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( $r, t$ )-hypercycles*

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# Distance magic $(r, t)$ -hypercycles

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## Abstract

Let  $H = (V, E)$  be a hypergraph of order  $n$ . A distance magic labeling of  $H$  is a bijection  $l: V \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  for that there exists a positive integer  $k$  such that  $\sum_{x \in N(v)} l(x) = k$  for all  $v \in V$ , where  $N(v)$  is the neighborhood of  $v$ . In this paper we deal with  $(r, t)$ -hypercycles. It was proved that  $(1, 2)$ -hipercycle of order  $n$  is a distance magic graph if and only if  $n = 4$  ([7]). In this paper we solve the similar problem for  $t = 3, 4$ .

**Keywords:** Distance magic labeling, hypercycles.

**2000 Mathematics Subject Classification:** 05C78, 05C15

## 1 Introduction

A hypergraph  $H$  is a pair  $H = (V, E)$  where  $V$  is a set of vertices and  $E$  is a set of non-empty subsets of  $V$  called hyperedges. The order of a hypergraph  $H$  is denoted by  $|H|$  and the size is denoted by  $\|H\|$ . If all edges have the same cardinality  $t$ , the hypergraph is said to be  $t$ -uniform. Hence a graph is 2-uniform hypergraph. Two vertices in a hypergraph are *adjacent* if there is an edge containing both of them. The *neighborhood*  $N_H(x)$  of a vertex

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$x \in V(H)$  is the set of vertices adjacent to  $x$ .

The  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle,  $1 \leq r \leq t - 1$ , is defined as  $t$ -uniform hypergraphs whose vertices can be ordered cyclically in such a way that the edges are segments of that cyclic order and every two consecutive edges share exactly  $r$  vertices [6].

*Distance magic labeling* (also called *sigma labeling*) of a hypergraph  $H = (V, E)$  of order  $n$  is a bijection  $l: V(H) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with the property that there is a positive integer  $k$  (called *magic constance*) such that  $\sum_{y \in N_H(x)} l(y) = k$  for every  $x \in V(H)$ . If a hypergraph  $H$  admits a distance magic labeling, then we say that  $H$  is *distance magic hypergraph*.

The idea of distance magic labelling of a graph has been motivated by the construction of magic squares. Finding an  $r$ -regular distance magic labeling turns out equivalent to finding equalized incomplete tournament  $EIT(n, r)$  [2]. A *fair incomplete tournament* of  $n$  teams with  $k$  rounds is a tournament in which every team plays exactly  $k$  other teams and the total strength of the opponents that each team misses during the tournament is the same for all teams. For a survey, we refer the reader to [1].

The following observations were independently proved:

**Observation 1** ([5], [7], [8], [9]) *Let  $G$  be a  $r$ -regular distance magic graph on  $n$  vertices. Then  $k = \frac{r(n+1)}{2}$ .*

**Observation 2** ([5], [7], [8], [9]) *No  $r$ -regular graph with  $r$ -odd can be a distance magic graph.*

It was proved in [7]:

**Theorem 3** ([7]) *The cycle  $C_n$  of length  $n$  is a distance magic graph if and only if  $n = 4$ .*

In this paper we consider the corresponding problem for  $(r, t)$ -hypercycles. We show that if  $r \leq \frac{t}{2}$  then the  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle is not distance magic. We will give also some results for  $(t - 1, t)$ -hypercycles. In particular we complete solve the case for  $t \in \{3, 4\}$ .

The paper is organized as follows. In the next section we show correspondence between distance magic labeling  $(r, t)$ -hypercycles of order  $n$  and distance magic labeling of some graphs. Some preliminary lemmas will be proved in the third section. In fourth section we characterize whenever  $C_n^p$  for  $p = 2, 3$  is distance magic graph. The main result and open problems are stayed in the last section.

## 2 Equivalent problem

For a hypergraph  $H$  of order  $n$  we define a graph  $G_H$  as follows  $V(G_H) = V(H)$  and  $x_i x_j \in E(G_H)$  in and only if there exists an edge  $e \in E(H)$  such that  $x_i, x_j \in e$ . Let  $l': V(H) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  be any bijection. Define  $l: V(G_H) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that  $l(x_i) = l'(x_i)$ . Notice that  $\sum_{y \in N_H(x)} l'(y) = \sum_{v \in N_{G_H}(x)} l(v)$ . Hence  $H$  is distance magic hypergraph if and only if  $G_H$  is distance magic graph.

The  $p$ th power of a graph  $G$  is a graph  $G^p$  with the same set of vertices as  $G$  and an edge between two vertices if and only if there is a path of length at most  $p$  between them. In this paper we will consider the  $p$ th power of a cycle  $C_n$ . Notice that  $C_n^p$  is  $2p$ -regular graph.

Notice that if  $H$  is  $(t-1, t)$ -hypercycle then  $G_H \cong C_n^{t-1}$ .

## 3 Lemmas

In this section we present several useful lemmas.

Let  $w(x) = \sum_{y \in N_H(x)} l(y)$  for every  $x \in V(H)$ . We start with the observations:

**Observation 4** *Let  $C_n^p$  be distance magic graph with magic constance  $k$ , then for any  $\gamma \in \mathbb{N}$ :*

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) + l(x_{p+1}) &= l(x_p) + l(x_{2p+1}) = \dots = l(x_{\gamma p}) + l(x_{(\gamma+1)p+1}) = k_1, \\ l(x_1) + l(x_{p+2}) &= l(x_{p+1}) + l(x_{2p+2}) = \dots = l(x_{\gamma p+1}) + l(x_{(\gamma+1)p+2}) = k_2, \\ &\vdots \\ l(x_{p-1}) + l(x_{2p}) &= l(x_{2p-1}) + l(x_{3p}) = \dots = l(x_{(\gamma+1)p-1}) + l(x_{(\gamma+2)p}) = k_p. \end{aligned}$$

and  $k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_p = k$ .

*Proof.* Since  $C_n^p$  is distance magic we obtain that  $w(x_0) - w(x_1) = w(x_1) - w(x_2) = \dots = w(x_{n-1}) - w(x_0) = 0$ . Hence  $w(x_i) - w(x_{i+1}) = l(x_{i-p}) + l(x_{i+1}) - (l(x_i) + l(x_{i+1+p})) = 0$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Observation 5** *Let  $C_n^p$  be distance magic graph, then for any  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ :*

$$l(x_i) + l(x_{i+1}) + \dots + l(x_{i+p-1}) = l(x_{i+2p+2}) + l(x_{i+2p+3}) + \dots + l(x_{i+3p+1}).$$

*Proof.* Since  $C_n^p$  is distance magic we obtain that  $w(x_{i+p}) - w(x_{i+2p+1}) = 0$ . ■

We show now some families of graphs  $C_n^p$  which are **not** distance magic.

**Lemma 6** *If  $\gcd(2p+2, n) = 1$  and  $n > 2p+1$ , then  $C_n^p$  is not distance magic graph.*

*Proof.* Since  $\gcd(2p+2, n) = 1$  then by Bézout's lemma there exist coefficients  $\alpha, \beta$  such that  $\alpha(2p+2) + \beta n = 1$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv 1 \pmod{n} \\ 1 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv 2 \pmod{n} \\ &\vdots \\ p-1 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv p \pmod{n} \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Suppose that  $C_n^p$  is distance magic, by (1) and Observation 5 we obtain that

$$l(x_0) + l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_{p-1}) = l(x_1) + l(x_2) + \cdots + l(x_p).$$

Furthermore  $l(x_0) = l(x_p)$ , a contradiction. ■

**Lemma 7** *If  $\gcd(2p+2, n) = p+1$  and  $n > 2p+1$ , then  $C_n^p$  is not distance magic graph.*

*Proof.* Since  $\gcd(2p+2, n) = p+1$  then there exist  $\alpha, \beta$  such that  $\alpha(2p+2) + \beta n = p+1$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} 0 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv p+1 \pmod{n} \\ 1 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv p+2 \pmod{n} \\ &\vdots \\ p-1 + \alpha(2p+2) &\equiv p \pmod{n} \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Let  $C_n^p$  be distance magic graph with magic constance  $k$ , then by (2) and Observation 5 we obtain that

$$l(x_0) + l(x_1) + \cdots + l(x_{p-1}) = l(x_{p+1}) + l(x_{p+2}) + \cdots + l(x_{2p}) = \frac{k}{2}.$$

Analogously by (2) and Observation 5 we obtain  $l(x_1) + l(x_2) + \cdots + l(x_p) = l(x_{p+2}) + l(x_{p+3}) + \cdots + l(x_{2p+1}) = \frac{k}{2}$ . It follows that  $l(x_1) = l(x_p)$ , a contradiction. ■

**Lemma 8** *If  $\gcd(p, n) = 1$  and  $n \neq 2p + 2$ , then  $C_n^p$  is not distance magic graph.*

*Proof.* Since  $\gcd(p, n) = 1$  then there exist coefficients  $\alpha, \beta$  such that  $\alpha n + \beta p = 1$ . Suppose that  $C_n^p$  is distance magic. By Observation 4 we obtain that

$$l(x_0) + l(x_{p+1}) = l(x_p) + l(x_{2p+1}) = \cdots = l(x_{-(\beta+1)p}) + l(x_{-\beta p+1}) = k_1$$

Applying  $-\beta p + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$  we have  $l(x_{p+1}) = l(x_{n-p-1})$ . Since  $n \neq 2p + 2$ , a contradiction.  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 9** *If  $p$  is odd and  $n > 2p(p + 1)$ , then  $C_n^p$  is not distance magic graph.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $C_n^p$  is distance magic. Let  $k$  be a magic constance for  $C_n^p$ . Then by Observation 4

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) + l(x_{p+1}) &= l(x_p) + l(x_{2p+1}) = \cdots = l(x_{\gamma p}) + l(x_{(\gamma+1)p+1}) = k_1, \\ l(x_1) + l(x_{p+2}) &= l(x_{p+1}) + l(x_{2p+2}) = \cdots = l(x_{\gamma p+1}) + l(x_{(\gamma+1)p+2}) = k_2, \\ &\vdots \\ l(x_{p-1}) + l(x_{2p}) &= l(x_{2p-1}) + l(x_{3p}) = \cdots = l(x_{(\gamma+1)p-1}) + l(x_{(\gamma+2)p}) = k_p, \end{aligned}$$

and  $k_1 + k_2 + \cdots + k_p = k$ .

Let  $l(x_0) = k_0$ , then:

$$l(x_{j(p+1)}) = \sum_{i=0}^j (-1)^{j-i} k_i$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, p$ . If  $p$  is odd then  $l(x_{p(p+1)}) = k_p - k_{p-1} + k_{p-2} - \cdots + k_1 - k_0$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_{(p+1)(p+1)}) &= -k_p + k_{p-1} - k_{p-2} + \cdots + k_2 + k_0 \\ l(x_{(p+2)(p+1)}) &= k_p - k_{p-1} + k_{p-2} - \cdots + k_3 - k_0 \\ &\vdots \\ l(x_{2p(p+1)}) &= k_0 \end{aligned}$$

It follows that  $l(x_0) = l(x_{2p(p+1)}) = k_0$ , a contradiction.  $\blacksquare$

The following lemma shows that there exist infinitely many  $p$ 's such that  $C_{2p+2}^p$  admits distance magic labeling.

**Lemma 10** *If  $n = 2p + 2$ , then  $C_n^p$  is distance magic graph.*

*Proof.* Let

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) = 1, \quad l(x_1) = 2, \quad l(x_2) = 3, \quad \dots \quad l(x_p) = p + 1, \\ l(x_{p+1}) = n, \quad l(x_{p+2}) = n - 1, \quad l(x_{p+3}) = n - 2, \quad \dots \quad l(x_{2p+2}) = p + 2. \end{aligned}$$

Notice that  $k = p(n + 1) = 2p(p + 1)$ . Observe that  $\sum_{y \in N(x_i)} l(y) = \frac{(n+1)n}{2} - l(x_i) - l(x_{(i+p+1) \pmod n}) = \frac{(n+1)n}{2} - (n + 1) = 2p(p + 1)$  for every  $x_i \in V(C_{2p+2}^p)$ . ■

## 4 Distance magic labeling for $C_n^2$ and $C_n^3$

Observe that if  $n \leq 2p + 1$  then  $C_n^p \cong K_n$  that is not distance magic. From now on we will assume that  $n > 2p + 1$ .

**Theorem 11** *A graph  $C_n^2$  is not distance magic graph unless  $n = 6$ .*

*Proof.* There exists distance magic labeling of  $C_6^2$  by Lemma 10.

Let now  $n > 6$ . By Lemma 8 we can also assume that  $n$  is even. Assume that  $C_n^2$  is distance magic. If  $k$  is a magic constance for  $C_n^2$ , then  $k = 2(n + 1)$ . We will consider few cases on congruency on  $n$  modulo 6.

Case 1:  $n \equiv 0 \pmod 6$

Let  $n = \alpha 6$  and  $\alpha > 1$ . By Observation 4 we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) + l(x_3) = l(x_2) + l(x_5) = \dots = l(x_{\alpha 6 - 2}) + l(x_1) = k_1 \\ l(x_1) + l(x_4) = l(x_3) + l(x_6) = \dots = l(x_{\alpha 6 - 3}) + l(x_0) = l(x_{\alpha 6 - 1}) + l(x_2) = k_2 \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $l(x_0) = k_0$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_{6i}) &= ik_2 - ik_1 + k_0 \\ l(x_{6i+3}) &= -ik_2 + (i + 1)k_1 - k_0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $j = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha - 1$ .

Hence  $l(x_{\alpha 6 - 3}) = -(\alpha - 1)k_2 + \alpha k_1 - k_0$ . Furthermore because  $k_2 = l(x_{\alpha 6 - 3}) + l(x_0) = -(\alpha - 1)k_2 + \alpha k_1$  we obtain that  $k_1 = k_2$ . It implies that  $l(x_0) = l(x_6)$ ,



a contradiction.

Case 2:  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{6}$  or  $n \equiv 4 \pmod{6}$

By equation (5) we obtain:

$$l(x_0) + l(x_1) = l(x_2) + l(x_3) = l(x_4) + l(x_5) = \cdots = l(x_{n-2}) + l(x_{n-1}) = k_1$$

and

$$l(x_1) + l(x_2) = l(x_3) + l(x_4) = l(x_5) + l(x_6) = \cdots = l(x_{n-1}) + l(x_0) = k_2$$

Since  $l(x_0) + l(x_1) + l(x_3) + l(x_4) = k$ ,  $k_2 + k_2 = k$ . Let  $l(x_0) = k_0$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_{2i}) &= ik - 2ik_1 + k_0 \\ l(x_{2i+1}) &= (2i+1)k_1 - ik - k_0 \end{aligned}$$

for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}$ . Hence  $l(x_{n-1}) = (n-1)k_1 - (n-2)k - k_0$ . Recall that  $l(x_{n-1}) + l(x_0) = k - k_1$ . It implies that  $k_1 = k_2 = \frac{k}{2}$  and moreover  $l(x_0) = l(x_2)$ , a contradiction.  $\blacksquare$

**Theorem 12** *A graph  $C_n^3$  is not distance magic graph unless  $n = 8$  or  $n = 24$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 9 we can assume that  $n \leq 24$ .

Suppose first that  $n = 24$ , then let

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) &= 2, & l(x_1) &= 7, & l(x_2) &= 15, & l(x_3) &= 5, & l(x_4) &= 22, & l(x_5) &= 18, \\ l(x_6) &= 11, & l(x_7) &= 19, & l(x_8) &= 3, & l(x_9) &= 8, & l(x_{10}) &= 13, & l(x_{11}) &= 6, \\ l(x_{12}) &= 23, & l(x_{13}) &= 16, & l(x_{14}) &= 12, & l(x_{15}) &= 20, & l(x_{16}) &= 1, & l(x_{17}) &= 9, \\ l(x_{18}) &= 14, & l(x_{19}) &= 4, & l(x_{20}) &= 24, & l(x_{21}) &= 17, & l(x_{22}) &= 10, & l(x_{23}) &= 21. \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to check that function  $l$  defined above is a distance magic labeling for  $C_{24}^3$ .

Let now  $n < 24$ . For  $n = 8$  by Lemma 10 there exists distance magic labeling of  $C_8^3$ . By Lemmas 6, 7 and 8 we need to consider only case when  $n = 18$ . Assume that  $C_{18}^3$  is distance magic. Let  $k$  be a magic constance for  $C_{18}^3$ .

By Observation 4 we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_0) + l(x_4) &= \cdots = l(x_9) + l(x_{13}) = l(x_{12}) + l(x_{16}) = l(x_{15}) + l(x_1) = k_1 \\ l(x_1) + l(x_5) &= l(x_4) + l(x_8) = l(x_7) + l(x_{11}) = l(x_{10}) + l(x_{14}) = l(x_{13}) + l(x_{17}) = k_2 \\ l(x_2) + l(x_6) &= l(x_5) + l(x_9) = l(x_8) + l(x_{12}) = l(x_{11}) + l(x_{15}) = l(x_{14}) + l(x_0) = k_3 \end{aligned}$$

Putting  $l(x_0) = k_0$  and  $l(x_2) = k'_0$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} l(x_4) &= k_1 - k_0, & l(x_8) &= k_2 - k_1 + k_0, & l(x_{12}) &= k_3 - k_2 + k_1 - k_0, \\ l(x_6) &= k_3 - k'_0, & l(x_{10}) &= k_1 - k_3 + k'_0, & l(x_{14}) &= k_2 - k_1 + k_3 - k'_0. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $l(x_{14}) + l(x_0) = k_3$  we obtain  $k'_0 = k_2 - k_1 + k_0$  what implies that  $l(x_6) = k_3 - k_2 + k_1 - k_0 = l(x_{12})$ , a contradiction. ■

## 5 Distance magic labeling for $(r, t)$ -hypercycles

We will start this section with few observations:

**Observation 13** *If  $t > 2$  and  $r \leq \frac{t}{2}$  then  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle is not distance magic.*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be a  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . It easy to check that if  $t = 3$  and  $m = 2$ , then  $H$  is not distance magic hypergraph. Let  $m > 2$  or  $t > 3$  and construct a graph  $G_H$  as in Section 2.

It follows that there exist  $x, y \in V(G_H)$  such that they are adjacent and  $N_{G_H}(x) = (N_{G_H}(y) \setminus \{x\}) \cup \{y\}$ . Suppose that  $G_H$  is distance magic graph, then in particular the magic constance  $k = \sum_{v \in N_{G_H}(x)} l(v) = \sum_{w \in N_{G_H}(y)} l(w)$ . Hence  $l(x) = l(y)$ , a contradiction. ■

**Observation 14** *If  $t$  is even then  $(t-2, t)$ -hypercycle is not distance magic.*

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be a  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . Let construct a graph  $G_H$  as in Section 2. Observe that if  $t$  is even the graph  $G_H$  is  $(2t-3)$ -regular graph. By Observation 2  $G_H$  is not distance magic. ■

Now we will prove our main theorem:

**Theorem 15** *If  $t \in \{3, 4\}$ , then  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  is distance magic if and only if  $r = t - 1$  and one of the following condition holds:*

- $r = 2$  and  $n = 6$ ,
- $r = 3$  and  $n = 8$  or  $n = 24$ .

*Proof.* Let  $H$  be a  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . Let construct a graph  $G_H$  as in Section 2. Recall that if  $r = t - 1$  then  $G_H \cong C_n^{t-1}$ .

Suppose first that  $t = 3$  by Observation 13 and Theorem 11  $H$  is distance magic if and only if  $r = 2$  and  $n = 6$ .

Let  $t = 4$ , then by Observations 13, 14 and Theorem 12  $H$  is not distance magic unless  $r = 3$  and  $n = 8$  or  $n = 24$ . ■

Since for  $H$  to be  $(t - 1, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  we have  $G_H \cong C_n^{t-1}$  it is worthy also to notice the facts that follows immediately by Lemmas 6, 8, 9 and 10:

**Corollary 16** *Let  $H$  be  $(t - 1, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  then:*

- *If  $\gcd(2t, n) = 1$  then  $H$  is not distance magic hypergraph.*
- *If  $\gcd(t-1, n) = 1$  and  $n \neq 2t$  then  $H$  is not distance magic hypergraph.*
- *If  $t$  is even and  $n > 2t(t - 1)$  then  $H$  is not distance magic hypergraph.*
- *If  $n = 2t$  then  $H$  is distance magic hypergraph.*

At the end of the section we will put the following open problems:

**Problem 17** *Decide if  $(r, t)$ -hypercycle of is distance magic hypergraph for  $\frac{t}{2} < n \leq t - 2$ .*

**Problem 18** *Decide if  $(t - 1, t)$ -hypercycle of order  $n$  is distance magic hypergraph for  $t$  even and  $2t < n \leq 2t(t - 1)$ .*

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