

# $\alpha$ - Graceful Labeling for a Binary Tree and Graceful Labeling for a Regular Tree

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## Abstract

Labeled graph is the topics of current interest and here we have discussed  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling for the regular binary tree. We have also discussed graceful labeling for banana tree, symmetric tree and regular tree.

## 1 Introduction

In 1996 Rosa defined graceful labeling of a simple graph  $G$  and  $\alpha$ -labeling (here we call  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling) for a graph. Banana tree  $B(n, k)$ , to be the tree obtained by joining one leaf of each  $n$  copies  $K_{1, k-1}$  ( $(k-1)$ -star) i.e. it is one point union of  $n$  copies of star graph  $K_{1, k-1}$ . A symmetric tree  $T_{k+1}(d)$ , to be a tree with diameter  $d$ , in which all vertices other than leaves and root have the same degree  $k+1$  and all leaves have same eccentricity, where root is the center for  $T_{k+1}(d)$ , with degree  $k$  and eccentricity  $\frac{d}{2}$ . Here  $d$  is the diameter for  $T_{k+1}(d)$ .  $d_G(v)$  is denoted for the degree of vertex  $v$  in  $G$ .

In this paper a graph  $G$  we mean a simple, finite and undirected graph with  $p = |V(G)|$  vertices and  $q = |E(G)|$  edges. We follow Harary[1] for basic notation and terminology of graphs.

## 2 Main Results

### Theorem 2.1

Let  $T$  be a graceful tree. Let  $f$  be a graceful labeling for  $T$  and there is  $v \in V(T)$ ,  $d_T(v) = 1$  and  $f(v) = 0$ . Then one point union of two copies of  $T$  at  $v$  is  $\alpha$ -graceful tree.

**Proof:** Let  $p = |V(T)|$  then  $q = |E(T)| = p - 1$ . Let  $V(T^{(1)}) = \{v_0 = v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_q\}$  be vertices of first copy  $T^{(1)}$  of  $T$ . Let  $f$  be a graceful labeling for  $T = T^{(1)}$  such that  $f(v_0) = 0$ . Let  $T^{(2)}$  be another copy of  $T$  and  $V(T^{(2)}) = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_q\}$ . Let  $G$  be a graph (tree) obtained by merging  $u_0 = v_0 = v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_q, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_q\}$  and  $|E(G)| = 2q$ . Since  $T = T^{(1)}$  is bipartite graph, for each  $e = (u, w) \in E(T)$ , there is a partition  $V_1 \cup V_2$  of  $V(T)$  such that  $u \in V_1$  and  $w \in V_2$ . Take  $v \in V_1$ .

Define  $g : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 2q\}$  by  $g/V_1^{(1)} = f/V_1^{(1)}$ ,  $g/V_2^{(1)} = f/V_2^{(1)} + q$ ,  $g/V_1^{(2)} - \{v\} = f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\} + q$  and  $g/V_2^{(2)} = f/V_2^{(1)}$  where  $V_i^{(i)} \cup V_2^{(i)}$  is the vertex partition of  $V(T^{(i)})$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . First we shall prove here  $g$  is a bijection.

Let  $w_1, w_2 \in V(G)$  be such that  $g(w_1) = g(w_2)$  and  $w_1 \neq w_2$ .

$\Rightarrow f(w_1) = f(w_2)$  and  $w_1 \in V_1$ ,  $w_2 \in V_2$  which is impossible as  $f$  is one-one.

Since,  $|V(G)| = 2q + 1$ ,  $g : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, 2q\}$  must be a bijection. The induced edge labeling  $g^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, 2q\}$  defined by  $g^*(e = (w_1, w_2)) = |g(w_1) - g(w_2)|$ . Now we shall prove  $g^*$  is bijective map.

Let  $e_1 = (w_1, w_2)$ ,  $e_2 = (w_3, w_4) \in E(G)$  such that  $g^*(e_1) = g^*(e_2)$  where  $w_1, w_3 \in V_1$ .

$$\Rightarrow |g(w_1) - g(w_2)| = |g(w_3) - g(w_4)|$$

$$\Rightarrow |\pm q + (f(w_1) - f(w_2))| = |\pm q + (f(w_3) - f(w_4))|$$

$$\Rightarrow q \pm |(f(w_1) - f(w_2))| = q \pm |(f(w_3) - f(w_4))|$$

$\Rightarrow f(w_1) - f(w_2)$ ,  $f(w_3) - f(w_4)$  either both are positive or both are negative.

$$\Rightarrow |f(w_1) - f(w_2)| = |f(w_3) - f(w_4)|$$

$$\Rightarrow f^*(e_1) = f^*(e_2)$$

$\Rightarrow e_1 = e_2$ , as  $f^*$  is a bijection.

Now for any  $e = (w_5, w_6) \in E(G)$ ,

$$g^*(e) = |g(w_5) - g(w_6)|$$

$$= \text{either } q + |f(w_5) - f(w_6)| \text{ or } q - |f(w_5) - f(w_6)|$$

$$= \text{either } q - f^*(e) \text{ or } q + f^*(e)$$

$$\Rightarrow g^*(E(G)) = \{1, 2, \dots, q, q + 1, q + 2, \dots, 2q\}$$

Thus, above labeling pattern  $g$  gives rise to a graceful labeling to the graph (tree)  $G$ .

Let  $w_7, w_8 \in V(T)$  be such that  $f(w_7) = q$  and  $f(w_8) = 1$ . Since  $f(v) = 0$  and  $d_T(v) = 1$ ,  $v$  is adjacent only with the vertex  $w_7$  in  $T$ . To produce the edge label  $q - 1$  in  $T$ ,  $w_8$  should be adjacent with  $w_7$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } g^*(w_7, w_8) &= |g(w_7) - g(w_8)| \\ &= q + |f(w_7) - f(w_8)| \text{ or } q - |f(w_7) - f(w_8)| \\ &= q - (f(w_7) - f(w_8)) \text{ in second copy } T^{(2)} \\ &= 1 \text{ in second copy } T^{(2)} \end{aligned}$$

Take  $k = g(w_7) = q$ . It is observed that for any  $e = (w_9, w_{10}) \in E(G)$ ,  $\min\{g(w_9), g(w_{10})\} \leq k = q < \max\{g(w_9), g(w_{10})\}$  and so,  $g$  is an  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling for  $G$ .

### 2.2 Regular binary tree :

Regular binary tree  $BT_n$ , where  $n = 1 + 2 + \dots + 2^m$ , for some  $m \in N$  i.e.  $BT_1 = K_1$ ,  $BT_3 = P_3$  and  $BT_7$  is obtained by taking one point union of two copies of  $K_{1,3}$  as shown in figure - 1.

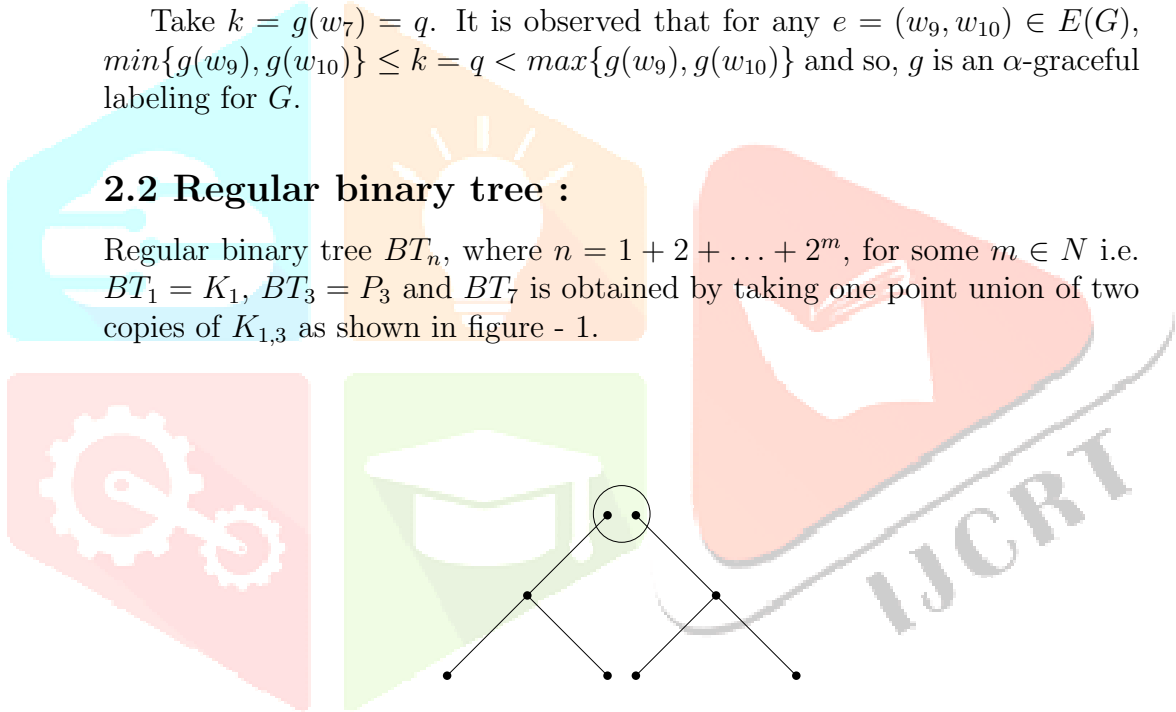


Figure - 1

one point union of two copies of  $K_{1,3}$ .

Next step, add one pendent vertex at the common vertex of  $2K_{1,3}$  in  $BT_7$  and to obtain  $BT_{15}$ , take one point union of two copies of above said tree by murgung the added pendent vertex as shown in figure - 2.



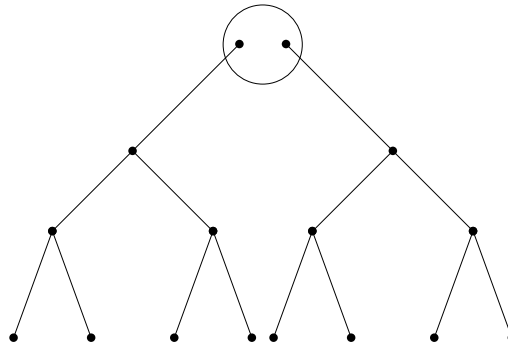


Figure - 2

one point union of two copies of graph obtained by adding a pendent vertex at the root of  $BT_7$ .

Continue this way, add one pendent vertex at the root of  $BT_{2^m-1}$  and to obtain  $BT_{2^{m+1}-1}$  take one point union of two copies of  $BT_{2^m-1}$  with pendent vertex by murging the added pendent vertex as shown in figure - 3.

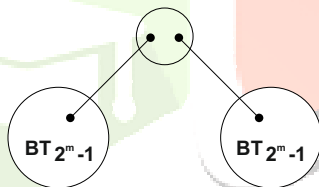


Figure - 3

one point union of two copies of  $BT_{2^{m+1}-1}$  after adding pendent vertex at the root.

Thus,  $BT_{2^{m+1}-1}$  is the symmetric tree  $T_3(2m)$ .

### 2.3 Algorithm to obtain $\alpha$ -graceful labeling $BT_{2^m-1}$ :

Obviously, following graceful labeling (given in figure - 4) for  $K_{1,3}$  is an  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling, where  $k = 2$ .

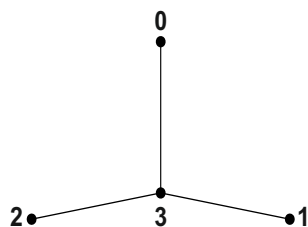


Figure - 4

$\alpha$ -graceful labeling for  $K_{1,3}$

Using this according to **Theorem. 2.1** obtain  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling for  $BT_7$  as shown in figure - 5.

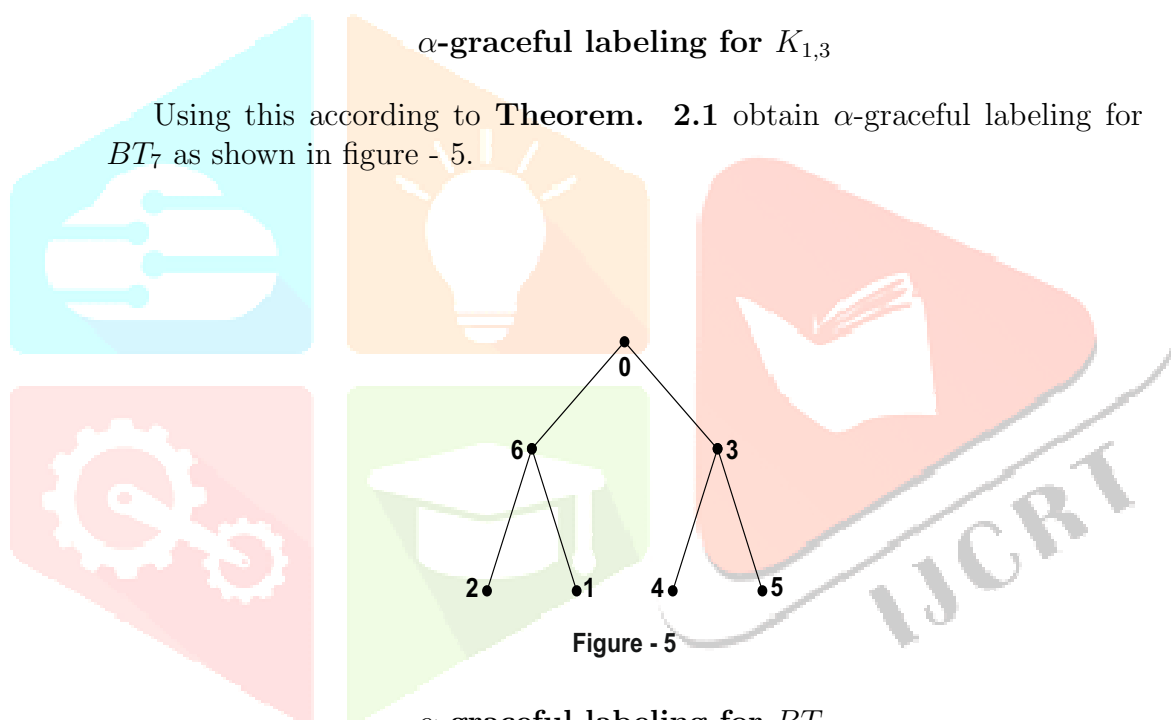


Figure - 5

$\alpha$ -graceful labeling for  $BT_7$

Add one pendent vertex with vertex label 7, which gives an  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling and take its complement  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling by subtracting each vertex label from 7 and according to **Theorem 2.1** obtain  $\alpha$ -graceful labeling for  $BT_{15}$  as shown in figure - 6.

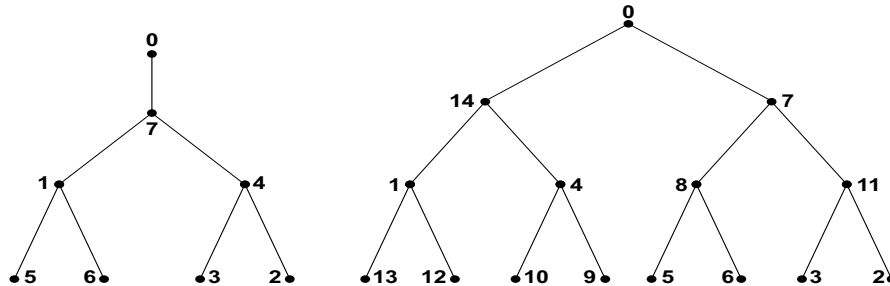


Figure - 6

$\alpha$ -graceful labeling for the graph obtained from  $BT_7$  by adding one pendent vertex and  $BT_{15}$

**Theorem 2.4**

Let  $T$  be graceful tree. Let  $f$  be a graceful labeling for  $T$  and there is  $v \in V(T)$ ,  $d_T(v) = 1$  and  $f(v) = 0$ . Then one point union of three copies of  $T$  at  $v$  is graceful.

**Proof:** Let  $p = |V(T)|$  then  $q = |E(T)| = p - 1$ . Let  $V(T^{(1)}) = \{v_0 = v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_q\}$  be vertices of first copy  $T^{(1)}$  of  $T$ . Let  $f$  be an arbitrary graceful labeling for  $T = T^{(1)}$  such that  $f(v_0) = 0$ . Let  $T^{(2)}, T^{(3)}$  be another copies of  $T$  and  $V(T^{(2)}) = \{u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_q\}$ ,  $V(T^{(3)}) = \{w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_q\}$ . Let  $G$  be a graph (tree) obtained by merging  $u_0, v_0, w_0$  (one point union of  $T^{(i)}, i = 1, 2, 3$ ).

It is obvious that  $V(G) = \{v, v_1, \dots, v_q, u_1, \dots, u_q, w_1, \dots, w_q\}$  and  $|E(G)| = 3q$ . Since  $T = T^{(1)}$  is bipartite graph, for each  $e = (u, w) \in E(T)$ , there is a partition  $V_1 \cup V_2$  of  $V(T)$  such that  $u \in V_1$  and  $w \in V_2$ . Take  $v \in V_1$ .

Define  $g : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 3q\}$  by  $g/V_1^{(1)} = f/V_1^{(1)}, g/V_2^{(1)} = f/V_2^{(1)} + 2q, g/V_1^{(2)} - \{v\} = 2q + f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}$  and  $g/V_2^{(2)} = f/V_2^{(1)}$  and  $g/V(T^{(3)}) - \{v\} = q + f/V(T^{(3)}) - \{v\}$  where  $V_1^{(i)} \cup V_2^{(i)}$  is the vertex partition of  $V(T^{(i)})$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . First we shall prove here  $g$  is a bijective map.

Let  $s_1, s_2 \in V(G)$  be such that  $g(s_1) = g(s_2)$  and  $s_1 \neq s_2$  if possible.

$\Rightarrow f(s_1) = f(s_2)$  which is not possible as  $f$  is one-one.

Thus,  $g : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots, 3q\}$  is a bijection, as  $g$  is one-one and  $|V(G)| = 3q + 1$ .

The induced edge labeling  $g^* : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, 3q\}$  defined by  $g^*(e = (s_3, s_4)) = |g(s_3) - g(s_4)|$ . We have to prove  $g^*$  is also a bijective map. It is enough to prove  $g^*$  is one - one.

Let  $e_1 = (s_5, s_6)$ ,  $e_2 = (s_7, s_8) \in E(G)$  and  $g^*(e_1) = g^*(e_2)$ .

$$\Rightarrow |g(s_5) - g(s_6)| = |g(s_7) - g(s_8)|$$

$$\Rightarrow |f(s_5) - f(s_6)| = |f(s_7) - f(s_8)|, \text{ by definition of } g$$

$$\Rightarrow f^*(e_1) = f^*(e_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow e_1 = e_2, \text{ as } f^* \text{ is a bijection.}$$

Now for any  $e = (s_9, s_{10}) \in E(G)$ ,

$$g^*(e) = |g(s_9) - g(s_{10})|$$

$$= \text{either } 2q + |f(s_9) - f(s_{10})| \text{ or } 2q - |f(s_9) - f(s_{10})| \text{ or } |f(s_9) - f(s_{10})|$$

$$= \text{either } 2q + f^*(e) \text{ or } 2q - f^*(e) \text{ or } f^*(e)$$

$$\Rightarrow g^*(E(G)) = \{1, 2, \dots, 3q\}$$

Thus, above labeling pattern give rise a graceful labeling  $g$  to the given graph (tree)  $G$ .

## Theorem 2.5

Let  $T$  be graceful tree. Let  $f$  be a graceful labeling for  $T$  and there is  $v \in V(T)$ ,  $d_T(v) = 1$  and  $f(v) = 0$ . Then one point union of  $l$  copies of  $T$  at  $v$  is also a graceful tree.

**Proof:** Let  $V(T) = \{v_0 = v, v_1, \dots, v_q\}$ . Let  $f$  be a graceful labeling for  $T = T^{(1)}$  with  $f(v_0) = 0$ . Let  $T^{(2)}, T^{(3)}, \dots, T^{(l)}$  be another copies of  $T$  and  $G$  be a tree obtained by merging vertex  $v$  of each copies  $T^{(1)}, T^{(2)}, \dots, T^{(l)}$ .

It is obvious that  $V(G) = lq + 1$  and  $|E(G)| = lq$ . Since,  $T^{(1)}$  is bipartite graph, for each  $e = (u, w) \in E(T)$ , there is a vertex partition  $V_1 \cup V_2$  of  $V(T)$  such that  $u \in V_1$  and  $w \in V_2$ . Take  $v \in V_1$ .

To define  $g : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, \dots, lq\}$  we consider following two cases.

Case - I :  $l$  is even.

$$\begin{aligned} g/V_1^{(1)} &= f/V_1^{(1)}, g/V_2^{(1)} = f/V_2^{(1)} + (l-1)q, g/V_1^{(2)} - \{v\} = (l-1)q + \\ f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, g/V_2^{(2)} &= f/V_2^{(1)}, g/V_1^{(i)} - \{v\} = \left(\frac{i-1}{2}\right)q + f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, \\ g/V_2^{(i)} &= \left(l - \frac{i+1}{2}\right)q + f/V_2^{(i)}, g/V_1^{(i+1)} - \{v\} = \left(l - \frac{i+1}{2}\right)q + f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, \\ g/V_2^{(i+1)} &= \left(\frac{i-1}{2}\right)q + f/V_2^{(1)}, \forall i = 3, 5, \dots, l-1 \end{aligned}$$

Case - II :  $l$  is odd.

$$\begin{aligned} g/V_1^{(1)} &= f/V_1^{(1)}, g/V_2^{(1)} = (l-1)q + f/V_2^{(1)}, g/V_1^{(2)} - \{v\} = (l-1)q + \\ f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, g/V_2^{(2)} &= f/V_2^{(1)}, g/V_1^{(i)} - \{v\} = \left(\frac{i-1}{2}\right)q + f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, g/V_2^{(i)} = \\ \left(l - \frac{i+1}{2}\right)q &+ f/V_2^{(i)}, g/V_1^{(i+1)} - \{v\} = \left(l - \frac{i+1}{2}\right)q + f/V_1^{(1)} - \{v\}, g/V_2^{(i+1)} = \\ \left(\frac{i-1}{2}\right)q &+ f/V_2^{(1)}, \forall i = 3, 5, \dots, l-2 \text{ and } g/V(T^{(l)}) = f/V(T^{(l)}) + \left(\frac{l-1}{2}\right)q. \end{aligned}$$

Where  $V_1^{(i)} \cup V_2^{(i)}$  is the vertex partition of  $V(T^{(i)})$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, l-1$ .

Thus, above labeling pattern give rise a graceful labeling  $g$  to the given graph (tree)  $G$  and so,  $G$  is a graceful graph.

### Corollary 2.6

Every banana tree  $B(n, k)$  is graceful.

Since  $B(n, k)$  is one point union of  $n$  copies of the star graph  $K_{1, k-1}$  and  $K_{1, k-1}$  has required graceful labeling, by **Theorem 2.5**, we can obtain a graceful labeling for  $B(n, k)$

### Corollary 2.7

Symmetric tree  $T_{n+1}$  is a graceful graph.

$T_{(n+1)}(2) = K_{1, n}$ ,  $T_{(n+1)}(4) = B(n, n+1)$ ,  $T_{(n+1)}(6)$  is one point union of  $n$  copies of a graph obtained by adding a pendent vertex to  $T_{(n+1)}(4)$  at the root.

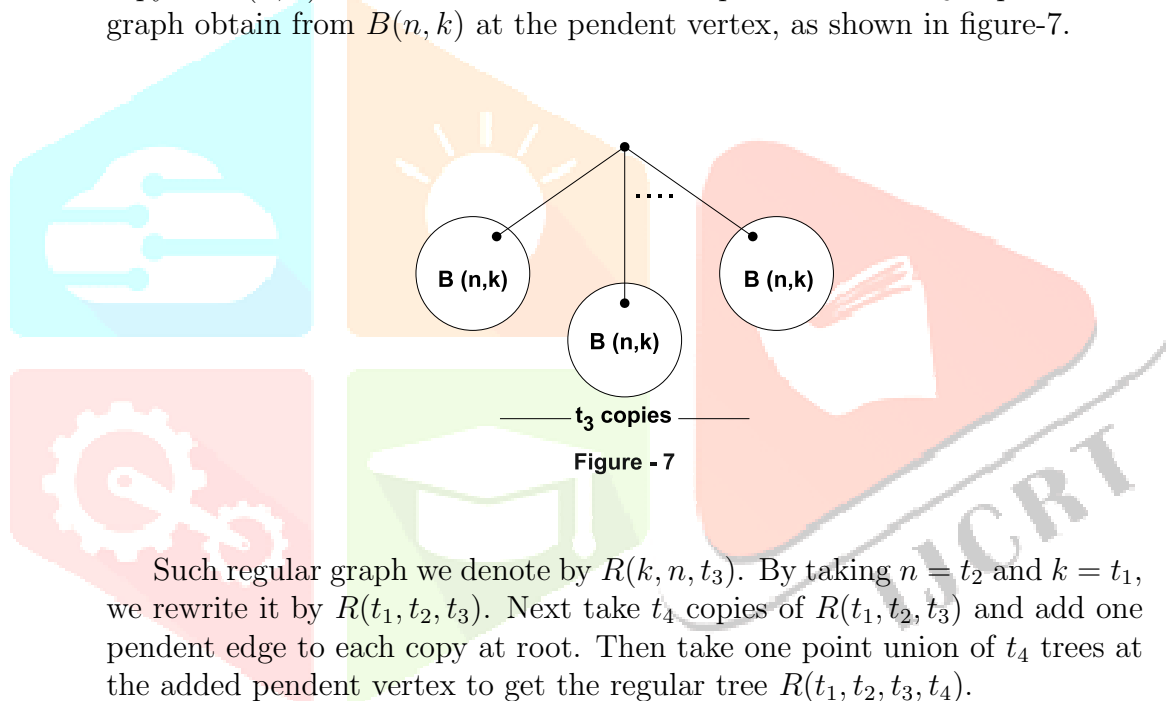
Similarly,  $T_{(n+1)}(d)$  is one point union of  $n$  copies of a graph obtained by adding a pendent vertex to  $T_{(n+1)}(d-2)$  at the root.

To get graceful labeling for  $T_{n+1}(d)$ , use **Algorithm 2.3 and Theorem 2.5** recursively, as  $T_{n+1}(2) = K_{1,n}$ ,  $T_{n+1}(4) = B(n, n+1)$  both are graceful trees.

## 2.8 Graceful Labeling and Regular Tree :

Regular tree is  $R(t_1, t_2, \dots, t_l)$ , where  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_l \in N$  and we define it as follows.

Take  $t_3$  copies of a banana tree  $B(n, k)$  and add one pendent edge to each copy of  $B(n, k)$  at the root. Now take one point union of  $t_3$  copies of the graph obtain from  $B(n, k)$  at the pendent vertex, as shown in figure-7.



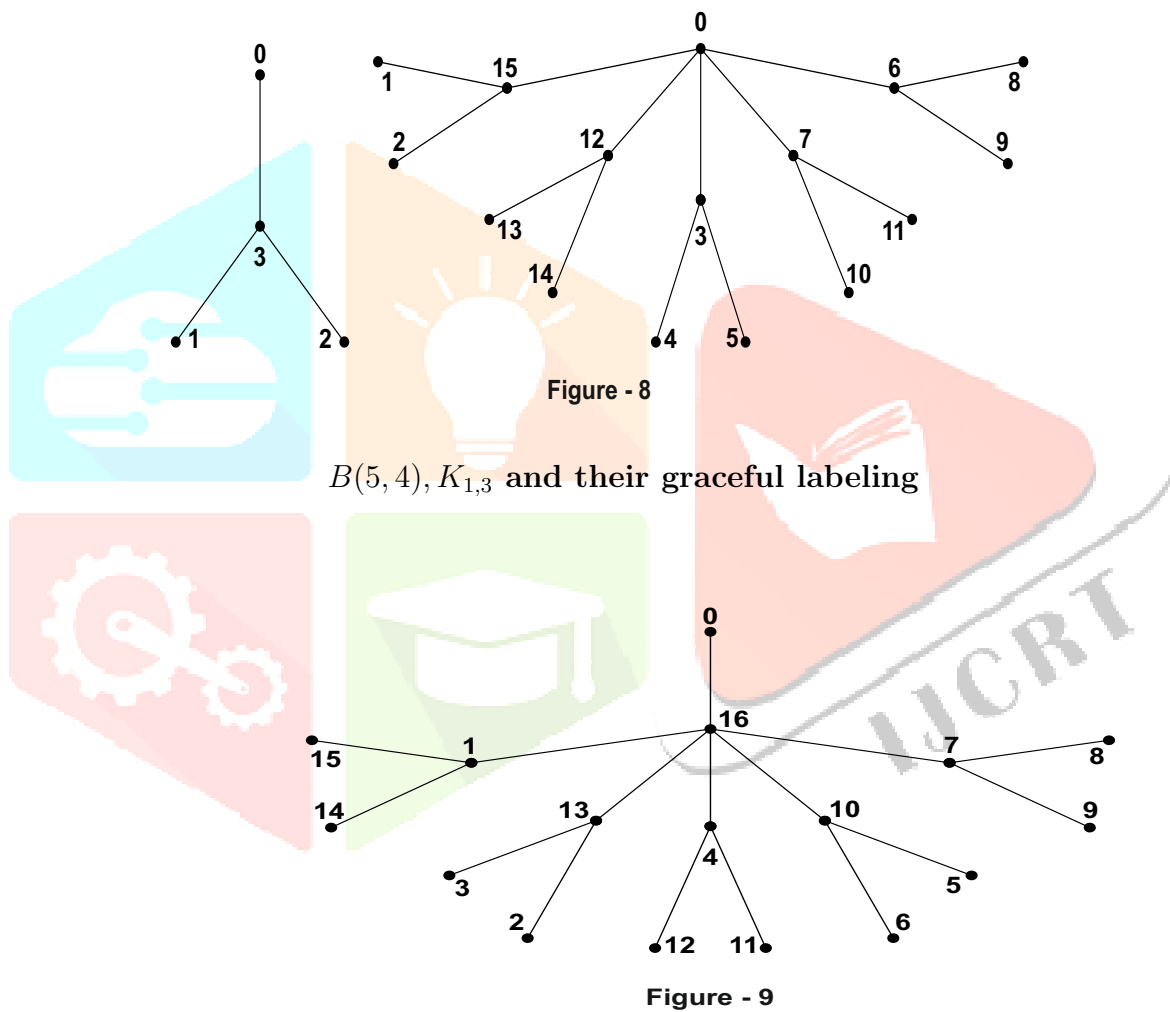
Such regular graph we denote by  $R(k, n, t_3)$ . By taking  $n = t_2$  and  $k = t_1$ , we rewrite it by  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3)$ . Next take  $t_4$  copies of  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3)$  and add one pendent edge to each copy at root. Then take one point union of  $t_4$  trees at the added pendent vertex to get the regular tree  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4)$ .

Continuing in this way, we get  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots, t_{(l-1)})$  with a pendent edge at the root. It is obvious that  $BT_7 = B(2, 3)$ ,  $BT_{15} = R(3, 2, 2)$  and  $BT_{2m+1} - 1 = R(3, 2, \dots, 2(m\text{-times}))$

To obtain graceful labeling for  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots, t_l)$  to get recursively way graceful labeling for  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots, t_{(l-1)})$ ,  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3, \dots, t_{(l-2)})$ ,  $R(t_1, t_2, t_3)$  and  $B(t_2, t_1)$  obtain by **Corollary 2.6**.

### Illustration 2.9

$R(4, 5, 3)$  with its graceful labeling, to obtain this a graph obtain by adding a pendent edge to  $B(5, 4)$  and  $B(5, 4), K_{1,3}$  with their graceful labeling are shown in figure - 10, 9, 8.



A graph obtained by adding a pendent edge to  $B(5, 4)$  and its complement graceful labeling

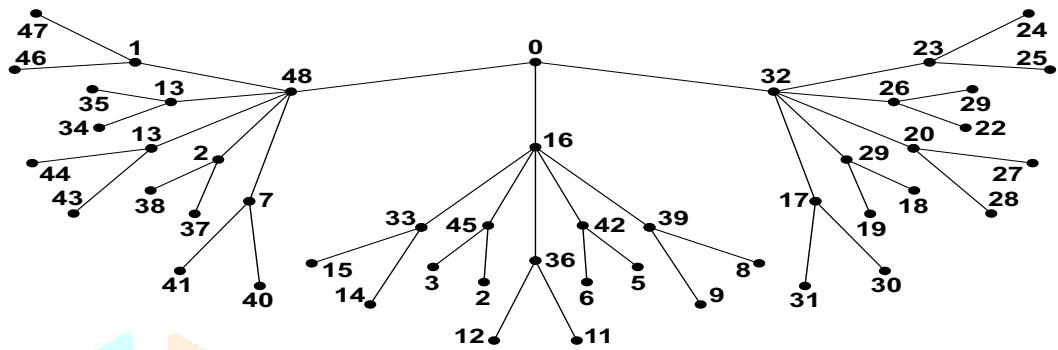


Figure - 10

$R(4, 5, 3)$  and its graceful labeling obtained by Theorem 2.5

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