

## THE PRIME ORDER CAYLEY GRAPH

Behnaz TOLUE<sup>1</sup>

*Let  $S$  be the set of prime order elements of the group  $G$ . In this paper we introduce the prime order Cayley graph of the group  $G$  relative to  $S$ . The structure of the prime order Cayley graph associated to the certain cyclic groups and a dihedral group is discussed under special conditions. Moreover, it is proved that the prime order Cayley graph of an abelian group  $G$  is planar if and only if  $G \cong Z_{2^n}, Z_{3^n}, Z_2 \times Z_2, Z_6, Z_{2^n \cdot 3}, Z_{2 \cdot 3^n}$*

**Keywords:** Cayley graph, cyclic group, planar graph.

### 1. Introduction

The algebraic graph theory involving the use of group theory and the study of graph. Recently mathematician try to assign a graph to an algebraic structure. They hope to use the advantage of graph properties for the algebraic structures and vice versa.

Study of Cayley graphs that their properties related to the structure of the group is one of the interesting topics in this area. Cayley graph was considered for finite groups by Cayley in 1878 to explain the concept of abstract groups which are generated by a set of generators in Cayley's time. Later, many similar researches about the Cayley graph have been done by some authors for instance see [1, 2].

Let  $G$  be a finite group and  $S \subseteq G$  be a subset. The corresponding Cayley graph  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  has the vertex set equal to  $G$ . Two vertices  $g, h \in G$  are joined by a directed edge from  $g$  to  $h$  if and only if there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $g = sh$ . Each edge is labeled to denote that it corresponds to  $s \in S$ . A Cayley graph  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is connected if and only if  $G = \langle S \rangle$ , so that  $\text{Cayley}(\langle S \rangle, S)$  is a component of  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$ .

The importance of the order of the elements of the groups is the subject which is clear for every group theorist. We introduce the prime order Cayley graph which is related to the elements of prime order in a group. It is a Cayley graph associated to a group  $G$ , such that  $S$  is the set of prime order elements of  $G$ . We denote this

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<sup>1</sup> Dept. of Pure Mathematics, Hakim Sabzevari University, Sabzevar, Iran, e-mail: b.tolue@gmail.com

graph by Cayley( $G, S$ ). Under this assumption we may treat Cayley ( $G, S$ ) as an undirected graph because  $S = S^{-1}$ . Moreover as  $S$  does not contain the identity, so that Cayley ( $G, S$ ) does not contain any loops. We present the general properties of Cayley( $G, S$ ), where  $G$  is an elementary abelian  $p$ -group, non-nilpotent group of order  $p^n q$ , it is isomorphic to the simple group  $A_5$ ,  $G \cong Z_{p^n}, Z_{pq}, Z_{pq^n}, Z_{pq^r}, Z_{\prod_{i=1}^n p_i}$  and  $D_{2n}$ , where  $n$  is a non-negative integer and  $p, q, p_i$  are prime numbers. The diameter, girth and clique, chromatic and independent numbers of some them are found. The planarity of the prime order Cayley graph associated to the groups of order less than 16 is verified. We observe that the prime order Cayley graph associated to an abelian group is planar if and only if  $G \cong Z_{2^n}, Z_{3^n}, Z_2 \times Z_2, Z_6, Z_{2^n \cdot 3}, Z_{2 \cdot 3^n}$ .

## 2. Preliminary notions

In fact this paper is combination of two fields of graph theory and group theory. Therefore, in this section we present some notions which are useful in sequel from these two sights.

We consider simple graphs which are undirected, with no loops or multiple edges. The degree of a vertex  $v$  in  $\Gamma$  is the number of edges incident to  $v$ . We denote it simply by  $\deg(v)$ . A simple graph of order  $n$  for which every two vertices are adjacent is called a complete graph and is denoted by  $K_n$ . A subset  $X$  of the vertices of  $\Gamma$  is called a clique if the induced subgraph on  $X$  is a complete graph. The maximum size of a clique in a graph  $\Gamma$  is called the clique number of  $\Gamma$  and denoted by  $\omega(\Gamma)$ . A  $k$ -vertex coloring of a graph  $\Gamma$  is an assignment of  $k$  colors to the vertices of  $\Gamma$  such that no two adjacent vertices have the same color. The vertex chromatic number  $\chi(\Gamma)$  of a graph  $\Gamma$ , is the minimum  $k$  for which  $\Gamma$  has a  $k$ -vertex coloring. A subset  $S$  is called an independent set of the graph  $\Gamma$  if no two vertices of  $S$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma$ . The number of vertices in a maximum independent set is called independence number of  $\Gamma$  and is denoted by  $\alpha(\Gamma)$ . A Hamilton cycle of  $\Gamma$  is a cycle that contains every vertex of  $\Gamma$ . A graph which contains a Hamilton cycle is called Hamiltonian. If  $\Gamma$  is a graph such that each vertex has equal number of neighbors, then it is a regular graph. A graph is said to be embeddable in a plane or planar, if it can be drawn in the plane so that its edges intersect only at their ends. Throughout the paper, all the notations and terminologies about the graphs are found in [3, 4] and for more details one can refer to these references.

Let  $p$  be a prime number. A group  $G$  is called a  $p$ -group if every element  $g$  of  $G$  has order  $p^n$ ,  $n \geq 0$ . Moreover, a finite group  $G$  is a  $p$ -group if and only if  $G$  has order  $p^m$  for some non-negative integer  $m$ . An abelian group of exponent  $p$  is called an elementary abelian  $p$ -group. An elementary abelian  $p$ -group can be

considered as a direct sum of cyclic groups of prime order  $p$ . We denote a cyclic group of order  $k$  by  $Z_k$ .

### 3. Main results

Let  $G$  be a group and  $S$  be the set of prime order elements of  $G$ . Consider the Cayley graph  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  associated to the group  $G$  relative to  $S$ . We call it prime order Cayley graph.

**Example 3.1.** *In this example we present some groups such that its prime order Cayley graphs are complete.*

- (i) *It is clear that if  $|G| = p$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S) = K_p$ , where  $p$  is a prime number.*
- (ii) *If  $G$  is an elementary abelian  $p$ -group of order  $p^\alpha$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S) = K_{p^\alpha}$ . Thus prime order Cayley graph of an elementary abelian  $p$ -group is connected.*
- (iii) *Suppose  $G$  is a group such that order of its elements are not composite, then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is a complete graph. A finite group having all (nontrivial) elements of prime order if it is a  $p$ -group of exponent  $p$  or a non-nilpotent group of order  $p^n q$  or it is isomorphic to the simple group  $A_5$ , where  $n$  is a non-negative integer and  $p, q$  are prime numbers (see[5]). Consequently prime order Cayley graph of the dihedral group of order  $2p$  is an example, where  $p$  is an odd prime number.*

If  $x$  is an element of order  $p$ , then  $\deg(x) \geq p - 1$ , where  $p$  is a prime number. Suppose  $y$  is an element of composite order. Then  $\deg(y) \geq m$ , where  $m$  is the number of primes which are appear in  $|y|$ .

**Proposition 3.2.** *Let  $G$  be a group.*

- (i) *If there are  $k$  distinct prime numbers greater than 2 which divides the order of the group, then at least  $k$  distinct cycles exist in the graph  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$ .*
- (ii) *If  $p$  divides the order of  $G$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar, where  $p \geq 5$  is a prime number.*

**Proof.** (i) For each prime that divides the order of  $G$ , there is an element of that order. Since all the powers of such an element are adjacent, we have a cycle by these powers.

- (ii) There is an element of order  $p$  and all its power are adjacent. Thus  $K_5$  is induced subgraph of  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$ . □

Nathanson [6] open the way to a new class of graphs, namely, arithmetic graphs. An arithmetic graph is the graph whose vertex set is the set of first  $n$  positive integers  $1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  and two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if

$x + y \equiv s, \pmod{n}$  where  $s \in S$ . The prime order element Cayley graph of cyclic groups are kind of arithmetic graphs.

**Proposition 3.3.** *Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $p^n$ ,  $p$  is a prime number,  $n > 1$ . Then for  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  we have,*

- (i)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(p-1)$ -regular.
- (ii)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not connected.  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  has  $p^{n-1}$  complete components each of them contains  $p$  vertices. In particular,  $\langle S \rangle$  is one of its component.
- (iii)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar except for  $G \cong Z_{2^n}$  and  $G \cong Z_{3^n}$ .
- (iv)  $\text{Cayley}(Z_{p^n}, S) = \bigcup (p^{n-1})K_p$ .
- (v)  $\omega(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) = \chi(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) = p$  and  $\alpha(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) = p^{n-1}$ , where  $\omega, \chi$  and  $\alpha$  are clique, chromatic, independent numbers of the graph.

Proof. (i) It is obvious that  $S = \{p^{n-1}, 2p^{n-1}, \dots, (p-1)p^{n-1}\}$ .

(ii) Since  $\sum_{i=1}^{p-1} m_i (ip^{n-1}) \not\equiv \bar{1} \pmod{p^n}$ , we observe that  $\bar{1} \in Z_{p^n}$  is not generated by  $S$ , where  $m_i$  are integers. Thus  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not connected. The rest is clear.

(iii) It is clear by part (ii), if  $p \geq 5$  then  $K_5$  is induced subgraph of  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$ .

(iv) and (v) follows by (ii). □

In the following proposition we present some properties of  $\text{Cayley}(Z_{pq}, S)$ .

**Proposition 3.4.** *Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $pq$ , where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct prime numbers. Then for  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  we have,*

- (i)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(p+q-2)$ -regular.
- (ii) The elements of order  $r$  are adjacent, where  $r$  is a prime number.
- (iii) The elements of orders  $p$  and  $q$  are not adjacent.
- (iv) If  $x$  is a generator, then it joins to  $k$ , where  $k = tp+1$  or  $sq+1$  and  $1 < t \leq q-1$ ,  $1 < s \leq p-1$ ,  $t, s \in N$ .
- (v)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is connected. Moreover,  $\text{diam}(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) = 2$  and  $\text{girth}(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) \leq 4$ . In particular,  $G = \langle S \rangle$ .
- (vi)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar except  $\text{Cayley}(Z_6, S)$ .

Proof. (i) If  $G \cong Z_{pq}$ , then  $S = \{\bar{p}, 2\bar{p}, \dots, (q-1)\bar{p}, \bar{q}, 2\bar{q}, \dots, (p-1)\bar{q}\}$ . Therefore  $|S| = p+q-2$ , and  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(p+q-2)$ -regular.

(ii) It is clear.

(iii) If  $a, b \in \mathbf{Z}_{pq}$  of orders  $p$  and  $q$  respectively, then  $|a - b| = pq$  and so  $a$  and  $b$  are not adjacent.

(iv) Let  $y$  be an element which is adjacent to  $x$ . As  $x$  is a generator, we have  $y = kx$  and their adjacency implies that  $(pq, k - 1) = p$  or  $q$ . Hence the result is clear.

(v) Suppose  $a, b \in V(\text{Cayley}(G, S))$  are not adjacent. If  $|a|$  and  $|b|$  are distinct prime numbers, then both join 0 so  $d(a, b) = 2$ . Assume  $a$  and  $b$  are two non-adjacent generators. Then by (iv) there is a vertex that joins both. That means  $d(a, b) = 2$ . Hence  $\text{diam}(\text{Cayley}(G, S)) = 2$ . If there exist two elements of prime order which are adjacent, then it is clear that both join 0. Thus we have a triangle. But if  $S$  contains just two elements of two different prime orders, then these two prime order elements are not adjacent. This means there is no prime order elements which join. These two prime order elements join to zero and a generator. Thus we have a square. This happens for  $\mathbf{Z}_6$  (see Figure (1)).

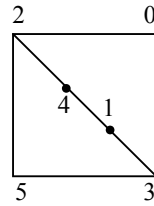


Fig. 1.  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_6, S)$

(vi) Easily one can see  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_6, S)$  is planar (see Figure (1)). Therefore we consider  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_{pq}, S)$ , where  $p$  or  $q$  are greater or equal than 5. By (i) we deduce the number of elements of order  $p$  or  $q$  are more than 4. Thus these elements and 0 form  $K_5$  as induced subgraph of  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_{pq}, S)$ . Hence  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_{pq}, S)$  is not planar whenever  $p$  or  $q$  are greater or equal than 5.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.5.** *Let  $G$  be the cyclic group of order  $pq^n$ ,  $n > 1$ . Then*

(i)  *$\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(p + q - 2)$ -regular.*

(ii)  *$\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not connected and union of  $q^{n-1}$  isomorphic components of size  $pq$ .*

(iii) *The components of  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_{2 \cdot 3^n}, S)$  and  $\text{Cayley}(\mathbf{Z}_{2^n \cdot 3}, S)$  are isomorphic to the graph in Figure (2), the first and second Cayley graphs have  $3^{n-1}$  and  $2^{n-1}$  components, respectively.*

(iv)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar except  $\text{Cayley}(Z_{2,3}^n, S)$  and  $\text{Cayley}(Z_2^n, S)$ .

Proof. (i) There are  $p-1$  elements of order  $p$  and  $q-1$  elements of order  $q$ ,  $S = \{q^n, 2q^n, \dots, (p-1)q^n, pq^{n-1}, 2pq^{n-1}, \dots, (q-1)pq^{n-1}\}$ .

(ii) Since  $G$  is not generated by  $S$ ,  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not connected. The identity element, elements of order  $p$ ,  $q$  and elements of order  $pq$  form a component.

The other components are isomorphic to this component.

(iii) and (iv) follows by the second part and Proposition 3.2 .  $\square$

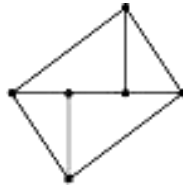


Fig. 2.

**Proposition 3.6.** Let  $G$  be a cyclic group of order  $pqr$  such that  $p < q < r$ . Then

(i)  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(p + q + r - 3)$ -regular.

(ii) If there are  $k, k', k''$  such that  $k'q = k - k''p$ , then the elements of order  $pq$  and  $p$  are adjacent, where  $k, k', k''$  are integers satisfies  $(k, pq) = 1$ ,  $(k', p) = 1$  and  $(k'', q) = 1$ . For instance, the elements of order  $pq$  and  $p$  are adjacent, whenever  $p = 2$  and  $q = 3$ .

(iii) If  $k''q = k - k'p$ , then the elements of order  $pq$  and  $q$  are adjacent, where  $k, k', k''$  are integers such that  $(k, pq) = 1$ ,  $(k', q) = 1$  and  $(k'', p) = 1$ . Suppose  $p = 2$  and  $q = 3$ . Then there are  $x_1, x_2$  and  $y_1, y_2$  elements of order 3 and 6, respectively. Moreover  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are adjacent but  $x_i$  does not join  $y_j$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2$ ,  $i \neq j$ .

(iv) The elements of order  $pq$  and  $r$  are not adjacent.

(v) The elements of order  $pr$  and  $p$  are adjacent whenever there are integers  $k, k'$  and  $k''$  such that  $k - k''p = k'r$ , where  $(k, pr) = 1$ ,  $(k', p) = 1$  and  $(k'', r) = 1$ .

(vi) The elements of order  $pr$  and  $q$  are not adjacent.

(vii) The elements of order  $pr$  and  $r$  are adjacent whenever there are integers  $k, k'$  and  $k''$  such that  $k - k'p = k''r$ , where  $(k, pr) = 1$ ,  $(k', r) = 1$  and  $(k'', p) = 1$ .

(viii) The elements of order  $qr$  and  $p$  are not adjacent.

(ix) Suppose there are integers  $k, k'$  and  $k''$ , such that  $k - k''q = k'r$ , where  $(k, qr) = 1$ ,  $(k', q) = 1$  and  $(k'', r) = 1$ . Then the elements of order  $qr$  and  $q$  are adjacent.

(x) The elements of order  $qr$  and  $r$  are adjacent whenever there are integers  $k, k'$  and  $k''$  such that  $k - k'q = k''r$ , where  $(k, qr) = 1$ ,  $(k', r) = 1$  and  $(k'', q) = 1$ .

(xi) The elements of prime order are not adjacent to the generators.

(xii) If  $x, y$  are the generators and  $x = kpq + y, k'pr + y$ , or  $k''qr + y$ , then they are adjacent, where  $(k, r) = 1, (k', q) = 1$  and  $(k'', p) = 1$ .

Proof. (i) We can observe that  $x = kqr, y = k'pr$  and  $t = k''pq$  is of orders  $p, q$  and  $r$  respectively, where  $(k, p) = 1, (k', q) = 1$  and  $(k'', r) = 1$ . It is enough to count such elements. For instance the possible cases for  $x$  are  $qr, 2qr, \dots, (p-1)qr$ . Therefore we have  $p-1, q-1$  and  $r-1$  elements of order  $p, q$  and  $r$ . Hence the assertion is clear.

(ii)  $kr$  and  $k'qr$  are elements of order  $pq$  and  $p$  respectively, where  $(k, pq) = 1$  and  $(k', p) = 1$ . Clearly the order of  $kr - k'qr$  is not  $p$  and  $r$ . It is possible that  $|kr - k'qr| = q$  this means  $kr - k'qr = k''qr$ . For instance, if  $q = p+1$ , then it is possible that the order of  $r - qr$  become  $q$  and consequently these two vertices are adjacent.

(iii) Similar to the (ii) the first part follows. Let  $G = \mathbf{Z}_{6r}$ , where  $r$  is a prime number greater than 3. Clearly there are two elements of order 3,  $x_1 = 2r$  and  $x_2 = 4r$ . Moreover there are just two elements  $y_1 = 5r$  and  $y_2 = r$  of order 6. Hence the assertion follows.

(iv) Follows immediately.

(v), (vi), (vii), (viii), (ix) and (x) are deduced similar to the previous parts.

(xi) Let  $x$  be a generator. Then  $|x| = pqr$  on the other hand  $|x| = |\bar{1}|/(|\bar{1}|, x)$ .

Therefore  $(pqr, x) = 1$ . Consider an element of order  $p$ , say  $kqr$ , where  $(k, p) = 1$ . Thus  $|kqr - x|$  is not  $p, q$  or  $r$  as  $x$  does not have factors  $rq, rp$  or  $pq$ , respectively.

(xii) It is clear that if  $x = kpq + y, k'pr + y$  or  $k''pq + y$ , then order of  $x - y$  is  $r, q$  or  $p$ , respectively.  $\square$

Similar result can be proved for a cyclic group  $G$  of order  $\prod_{i=1}^n p_i$ , where  $p_i$ 's are distinct prime numbers  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . For instance,  $S = (P_1 \cup P_2 \cup \dots \cup P_n) - \{e\}$  and  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $(\sum_{i=1}^n (p_i - 1))$ -regular, where  $P_i$  are Sylow  $p_i$ -subgroups of  $G$ . The adjacency in  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is similar to the graph which is clarify in Proposition 3.6.

**Example 3.7.** In this example we present some groups and associated prime order Cayley graphs.

(i)  $\text{Cayley}(S_3, S)$  is complete 5-regular graph  $K_6$ , where  $S_3$  is symmetric group of order 6 and  $S = \{(1\ 2), (1\ 3), (2\ 3), (1\ 2\ 3), (1\ 3\ 2)\}$ .

(ii) Let  $D_8 = \langle a, b : a^4 = b^2 = 1, a^b = a^{-1} \rangle$  be dihedral group of order 8. Clearly  $\text{Cayley}(D_8, S)$  is union of complete 2-partite graph (with 4 vertices in each part) and the edges  $\{1, a^2\}, \{a, a^3\}, \{b, a^2b\}, \{ab, a^3b\}$  where  $S = \{a^2, b, ab, a^2b, a^3b\}$  (see Figure (3)). Moreover,  $\text{Cayley}(D_8, S)$ .

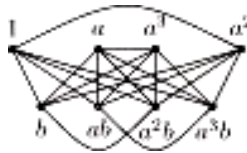


Fig. 3.

is a Hamiltonian graph. The cycle which pass through vertices  $1, a^2, a^3b, a^3, ab, a, a^2b, b, 1$  is a Hamiltonian cycle.

**Proposition 3.8.** Let  $D_{2n} = \langle a, b : a^n = b^2 = 1, a^b = a^{-1} \rangle$  be dihedral group of order  $2n$ , where  $n \geq 4$ .

(i) If  $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is  $(n + \sum_{i=1}^k (p_i - 1))$ -regular, where  $p_i$  are distinct prime numbers  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .

(ii)  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is a connected graph. Moreover  $\text{diam}(\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)) = 2$  and  $\text{girth}(\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)) = 3$ .

(iii) Let  $n = \prod_{i=1}^k p_i^{\alpha_i}$ , where  $p_i$  are distinct prime numbers. Then  $\{a^j b : 0 \leq j \leq n-1\} \cup \{a^s : s = P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{s-1}^{\alpha_{s-1}} P_s^{\alpha_s-1} P_{s+1}^{\alpha_{s+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}\} \subseteq S$ . Moreover  $|S| \geq n+k$  and also we have  $S$  is the set of all elements as follows  $\{a^j b : 0 \leq j \leq n-1\} \cup \{a^s : s = (P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{s-1}^{\alpha_{s-1}} P_s^{\alpha_s-1} P_{s+1}^{\alpha_{s+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k})^r\}$ , where  $1 < r \leq n-1$ .

(iv)  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is union of complete 2-partite graph and edges  $\{a^i b, a^j b\}, \{e, a^t\}$  and  $\{a^i, a^j\}$  such that  $a^t, a^{i-j} \in S$ . Furthermore, there are  $n$  vertices in each part  $\{a^i b : 0 \leq i \leq n-1\}$  and  $\{a^j : 0 \leq j \leq n-1\}$ .

(v)  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is not planar.

(vi) As mentioned in (iv) consider two parts in the graph  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$ . If we use  $c$  colors for coloring of one part, then we require  $c$  different colors for the second part. Moreover, the chromatic number of  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is an even number.



(vii)  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is Hamiltonian graph.

Proof. (i) It is enough to count the prime order elements in the cyclic subgroup  $\langle a \rangle$ . The elements of prime order in the group  $\langle a \rangle$  belongs to Sylow  $p_i$ -subgroups and since it is abelian they are normal and unique for each prime  $p_i$ . As  $|P_i| = P_j$  the assertion is clear.

(ii) Since  $b, ab \in S$  we deduce that  $bab = a^{-1} \in \langle S \rangle$ . Hence  $b, a \in \langle S \rangle$  and so  $G = \langle S \rangle$  which implies  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is a connected graph. Suppose  $x$  and  $y$  are two vertices which are not adjacent. If both belong to  $S$ , then both join to the identity element and  $d(x, y) = 2$ . If order of  $x$  and  $y$  are not of prime number, then they are powers of  $a$ . Let  $x = a^i$  and  $y = a^j$ . It is clear that  $a^i b a^{-i} = a^{2i} b$  and  $a^j b a^{-j} = a^{2j} b$  so  $a^i$  and  $a^j$  join  $a^i b$ . Thus  $\text{diam}(\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)) = 2$ . Further  $\{1, a^{n/2}, b\}$  is a cycle, where  $n$  is an even number. If  $n$  is an odd number, then  $\{1, a^t, b\}$  is a cycle, where  $t$  is such that the ratio  $n/(n, t)$  is a prime number.

(iii) It is clear that  $a^j b, 0 \leq j \leq n-1$  are of order 2 and  $a^s$  is of order  $p_s$  where  $S = P_1^{\alpha_1} \dots P_{s-1}^{\alpha_{s-1}} P_{s+1}^{\alpha_{s+1}} \dots P_k^{\alpha_k}$ . The other elements of  $D_{2n}$  are not of prime order. The rest follows clearly.

(iv) It is obvious.

(v) Since  $n \geq 4$  by the previous part  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  has  $K_{3,3}$  as its induced subgraph.

(vi) Clearly follows by presentation of  $D_{2n}$  and finiding the adjacent vertices in each part.

(vii) Since degree of each vertices is more than  $n+k$ ,  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$  is Hamiltonian by Dirac theorem.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.9.** Let  $D_{2n}$  be a dihedral group of order  $2n$ , where  $n \geq 4$  is an even integer. Then

(i) For  $\text{Cayley}(D_{2n}, S)$ ,  $|S| \geq n+1$ . Moreover,  $|S| = n+1$  where  $D_{2n}$  is dihedral group such that  $n = 2^{m-1}$ .

(ii)  $\omega(\text{Cayley}(D_{2^m}, S)) = \chi(\text{Cayley}(D_{2^m}, S)) = 4$ .

Proof. (i) Suppose  $D_{2n} = \langle a, b : a^n = b^2 = 1, a^b = a^{-1} \rangle$ . It is clear that  $\{a^j b : 0 \leq j \leq n-1\} \cup \{a^{n/2}\} \subseteq S$ . Hence the first part is clear. Since  $(2^{m-1}, i) = 2^{m-2}$  whenever  $i = 2^{m-2}$  we conclude that  $|a^{2^{m-2}}| = 2$  and  $S$  is  $\{a^j b : 0 \leq j \leq 2^{m-1} - 1\} \cup \{a^{2^{m-2}}\}$ .

(ii) We use two different colors for identity element and  $a^{2^{m-2}}$ . The other powers of  $a$  can be colored by these 2 colors. Some of them join to 1 and some of them not so we use the suitable color out of these two colors. Thus here we use 2 colors. Moreover for  $b, ab, a^2b, \dots, a^{2^{m-1}}b$  we use two other different colors. Therefore  $\chi(\text{Cayley}(D_{2^m}, S))=4$ . As  $\omega(\text{Cayley}(D_{2^m}, S)) \leq \chi(\text{Cayley}(D_{2^m}, S))=4$  and vertices  $1, a^{2^{m-2}}, b, a^{2^{m-2}}b$  form  $K_4$ , the assertion follows.

□

$\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is  $\left(\sum_{i=1}^k n_{p_i}(p_i - 1)\right)$ -regular, for a non-abelian group of order  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i$ , where  $p_i (1 \leq i \leq k)$  are distinct prime numbers and  $n_{p_i}$  is the number of Sylow  $p_i$ -subgroups.

Let  $G$  be a nilpotent group of order  $\prod_{i=1}^k p_i$ , where  $p_i (1 \leq i \leq k)$  are distinct prime numbers. Then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is connected. Since  $G$  is generated by its prime order elements the assertion follows.

**Proposition 3.10.** *Let  $G$  be a simple group which contains an element of order  $p$ . Then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is connected.*

Proof. By the graph definition  $S$  contains all the elements of prime order. Since it contains an element of prime order  $p$ ,  $G$  is generated by all the elements of order  $p$  (see [7, Proposition 2.5]) and consequently by  $S$ . Hence the assertion is clear. □

Every non-abelian finite simple group has even order, hence contains an involution. Thus its prime order Cayley graph is connected.

The alternating groups  $A_n$  for  $n \geq 5$  are generated by involutions. Therefore  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is connected.

**Theorem 3.11.** *Let  $G$  be a group. Then*

(i) *Suppose  $G$  is a group of order less or equal than 15. Then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is a planar graph if and only if  $G \cong \mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_3, \mathbf{Z}_2 \times \mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_6, \mathbf{Z}_{2^2}, \mathbf{Z}_{2,3}, \mathbf{Q}_8$ .*

(ii) *If  $G$  is an abelian group. Then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is a planar graph if and only if  $G \cong \mathbf{Z}_{2^n}, \mathbf{Z}_{3^n}, \mathbf{Z}_2 \times \mathbf{Z}_2, \mathbf{Z}_6, \mathbf{Z}_{2^n,3}, \mathbf{Z}_{2,3^n}$ .*

Proof. Suppose  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is a planar graph. By the second part of Proposition 3.2 we deduce that the order of  $G$  is  $2^\alpha \cdot 3^\beta$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  are non-negative integers. If  $\alpha = 0$  or  $\beta = 0$ , then  $G \cong \mathbf{Z}_{2^n}, \mathbf{Z}_{3^n}$  by third part of Proposition 2.3 or  $G \cong \mathbf{Z}_2 \times \mathbf{Z}_2$ .

Now let  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$  be greater than one. If  $G$  is a non-nilpotent group of order  $2.3^\beta$  or  $2^\alpha.3$  then all its elements are of prime order by [5]. Therefore all its elements are join and since  $|G| \geq 6$  we have  $K_5$  as induced subgraph of  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  so they are not planar.

Assume  $G$  is of order  $2.3^\beta$  or  $2^\alpha.3$  and nilpotent. Initially suppose  $|G| = 2.3^\beta$ . There are one Sylow 3-subgroup and  $3^\beta$  Sylow 2-subgroup. Thus we have  $3^\beta$  elements of order 2 which are adjacent. As  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is planar  $\beta = 1$  and  $|G| = 6$ .  $G$  is not symmetric group of order 6 because its prime order Cayley graph is not planar or we can say  $S_3$  is not nilpotent. If  $G \cong Z_6$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is planar. If  $|G| = 2^\alpha.3$ , then the number of Sylow 2-subgroups of  $G$ ,  $n_2$ , are 1 or 3 and the number of Sylow 3-subgroups,  $n_3$ , are  $2^\alpha$  or 1, respectively. If  $n_2 = 1$  and  $n_3 = 2^\alpha$  then we have  $2^{\alpha+1}$  elements of order 3 which are adjacent. As  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is planar we conclude that  $2^{\alpha+1} \leq 4$  and so  $\alpha = 1$ . Thus  $|G| = 6$  which we discuss about it before. Suppose  $n_2 = 3$  and  $n_3 = 1$ . With out loss of generality we can assume  $|G| > 6$ . If  $G$  contains 4 elements of order 2, then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar. Therefore,  $G$  is a group which has at most 3 elements of order 2. The group of order  $|G| = 7, 11, 13, 14, 15$  or  $G \cong D_{10}$  are not acceptable by the second part of Proposition. 2.2. if  $G \cong D_8$ , then  $\text{Cayley}(G, S)$  is not planar by Proposition 3.8. Clearly  $\text{Cayley}(Z_3 \times Z_3, S) \cong K_9$  is not planar. By these conditions we must cheque the planarity of prime order Cayley graph of  $G_1 = Z_{12}, G_2 = Z_2 \times Z_2 \times Z_3, A_4, D_{12}$  and  $T = \langle a, b : a^6 = 1, b^2 = a^3, a^b = a^{-1} \rangle$ . Immediately, we omit  $D_{12}$  and  $T$ , because they are not nilpotent.  $\text{Cayley}(G_1, S)$  is 3-regular graph which is planar by Proposition 3.5.  $G_2$  has 5 elements of prime order. Thus the number of edges of the Cayley  $(G_2, S)$  is 30. Now by [3, Corollary 9.5.2]  $\text{Cayley}(G_2, S)$  is not planar. Similarly  $\text{Cayley}(A_4, S)$  is 11-regular which is not planar.

Let  $G$  be a group of order  $2^\alpha.3^\beta$ , where  $\alpha, \beta > 1$  Thus  $|G| \geq 36$  Hence the assertion is clear.  $\square$

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