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On J-colorability of certain derived graph classes

Federico FORNASIERO Department of Mathemathics Universidade Federal de Pernambuco Recife, Pernambuco, BRAZIL email: federico@dmat.ufpe.br Sudev NADUVATH Department of Mathematics CHRIST (Deemed to be University) Bangalore-560029, INDIA. email: sudev.nk@christuniversity.in

Abstract. A vertex ν of a given graph G is said to be in a rainbow neighbourhood of G, with respect to a proper coloring C of G, if the closed neighbourhood N[ν] of the vertex ν consists of at least one vertex from every color class of G with respect to C. A maximal proper coloring of a graph G is a J-coloring of G such that every vertex of G belongs to a rainbow neighbourhood of G. In this paper, we study certain parameters related to J-coloring of certain Mycielski-type graphs.

1 Introduction

For general notations and concepts in graphs and digraphs we refer to [1, 3, 15]. For further definitions in the theory of graph coloring, see [2, 8, 4]. Unless specified otherwise, all graphs mentioned in this paper are simple, connected and undirected graphs.

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1.1 Mycielskian of graphs

Let G be a triangle-free graph with the vertex set $V(G) = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$. The *Mycielski graph* or the *Mycielskian* of a graph G, denoted by $\mu(G)$, is the graph with vertex set $V(\mu(G)) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n, w\}$ such that $v_i v_j \in E(\mu(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G), v_i u_j \in E(\mu(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G)$ and $u_i w \in E(\mu(G))$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$ (see [9]).



Figure 1: The Mycielski graph $\mu(P_7)$

In the above mentioned conditions of Mycielski graphs, we call the two vertices v_i , u_i twin vertices and the vertex w is called the *root vertex* of the Mycielskian $\mu(G)$.

By a *Mycielski type graph*, we mean a graph that can be constructed from the Mycielski graphs or the graphs generated from a given graphs using some or similar rules of constructing their Mycielski graphs.

1.2 Rainbow neighbourhoods in graphs

A graph coloring is an assignment of colors to its elements. If colors are assigned to the vertices of a graph G, then it is called a *vertex coloring* of G. A vertex coloring is said to be a *proper coloring* if no two adjacent vertices have the same color, with respect to the coloring concerned.

In this study, we follow a proper coloring protocol as follows: Assign color c_1 to the maximum possible number of vertices in G, then assign color c_2 is given to the maximum possible number of remaining uncolored vertices and the procedure is continued until all vertices of G are colored properly. Then, the closed neighbourhood N[v] of a vertex $v \in V(G)$ which contains at least one colored vertex of each color with respect to the above-mentioned coloring, is

called a *rainbow neighbourhood* in G. The number of rainbow neighbourhoods in a graph is said to be the *rainbow neighbourhood number* of the graph (see [5]).

Later rainbow neighbourhood number of different graph classes have been studied in detail and many interesting results have been added to the literature (see [5, 6, 7, 10, 11]). These studies motivated researchers to investigate further in this area and thus a new type of coloring called J-coloring has been introduced and studied.

1.3 J-coloring of graphs

The notion of J-coloring of a graph, has been defined for the first time in [12] as follows:

Definition 1 [12] A graph G is said to have a J-coloring C if it has the maximal number of colors such that every vertex ν of G belongs to a rainbow neighbourhood of G. The number of colors in a J-coloring C of G is called the J-coloring number of G.

Definition 2 [12] A graph G is said to have a J^* -coloring C if it has the maximal number of colors such that every internal vertex v (a vertex with degree greater than 1) of G belongs to a rainbow neighbourhood of G. The number of colors in a J^* -coloring C of G is called the J^* -coloring number of G.

It can be noted that all graphs, in general, need not have a J-coloring. Hence, the studies on the graphs which admit J-coloring and their properties and structural characterisations attract much interests. Some studies in this direction can be seen in [6, 12, 13].

The initial purpose of this paper is to study the J-colorability of the Mycielskian and certain Mycielski type graphs of some fundamental graph classes.

2 J-colorability of Mycielski graphs

Note that the Mycielski graph $\mu(G)$ of a graph G has no pendant vertices and hence the J-coloring and the J*-coloring of the Mycielski graphs $\mu(G)$, if they exist, are the same. We first try to repeat the original demonstration of Mycielskian graph. To do that, we have to fix a J-coloring on the graph G.

Theorem 3 Let G be a graph with J-coloring $C = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, ..., c_k\}$. Then, the graph $\mu(G)$ is not J-colorable (and so, it is not J*-colorable).

Proof. Note that $\mu(K_2)$ is isomorphic to C_5 and hence it is not J - colorable (as it is proved in [12]). Hence, we can consider graphs with order greater than 2. Let us assume that we can have a new J-coloring $C = \{c_1, c_2 \dots, c_j\}$ on $\mu(G)$. Without loss of generality, we can assume now that the color of w is c'_1 . Every vertex u_i have to be colored with one of the other color c_2, \dots, c_j . Hence, there exists at least a vertex v_1 with color c_1 . Let be v_2 the vertex connected to v_1 such as the twin vertex u_2 has the color c_2 . Here, we have the following two possibilities:

(i) : If the color of v_2 is different from the previous ones, let us say c_3 , we have that for the definition of rainbow neighbourhood even the twin vertex u_2 has to be connected with a vertex with the same color, and it has to be a vertex v_3 because no one of the vertices u_j are connected, and w has the color c_1 . But if it is so, than for the construction of $\mu(G)$ even the vertex v_2 has to be connected with v_3 , and so it is not a proper coloring because two vertices has the same colors (see Figure 2).



Figure 2: Case (i)

(ii) If the color of v_2 is c_2 , the twin vertices u_1 of v_1 has to have a different color (let us say c_3), because it is linked to w that has the color c'_1 and to v_2 that has the color c_2 . But, in this case the vertex v_1 has to be connected with another vertex which has the color c_3 .

So we have to differentiate two different possibilities:

(ii)(a) If the vertex ν_1 is connected to a vertex ν_3 who has the color c_3 for the construction of $\mu(G)$ even the twin vertices u_1 is connected to ν_3 and so

it is not a proper coloring because two connected vertices have the same color (see Figure 3).



Figure 3: Case (ii)(a)

(ii)(b) If the vertex v_1 is connected to a vertex u_3 which has the color c_3 , first we can note that the twin vertex v_3 cannot have a new color, because it would lead to a contradiction over u_3 similar to the case (i).

Note that v_3 cannot have the color c_1 (because for construction it is connected with v_1) nor the color c_3 (because always for construction it is connected to the twin vertex u_1) so it has to be colored with the color c_2 . But if it is so, u_3 needs to be connected with a vertex v_i whose color is c_2 , but it cannot be the twin vertex v_3 for the construction, nor the vertex v_2 because it will lead to have the triangle $v_1v_2u_3v_1$. If the graph G has only 3 nodes we reach a contradiction yet, if it is not let us call v_4 the vertex with color c_2 connected to u_3 . For the construction of $\mu(G)$ it has to be connected to the vertex v_3 and it finally leads to a contradiction because the two vertices would have the same color (see Figure 4).

Hence, the Mycielskian graph of any graph G is not J-colorable, irrespective of whether the G is J-colorable or not. $\hfill \Box$

3 Some new constructions

Since Mycielskian of any graph does not admit a J-coloring, our immediate aim is to construct some simple connected graphs from certain given graphs



Figure 4: Case (ii)(b)

such that new graphs also admit an extended J-coloring. In this section, we discuss the J-colorability of certain newly constructed Mycielski type graphs of a given graphs.

The first one among such graphs is the *crib graph*, denoted by c(G), of a graph G, which is defined in [13] as follows:

Definition 4 [13] The *crib graph*, denoted by c(G), of a graph G is the graph whose vertex set is $V(\mu(G)) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n, w\}$ such that $v_i v_j \in E(\mu(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G), v_i u_j \in E(\mu(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G)$ and $v_i w, u_i w \in E(\mu(G))$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$.

Figure 5 depicts the crib graph of P_6 .



Figure 5: Crib graph of P_6

The following theorem discusses the admissibility of an extended J-coloring by the crib graph of a J-colorable graph G.

Theorem 5 The crib graph c(G) of a J-colorable graph G is also J-colorable. Also, $\mathcal{J}(c(G)) = \mathcal{J}(G) + 1$.

Proof. Assume that the graph G under consideration admits a J-coloring, say $C = \{c_1, c_2, \ldots, c_k\}$, where $k = \chi(G)$, the chromatic number of G. While coloring the vertices of c(G), we notice the following points:

- (i) Since, the twin vertices u_i and v_i in c(G) are adjacent to each other, both of them can have the same color.
- (ii) Since $N(u_i) = N(v_i)$ for all $1 \le i \le n$, it follows that $N[u_i]$ is also a rainbow neighbourhood in c(G). Therefore, the subgraph of c(G) induced by the vertex set $\{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n\}$ admit the same J-coloring C.
- (iii) Since the root vertex w is adjacent to other vertices in c(G), it cannot have any color from C. Therefore, we need a new color, say c_{k+1} to color the vertex w.
- (iv) Since the root vertex w is adjacent to other vertices in c(G), it belongs to a rainbow neighbourhood in c(G) and will not influence the belong-ingness of other vertices to some rainbow neighbourhoods in c(G).

In view of the conditions mentioned above, notice that $\mathcal{C} \cup \{c_{k+1}\}$ is a J-coloring of c(G) and $\mathcal{J}(c(G)) = k + 1 = \mathcal{J}(G) + 1$. This completes the proof. \Box

Another similar graph that catches attention in this context is the shadow graph of a graph G. The *shadow graph* of a graph G, denoted by s(G), is the graph G is the graph obtained from its Mycielski graph $\mu(G)$ by removing the root vertex.

The following theorem discusses the admissibility of a J-coloring by the shadow graph s(G) of a J-colorable graph G.

Theorem 6 The shadow graph s(G) of a J-colorable graph G is also J-colorable. Moreover, $\mathcal{J}(s(G)) = \mathcal{J}(G)$.

Proof. The proof is immediate from the proof of Theorem 5.

Next, we construct a new graph F(G) from a triangle-free, simple and connected graph G such that F(G) has J-chromatic number k + 1 when G has J-chromatic number k. The construction is described below.

Definition 7 Let G be a triangle-fee graph, with $V(G) = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\}$. We define the *Federico graph* F(G) of G as the graph such that $V(F(G)) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n, u_1, u_2, \ldots, u_n, w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_n\}$ and with edges that follows the rules:

- (i) $v_i v_j \in E(F(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G)$
- (ii) $w_i w_j \in E(F(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G)$
- (iii) $u_i w_j \in E(F(G)) \iff v_i v_j \in E(G)$
- (iv) for all $i = 1, ..., n, v_i u_i \in V(F(G))$

The following figure illustrates the Federico graph of the graph P_5 .



Figure 6: The Federico Graph $F(P_5)$

First we can note that the graph F(G) has no pendant vertices and so the J-coloring od F(G), if exists, coincides to the J*-coloring. This fact is straight forward.

Theorem 8 Let G be a J-colorable, triangle-free graph of order n with Jcoloring number k. Then the graph F(G) is triangle-free and with higher Jcoloring number. If $\mathcal{J}(G) = k$, then $\mathcal{J}(F(G)) = k + 1$.

Proof. First of all we can see that no pair of vertices u_i is connected, therefore no triangle can involve a pair of these vertices. Also, no vertex w_i is connected to a vertex v_i .

Remembering that G is triangle-free, it is not possible that three vertices v_i are connected in F(G) too. Similarly for the vertices w_i that form between them a copy of the graph G. Hence, we have only two possibilities left:

(i) if v_i is connected to v_j we have that u_i is connected to v_i but not to v_j , by construction, so no triangle of this type is involved.

(ii) if w_i is connected to w_j we have that u_i is connected to w_j but not to w_i , so it is proved that F(G) is triangle-free.

To construct a proper J-coloring on F(G), let consider a proper J-coloring $\varphi : V(G) \rightarrow \{c_1, \ldots, c_k\}$ and let us construct $\varphi^* : V(F(G)) \rightarrow \{c_1, \ldots, c_k, c_{k+1}\}$ by setting:

- (i) $\phi^*(v_i) = f^*(w_i) = f(v_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$
- (ii) $\phi^*(u_i) = c_{k+1}$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$

First, we have to prove that it is a proper J-coloring of F(G). We note that every vertex v_i has a rainbow neighbourhood in G, and hence it has in $\mu(G)$ with one more color (the color of u_i). Every w_i has the same rainbow of the twin v_i because it is connected with the same vertices connected to v_i , and it is connected at least to one of the vertex u_j . Finally, every u_i has a k+1 rainbow neighbourhood of because it is connected with every v_i and with every w_j that are the connections of v_i in the original graph, so by the definition of φ^* , every u_i has the same rainbow neighbourhood of v_i . Hence, this coloring define a proper J-coloring of G, it remains to prove that this coloring is maximal.

Hence, let us assume that there exists a proper J-coloring of F(G) such that $\mathcal{J}(F(G)) = 2$. In this case, we can assume that not every u_i has the same color because if not every u_i is connected only to v_i , and every v_i has a rainbow neighbourhood of order k+2 and can't have the same color of the vertices u_i . But it would mean that the graph G was (k+1) - J-coloring.

Hence, let us start considering the vertex u_i . If we prove that independent from the choice of the color of u_i , it is necessary that every u_i has the same color, for what we have just proved, it follows that the coloring is maximal.

From the above choice of the coloring assignment φ^* , we note that F(G) requires at least one more color in its proper coloring than the corresponding proper coloring of the graph G. Now, note that the upper bound for the J-chromatic number of a graph G is $\delta(G)+1$ (see [12]). Since $\delta(F(G)) = \delta(G)+1$, any J-coloring of F(G) can have at most one more color than the J-coloring of G. From these two conditions, we can conclude that the coloring φ^* defined above is a maximal coloring of F(G) such that every vertex of F(G) belongs to some rainbow neighbourhood of F(G). Then, we have $\mathcal{J}(F(G)) = \mathcal{J}(G) + 1$, completing the proof.

Hence, we have found an interesting construction to have new triangle free graphs with higher J-coloring number. In the following theorem, we study what happens to the chromatic number of a Federico graph. **Theorem 9** Let G be a graph and F(G) its Federico graph. Then, $\chi(G) = \chi(F(G))$

Proof. Let $f: V(G) = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n\} \rightarrow c_1, \ldots, c_k$ be a coloring of the vertices of G. Let us consider the coloring $g: V(F(G)) = \{v_1, \ldots, v_n, u_1, \ldots, u_n, w_1, \ldots, w_n\} \rightarrow \{c_1, \ldots, c_k\}$ defined by:

- (i) $g(u_i) = g(w_i) = f(v_i)$ for all i = 1, ..., n.
- (ii) if $f(\nu_i)=c_h$ then $g(\nu_i)=c_{h+1}$ for all $i=1,\ldots,n$ and $h=1,\ldots,k-1$
- (iii) if $f(v_i) = c_k$ then $g(v_i) = c_1$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$.

To prove that it is a proper coloring, first we can note that it is a proper coloring on the vertices v_i because f was a proper coloring of G and we have only permutated the colors, and also it is a proper coloring on the vertices w_i because it is a copy of the graph and we have colored in the same way. So it only left to see that we cannot have the same color with connections with a vertex u_i .

But, v_i is only connected to u_i and they have different colors because $g(u_i) = f(v_i)$ but $c_{h+1} = g(v_i) \neq f(v_i) = c_h$ for the definition of g. Also, because each w_i is connected to every u_j such that $v_j \in V(G)$ was connected to $v_i \in V(G)$ and none of which has the same color $g(u_i) = f(u_i)$ no conflicts arise here.

Hence, we have constructed a proper coloring of F(G) with the same number of colors of G, as claimed.

Now we want to study another important coloring property of the Modified Mycielski graph, the *circular chromatic number*. It was first studied in [14] with the name of star chromatic number, and later in [16] provided a comprehensive survey.

Let G be a graph. For two positive numbers k, d with $k \ge 2d$, we define a (k, d)-coloring as the function $f : V(G) \to \{0, 1, \ldots, k-1\}$ such that if two vertices u, v are adjacent, then $|f(u) - f(v)|_k \le d$ where $|a - b|_k = \min\{|a - b|, k - |a - b|\}$. Then, the *circular chromatic number* of G is defined as

$$\chi_c(G) := \inf \left\{ \frac{k}{d} \mid G \text{ has a } (k,d) - \operatorname{coloring} \right\}$$

In [16] it is shown that if the graph G has at least one edge, then the infimum can be replaced with the minimum and we have $\chi(G) - 1 \leq \chi_c(G) \leq \chi(G)$.

The circular chromatic number is hard to compute in Mycielski graphs and there's not yet a general formula that compute $\chi_c(\mu(G))$ knowing the circular chromatic number of G. But, in the case of Federico graph, we have

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Theorem 10 Let G be a graph with $\chi_c(G)$. Then, $\chi_c(F(G)) = \chi_c(G)$.

Proof. Let G be a graph with a (k, d) coloring f over $V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, ..., v_n\}$. Then, we construct the coloring f^* over F(G) as follows:

- (i) $f^*(v_i) = f(v_i)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$
- (ii) $f^*(u_i) = f^*(w_i) = f(v_i) d \mod k$ for all $i = 1, \ldots, n$

To see that it's a proper (k, d) coloring of F(G) we first note that between it's a proper coloring over the vertices v_i 's (because it was on G) and over the vertices w_i 's (because in the construction we have simply added the distance modulo k, and their connections are the same than the connections over the vertices v_i). A vertex v_i is adjacent only to the vertex u_i and so by construction it has exactly distance d.

The vertex u_i is connected to every vertex w_j such that $v_i v_j$ is an edge in G. But for construction the vertex u_i has color $f(v_i) - d \mod k$ and the vertices w_j have color $f(v_j) - d \mod k$, so the connection maintain the same distances over the edges $v_i v_j \in E(G)$. Therefore, it is a proper (k, d)-coloring of F(G) and if $\frac{k}{d}$ is minimal in G and hence it is minimal in F(G).

4 J-paucity number of graphs

In view of our results on the absence of J-coloring for Mycielski graphs and our new constructions from the Mycielski graphs which admit J-colorings, we define a new graph parameter with respect to J-coloring as follows:

Definition 11 Let G be a graph which does not admit a J-coloring. Then, the J-paucity number of G, denoted by $\rho(G)$, is defined as the minimum number of edges to be added to G so that the reduced graph becomes J-colorable with respect to a $(\delta(G) + 1)$ -coloring of G.

In the following theorem, we determine the J-paucity number of paths.

Theorem 12 $\rho(\mu(P_n)) = n$.

Proof. Note that for $\delta(\mu(P_n)) = 2$ and hence we have to find the minimum number of edges to be added to $\mu(P_n)$ so that the reduced graph becomes J-colorable using 3 colors. For this, first assign colors c_1 and c_2 alternatively to the vertices $\nu_1, \nu_2, \ldots, \nu_n$. Now color the vertices u_i such that u_i and its twin vertex ν_i have the same color. Since the vertex w is adjacent to all u_i 's, it can be seen that it must have a different color, say c_3 (see Figure 7).

We notice the following points in this context:



Figure 7: A 3-coloring of $\mu(P_7)$.

- (i) No vertex v_i in $V(\mu(P_n))$ belongs to a rainbow neighbourhood of $\mu(P_n)$, as none of them is adjacent to a vertex having color c_3 ;
- (ii) Every vertex u_i with color c_2 is adjacent to at least one vertex v_j with color c_2 and the vertex w with color c_3 , thus belonging to some rainbow neighbourhood in $\mu(P_n)$.
- (iii) Every vertex u_j with color c_2 is adjacent to at least one vertex v_k with color c_1 the vertex w with color c_3 , thus belonging to some rainbow neighbourhood in $\mu(P_n)$.
- (iv) The vertex w, being adjacent to all vertices u_i , belongs to some rainbow neighbourhoods in $\mu(P_n)$.

Therefore, from the above arguments, what we need is to draw edges from the vertices v_i to the vertex w so that they also are in some rainbow neighbourhoods of G. Therefore, $\rho(\mu(P_n)) = n$.

Theorem 13 $\rho(\mu(C_n)) = n + 2r$, where $r \in \mathbb{N}$ is given by $n \equiv r \pmod{3}$.

Proof. Since $\delta(\mu(C_n)) = 3$, the maximum number of colors in its J-coloring is 4. Hence, we have to find the minimum number of edges to be added to $\mu(P_n)$ so that the reduced graph becomes J-colorable using 4 colors. Here we have to consider the following cases:

Case-1: Let $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$. Then, we can assign colors c_1, c_2 and c_3 alternatively to the vertices v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n . As mentioned in the previous result, we can color the vertices u_i such that u_i and its twin vertex v_i have the same color. Since the vertex w is adjacent to all u_i 's, it must have a different color, say c_4 (see Figure 8). In this case, all vertices u_i and the vertex w will belong

to some rainbow neighbourhoods of $\mu(C_n)$, but no vertex ν_i has an adjacent vertex having color c_4 . So, we need to draw edges from all ν_i ; $1 \le i \le n$ to the vertex w in order to include them in some rainbow neighbourhoods of $\mu(C_n)$.



Figure 8: A minimal proper coloring of $\mu(C_9)$

Case-2: Let $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. Then, we can assign colors c_1, c_2 and c_3 alternatively to the vertices $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{n-1}$. The vertex v_n can be colored only by c_2 , as it is adjacent to v_1 with color c_1 and to v_{n-1} with color c_3 . Here, we notice that the vertex v_1 is not adjacent to any vertex having color c_3 . Here, we need to draw an edge between v_1 and one of the vertices having color c_3 .

If we label the vertices u_i in such a way that the twin vertices have the same color, then as in the case of v_1 , the vertex u_1 is not adjacent to any vertex of color c_3 . Hence, we need to draw an edge from u_1 to any one of the vertices having color c_3 .

Since w is adjacent to all u_i , w must have the fourth color c_4 . Since every vertex u_i is adjacent to w, all these vertices, (except u_1) belong to some rainbow neighbourhood of $\mu(C_n)$. (Also, note that when we draw an edge from u_1 to a vertex having color c_3 , it will also belong to some rainbow neighbourhood).

Since no vertex v_i is adjacent to a vertex having color c_4 , each of them is to be connected to the vertex w by a new edge. Therefore, in this case $\rho(\mu(C_n)) = n + 2$.

Case-3: Let $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$. Then, we can assign colors c_1, c_2 and c_3 alternatively to the vertices $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{n-2}$. Then, the vertex v_{n-1} gets the color c_1 , the vertex v_1 can have the color color c_2 Note that the vertex v_1 and v_n are not adjacent to any vertex having color c_3 . Here, we need to draw one edge each from v_1 and v_2 to some vertices having color c_3 .

If we label the vertices u_i in such a way that the twin vertices have the same color, then as in the case of v_1 and v_2 , the vertices u_1 and u_n will not be adjacent to any vertex of color c_3 . Hence, we need to draw one edge each from u_1 and u_3 to some of the vertices having color c_3 .

The vertex w gets the color c_4 and as mentioned in the above cases, we need to draw edges from all vertices v_i to w so that all vertices in $\mu(C_n)$ belong to some rainbow neighbourhoods in $\mu(C_n)$. Therefore, in this case $\rho(\mu(C_n)) = n + 4$.

5 Conclusion

In this paper, we have proved that the Mycielskian of any graph G will not have a J-coloring, irrespective of whether G has a J-coloring or not. We have also checked the existence of J-coloring for certain new Mycielski type graphs constructed from certain graphs. There is a wide scope for further studies in this area by exploring for new and related graph constructions.

We have also investigated the possibility of defining J-colorings for given graphs by adding new edges between their non-adjacent vertices. Furthermore, we have determined the minimum number of such edges to be introduced for the Mycielskian of paths and cycles. The studies in this area for more graph classes and more derived graphs are also promising.

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