

## CLOSED WALKS IN COSET GRAPHS AND VERTEX-TRANSITIVE NON-CAYLEY GRAPHS

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ABSTRACT. We extend the main result of R. Jajcay and J. Širáň [Australasian J. Combin. 10 (1994), 105–114] to produce new classes of vertex-transitive non-Cayley graphs.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The study of vertex-transitive graphs has a long and rich history in discrete mathematics. Prominent examples of vertex-transitive graphs are Cayley graphs which are important in both theory as well as applications. Vertex-transitive graphs that are not Cayley graphs (for which we borrow the acronym VTNCG from [12]) have been an object of a systematic study since the early 80's. The research here was much influenced by the problem of finding the so called **non-Cayley numbers** [3], i.e., the numbers  $n$  for which there exists a VTNCG of order  $n$ .

A number of new constructions of VTNCG's appeared in the 90's. They range from group-theoretical constructions (the basic references here are [9], [10]) to graph-theoretical ones (cf. [12], [6]). For the few classification results of vertex-transitive graphs we refer to [8], [11].

Recently, one of the directions of the research has focused on certain necessary combinatorial conditions for a graph to be Cayley [1], [2]. Based on this, new constructions of VTNCG's have been found [3], [4]; they can be viewed as a combination of the graph- and group-theoretical methods mentioned above.

The purpose of this paper is to prove two extensions of the main theorem of [3] and to present new classes of VTNCG's arising from our results.

### 2. TERMINOLOGY

Graphs considered in this paper are undirected, without loops and multiple edges; they may be finite or infinite but are always locally finite (i.e., every vertex has finite valency).

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Let  $\Gamma$  be a graph and let  $a, b$  be two adjacent vertices of  $\Gamma$ . An ordered pair  $(a, b)$  will be called an **arc**. Thus, any two adjacent vertices  $a, b$  of  $\Gamma$  give rise to two mutually reverse arcs, namely,  $(a, b)$  and  $(b, a)$ . We can think of arcs as “edges with orientation”.

Let  $G$  be a (finite or infinite) group and  $X$  a unit-free symmetric subset of  $G$  (i.e.,  $1 \notin X$  and  $x^{-1} \in X$  whenever  $x \in X$ ). The **Cayley graph**  $C(G, X)$  has  $G$  as its vertex set, and  $e = (a, b)$  is an arc of  $C(G, X)$  if and only if there exists an element  $x \in X$  such that  $ax = b$ . Because  $x = a^{-1}b$  is uniquely determined, we have a function  $\lambda$  from the arc set of  $C(G, X)$  onto the set  $X$  which assigns to every arc  $e = (a, b)$  the element  $\lambda(e) = a^{-1}b = x$  which we sometimes call a **label** of  $e$ . Observe that if there is an arc from  $a$  to  $b$  labelled  $x$ , then there also is an arc from  $b$  to  $a$  labelled  $x^{-1}$ .

Let  $G$  be a group,  $H$  a subgroup of  $G$  and  $X$  a symmetric unit-free subset of  $G$ . Let  $H \cap X = \emptyset$ . The vertex set of the **coset graph**  $\text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is the set of all left cosets of  $H$  in  $G$ . In the coset graph,  $(aH, bH)$  is an arc if and only if there exists an element  $x \in X$  such that  $aHx \cap bH \neq \emptyset$  (or, equivalently,  $a^{-1}b \in HxH = \{h'xh''; h', h'' \in H\}$ ). It is easy to check that this definition is correct; i.e, it does not depend on the choice of cosets representatives and it produces graphs without loops and parallel edges. Observe that if  $H = \{1\}$  then the coset graph reduces to a Cayley graph.

For an arc  $e = (aH, bH)$  of the coset graph  $\text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  let  $X_e$  denote the set of all  $x \in X$  such that  $a^{-1}b \in HxH$ . If  $D$  is the arc set of the graph  $\text{Cos}(G, H, X)$ , the labelling  $\lambda$  is now any mapping  $D \rightarrow X$  such that for each arc  $e$   $\lambda(e) \in X_e$ .

A **walk of length  $k$**  in a graph is a an alternating sequence  $W = v_0, e_0, v_1, e_1, \dots, v_{k-1}, e_{k-1}, v_k$  where  $v_i$  are vertices and  $e_i$  is an arc from  $v_i$  to  $v_{i+1}$ . We say that the walk is **closed** if  $v_0 = v_k$ ; in this case we say that the walk is **based** at  $v_0$ . If  $\Gamma = C(G, X)$  then we will describe the walks starting at the vertex 1 using arcs only. For example, the walk  $v_0, e_0, v_1, e_1, \dots, e_{k-1}, v_k$  such that  $v_0 = 1, \lambda(e_0) = x_0, v_1 = x_0, \lambda(e_1) = x_1, \dots, \lambda(e_{k-1}) = x_{k-1}, v_k = x_0x_1 \dots x_{k-1}$ , will be written as  $(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{k-1})$ . In the case when  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  with labelling  $\lambda$ , the walk  $a_1H, e_1, a_2H, e_2, a_3H, e_3, \dots, e_k, a_kH$  will just be denoted by  $(a_1H, x_1, a_2H, x_2, a_3H, x_3, \dots, x_k, a_kH)$  where  $x_i = \lambda(e_i)$ . Again, note that this type of encoding walks depends on the choice of the labels  $\lambda$ .

Let  $\text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  be the group of all automorphisms of the graph  $\Gamma$ . We say that  $\Gamma$  is **vertex transitive** if for arbitrary two vertices  $a$  and  $b$  there exists an automorphism  $\pi \in \text{Aut}(\Gamma)$  such that  $\pi(a) = b$ .

It is well known (see, e.g., [3]) that **a graph  $\Gamma$  is vertex-transitive if and only if it is isomorphic to some coset graph  $\text{Cos}(G, H, X)$** .

A necessary condition for a graph to be isomorphic to a Cayley graph  $C(G, X)$  was proved in [1].

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $\Gamma = C(G, X)$  be a locally finite Cayley graph and  $p$  be a prime. Then the number of closed walks of length  $p$ , based at any fixed vertex of  $\Gamma$ , is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to the number of elements in  $X$  for which  $x^p = 1$ .*

### 3. WALKS IN COSET GRAPHS

In this section we shall investigate the structure of closed walks in coset graphs. Throughout we will suppose that  $G$  is a group,  $H$  is a finite subgroup of  $G$  and  $X$  is a unit-free symmetric subset of  $G$ , (i.e.,  $1 \notin X$  and  $x^{-1} \in X$  for each  $x \in X$ ). We begin with a few elementary facts (see also [5], [3]).

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  be a coset graph such that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$ . Then*

- (1) *For each  $x \in X$ , the number of left cosets in  $HxH$  is equal to  $|H|$ .*
- (2) *Let  $h, g \in H$  and  $x \in X$ ; then  $h \neq g$  if and only if  $hxH \neq gxH$ .*
- (3) *Every arc of  $\Gamma$  has a uniquely determined label  $x \in X$  i.e.,  $|X_e| = 1$  for each arc  $e$ .*
- (4) *The valency of  $\Gamma$  is equal to  $|X||H|$ .*

*Proof.* (1) The number of left cosets in  $HxH$  is equal to  $[H : H \cap xHx^{-1}] = [H : \{1\}] = |H|$ .

(2) The sufficiency is obvious. For the necessity, let  $h, g \in H$ ,  $h \neq g$ . If  $hxH = gxH$  then  $x^{-1}g^{-1}hx \in H$ . But we also have  $x^{-1}g^{-1}hx \in XHX$ , which implies  $x^{-1}g^{-1}hx = 1$ , and so  $h = g$ , a contradiction.

(3) Suppose that there exists an arc from  $aH$  to  $bH$  with two labels  $x, y \in X$ ,  $x \neq y$ . Then  $Ha^{-1}bH = HxH$  and  $Ha^{-1}bH = HyH$ , and so  $HxH = HyH$ . It follows that there exist elements  $h_1, h_2, k_1, k_2 \in H$  such that  $h_1xh_2 = k_1yk_2$ , or equivalently  $xh_2k_2^{-1}y^{-1} = h_1^{-1}k_1 \in H$ . But since  $xh_2k_2^{-1}y^{-1} \in XHX$ , we have  $xh_2k_2^{-1}y^{-1} = 1$ . Rearranging terms we obtain  $y^{-1}x = k_2h_2^{-1} \in H \cap XHX$ , which implies  $1 = y^{-1}x$ , and  $x = y$ , a contradiction.

(4) It is sufficient to prove that the valency of the vertex  $H$  is equal to  $|X||H|$ , because  $\Gamma$  is regular. The vertex  $H$  is adjacent to all vertices determined by left cosets from  $HxH$  for all  $x \in X$ . It follows that the valency of  $H$  is  $\sum_{x \in X} [H : H \cap xHx^{-1}] = \sum_{x \in X} [H : 1] = |X||H|$ .  $\square$

We note that if  $H$  is an invariant subgroup of  $G$  such that  $H \neq \{1\}$  then  $XHX \cap H \neq \{1\}$ . Indeed, suppose that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$  and consider  $h \in H$ ,  $1 \neq h$ . Then it follows from Lemma 2, part (3) that  $xH \neq hxH$ . But  $H$  is invariant, and so there exists  $l \in H$  such that  $hx = xl$ , which implies  $hxH = xlH = xH$ , a contradiction.

Sometimes we will use the notation  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  for the walk  $(a_0H, x_0, a_1H, x_1, \dots, a_{p-1}H, x_{p-1}, a_0H)$ . If  $a_0 = 1$  then we say that this walk is  **$H$ -based**.

Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the set of all sequences of the form  $(a_0H, x_0, a_1H, x_1, a_2H, \dots, a_{p-1}H, x_{p-1})$  such that  $a_0 = 1$  and  $a_i^{-1}a_{i+1} \in Hx_iH$  for each  $i \pmod{p}$ . Let  $\theta: \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{S}$  be a mapping which sends the sequence  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  to  $(b_iH, y_i)_p$  where  $b_i = a_1^{-1}a_{i+1}$  and  $y_i = x_{i+1}$ , for all  $i \pmod{p}$ . It is easy to check that  $b_0 = 1$  and  $b_i^{-1}b_{i+1} \in Hy_iH$ , so  $\theta$  is a well defined permutation on the set  $\mathcal{S}$ . Also it is clear that each sequence from  $\mathcal{S}$  induces a closed  $H$ -based walk in the coset graph. An easy check show that  $\theta^2$  sends the sequence  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  to  $(b_iH, y_i)_p$  where  $b_i = a_2^{-1}a_{i+2}H$  and  $y_i = x_{i+2}$ . If we continue we obtain that  $\theta^j$  sends the sequence  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  to  $(b_iH, y_i)_p$  where  $b_i = a_j^{-1}a_{i+j}H$  and  $y_i = x_{i+j}$ . Also it is clear that  $\theta^p$  is the identity mapping on  $\mathcal{S}$ .

Let  $\alpha = (a_0H, x_0, a_1H, x_1, a_2H, \dots, a_{p-1}H, x_{p-1}, a_0H)$  be a walk such that  $a_k = 1$  for some  $k \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ . Then the corresponding  $H$ -based walk  $(a_kH, x_k, \dots, a_{p-1}H, x_{p-1}, a_0H, x_0, \dots, a_{k-1}H, x_{k-1})$  will be denoted  $[\alpha]$ .

The basic observation is now the following: If  $p$  is prime, then the orbits of  $\theta$  in  $\mathcal{S}$  have length either 1 or  $p$ .

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  be a coset graph such that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$  and let  $p$  be a prime number. Let  $\alpha = (a_iH, x_i)_p$  and  $\beta = (b_iH, y_i)_p$  be two sequences from  $\mathcal{S}$  such that  $\beta = \theta^j(\alpha)$  for some  $j, 1 \leq j \leq p-1$  (i.e.,  $b_i = a_j^{-1}a_{i+j}$  and  $y_i = x_{i+j}$ ). All indices are to be read mod  $p$ ). Then the walks  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are identical  $H$ -based closed walks in  $\Gamma$  if and only if there exist  $z \in X$  and  $c \in G$  such that  $x_i = z$  and  $a_iH = c^iH$  for each  $i \pmod{p}$ .*

*Proof.* First we prove the sufficiency. If  $x_i = z$  and  $a_iH = c^iH$  for each  $i \pmod{p}$  then  $\alpha = (c^iH, x)_p$  and  $\beta = (c^iH, x)_p$  because  $b_iH = a_j^{-1}a_{i+j}H = c^{-j}c^{i+j}H = c^iH$  and  $y_i = x_{i+j} = x$ .

Necessity. If  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are identical then  $x_0 = y_0 = x_{j+0}, x_1 = y_1 = x_{j+1}, \dots, x_{p-j} = y_{p-j} = x_0, x_{p-j+1} = y_{p-j+1} = x_1, \dots, x_{p-1} = y_{p-1} = x_{j-1}$ . Therefore  $x_0 = x_1 = \dots = x_{p-1} = y_0 = y_1 = \dots = y_{p-1} =: x$ , because  $p$  is prime.

The following relations hold:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0H &= b_0H = a_j^{-1}a_{j+0}H \\ a_1H &= b_1H = a_j^{-1}a_{j+1}H \\ &\dots \\ a_{p-1}H &= b_{p-1}H = a_j^{-1}a_{j+p-1}H \end{aligned}$$

Because  $a_jH = a_j^{-1}a_{2j}H$ , we have  $a_j^2H = a_{2j}H$ . Substituting this into the equality  $a_{2j}H = a_j^{-1}a_{3j}H$  we obtain  $a_j^2H = a_{2j}H = a_j^{-1}a_{3j}H$  and so  $a_j^3H = a_{3j}H$ . Continuing this way we subsequently obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} a_jH &= a_jH \\ a_{2j}H &= a_j^2H \\ &\dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_{(p-1)j}H &= a_j^{p-1}H \\ a_0H &= a_j^pH \quad (a_0 = 1) \end{aligned}$$

Because  $p$  is prime we have  $\{0, j, 2j, \dots, (p-1)j\} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, p-1\}$  and so  $a_1H = a_{1j}H = a_j^lH$  for some  $l$ . Then our walks  $\alpha, \beta$  are of the form  $(H, x, a_j^lH, x, a_j^{2l}H, \dots, a_j^{(p-1)l}H, x, H)$ . Finally setting  $a_i^l = a$  then our walks can be written as  $(H, x, aH, x, a^2H, \dots, a^{p-1}H, x, H)$ . The fact that  $a^pH = H$  follows easily.  $\square$

Now we introduce a set  $M$  which plays a substantial role in our next theorem. Let  $V = \{a \in G : a \in HxH \text{ for some } x \in X, a^p \in H\}$ . Let  $\sim$  be an equivalence relation on  $V$  such that  $a \sim b \iff aH = bH$  and  $a^2H = b^2H$ . Finally, let  $M = V/\sim$ .

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  be a coset graph where  $H$  is a finite subgroup of  $G$  and  $X$  is a finite symmetric unit-free subset of  $G$  such that  $XHX \cap H = 1$ . Let  $p$  be a prime number.*

*Then the number of closed walks of length  $p$ , based at any fixed vertex of  $\Gamma$ , is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to the number of elements in  $M$ .*

*Moreover,  $|M| = \sum_{x \in X} |\{v \in H : (xv)^p \in H\}| |H|$ .*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to consider walks based at the vertex  $H$ , because  $\Gamma$  is vertex transitive. We prove the claim in the following three steps:

- (a) The number of closed walks of the form  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  where  $x_i \neq x_j$  for some pair  $i, j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ , is divisible by  $p$ .
- (b) The number of closed walks of the form  $(a^iH, x)_p$  such that  $a^pH = H$  is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to the number of elements in  $M$ .
- (c) The number of closed walks of the form  $(a_iH, x)_p$  which are not from part (b) is divisible by  $p$ .

Let  $H = \{h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n\}$ .

*Proof of (a).* In this case we deal with a subset  $\mathcal{S}' \subset \mathcal{S}$  formed by sequences  $(a_iH, x_i)_p$  where  $x_j \neq x_k$  for some  $j \neq k$ . On this subset each orbit of  $\theta$  has length  $p$  and the orbits are disjoint.

*Proof of (b).* Let  $\mathcal{S}''$  be the set of all elements  $\alpha$  of  $\mathcal{S}$  for which  $\alpha\theta^j = \alpha$  for some  $1 \leq j \leq p-1$ . Lemma 3 implies that  $\mathcal{S}'' = \mathcal{S} \cap \{(a^iH, x)_p : x \in X, a \in G\}$ .

Choose any walk  $W = (a^iH, x)_p$ . Then  $a = hxl$ ,  $a^2 = hxlhxl$ ,  $a^3 = hxlhxlhxl$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $a^{p-1} = (hxl)^{p-1}$ . Let us denote  $lh =: v$ . Then  $W$  has the form  $(H, x, hxH, x, hxvxH, x, hxvxvxH, \dots, h(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H)$ .

Each element of the set  $V = \{a \in G : \exists_{x \in X}, a \in HxH, a^p \in H\}$  determines a walk of the form  $(a^iH, x)_p$ . It may happen that different elements from  $V$  define

the same walk; our aim is to identify all such occasions. Let

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= (a^i H, x)_p = (H, x, hxH, x, hxvxH, x, hxvxxH, \dots, h(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H), \\ Q' &= (b^i H, x)_p = (H, y, lyH, y, lyuyH, y, lyuyuyH, \dots, l(yu)^{p-1}H, y, H) \end{aligned}$$

We claim that the walks  $Q$  and  $Q'$  are identical if and only if  $aH = bH$  and  $a^2H = b^2H$ .

The necessity is evident, and we prove the sufficiency. If  $aH = bH$  then  $hxH = lyH$  and so  $y^{-1}l^{-1}hx \in H$ . But  $y^{-1}l^{-1}hx \in XHX$  which implies  $y^{-1}l^{-1}hx = 1$ , and therefore  $xy^{-1} = h^{-1}l \in H$ . Since  $xy^{-1} \in XHX$  we have  $1 = xy^{-1} = h^{-1}l$  then  $x = y$  and  $h = l$ . Because  $a^2H = b^2H$ , we obtain  $hxvxH = lyuyH = hxuxH$  and so  $x^{-1}u^{-1}vx \in H$ . But  $x^{-1}u^{-1}vx \in XHX$  thus  $vx = ux$  and  $u = v$ . Then for all  $i$  we have  $a^iH = b^iH$ .

The equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $V$  defined by  $a \sim b \iff aH = bH$  and  $a^2H = b^2H$  has the following property: if  $a \sim b$  then the walks  $(a^iH, x)_p$ ,  $(b^iH, x)_p$  are identical. Then the number of walks in part (b) is equal to the cardinality of the set  $V/\sim$ .

Now we prove that  $|M| = \sum_{x \in X} |v \in H : (xv)^p \in H||H|$ . Let us consider the walks with all arcs labeled  $x$ . Let  $(H, x, hxH, x, hxvxH, x, hxvxxH, \dots, h(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H)$ , and  $(H, x, lxH, x, lxuxH, x, lxuxuxH, \dots, l(xu)^{p-1}H, x, H)$  be two such walks. If  $u \neq v$  then these walks are different. Indeed, if they are the same then  $hxH = lxH$  which implies  $l = h$  and  $x^{-1}l^{-1}hx = 1$ . We also suppose that  $hxvxH = lxuxH$ , thus  $x^{-1}u^{-1}x^{-1}l^{-1}hxvx = x^{-1}u^{-1}vx$ . But  $x^{-1}u^{-1}vx \in XHX$  and so we have  $x^{-1}u^{-1}vx = 1$  and  $u = v$ .

Notice that  $(H, x, hxH, x, hxvxH, x, hxvxxH, \dots, h(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H)$  is a walk from part (b) if and only if  $(xv)^p \in H$ . The elements  $x \in X$  and  $v \in G$  determine the following  $n$  different walks

$$\begin{aligned} &(H, x, h_1xH, x, h_1xvxH, x, h_1xvxxH, \dots, h_1(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H) \\ &(H, x, h_2xH, x, h_2xvxH, x, h_2xvxxH, \dots, h_2(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H) \\ &\dots \\ &(H, x, h_nxH, x, h_nxvxH, x, h_nxvxxH, \dots, h_n(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H). \end{aligned}$$

The number of walks with all arcs labeled  $x$  is equal to  $|v \in H : (xv)^p \in H||H|$ . But if two walks  $(H, x, hxH, x, hxvxH, x, hxvxxH, \dots, h(xv)^{p-1}H, x, H)$  and  $(H, y, hyH, y, hyuyH, y, hyuyuyH, \dots, h(yu)^{p-1}H, y, H)$  have different first arcs ( $x \neq y$ ) then they are distinct. It follows that the number of walks in part (b) is  $\sum_{x \in X} |\{v \in H : (xv)^p \in H\}||H|$ .

*Proof of (c).* Let  $\mathcal{S}'''$  be the set of all elements  $\alpha$  of  $\mathcal{S}$  for which there exists  $x \in X$  and  $a_i \in G$   $i = 1, \dots, p-1$  such that  $\alpha = (a_iH, x)_p$  and  $\alpha\theta^j \neq \alpha$  for some  $1 \leq j \leq p-1$ . Every orbit of  $\theta$  on  $\mathcal{S}'''$  has  $p$  elements and the orbits are disjoint. Thus  $|\mathcal{S}'''|$  is divisible by  $p$ .  $\square$

4. VERTEX-TRANSITIVE NON-CAYLEY GRAPHS

In this section we prove two generalizations of the following principal result of [3].

**Theorem 5.** ([3]) *Let  $G$  be a group, let  $H$  be a finite subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $X$  be a finite symmetric unit-free subset of  $G$  such that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$ . Further, suppose that there are at least  $|X| + 1$  distinct ordered pairs  $(x, h) \in X \times H$  such that  $(xh)^p = 1$  for some fixed prime  $p > |X||H|^2$ . Then the coset graph  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is a vertex-transitive non-Cayley graph.*

In the first generalization of Theorem 5 we relax the condition  $(xh)^p = 1$ .

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $G$  be a group, let  $H$  be a finite subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $X$  be a finite symmetric unit-free subset of  $G$  such that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$ . Further, suppose that there are at least  $|X| + 1$  distinct ordered pairs  $(x, h) \in X \times H$  such that  $(xh)^p \in H$  for some fixed prime  $p > |X||H|^2$ . Then the coset graph  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is a vertex-transitive non-Cayley graph.*

*Proof.* Let  $M$  be the set from Theorem 4; we have  $|M| = \sum_{x \in X} |\{h \in H : (xh)^p \in H\}| |H| = |\{(x, h) : x \in X, h \in H, (xh)^p \in H\}| |H|$ . From our assumptions it follows that  $(|X| + 1)|H| \leq |M| \leq |X||H|^2 < p$ . Theorem 4 implies that the number of closed walks in  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to the number  $|M|$ , where  $|M|$  is at least  $(|X| + 1)|H|$  ( $p > (|X| + 1)|H|$ ). The valency of  $\Gamma$  is  $|X||H|$ . If  $\Gamma$  is a **Cayley** graph  $\Gamma = C(K, L)$  then edges in this **Cayley** graph are labeled by  $|X||H|$  distinct labels. Then  $|\{k \in K : k^p = 1\}| \leq |X||H|$ . But by Lemma 1, the number of closed walks in  $\Gamma = C(K, L)$  is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to the number  $|\{k \in K : k^p = 1\}|$  where  $|\{k \in K : k^p = 1\}| \leq |X||H|$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

In the second generalization of Theorem 5 we will not require the existence of  $|X| + 1$  ordered pairs but just  $|X|$ , assuming that  $|X||H|$  is odd.

**Theorem 7.** *Let  $G$  be a group, let  $H$  be a finite subgroup of  $G$ , and let  $X$  be a finite symmetric unit-free subset of  $G$  such that  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$ . Let  $|H||X|$  be an odd number. Further, suppose that there are at least  $|X|$  distinct ordered pairs  $(x, h) \in X \times H$  such that  $(xh)^p \in H$  for some fixed prime  $p > |X||H|^2$ . Then the coset graph  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is a vertex-transitive non-Cayley graph.*

*Proof.* The proof is similar to the preceding one. The number of closed walks in  $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(G, H, X)$  is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to a number  $i$ , where  $i$  is at least  $|X||H|$ .

If  $\Gamma$  is a **Cayley** graph  $\Gamma = C(K, L)$  then edges in this **Cayley** graph are labeled by  $|X||H|$  distinct labels. Because  $|L| = |X||H|$  is an odd number and  $L$  is a symmetric unit-free subset then there exists an edge labelled with  $l \in L$  such that  $l^{-1} = l$ . But  $l^p = l \neq 1$ . Then the number of closed walks in  $\Gamma = C(K, L)$  is congruent (mod  $p$ ) to a number  $z$  where  $z \leq (|X| - 1)|H| < |X||H|$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

## 5. EXAMPLES

Our first two examples are generalizations of Example 1 in [3].

**Example 1.** Let  $G = \langle x, y | x^2 = y^r = 1, (xy)^p = y^k \rangle$ . Assume that  $G$  contains no relation of type  $xy^i x = y^j$ . Let  $r \geq 3$  and let  $p > r^2$  be a prime. Then the graph  $\text{Cos}(G, \langle y \rangle, \{X\})$  satisfies the conditions of Theorem 6. Indeed, if  $H = \langle y \rangle$  and  $X = \{x\}$  then  $HXH$  generates  $G$ ,  $XHX \cap H = \{1\}$ . We also have that  $(xy)^p \in H$  and  $(xy^{-1})^p \in H$ . Then the graph  $\text{Cos}(G, \langle y \rangle, \{x\})$  is a vertex transitive non-Cayley graph.

**Example 2.** Let  $G = \langle x, y | x^3 = y^r = 1, (xy)^p = y^k \rangle$ . Assume that  $G$  contains no relation of type  $xy^i x = y^j$  and  $xy^i x^{-1} = y^j$ . Let  $r \geq 3$  be an odd number and let  $p > r^2$  be a prime. Theorem 7 implies that  $\text{Cos}(G, \langle y \rangle, \{x, x^{-1}\})$  is a vertex transitive non-Cayley graph.

Comparing with [3], our Examples 1 and 2 are more general because in [3] it was required that  $(xy)^p = 1$ . Allowing  $(xy)^p = y^k$ ,  $k > 0$  we obtain new and interesting classes of VTNCG's. The fact that they are indeed non-Cayley does not follow from the main theorem of [3] (which shows that our generalized theorems can be useful).

Our last example introduces a new construction of VTNCG's which can be obtained by the methods of [3]; however, we think it may be worth presenting.

**Example 3.** Let  $S_p$  be the symmetric group on  $p$  elements where  $p$  is a prime number. Consider a  $p$ -cycle  $C = (1, \dots, p)$  and a 3-cycle  $D = (1, 1+x, 1+2x)$  where  $(p, x) = 1$ . Let  $H := \langle D \rangle$  and  $X := \{C, C^{-1}\}$ . The cycles  $C$  and  $D$  generate the alternating group  $A_n$ . It can be checked that  $C^p = id$ ,  $(C^{-1})^p = id$ ,  $CD = (1, \dots, p)(1, 1+x, 1+2x) = (1, 2, \dots, 1+2x, 2+2x, \dots, p, 1+x, \dots, 2x)$  and so  $(CD)^p = id$ . An easy computation shows that the following 12 permutations are not in  $H$ :

$$\begin{aligned} CDC^{-1} &= (1, 2, \dots, x-1, 2x, 1+x, 2+x, \dots, 2x-1, p, 1+2x, \\ &\quad 2+2x, \dots, p-1, x), \\ CD^{-1}C^{-1} &= (1, 2, \dots, x-1, p, 1+x, 2+x, \dots, 2x-1, x, 1+2x, \\ &\quad 2+2x, \dots, p-1, 2x), \\ CDC &= (3, 4, \dots, 1+x, 2+2x, 3+x, 4+x, \dots, 1+2x, 2, 3+2x, \\ &\quad 4+2x, \dots, 1, 2+x), \\ CD^{-1}C &= (3, 4, \dots, 1+x, 2, 3+x, 4+x, \dots, 1+2x, 2+x, 3+2x, \\ &\quad 4+2x, \dots, 1, 2+2x), \\ C^{-1}D^{-1}C &= (CDC^{-1})^{-1}, \\ CDC^{-1} &= (CD^{-1}C^{-1})^{-1}, \end{aligned}$$

$$C^{-1}D^{-1}C^{-1} = (CDC)^{-1},$$

$$C^{-1}DC^{-1} = (CD^{-1}C)^{-1},$$

$CC, CC^{-1}, C^{-1}C, C^{-1}C^{-1}$ . From this it follows that  $XHX \cap H = \text{id}$ . Theorem 6 now implies that the graph  $\text{Cos}(A_p, \langle D \rangle, \{C, C^{-1}\})$  is a vertex transitive non-Cayley graph.

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