

## On Equitable Associate Symmetric $n$ -Sigraphs

K. M. Manjula

(Department of Mathematics, Government First Grade College, Channarayapatna-573 116, India)

C. N. Harshavardhana

(Department of Mathematics, Government First Grade College for Women, Holenarasipura-573 211, India)

S. Vijay

(Department of Mathematics, Government Science College, Hassan-573 201, India)

E-mail: manjula.km.gowda@gmail.com, cnhmaths@gmail.com, vijayshivanna82@gmail.com

**Abstract:** In this paper we introduced a new notion equitable associate symmetric  $n$ -sigraph of a symmetric  $n$ -sigraph and its properties are obtained. Further, we discuss structural characterization of equitable associate symmetric  $n$ -sigraphs.

**Key Words:** Symmetric  $n$ -sigraphs, Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -marked graph, symmetric  $n$ -marked graphs, Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -marked graph, balance, switching, equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs, Smarandachely equitable dominating set, complementation.

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### §1. Introduction

Unless mentioned or defined otherwise, for all terminology and notion in graph theory the reader is refer to [2]. We consider only finite, simple graphs free from self-loops.

Let  $n \geq 1$  be an integer. An  $n$ -tuple  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is *symmetric*, if  $a_k = a_{n-k+1}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . Let  $H_n = \{(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) : a_k \in \{+, -\}, a_k = a_{n-k+1}, 1 \leq k \leq n\}$  be the set of all symmetric  $n$ -tuples. Note that  $H_n$  is a group under coordinate wise multiplication, and the order of  $H_n$  is  $2^m$ , where  $m = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ .

A *symmetric  $n$ -sigraph* (*symmetric  $n$ -marked graph*) is an ordered pair  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  ( $S_n = (G, \mu)$ ), where  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph called the *underlying graph* of  $S_n$  and  $\sigma : E \rightarrow H_n$  ( $\mu : V \rightarrow H_n$ ) is a function. Generally, a *Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -sigraph* (*Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -marked graph*) for a subgraph  $H$  is such a graph that  $G - E(H)$  is *symmetric  $n$ -sigraph* (*symmetric  $n$ -marked graph*). For example, let  $H$  be a path  $P_2 \succ G$  or a cycle  $C_3 \prec G$ . Certainly, if  $H = \emptyset$ , a Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -sigraph (or Smarandachely symmetric  $n$ -sigraph) is nothing else but a symmetric  $n$ -sigraph (or symmetric  $n$ -marked graph).

In this paper by an  *$n$ -tuple/ $n$ -sigraph/ $n$ -marked graph* we always mean a symmetric  $n$ -tuple/symmetric  $n$ -sigraph/symmetric  $n$ -marked graph.

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<sup>2</sup>Corresponding author: cnhmaths@gmail.com

An  $n$ -tuple  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is the *identity  $n$ -tuple*, if  $a_k = +$ , for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , otherwise it is a *non-identity  $n$ -tuple*. In an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  an edge labelled with the identity  $n$ -tuple is called an *identity edge*, otherwise it is a *non-identity edge*. Further, in an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ , for any  $A \subseteq E(G)$  the  $n$ -tuple  $\sigma(A)$  is the product of the  $n$ -tuples on the edges of  $A$ .

In [2], the authors defined two notions of balance in  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  as follows (See also R. Rangarajan and P.S.K.Reddy [4]):

**Definition 1.1** Let  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  be an  $n$ -sigraph. Then,

(i)  $S_n$  is identity balanced (or  $i$ -balanced), if product of  $n$ -tuples on each cycle of  $S_n$  is the identity  $n$ -tuple, and

(ii)  $S_n$  is balanced, if every cycle in  $S_n$  contains an even number of non-identity edges.

**Observation 1.2** An  $i$ -balanced  $n$ -sigraph need not be balanced and conversely.

The following characterization of  $i$ -balanced  $n$ -sigraphs is obtained in [8].

**Theorem 1.3** (E. Sampathkumar et al. [8]) An  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  is  $i$ -balanced if, and only if, it is possible to assign  $n$ -tuples to its vertices such that the  $n$ -tuple of each edge  $uv$  is equal to the product of the  $n$ -tuples of  $u$  and  $v$ .

Let  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  be an  $n$ -sigraph. Consider the  $n$ -marking  $\mu$  on vertices of  $S_n$  defined as follows: each vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $\mu(v)$  is the  $n$ -tuple which is the product of the  $n$ -tuples on the edges incident with  $v$ . Complement of  $S_n$  is an  $n$ -sigraph  $\overline{S_n} = (\overline{G}, \sigma^c)$ , where for any edge  $e = uv \in \overline{G}$ ,  $\sigma^c(uv) = \mu(u)\mu(v)$ . Clearly,  $\overline{S_n}$  as defined here is an  $i$ -balanced  $n$ -sigraph due to Proposition 1 in [10].

In [8], the authors also have defined switching and cycle isomorphism of an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  as follows (See also [3, 5 - 7, 10 - 20]):

Let  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$ , be two  $n$ -sigraphs. Then  $S_n$  and  $S'_n$  are said to be *isomorphic*, if there exists an isomorphism  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  such that if  $uv$  is an edge in  $S_n$  with label  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  then  $\phi(u)\phi(v)$  is an edge in  $S'_n$  with label  $(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$ .

Given an  $n$ -marking  $\mu$  of an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ , *switching*  $S_n$  with respect to  $\mu$  is the operation of changing the  $n$ -tuple of every edge  $uv$  of  $S_n$  by  $\mu(u)\sigma(uv)\mu(v)$ . The  $n$ -sigraph obtained in this way is denoted by  $S_\mu(S_n)$  and is called the  $\mu$ -switched  $n$ -sigraph or just *switched  $n$ -sigraph*. Further, an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n$  *switches* to  $n$ -sigraph  $S'_n$  (or that they are *switching equivalent* to each other), written as  $S_n \sim S'_n$ , whenever there exists an  $n$ -marking of  $S_n$  such that  $S_\mu(S_n) \cong S'_n$ .

Two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$  are said to be *cycle isomorphic*, if there exists an isomorphism  $\phi : G \rightarrow G'$  such that the  $n$ -tuple  $\sigma(C)$  of every cycle  $C$  in  $S_n$  equals to the  $n$ -tuple  $\sigma(\phi(C))$  in  $S'_n$ .

We make use of the following known result (see [8]).

**Theorem 1.4** (E. Sampathkumar et al. [8]) Given a graph  $G$ , any two  $n$ -sigraphs with  $G$  as underlying graph are switching equivalent if, and only if, they are cycle isomorphic.

Let  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  be an  $n$ -sigraph. Consider the  $n$ -marking  $\mu$  on vertices of  $S$  defined as follows: each vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $\mu(v)$  is the product of the  $n$ -tuples on the edges incident at  $v$ . Complement of  $S$  is an  $n$ -sigraph  $\overline{S}_n = (\overline{G}, \sigma')$ , where for any edge  $e = uv \in \overline{G}$ ,  $\sigma'(uv) = \mu(u)\mu(v)$ . Clearly,  $\overline{S}_n$  as defined here is an  $i$ -balanced  $n$ -sigraph due to Theorem 1.3.

**§2. Equitable Associate  $n$ -Sigraph of an  $n$ -Sigraph**

A subset  $D$  of  $V(\Gamma)$  is called an *equitable dominating set* of a graph  $\Gamma$ , if for every  $v \in V - D$  there exists a vertex  $u \in D$  such that  $uv \in E(\Gamma)$  and  $|d(u) - d(v)| \leq 1$ . The minimum cardinality of such a dominating set is denoted by  $\gamma_e$  and is called equitable domination number of  $\Gamma$ . A vertex  $u \in V$  is said to be *degree equitable* with a vertex  $v \in V$  if  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \leq 1$  (see [21]) and to be *Smarandachely degree equitable* if  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \geq 2$ .

Generally, a subset  $D$  of  $V$  is called an *equitable dominating set* if for every  $v \in V - D$  there exists a vertex  $u \in D$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \leq 1$  and a *Smarandachely equitable dominating set* if for every  $v \in V - D$  there exists a vertex  $u \in D$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \geq 2$ . Further, a vertex  $u \in V$  is said to be *degree equitable* with a vertex  $v \in V$  if  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \leq 1$  and *Smarandachely degree equitable* if  $|deg(u) - deg(v)| \geq 1$ .

In [1], Dharmalingam introduced a new class of intersection graphs in the field of domination theory. The equitable associate graphs is denoted by  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  is the graph which has the same vertex set as  $G$  with two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent if and only if  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent and degree equitable in  $G$ .

Motivated by the existing definition of complement of an  $n$ -sigraph, we extend the notion of equitable associate graphs to  $n$ -sigraphs as follows:

The *equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph*  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  of an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  is an  $n$ -sigraph whose underlying graph is  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  and the  $n$ -tuple of any edge  $uv$  is  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $\mu(u)\mu(v)$ , where  $\mu$  is the canonical  $n$ -marking of  $S_n$ . Further, an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  is called equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph, if  $S_n \cong \mathcal{E}_t(S'_n)$  for some  $n$ -sigraph  $S'_n$ . The following result indicates the limitations of the notion  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  as introduced above, since the entire class of  $i$ -unbalanced  $n$ -sigraphs is forbidden to be equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs.

**Theorem 2.1** For any  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ , its equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced.

*Proof* Since the  $n$ -tuple of any edge  $uv$  in  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $\mu(u)\mu(v)$ , where  $\mu$  is the canonical  $n$ -marking of  $S_n$ , by Theorem 1.1,  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced. □

For any positive integer  $k$ , the  $k^{th}$  iterated equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  of  $S_n$  is defined as follows:

$$(\mathcal{E})^0(S_n) = S_n, \quad (\mathcal{E})^k(S_n) = \mathcal{E}((\mathcal{E})^{k-1}(S_n)).$$

**Corollary 2.2** For any  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and any positive integer  $k$ ,  $(\mathcal{E})^k(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced.

The following result characterize  $n$ -sigraphs which are equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs.

**Theorem 2.3** *An  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  is an equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph if, and only if,  $S_n$  is  $i$ -balanced  $n$ -sigraph and its underlying graph  $G$  is an equitable associate graph.*

*Proof* Suppose that  $S_n$  is  $i$ -balanced and  $G$  is a  $\mathcal{E}(G)$ . Then there exists a graph  $H$  such that  $\mathcal{E}(H) \cong G$ . Since  $S_n$  is  $i$ -balanced, by Theorem 1.3, there exists an  $n$ -marking  $\mu$  of  $G$  such that each edge  $uv$  in  $S_n$  satisfies  $\sigma(uv) = \mu(u)\mu(v)$ . Now consider the  $n$ -sigraph  $S'_n = (H, \sigma')$ , where for any edge  $e$  in  $H$ ,  $\sigma'(e)$  is the  $n$ -marking of the corresponding vertex in  $G$ . Then clearly,  $\mathcal{E}(S'_n) \cong S_n$ . Hence  $S_n$  is an equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph.

Conversely, suppose that  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  is an equitable associate  $n$ -sigraph. Then there exists an  $n$ -sigraph  $S'_n = (H, \sigma')$  such that  $\mathcal{E}(S'_n) \cong S_n$ . Hence  $G$  is the  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  of  $H$  and by Theorem 2.1,  $S_n$  is  $i$ -balanced.  $\square$

In [1], the author characterized graphs for which  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(G)} \cong \mathcal{E}(\overline{G})$ .

**Theorem 2.4** (K. M. Dharmalingam [1]) *For any graph  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(G)} \cong \mathcal{E}(\overline{G})$  if and only if every edge of  $G$  is equitable.*

We now characterize  $n$ -sigraphs whose complementary equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs and equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs are switching equivalent.

**Theorem 2.5** *For any  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ ,  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(S_n)} \sim \mathcal{E}(\overline{S_n})$  if and only if every edge of  $G$  is equitable.*

*Proof* Suppose  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(S_n)} \sim \mathcal{E}(\overline{S_n})$ . This implies,  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(G)} \cong \mathcal{E}(\overline{G})$  and hence by Theorem 2.4, every edge of  $G$  is equitable.

Conversely, suppose that every edge of  $G$  is equitable. Then  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(G)} \cong \mathcal{E}(\overline{G})$  by Theorem 2.4. Now, if  $S_n$  is an  $n$ -sigraph with each edge of  $G$  is equitable, by the definition of complementary  $n$ -sigraph and Theorem 2.1,  $\overline{\mathcal{E}(S_n)}$  and  $\mathcal{E}(\overline{S_n})$  are  $i$ -balanced and hence, the result follows from Theorem 1.4.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6** *For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n$  and  $S'_n$  with the same underlying graph, their equitable associate  $n$ -sigraphs are switching equivalent.*

*Proof* Suppose  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$  be two  $n$ -sigraphs with  $G \cong G'$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  and  $\mathcal{E}(S'_n)$  are  $i$ -balanced and hence, the result follows from Theorem 1.4.  $\square$

For any  $m \in H_n$ , the  $m$ -complement of  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  is:  $a^m = am$ . For any  $M \subseteq H_n$ , and  $m \in H_n$ , the  $m$ -complement of  $M$  is  $M^m = \{a^m : a \in M\}$ .

For any  $m \in H_n$ , the  $m$ -complement of an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ , written  $(S_n^m)$ , is the same graph but with each edge label  $a = (a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n)$  replaced by  $a^m$ .

For an  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ , the  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced. We now examine, the condition under which  $m$ -complement of  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced, where for any  $m \in H_n$ .

**Theorem 2.7** *Let  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  be an  $n$ -sigraph. Then, for any  $m \in H_n$ , if  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  is bipartite then  $(\mathcal{E}(S_n))^m$  is  $i$ -balanced.*

*Proof* Since, by Theorem 2.1,  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  is  $i$ -balanced, for each  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , the number of  $n$ -tuples on any cycle  $C$  in  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  whose  $k^{\text{th}}$  co-ordinate are  $-$  is even. Also, since  $\mathcal{E}(G)$  is bipartite, all cycles have even length; thus, for each  $k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , the number of  $n$ -tuples on any cycle  $C$  in  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  whose  $k^{\text{th}}$  co-ordinate are  $+$  is also even. This implies that the same thing is true in any  $m$ -complement, where for any  $m, \in H_n$ . Hence  $(\mathcal{E}(S_n))^t$  is  $i$ -balanced.  $\square$

Notice that Theorem 2.6 provides an easy solutions to other  $n$ -sigraph switching equivalence relations, which are given in the following results.

**Corollary 2.8** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n$  and  $S'_n$  with the same underlying graph,  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  and  $\mathcal{E}((S'_n)^m)$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.9** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n$  and  $S'_n$  with the same underlying graph,  $\mathcal{E}((S_n)^m)$  and  $\mathcal{E}(S'_n)$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.10** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n$  and  $S'_n$  with the same underlying graph,  $\mathcal{E}((S_n)^m)$  and  $\mathcal{E}((S'_n)^m)$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.11** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$  with the  $G \cong G'$  and  $G, G'$  are bipartite,  $(\mathcal{E}(S_n))^m$  and  $\mathcal{E}(S'_n)$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.12** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$  with the  $G \cong G'$  and  $G, G'$  are bipartite,  $\mathcal{E}(S_n)$  and  $(\mathcal{E}(S'_n))^m$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.13** For any two  $n$ -sigraphs  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$  and  $S'_n = (G', \sigma')$  with the  $G \cong G'$  and  $G, G'$  are bipartite,  $(\mathcal{E}(S_1))^m$  and  $(\mathcal{E}(S_2))^m$  are switching equivalent.

**Corollary 2.14** For any  $n$ -sigraph  $S_n = (G, \sigma)$ ,  $S_n \sim \mathcal{E}((S_n)^m)$  if and only if  $G$  is  $K_n$  and  $S_n$  is  $i$ -balanced.

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