

# Vertex-pancyclic Multipartite Tournaments<sup>\*</sup>

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**Abstract:** A  $c$ -partite tournament is an oriented graph obtained from a complete  $c$ -partite graph. A multipartite tournament is a  $c$ -partite tournament with  $c \geq 2$ .  $T$  being a multipartite tournament, we define  $i_g(T) = \max |d^+(x) - d^-(y)|$  over all pairs of vertices  $x, y \in V(T)$ . We prove that if  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  are the partite sets of a  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 3$ ) tournament  $T$ , with  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c|$  and  $|V_1| \geq 1$  and  $i_g(T) \leq 1$ , then  $T$  is vertex-pancyclic.

**Key words:** multipartite tournaments, cycle, vertex-pancyclicity

A  $c$ -partite tournament is an oriented graph obtained from a complete  $c$ -partite graph. A multipartite tournament is a  $c$ -partite tournament with  $c \geq 2$ . If  $T$  is a multipartite tournament and  $x \in V(T)$ , we denote  $V(x)$  the partite set to which  $x$  belongs and denote  $v_T^* = \min_i |V_i|$ , where  $V_i$  are partite sets of  $T$ . A factor in a digraph is a spanning collection of vertex disjoint cycles. A digraph  $D$  is pancyclic if it contains cycles of lengths  $3, 4, \dots, |V(D)|$  and  $D$  is vertex-pancyclic if for each  $w \in V(D)$  there are cycles of lengths  $3, 4, \dots, |V(D)|$  containing  $w$ . The local irregularity of a digraph  $D$  is defined as  $i_l(D) = \max |d^+(x) - d^-(x)|$  over all vertices  $x \in V(D)$  and the global irregularity is defined as  $i_g(D) = \max |d^+(x) - d^-(y)|$  over all pairs of vertices  $x, y \in V(D)$ . A digraph  $D$  is strong if for each  $x, y \in V(D)$ , there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$ . A digraph  $D$  is  $k$ -strong if  $D - X$  is strong for all sets of vertices  $X$ ,  $|X| < k$  and  $X \subseteq V(D)$ .

It is conjectured that all regular  $c$ -partite tournaments with  $c \geq 4$  are pancyclic. In fact, Yeo<sup>[1]</sup> proves that when  $c \geq 5$ , all regular  $c$ -partite tournaments are vertex-pancyclic. Our main results are based on the technics of [1]. As for surveys on multipartite tournaments, see [2] and [1], \* \*.

## 1 Terminology and notations

We shall assume that the reader is familiar with the standard terminology on graphs and

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digraphs and refer the reader to [3].

Let  $D = (V, A)$  be a digraph. If  $xy \in A(D)$ , then we say that  $x$  dominates  $y$  and  $y$  is dominated by  $x$ . We also denote this by  $x \rightarrow y$ . If  $X, Y \subseteq V(D)$  and there is no arc from  $Y$  to  $X$ , then we say that  $X \Rightarrow Y$ . For a vertex  $x \in V(D)$ , the in-degree  $d^-(x)$  (out-degree  $d^+(x)$ ) of  $x$  is the number of vertices dominating  $x$  (dominated by  $x$ ) in  $D$ . Furthermore, we use  $d^+(D)$  and  $d^-(D)$  ( $d^+(D)$  and  $d^-(D)$ ) to denote the maximum and minimum out-degree (in-degree) in  $D$  respectively. If  $Q$  is a subgraph in  $D$ , then  $D \setminus Q$  is the subgraph induced by  $V(D) \setminus V(Q)$ .

Let  $D$  be a digraph and let  $\{x, y\} \subseteq V(D)$ . We will use the following definitions  $\delta(x, y, D) = d^+(x) - d^-(x)$  and  $\delta(x, y, D) = \delta(x, D) - \delta(y, D)$ . Note that  $i_l(D) = \max\{|\delta(x, D)| \mid x \in V(D)\}$ .

Let  $D$  be digraph and  $C$  be a cycle in  $D$ . If  $u, v \in V(C)$ , we denote  $C[u, v]$  the directed path from  $u$  to  $v$  on  $C$ . If  $x \in V(C)$ , then  $x^+$  denotes the successor of  $x$  on the cycle  $C$ . Analogously  $x^-$  denotes the predecessor of  $x$  on  $C$ . We define  $x^+ = x^{+1}$  and  $x^+ = (x^{+(-1)})^+$  for  $i \geq 2$ . Let  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_l$  be cycles in  $D$  and let  $F = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_l$ . If  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_l$  are pairwise disjoint, then we call that  $F$  is a cycle subgraph in  $D$ . Let  $k$  be an integer in  $\{1, 2, \dots, |V(D)|\}$  and let  $\{x, y\} \subseteq V(D) \setminus V(C)$  be arbitrary. A  $k$ -partner of  $(x, y)$  on  $F$  is a vertex  $z \in V(F)$  such that  $z \rightarrow x$  and  $y \rightarrow z^+$ .

A cycle  $C_0$  is  $k$ -reducible if there are cycles  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$  such that  $C_{i+1} = C_i \setminus w_i^+$ ,  $w_i^- \setminus w_i^+$  for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$ , where  $w_i \in V(C_i)$ . If  $w \in V(D)$ , then a cycle  $C_0$  is  $(w, k)$ -reducible if it is  $k$ -reducible, and  $w$  belongs to all the cycles  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k$ .

## 2 Lemmas and main results

**Main Theorem** Any  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 3$ ) tournament  $T$  with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c| \geq |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) \geq 1$  is vertex-pancyclic.

In order to prove this theorem, we need the following Lemmas:

**Lemma 1** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament with partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  and  $i_g(T) \geq 1$ , then

- $d^+(T) - d^-(T) \geq 2$ .
- If  $d^+(T) - d^-(T) = 2$ , then  $d^-(x) = d^+(T) + 1$  for each  $x \in V(T)$ .
- $|V_i| - |V_j| \geq 2$ , for all  $i \neq j$ .
- If  $d^+(x) - d^-(y) = 2$ , then  $d^+(x) = d^+(T)$ ,  $d^-(y) = d^-(T)$  and  $|V(y)| = |V(x)| + 2$ .

**Proof** (a) Suppose there exist  $u, v \in V(T)$  such that  $d^+(u) - d^-(v) \geq 3$ . Since  $i_g(T) \geq 1$

1, we have  $d^-(u) = d^+(u) - 1 = d^+(v) + 3 - 1 = d^+(v) + 2$ , a contradiction.

(b) Suppose  $d^+(T) - d^-(T) = 2$ . Let  $u, v \in V(T)$  with  $d^+(u) - d^+(v) = 2$ , where  $d^+(u) = d^+(T)$  and  $d^+(v) = d^-(T)$ . Let  $z \in V(T)$ . If  $d^-(z) = d^-(T) + 2$ , then  $d^-(z) - d^+(v) = 2$ , a contradiction; If  $d^-(z) = d^-(T)$ , then  $d^+(u) - d^-(z) = 2$ , a contradiction too. So we have  $d^-(x) = d^-(T) + 1$  for each  $x \in V(T)$ .

(c) Note that  $d^+(x) + d^-(x) = |V(T)| - |V(x)|$  for each  $x \in V(T)$ . Let  $x, y \in V(T)$  so that  $V(x) = V_i$  and  $V(y) = V_j$ . Then  $|V_i| - |V_j| = |V(x)| - |V(y)| = |d^+(x) - d^+(y) + d^-(x) - d^-(y)| = |d^+(x) - d^-(y)| + |d^-(x) - d^+(y)| = 2$ .

(d) By (a), it is easy to see that  $d^+(x) = d^+(T)$  and  $d^+(y) = d^-(T)$ . By (b), we know that  $d^-(x) = d^-(y)$ . Hence we have  $|V(y)| - |V(x)| = (|V(T)| - d^+(y) - d^-(y)) - (|V(T)| - d^+(x) - d^-(x)) = d^+(x) - d^+(y) = 2$ .

**Corollary 2** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| = |V_2| = \dots = |V_c| = |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ , then  $d^+(T) - d^-(T) = 1$ .

**Lemma 3** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament of order  $p$  with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ . Let  $r = \max_{1 \leq i \leq c} |V_i|$ , then the connectivity of  $T$  satisfies:  $\kappa(T) \geq (p - 2r)/3$ .

**Proof** Let  $S$  be any vertex set of  $T$  such that  $T - S$  is not strong. Let  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_l$  be the strong components of  $T - S$ , then there are  $T_i, T_j$  such that  $N^+(V(T_i)) \subseteq S$  and  $N^-(V(T_j)) \subseteq S$ . Suppose, without loss of generality, that  $|V(T_j)| \geq |V(T_i)|$  and  $j = 1$ , then  $|V(T_1)| \leq (p - |S|)/2$ . Since  $i_g(T) = 1$ , we have  $d^-(T) \leq (p - r - 1)/2$ . On the other hand, it is easy to verify that  $d^-(T_1) \leq (|V(T_1)| - 1)/2$ . Hence we have

$$(p - r - 1)/2 \geq d^-(T_1) + |S| \geq (|V(T_1)| - 1)/2 + |S| \geq (p + 3|S| - 2)/4.$$

Which yields  $\kappa(T) = |S| \geq (p - 2r)/3$ .

**Lemma 4** ([5]) Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| = |V_2| = \dots = |V_c| = |V_1| + 1$ . If  $i_l(T) = (|V(T)| - |V_{c-1}| - 2|V_c| + 2)/2$ , then  $T$  is Hamiltonian.

**Lemma 5** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| = |V_2| = \dots = |V_c| = |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ . Then for any  $p \in V(T)$ , there exists a cycle  $C$  of length  $p$  in  $T$  containing  $p$ , for all integers  $p$  with  $|V(T)| \geq \frac{2c-2}{3c-5} + \frac{4c}{3c-5} p \geq |V(T)|$ .

**Proof** Let  $n = |V(T)|$  and let  $T$  have partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  with  $|V_1| = |V_2| = \dots = |V_s| = |V_{s+1}| - 1 = \dots = |V_c| - 1$ , where  $1 \leq s \leq c$ .

Assume first, that  $p \in V_1$ . Let  $p$  be an integer with  $n \geq \frac{2c-2}{3c-5} + \frac{4c}{3c-5} p \geq p = n$ .

Let  $k = \lfloor \frac{n-p}{c} \rfloor$  and  $p = kc + r$ ,  $0 \leq r < c$ . Let  $V_i \subseteq V_i$  such that  $|V_i| = k+1$  for  $i = c, c-1, \dots, c-r+1$  and  $|V_i| = k$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, c-r$ , and such that  $V_1$ .

Since

$$n \frac{2c-2}{3c-5} + \frac{4c}{3c-5} = p$$

Subtract  $p \frac{2c-2}{3c-5}$  from both sides, we have

$$(n-p) \frac{2c-2}{3c-5} + \frac{4c}{3c-5} = p(1 - \frac{2c-2}{3c-5})$$

Multiply both sides with  $\frac{3c-5}{2c}$ , we have

$$(n-p) \frac{c-1}{c} + 2 = p \frac{c-3}{2c}$$

As  $p = kc + r$ , we get that

$$n-p - \frac{n-p}{c} + 2 = \frac{p-3k}{2} - \frac{3r}{2c}$$

Since  $\frac{n-p}{c} - 1 < \lfloor \frac{n-p}{c} \rfloor$  and  $\frac{3r}{2c} \geq 0$ ,

$$n-p - \lfloor \frac{n-p}{c} \rfloor + 1 < \frac{p-3k}{2}$$

Since  $n, p, k$  and  $\lfloor \frac{n-p}{c} \rfloor$  are integers,

$$n-p - \lfloor \frac{n-p}{c} \rfloor + 1 \leq \frac{p-3k-1}{2}$$

Let  $T = T - \bigcup_{i=1}^c V_i$  and note that we have deleted at least  $\lfloor (n-p)/c \rfloor$  vertices from each partite set. This implies that  $i_l(T) = n-p - \lfloor (n-p)/c \rfloor + 1 \leq \frac{p-3(k+1)+2}{2}$ . So, by Lemma 4,  $T$  has a Hamiltonian cycle, which corresponds to a  $p$ -cycle in  $T$  containing  $V_1$ .

The case that  $V_{s+1} \cup V_{s+2} \cup \dots \cup V_c$  can be proved by the similar argument as above.

**Lemma 6** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 5$ ) tournament of order  $n$  with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| \leq |V_2| \leq \dots \leq |V_c|$ ,  $|V_1| \geq 1$  and  $i_g(T) \geq 1$ . Then for each pair  $x, y$  in  $V(T)$ , there is a path of length at most 3 from  $x$  to  $y$ .

**Proof** Suppose on the contrary that there are  $x, y \in V(T)$  such that there is no  $(x, y)$ -path of length at most 3 in  $T$ . Thus  $(N^-(y) \setminus \{y\}) \Rightarrow (N^+(x) \setminus \{x\})$  and  $(N^-(y) \setminus \{y\}) \cap (N^+(x) \setminus \{x\}) = \emptyset$ . This implies that  $S = V(T) - N^+(x) - N^-(y) - \{x, y\}$  is a separating set in  $T$ . Thus,  $|S| = \frac{|V(x)| + |V(y)|}{2} - 2 \leq |V_c| - 2 < \frac{n-2|V_c|}{3}$  since  $i_g(T) \geq 1$  and  $c \geq 5$ . This contradicts Lemma 3.

**Lemma 7** ([5]) Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament. Let  $F = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_l$  be a factor in

$T$  with the minimum number of cycles. Then there exists a partite set  $Q$  and an ordering of the cycles  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_l$  in  $F$  such that  $\{x^+, y^-\} \subseteq Q$  for each arc  $xy$  with  $x \in V(C_j), y \in V(C_1) (j > 1)$ .

**Lemma 8** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| + |V_2| + \dots + |V_c| = |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ . Let  $V(T)$  be arbitrary. If  $F = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_l$  is a cycle subgraph in  $T$  with  $V(F) = V(T)$ , then there is a cycle  $C$  in  $T$  with  $|V(C)| = |V(F)|$  and  $V(C) = V(T)$ .

**Proof** Let  $F = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup \dots \cup C_m$  be a cycle subgraph with  $V(F) = V(T)$ , and assume that  $m$  is as small as possible. If  $m = 1$ , we are done. So we assume that  $m \geq 2$ . By examining  $T = T - V(F)$  there exists a partite set  $Q$  such that the conditions of Lemma 7 hold. This implies that  $\{x^+, y^-\} \subseteq Q$  for each arc  $xy$  with  $x \in V(C_j), y \in V(C_1)$  and  $j > 1$ . Assume, without loss of generality, that  $V(F) = V(C_1)$ , otherwise we can consider the reverse digraph of  $T$ .

Let  $R = C_2 \cup C_3 \cup \dots \cup C_m$  and let  $P = p_1 p_2 \dots p_k$  be the shortest possible path from  $R$  to  $C_1$ . Assume that  $p_1 \in V(C_j), j \in \{2, 3, \dots, m\}$ . By Lemma 6 we have that  $2 \leq k \leq 4$ . We now show Claim and three cases below.

**Claim** If  $z \in V(C_1), v \in V(R), z \Rightarrow V(R), V(C_1) \Rightarrow v$  and  $V(z) = V(v)$ , then there is a vertex  $u$  such that  $v \rightarrow u \rightarrow z$ . And if  $u$  is unique, then we have  $(V(C_1) - \{z, z^+\}) \Rightarrow z$  and  $v \Rightarrow (V(C_j) - \{v, v^-\})$ .

In fact, suppose that  $z \Rightarrow N^+(v)$ , then we have  $d^+(z) = d^+(v) + |\{z^+, v^-\}| = d^+(v) + 2$ , which contradicts Corollary 2. And if  $u$  is unique, we can analogously check that  $(V(C_1) - \{z, z^+\}) \Rightarrow z$  and  $v \Rightarrow (V(C_j) - \{v, v^-\})$ , otherwise we have  $d^+(z) = d^+(v) + 2$ , a contradiction.

**Case 1**  $k = 2$ .

By applying Lemma 7 repeatedly, we have  $\{p_1^+, p_2^-\} \subseteq Q, p_2^- \Rightarrow V(R)$  and  $V(C_1) \Rightarrow p_1^+$ . By Claim there is  $z \in V(T) - V(F)$  such that  $p_1^+ \rightarrow z \rightarrow p_2^-$ .

If  $p_2^- \in Q$ , then by Lemma 7 we have  $p_2^- \in p_1^{++}$ . So the cycle subgraph  $F = C_1 \cup [p_2^-, p_2^-] C_j \cup [p_1^{++}, p_1^+] z p_2^-$  ( $F = C_1 \cup C_j$ ) has  $|V(F)| = |V(F)| = |V(F)|$  and as  $p_2^- \rightarrow w$ , we have  $V(F)$ . Therefore  $F$  is a contradiction against the minimality of  $m$ . If  $p_2^- \notin Q$ , then the cycle subgraph  $F = C_1 \cup [p_2^-, p_2^-] p_1^+ z p_2^- \cup C_j \cup [p_1^{++}, p_1^+] p_2^-$  ( $F = C_1 \cup C_j$ ) is also a contradiction against the minimality of  $m$ .

**Case 2**  $k = 3$ .

By the minimality of  $k$  we must have  $V(C_1) \Rightarrow V(R)$ .

**Subcase 2.1**  $p_1^{++} =$  and  $V(p_1^{++}) = V(p_3^-)$ .

The cycle subgraph  $F = C_1[p_3, p_3^-]C_j[p_1^{++}, p_1]p_2p_3$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) has  $V(F)$  since  $p_1^{++} = w$ , which is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ .

**Subcase 2.2**  $p_1^{++} = w$ ,  $V(p_1^{++}) = V(p_3^-)$  and  $V(p_1^{+3}) = V(p_3^{-3})$ .

By Claim there is a vertex  $z \in V(T) - V(F)$  such that  $p_1^{++} z p_3^-$ . The cycle subgraph  $F = C_1[p_3^-, p_3^{-3}]C_j[p_1^{+3}, p_1^{++}]zp_3^-$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) has  $w \in V(F)$  since  $p_3^{-3} = w$  and  $w \notin V(C_1)$ .

**Subcase 2.3**  $p_1^{++} = w$ ,  $V(p_1^{++}) = V(p_3^-)$  and  $V(p_1^{+3}) = V(p_3^{-3})$ .

If there is a vertex  $z \in V(T) - V(F) - \{p_2\}$  such that  $p_1^{++} z p_3^-$ , then  $F = C_1[p_3, p_3^{-3}]p_1^{++}zp_3^-C_j[p_1^{+3}, p_1]p_2p_3$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ . If there is no such  $z$ , then by claim we have  $V(C_1) - \{p_3^-\} \Rightarrow p_3^-$ , so  $F = C_j[p_1^+, p_1]p_2C_1[p_3p_3^{-3}]p_3^-p_1^+$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ .

**Subcase 2.4**  $p_1^{++} = w$  and  $V(p_1^+) = V(p_3^{-})$ .

The cycle subgraph  $F = C_1[p_3, p_3^{-}]C_j[p_1^+, p_1]p_2p_3$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ .

**Subcase 2.5**  $p_1^{++} = w$ ,  $V(p_1^+) = V(p_3^{-})$  and  $V(p_1^{+3}) = V(p_3^{-3})$ .

By claim there is a vertex  $z \in V(T) - V(F)$  with  $p_1^+ z p_3^{-}$ . So  $F = C_1[p_3^-, p_3^{-3}]C_j[p_1^{+3}, p_1^+]zp_3^{-}$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ .

**Subcase 2.6**  $p_1^{++} = w$ ,  $V(p_1^+) = V(p_3^{-})$  and  $V(p_1^{+3}) = V(p_3^{-3})$ .

If there is vertex  $z \in V(T) - V(F) - \{p_2\}$  such that  $p_1^+ z p_3^{-}$ , then  $F = C_1[p_3, p_3^{-3}]p_1^+zp_3^{-}C_j[p_1^{+3}, p_1]p_2p_3$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ . If no such vertex  $z$  exists, then we have  $p_3^- = p_1^+$  and  $p_1^+ = p_1^{++}$  by lemma 7, so  $F = C_1[p_3, p_3^-]C_j[p_1^{+3}, p_1]p_2p_3$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is contradiction to the minimality of  $m$  too.

**Case 3.**  $k = 4$

By the minimality of  $k$  we have  $V(C_1) \Rightarrow V(R)$ . Furthermore, if  $V(p_4^{-3}) = V(p_1^+)$ , then Claim gives us a contradiction against the minimality of  $k$ . So we have  $V(p_4^{-3}) \neq V(p_1^+)$ . Now  $F = C_1[p_4, p_4^{-3}]C_j[p_1^+, p_1]p_2p_3p_4$  ( $F = C_1 - C_j$ ) is a contradiction to the minimality of  $m$ .

**Lemma 9** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 4$ ) tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c| \geq |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ . Let  $\{1, 2, 3\}$  and let  $F = C_1 - C_2 - \dots - C_l$  be a cycle subgraph in  $T$ . Let  $T = T - V(F)$  and let  $\{x, y\} \subseteq V(T)$ .

Then there exists at least  $(|V(x) - V(F)| - |V(y) - V(F)| - 1)/2$  distinct  $w$ -partners of  $(x, y)$  in  $F$ .

**Proof** Define

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow x, y \rightarrow z^{(+)}\} \\ A_2 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow x, z^{(+)} \rightarrow y\} \\ A_3 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid x \rightarrow z, y \rightarrow z^{(+)}\} \\ A_4 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid x \rightarrow z, z^{(+)} \rightarrow y\} \\ A_5 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow V(x), y \rightarrow z^{(+)}\} \\ A_6 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow V(x), z^{(+)} \rightarrow y\} \\ A_7 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow x, z^{(+)} \rightarrow V(y)\} \\ A_8 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid x \rightarrow z, z^{(+)} \rightarrow V(y)\} \\ A_9 &= \{z \in V(F) \mid z \rightarrow V(x), y^{(+)} \rightarrow V(y)\}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $|V(x, T)| = |V(x, T)| + |A_3| + |A_4| + |A_8| - |A_1| - |A_2| - |A_7|$  and  $|V(y, T)| = |V(y, T)| + |A_1| + |A_3| + |A_5| - |A_2| - |A_4| - |A_6|$ . Thus we have  $|V(x, y, T)| = |V(x, y, T)| + 2|A_4| + |A_6| + |A_8| - 2|A_1| - |A_5| - |A_7| - 1$ , which implies that  $2|A_1| + 1 \leq |V(x, y, T)| - |A_5| - |A_7| \leq |V(x, y, T)| - |V(x) - V(F)| - |V(y) - V(F)|$ .

**Lemma 10** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 8$ ) tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c| \geq |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) \geq 1$ . Then for each  $v \in V(D)$  there exists a  $(w, 2)$ -reducible 5-cycle in  $T$ .

**Proof** Let  $A = N^+(v)$  and  $B = N^-(v)$ . Let  $a \in A$  belong to the set  $A_l$  if and only if the longest path in  $T[A]$  which ends in  $a$  has length  $l$ . Analogously define the sets  $B_l$  such that  $b \in B_l$  if and only if the longest path in  $T[B]$  which begins from  $b$  has length  $l$ . Let  $A^* = \bigcup_{l=2}^{|A|} A_l$  and  $B^* = \bigcup_{l=2}^{|B|} B_l$ .

From the above definition it is obvious that  $A_0, A_1, B_0, B_1$  are all independent sets. Furthermore, we have  $A_0 \Rightarrow A_1 \Rightarrow A^*, A_1 \Rightarrow A^*$  and  $B^* \Rightarrow B_1 \Rightarrow B_0, B^* \Rightarrow B_1$ . We now consider the following cases:

**Case 1**  $A^* = \emptyset$

If  $B \Rightarrow A^*$ , then let  $a_3 \in A^*$  and  $b \in B$  be chosen such that  $a_3 \rightarrow b$ . Let  $a_1 a_2 a_3$  be a path of length 2 in  $T[A]$  ending in  $a_3$  and observe that  $C = a_1 a_2 a_3 b w$  is a cycle of length 5. Since  $w a_2 a_3 b w$  and  $w a_3 b w$  also are cycles, we have our desired cycles in this case.

Therefore assume that  $B \not\Rightarrow A^*$ . This implies that  $S = V(w) - \{w\}$  is a separating set in  $T$  since  $A \cap B = \{w\} \Rightarrow A^*$ . However,  $|S| \leq v_T^* < \frac{n-2v_T^*-2}{3} = \frac{n-2r}{3}$  when  $c \geq 8$ ,

where  $r = \max\{|V_i|\}$ , which contradicts Lemma 3.

### Case 2 $B^* = \emptyset$

This is analogous to case 1.

### Case 3 $A^* = \emptyset$ and $B^* = \emptyset$ .

In this case we have  $c = 4$  since  $A_0, A_1, B_0, B_1$  are all independent sets, which contradicts the initial assumption that  $c \geq 7$ .

**Lemma 11** Let  $T$  be a  $c$ -partite ( $c \geq 13$ ) tournament with the partite sets  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  such that  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c| \geq |V_1| + 1$  and  $i_g(T) = 1$ . Let  $w \in V(T)$  be arbitrary. Then for all integers  $p$  with  $3 \leq p \leq (c-2)v_T^* - 1$ , there exists a cycle  $C$  in  $T$  with  $w \in V(C)$  and  $|V(C)| = p$ .

**Proof** Let  $w \in V(T)$  and let  $F$  be a cycle subgraph in  $T$  such that  $|V(F)| \leq p$ ,  $w \in V(F)$  and  $|V(F)| \equiv p \pmod{3}$ . Such a cycle must exist since by lemma 10 there exists a 3-cycle, a 4-cycle and a 5-cycle all including the vertex  $w$ . We choose  $F$  such that  $F$  contains the maximum number of vertices with the desired properties. If  $|V(F)| = p$ , then we are done by lemma 8. So we assume that  $|V(F)| < p$ , which implies that  $|V(F)| \leq p - 3 \leq (c-2)v_T^* - 4$ .

Let  $T' = T - V(F)$  and note that if  $T'$  has a strong component with vertices from three or more partite sets, then there must exist a 3-cycle  $C$  in  $T'$  and hence  $F \cup C$  will be a contradiction against the maximality of  $|V(F)|$ . So there are vertices from at most two partite sets in any strong component of  $T'$ , as  $|V(F)| \leq (c-2)v_T^* - 4$ , there are vertices from at least three partite sets in  $T'$ , which implies that  $T'$  is not strong. Let  $Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_m$  be the strong components of  $T'$  such that  $Q_i \Rightarrow Q_j$  for all  $1 \leq i < j \leq m$ .

Let  $x \in Q_1$  be chosen such that  $(x, T - Q_1) = 0$  and let  $y \in Q_m$  be chosen such that  $(y, T - Q_m) = 0$ . Since  $|V(T)| \geq 2v_T^* + 4 > 2(v_T^* + 1) + 1$ , there is a vertex  $z \in V(T) - V(x) - V(y)$ . If  $z \in Q_1$ , then as  $Q_1$  is strong and contains vertices from only two partite sets, there must be a vertex  $z' \in V(z)$  such that  $x \rightarrow z'$ . This implies that  $x \rightarrow z' \rightarrow y$  is a  $(x, y)$ -path of length 2 in  $T$ . Analogously if  $z \in Q_m$ , we can also obtain a  $(x, y)$ -path of length 2 in  $T$ . Finally if  $z \notin Q_1 \cup Q_m$ , then  $x \rightarrow z \rightarrow y$  is a  $(x, y)$ -path of length 2 in  $T$ . Hence there exists a  $(x, y)$ -path of length 2 in  $T$ , which we shall denote by  $R$ .

Since  $(x, T) = (x, T - Q_1) + |V(T) - V(x) - Q_1|$  and  $(y, T) = (y, T - Q_m) + |V(T) - V(y) - Q_m|$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} (x, y, T) &= |V(T) - V(x) - Q_1| + |V(T) - V(y) - Q_m| \\ &= |V(T)| - |Q_1| - |V(x)| + |V(T)| - |Q_m| - |V(y)| \\ &= |V(T)| - |V(x)| - |V(y)| + |V(T)| - |Q_1| - |Q_m|. \end{aligned}$$



By Lemma 9,  $\{x, y\}$  has at least  $(|V(T)| - 2(v_T^* + 1) - 1)/2 > 0$  1-partners in  $F$ . Let  $z$  be any 1-partner in  $F$  and let  $C \subseteq F$  be the cycle with  $z \in V(C)$ . Now  $(F - C) \cap C[z^+, z]R$  is a contradiction against the maximality of  $|V(F)|$ .

**Proof of Main Theorem** By lemma 5 and lemma 11, it is sufficient to show that  $n(2c - 2)/(3c - 5) + 2c/(3c - 5) + 1 \geq v_T^*(c - 2)$ . It holds when  $c \geq 13$ .

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## 多部竞赛图的点泛圈性

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**摘要:** 把  $c$ -部完全图的每条边任意加上一个方向后得到的定向图称为  $c$ -部竞赛图, 设  $T$  为  $c$ -部竞赛图, 定义  $i_g(T) = \max_{x, y \in V(T)} |d^+(x) - d^-(y)|$ . 给出了  $c$ -部竞赛图具有点泛圈性的一个充分条件, 即: 设  $T$  为  $c$ -部竞赛图 ( $c \geq 13$ ),  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_c$  为  $T$  的各分部. 如果  $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_c| \geq |V_1| + 1$  并且  $i_g(T) \leq 1$ , 那么  $T$  具有点泛圈性.

**关键词:** 多部竞赛图, 圈, 点泛圈

**中图分类号:** O157.5