

## SCORE SETS IN ORIENTED 3-PARTITE GRAPHS

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**Abstract.** Let  $D(U, V, W)$  be an oriented 3-partite graph with  $|U| = p$ ,  $|V| = q$  and  $|W| = r$ . For any vertex  $x$  in  $D(U, V, W)$ , let  $d_x^+$  and  $d_x^-$  be the outdegree and indegree of  $x$  respectively. Define  $a_{u_i}$  (or simply  $a_i$ ) =  $q + r + d_{u_i}^+ - d_{u_i}^-$ ,  $b_{v_j}$  (or simply  $b_j$ ) =  $p + r + d_{v_j}^+ - d_{v_j}^-$  and  $c_{w_k}$  (or simply  $c_k$ ) =  $p + q + d_{w_k}^+ - d_{w_k}^-$  as the scores of  $u_i$  in  $U$ ,  $v_j$  in  $V$  and  $w_k$  in  $W$  respectively. The set  $A$  of distinct scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  is called its score set. In this paper, we prove that if  $a_1$  is a non-negative integer,  $a_i$  ( $2 \leq i \leq n-1$ ) are even positive integers and  $a_n$  is any positive integer, then for  $n \geq 3$ , there exists an oriented 3-partite graph with the score set  $A = \left\{ a_1, \sum_{i=1}^2 a_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right\}$ , except when  $A = \{0, 2, 3\}$ . Some more results for score sets in oriented 3-partite graphs are obtained.

**Key words:** oriented graph, oriented 3-partite graph, tournament score set

**AMS (2000) subject classification:** 05C20

### 1 Introduction

An oriented graph is a digraph with no symmetric pairs of directed arcs and without loops. Let  $D$  be an oriented graph with the vertex set  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$ , and let  $d_v^+$  and  $d_v^-$  denote the outdegree and indegree of the vertex  $v$  respectively. Avery [1] defined  $a_{v_i}$  (or simply  $a_i$ ) =  $p - 1 + d_{v_i}^+ - d_{v_i}^-$ , the score of  $v_i$ , so  $0 \leq a_{v_i} \leq 2p - 2$ . The sequence  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$  in non-decreasing order is called the score sequence of  $D$ .

Avery obtained the following criterion for score sequences in oriented graphs.

**Theorem 1.1** [1]. *A non-decreasing sequence of non-negative integers  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$  is the score sequence of an oriented graph if and only if*

$$\sum_{i=1}^k a_i \geq k(k-1), \quad \text{for } 1 \leq k \leq p,$$

with equality when  $k = p$ .

The set  $A$  of distinct scores of the vertices of an oriented graph  $D$  is called its score set. Pirzada and Naikoo [4] obtained the following results.

**Theorem 1.2** [4]. *Let  $A = \{a, ad, ad^2, \dots, ad^n\}$ , where  $a$  and  $d$  are positive integers with  $d > 1$ . Then there exists an oriented graph with the score set  $A$ , except for  $a = 1, d = 2, n > 0$  and for  $a = 1, d = 3, n > 0$ .*

**Theorem 1.3**<sup>[4]</sup>. If  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are non-negative integers with  $a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n$ . Then there exists an oriented graph with the score set  $A = \{d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n\}$ , where

$$d_i = \begin{cases} a_{i-1} + a_i + 1, & \text{for } i > 1, \\ a_i, & \text{for } i = 1. \end{cases}$$

Various results regarding score sets in complete oriented graphs (tournaments) can be found in [2, 5, 8, 9, 10].

An oriented bipartite graph is the result of assigning a direction to each edge of a simple bipartite graph. Suppose  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p\}$  and  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_q\}$  be the parts of an oriented bipartite graph  $D(U, V)$ . For any vertex  $x$  in  $D(U, V)$ , let  $d_x^+$  and  $d_x^-$  be the outdegree and indegree of  $x$  respectively. Define  $a_{u_i}$  (or simply  $a_i$ ) =  $q + d_{u_i}^+ - d_{u_i}^-$  and  $b_{v_j}$  (or simply  $b_j$ ) =  $p + d_{v_j}^+ - d_{v_j}^-$  as the scores of  $u_i$  in  $U$  and  $v_j$  in  $V$  respectively. Clearly,  $0 \leq a_{u_i} \leq 2q$  and  $0 \leq b_{v_j} \leq 2p$ . The sequences  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$  and  $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q]$  in non-decreasing order are called the score sequences of  $D(U, V)$ .

The following result due to Pirzada, Merajuddin and Yin<sup>[6]</sup> is the bipartite version of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 1.4**<sup>[6]</sup>. Two non-decreasing sequences  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$  and  $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q]$  of non-negative integers are the score sequences of some oriented bipartite graph if and only if

$$\sum_{i=1}^l a_i + \sum_{j=1}^m b_j \geq 2lm, \quad 1 \leq l \leq p, \quad 1 \leq m \leq q,$$

with equality when  $l = p$  and  $m = q$ .

The set  $A$  of distinct scores of the vertices of an oriented bipartite graph  $D(U, V)$  is called its score set. In [7], Pirzada, Naikoo and Chishti proved that every set  $A$  of positive integers is the score set of an oriented bipartite graph when  $|A| = 1, 2, 3$  or when  $A$  is a geometric or arithmetic progression.

An oriented 3-partite graph is the result of assigning a direction to each edge of a simple 3-partite graph. Suppose  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_p\}$ ,  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_q\}$  and  $W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_r\}$  be the parts of an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$ . For any vertex  $x$  in  $D(U, V, W)$ , let  $d_x^+$  and  $d_x^-$  be the outdegree and indegree of  $x$  respectively. Define  $a_{u_i}$  (or simply  $a_i$ ) =  $q + r + d_{u_i}^+ - d_{u_i}^-$ ,  $b_{v_j}$  (or simply  $b_j$ ) =  $p + r + d_{v_j}^+ - d_{v_j}^-$  and  $c_{w_k}$  (or simply  $c_k$ ) =  $p + q + d_{w_k}^+ - d_{w_k}^-$  as the scores of  $u_i$  in  $U$ ,  $v_j$  in  $V$  and  $w_k$  in  $W$  respectively. Clearly,  $0 \leq a_{u_i} \leq 2(q + r)$ ,  $0 \leq b_{v_j} \leq 2(p + r)$  and  $0 \leq c_{w_k} \leq 2(p + q)$ . The sequences  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$ ,  $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q]$  and  $[c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r]$  in non-decreasing order are called the score sequences of  $D(U, V, W)$ .

The next result is the 3-partite version of Theorem 1.1 given by Pirzada, and Merajuddin<sup>[3]</sup>.

**Theorem 1.5**<sup>[3]</sup>. Three non-decreasing sequences  $[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_p]$ ,  $[b_1, b_2, \dots, b_q]$  and  $[c_1, c_2, \dots, c_r]$  of non-negative integers are the score sequences of some oriented 3-partite graph if and only if

$$\sum_{i=1}^l a_i + \sum_{j=1}^m b_j + \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \geq 2(lm + mn + nl), \quad 1 \leq l \leq p, 1 \leq m \leq q, \quad 1 \leq n \leq r,$$

with equality when  $l = p, m = q$  and  $n = r$ .

The set  $A$  of distinct scores of the vertices of an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  is called its score set.

For any nonempty vertex sets  $X$  and  $Y, X \rightarrow Y$  means that each vertex of  $X$  dominates every vertex of  $Y$ . Also for any two vertices  $x$  and  $y, x \rightarrow y$  means that there is an arc from  $x$  to  $y$ , and  $x \uparrow y$  or  $y \uparrow x$  means that neither  $x \rightarrow y$  nor  $y \rightarrow x$ .

## 2 Results

We give the following results.

**Theorem 2.1.** *Every singleton set of positive integer, except  $\{1\}$ , is the score set of some oriented 3-partite graph.*

*Proof.* Let  $A = \{a\}$ , where  $a > 1$  is a positive integer.

There are the following three cases:

(i)  $a = 2r$  where  $r \geq 1$ , (ii)  $a = 4r - 1$  where  $r \geq 1$ , (iii)  $a = 4r - 3$  where  $r \geq 2$ .

Now we give the proofs.

(i)  $a = 2r$  where  $r \geq 1$ .

Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = |V| = |W| = r$ , and  $U \rightarrow V; V \rightarrow W$ , and  $W \rightarrow U$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$a_u = a_v = a_w = |V| + |W| + r - r = r + r = 2r = a$$

for all  $u \in U, v \in V, w \in W$ .

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a\}$ .

(ii)  $a = 4r - 1$  where  $r \geq 1$ .

Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{6r^2-2r}\}$ ,  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}$  and  $W = \{v_{r+1}, v_{r+2}, \dots, v_{2r}\}$  in which

$$u_{i+j} \rightarrow v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+1}, \dots, v_{2r} \quad \text{for all } i, j,$$

where  $1 \leq i \leq 2r, j \in \{0, 2r, 4r, \dots, 6r^2 - 4r\} = S$  so that  $|S| = 3r - 1$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_{u_{i+j}} &= |V| + |W| + \sum_{\substack{g=1 \\ g \neq i}}^{2r} |v_g| - 0 = r + r_g + \sum_{\substack{g=1 \\ g \neq i}}^{2r} 1 \\ &= 2r + (2r - 1) = 4r - 1 = a \end{aligned}$$

for all  $u_{i+j} \in U$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq 2r, j \in S$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{v_g} &= |U| + |W| + 0 - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g}}^{2r} \sum_{j \in S} |u_{i+j}| \\ &= 6r^2 - 2r + r - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g}}^{2r} \sum_{j \in S} 1 = 6r^2 - r - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g}}^{2r} (3r - 1) \\ &= 6r^2 - r - (3r - 1) \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g}}^{2r} 1 = 6r^2 - r - (3r - 1)(2r - 1) \\ &= 4r - 1 = a \end{aligned}$$

for all  $v_g \in V \cup W$ , where  $1 \leq g \leq 2r$ .

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a\}$ .

(iii)  $a = 4r - 3$  where  $r \geq 2$ .

Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2r^2-2r}\}$ ,  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}$  and  $W = \{v_{r+1}, v_{r+2}, \dots, v_{2r}\}$  in which

$$u_{i+j} \rightarrow v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{i-1}, v_{i+3}, \dots, v_{2r}, \quad i, j,$$

where  $1 \leq i \leq 2r$ ,  $j \in \{0, 2r, 4r, \dots, 2r^2 - 4r\} = T$  so that  $|T| = r - 1$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_{u_{i+j}} &= |V| + |W| + \sum_{\substack{g=1 \\ g \neq i, i+1, i+2}}^{2r} |v_g| - 0 \\ &= r + r + \left( \sum_{g=1}^{2r} |v_g| \right) - (|v_i| + |v_{i+1}| + |v_{i+2}|) = 2r + \left( \sum_{g=1}^{2r} 1 \right) - 3 \\ &= 2r + 2r - 3a \end{aligned}$$

for all  $u_{i+j} \in U$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq 2r$ ,  $j \in T$ . Note that  $v_{2r+1}$  and  $v_{2r+2}$  are treated  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  respectively, and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{v_g} &= |U| + |W| + 0 - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g-2, g-1, g}}^{2r} \sum_{j \in T} |u_{i+j}| \\ &= 2r^2 - 2r + r - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g-2, g-1, g}}^{2r} \sum_{j \in T} 1 = 2r^2 - r - \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g-2, g-1, g}}^{2r} (r-1) \\ &= 2r^2 - r - (r-1) \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq g-2, g-1, g}}^{2r} 1 \\ &= 2r^2 - r - (r-1) \left( \sum_{i=1}^{2r} 1 - (|u_{g-2}| + |u_{g-1}| + |v_g|) \right) \\ &= 2r^2 - r - (r-1)(2r-3) = 4r - 3 = a \end{aligned}$$

for all  $v_g \in V \cup W$ , where  $1 \leq g \leq 2r$ , and note that  $u_0$  and  $u_{-1}$  are treated as  $u_{2r^2-2r}$  and  $u_{2r^2-2r-1}$  respectively. Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a\}$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $A = \{a_1, a_2\}$ , where  $a_1 \geq 0$  is an even integer and  $a_2$  is any positive integer such that  $a_1 < a_2$ . Then, there exists an oriented 3-partite graph with the score set  $A$  except for  $a_1 = 0, a_2 = 1, 2$ .

*Proof.* First assume that  $a_1 = 0$  and  $a_2 > 2$  so that  $a_2 - 2 > 0$ . Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = 1, |V| = |W| = a_2 - 2$ , and  $V \rightarrow U$  and  $W \rightarrow U$ . Then, the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_u &= |V| + |W| + 0 - (a_2 - 2 + a_2 - 2) = a_2 - 2 + a_2 - 2 - a_2 + 2 - a_2 + 2 \\ &= 0 = a_1, \quad u \in U, \\ a_v &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 0 = 1 + a_2 - 2 + 1 = a_2, \quad v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_w = |U| + |V| + 1 - 0 = 1 + a_2 - 2 + 1 = a_2, \quad w \in W.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a_1, a_2\}$ .

Now, assume  $a_1 = 2r$  where  $r \geq 1$ . Since  $a_1 < a_2$ , then  $a_2 - a_1 > 0$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let

$$U = X_1, V = Y_1 \cup Y_2, W = Z_1, Y_1 \cap Y_2 = \emptyset, |X_1| = |Y_1| = |Z_1| = r, |Y_2| = a_2 - a_1.$$

Let  $X_1 \rightarrow Y_1; Y_1 \rightarrow Z_1$ , and  $Z_1 \rightarrow X_1$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X_1| = r, |V| = |Y_1| + |Y_2| = r + a_2 - a_1, |W| = |Z_1| = r,$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a_{x_1} &= |V| + |W| + r - r = r + a_2 - a_1 + r = 2r + a_2 - a_1 \\ &= a_1 + a_2 - a_1 = a_2, \quad x_1 \in X_1, \\ a_{y_1} &= |U| + |W| + r - r = r + r = 2r = a_1, \quad y_1 \in Y_1, \\ a_{y_2} &= |U| + |W| + 0 - 0 = r + r + 2r = a_1, \quad y_2 \in Y_2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} a_{z_1} &= |U| + |V| + r - r = r + r + a_2 - a_1 = 2r + a_2 - a_1 \\ &= a_1 + a_2 - a_1 = a_2, \quad z_1 \in Z_1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a_1, a_2\}$ .

The following result shows that every set of three non-negative integers in arithmetic progression, except  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ , is a score set of some oriented 3-partite graph.

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d\}$ , where  $a$  and  $d$  are non-negative integers with  $d > 0$ . Then there exists an oriented 3-partite graph with the score set  $A$ , except for  $a = 0, d = 1$ .*

*Proof.* First assume that  $a = 0$  and  $d = 2$ . Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = |V| = |W| = 1$ , and  $V \rightarrow U$  and  $W \rightarrow U, V$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_u &= |V| + |W| + 0 - 2 + 1 + 1 - 2 = 0 = a, \quad u \in U, \\ a_v &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 1 + 1 + 1 = 2 = a + d, \quad v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_w = |U| + |V| + 2 - 0 = 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 = a + 2d, \quad w \in W.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d\}$ .

Now, assume that  $a = 0$  and  $d > 2$  so that  $d - 2 > 0$ . Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = 1, |V| = d - 2, |W| = 2d - 2$ , and  $V \rightarrow U$  and  $W \rightarrow U, V$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_u &= |V| + |W| + 0 - (d - 2 + 2d - 2) = d - 2 + 2d - 2 - d + 2 - 2d + 2 \\ &= 0 = a, \quad u \in U, \\ a_v &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 0 = 1 + 2d - 2 + 1 = 2d = a + 2d, \quad v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_w = |U| + |V| + 1 - 0 = 1 + d - 2 + 1 = d = a + d, \quad w \in W.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d\}$ .

Finally, assume that  $a > 0$ . Consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = d, |V| = |W| = a$ , and  $W \rightarrow U$ . Then the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_u &= |V| + |W| + 0 - a = a + a - a = a, \quad u \in U, \\ a_v &= |U| + |W| + 0 - 0 = d + a = a + d, \quad v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_w = |U| + |V| + d - 0 = d + a + d = a + 2d, \quad w \in W.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d\}$ .

The next result shows that every set of four non-negative integers in arithmetic progression, except  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , is a score set of some oriented 3-partite graph.

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d\}$ , where  $a$  and  $d$  are non-negative integers with  $d > 0$ . Then there exists an oriented 3-partite graph with the score set  $A$ , except for  $a = 0, d = 1$ .*

*Proof.* First assume that  $a = 0$  and  $d = 2$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let  $U = X_1, V = Y_1 \cup Y_2, W = Z_1, Y_1 \cap Y_2 = \emptyset, |X_1| = |Y_1| = |Y_2| = 1, |Z_1| = 2$ . Let  $Y_1 \rightarrow X_1, Z_1; Y_2 \rightarrow X_1$ , and  $Z_1 \rightarrow X_1, Y_2$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X_1| = 1, |V| = |Y_1| + |Y_2| = 1 + 1 = 2, |W| = |Z_1| = 2,$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a_{x_1} &= |V| + |W| + 0 - 4 = 2 + 2 - 4 = 0 = a, \quad x_1 \in X_1, \\ a_{y_1} &= |U| + |W| + 3 - 0 = 1 + 2 + 3 = 6 = a + 3d, \quad y_1 \in Y_1, \\ a_{y_2} &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 2 = 1 + 2 - 1 = 2 = a + d, \quad y_2 \in Y_2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_{z_1} = |U| + |V| + 2 - 1 = 1 + 2 + 1 = 4 = a + 2d, \quad z_1 \in Z_1.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d\}$ .

Now, assume that  $a = 0$  and  $d > 2$  so that  $d - 2 > 0$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let

$$\begin{aligned} U &= X_1, V = Y_1 \cup Y_2, W = Z_1 \cup Z_2, Y_1 \cap Y_2 = \emptyset, Z_1 \cap Z_2 = \emptyset, |X_1| = 1, \\ |Y_1| &= |Z_1| = d - 2, |Y_2| = d, |Z_2| = 2d. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $Y_1 \rightarrow X_1; Y_2 \rightarrow X_1; Z_1 \rightarrow X_1$ , and  $Z_2 \rightarrow X_1, Y_2$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$\begin{aligned} |U| &= |X_1| = 1, |V| = |Y_1| + |Y_2| = d - 2 + d = 2d - 2, \\ |W| &= |Z_1| + |Z_2| = d - 2 + 2d = 3d - 2, \end{aligned}$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a_{x_1} &= |V| + |W| + 0 - (d - 2 + d + 2d + d - 2) \\ &= 2d - 2 + 3d - 2 - 5d + 4 = 0 = a, \quad x_1 \in X_1, \\ a_{y_1} &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 0 = 1 + 3d - 2 + 1 = 3d = a + 3d, \quad y_1 \in Y_1, \\ a_{y_2} &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 2d = 1 + 3d - 2 + 1 - 2d = d = a + d, \quad y_2 \in Y_2, \\ a_{z_1} &= |U| + |V| + 1 - 0 = 1 + 2d - 2 + 1 = 2d = a + 2d, \quad z_1 \in Z_1, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_{z_2} = |U| + |V| + (1 + d) - 0 = 1 + 2d - 2 + 1 + d = 3d = a + 3d, \quad z_2 \in Z_2.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d\}$ .

Finally, assume that  $a > 0$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let

$$U = X_1, V = Y_1 \cup Y_2, W = Z_1, Y_1 \cap Y_2 = \emptyset, |X_1| = |Y_1| = d, |Y_2| = |Z_1| = a.$$

Let  $Y_1 \rightarrow X_1$ , and  $Z_1 \rightarrow X_1$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X_1| = d, |V| = |Y_1| + |Y_2| = d + a = a + d, |W| = |Z_1| = a,$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a_{x_1} &= |V| + |W| + 0 - (d + a) = a + d + a - d - a = a, \quad x_1 \in X_1, \\ a_{y_1} &= |U| + |W| + d - 0 = d + a + d = a + 2d, \quad y_1 \in Y_1, \\ a_{y_2} &= |U| + |W| + 0 - 0 = d + a = a + d, \quad y_2 \in Y_2, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_{z_1} = |U| + |V| + d - 0 = d + a + d + d = a + 3d, \quad z_1 \in Z_1.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a, a + d, a + 2d, a + 3d\}$ .

Finally, we have the following main result.

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $a_1$  be a non-negative integer,  $a_i$  ( $2 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ) be even positive integers and  $a_n$  be any positive integer. Then for  $n \geq 3$ , there exists an oriented 3-partite graph with the*

*score set  $A = \left\{ a_1, \sum_{i=1}^2 a_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right\}$ , except when  $A = \{0, 2, 3\}$ .*

*Proof.* For  $2 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , let  $a_i = 2r_i$  where  $r_i \geq 1$ .

First assume that  $a_1 = 0$  and  $n = 3$ . For  $a_2 = 2, a_3 = 2$ , consider an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with  $|U| = |V| = |W| = 1$ , and  $V \rightarrow U$  and  $W \rightarrow U, V$ . Then, the scores of the vertices of  $D(U, V, W)$  are

$$\begin{aligned} a_u &= |V| + |W| + 0 - 2 = 1 + 1 - 2 = 0 = a_1, \quad u \in U, \\ a_v &= |U| + |W| + 1 - 1 = 1 + 1 = 2 = a_1 + a_2, \quad v \in V, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a_w = |U| + |V| + 2 - 0 = 1 + 1 + 2 = 4 = a_1 + a_2 + a_3, \quad w \in W.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a_1, a_1 + a_2, a_1 + a_2 + a_3\}$ .

For  $a_2 \geq 2, a_3 > 2$ , construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let

$$U = X_1, V = Y_1 \cup Y_2, W = Z_1, Y_1 \cap Y_2 = \emptyset, |X_1| = r_2, |Y_1| = 1, |Y_2| = a_3 - 2, |Z_1| = a_3.$$

Let  $Y_1 \rightarrow X_1; Y_2 \rightarrow X_1$ , and  $Z_1 \rightarrow X_1, Y_1$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X_1| = r_2, |V| = |Y_1| + |Y_2| = 1 + a_3 - 2 = a_3 - 1, |W| = |Z_1| = a_3,$$

and the scores of vertices

$$a_{x_1} = |V| + |W| + 0 - (|Y_1| + |Y_2| + |Z_1|) = a_3 - 1 + a_3 - (1 + a_3 - 2 + a_3) = 0 = a_1, \quad x_1 \in X_1,$$

$$a_{y_1} = |U| + |W| + |X_1| - |Z_1| = r_2 + a_3 + r_2 - a_3 = 2r_2 = a_1 + a_2, \quad y_1 \in Y_1,$$

$$a_{y_2} = |U| + |W| + |X_1| - 0 = r_2 + a_3 + r_2 = 2r_2 + a_3 = a_1 + a_2 + a_3, \quad y_2 \in Y_2,$$

and

$$a_{z_1} = |U| + |V| + (|X_1| + |Y_1|) - 0 = r_2 + a_3 - 1 + r_2 + 1 = 2r_2 + a_3 = a_1 + a_2 + a_3, \quad z_1 \in Z_1.$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \{a_1, a_1 + a_2, a_1 + a_2 + a_3\}$ .

Now, let  $a_1 = 0$  and  $n \geq 4$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.

Let

$$U = X \cup X_1 \cup X_2 \cup \cdots \cup X_{n-3},$$

$$V = Y,$$

$$W = Z \cup Z_1 \cup Z_2 \cup \cdots \cup Z_{n-3},$$

with  $X \cap X_i = \emptyset, X_i \cap X_j = \emptyset, Z \cap Z_i = \emptyset, Z_i \cap Z_j = \emptyset (i \neq j), |X| = |Z| = r_2, |Y| = r_3, |X_i| = |Z_i| = r_{i+3}$  for all  $i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n-4, |X_{n-3}| = |Z_{n-3}| = a_n$ .

Let  $X_i \rightarrow Y, Z, Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_i$  for all  $i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n-4; X_{n-3} \rightarrow Y, Z, Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_{n-4}; Y \rightarrow X; Z \rightarrow Y, X$ , and  $Z_i \rightarrow Y, X, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{i-1}$  for all  $i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n-3$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} |X_i| = |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} |Z_i| = |W| = r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+2} + a_n, |V| = |Y| = r_3,$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned} a_x &= |V| + |W| + 0 - \left( |Y| + |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} |Z_i| + |Z_{n-3}| \right) \\ &= r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n - \left( r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n \right) \\ &= 0 = a_1, \quad x \in X, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-4, \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{x_i} &= |V| + |W| + \left( |Y| + |Z| + \sum_{j=1}^i |Z_j| \right) - \left( \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-4} |j| + |Z_{n-3}| \right) \\
 &= r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{j=1}^i r_{j+3} - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n \right) \\
 &= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + (r_4 + r_3 + \dots + r_{i+3} + r_{i+4} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &\quad + (r_4 + r_5 + \dots + r_{i+3}) - (r_{i+4} + r_{i+5} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + 2r_5 + \dots + 2r_{i+3} \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{i+3}, \quad x_i \in X_i, \\
 a_{x_{n-3}} &= |V| + |W| + \left( |Y| + |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} |Z_i| \right) - 0 \\
 &= r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} \\
 &= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1} + a_n, \quad x_{n-3} \in X_{n-3}, \\
 a_y &= |U| + |W| + |X| - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} |X_i| + |X_{n-3}| + |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} |Z_i| + |Z_{n-3}| \right) \\
 &= r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_2 \\
 &\quad - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n \right) \\
 &= 2r_2 = a_1 + a_2, \quad y \in Y, \\
 a_z &= |U| + |V| + (|Y| + |X|) - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} |X_i| + |X_{n-3}| \right) \\
 &= r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_3 + r_3 + r_2 - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n \right) \\
 &= 2r_2 + 2r_3 = a_1 + a_2 + a_3, \quad z \in Z,
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq n-4$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{z_i} &= |U| + |V| + \left( |Y| + |X| + \sum_{j=2}^i |X_{j-1}| \right) - \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-4} |X_j| + |X_{n-3}| \right) \\
 &= r_2 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_3 + r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{j=2}^i r_{j+2} - \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-4} r_{j+3} + a_n \right) \\
 &= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + (r_4 + r_5 + \dots + r_{i+2} + r_{i+3} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &\quad + (r_4 + r_5 + \dots + r_{i+2}) - (r_{i+3} + r_{i+4} + \dots + r_{n-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + 2r_5 + \cdots + 2r_{i+2} \\
&= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots + a_{i+2}, \quad z_i \in Z_i,
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
a_{z_{n-3}} &= |U| + |V| + \left( |Y| + |X| + \sum_{j=1}^{n-4} |X_j| \right) - 0 \\
&= r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-4} r_{i+3} + a_n + r_3 + r_3 + r_2 + \sum_{j=2}^i r_{j+2} - \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n-4} r_{j+3} + a_n \right) \\
&= 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + \cdots + 2r_{n-1} + a_n \\
&= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots + a_{n-1} + a_n, \quad z_{n-3} \in Z_{n-3}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \left\{ a_1, \sum_{i=1}^2 a_i, \cdots, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right\}$ .

Now, assume that  $a_1 > 0$ . Construct an oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  as follows.  
Let

$$\begin{aligned}
U &= X, \\
V &= Y \cup Y_1 \cup Y_2 \cup \cdots \cup Y_{n-3} \cup Y_{n-2}, \\
W &= Z \cup Z_1 \cup Z_2 \cup \cdots \cup Z_{n-3},
\end{aligned}$$

with  $Y \cap Y_i = \emptyset, Y_i \cap Y_j = \emptyset, Z \cap Z_i = \emptyset, Z_i \cap Z_j = \emptyset (i \neq j), |X| = a_1, |Y| = |Z| = r_2, |Y_i| = |Z_i| = r_{i+2}$  for all  $i$ , where  $1 \leq i \leq n-3, |Y_{n-2}| = a_1 + a_n$ .

Let  $Y_1 \rightarrow Z, Z_1; Y_i \rightarrow Z, Z_1, Z_2, \cdots, Z_{i-1}$  for all  $i$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n-2; Z \rightarrow Y; Z_1 \rightarrow Y$ , and  $Z_i \rightarrow Y, Y_1, Y_2, \cdots, Y_i$  for all  $i$ , where  $2 \leq i \leq n-3$ , so that we get the oriented 3-partite graph  $D(U, V, W)$  with

$$|U| = |X| = a_1, |V| = |Y| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} |Y_i| = r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} a_1 + a_n,$$

$$|W| = |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} |Z_i| = r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2},$$

and the scores of vertices

$$\begin{aligned}
a_x &= |V| + |W| + 0 - 0 = r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + a_1 + a_n + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} \\
&= a_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_3 + \cdots + 2r_{n-1} + a_n \\
&= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \cdots + a_{n-1} + a_n, \quad x \in X,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
a_y &= |U| + |W| + 0 - \left( |Z| + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} |Z_i| \right) \\
&= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} - \left( r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} \right) = a_1, \quad y \in Y,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{y_1} &= a_{y_2} = |U| + |W| + (|Z| + |Z_1|) - \sum_{i=2}^{n-3} |Z_i| \\
 &= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + r_2 + r_3 - \sum_{i=2}^{n-3} r_{i+2} = a_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_3 \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3, \quad y_1 \in Y_1, y_2 \in Y_2,
 \end{aligned}$$

for  $3 \leq i \leq n-3$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{y_i} &= |U| + |W| + \left( |Z| + \sum_{j=2}^i |Z_{j-1}| \right) - \sum_{j=i}^{n-3} |Z_j| \\
 &= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + r_2 + \sum_{j=2}^i r_{j+1} - \sum_{j=i}^{n-3} r_{j+2} \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 + (r_3 + r_4 + \dots + r_{i+1} + r_{i+2} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &\quad + (r_3 + r_4 + \dots + r_{i+1}) - (r_{i+2} + r_{i+3} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + \dots + 2r_{i+1} \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{i+1}, \quad y_i \in Y_i, \\
 a_{y_{n-2}} &= |U| + |W| + \left( |Z| + \sum_{j=2}^{n-2} |Z_{j-1}| \right) - 0 \\
 &= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + r_2 + \sum_{j=2}^{n-2} r_{j+1} \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + \dots + 2r_{n-1} \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{n-1}, \quad y_{n-2} \in Y_{n-2}, \\
 a_z &= a_{z_1} = |U| + |V| + |Y| - \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} |Y_i| \\
 &= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + a_1 + a_n + r_2 - \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + a_1 + a_n \right) \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 = a_1 + a_2, \quad z \in Z, z_1 \in Z_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

and for  $2 \leq i \leq n-3$

$$\begin{aligned}
 a_{z_i} &= |U| + |V| + |Y| + \sum_{j=1}^i |Y_j| - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-2} |Y_j| \\
 &= a_1 + r_2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n-3} r_{i+2} + a_1 + a_n + r_2 \\
 &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^i r_{j+2} - \left( \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-2} r_{j+2} + a_1 + a_n \right) \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 + (r_3 + r_4 + \dots + r_{i+2} + r_{i+3} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &\quad + (r_3 + r_4 + \dots + r_{i+2}) - (r_{i+3} + r_{i+4} + \dots + r_{n-1}) \\
 &= a_1 + 2r_2 + 2r_3 + 2r_4 + \dots + 2r_{i+2} \\
 &= a_1 + a_2 + a_3 + \dots + a_{i+2}, \quad z_i \in Z_i.
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the score set of  $D(U, V, W)$  is  $A = \left\{ a_1, \sum_{i=1}^2 a_i, \dots, \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \right\}$ .

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