# Suborbital graphs for the group $\Gamma^2$

Bahadır Özgür Güler<sup>\*†</sup>, Murat Beşenk<sup>‡</sup>, Yavuz Kesicioğlu<sup>§</sup>, Ali Hikmet Değer<sup>¶</sup>

#### Abstract

In this paper, we investigate suborbital graphs formed by the action of  $\Gamma^2$  which is the group generated by the second powers of the elements of the modular group  $\Gamma$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Firstly, conditions for being an edge, self-paired and paired graphs are provided, then we give necessary and sufficient conditions for the suborbital graphs to contain a circuit and to be a forest. Finally, we examine the connectivity of the subgraph  $F_{u,N}$  and show that it is connected if and only if  $N \leq 2$ .

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $PSL(2,\mathbb{R})$  denote the group of all linear fractional transformations

$$T: z \to \frac{az+b}{cz+d}$$
, where  $a, b, c$  and  $d$  are real and  $ad-bc=1$ .

In terms of matrix representation, the elements of  $PSL(2,\mathbb{R})$  correspond to the matrices

$$\pm \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}; \quad a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \text{ and } ad - bc = 1.$$

This is the automorphism group of the upper half plane  $\mathbb{H} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Im}(z) > 0\}$ .

The modular group  $\Gamma = PSL(2, \mathbb{Z})$ , is the subgroup of  $PSL(2, \mathbb{R})$  such that a, b, c and d are integers. It is generated by the matrices

$$U = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{array}\right) \quad ; \quad V = \left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{array}\right)$$

\*Dept. of Math., Karadeniz Tech. Uni., Turkey, Email: boguler@ktu.edu.tr <sup>†</sup>Corresponding Author.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>‡</sup>Dept. of Math., Karadeniz Tech. Uni., Turkey, Email: mbesenk@ktu.edu.tr

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>§</sup>Dept. of Math., Recep Tayyip Erdogan Uni., Turkey, Email: yavuzkesicioglu@yahoo.com

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>¶</sup>Dept. of Math., Karadeniz Tech. Uni., Turkey, Email: ahikmetd@ktu.edu.tr

with defining relationships  $U^2 = V^3 = I$ , where I is the identity matrix.  $\Gamma$  is a Fuchsian group of signature  $(0; 2, 3, \infty)$ , so it is isomorphic to a free product  $C_2 * C_3$ .

Define  $\Gamma^m$  as the subgroup of  $\Gamma$  generated by the  $m^{th}$  powers of all elements of  $\Gamma$ . Especially,  $\Gamma^2$  and  $\Gamma^3$  have been studied extensively by Newman [13,14,15]. It turns out that,

$$\Gamma^{2} = \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & d \end{array} \right) \in \Gamma : ab + bc + cd \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \right\},$$

by Rankin [Eq. 1.7.1, 16]. From the equation  $ab + bc + cd \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$ , we see that at least one of the integers a, b, c, d must be even. Suppose first that  $a = 2a_0$ . Then using the determinant, we have that b and c are odd. So, d must be odd as well. Hence, we get the elements of  $\Gamma^2$  as the matrices  $\begin{pmatrix} 2a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ . Similarly, supposing  $d = 2d_0$ , we can get the elements of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & 2d \end{pmatrix}$ . Lastly, if a or d is not even, then both b and c will be even. To sum up,  $\Gamma^2$  has three types of elements

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc} 2a & b \\ c & d \end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{cc} a & 2b \\ 2c & d \end{array}\right), \left(\begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & 2d \end{array}\right)$$

where b, c and d of the first, a and d of the second and a, b, c of the third matrix are odd.

**1.1. Theorem.** [13] The group  $\Gamma^2$  is the free product of two cyclic groups of order 3, and

$$|\Gamma:\Gamma^2|=2\ ,\ \Gamma=\Gamma^2+\left(\begin{array}{cc} 0 & -1\\ 1 & 0 \end{array}\right)\Gamma^2.$$

The elements of  $\Gamma^2$  may be characterized by the requirement that the sum of the exponents of  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  be divisible by 2.

The idea of a suborbital graph has been used mainly by finite group theorists. In [7], Jones, Singerman and Wicks showed that this idea is also useful in the study of the modular group, where they proved that the well-known Farey Graph is an example of a suborbital graph. Furthermore, they proved the following result:

**Theorem A.** The suborbital graph  $G_{u,n}$  of  $\Gamma$  contains directed triangles if and only if  $u^2 \pm u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ .

Morever they posed the conjecture:  $G_{u,n}$  is a forest if and only if it contains no triangles, that is, if and only if  $u^2 \pm u + 1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{n}$ . Akbas proved in [2] that this conjecture is true. By similar arguments, we concern with suborbital graphs of Picard group **P**, which is the subgroup of PSL(2,  $\mathbb{C}$ ) with entries coming from  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  in [3]. Since  $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is a unique factorization domain with finitely many units, our expectation was to find similar formulas. Consequently, theorem A was improved as

**Theorem B.** The suborbital graph  $G_{u,N}$  of **P** contains directed triangles if and only if  $\varepsilon^2 u^2 \mp \varepsilon u \pm 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ .

In this study, we will continue to investigate the combinatorial properties of these graphs for the group  $\Gamma^2$ . It is an important subgroup of  $\Gamma$  since all the groups  $\Gamma^m$  can be expressed in the terms of  $\Gamma, \Gamma^2, \Gamma^3$ . The purpose of this paper is to characterize all circuits in the suborbital graph and connectedness for  $\Gamma^2$ . As it can be seen from Section 3, we show that the main difference is in connectedness of related graphs.

## **2.** The action of $\Gamma^2$ on $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$

Every element of  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  can be represented as a reduced fraction  $\frac{x}{y}$  with  $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$  and (x, y) = 1. This representation is not unique, because  $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{-x}{-y}$ . We represent  $\infty$  as  $\frac{1}{0} = \frac{-1}{0}$ . The action of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  on  $\frac{x}{y}$  is

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc}a&b\\c&d\end{array}\right):\frac{x}{y}\longrightarrow\frac{ax+by}{cx+dy}$$

Hence, the actions of a matrix on  $\frac{x}{y}$  and on  $\frac{-x}{-y}$  are identical. If the determinant of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  is 1 and (x, y) = 1, then (ax + by, cx + dy) = 1.

### 2.1. Transitive Action.

**2.1. Lemma.** (i) The action of Γ<sup>2</sup> on Q̂ is transitive.
(ii) The stabilizer of a point is an infinite cyclic group.

Proof. (i) Here we only prove the case that any element of the form  $\frac{a}{2b}$  of  $\mathbb{Q}$  is sent  $\infty$  by an element of  $\Gamma^2$ . The rest are similar. Let  $\frac{a}{2b} \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ , (a, 2b) = 1. There exist integers  $x_0$  and  $y_0$  such that  $ay_0 - 2bx_0 = 1$  (known as Bezout's identity [8]). Hence, we have that  $T := \begin{pmatrix} a & x_0 \\ 2b & y_0 \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma$ . All solutions of the equation ay - 2bx = 1 are  $x = x_0 + an$ ,  $y = y_0 + 2bn$  for  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . If  $x_0$  is odd, x would be even by taking n-odd. So,  $x_0$  can be chosen as an even number. Hence,  $T \in \Gamma^2$  and  $T(\infty) = \frac{a}{2b}$  means that  $\frac{a}{2b}$  is in the orbit of  $\infty$ .

(ii) By (i), since the stabilizers of any two points in  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  are conjugate in  $\Gamma^2$ , it is sufficient to consider the stabilizer  $\Gamma^2_{\infty}$  of  $\infty$ . It is clear that  $\Gamma^2_{\infty} = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle$ .

We remark that Lemma 2.1 (i) can be proven by using the signature of  $\Gamma^2$  as well. There is a homomorphism  $\theta : \Gamma \longrightarrow C_2 = \{e, \alpha\}$  defined by  $\theta(U) = \alpha$ , and  $\theta(V) = e$ . The kernel is  $\Gamma^2$ . By the permutation theorem [19],  $\Gamma^2$  has signature  $(0; 3, 3, \infty)$ . It means that there is only one orbit, so the action is transitive.

**2.2.** Imprimitive Action. We now discuss the imprimitivity of the action of  $\Gamma^2$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ . For this, let  $(G, \Omega)$  be a transitive permutation group, consisting of a group G acting on a set  $\Omega$  transitively. An equivalence relation  $\approx$  on  $\Omega$  is called *G*-invariant if, whenever  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$  satisfy  $\alpha \approx \beta$ , then  $g(\alpha) \approx g(\beta)$  for all  $g \in G$ . The equivalence classes are called blocks.

We call  $(G, \Omega)$  imprimitive if  $\Omega$  admits some G-invariant equivalence relation different from

(i) the identity relation,  $\alpha \approx \beta$  if and only if  $\alpha = \beta$ ;

(ii) the universal relation,  $\alpha \approx \beta$  for all  $\alpha, \beta \in \Omega$ .

Otherwise,  $(G, \Omega)$  is called *primitive*. These two relations are supposed to be trivial relations.

**2.2. Lemma.** [4] Let  $(G, \Omega)$  be a transitive permutation group.  $(G, \Omega)$  is primitive if and only if  $G_{\alpha}$ , the stabilizer of  $\alpha \in \Omega$ , is a maximal subgroup of G for each  $\alpha \in \Omega$ .

From the above lemma we see that whenever, for some  $\alpha$ ,  $G_{\alpha} \leq H \leq G$ , then  $\Omega$  admits some *G*-invariant equivalence relation other than the trivial one and the universal one.

Because of the transitivity, every element of  $\Omega$  has the form  $g(\alpha)$  for some  $g \in G$ . Thus one of the non-trivial *G*-invariant equivalence relations on  $\Omega$  by *H* is given as follows:

$$g(\alpha) \approx g'(\alpha)$$
 if and only if  $g' \in gH$ 

The number of blocks (equivalence classes) is the index |G:H| and the block containing  $\alpha$  is just the orbit  $H(\alpha)$ .

Let  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and let  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$  be defined by

$$\Gamma_0^2(N) := \left\{ \left( \begin{array}{cc} a & b \\ c & d \end{array} \right) \in \Gamma^2 : c \equiv 0 \ (mod \ N) \right\}.$$

Then  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$  is a subgroup of  $\Gamma^2$ . It is clear that  $\Gamma_\infty^2 \leq \Gamma_0^2(N) \leq \Gamma^2$  for  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\Gamma_\infty^2 \leq \Gamma_0^2(N) \leq \Gamma^2$  for N > 1.

**2.3. Lemma.**  $|\Gamma_0(N) : \Gamma_0^2(N)| = 2$ . In fact,

$$\Gamma_0(N) = \begin{cases} \Gamma_0^2(N) \cup \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ N & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma_0^2(N), & N \text{ is odd} \\ \Gamma_0^2(N) \cup \begin{pmatrix} N+1 & -1 \\ N & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma_0^2(N), & N \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Proof. First, we suppose that N is even. Let's show that  $\Gamma_0^2(N) \cup \begin{pmatrix} N+1 & -1 \\ N & 1 \end{pmatrix} \Gamma_0^2(N) = \Gamma_0(N)$ . We have that  $T := \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma_0(N)$  with ad - bcN = 1. Here, a and d are odd. If b is even, T would be an element of  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$ . We suppose that b is odd. Hence, it can be written as  $T = \begin{pmatrix} N+1 & -1 \\ N & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ cN & z \end{pmatrix}$ . Then, we have that  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -N & N+1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ cN & d \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ cN & z \end{pmatrix}$ . Let's say that  $\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a+cN & b+d \\ -aN+cN(N+1) & -bN+dN(N+1) \end{pmatrix}}_{A} = \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ cN & z \end{pmatrix}.$ 

As b + d is even,  $A \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$ .

Now, let N be odd. In this case, assume that b and c are even in T. Then a and d are odd. Hence, T is an element of  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$ . Moreover, it can be written as  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ N & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ cN & z \end{pmatrix}$ . As above, let's say that  $\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ (c-a)N & d-bN \end{pmatrix}}_{B} =$ 

 $\begin{pmatrix} x & y \\ cN & z \end{pmatrix}$ . Since d - bN is even,  $B \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$ . In the case: *b*-even and *c*-odd, it is clear that  $B \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$ . If *a* and *d* are even in the equation ad - bcN = 1,  $B \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$  again. Finally if *a* is odd and *d* is even (or vice versa), the result is the same. Consequently, we obtain that  $|\Gamma_0(N) : \Gamma_0^2(N)| = 2$ .

Therefore, from the above constructed equivalence relation " $\approx$ ", we get  $\Gamma^2$ -invariant equivalence relation on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  by  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$ . It is clear that, by Lemma 2.3,  $\Gamma^2$  acts imprimitively on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Let  $v = \frac{r}{s}$  and  $w = \frac{x}{y}$  be elements of  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ . Because of the transitive action, we have that  $v = g_1(\infty)$  and  $w = g_2(\infty)$  for some elements  $g_1, g_2 \in \Gamma^2$  of the form

$$g_1 := \begin{pmatrix} r & * \\ s & * \end{pmatrix}, \quad g_2 := \begin{pmatrix} x & * \\ y & * \end{pmatrix}.$$

From the relation

 $v \approx w$  if and only if  $g_1^{-1}g_2 \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$ ,

we get

$$v \approx w$$
 if and only if  $ry - sx \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ .

By our general discussion of imprimitivity, the number of blocks under  $\approx$  is given by  $\Psi(N) = |\Gamma^2 : \Gamma_0^2(N)|$ . So the block of  $\infty$  is obtained as

$$[\infty] := \left\{ \frac{x}{y} \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}} \mid y \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \right\}.$$

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**2.4. Lemma.**  $\Psi(N) = N \prod_{p|N} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p}\right)$  where the product is over the distinct primes p dividing N.

*Proof.* To calculate  $\Psi(N)$  we use two decomposition of the index  $|\Gamma : \Gamma_0^2(N)|$  as the following

$$|\Gamma : \Gamma^{2}||\Gamma^{2} : \Gamma_{0}^{2}(N)| = |\Gamma : \Gamma_{0}(N)||\Gamma_{0}(N) : \Gamma_{0}^{2}(N)|$$

Here,  $|\Gamma : \Gamma^2| = 2$  and  $|\Gamma : \Gamma_0(N)| = N \prod_{p|N} \left(1 + \frac{1}{p}\right)$  are well-known by [13,16] and [16,17] respectively. We prove that the index of  $|\Gamma_0(N) : \Gamma_0^2(N)|$  is equal to 2 in Lemma 2.3. Writing these values in above equation, the result is obvious.

# **3.** Suborbital Graphs for $\Gamma^2$ on $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$

In[18], Sims introduced the idea of the suborbital graphs of a permutation group G acting on a set  $\Delta$ , these are graphs with vertex-set  $\Delta$ , on which G induces automorphisms. We summarise Sims'theory as follows:

Let  $(G, \Delta)$  be transitive permutation group. Then G acts on  $\Delta \times \Delta$  by  $g(\alpha, \beta) = (g(\alpha), g(\beta))(g \in G, \alpha, \beta \in \Delta)$ . The orbits of this action are called *suborbitals* of G. The orbit containing  $(\alpha, \beta)$  is denoted by  $O(\alpha, \beta)$ . From  $O(\alpha, \beta)$  we can form a *suborbital graph*  $G(\alpha, \beta)$ : its vertices are the elements of  $\Delta$ , and there is a directed edge from  $\gamma$  to  $\delta$  if  $(\gamma, \delta) \in O(\alpha, \beta)$ . A directed edge from  $\gamma$  to  $\delta$  is denoted by  $\gamma \to \delta$ . If  $(\gamma, \delta) \in O(\alpha, \beta)$ , then we will say that there exists an edge  $\gamma \to \delta$  in  $G(\alpha, \beta)$ . In this paper our calculation concerns  $\Gamma^2$ , so we can draw this edge as a hyperbolic geodesic in the upper half-plane  $\mathbb{H}$ , that is, as euclidean semi-circles or half-lines perpendicular to the real line.

The orbit  $O(\beta, \alpha)$  is also a suborbital graph and it is either equal to or disjoint from  $O(\alpha, \beta)$ . In the latter case  $G(\beta, \alpha)$  is just  $G(\alpha, \beta)$  with the arrows reversed and we call, in this case,  $G(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $G(\beta, \alpha)$  paired suborbital graphs. In the former case  $G(\alpha, \beta) = G(\beta, \alpha)$  and the graph consists of pairs of oppositely directed edges; it is convenient to replace each such pair by a single undirected edge, so that we have an undirected graph which we call *self paired*.

**3.1. Definition.** By a directed circuit in a graph we mean a sequence  $v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_m$  of different vertices such that  $v_1 \longrightarrow v_2 \longrightarrow \ldots \longrightarrow v_m \longrightarrow v_1$ , where  $m \ge 3$ .

- If m = 3, then the circuit, directed or not, is called a triangle.
- If m = 2, then we will say the configuration  $v_1 \longrightarrow v_2 \longrightarrow v_1$  is self paired.

A graph which contains no circuit is called a forest.

The above ideas are also described in a paper by Neumann [12] and in books by Tsuzuku [20] and by Biggs and White [4], the emphasis being on applications to finite groups. The reader is referred to [1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11] for some relevant previous work on suborbital graphs.

If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then  $O(\alpha, \alpha) = \{(\gamma, \gamma) \mid \gamma \in \Delta\}$  is the diagonal of  $\Delta \times \Delta$ . The corresponding suborbital graph  $G(\alpha, \alpha)$ , called the trivial suborbital graph, is self-paired: it consists of a loop based at each vertex  $\gamma \in \Delta$ . We shall be mainly interested in the remaining non-trivial suborbital graphs.

Since  $\Gamma^2$  acts transitively on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ , each suborbital contains a pair  $(\infty, v)$  for some  $v \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ ; writing  $v = \frac{u}{N}$ , (u, N) = 1 and  $N \ge 0$ . We denote this suborbital by  $O_{u,N}$  and the corresponding suborbital graph by  $G_{u,N}$ .

**3.1.** Graph  $G_{u,N}$ . If  $v = \infty$ , we would have the simplest suborbital graph, namely  $G_{1,0} = G_{-1,0}$ . Therefore, we can take  $v \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Let  $v' = \frac{u'}{N'} \in \mathbb{Q}$ . The necessary and sufficient condition for  $O(\infty, v) = O(\infty, v')$  is that v and v' are in the same orbit of  $\Gamma^2_{\infty}$ . Since  $\Gamma^2_{\infty}$  is generated by  $z : v \to v + 2$ , then  $z\left(\frac{u}{N}\right) = \frac{u+2N}{N} = \frac{u'}{N'}$ . Therefore, we have that N = N' and  $u \equiv u' \pmod{2N}$ . Hence,  $G_{u,N} = G_{u',N'}$  if and only if N = N' and  $u \equiv u' \pmod{2N}$ . Consequently, for a fixed N there are  $2\varphi(N)$  distinct suborbital graphs  $G_{u,N}$  where  $\varphi(N)$  is Euler's phi function.

**3.2. Theorem.**  $\frac{r}{s} \rightarrow \frac{x}{y} \in G_{u,N}$  if and only if

- (i) If r is even, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv \pm us \pmod{2N}$ and  $ry - sx = \mp N$ .
- (ii) If s is even, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{2N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{N}$  and  $ry sx = \mp N$ .
- (iii) If r and s are odd, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{2N}$  and  $ry sx = \pm N$ .

Proof. (i) Let r be even. By the transitivity of  $\Gamma^2$ , without loss of generality, we assume that  $\frac{r}{s} < \frac{x}{y}$  where all letters are positive integers. Thus, we have that ry - sx < 0. Since  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y} \in G_{u,N}$ , there exist some  $T = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma^2$  such that  $T\left(\frac{1}{0}, \frac{u}{N}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{r}{s}, \frac{x}{y} \end{pmatrix}$ . As ry - sx < 0, the multiplication of  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & u \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix}$  is equal to  $\begin{pmatrix} -r & x \\ -s & y \end{pmatrix}$  or  $\begin{pmatrix} r & -x \\ s & -y \end{pmatrix}$ . If the first case is valid, we have that a = -r, c = -s, au + bN = x and cu + dN = y. That is,  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{N}$  and  $y \equiv -us \pmod{N}$ . Since r is even, then a is also even. To have  $T \in \Gamma^2$ , d must be odd. From -us + dN = y, we have that  $y \not\equiv \pm us \pmod{2N}$ .

(ii) Suppose s is even. In a similar way, we see that b and c must be even because  $T\left(\frac{1}{0}\right) = \frac{-r}{-s} = \frac{a}{c}$ . As in (i), we may assume that  $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & u \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -r & x \\ -s & y \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence, we have that a = -r, c = -s, au+bN = x, cu+dN = y and ry - sx = -N. That is, -ur + bN = x and -us + dN = y. Since b is even, we have that  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{2N}$  and  $y \equiv -us \pmod{N}$ .

(iii) Let r and s be odd. With similar argument, it can be seen that d must be even. From the same matrix equation in (ii), we obtain that  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{N}$  and  $y \equiv -us \pmod{2N}$ .

In the opposite direction, we shall prove (i) for minus sign. Suppose that r is even,  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv -us \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv -us \pmod{2N}$  and ry - sx = -N. In this case, there exist integers b, d such that x = -ur - bN, y = -us - dN. So, it is clear that  $\begin{pmatrix} -r & -b \\ -s & -d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma^2$  which means  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y} \in G_{u,N}$ . Because -N = ry - sx = r(-us - dN) - s(-ur - bN). This implies -rd + sb = 1. As r is even, d must be even. Otherwise, it contradicts our hypothesis. With similar argument, we obtain the elements of  $\Gamma^2$  which are  $\begin{pmatrix} -r & 2b \\ -s & d \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} -r & -b \\ -s & -2d \end{pmatrix}$  for (ii) and (iii) respectively.

## **3.3. Theorem.** All suborbital graphs for $\Gamma^2$ on $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ are paired.

*Proof.* Because of the transitivity of  $\Gamma^2$ , it is sufficient to show that  $G\left(\infty, \frac{u}{N}\right) \neq G\left(\frac{u}{N}, \infty\right)$ . It means that there is no  $T \in \Gamma^2$  which sends the pair  $\left(\infty, \frac{u}{N}\right)$  to the pair  $\left(\frac{u}{N}, \infty\right)$ . On the contrary, assume that  $T(\infty) = \frac{u}{N}$  and  $T\left(\frac{u}{N}\right) = \infty$ . By comparing the determinants, we have that

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & u \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -u & 1 \\ -N & 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & u \\ 0 & N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u & -1 \\ N & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$
  
In the first case, we obtain  $a = -u$ ,  $c = -N$ ,  $au + bN = 1$  and  $cu + dN = 0$ . That  
is,  $d = u$  and  $u^2 = -1 + bN$ . Taking  $T = \begin{pmatrix} -u & b \\ -N & u \end{pmatrix}$  we see that the only case for  
 $T$  to be an element of  $\Gamma^2$  is that  $N$  and  $b$  must be even. Since  $u^2 = -1 + bN$ , then  
 $u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{bN}$ . As  $N$  and  $b$  are even,  $u^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$  which has no solution. For  
the second case, taking  $T = \begin{pmatrix} u & b \\ N & -u \end{pmatrix}$ , similar contradiction is obtained.

### **3.4. Corollary.** There are no self-paired suborbital graphs for $\Gamma^2$ on $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

In section 2 we introduced, for each integer N, a  $\Gamma^2$ -invariant equivalence relation  $\approx_N^\infty$ on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ , with  $\frac{r}{s} \approx_N \frac{x}{y}$  if and only if  $ry - sx \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . If  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y}$  in  $G_{u,N}$ , then Theorem 3.2 implies that  $ry - sx = \pm N$ , so  $\frac{r}{s} \approx_N \frac{x}{y}$ . Thus, each connected component of  $G_{u,N}$  lies in a single block for  $\approx_N$ , of which there are  $\Psi(N)$ , so we have:

**3.5. Corollary.** The graph  $G_{u,N}$  is a disjoint union of  $\Psi(N)$  subgraphs.

**3.2.** Subgraph  $F_{u,N}$ . We represent the subgraph of  $G_{u,N}$  whose vertices form the block  $[\infty] = \{x/y \in \hat{\mathbb{Q}} \mid y \equiv 0 \pmod{N}\}$  by  $F_{u,N}$ .

**3.6. Corollary.** The graph  $G_{u,N}$  consists of  $\Psi(N)$  disjoint copies of  $F_{u,N}$ .

Proof. The vertices of each subgraph form a single block with respect to the  $\Gamma^2$ -invariant equivalence relation  $\underset{N}{\approx}$  defined by  $ry - sx \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . Therefore, if  $x_1 \to x_2$  is an edge in the subgraph  $F_{u,N}$ ,  $T(x_1) \to T(x_2)$  is also an edge in any other subgraph with  $T \in \Gamma^2$  because of the transitivity of  $\Gamma^2$  on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Now, Theorem 3.2 immediately gives:

**3.7. Theorem.**  $\frac{r}{s} \rightarrow \frac{x}{y} \in F_{u,N}$  if and only if

- (i) If r is even, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv \pm us \pmod{2N}$ and  $ry - sx = \mp N$ .
- (ii) If s is even, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{2N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{N}$  and  $ry sx = \mp N$ .
- (iii) If r and s are odd, then  $x \equiv \pm ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv \pm us \pmod{2N}$  and  $ry sx = \pm N$ .

**3.8. Theorem.**  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$  permutes the vertices and the edges of  $F_{u,N}$  transitively.

*Proof.* Let v, w be any vertices of  $F_{u,N}$ . Since  $\Gamma^2$  acts on  $\hat{\mathbb{Q}}$  transitively, there exist  $T \in \Gamma^2$  such that T(v) = w. Taking  $T = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v = \frac{k_1}{l_1 N}$  and  $w = \frac{k_2}{l_2 N}$  we see that N|c. It means that  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$  permutes the vertices of  $F_{u,N}$ .

Let  $\frac{x_1}{y_1N} \xrightarrow{e_1} b_1$  and  $\frac{x_2}{y_2N} \xrightarrow{e_2} b_2$  be any edges of  $F_{u,N}$ . We can give following diagram:  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{0}, \frac{u}{N} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{T_2} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_2}{y_2N}, b_2 \end{pmatrix}$   $\downarrow_{T_1} \nearrow_{T_2 \circ T_1^{-1}} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_1}{y_1N}, b_1 \end{pmatrix}$ 

By this representation, we have  $T_1 = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & * \\ y_1N & * \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T_2 = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 & * \\ y_2N & * \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $T_2 \circ T_1^{-1}$  has the form  $\begin{pmatrix} * & * \\ kN & * \end{pmatrix}$  for some integer k, then  $T := T_2 \circ T_1^{-1} \in \Gamma_0^2(N)$ . It is clear that  $T\left(\frac{x_1}{y_1N}\right) = \frac{x_2}{y_2N}$  and  $T(b_1) = b_2$ . Since T is an element of a group of hyperbolic

isometries of  $\mathbb{H}$ , geodesics are sent to geodesics under its action. So, T transform the edges  $e_1$  to  $e_2$ . Consequently,  $\Gamma_0^2(N)$  permutes the edges of  $F_{u,N}$ .

**3.9. Lemma.** There is an isomorphism  $F_{u,N} \longrightarrow F_{-u,N}$  given by  $v \longrightarrow -v$ .

*Proof.* It is clear that  $v \longrightarrow -v$  is one-to-one and onto. Let's show that the structure is preserved. Here, it means that if  $a \to b \in F_{u,N}$ , then  $-a \to -b \in F_{-u,N}$ . Suppose that  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y} \in F_{u,N}$  and r is even. By Theorem 3.7(i), taking  $\frac{r}{s} < \frac{x}{y}$ , we have that  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv -us \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv -us \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv -us \pmod{N}$ , and ry - sx = -N. Since  $\frac{r}{s} < \frac{x}{y}$ , then  $\frac{-r}{s} > \frac{-x}{y}$ . Taking  $-x \equiv (-u)(-r) \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \equiv (-u)s \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv (-u)s \pmod{N}$ ,  $y \not\equiv (-u)s \pmod{N}$ , for other conditions, the rest are similar.

**3.10. Lemma.** If M|N, then there is a homomorphism  $F_{u,N} \longrightarrow F_{-u,M}$  given by  $v \longrightarrow -Nv/M$ .

*Proof.* We suppose that  $\frac{r}{sN}$ ,  $\frac{x}{yN}$  are adjacent vertices in  $F_{u,N}$  and  $\frac{r}{sN} < \frac{x}{yN}$  and that is written as  $\frac{r}{sN} \stackrel{<}{\longrightarrow} \frac{x}{yN} \in F_{u,N}$ . If r is even, then  $x \equiv -ur \pmod{N}$ ,  $yN \equiv -us \pmod{N}$ ,  $yN \not\equiv -us \pmod{2N}$  and ry - sx = -1. Since  $M|N, x \equiv -ur \pmod{M}$ ,  $yM \equiv -us \pmod{M}$ ,  $yM \not\equiv -us \pmod{2M}$ . ry - sx = -1 is also true for M. For other conditions, the rest are similar.

**3.11. Theorem.**  $F_{u,N}$  contains directed triangles if and only if  $u^2 \mp u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $F_{u,N}$  contains a directed triangle. Because of the transitive action, the form of directed triangle can be taken as  $\infty \to \frac{u}{N} \xrightarrow{\leq} \frac{r}{N} \to \infty$  for some integer r. First, let u be even. From the second edge, we have u - r = -1 and  $r \equiv -u^2 \pmod{N}$  by Theorem 3.2. So, we obtain  $u^2 + u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . Similarly, if  $\frac{u}{N} \xrightarrow{>} \frac{r}{N}$ , then we see that  $u^2 - u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . Now, N is even. By applying Theorem 3.2 to the second edge, we have u - r = -1 and  $r \equiv -u^2 \pmod{2N}$ . It is impossible, because there is no solution for this equivalence. Finally, suppose that u, N are odd. Again, from the second edge, we have u - r = -1 and  $r \equiv -u^2 \pmod{N}$ , it would be  $u^2 - u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ . Combining all of the equivalences, we obtain  $u^2 \mp u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ .

Conversely, if  $u^2 \mp u + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ , we see that either  $u + 1 \equiv -u^2 \pmod{N}$  or  $-u + 1 \equiv -u^2 \pmod{N}$ . Theorem 3.2. implies that there is an edge  $\frac{u}{N} \to \frac{u+1}{N}$  with

 $\frac{u}{N} < \frac{u+1}{N}$  in  $F_{u,N}$  or  $\frac{u}{N} \to \frac{u-1}{N}$  with  $\frac{u}{N} > \frac{u+1}{N}$  in  $F_{u,N}$ . Consequently, there is a directed triangle  $\infty \to \frac{u}{N} \to \frac{u\pm 1}{N} \to \infty$  in  $F_{u,N}$ .

Let us give some examples. For u, N-odd,  $\frac{1}{0} \rightarrow \frac{3}{13} \rightarrow \frac{4}{13} \rightarrow \frac{1}{0}$  or  $\frac{1}{13} \rightarrow \frac{10}{9\cdot 13} \rightarrow \frac{9}{8\cdot 13} \rightarrow \frac{1}{13}$  is a directed triangle in  $F_{3,13}$ . For u-even and N-odd,  $\frac{1}{0} \rightarrow \frac{2}{7} \rightarrow \frac{3}{7} \rightarrow \frac{1}{0}$  or  $\frac{1}{7} \rightarrow \frac{5}{4\cdot 7} \rightarrow \frac{4}{3\cdot 7} \rightarrow \frac{1}{7}$  is a directed triangle in  $F_{2,7}$ . For N-even, we know that there is no triangle.

**Observation.** We know that there is no triangle in  $F_{u,2N_0}$  for *N*-even by Theorem 3.11. Because of the relationships between elliptic elements with circuits, our expectation is that there is no elliptic element of order 3 of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} u & 2b \\ 2N_0 & d \end{pmatrix} \in \Gamma^2$ . Indeed, being an elliptic element of order 3, it is well-known that  $u + d = \pm 1$ . Taking determinant of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1-d & 2b \\ 2N_0 & d \end{pmatrix}$ , we have  $d - d^2 - 4bN_0 = 1$ . It is clear that there is no solution for  $d - d^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ .

On the other hand, we know that the suborbital graph for modular group is a forest if and only if it contains no triangles [2]. Using this fact, we can give the following result;

**3.12. Corollary.** The graph  $G_{u,N}$  is a forest if and only if  $u^2 \pm u + 1 \not\equiv 0 \pmod{N}$ .

**3.3.** Connectedness. In this last section, we examine the connectedness of  $F_{u,N}$ .

**3.13. Definition.** A subgraph K of  $G_{u,N}$  is called connected if any pair of its vertices can be joined by a path in K.

**3.14. Theorem.** The subgraphs  $F_{0,1}$  and  $F_{1,1}$  are connected.

*Proof.* Here, to see the situation better, we write the edge conditions for  $F_{0,1}$  and  $F_{1,1}$  by Theorem 3.2 explicitly.

**Case**  $F_{0,1}$ :  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y} \in F_{0,1}$  if and only if

- (i) If r-even, then y-odd and  $ry sx = \pm 1$ .
- (ii) If s-even, then x-even and  $ry sx = \mp 1$ .
- (iii) If r, s-odd, then y-even and  $ry sx = \pm 1$ .

We will show that each vertex  $\frac{a}{b}$  of  $F_{0,1}$  can be joined to  $\infty$  by a path in  $F_{0,1}$ . It is clear for b = 1. Since (a, b) = 1, we can write the equation ad - bc = -1 by Bezout's identity. For this pair (c, d) satisfying the equation we claim that  $\frac{a}{b}$  can be joined with  $\frac{c}{d}$  by above edge condition.

Subcase 1. Suppose *a*-even. By the equation we have that b, c must be odd and there are two possibilities for *d*. If *d*-odd, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{i} \frac{c}{d}$  (means that we have  $\frac{c}{d} \rightarrow \frac{a}{b}$  by (i)). If *d*-even, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{ii} \frac{a}{b}$ .

Subcase 2. Let b-even. By the equation we have that a, d must be odd and there are two possibilities for c. If c-odd, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{iii} \frac{a}{b}$ . If d-even, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{ii} \frac{c}{d}$ .

Subcase3. Assume that *a*-odd and *b*-odd. By the equation it is impossible that c, d are odd or even at once, so there are two possibilities. If *c*-odd and *d*-even, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{iii} \frac{c}{d}$ . If *c*-even and *d*-odd, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{i} \frac{a}{b}$ .

Consequently  $F_{0,1}$  is connected.

**Case**  $F_{1,1}$ :  $\frac{r}{s} \to \frac{x}{y} \in F_{1,1}$  if and only if

(i) If r-even, then y-even and  $ry - sx = \pm 1$ .

- (ii) If s-even, then x-odd and  $ry sx = \pm 1$ .
- (iii) If r, s-odd, then y-odd and  $ry sx = \pm 1$ .

Taking a vertex  $\frac{a}{b}$  in  $F_{1,1}$ , there exists the equation ad - bc = -1 by Bezout's identity. We shall show that  $\frac{a}{b}$  is adjacent to vertex  $\frac{c}{d}$  in  $F_{1,1}$ .

Subcase 1. Suppose *a*-even. By the equation we have that *b*, *c* must be odd and there are two possibilities for *d*. If *d*-odd, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{iii} \frac{a}{b}$ . If *d*-even, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{i} \frac{c}{d}$ .

Subcase 2. Let b-even. By the equation we have that a, d must be odd and there are two possibilities for c. If c-odd, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{ii} \frac{c}{d}$ . If c-even, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{i} \frac{a}{b}$ .

Subcase3. Assume that a-odd and b-odd. By the equation it is impossible that c, d are odd or even at once, so there are two possibilities. If c-odd and d-even, then  $\frac{c}{d} \xrightarrow{ii} \frac{a}{b}$ . If c-even and d-odd, then  $\frac{a}{b} \xrightarrow{iii} \frac{c}{d}$ .

Consequently,  $F_{1,1}$  is connected.

### **3.15. Theorem.** The subgraphs $F_{1,2}$ and $F_{3,2}$ are connected.

*Proof.* We shall show that each vertex  $v = \frac{a}{2b}$   $(b \ge 1)$  of  $F_{1,2}$  is joined to  $\infty$  by a path in  $F_{1,2}$ . Since the pattern is periodic with period 2, we can show by induction on b. If b = 1, then  $v = \frac{a}{2}$  can be joined with  $\infty$ . If a = 1, it is clear that  $\frac{1}{0} \to \frac{1}{2}$ . If a = 1, then  $\frac{3}{2} \to \frac{1}{0}$  because  $1 \equiv -3 \pmod{4}$  and  $3 \cdot 0 - 2 \cdot 1 = -2$ . If a = 5, then  $\frac{1}{0} \to \frac{5}{2}$ . The same holds for the rest periodically. So we can assume that  $b \ge 2$ .

To complete the proof, we show that v is adjacent to a vertex  $w = \frac{a}{2b_1}$  with  $b_1 < b$ . It means that, w is connected by a path to  $\infty$ , and hence so is v. As (a, b) = 1, there exist integers c, d such that ad - bc = 1. For some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}$ , replacing c and d by c + ka and d + kb, we can suppose 0 < d < b.

(i) If c is odd, then  $w = \frac{c}{2d}$  can be joined with  $\frac{a}{2b}$ . Indeed,  $\frac{a}{2b} \xrightarrow{>} \frac{c}{2d}$  gives that  $a \cdot 2d - c \cdot 2b = 2$  and  $c \equiv a \pmod{4}$ . If  $c \neq a \pmod{4}$ , taking  $c \equiv -a \pmod{4}$  we obtain  $\frac{a}{2b} \xleftarrow{<} \frac{c}{2d}$  by 2bc - 2ad = -2. Hence, if c is odd,  $\frac{a}{2b}$  is adjacent to  $\frac{c}{2d}$  in  $F_{1,2}$ .

(ii) If c is even, then a - c is odd. As 0 < b - d < b, we can take  $w = \frac{a-c}{2(b-d)}$ , adjacent to  $\frac{a}{2b}$  because 2(bc - cd) = -2. Here, if  $2a - c \neq 0 \pmod{4}$ , then we have that  $a - c \equiv a \pmod{4}$  and 2(ad - bc) = 2.

Consequently,  $F_{1,2}$  is connected. By the isomorphism  $F_{1,2} \xrightarrow{v} F_{-1,2} = F_{3,2}$ ,  $F_{3,2}$  is also connected.

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**3.16.** Corollary. All graphs  $F_{u,2}$  are connected.

**3.17. Corollary.** The graph  $G_{u,2}$  has  $2 \cdot \psi(2) = 6$  connected components. Its blocks are  $[\infty], [1], [0]$ . The connected components of  $[\infty]$  are  $F_{1,2}$  and  $F_{3,2}$ .

**3.18. Theorem.** The subgraphs  $F_{1,3}$ ,  $F_{2,3}$ ,  $F_{4,3}$  and  $F_{5,3}$  are not connected.

*Proof.* It is sufficient to study with  $F_{1,3}$  and  $F_{2,3}$ . Because there is an isomorphism from  $F_{1,3}(F_{2,3})$  to  $F_{5,3}(F_{4,3})$  respectively.

**Case**  $F_{1,3}$ : If  $F_{1,3}$  is connected, then each vertex  $v = \frac{a}{3b}$  would be joined to  $\infty$ . We shall show that no vertices of  $F_{1,3}$  where 1 < v < 2 are adjacent to  $\infty$ . Further, we assert that there is no such a vertex v adjacent to vertices outside this interval. Of course, there is at least some vertex of  $F_{1,3}$  in this strip. Suppose  $\frac{2}{3} \leq \frac{c}{3d} < 1 < \frac{a}{3b} < 2$ . Then we have  $\frac{c}{d} < 3 < \frac{a}{b}$ . This is impossible because cd - ad = -1. Similarly, if  $1 < \frac{k}{3l} < \frac{f}{3e} \leq \frac{7}{3}$ , then  $\frac{k}{l} < 4 < \frac{f}{e}$  contradicts ke - lf = -1. It means that no vertices of  $F_{1,3}$  between 1 and 2 are adjacent to  $\infty$  and that  $F_{1,3}$  is not connected.



**Figure 1.** The subgraph  $F_{1,3}$ 

**Case**  $F_{2,3}$ : As above, let's show that no vertices of  $F_{2,3}$  between  $\frac{3}{2}$  and 2 are adjacent to vertices outside this interval. Suppose that  $1 \leq \frac{x}{3y} < \frac{3}{2} < \frac{a}{3b} < 2$  and  $\frac{x}{3y} \stackrel{<}{\longrightarrow} \frac{a}{3b} \in F_{2,3}$ . Then we have that  $\frac{x}{y} < \frac{9}{2} < \frac{a}{b}$  and xb - ay = -1. By [7], we obtain that x = 4, y = 1, a = 5 and b = 1. But  $\frac{4}{3} \rightarrow \frac{5}{3}$  is not in  $F_{2,3}$ . If  $\frac{2}{3} < \frac{x}{3y} < 2 < \frac{a}{3b} < \frac{8}{3}$  and  $\frac{x}{3y} \stackrel{<}{\longrightarrow} \frac{a}{3b} \in F_{2,3}$ , then we would have  $\frac{x}{y} < 6 < \frac{a}{b}$  and xb - ay = -1. It is impossible because of well-known Farey sequence. Consequently,  $F_{2,3}$  is not connected.

**3.19. Corollary.** All graphs  $F_{u,3}$  are not connected.



Figure 2. The subgraph  $F_{2,3}$ 

**3.20. Theorem.** The subgraphs  $F_{1,4}$ ,  $F_{3,4}$ ,  $F_{5,4}$  and  $F_{7,4}$  are not connected.

*Proof.* As remarked in the proof of Theorem 3.18, it is sufficient to study with  $F_{1,4}$  and  $F_{3,4}$ .

**Case**  $F_{1,4}$ : We will show that no vertices in  $F_{1,3}$  between  $\frac{1}{2}$  and 1 are adjacent to vertices outside this interval. Suppose  $\frac{1}{4} \leq \frac{a}{4b} < \frac{1}{2} < \frac{x}{4y} < 1$ . Then we have  $\frac{a}{b} < 2 < \frac{x}{y}$ . This is

impossible because ay - bx = -1. Similarly, if  $\frac{a}{4b} < 1 < \frac{x}{4y} \leq \frac{7}{4}$ , then  $\frac{a}{b} < 4 < \frac{x}{y} < 7$  is a contradiction. So  $F_{1,4}$  is not connected.

**Case**  $F_{3,4}$ : As above, it is seen that no vertices of  $F_{3,4}$  between 1 and 2 are adjacent to vertices outside this interval. Consequently,  $F_{3,4}$  is not connected.

**3.21. Theorem.** The subgraph  $F_{u,N}$  is connected if and only if  $N \leq 2$ .

*Proof.* If  $F_{u,N}$  is connected, we know that  $N \leq 4$  by [7]. For N = 3, 4, we proved that  $F_{u,N}$  is not connected by Theorem 3.18 and 3.20. Conversely, if  $N \leq 2$ , the result immediately follows from Theorem 3.14 and 3.15.

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