

## BIPARTITE GRAPH BUNDLES WITH CONNECTED FIBRES

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Let  $G$  be a finite connected simple graph. The isomorphism classes of graph bundles and graph coverings over  $G$  have been enumerated by Kwak and Lee. Recently, Archdeacon and others characterised bipartite coverings of  $G$  and enumerated the isomorphism classes of regular  $2p$ -fold bipartite coverings of  $G$ , when  $G$  is nonbipartite. In this paper, we characterise bipartite graph bundles over  $G$  and derive some enumeration formulas of the isomorphism classes of them when the fibre is a connected bipartite graph. As an application, we compute the exact numbers of the isomorphism classes of bipartite graph bundles over  $G$  when the fibre is the path  $P_n$  or the cycle  $C_n$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G$  be a finite connected simple graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ . Let  $|X|$  denote the cardinality of a set  $X$ . The *Betti number* of  $G$  is by definition the number  $\beta(G) = |E(G)| - |V(G)| + 1$ , which turns out to be the number of independent cycles in  $G$ . For graph theoretic terminology not defined here, see [3].

Two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  are *isomorphic* if there exists a one-to-one correspondence between their vertex sets which preserves adjacency. Such a correspondence is called an *isomorphism* between  $G$  and  $H$ . An *automorphism* of a graph  $G$  is an isomorphism of  $G$  onto itself. Thus, an automorphism of  $G$  is a permutation of the vertex set  $V(G)$  which preserves adjacency. Obviously, the automorphisms of  $G$  form a permutation group  $\text{Aut}(G)$ , which acts on the vertex set  $V(G)$ .

Now, we introduce the notion of a graph bundle [7]. Every edge of a graph  $G$  gives rise to a pair of oppositely directed edges. We denote the set of directed edges of  $G$  by  $D(G)$ . A directed edge  $e$  in  $D(G)$  is denoted by  $uv$  if its initial and terminal vertices are  $u$  and  $v$  respectively, and its reverse edge is denoted by  $e^{-1}$  or  $vu$ . For a finite group  $\Gamma$ , a  $\Gamma$ -*voltage assignment* of  $G$  is a function  $\phi : D(G) \rightarrow \Gamma$  such that  $\phi(e^{-1}) = \phi(e)^{-1}$  for all  $e \in D(G)$ . We denote the set of  $\Gamma$ -voltage assignment of  $G$  by  $C^1(G; \Gamma)$ . Note that the set  $C^1(G; \Gamma)$  needs not be a group under pointwise multiplication.

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For a finite simple graph  $F$ , let  $\phi$  be an  $\text{Aut}(F)$ -voltage assignment of  $G$ . We construct a new graph  $G \times^\phi F$  as follows:  $V(G \times^\phi F) = V(G) \times V(F)$ . Two vertices  $(u, s)$  and  $(v, t)$  in  $G \times^\phi F$  are adjacent if either  $uv \in D(G)$  and  $t = \phi(uv)(s)$  in  $F$  or  $u = v$  in  $G$  and the vertices  $s$  and  $t$  in  $F$  are adjacent. The graph  $G \times^\phi F$  is called the *bundle graph associated with  $\phi$* . Together with the first coordinate projection  $p^\phi : G \times^\phi F \rightarrow G$ , the pair  $(G \times^\phi F, p^\phi)$  is called the  *$F$ -bundle over  $G$  associated with  $\phi$* , and  $G$  and  $F$  are called the *base* and the *fibres* of the  $F$ -bundle  $(G \times^\phi F, p^\phi)$ , respectively. When there is no confusion, we often call the bundle graph  $G \times^\phi F$  an  $F$ -bundle.

Note that for each  $v \in V(G)$ , the fibre  $(p^\phi)^{-1}(v) = F_v$  of  $v$  is a subgraph of the graph  $G \times^\phi F$  which is isomorphic to  $F$ . The map  $p^\phi$  maps vertices to vertices, but an image of an edge can be either an edge or a vertex. Moreover,  $V(G \times^\phi F) = \bigcup_{v \in V(G)} V(F_v)$ .

If  $F = \overline{K_n}$ , the complement of the complete graph  $K_n$  on  $n$  vertices, then an  $F$ -bundle over  $G$  is just an  $n$ -fold covering graph of  $G$  [2]. If  $\phi(e)$  is the identity of  $\text{Aut}(F)$  for all  $e \in D(G)$ , then  $G \times^\phi F$  is just the cartesian product  $G \times F$  of  $G$  and  $F$ .

Two  $F$ -bundles  $G \times^\phi F$  and  $G \times^\psi F$  are said to be *isomorphic* if there exists an isomorphism  $\Phi : G \times^\phi F \rightarrow G \times^\psi F$  such that the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 G \times^\phi F & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & G \times^\psi F \\
 & \searrow p^\phi & \swarrow p^\psi \\
 & G &
 \end{array}$$

commutes. Such a  $\Phi$  is called a *bundle isomorphism*. Notice that two isomorphic bundle graphs need not be isomorphic as graph bundles.

After the enumeration of double covers of a graph in [4] and [8], there has been much progress during the last decade in the enumeration of several graph coverings or graph bundles over a graph ([1, 4, 5, 6] and references there).

Kwak and Lee [6] obtained the following algebraic characterisation of isomorphism classes of  $F$ -bundles over  $G$ .

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  be two voltage assignments in  $C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ . Two  $F$ -bundles  $G \times^\phi F$  and  $G \times^\psi F$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(F)$  such that  $\psi(uv) = f(v)\phi(uv)f(u)^{-1}$  for all  $uv \in D(G)$ .*

**COROLLARY 1.2.** *Let  $\phi$  be a voltage assignment in  $C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  and  $T$  a fixed spanning tree of  $G$ . Then there exists a voltage assignment  $\psi$  in  $C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  such that  $\psi(e) = \text{the identity}$  for all  $e \in D(T)$  and  $G \times^\phi F$  is isomorphic to  $G \times^\psi F$  as bundles.*

In particular, if  $G$  is a tree, then every  $F$ -bundle graph over  $G$  is isomorphic to the cartesian product  $G \times F$ . For a fixed spanning tree  $T$  of  $G$ , let

$$C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F)) = \left\{ \phi \in C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F)) \mid \phi(e) = \text{the identity for each } e \in D(T) \right\}.$$

It follows from Corollary 1.2 that  $C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  contains all representatives of the isomorphism classes of  $F$ -bundles over  $G$ .

**COROLLARY 1.3.** *Let  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  be two voltage assignments in  $C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ . Then two  $F$ -bundles  $G \times^\phi F$  and  $G \times^\psi F$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists an automorphism  $\sigma$  in  $\text{Aut}(F)$  such that  $\psi(uv) = \sigma\phi(uv)\sigma^{-1}$  for all  $uv \in D(G) - D(T)$ .*

## 2. A CHARACTERISATION OF BIPARTITE $F$ -BUNDLES

In this section, we consider graph bundles over  $G$  whose bundle graphs are bipartite, called *bipartite graph bundles* over  $G$ . If an  $F$ -bundle  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite, then clearly the fibre  $F$  as a subgraph of  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite, while the base graph  $G$  needs not be bipartite in general. In the following we discuss some characterisations of a bipartite  $F$ -bundle  $G \times^\phi F$  in terms of the base graph  $G$ .

Let  $\mathfrak{B} = \{V_1(F), V_2(F)\}$  be a bipartition of the vertices of a bipartite graph  $F$ . An automorphism  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)$  is said to *preserve* the bipartition  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $F$  if  $\sigma(V_i(F)) = V_i(F)$  for each  $i = 1, 2$ , and said to *reverse* the bipartition  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $F$  if  $\sigma(V_i(F)) = V_j(F)$  where  $i \neq j$ . We put

$$\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F) = \{ \sigma \in \text{Aut}(F) \mid \sigma \text{ preserves the bipartition } \mathfrak{B} \text{ of } F \}$$

and

$$\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F) = \{ \sigma \in \text{Aut}(F) \mid \sigma \text{ reverses the bipartition } \mathfrak{B} \text{ of } F \}.$$

Note that, for a bipartition  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $F$ , if  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|V_1(F)| = |V_2(F)|$  and  $|\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)| = |\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)|$ . If  $F$  is a connected bipartite graph, then the bipartition of  $F$  is unique and  $\text{Aut}(F)$  is the disjoint union of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$ . In this case,  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$  are denoted by  $\mathcal{P}(F)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(F)$  respectively. If  $F$  is not connected, then, for a bipartition  $\mathfrak{B}$  of  $F$ ,  $\text{Aut}(F)$  needs not be the disjoint union of  $\mathcal{P}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F)$  even though  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathfrak{B}}(F) \neq \emptyset$ . From now on, we *assume* that the fibre  $F$  is a connected bipartite graph, and  $T$  is a fixed spanning tree of the base graph  $G$  of a graph bundle  $G \times^\phi F$ .

For each  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)$ , we define the *signature* of  $\sigma$  as

$$\text{sig}(\sigma) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } \sigma \in \mathcal{P}(F), \\ -1 & \text{if } \sigma \in \mathcal{R}(F). \end{cases}$$

An edge  $e$  in  $E(G) - E(T)$  is said to be *odd* (respectively *even*) if  $T + e$  has an odd (respectively even) cycle. For a directed edge  $e$  in  $D(G) - D(T)$ , the *signature* of  $e$  is defined as

$$\text{sig}(e) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if the underlying edge of } e \text{ is even,} \\ -1 & \text{if the underlying edge of } e \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Let  $\beta_o(G, T)$  and  $\beta_e(G, T)$  be the number of odd and even edges in  $E(G) - E(T)$ , respectively. Then  $\beta(G) = \beta_e(G, T) + \beta_o(G, T)$ .

Let  $\phi$  be an  $\text{Aut}(F)$ -voltage assignment of  $G$  and let  $W = e_1 e_2 \dots e_n$  be a walk in  $G$  with length  $\ell(W) = n$ . The product of voltages  $\phi(W) = \phi(e_n) \cdots \phi(e_2) \phi(e_1)$  is called the *net  $\phi$ -voltage* of  $W$ .

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph and  $\phi \in C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (a)  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite.
- (b) For each cycle  $C$  in  $G$ ,  $\text{sig}(\phi(C)) = (-1)^{\ell(C)}$ .

Moreover, if  $\phi \in C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ , then the above statements are equivalent to

- (c) For each  $uv \in D(G) - D(T)$ ,  $\text{sig}(\phi(uv)) = \text{sig}(uv)$ .

**PROOF:** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) Suppose  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite, and let  $C$  be a cycle of length  $n$  in  $G$  having vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  consecutively. Then  $(v_1, s) (v_2, \phi(v_1 v_2)(s)) (v_3, \phi(v_2 v_3) \phi(v_1 v_2)(s)) \cdots (v_1, \phi(C)(s))$  is a path or a cycle  $P$  in  $G \times^\phi F$  of length  $n$ . Let  $Q$  be a walk in  $(p^\phi)^{-1}(v_1) = F_{v_1}$  connecting the vertices  $(v_1, \phi(C)(s))$  and  $(v_1, s)$ . Then  $PQ$  is a closed walk in  $G \times^\phi F$  so that the length  $\ell(PQ)$  is even, since  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite. Note that

$$\ell(PQ) = \ell(C) + \ell(Q) = n + \ell(Q).$$

Thus the parities of  $\ell(C)$  and  $\ell(Q)$  are the same, that is,  $(-1)^{\ell(C)} = (-1)^{\ell(Q)}$ . Moreover, since  $F_{v_1}$  is bipartite, the length  $\ell(Q)$  is odd if and only if  $\phi(C) \in \mathcal{R}(F)$ , and is even if and only if  $\phi(C) \in \mathcal{P}(F)$ . Therefore,  $\text{sig}(\phi(C)) = (-1)^{\ell(Q)} = (-1)^{\ell(C)}$ .

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) Let  $u_0$  be a fixed vertex in  $G$  and let the fibre  $F_{u_0}$  have a vertex bipartition  $V_1(F_{u_0})$  and  $V(F_{u_0}) - V_1(F_{u_0})$ . For each  $v$  in  $V(G)$ , let  $P_v$  be the unique path in a spanning tree  $T$  which connects  $u_0$  and  $v$ , and let

$$V_1(F_v) = \begin{cases} V(F_v) - \phi(P_v)(V_1(F_{u_0})) & \text{if } \ell(P_v) \text{ is odd,} \\ \phi(P_v)(V_1(F_{u_0})) & \text{if } \ell(P_v) \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

Then for each  $v$  in  $V(G)$ ,  $V_1(F_v)$  and  $V(F_v) - V_1(F_v)$  form a bipartition of the bipartite graph  $F_v$ . This implies that  $V_1(G \times^\phi F) = \bigcup_{v \in V(G)} V_1(F_v)$  and its complement  $V_2(G \times^\phi F)$

in  $V(G \times^\phi F)$  form a bipartition of the connected graph  $(p^\phi)^{-1}(T)$  which is a spanning subgraph of  $G \times^\phi F$ . Now, if condition (b) holds, then  $G \times^\phi F$  cannot have an odd cycle, and  $V_1(G \times^\phi F)$  and  $V_2(G \times^\phi F)$  actually form a bipartition of the connected graph  $G \times^\phi F$ . Hence  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite.

(b)  $\Leftrightarrow$  (c) This is clear that the length  $\ell(C)$  of a cycle  $C$  in  $G$  is odd if and only if  $C$  contains an odd number of odd edges. Since  $\phi \in C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ , the conditions (b) and (c) are equivalent. □

**COROLLARY 2.2.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph with  $\mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

- (a)  $G$  is bipartite.
- (b) All bundle graphs  $G \times^\phi F$  over  $G$  are bipartite.
- (c)  $G \times F$  is bipartite.

PROOF: (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b) Let  $\phi$  be an  $\text{Aut}(F)$ -voltage assignment of  $G$ . Then for each cycle  $C$  in  $G$ ,  $\text{sig}(\phi(C)) = 1$ , because  $\mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset$ . Since  $G$  is bipartite,  $(-1)^{\ell(C)} = 1$  for each cycle  $C$  in  $G$ . Now, by Theorem 2.1,  $G \times^\phi F$  is bipartite.

(b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c) Let  $\phi$  be the trivial voltage assignment in  $C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ , that is,  $\phi(uv)$  is the identity for each  $uv \in D(G)$ . Then  $G \times^\phi F$  is just the cartesian product  $G \times F$ , which is bipartite by (b).

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a) This is clear, because  $G$  is a subgraph of  $G \times F$ . □

Corollary 2.2 implies that if  $\mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset$  and  $G$  is nonbipartite, then there is a voltage  $\phi \in C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  such that  $G \times^\phi F$  is nonbipartite. Actually, the following corollary shows that  $G \times^\phi F$  cannot be bipartite for any voltage  $\phi \in C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ . In particular, if the number of vertices of  $F$  is odd, then clearly  $\mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset$ , and any  $F$ -bundle over a nonbipartite graph  $G$  cannot be bipartite.

Recall that every  $F$ -bundle graph over a tree  $T$  is isomorphic to the cartesian product  $T \times F$ . Since the cartesian product of two bipartite graphs is also bipartite, every  $F$ -bundle graph over a tree is bipartite. Note that if  $\mathcal{R}(F) \neq \emptyset$ , then one can always find a nonbipartite graph bundle  $G \times^\phi F$  for any bipartite graph  $G$  which is not a tree.

**COROLLARY 2.3.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph and  $G$  a nonbipartite graph. Then there exists a bipartite  $F$ -bundle over  $G$  if and only if  $\mathcal{R}(F) \neq \emptyset$ .*

PROOF: Suppose that there exists a bipartite  $F$ -bundle  $G \times^\phi F$  over a nonbipartite graph  $G$ . Since  $G$  is not bipartite, it contains at least one odd cycle  $C$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $\phi(C) \in \mathcal{R}(F)$  and hence  $\mathcal{R}(F) \neq \emptyset$ .

Conversely, let  $\sigma \in \mathcal{R}(F)$ . We define  $\phi : D^+(G) \rightarrow \text{Aut}(F)$  by  $\phi(uv) = \sigma$  for each  $uv \in D^+(G)$ , where  $D^+(G)$  is a subset of  $D(G)$  consisting of all positively directed edges. Then  $\phi$  can be extended to a voltage assignment in  $C^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  with the property that for each cycle  $C$   $\text{sig}(\phi(C)) = (-1)^{\ell(C)}$ . Theorem 2.1 implies that  $G \times^\phi F$  is a bipartite  $F$ -bundle over  $G$ . □

### 3. ENUMERATION FORMULAS

Let  $\text{Iso}^B(G; F)$  denote the number of isomorphism classes of bipartite  $F$ -bundles over  $G$ . The following theorem is a direct consequence of Corollaries 2.2 and 2.3.

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph with  $\mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset$ . Then we have*

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; F) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } G \text{ is nonbipartite,} \\ \text{Iso}(G; F) & \text{if } G \text{ is bipartite,} \end{cases}$$

where  $\text{Iso}(G; F)$  denotes the number of isomorphism classes of  $F$ -bundles over  $G$ .

Recall that the number  $\text{Iso}(G; F)$  has been computed by Kwak and Lee [6]. In the following, we derive an enumeration formula for the number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; F)$  when  $F$  is a connected bipartite graph. For a connected bipartite graph  $F$ , we first consider the following set of  $\text{Aut}(F)$ -voltage assignments:

$$BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F)) = \left\{ \phi \in C_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F)) \mid \text{sig}(\phi(e)) = \text{sig}(e) \text{ for all } e \in D(G) - D(T) \right\}.$$

This set is characterised by Theorem 2.1 and Corollary 1.2 as follows.

**LEMMA 3.2.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph. Then  $BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  contains all representatives of the isomorphism classes of bipartite  $F$ -bundles over  $G$ .*

We define an action of  $\text{Aut}(F)$  on  $BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$  by  $(\sigma \bullet \phi)(uv) = \sigma\phi(uv)\sigma^{-1}$  for all  $uv \in D(G)$ . This action is well-defined, since

$$\sigma\mathcal{P}(F)\sigma^{-1} = \mathcal{P}(F) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma\mathcal{R}(F)\sigma^{-1} = \mathcal{R}(F)$$

for each automorphism  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)$ . The following is a direct consequence of Corollary 1.3.

**LEMMA 3.3.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph, and let  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  be two voltage assignments in  $BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ . Then two bipartite  $F$ -bundles  $G \times^\phi F$  and  $G \times^\psi F$  are isomorphic if and only if there exists an automorphism  $\sigma$  in  $\text{Aut}(F)$  such that  $\sigma \bullet \phi = \psi$ , that is,  $\phi$  and  $\psi$  lie in the same orbit of the  $\text{Aut}(F)$ -action on  $BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F))$ .*

By the Burnside lemma and Lemmas 3.2 and 3.3, we have the following.

**THEOREM 3.4.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph. Then the number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; F)$  of isomorphism classes of bipartite  $F$ -bundles over  $G$  is*

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; F) = \frac{1}{|\text{Aut}(F)|} \sum_{\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)} |\text{Fix}_\sigma|,$$

where  $\text{Fix}_\sigma = \left\{ \phi \in BC_T^1(G; \text{Aut}(F)) \mid \sigma \bullet \phi = \phi \right\}$ .

The following lemma shows how to compute the number  $|\text{Fix}_\sigma|$ . For  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)$ , let  $Z(\sigma) = \{ \mu \in \text{Aut}(F) \mid \sigma\mu = \mu\sigma \}$ ,  $Z_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma) = \{ \mu \in \mathcal{P}(F) \mid \sigma\mu = \mu\sigma \}$ , and  $Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma) = \{ \mu \in \mathcal{R}(F) \mid \sigma\mu = \mu\sigma \}$ . Clearly, if  $Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|Z_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma)| = |Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma)|$ .

**LEMMA 3.5.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph. Then for each  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(F)$ ,*

$$\begin{aligned} |\text{Fix}_\sigma| &= |Z_{\mathcal{P}}(\sigma)|^{\beta_\epsilon(G,T)} |Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma)|^{\beta_o(G,T)} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma)| = 0 \text{ and } G \text{ is nonbipartite,} \\ |Z(\sigma)|^{\beta(G)} & \text{if } |Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\sigma)| = 0 \text{ and } G \text{ is bipartite,} \\ \left( \frac{|Z(\sigma)|}{2} \right)^{\beta(G)} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

By applying Theorems 4 and 5 in [6] and Lemma 3.5 to Theorem 3.4, we have the following.

**THEOREM 3.6.** *Let  $F$  be a connected bipartite graph such that  $\text{Aut}(F)$  is Abelian. Then*

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; F) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } G \text{ is nonbipartite and } \mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset, \\ \text{Iso}(G; F) & \text{if } G \text{ is bipartite and } \mathcal{R}(F) = \emptyset, \\ \text{Iso}(G; F)/2^{\beta(G)} & \text{if } \mathcal{R}(F) \neq \emptyset, \end{cases}$$

where  $\text{Iso}(G; F) = |\text{Aut}(F)|^{\beta(G)}$  as shown in [6].

#### 4. APPLICATIONS

As an application of our results, one can compute the number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; F)$  of the isomorphism classes of bipartite  $F$ -bundles over  $G$  when  $F = P_n$  or  $C_n$ , where  $P_n$  is the path with  $n$  vertices and  $C_n$  is the cycle of length  $n$ .

1. Let  $F = P_n$ . Note that the automorphism group  $\text{Aut}(P_n)$  of  $P_n$  is isomorphic to the cyclic group  $\{1, \alpha\}$  of order 2 and hence is Abelian. Moreover,  $\mathcal{P}(P_n) = \text{Aut}(P_n)$  and  $\mathcal{R}(P_n) = \emptyset$  if  $n$  is odd, and  $\mathcal{P}(P_n) = \{1\}$  and  $\mathcal{R}(P_n) = \{\alpha\}$  if  $n$  is even.

By Theorem 3.6, we have the following.

**THEOREM 4.1.** *The number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; P_n)$  of the isomorphism classes of bipartite  $P_n$ -bundles over  $G$  is*

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; P_n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } G \text{ is nonbipartite and } n \text{ is odd,} \\ 2^{\beta(G)} & \text{if } G \text{ is bipartite and } n \text{ is odd,} \\ 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

The following table shows the number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; P_n)$  for small  $n$  and  $\beta(G)$ :

	bipartite $G$							nonbipartite $G$					
$\beta(G)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	...	1	2	3	4	5	...
$n = \text{odd}$	1	2	4	8	16	32	...	0	0	0	0	0	...
$n = \text{even}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	1	1	1	...

2. Let  $F = C_n$ . Note that  $C_n$  is bipartite if and only if  $n$  is even. Hence,  $\text{Iso}^B(G; C_n) = 0$  if  $n$  is odd. Let  $n$  be an even number. Then  $\text{Aut}(C_n)$  can be identified with the dihedral group  $\mathbb{D}_n$ , which is generated by  $\tau$  and  $\rho$ , where  $\tau = (1\ n)(2\ n-1)\cdots((n/2)\ (n/2+1))$  and  $\rho = (1\ 2\ \dots\ n)$  in the symmetric group  $S_n$  on  $n$  elements  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . Moreover,

$$\mathcal{P}(C_n) = \left\{ \rho^{2i}, \tau\rho^{2i+1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{2} \right\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{R}(C_n) = \left\{ \rho^{2i+1}, \tau\rho^{2i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{2} \right\}.$$

By a simple computation, we have the following.

**LEMMA 4.2.** Let  $n$  be an even number and  $h = 0, \dots, n - 1$ . Then

- (a)  $|Z_{\mathcal{P}}(\rho^h)| = |Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\rho^h)| = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } h = 0 \text{ or } h = \frac{n}{2}, \\ n/2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- (b)  $|Z_{\mathcal{P}}(\tau\rho^h)| = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } n/2 \text{ is even and } h \text{ is odd,} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
- (c)  $|Z_{\mathcal{R}}(\tau\rho^h)| = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } n/2 \text{ is even and } h \text{ is odd,} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Lemma 3.5 and Theorem 3.4 imply the following theorem.

**THEOREM 4.3.** Let  $n \geq 3$  be a natural number.

- (a) If  $n$  is odd,  $\text{Iso}^B(G; C_n) = 0$ .
- (b) If  $n$  is even and not a multiple of 4, then

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; C_n) = n^{\beta(G)-1} + \frac{n-2}{4} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\beta(G)-1} + 2^{\beta(G)-1}.$$

- (c) If  $n$  is a multiple of 4, then

$$\text{Iso}^B(G; C_n) = \begin{cases} n^{\beta(G)-1} + \frac{n-2}{4} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\beta(G)-1} + 2^{\beta(G)-2} (1 + 2^{\beta(G)}) & \text{if } G \text{ is bipartite,} \\ n^{\beta(G)-1} + \frac{n-2}{4} \left(\frac{n}{2}\right)^{\beta(G)-1} + 2^{\beta(G)-2} & \text{if } G \text{ is nonbipartite.} \end{cases}$$

The following table shows the number  $\text{Iso}^B(G; P_n)$  for small  $n$  and  $\beta(G)$ :

	bipartite $G$							nonbipartite $G$					
$\beta(G)$	0	1	2	3	4	5	...	1	2	3	4	5	...
$n = \text{odd}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	...	0	0	0	0	0	...
$n = 4$	1	3	10	36	136	528	...	2	6	20	72	272	...
$n = 6$	1	3	11	49	251	1393	...	3	11	49	251	1393	...
$n = 8$	1	4	19	106	676	4744	...	3	15	90	612	4488	...
$n = 10$	1	4	22	154	1258	11266	...	4	22	154	1258	11266	...

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