

# $L(2,1)$ -Labeling of the Brick Product Graphs

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## Abstract

A  $k$ - $L(2,1)$ -labeling for a graph  $G$  is a function  $f:V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1,\dots,k\}$  such that  $|f(u)-f(v)| \geq 2$  whenever  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $|f(u)-f(v)| \geq 1$  whenever  $u$  and  $v$  are at distance two apart. The  $\lambda$ -number for  $G$ , denoted by  $\lambda(G)$ , is the minimum  $k$  over all  $k$ - $L(2,1)$ -labelings of  $G$ . In this paper, we show that  $Br(2\ell, m, r) \leq 6$  for  $\ell = 9$  or  $11$ , which confirms Conjecture 6.1 stated in [X. Li, V. Mak-Hau, S. Zhou, The  $L(2,1)$ -labelling problem for cubic Cayley graphs on dihedral groups, *J. Comb. Optim.* (2013) 25: 716-736] in the case when  $\ell = 9$  or  $11$ . Moreover, we show that  $Br(2\ell, m, r) = 5$  if 1) either  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m$  is odd,  $r = 3$ , or 2)  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $m$  is even (mod 2),  $r = 0$ .

## Keywords

Graph Labeling, Brick Product Graph,  $L(2,1)$ -Labeling, Frequency Assignment Problem

## 1. Introduction

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. For two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$ , the distance between  $u$  and  $v$  is the number of the edges of the shortest path between  $u$  and  $v$ . A  $k$ - $L(2,1)$ -labeling for a graph  $G$  is a function  $f:V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1,\dots,k\}$  such that  $|f(u)-f(v)| \geq 2$  whenever  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $|f(u)-f(v)| \geq 1$  whenever  $u$  and  $v$  are at distance two apart. The  $\lambda$ -number for  $G$ , denoted by  $\lambda(G)$ , is the minimum  $k$  over all  $k$ - $L(2,1)$ -labelings of  $G$ . This labeling problem of graphs was proposed by Griggs and Roberts [1] which is a variation of the frequency assignment problem introduced by Hale [2]. The frequency assignment problem asks for assigning frequencies to transmitters in a broadcasting network with the aim of avoiding undesired interference. One of the graph theoretical models of the frequency assignment problem is the notion of distance constrained labeling

of graphs [3] [4] [5].

The  $L(2,1)$ -labeling problem was studied very extensively in the literature and has attracted much attention. Griggs and Yeh [6] proposed a conjecture, which is called the  $\Delta^2$ -conjecture, that  $\lambda(G) \leq \Delta^2$  for any graph with  $\Delta \geq 2$ , where  $\Delta$  is the maximum degree of  $G$ , and they also proved that  $\lambda(G) \leq \Delta^2 + 2\Delta$ . Later, it was shown that  $\lambda(G) \leq \Delta^2 + \Delta$  by Chang and Kuo [7],  $\lambda(G) \leq \Delta^2 + \Delta - 1$  by Král' and Škrekovski [8], and then  $\lambda(G) \leq \Delta^2 + \Delta - 2$  by Goncalves [9]. Until now, this conjecture is still open. Nevertheless, it is still interesting to study the  $\Delta^2$ -conjecture, which has been confirmed for several classes of graphs, such as chordal graphs, outerplanar graphs, generalized Petersen graphs, Hamiltonian graphs with  $\Delta \leq 3$ , two families of Hamming graphs etc (see [10]). Havet *et al.* obtained a result implying that the  $\Delta^2$ -conjecture is true for graphs with sufficiently large  $\Delta$ . Thus, we may need to study the  $L(2,1)$ -labelling problem for graphs with small  $\Delta$ . Motivated with this, the  $L(2,1)$ -labelling problem for the brick product graphs was studied [10].

Let  $\ell \geq 2$ ,  $m \geq 1$  and  $r \geq 0$  be integers such that  $m+r$  is even. Let  $C_{2\ell}$  be a cycle of length  $2\ell$ . The  $(m, r)$ -brick-product of  $C_{2\ell}$ , denoted by  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , is the graph with adjacency defined in two cases. For  $m=1, r \geq 3$  must be odd and  $Br(2\ell, 1, r)$  is obtained from the cycle  $C_{2\ell} = (v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2\ell-1}, v_0)$  by adding chords joining  $v_{2i}$  and  $v_{2i+r}$  for  $i=0, 1, \dots, \ell-1$ , where subscripts are taken modulo  $2\ell$ . In the general case where  $m \geq 2$ ,  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$  is obtained by first taking the vertex-disjoint union of  $m$  copies of  $C_{2\ell}$ , denoted by

$$C_{2\ell}(i) = (v_{i,0}, v_{i,1}, \dots, v_{i,2\ell-1}, v_{i,0}), i=0, 1, \dots, m-1. \quad (1)$$

Next, for each pair  $(i, j) \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-2\} \times \{0, 1, \dots, 2\ell-1\}$  such that  $i$  and  $j$  have the same parity, an edge is added to join  $v_{i,j}$  and  $v_{i+1,j}$ . Finally, for odd  $j=1, 3, \dots, 2\ell-1$ , an edge is added to join  $v_{0,j}$  and  $v_{m-1,j+r}$ , where the second subscript is modulo  $2\ell$ .

Li *et al.* [10] proposed the following conjecture:

**Conjecture 1.** [10]  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$  or  $6$  for all brick products  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$  with  $m \geq 2$  and  $m+r \equiv 0 \pmod{2\ell}$

Shao *et al.* [11] confirmed the above conjecture, *i.e.* it was proved that

**Theorem 1.** [11]  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  if 1)  $\ell$  is even, or 2)  $\ell \geq 5$  is odd and  $0 \leq r \leq 8$ .

Therefore, Conjecture 1 is still open for odd  $\ell$  and  $r > 8$ .

In this paper, we show that  $Br(2\ell, m, r) \leq 6$  for  $\ell=9$  or  $11$ , which confirms Conjecture 6.1 stated in [X. Li, V. Mak-Hau, S. Zhou, The  $L(2,1)$ -labelling problem for cubic Cayley graphs on dihedral groups, J. Comb. Optim. (2013) 25: 716-736] in the case when  $\ell=9$  or  $11$ . Moreover, we show that  $Br(2\ell, m, r) = 5$  if 1) either  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m$  is odd,  $r=3, 2$  or  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $m$  is even  $\pmod{2}$ ,  $r=0$ .

## 2. Main Results

From the definition of the brick product graph, it is clear that

**Fact 1.**  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$  is isomorphic to  $Br(2\ell, m, 2\ell - r)$ .

### 2.1. Some Results on the Upper Bound 6 of $\lambda$ -Number

In [6], it was shown that

**Lemma 1.** [6] The  $\lambda$ -number of any connected cubic graph is at least 5.

**Proposition 1.** Let  $\ell = 9$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for all  $m \geq 3$ .

By Theorem 1, we have  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for all  $m \geq 3$  and  $r \leq 8$ . Together with Fact 1, we only need to consider  $r = 9$ . Let

$$P_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & 6 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 6 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 6 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 6 & 6 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, P_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 6 & 6 & 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 6 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 6 \\ 3 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 2 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 6 & 4 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 6 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, P_7 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 6 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 5 \\ 6 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 5 \\ 3 & 6 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 1 \\ 6 & 3 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 1 & 5 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 1 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We use the pattern  $P_m$  to label  $Br(18, m, 9)$  for  $m \in \{3, 5, 7\}$ , and  $P_m$  induces a 6- $L(2, 1)$ -labeling of  $Br(18, m, 9)$ . Therefore, the case  $m < 9$  is settled.

$$Q_9 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 6 \\ 4 & 6 & 2 & 6 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 3 & 2 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 3 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 5 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 1 & 1 & 6 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 & 5 & 1 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 4 \\ 6 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, Q_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 1 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 6 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 5 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 & 1 & 5 & 3 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 1 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 5 & 3 & 5 & 3 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 6 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 4 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 5 & 6 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}.$$

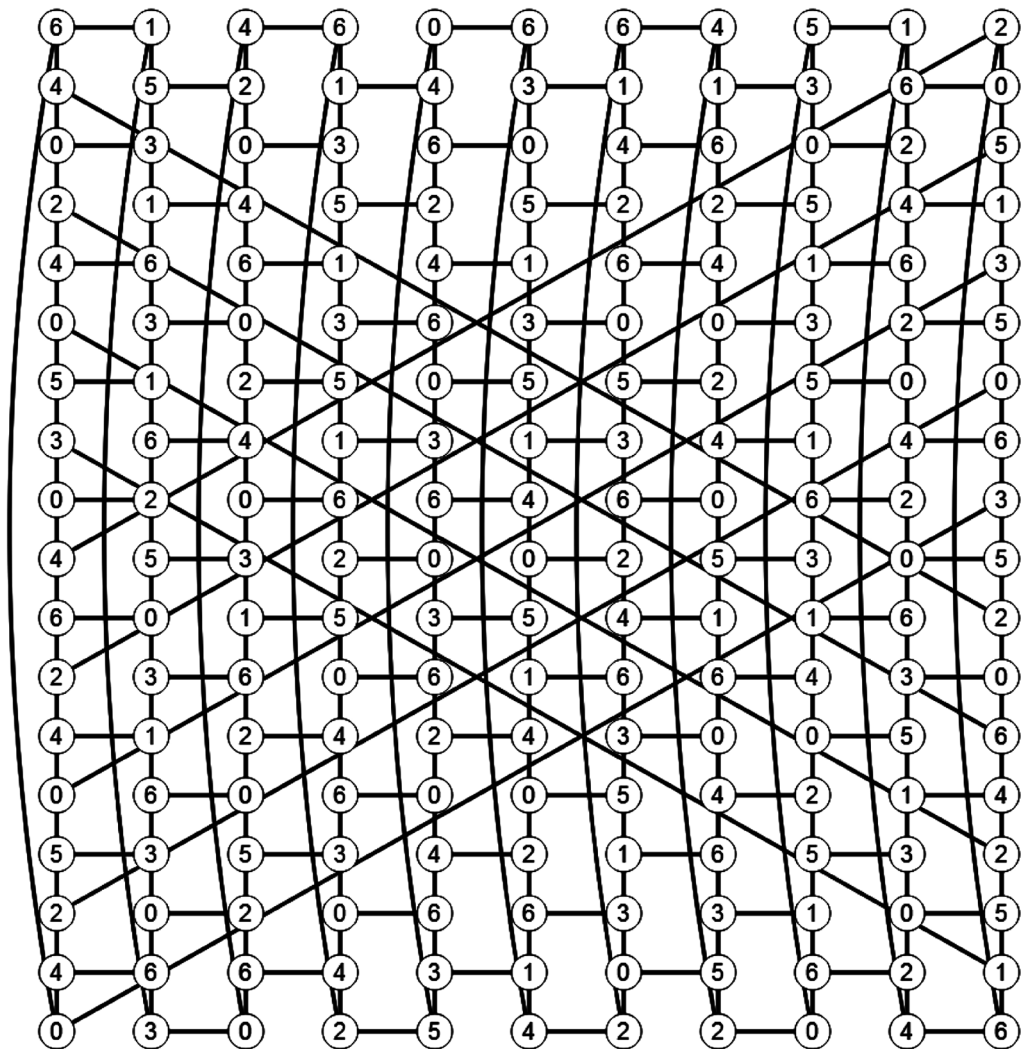
Now, we consider the case  $m \geq 9$ . If  $m = 4k + 5$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(18, m, 9)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q_9$ ; If  $m = 4k + 7$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(18, m, 9)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q_{11}$  (see **Figure 1**). Therefore,  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for  $\ell = 9$  and  $m \geq 3$ .

**Proposition 2.** Let  $\ell = 11$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for all  $m \geq 3$ .

Similar to Proposition 1, we only need to consider the case  $r = 9$  and 11.

Case 1:  $r = 9$ .

We use the following pattern  $P_m$  to label  $Br(22, m, 9)$  for  $m \in \{3, 5\}$ , and  $P_m$  induces a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 9)$ . Therefore, the case  $m \leq 5$  is settled. Now, we consider the case  $m \geq 7$ . If  $m = 4k + 3$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 9)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q_7$ ; If  $m = 4k + 5$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 9)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q_9$ . Therefore,  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for  $\ell = 11$  and  $m \geq 3$ .



**Figure 1.** The 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(18, 11, 9)$  induced by  $Q_{11}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_3 = & \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, P_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 & 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, Q_7 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 5 & 1 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 6 & 4 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 & 6 \\ 6 & 1 & 2 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 2 \\ 6 & 5 & 2 & 3 & 6 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & 5 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}, Q_9 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 6 \\ 4 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 4 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 6 & 6 & 1 & 4 & 6 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 3 & 6 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 3 & 2 & 6 \\ 4 & 1 & 2 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 5 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 6 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 & 4 & 1 & 3 & 3 & 6 & 5 \\ 5 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 6 \\ 6 & 2 & 2 & 6 & 6 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \\
P'_3 = & \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 4 \\ 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 6 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 \\ 6 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 6 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 6 & 6 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 6 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 & 6 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, P'_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 6 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 6 & 5 \\ 5 & 6 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 & 6 & 2 \\ 6 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 & 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 6 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 6 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 & 4 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 4 \\ 6 & 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 & 6 & 3 & 6 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 & 0 & 4 \\ 6 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 6 & 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, Q'_7 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 2 & 6 & 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 6 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 5 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & 3 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 6 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 6 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 6 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 6 & 5 & 3 & 4 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 4 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 0 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 6 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 2 & 6 & 3 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 6 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, Q'_9 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 6 & 3 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 2 & 2 & 5 & 1 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 3 & 6 & 6 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & 6 & 2 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 5 & 2 \\ 5 & 6 & 0 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 6 & 0 & 6 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 3 & 1 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 6 & 4 & 6 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 6 & 3 & 6 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 6 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 2 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 6 & 6 & 0 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 6 \\ 4 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 6 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 & 2 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 6 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 & 6 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Case 2:  $r = 11$ .

We use the following pattern  $P'_m$  to label  $Br(22, m, 11)$  for  $m \in \{3, 5\}$ , and  $P'_m$  induces a 6- $L(2, 1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 11)$ . Therefore, the case  $m \leq 5$  is settled. Now, we consider the case  $m \geq 7$ . If  $m = 4k + 3$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a

6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 11)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q'_7$ ; If  $m = 4k + 5$  for  $k \geq 1$ , we obtain a 6- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(22, m, 11)$  by repeating the leftmost four columns of  $Q'_7$ . Therefore,  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for  $\ell = 11$  and  $m \geq 3$ .

From Propositions 1 and 2, we have

**Theorem 2.** Let  $m \geq 3$ . Then we have  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 6$  for  $\ell = 9$  or 11.

### 2.2. Brick Product Graphs with $\lambda$ -Number 5

In [10], it was proved that

**Theorem 3.** Let  $\ell, m \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 0$  be integers such that  $m + r \equiv 0 \pmod{2\ell}$ . Then

$$5 \leq \lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 7.$$

Moreover,  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$  if and only if one of the following holds:

- 1) 3 divides  $\ell$  and 6 divides  $m$ ;
- 2) 6 divides  $\ell$  and 3 divides  $m$ .

Furthermore, if neither 1) nor 2) is satisfied, then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 6$  provided that  $m = 2$  (and  $\ell$  is even or odd), or both  $\ell$  and  $m$  are even.

However, Theorem 3 consider the condition that  $m + r \equiv 0 \pmod{2\ell}$ . There may exist other brick product graphs with  $\lambda$ -number 5 with the condition  $m + r \not\equiv 0 \pmod{2\ell}$ . We provide some brick product graphs  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$  with  $\lambda$ -number 5 in the following:

**Theorem 4.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$  with  $m \geq 4$ ,  $r = 0$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

Let  $m = 2k$ ,  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $P_1 = P^k = \underbrace{PP \dots P}_{k \text{ times}}$  and  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} P_1 \\ P_1 \\ \vdots \\ P_1 \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $P_1$  is

used for  $\frac{2\ell}{3}$  times. Then  $Q$  induces a 5- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , and so  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 5$ .

**Proposition 3.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m = 3$ ,  $r = 3$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

Let  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} P \\ P \\ \vdots \\ P \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $P$  is used for  $\frac{\ell}{3}$  times. Then  $Q$

induces a 5-L(2,1)-labeling of  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , and so  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 5$ .

**Proposition 4.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m = 5$ ,  $r = 3$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

$$\text{Let } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 & 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 0 & 2 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 5 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 0 & 2 \\ 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 5 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } Q = \begin{bmatrix} P \\ P \\ \vdots \\ P \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } P \text{ is used for } \frac{\ell}{3} \text{ times.}$$

Then  $Q$  induces a 5-L(2,1)-labeling of  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , and so  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 5$ .

**Proposition 5.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m = 7$ ,  $r = 3$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

$$\text{Let } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } Q = \begin{bmatrix} P \\ P \\ \vdots \\ P \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } P \text{ is used for } \frac{\ell}{3}$$

times. Then  $Q$  induces a 5-L(2,1)-labeling of  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , and so  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 5$ .

**Proposition 6.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m = 9$ ,  $r = 3$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

$$\text{Let } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 5 & 3 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 & 1 & 5 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } Q = \begin{bmatrix} P \\ P \\ \vdots \\ P \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } P \text{ is used for}$$

$\frac{\ell}{3}$  times. Then  $Q$  induces a 5- $L(2,1)$ -labeling of  $Br(2\ell, m, r)$ , and so  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) \leq 5$ .

By observing the results of Propositions 3 - 6, we propose the following conjecture:

**Conjecture 2.** Let  $\ell \equiv 0 \pmod{6}$ ,  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ ,  $r = 3$ . Then  $\lambda(Br(2\ell, m, r)) = 5$ .

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