-4} \quad (\text{since } p = q). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\alpha(G_{6,4}, 5) > \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5).$$

(2.2) When $p > q$, from Table 1, we can easily see that

- (a) $\alpha''(G_{6,7}, 4) < \alpha''(G_{6,6}, 4)$,
- (b) $\alpha''(G_{6,6}, 4) < \alpha''(G_{6,4}, 4)$,
- (c) $\alpha''(G_{6,5}, 4) = \alpha''(G_{6,6}, 4)$.

Since $\alpha''(G_{6,5}, 4) = \alpha''(G_{6,6}, 4)$, we need to compare $\alpha(G_{6,5}, 5)$ with $\alpha(G_{6,6}, 5)$. By using Lemma 2.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5) \\ &= \alpha(G_{6,5} + a'_1 b'_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,5} + a'_1 b'_1 + b'_1 c'_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1, d'_1\}, 4) \right] + \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,5} + a'_1 b'_1 + b'_1 c'_1 + c'_1 d'_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1\}, 4) + \right. \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1, e'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1, d'_1\}, 4) + \\ & \quad \left. \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) \right] \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,5} + a'_1 b'_1 + b'_1 c'_1 + c'_1 d'_1 + d'_1 e'_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{d'_1, e'_1\}, 4) + \right. \\ & \quad \left. \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{d'_1, e'_1, f'_1\}, 4) \right] + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1, e'_1\}, 4) + \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1, d'_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) + \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(G_{6,6}, 5) \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,6} + a'_2 b'_2 + b'_2 c'_2 + c'_2 d'_2 + d'_2 e'_2, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{d'_2, e'_2\}, 4) + \right. \\ & \quad \left. \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{d'_2, e'_2, f'_2\}, 4) \right] + \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2, e'_2\}, 4) + \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2, d'_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2\}, 4) + \\ & \quad \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2, c'_2\}, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{6,5} + a'_1 b'_1 + b'_1 c'_1 + c'_1 d'_1 + d'_1 e'_1 &\cong G_{6,6} + a'_2 b'_2 + b'_2 c'_2 + c'_2 d'_2 + d'_2 e'_2, \\
G_{6,5} - \{d'_1, e'_1\} &\cong G_{6,6} - \{d'_2, e'_2\}, \\
G_{6,5} - \{d'_1, e'_1, f'_1\} &\cong G_{6,6} - \{d'_2, e'_2, f'_2\}, \\
G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1\} &\cong G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2\}, \\
G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1, d'_1\} &\cong G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2, d'_2\},
\end{aligned}$$

Since $G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}$ and $G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2\}$ belong to $\mathcal{B}(p-1, q-1, s-2, 4)$, by Lemmas 2.6, 2.8 and 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \alpha'(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1\}, 4) - \alpha'(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \left[(s-2)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 4(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 2(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left\{ \binom{s+2}{2} - 19 \right\} \right] - \left[(s-2)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 4(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. 2(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + \left\{ \binom{s+2}{2} - 19 \right\} \right] \\
(3.1) &= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, since $G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}$ and $G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2\}$ belong to $\mathcal{B}(p-1, q-1, s-3, 3)$, by Lemma 2.6, 2.8 and 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\alpha(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \alpha'(G_{6,5} - \{b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) - \alpha'(G_{6,6} - \{b'_2, c'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \left[(s-3)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 3(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + (2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left\{ \binom{s}{2} - 12 \right\} \right] - \left[(s-3)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 3(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. 2(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + \left\{ \binom{s}{2} - 12 \right\} \right] \\
(3.2) &= -(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}).
\end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1, e'_1\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-2, s-4, 1), \\
G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2, e'_2\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-4, 1),
\end{aligned}$$

by Lemmas 2.5, 2.7, and 2.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1, e'_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2, e'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \alpha'(G_{6,5} - \{c'_1, d'_1, e'_1\}, 4) - \alpha'(G_{6,6} - \{c'_2, d'_2, e'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \left[(s-4)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-4} - 2) + (2^{p-4} + 2^{q-4} - 2) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left\{ \binom{s-3}{2} - 3 \right\} - \left[(s-4)(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. (2^{p-5} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + (2^{p-5} - 2^{q-4}) + \left\{ \binom{s-3}{2} - 3 \right\} \right] \right] \\
&= 2^{p-5} \left[2^2(s-4) + 2 - 2(s-4) - 1 - 1 \right] + \\
&\quad 2^{q-4} \left[(s-4) + 1 - 2(s-4) - 2 + 1 \right] \\
(3.3) \quad &= (s-4)(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}).
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, since

$$\begin{aligned}
G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-2, s-3, 3), \\
G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2, c'_2\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-3, 3),
\end{aligned}$$

by Lemmas 2.5, 2.7, and 2.8, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \alpha(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2, c'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \alpha'(G_{6,5} - \{a'_1, b'_1, c'_1\}, 4) - \alpha'(G_{6,6} - \{a'_2, b'_2, c'_2\}, 4) \\
&= \left[(s-3)(2^{p-3} + 2^{q-4} - 2) + 3(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-4} - 2) + (2^{p-4} - 2^{q-5}) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left\{ \binom{s}{2} - 12 \right\} - \left[(s-3)(2^{p-4} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + 3(2^{p-5} + 2^{q-3} - 2) + \right. \right. \\
&\quad \left. \left. 2(2^{p-5} - 2^{q-4}) + \left\{ \binom{s}{2} - 12 \right\} \right] \right] \\
&= 2^{p-5} \left[2^2(s-3) + 3 \cdot 2 + 2 - 2(s-3) - 3 - 2 \right] + \\
&\quad 2^{q-5} \left[2(s-3) + 3 \cdot 2 - 1 - 2^2(s-3) - 3 \cdot 2^2 + 2 \cdot 2 \right] \\
(3.4) \quad &= (2s-3)(2^{p-5} - 2^{q-5}).
\end{aligned}$$

By (3.1) – (3.4), we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(G_{6,5}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,6}, 5) \\ &= -(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + (s-4)(2^{p-4} - 2^{q-4}) + (2s-3)(2^{p-5} - 2^{q-5}) \\ &= (4s-13)(2^{p-5} - 2^{q-5}). \end{aligned}$$

Since $p > q$ and $s \geq 8$, we have

$$\alpha(G_{6,5}, 5) > \alpha(G_{6,6}, 5)$$

(3) \mathcal{T}_3

(3.1) When $p = q$, $G_{6,8} \cong G_{6,10}$ and from Table 1, we can easily see that

- (a) $\alpha''(G_{6,8}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) = 0$,
- (b) $\alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11}, 4) = 0$.

Thus, we need to compare for each pair of $\alpha(G_{6,i}, 5)$, where $i = 8, 9$ and 11 . By using Lemma 2.6,

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(G_{6,8}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) \\ &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,8} + a_3b_3, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3, c_3\}, 4) \right] - \\ & \quad \left[\alpha(G_{6,9} + a'_3b'_3, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3, c'_3\}, 4) \right] \\ &= \alpha(G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3, c_3\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3, c'_3\}, 4) \\ & \quad \text{since } G_{6,8} + a_3b_3 \cong G_{6,9} + a'_3b'_3, \text{ and } G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3\} \cong G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3\} \\ &= \alpha''(G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3, c_3\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3, c'_3\}, 4). \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3, c_3\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-3, 3), \\ G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3, c'_3\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-2, s-3, 3), \end{aligned}$$

by using Lemma 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned} & \alpha(G_{6,8}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) \\ &= \alpha''(G_{6,8} - \{a_3, b_3, c_3\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{a'_3, b'_3, c'_3\}, 4) \\ &= \left[1(2^{(p-2)-3} - 2^{(q-1)-3}) - 3 \cdot 2 - 1 \right] - \left[1(2^{(p-1)-3} - 2^{(q-2)-3}) - 3 \cdot 2 - 1 \right] \\ &= -2^{p-5} - 2^{q-5} < 0 \quad (\text{since } p = q). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, by Lemma 2.6, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,11}, 5) \\
 &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,9} + u_1v_1, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\}, 4) \right] - \\
 & \quad \left[\alpha(G_{6,11} + u_2v_2, 5) + \alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\}, 4) \right] \\
 &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\}, 4) \right] - \\
 & \quad \left[\alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\}, 4) + \alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\}, 4) \right] \\
 & \quad \text{since } G_{6,9} + u_1v_1 \cong G_{6,11} + u_2v_2 \\
 &= \left[\alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\}, 4) \right] + \\
 & \quad \left[\alpha(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\}, 4) - \alpha(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\}, 4) \right] \\
 &= \left[\alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\}, 4) \right] + \\
 & \quad \left[\alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\}, 4) \right].
 \end{aligned}$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}
 G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-1, s-2, 4), \\
 G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-1, q-1, s-2, 4), \\
 G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-3, 3), \\
 G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\} &\in \mathcal{B}(p-2, q-1, s-3, 3).
 \end{aligned}$$

By using Lemma 2.9, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2\}, 4) \\
 &= \left[2(2^{(p-1)-3} - 2^{(q-1)-3}) - 3 \cdot 2 - 1 \right] - \\
 & \quad \left[2(2^{(p-1)-3} - 2^{(q-1)-3}) - 3 \cdot 2 \right] = -1
 \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \alpha''(G_{6,9} - \{u_1, v_1, w_1\}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11} - \{u_2, v_2, w_2\}, 4) \\
 &= \left[2(2^{(p-2)-3} - 2^{(q-1)-3}) - 3 \cdot 2 - 1 \right] - \\
 & \quad \left[2(2^{(p-2)-3} - 2^{(q-1)-3}) - 3 \cdot 1 \right] = -4
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have

$$(3.5) \quad \alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) < \alpha(G_{6,11}, 5).$$

(3.2) When $p > q$, from Table 1, we can easily see that

- (a) $\alpha''(G_{6,8}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) < 0$,
- (b) $\alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,10}, 4) < 0$,
- (c) $\alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) - \alpha''(G_{6,11}, 4) = 0$.

Since $\alpha''(G_{6,9}, 4) = \alpha''(G_{6,11}, 4)$, we need to calculate $\alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,11}, 5)$. By Equation (3.5), we have $\alpha(G_{6,9}, 5) - \alpha(G_{6,11}, 5) \neq 0$.

For the remaining work in comparing every two graphs in \mathcal{T}_4 to \mathcal{T}_{13} , the reader may refer to [5].

This completes the proof of Theorem 3.1. □

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TABLE 1: $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{6}$ (1 of 8)

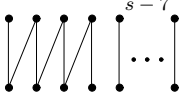
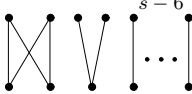

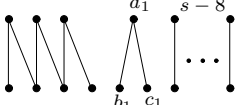
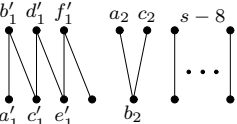
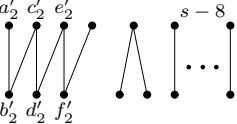
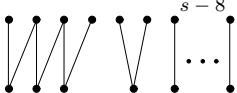
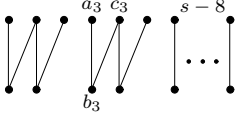
Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,1}$		A B	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 19$ $7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,2}$		A B	$2^{p-2} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 19$ $6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,3}$		A B	$3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 2^{q-1} - 19$ $6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,4}$		A B	$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 15$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,5}$		A B	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 15$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,6}$		A B	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 15$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,7}$		A B	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 15$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,8}$		A B	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 14$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{6}$ (2 of 8)

Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,9}$		A	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 14$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,10}$		A	$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 14$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,11}$		A	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 14$ $8 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,12}$		A	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 11$ $9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,13}$		A	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 11$ $9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,14}$		A	$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 11$ $9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,15}$		A	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 10$ $9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	
$G_{6,16}$		A	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 10$ $9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
		B	

TABLE 1: $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{6}$ (3 of 8)

Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,17}$		<p>A</p> $3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 10$ <p>B</p>	$9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,18}$		<p>A</p> $4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 10$ <p>B</p>	$9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,19}$		<p>A</p> $3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 9$ <p>B</p>	$9 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,20}$		<p>A</p> $-2^{p-4} - 9$ <p>B</p>	$7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,21}$		<p>A</p> $2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 9$ <p>B</p>	$7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,22}$		<p>A</p> $3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 9$ <p>B</p>	$7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,23}$		<p>A</p> $2^{p-1} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9$ <p>B</p>	$7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,24}$		<p>A</p> $5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9$ <p>B</p>	$7 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $t = 6$ (4 of 8)

Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,25}$		A B	$6 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 13 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 9$ $7 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,26}$		A B	$2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3} - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,27}$		A B	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,28}$		A B	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,29}$		A B	$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,30}$		A B	$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,31}$		A B	$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,32}$		A B	$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$ $10 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $t = 6$ (5 of 8)

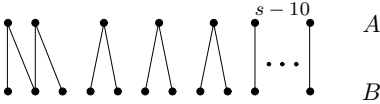
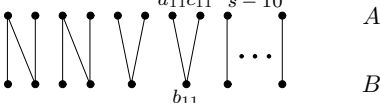
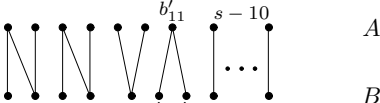
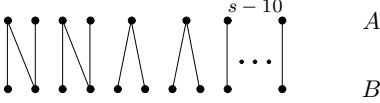
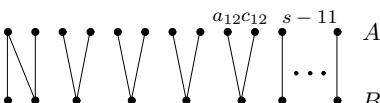
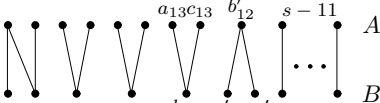
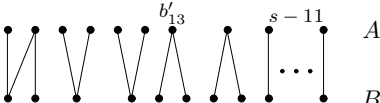
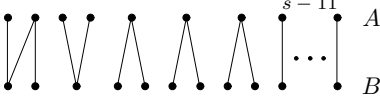
Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,33}$		$5(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 7$	$10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,34}$		$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 6$	$10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,35}$		$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 6$	$10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,36}$		$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 6$	$10 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,37}$		$2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3} - 3$	$11 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,38}$		$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 3$	$11 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,39}$		$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 3$	$11 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,40}$		$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 3$	$11 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $t = 6$ (6 of 8)

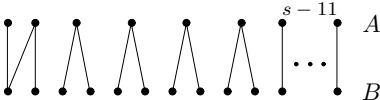
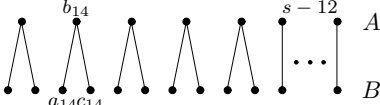
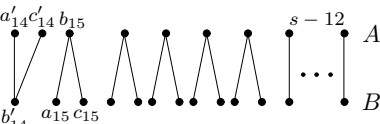
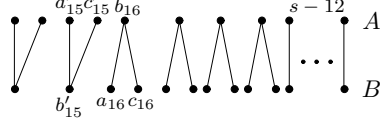
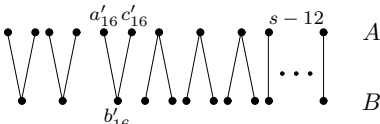
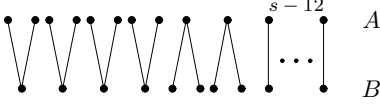
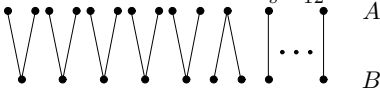
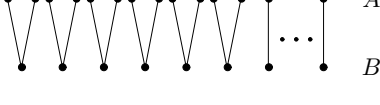
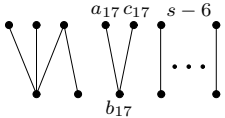
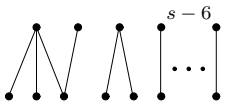
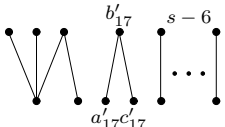
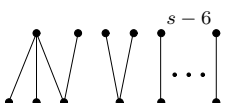
Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,41}$		$5(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}) - 3$	$11 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,42}$		$6(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,43}$		$5(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,44}$		$4(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,45}$		$3(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,46}$		$2(2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3})$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,47}$		$2^{p-3} - 2^{q-3}$	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,48}$		0	$12 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{6}$ (7 of 8)

Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,49}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 28$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$5 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,50}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $4 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 28$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$5 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,51}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 12$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,52}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 12$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,53}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $3 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 3 \cdot 2^{q-3} - 24$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,54}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 24$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$5 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,55}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 24$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$5 \leq s \leq q - 1$

TABLE 1: $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{6}$ (8 of 8)

Name of Graph, $G_{6,i}$	Graphs $G'_{6,i}$ ($G'_{6,i} = K_{p,q} - G_{6,i}$) $ A = p, B = q$	$\alpha''(G_{6,i}, 4)$	Conditions on s
$G_{6,56}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $2^{p-4} - 2^{q-3} - 18$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,57}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $5 \cdot 2^{p-3} - 11 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 18$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,58}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $3 \cdot 2^{p-4} - 2^{q-2} - 18$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$
$G_{6,59}$		<p style="text-align: center;">A</p> $2^{p-1} - 9 \cdot 2^{q-4} - 18$ <p style="text-align: center;">B</p>	$6 \leq s \leq q - 1$