

April 2025

Volume 6 Nomor 1

p-ISSN 2723-0325

e-ISSN 2723-0333



# TENSOR

Pure and Applied Mathematics Journal

**PROGRAM STUDI MATEMATIKA**

JURUSAN MATEMATIKA

FAKULTAS MATEMATIKA DAN ILMU PENGETAHUAN ALAM

UNIVERSITAS PATTIMURA



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**Published by:**

**Department of Mathematics,  
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Ambon  
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Pure and Applied Mathematics Journal

Volume 6 Number 1 | April 2025

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## The Rainbow Vertex Connection Number of Some Amalgamation of Two Cycles

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Manuscript submitted : March 2025;

Accepted for publication : June 2025.

doi: <https://doi.org/10.30598/tensorvol6iss1pp57-66>

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**Abstract:** This paper focuses on rainbow vertex coloring in a graph  $G$ , in which, for every two vertices in  $G$ , there exists a rainbow vertex path where all internal vertices have distinct colors. The rainbow vertex connection number of  $G$ , denoted by  $rvc(G)$ , is the minimum number of colors required to make  $G$  rainbow-vertex connected. In this paper, we determine the rainbow vertex connection number of some amalgamation of two cycles.

2010 Mathematical Subject Classification : 05C15.

**Keywords:** Rainbow Vertex Coloring, Rainbow Vertex Connection Number, Amalgamation graph, Cycle

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### 1. Introduction

Graph theory is a branch of combinatorial mathematics that is widely used for problem-solving. It deals with representing discrete objects and their relationships using graphs. This field has garnered considerable attention due to its practical applications in everyday life, such as planning transportation schedules, communication networks, computer science, chemistry, circuit design, operations research (scheduling), database management. It is also used in many applications, such as coding theory [1].

In the field of graph theory research, graph labeling has recently become a topic of significant interest. Graph labeling involves assigning integers to vertices, edges, or both while adhering to specific conditions. There are three primary types of graph labeling: vertex labeling, edge labeling, and total labeling [2].

Graph coloring is a particular form of graph labeling in which colors are assigned to elements (vertices, edges, and faces) of a graph. Vertex coloring involves assigning colors to all the vertices of a graph in such a way that no two adjacent vertices share the same color. Edge coloring is a mapping that assigns a color to every edge, satisfying the condition that no two edges sharing a common vertex have the same color [3]. Face coloring of a planar graph assigns a color to each face so that no two faces sharing an edge have the same color [4].

All graphs considered in this paper are finite, simple, and undirected. We adopt the notation and terminology used by Diestel [5]. Let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a vertex-colored graph. A path in  $G$  is called a rainbow vertex path if its internal vertices have distinct colors. The vertex colored graph  $G$  is said to be rainbow vertex connected if there exists at least one rainbow vertex path between every pair of vertices. If a



rainbow vertex coloring of  $G$  uses  $k$  colors, it is referred to as a  $k$ -rainbow vertex coloring. The rainbow vertex connection number of a connected graph  $G$ , denoted by  $rvc(G)$ , is the smallest positive integer  $k$  such that  $G$  has a  $k$ -rainbow vertex coloring. This concept was introduced by Krivelevich and Yuster [6].

Let  $G$  be a connected graph, let  $n$  be the order of  $G$ , and let diameter of  $G$  be denoted by  $\text{diam}(G)$ . Then, they provided lower and upper bounds for  $rvc(G)$ , namely

$$\text{diam}(G) - 1 \leq rvc(G) \leq n - 2. \quad (1)$$

Moreover, if  $G$  has  $c$  cut vertices, then

$$rvc(G) \geq c. \quad (2)$$

Furthermore, by coloring the cut vertices with distinct colors, we obtain  $rvc(G) = c$ . By definition,  $rvc(G) = 0$  if and only if  $G$  is a complete graph, and  $rvc(G) = 1$  if and only if  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$ .

There have been numerous intriguing findings regarding rainbow vertex connection numbers. Some of these results were presented by Li and Liu. They determined the rainbow vertex connection number of a cycle  $C_n$  for  $n \geq 3$ . Based on this, they proved that for any 2-connected graph  $G$ ,  $rvc(G) \leq rvc(C_n)$ , providing a tight upper bound for the rainbow vertex connection. As a consequence, they showed that for a connected graph  $G$  with a block decomposition  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_k$  and  $c$  cut vertices, the inequality  $rvc(G) \leq rvc(B_1) + rvc(B_2) + \dots + rvc(B_k) + c$  holds [7]. Meanwhile, Simamora and Salman determined the rainbow vertex connection number of the pencil graph [8]. Furthermore, the rainbow vertex connection numbers of a simple graph class formed by graph operations are given in [9–15].

In 2016, Rosmaini [16] determined the rainbow vertex connection number of the amalgamation of several simple graphs, i.e., friendships, fans, wheels, helms, gears, and ladders. In this paper, we derive the rainbow vertex connection number of some amalgamation of two cycles. To simplify notation, we define  $[a, b] = \{x \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x \leq b\}$ .

## 2. Main Results

Let  $\{G_i \mid i \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, t\}\}$  for  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $t \geq 2$  be a collection of connected, finite, and simple graphs, where each  $G_i$  has a fixed vertex  $v_{0i}$ , called the central vertex. The amalgamation of  $G_i$ , denoted by  $\text{Amal}(G_i, v_{0i})$ , is the graph obtained by taking all the vertices and edges of  $G_i$  and identifying  $v_{0i} = v_{0j}$ , for all  $i \neq j$ . The graph  $\text{Amal}(G_i, v_{0i})$  can also be written as  $\text{Amal}(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_t; v_{01}, v_{02}, \dots, v_{0t})$ . If  $G_i = G_j = G$  with  $v_{0i} = v_{0j}$  for each  $i, j$ , then the notation simplifies to  $\text{Amal}(G, v_0, t)$ .

Next, we will show  $rvc(\text{Amal}(G, v_0, 2))$  for  $G \cong C_n$ , where  $C_n$  is a cycle of order  $n$  and  $rvc(\text{Amal}(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0))$ , where  $C_{2n}$  is a cycle of order  $2n$ .

### Theorem 1.

Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $C_n$  be a cycle graph of order  $n$ , and let  $v_0$  be a central vertex of  $C_n$ . Then,

$$rvc(\text{Amal}(C_n, v_0, 2)) = \begin{cases} n - 1, & \text{for } n \text{ even;} \\ n - 2, & \text{for } n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

### Proof.

We define the set of vertices and edges of  $\text{Amal}(C_n, v_0, 2)$  as follows:

$$V(\text{Amal}(C_n, v_0, 2)) = \{v_0\} \cup \{v_{i,j} \mid i \in [1, 2], j \in [1, n - 1]\} \text{ and}$$

$$E(\text{Amal}(C_n, v_0, 2)) = \{v_0 v_{i,j} \mid i \in [1, 2], j \in \{1, n - 1\}\} \cup \{v_{i,j} v_{i,j+1} \mid i \in [1, 2], j \in [1, n - 2]\}. \text{ (see Figure 1)}$$

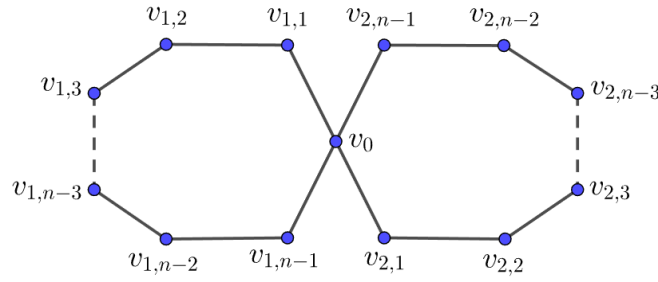


Fig. 1.  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$

Proof of this theorem consists of two cases.

Case 1.  $n$  even

Based on equation (1), we have

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \geq \text{diam}(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) - 1 = n - 1. \quad (3)$$

In order to prove that  $rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \leq n - 1$ , we define a vertex-coloring  $\alpha: V(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \rightarrow [1, n - 1]$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(v_0) &= \frac{n}{2}, \\ \alpha(v_{1,j}) &= \begin{cases} j, & \text{for } j \in [1, \frac{n}{2}]; \\ j - \frac{n}{2}, & \text{for } j \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1], \end{cases} \\ \alpha(v_{2,j}) &= \begin{cases} j + \frac{n}{2}, & \text{for } j \in [1, \frac{n}{2} - 1]; \\ j, & \text{for } j \in [\frac{n}{2}, n - 1]. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we can determine that  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$  is rainbow-vertex connected under  $\alpha$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices of  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$ . Clearly, a rainbow  $u - v$  path exists if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . To establish the existence of a rainbow  $u - v$  path when  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent, we divide the proof into six cases, as presented in Table 1.

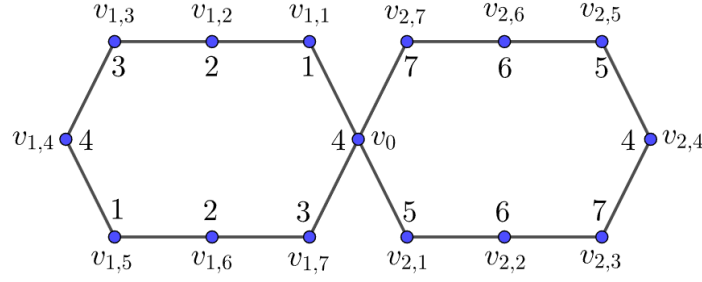
**Table 1.** The Rainbow Vertex  $u - v$  Path in the Graph  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$  for Even  $n$

$u$	$v$	Condition	Rainbow-vertex path
$u$ is adjacent to $v$			Trivial
$v_{i,j}$	$v_{i,k}$	$i \in [1, 2], j, k \in [1, n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq \frac{n}{2}$	$v_{i,j}, v_{i,j+1}, v_{i,j+2}, \dots, v_{i,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > \frac{n}{2}$	$v_{i,j}, v_{i,j-1}, v_{i,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{i,n-1}, v_{i,n-2}, \dots, v_{i,k}$
$v_{1,j}$	$v_{2,k}$	$j, k \in [1, \frac{n}{2}]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [1, \frac{n}{2}], k \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,n-1}, v_{2,n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1], k \in [1, \frac{n}{2}]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j, k \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,n-1}, v_{2,n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$

For other cases, there is a rainbow vertex path that is a subpath of one of the rainbow vertex paths in the cases above. Hence, we conclude that

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \leq n - 1. \quad (4)$$

From equation (3) and (4), we have  $rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) = n - 1$ .


 Fig. 2. Rainbow vertex coloring of  $Amal(C_8, v_0, 2)$ 

Case 2.  $n$  odd

Based on equation (1), we have

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \geq \text{diam}(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) - 1 = (n - 1) - 1 = n - 2. \quad (5)$$

In order to prove that  $rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \leq n - 2$ , we define a vertex-coloring  $\alpha: V(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \rightarrow [1, n - 2]$  as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(v_0) &= \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, \\ \alpha(v_{1,j}) &= \begin{cases} j, & \text{for } j \in [1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor]; \\ j - \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, & \text{for } j \in [\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor + 1, n - 1], \end{cases} \\ \alpha(v_{2,j}) &= \begin{cases} j + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, & \text{for } j \in [1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor - 1]; \\ j - 1, & \text{for } j \in [\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1]. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we can determine that  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$  is rainbow vertex connected under  $\alpha$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices of  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$ . Clearly, a rainbow  $u - v$  path exists if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . To establish the existence of a rainbow  $u - v$  path when  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent, we devide the proof into six cases as presented in Table 2.

**Table 2.** The Rainbow Vertex  $u - v$  Path in the Graph  $Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)$  for Odd  $n$ 

$u$	$v$	Condition	Rainbow-vertex path
$u$ is adjacent to $v$			Trivial
$v_{i,j}$	$v_{i,k}$	$i \in [1, 2], j, k \in [1, n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$	$v_{i,j}, v_{i,j+1}, v_{i,j+2}, \dots, v_{i,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$	$v_{i,j}, v_{i,j-1}, v_{i,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{i,n-1}, v_{i,n-2}, \dots, v_{i,k}$
$v_{1,j}$	$v_{2,k}$	$j, k \in [1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor], k \in [\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,n-1}, v_{2,n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1], k \in [1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j, k \in [\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,n-1}, v_{2,n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$

For other cases, there is a rainbow vertex path that is a sub-path of one of the rainbow vertex paths in the cases above. Hence, we conclude that

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) \leq n - 2. \quad (6)$$

From equation (5) and (6), we have  $rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) = n - 2$ .



2. ■

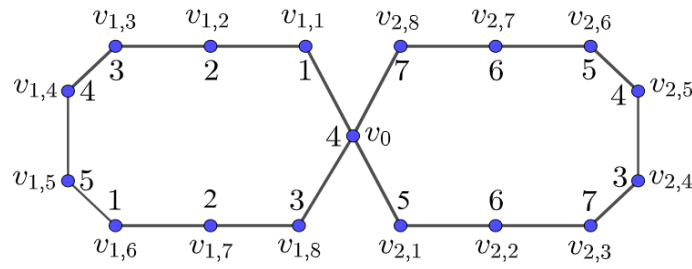


Fig. 3. Rainbow vertex coloring of  $Amal(C_9, v_0, 2)$

*Theorem 2.*

Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $C_n$  be a cycle graph of order  $n$ , and let  $v_0$  be a central vertex of  $C_n$ . Then,

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}n - 1, & \text{for } n \text{ even;} \\ \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}, & \text{for } n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.*

We define the set of vertices and edges of  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$  as follows:

$$V(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) = \{v_0\} \cup \{v_{1,j} \mid j \in [1, n-1]\} \cup \{v_{2,j} \mid j \in [1, 2n-1]\} \text{ and}$$

$$E(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) = \{v_0 v_{1,j} \mid j \in [1, n-1]\} \cup \{v_0 v_{2,j} \mid j \in [1, 2n-1]\} \cup \{v_{1,j} v_{1,j+1} \mid j \in [1, n-2]\} \cup \{v_{2,j} v_{2,j+1} \mid j \in [1, 2n-2]\}. \text{ (see Figure 4)}$$

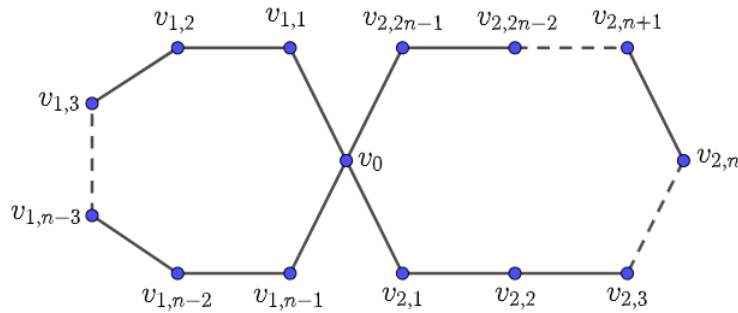


Fig. 4.  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$

Proof of this theorem consists of two cases.

Case 1.  $n$  even

Based on equation (1), we have

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \geq \text{diam}(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) - 1 = \frac{3}{2}n - 1. \quad (7)$$

In order to prove that  $rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \leq \frac{3}{2}n - 1$ , we define a vertex-coloring  $\beta: V(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \rightarrow [1, \frac{3}{2}n - 1]$  as follows:

$$\beta(v_0) = \frac{n}{2},$$

$$\beta(v_{1,j}) = \begin{cases} j, & \text{for } j \in [1, \frac{n}{2}]; \\ j - \frac{n}{2}, & \text{for } j \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1], \end{cases}$$

$$\beta(v_{2,j}) = \begin{cases} j + \frac{n}{2}, & \text{for } j \in [1, n - 1]; \\ j - \frac{n}{2}, & \text{for } j \in [n, 2n - 1]. \end{cases}$$

Furthermore, we can determine that  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$  is rainbow-vertex connected under  $\beta$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices of  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$ . Clearly, a rainbow  $u - v$  path exists if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . To establish the existence of a rainbow  $u - v$  path when  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent, we divide the proof into eight cases, as presented in Table 3.

**Table 3.** The Rainbow Vertex  $u - v$  Path in the Graph  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$  for Even  $n$

$u$	$v$	Condition	Rainbow-vertex path
$u$ is adjacent to $v$			Trivial
$v_{i,j}$	$v_{i,k}$	$i = 1, j, k \in [1, n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq \frac{n}{2}$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > \frac{n}{2}$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{1,n-1}, v_{1,n-2}, \dots, v_{1,k}$
		$i = 2, j, k \in [1, 2n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq n$	$v_{2,j}, v_{2,j+1}, v_{2,j+2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > n$	$v_{2,j}, v_{2,j-1}, v_{2,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,2n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
$v_{1,j}$	$v_{2,k}$	$j \in [1, \frac{n}{2}], k \in [1, n]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [1, \frac{n}{2}],$ $k \in [n + 1, 2n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1], k \in [1, n]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in [\frac{n}{2} + 1, n - 1],$ $k \in [n + 1, 2n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,2n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$

For other cases, there is a rainbow vertex path that is a sub-path of one of the rainbow vertex paths in the cases above. Hence, we conclude that

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \leq \frac{3}{2}n - 1. \quad (8)$$

From equation (7) and (8), we have  $rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) = \frac{3}{2}n - 1$ .

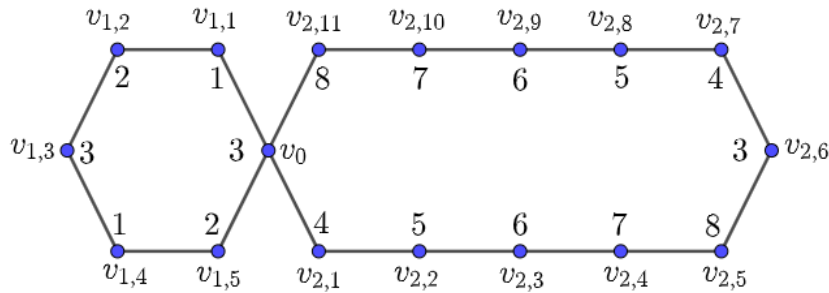


Fig. 5. Rainbow vertex coloring of  $Amal(C_6, C_{12}; v_0)$

Case 2.  $n$  odd

Based on equation (1), we have

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \geq \text{diam}(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) - 1 = \left(\frac{3}{2}n - \frac{1}{2}\right) - 1 = \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}. \quad (9)$$

In order to prove that  $rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \leq \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}$ , we define a vertex-coloring  $\beta: V(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \rightarrow \left[1, \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}\right]$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(v_0) &= \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, \\ \beta(v_{1,j}) &= \begin{cases} j, & \text{for } j \in \left[1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right]; \\ j - \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, & \text{for } j \in \left[\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor + 1, n - 1\right], \end{cases} \\ \beta(v_{2,j}) &= \begin{cases} j + \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, & \text{for } j \in [1, n - 1]; \\ j - \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, & \text{for } j \in [n, 2n - 1]. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore, we can determine that  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$  is rainbow vertex connected under  $\beta$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two vertices of  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$ . Clearly, a rainbow  $u - v$  path exists if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . To establish the existence of a rainbow  $u - v$  path when  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent, we devide the proof into eight cases as presented in Table 4.

**Table 4.** The Rainbow Vertex  $u - v$  Path in the Graph  $Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)$  for Odd  $n$

$u$	$v$	Condition	Rainbow-vertex path
$u$ is adjacent to $v$			Trivial
$v_{i,j}$	$v_{i,k}$	$i = 1, j, k \in [1, n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{1,n-1}, v_{1,n-2}, \dots, v_{1,k}$
		$i = 2, j, k \in [1, 2n - 1]$	
		$j < k, k - j \leq n$	$v_{2,j}, v_{2,j+1}, v_{2,j+2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j < k, k - j > n$	$v_{2,j}, v_{2,j-1}, v_{2,j-2}, \dots, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,2n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
$v_{1,j}$	$v_{2,k}$	$j \in \left[1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right], k \in [1, n]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in \left[1, \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor\right], k \in [n + 1, 2n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j-1}, v_{1,j-2}, \dots, v_{1,1}, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,2n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in \left[\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1\right], k \in [1, n]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,1}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$
		$j \in \left[\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor, n - 1\right], k \in [n + 1, 2n - 1]$	$v_{1,j}, v_{1,j+1}, v_{1,j+2}, \dots, v_{1,n-1}, v_0, v_{2,2n-1}, v_{2,2n-2}, \dots, v_{2,k}$

For other cases, there is a rainbow vertex path that is a sub-path of one of the rainbow vertex paths in the cases above. Hence, we conclude that

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) \leq \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}. \quad (10)$$

From equation (9) and (10), we have  $rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) = \frac{3}{2}n - \frac{3}{2}$ .

$\frac{3}{2}$ .

■

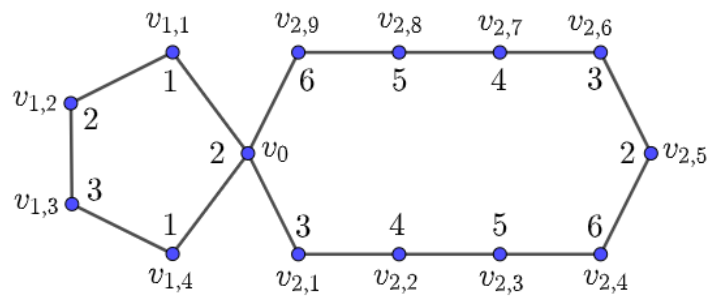


Fig. 6. Rainbow vertex coloring of  $Amal(C_5, C_{10}; v_0)$

### 3. Conclusion

Based on the results and discussion, the rainbow vertex connection number of the amalgamation of two cycles is determined as follows:

Let  $n$  be an integer with  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $C_n$  be a cycle graph of order  $n$ , and let  $v_0$  be a central vertex of  $C_n$ . Then,

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, v_0, 2)) = \begin{cases} n-1, & \text{for } n \text{ even;} \\ n-2, & \text{for } n \text{ odd,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$rvc(Amal(C_n, C_{2n}; v_0)) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{2}n-1, & \text{for } n \text{ even;} \\ \frac{3}{2}n-\frac{3}{2}, & \text{for } n \text{ odd.} \end{cases}$$

Next, we will determine the rainbow vertex connection number of the amalgamation of two cycles with for any different orders.

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