

THE EDGE-TRANSITIVE TETRAVALENT CAYLEY GRAPHS OF SQUARE-FREE ORDER

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ABSTRACT. A classification is given of connected edge-transitive tetravalent Cayley graphs of square-free order. The classification shows that, with a few exceptions, a connected edge-transitive tetravalent Cayley graph of square-free order is either arc-regular or edge-regular. It thus provides a generic construction of half-transitive graphs of valency 4.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a graph with vertex set $V\Gamma = V$ and edge set $E\Gamma = E$. The number of vertices $|V|$ is called the *order* of the graph Γ . We say Γ to be *edge-transitive* or *edge-regular* if the automorphism group $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ is transitive or regular on E , respectively. An *arc* of Γ is an ordered pair of adjacent vertices. Thus, an edge $\{u, v\}$ corresponds to two arcs (u, v) and (v, u) . If $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ is transitive or regular on the set of arcs of Γ , then Γ is called *arc-transitive* or *arc-regular*, respectively.

Edge-transitive graphs of square-free order have been extensively studied in some special cases. For example, see [1, 26, 27, 31, 32] for those with order a product of two distinct primes, see [18] for a characterization of edge-transitive circulant graphs of square-free order, and [19] for a classification of pentavalent arc-regular graphs of square-free order.

A graph Γ is called a *Cayley graph* if its vertex set can be identified with a group G which has a subset $S \subset G$ such that two vertices g, h are adjacent whenever $gh^{-1} \in S$. In this case Γ is denoted by $\text{Cay}(G, S)$. For the graph $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ to be simple and undirected, $S = S^{-1} := \{x^{-1} \mid x \in S\}$ must hold and S must not contain the identity of G .

In this paper, we classify connected edge-transitive Cayley graphs of square-free order and of valency 4. Before stating our classification, we introduce some notation.

Throughout this paper, for two groups A and B , denote by $A \times B$ the direct product of A and B , by $A.B$ an extension of A by B , and by $A:B$ a semi-direct product of A by B , that is, a split extension of A by B . For example, the dihedral group D_{2m} of order $2m$ is a semi-direct product of \mathbb{Z}_m by \mathbb{Z}_2 . For a group G and a subgroup $N \leq G$, by $N \trianglelefteq G$ we mean that N is a normal subgroup of G .

For an integer $m \geq 3$, we denote by $\mathbf{C}_{m[2]}$ the *lexicographic product* of the empty graph $2\mathbf{K}_1$ of order 2 by a cycle \mathbf{C}_m of size m , which has vertex set $\{(i, j) \mid 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq 2\}$ such that (i, j) and (i', j') are adjacent if and only if $i - i' \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{m}$.

Our main result is stated as follows.

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Line	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	G (up to isomorphism)	Γ
1	$\text{PGL}(2, 7)$	D_{14}	Example 2.5 (1)
2	$\text{PGL}(2, 7)$	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$	Example 2.8
3	$\text{PSL}(3, 3):\mathbb{Z}_2$	D_{26}	Example 2.5 (2)
4	$\text{PSL}(2, 23)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}$	Example 2.7
5	$\text{PSL}(2, 23) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$(\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	Example 2.10 (3)
6	$\text{PSL}(2, 23) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$(\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	Example 2.11
7	$\text{PSL}(2, 23) \times S_3$	$(\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times S_3$	Example 2.14
8	$\text{PGL}(2, 11)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$	Example 2.7
9	$\text{PGL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$(\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$	Example 2.10 (2)
10	$(\text{PSL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_3):\mathbb{Z}_2$	$(\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_3$	Example 2.12
11	$\mathbb{Z}_2 \times ((\text{PSL}(2, 11) \times \mathbb{Z}_3):\mathbb{Z}_2)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{33}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}, (\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_6$	Example 2.13

Table 1

Line	$\text{Aut}\Gamma$	G (up to isomorphism)	Γ
1	S_5	\mathbb{Z}_5	K_5
2	$S_5 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	\mathbb{Z}_{10}, D_{10}	$K_{5,5} - 5K_2$
3	$S_5 \times S_3$	$S_3 \times \mathbb{Z}_5, D_{30}$	Example 2.14
4	$\text{PGL}(2, 7)$	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$	Example 2.7
5	$\text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$	$(\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3) \times \mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$	Example 2.10 (1)
6	$\text{PGL}(2, 7) \times D_{2l}$	$(\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6) \times \mathbb{Z}_l, (\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3) \times D_{2l}$	Example 2.15

Table 2

Theorem 1.1. *Let G be a group of square-free order, and let Γ be a connected edge-transitive tetravalent Cayley graph of G . Then one of the following statements holds.*

- (1) $\Gamma \cong \mathbf{C}_{m[2]}$, $\text{Aut}\Gamma \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^m:D_{2m}$ and $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{2m}$ or D_{2m} , where $m \geq 3$;
- (2) Γ is arc-regular, $\text{Aut}\Gamma = G:\mathbb{Z}_2^2$ or $G:\mathbb{Z}_4$, and either G is cyclic or $G \cong D_{2m} \times \mathbb{Z}_l$; Γ is constructed as in Constructions 2.3 and 2.4;
- (3) Γ is edge-regular, $\text{Aut}\Gamma = G:\mathbb{Z}_2$ and $G \cong (\mathbb{Z}_m:\mathbb{Z}_n) \times \mathbb{Z}_l$, where the center $\mathbf{Z}(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$, and $n \geq 3$; Γ is constructed as in Construction 2.6;
- (4) Γ is isomorphic to one of the graphs listed in Tables 1 and 2.

A Cayley graph $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ is said to be *normal* (with respect to G) if G is normal in $\text{Aut}\Gamma$, refer to [35]; and Γ is said to be *normal-edge-transitive* (with respect to G) if the normalizer $\mathbf{N}_{\text{Aut}\Gamma}(G)$ is transitive on the edges of Γ , refer to [25]. It was suggested in [25] to study the Cayley graphs which are not normal-edge-transitive or are normal-edge-transitive but not normal. Our classification gives several examples in this topic. The next corollary is proved at the end of this paper.

Corollary 1.2. *The graphs in Table 1 are not normal-edge-transitive, and those in Table 2 are normal-edge-transitive.*

An edge-transitive graph Γ is said to be *half-transitive* if $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ is transitive on the vertices but not on the arcs of Γ . Studying half-transitive graphs was initiated by Tutte [30], and has received much attention in the literature, see [21] for references, and see [4, 7, 16, 17, 20, 22, 23, 28, 29, 33] for some recent development in this topic.

Let Γ be a graph described as in Construction 2.6. By Theorem 1.1 and Corollary 1.2, Γ is either edge-regular or isomorphic to one of the graphs in Examples

2.7, 2.10 (1) and 2.15. Note that edge-regular Cayley graphs are half-transitive. A straightforward consequence of our classification is the following corollary.

Corollary 1.3. *Let $\Gamma_{j,k}$ be described as in Construction 2.6. Then, with a few exceptions, $\Gamma_{j,k}$ is half-transitive.*

2. EXAMPLES

In this section we study the graphs appearing in Theorem 1.1.

Let Γ be a graph. For a subgroup $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$, we say Γ to be X -edge-transitive or X -arc-transitive if X is transitive on the edges or the arcs of Γ , respectively. For a vertex u of Γ , denote by $\Gamma(u)$ the set of neighbors of u in Γ .

2.1. Group automorphisms. For a given group G , a simple method to construct edge-transitive Cayley graphs is by a suitable subgroup of the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(G)$ of G . Let $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$, and let

$$\text{Aut}(G, S) = \{\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G) \mid S^\sigma = S\}.$$

Then each element of $\text{Aut}(G, S)$ induces an automorphism of Γ in the natural action on G . Moreover, if Γ is connected, i.e., $\langle S \rangle = G$, then $\text{Aut}(G, S)$ can be identified with a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ which fixes the vertex corresponding to the identity of G . Each $g \in G$ induces an automorphism, denoted by \hat{g} sometimes, of Γ by the right multiplication on the elements of G . Then G can be identified with a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ which acts regularly on $V\Gamma$.

Lemma 2.1. *Let G be a finite group, and let $H \leq \text{Aut}(G)$. Let $S = \{g^h, (g^{-1})^h \mid h \in H\}$, where $g \in G$. If $\langle S \rangle = G$, then $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ is a connected edge-transitive graph.*

This provides us with a generic method for constructing edge-transitive Cayley graphs, refer to [13] for more examples.

Let G be a group of square-free order. We first determine the automorphisms of G . It is well-known and easily shown that $G = C \times (A:B)$, where $A = \langle a \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_m$, $B = \langle b \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_n$ and $C = \langle c \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$, such that C is the center of G . If G is not cyclic, then $A:B$ has the presentation

$$A:B = \langle a, b \mid a^m = b^n = 1, b^{-1}ab = a^r \rangle,$$

where r is such that $r^n \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $r^k \not\equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ for $1 \leq k < n$. Write $D = A:B$. Since $(|C|, |D|) = 1$ and $G = C \times D$, we have $\text{Aut}(G) = \text{Aut}(C) \times \text{Aut}(D)$. Each automorphism $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(A)$ can be extended to an automorphism of D such that $a \mapsto a^\sigma$ and $b \mapsto b$. Since D has trivial center, $D \cong \text{Inn}(D)$, the inner automorphism group of D . Let \bar{A} denote the subgroup of $\text{Inn}(D)$ induced by A . Then $\bar{A} \trianglelefteq \text{Inn}(D)$ and \bar{A} is a Hall subgroup of $\text{Inn}(D)$, so \bar{A} is a characteristic subgroup of $\text{Inn}(D)$. Since $\text{Inn}(D) \trianglelefteq \text{Aut}(D)$, we have $\bar{A} \trianglelefteq \text{Aut}(D)$. Set $\mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B) = \{\rho \in \text{Aut}(G) \mid b^\rho = b\}$. Then $\mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B) \geq \text{Aut}(C) \times \text{Aut}(A)$. Further, $\text{Aut}(G)$ is given in the next lemma.

Lemma 2.2. $\text{Aut}(G) = \text{Aut}(C) \times (\bar{A}:\text{Aut}(A))$ and $\mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B) = \text{Aut}(C) \times \text{Aut}(A)$.

Proof. It suffices to show $\text{Aut}(D) = \bar{A}:\text{Aut}(A)$. By the above discussion, we have $\text{Aut}(D) \geq \bar{A}:\text{Aut}(A)$. Note that $|\bar{A}| = m$ and $b^\tau = a^i b$ for $\tau \in \bar{A}$. It follows that for each value $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$ there exists $\tau \in \bar{A}$ such that $b^\tau = a^i b$.

Now let $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(D)$. Since A is a normal Hall subgroup of D , we have $a^\alpha, a^{\alpha^{-1}} \in A$. Then $a^{b^\alpha b^{-1}} = b(b^{-1}a^{\alpha^{-1}}b)^\alpha b^{-1} = b((a^{\alpha^{-1}})^r)^\alpha b^{-1} = ba^r b^{-1} = a$. Thus $b^\alpha b^{-1} \in \mathbf{C}_D(\langle a \rangle) = \langle a \rangle$, and so $b^\alpha = a^t b$ for some t . Take $\tau \in \bar{A}$ with $b^\tau = a^t b$. Take $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(A)$ with $a^\sigma = a^\alpha$, and extend σ to an automorphism of D by assigning $b^\sigma = b$. Then $\alpha = \sigma\tau$. Therefore, $\text{Aut}(D) = \bar{A}:\text{Aut}(A)$, and the result follows. \square

Note that G is metacyclic, namely, G has a cyclic normal subgroup such that the corresponding quotient group is also cyclic. A special case is that G is cyclic.

Construction 2.3. Let $G = \langle c \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$, where l is square-free.

- (i) Assume that there is an integer k with $k^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{l}$. Then G has an automorphism ρ such that $c^\rho = c^k$. Let $S = \{c, c^k, c^{k^2}, c^{k^3}\} = \{c, c^k, c^{-1}, c^{-k}\}$ and $X = G:\langle \rho \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l:\mathbb{Z}_4$.
- (ii) Assume that l has two distinct odd prime divisors. Let $\tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ be such that $c^\tau = c^{-1}$. Then $\text{Aut}(G)$ contains an involution $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G) \setminus \{\tau\}$ such that $\sigma\tau = \tau\sigma$. Let $c^\sigma = c^k$, where $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$. Let $S = \{c, c^{-1}, c^k, c^{-k}\}$ and $X = G:\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l:\mathbb{Z}_2^2$.

Then the Cayley graph $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ is connected and X -arc-regular. \square

We next consider the case where G has a dihedral direct factor.

Construction 2.4. Let $G = (\langle a \rangle:\langle b \rangle) \times \langle c \rangle \cong D_{2m} \times \mathbb{Z}_l$, where ml is odd square-free.

- (i) Assume that $l = 1$. Suppose that there is an integer i with $1 < i < m - 1$ and $i^3 + i^2 + i + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$. Take $\rho \in \text{Aut}(G)$ with $a^\rho = a^i$ and $b^\rho = b$. Let $S = \{ab, a^i b, a^{i^2} b, a^{i^3} b\}$ and $X = G:\langle \rho \rangle \cong D_{2m}:\mathbb{Z}_4$.
- (ii) Assume that $l = 1$ and m is not a prime. Let $\sigma, \tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ be involutions, say $a^\sigma = a^{i_1}$, $a^\tau = a^{i_2}$ and $b^\sigma = b^\tau = b$, where $i_1 \not\equiv i_2 \pmod{m}$ and $(i_1 - 1, i_2 - 1, m) = 1$. Then $\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Let $S = \{ab, a^{i_1} b, a^{i_2} b, a^{i_1 i_2} b\}$ and $X = G:\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle$.
- (iii) Assume that $l > 1$. Suppose that there is an integer k with $k^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{l}$. Let $\rho \in \text{Aut}(G)$ be such that $a^\rho = a^{-1}$, $b^\rho = b$ and $c^\rho = c^k$. Let $S = \{abc, a^{-1}bc^k, abc^{k^2}, a^{-1}bc^{k^3}\} = \{abc, a^{-1}bc^k, abc^{-1}, a^{-1}bc^{-k}\}$ and $X = G:\langle \rho \rangle \cong (D_{2m} \times \mathbb{Z}_l):\mathbb{Z}_4$.
- (iv) Assume that $l > 1$. Set $S = \{abc, abc^{-1}, a^{-1}bc^k, a^{-1}bc^{-k}\}$, where $1 \leq k < m$ and $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$. Take $\sigma, \tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ with $a^\sigma = a^{-1}$, $a^\tau = a$, $b^\sigma = b^\tau = b$, $c^\sigma = c^k$ and $c^\tau = c^{-1}$. Then $\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, and $X = G:\langle \sigma, \tau \rangle = (D_{2m} \times \mathbb{Z}_l):\mathbb{Z}_2^2$.

Then the Cayley graph $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ is connected and X -arc-regular. \square

For $m = 7$ or 13 , a Cayley graph of the dihedral group D_{2m} can be constructed geometrically.

Example 2.5. Let $\mathbb{F} = \text{GF}(p)$ be the Galois field of size p . Let U and W consist of 1-subspaces and 2-subspaces of \mathbb{F}^3 , respectively.

(1) Let $p = 2$. Define a bipartite graph Γ with biparts U and W such that $u \in U$ and $w \in W$ are adjacent if and only if $u + w = \mathbb{F}^3$. This is the point-line non-incidence graph of the Fano plane $\text{PG}(2, 2)$. Further, $\text{Aut}\Gamma = \text{PGL}(3, 2):\mathbb{Z}_2$, and Γ is a Cayley graph of $G = D_{14}$. See [24], for example.

(2) Let $p = 3$. Define a bipartite graph Γ with biparts U and W such that $u \in U$ and $w \in W$ are adjacent if and only if u is a subspace of w . Then Γ is the point-line

incidence graph of the projective plane $\text{PG}(2, 3)$. Further, $\text{Aut}\Gamma = \text{PGL}(3, 3).\mathbb{Z}_2$, and Γ is a Cayley graph of $G = \text{D}_{26}$. See [14, 15], for example. \square

Next, we consider the case where $G = (\langle a \rangle : \langle b \rangle) \times \langle c \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}_m : \mathbb{Z}_n) \times \mathbb{Z}_l$ such that the center $\mathbf{Z}(G) = \langle c \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$ and $n \geq 3$. In particular, m is odd.

Construction 2.6. Let j be a positive integer such that $(j, n) = 1$. Let k be an integer with $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$, and let

$$\Gamma_{j,k} = \text{Cay}(G, S_{j,k}), \text{ where } S_{j,k} = \{ab^j c, (ab^j c)^{-1}, a^{-1}b^j c^k, (a^{-1}b^j c^k)^{-1}\}.$$

Note that $\langle S_{j,k} \rangle = \langle ab^j c, a^{-1}b^j c^k \rangle = \langle ab^j, a^{-1}b^j, c \rangle = \langle a^2, ab^j, c \rangle = \langle a, b, c \rangle = G$. Then $\Gamma_{j,k}$ is connected. By Lemma 2.2, there exists an involution $\tau \in \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(\langle b \rangle)$ such that $a^\tau = a^{-1}$, $b^\tau = b$ and $c^\tau = c^k$. So $\Gamma_{j,k}$ is X -edge-regular, where $X = G : \langle \tau \rangle$. \square

2.2. Coset graphs. Let X be a group and H a core-free subgroup of X , that is, H does not contain non-trivial normal subgroups of X . Take $g \in X \setminus H$ and define the *coset graph*

$$\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, H\{g, g^{-1}\}H)$$

with vertex set $[X : H] := \{Hx \mid x \in X\}$ such that Hx and Hy are adjacent whenever $yx^{-1} \in H\{g, g^{-1}\}H$. Then Γ is well-defined, and X induces a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ acting on $[X : H]$ by right multiplication, namely, $a : Hx \mapsto Hxa$ for $x, a \in X$. Label v, w to be the vertices of Γ corresponding to H and Hg , respectively. Then

- (a) $\Gamma(v) = \{Hgh \mid h \in H\} \cup \{Hg^{-1}h \mid h \in H\}$;
- (b) Γ is X -edge-transitive and X is transitive on the vertices of Γ ;
- (c) Γ is connected if and only if $X = \langle g, H \rangle$;
- (d) $H^g \cap H = X_{vw}$, the stabilizer of the arc (v, w) , where H^g is the conjugate of H by g ;
- (e) Γ is X -arc-transitive if and only if $HgH = Hg^{-1}H$, which yields that $HgH = HoH$ for some (2-element) $o \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{vw}) \setminus H$ with $o^2 \in X_{vw}$, refer to [16]. (An element o in the group X is a 2-element if its order is a power of 2.)

Moreover, for any X -edge-transitive graph Σ , if X is transitive on $V\Sigma$ then the map $u^x \mapsto Hx$, $x \in X$ gives an isomorphism from Σ to $\text{Cos}(X, H, H\{g, g^{-1}\}H)$, where $u \in V\Sigma$, $H = X_u$ and $g \in X \setminus H$ with $u^g \in \Gamma(u)$.

Here are a few of examples, that appear in our classification.

Example 2.7. (1) Let $X = \text{S}_5$, $\text{PGL}(2, 11)$ or $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$. Then X has a maximal subgroup $H \cong \text{S}_4$. Let $K \leq H$ and $K \cong \text{S}_3$. Checking the subgroups of X in the Atlas [5], we conclude that $\mathbf{N}_X(K) = \langle o \rangle \times K \cong \text{D}_{12}$, where $o \in X \setminus H$ is an involution. Set $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, HoH)$. Since H is a maximal subgroup of X , $\langle o, H \rangle = X$. Then Γ is a connected X -arc-transitive graph of valency 4. Moreover, X has a subgroup G which is regular on the vertices, where $G = \mathbb{Z}_5$, $\mathbb{Z}_{11} : \mathbb{Z}_5$ or $\mathbb{Z}_{23} : \mathbb{Z}_{11}$, respectively. We denote by $\text{P}_{11,5}$ and $\text{P}_{23,11}$ the graphs associated with $\text{PGL}(2, 11)$ and $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$, respectively. By [16], $\text{AutP}_{11,5} = \text{PGL}(2, 11)$ and $\text{AutP}_{23,11} = \text{PSL}(2, 23)$.

(2) Let $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$. Then X has a maximal subgroup $H \cong \text{D}_{16}$. Take a subgroup $K \leq H$ with $K \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Then $\text{D}_8 \cong \mathbf{N}_H(K) \leq \mathbf{N}_X(K) \cong \text{S}_4$. Take an involution $o \in \mathbf{N}_H(K) \setminus K$ and an element $z \in \mathbf{N}_X(K)$ of order 3 such that $z^o = z^{-1}$. Then $\mathbf{N}_X(K) = K : \langle o, z \rangle$, and $H\{g, g^{-1}\}H = Ho z H$ for any $g \in \mathbf{N}_G(K) \setminus H$. Set

$P_{7,3} = \text{Cos}(X, H, HozH)$. By [16], $\text{Aut}P_{7,3} = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, and $P_{7,3}$ is a connected tetravalent arc-transitive Cayley graph of $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$. \square

Example 2.8. Let $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ and $D_8 \cong H \leq T$. Let $o \in H$ be an involution which is not in the center of H . Then $\mathbf{N}_H(\langle o \rangle) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle) \cong D_8$ and $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle o \rangle) \cong D_{16}$. Write $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle o \rangle) = \mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle):\langle z \rangle$ for an involution $z \in X \setminus T$. Let y be an element of order 4 in $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle)$. Set $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, HxH)$, where $x = z$ or yz .

Let M be a maximal subgroup of T such that $H \leq M \cong S_4$. If $M^{xt} = M$ for some $t \in T$, then $xt \in \mathbf{N}_X(M) = M$ by checking the subgroups of X , so $x \in M \leq T$, a contradiction. Thus M^x and M are not conjugate in T . By the information given in the Atlas [5], T contains exactly two conjugation classes of subgroups isomorphic to S_4 . Enumerating the Sylow 2-subgroups of T , we conclude that two subgroups in the same conjugation class do not contain a common Sylow 2-subgroup. Thus $\langle H, H^x \rangle \not\cong S_4$, yielding $H = H^x$ or $\langle H, H^x \rangle = T$.

Since $\mathbf{N}_H(\langle o \rangle) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, we know that $\mathbf{N}_H(\langle o \rangle)$ is normal in $\langle H, \mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle) \rangle$. Then $\langle H, \mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle) \rangle \cong S_4$ by checking the subgroups of T . If $H^x = H$, then x normalizes $\langle H, \mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle) \rangle$, so $x \in \langle H, \mathbf{N}_T(\langle o \rangle) \rangle \leq T$, a contradiction. Thus $\langle H, H^x \rangle = T$, and so $\langle H, x \rangle = \langle H, H^x, x \rangle = X$. If $|H \cap H^x| = 4$, then $H \cap H^x \trianglelefteq \langle H, H^x \rangle = T$, a contradiction. Then $|H \cap H^x| = 2$, and so $|H : (H \cap H^x)| = 4$. Therefore, Γ is connected, X -arc-transitive and of valency 4. It is easily shown that Γ is bipartite and T -edge-transitive, and that X has a regular subgroup isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$. \square

2.3. Normal covers. Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected graph. Assume that $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$ is transitive on both V and E . Let $N \trianglelefteq X$, and let V_N be the set of N -orbits on V . The *normal quotient* Γ_N (with respect to N and X) is defined as the graph with vertex set V_N such that $B_1, B_2 \in V_N$ are adjacent if and only if some $u \in B_1$ and $v \in B_2$ are adjacent in Γ . It is easily shown that the valency of Γ_N is a divisor of the valency of Γ . The graph Γ is a *normal cover* or an *N -cover* of Γ_N (with respect to X and N) if Γ and Γ_N have the same valency. Let K be the kernel of X acting on V_N . Then X/K , viewed as a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$, is transitive on both the vertices and the edges of Γ_N . If Γ is a normal cover of Γ_N , then it is easily shown that $N = K$ is semiregular on V , and Γ is X -arc-transitive if and only if Γ_N is (X/N) -arc-transitive.

Lemma 2.9. *If Γ is of valency 4 and X/N is insoluble, then Γ is an N -cover of Γ_N .*

Proof. Let $u \in V$ and let B the N -orbit containing u . Then, by [3], the stabilizer X_u is a $\{2, 3\}$ -group, that is, $|X_u| = 2^i 3^j$. In particular, X_u is soluble. Let K be the kernel of X acting on V_N . Then $K_u \trianglelefteq X_u$, so K_u is soluble. Since K is transitive on B , we have $K = NK_u$. So $K/N = NK_u/N \cong K_u/(N \cap K_u)$ is soluble. Then $X/K \cong (X/N)/(K/N)$ is insoluble as X/N is insoluble, so $\text{Aut}\Gamma_N$ is insoluble, hence Γ_N is not a cycle. Note that Γ is connected and the valency of Γ_N is a divisor of the valency of Γ . This implies that Γ_N has valency 4, and the lemma follows. \square

We now construct the normal covers of several known graphs.

Example 2.10. Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected arc-transitive Cayley graph. The *standard double cover* $\Gamma^{(2)}$ is the graph with vertex set $V \cup \{u' \mid u \in V\}$ such that $\{u, v'\} \in E\Gamma^{(2)}$ whenever $\{u, v\} \in E$. For each $x \in \text{Aut}\Gamma$, define $\tilde{x} : u \mapsto u^x, u' \mapsto (u^x)'$. Then $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ can be viewed as a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma^{(2)}$ in the above way. Define

$\epsilon : u \mapsto u', u' \mapsto u$. Then $\epsilon \in \text{Aut}\Gamma^{(2)}$. Set $X = \langle \text{Aut}\Gamma, \epsilon \rangle$. Then $X = \text{Aut}\Gamma \times \langle \epsilon \rangle$, and $\Gamma^{(2)}$ is an X -arc-transitive Cayley graph. For example,

- (1) $P_{7,3}^{(2)}$ is a Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ and of $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$;
- (2) $P_{11,5}^{(2)}$ is a Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ and of $\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$;
- (3) $P_{23,11}^{(2)}$ is a Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$.

Here we just explain (2) briefly. Note that $\text{Aut}P_{11,5}^{(2)} \geq \text{Aut}P_{11,5} \times \langle \epsilon \rangle$. Take a subgroup $R \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$ of $\text{Aut}P_{11,5} = \text{PGL}(2, 11)$, and let L be the 2'-Hall subgroup of R . Then $L \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$ and $R = L:\langle z \rangle$ for an involution $z \in R$. Then $\text{Aut}\Gamma^{(2)}$ contains two regular subgroups $L \times \langle \epsilon \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$ and $L:\langle z\epsilon \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$. \square

Next we construct the \mathbb{Z}_2 -covers of $P_{23,11}$ which are not the standard double cover.

Example 2.11. Let $X = T \times K$ with $T = \text{PSL}(2, 23)$ and $K = \langle z_2 \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. Take $A_4 \cong H_1 \leq T$ and an involution $z_1 \in T$ with $\langle H_1, z_1 \rangle \cong S_4$. Set $z = z_1 z_2$ and $H = H_1:\langle z \rangle$. Then $H \cong S_4$ and $H \cap T = H_1$. Let $x \in H_1$ be of order 3 with $x^{z_1} = x^{-1}$. Then $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle) \cong D_{24}$ and $\langle x, z_1 \rangle \cong S_3 \cong \langle x, z \rangle \leq H$. Let o be the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle)$. Checking the maximal subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$, we conclude that $\langle H_1, o \rangle = \langle H_1, o z_1 \rangle = \text{PSL}(2, 23)$. Then $\langle H, o \rangle = \langle H_1, o, z_1 z_2 \rangle = X$ and $\langle H, o z_2 \rangle = \langle H_1, o z_1, z_1 z_2 \rangle = X$. Thus we get two connected graphs $\Gamma_1 := \text{Cos}(X, H, HoH)$ and $\Gamma_2 := \text{Cos}(X, H, Ho z_2 H)$. Note that $S_3 \cong \langle x, z \rangle \leq H \cap H^o$. Then Γ_1 has valency $|H : (H \cap H^o)|$ dividing $|H : \langle x, z \rangle| = 4$. Since Γ_1 is connected, Γ_1 is not a cycle as $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma_1$ is insoluble. Thus Γ_1 has valency 4. Similarly, Γ_2 has valency 4.

Let $\Gamma = \Gamma_1$ or Γ_2 . Then, by Lemma 2.9, Γ is a normal cover of Γ_K . Then Γ_K is an X/K -arc-transitive graph of order 253 and valency 4. Since $X/K \cong \text{PSL}(2, 23)$, we have $\Gamma_K \cong P_{23,11}$ by [16]. Take a subgroup $\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11} \cong L < T$. Then X contains a regular subgroup $L \times K \cong (\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. \square

Next we construct the \mathbb{Z}_3 - and \mathbb{Z}_6 -covers of $P_{11,5}$.

Example 2.12. Let $X = (T \times K):\langle z \rangle$ with $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$, $K = \langle y \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$, $Y := T:\langle z \rangle = \text{PGL}(2, 11)$ and $y^z = y^{-1}$. Take $S_4 \cong H_1 \leq Y$. Let P be the normal subgroup of order 4 in H_1 . Then $P \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, $\mathbf{N}_Y(P) = H_1$ and $H_1 = P:\langle x, z \rangle$ for some $x \in T$ of order 3 with $x^z = x^{-1}$. Set $H = P:\langle xy, z \rangle$. Then $H \cong S_4$ and $\langle xy, z \rangle \cong S_3$.

For $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy, z \rangle)$, we have $(xy)^g = (xy)^{\pm 1}$ and $z^g = z^{(xy)^i}$ for some i , yielding $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle x \rangle) = K:\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle x \rangle)$ and $g(xy)^{-i} \in \mathbf{C}_X(z)$. Thus $g(xy)^{-i} \in \mathbf{C}_X(z) \cap (K:\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle x \rangle))$. Computation shows that $\mathbf{C}_X(z) \cap (K:\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle x \rangle)) = \langle z, o \rangle$, where o is the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle x \rangle) \cong D_{24}$, and so $o \in T$. Thus $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy, z \rangle) = \langle z, o \rangle \langle xy \rangle = \langle xy, z \rangle \times \langle o \rangle$, so $HgH = HoH$ for $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy, z \rangle) \setminus H$. Let $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, HoH)$.

Note that $o \in T$, $z \in Y$ and $P \leq T$. Suppose that $M := \langle o, P, z \rangle \neq Y$. Then $M \neq \langle P, z \rangle$; otherwise, $o \in H \cong S_4$ and o centralizes $xy \in H$, which is impossible. Thus M contains two distinct Sylow 2-subgroups $\langle P, z \rangle$ and $\langle P, z \rangle^o$ of Y . Checking the subgroups of $\text{PGL}(2, 11)$ in the Atlas [5], we know that $M \cong S_4$ or D_{24} , and M is maximal in Y . If $x \in M$, then $S_4 \cong H_1 = \langle P, x, z \rangle \leq M$, so $H_1 = M$, hence $o \in H_1$ and o centralizes the element $x \in H$, which is impossible. Then $Y = \langle M, x \rangle = \langle o, P, z, x \rangle$, yielding $\langle o, P \rangle \trianglelefteq Y$. Thus $\langle o, P \rangle = T$, so $M = \langle o, P, z \rangle \geq \langle o, P \rangle = T$, a

contradiction. Then $\langle o, P, z \rangle = Y$, so $\langle o, H \rangle = \langle o, P, z, xy \rangle = \langle Y, xy \rangle = \langle Y, y \rangle = X$. Therefore, $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, HoH)$ is connected.

Noting that $H \cap H^o \geq \langle xy, z \rangle$, the index $|H : (H \cap H^o)|$ divides 4. Since $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$ is insoluble, Γ is not a cycle. Thus Γ is X -arc-transitive and of valency 4. Take a subgroup $L \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$ of T . Then X contains a regular subgroup $L \times K \cong (\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_3$. \square

Example 2.13. For the graph Γ in Example 2.12, the standard double cover $\Gamma^{(2)}$ is a Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_6$ and of $\mathbb{Z}_{33}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$. In fact, if ϵ is defined as in Example 2.10, then $\text{Aut}\Gamma^{(2)} \geq ((K \times T) : \langle z \rangle) \times \langle \epsilon \rangle$. Take $L \leq R \leq T : \langle z \rangle = Y$ with $z \in R$, $L \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$ and $R \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$. Then $\text{Aut}\Gamma^{(2)}$ has regular subgroups $(K \times L) \times \langle \epsilon \rangle$ and $(K \times L) : \langle z\epsilon \rangle$ isomorphic to $(\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5) \times \mathbb{Z}_6$ and $\mathbb{Z}_{33}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$, respectively. \square

The next example gives the S_3 -covers of K_5 and of $P_{23,11}$.

Example 2.14. Let $X = Y \times K$ with $Y = S_5$ or $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$ and $K = \langle y_2 \rangle : \langle z_2 \rangle \cong S_3$. Take a subgroup $H_1 \cong S_4$ of Y . Then H_1 has a normal subgroup $P \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Write $H_1 = P : (\langle y_1 \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle)$ with $\langle y_1 \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle \cong S_3$. Set $y = y_1 y_2$, $z = z_1 z_2$ and $H = P : (\langle y \rangle : \langle z \rangle)$. Then $H \cong S_4$ and $\langle y, z \rangle \cong S_3$.

It is easily shown that $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle y, z \rangle) \leq \mathbf{N}_X(\langle y_1 \rangle) = \mathbf{N}_Y(\langle y_1 \rangle) \times K$, where $\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle y_1 \rangle) \cong D_{12}$ or D_{24} for $Y = S_5$ or $\text{PSL}(2, 23)$, respectively. Note that $\langle y, z \rangle$ contains exactly three involutions, say z , z^y and z^{y^2} . Assume that $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle y_1 \rangle)$ normalizes $\langle y, z \rangle$. Then $z^g = z^{y^i}$ for some $0 \leq i \leq 2$, yielding that $y^i g^{-1}$ centralizes $z = z_1 z_2$. Further computation shows that $y^i g^{-1} \in \langle o, z \rangle = \langle o \rangle \times \langle z \rangle$, where o is the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_Y(\langle y_1 \rangle)$. It follows that $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle y, z \rangle) = \langle o \rangle \times (\langle y, z \rangle)$.

It is easily shown that $\langle o, H \rangle = X$. Then $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, HoH)$ is connected, X -arc-transitive and of valency 4. Moreover, X contains a regular subgroup isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_5 \times S_3$ or $(\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}) \times S_3$, respectively.

For $Y = S_5$, we may take $P = \langle (12)(34), (13)(24) \rangle$, $y_1 = (123)$, $z_1 = (12)$ and $o = (45)$. Let $g = (12345)$ and $h = (13)(24)$. Then X has two regular subgroups $\langle g \rangle \times K \cong \mathbb{Z}_5 \times S_3$ and $\langle gy_2 \rangle : \langle hz_2 \rangle \cong D_{30}$. \square

We finally give a normal cover of $P_{7,3}^{(2)}$. An X -edge-transitive graph Γ is said to be X -half-transitive if X is transitive on the vertices but not on the arcs of Γ .

Example 2.15. (1) Let $Y = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ and $D_8 \cong H \leq T$. Then $\mathbf{N}_Y(H) \cong D_{16}$. Let o be the involution in the center of H . It is easily shown that o lies in the center of $\mathbf{N}_Y(H)$. Take $M \leq T$ with $H \leq M \cong S_4$, and take an element $y \in M$ of order 3 with $y^o = y^{-1}$. Then $\langle y, H \rangle = M$ and $H \cap H^y \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Let $z \in \mathbf{N}_Y(H) \setminus T$ be an involution. Then $\langle M, z \rangle = Y$. Set $x = zy$. Then $x \notin T$ and $H \cap H^x = H \cap H^y \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, so $|H : (H \cap H^x)| = 2$. Note that $\langle H, x \rangle = \langle H, (zy)^o, zy \rangle = \langle H, zy^{-1}, zy \rangle = \langle H, y, z \rangle = \langle M, z \rangle = Y$. Then $\Sigma := \text{Cos}(Y, H, H\{x, x^{-1}\}H)$ is connected, X -half-transitive and of valency 4. Further, Y has a regular subgroup isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$.

(2) Let Σ be as in (1). Let $X = Y \times \langle c \rangle$, where $\langle c \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_l$ with odd l coprime to 21. Define a graph

$$\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, H, H\{cx, (cx)^{-1}\}H).$$

Then Γ is a connected X -edge-transitive tetravalent Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6) \times \mathbb{Z}_l$. \square

Lemma 2.16. *Let Σ and Γ be as in Example 2.15. Then $\Sigma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$, $(Y \times \langle c \rangle) : \langle \theta \rangle \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \text{D}_{21}$ for an involution $\theta \in \text{Aut} \Gamma$, and Γ is isomorphic to an arc-transitive Cayley graph of $(\mathbb{Z}_7 : \mathbb{Z}_3) \times \text{D}_{21}$.*

Proof. Recall that $z \in \mathbf{N}_Y(H) \setminus T$ is an involution. Define $\tilde{z} : Hg \mapsto Hzg$, $g \in Y$. Then \tilde{z} centralizes Y . Since $y^o = y^{-1}$ and $o \in H$ lies in the center of $\mathbf{N}_Y(H)$, we have $zH\{x, x^{-1}\}Hz = H^z\{yz, (yz)^{-1}\}^z H^z = H\{yz, (yz)^{-1}\}^{zo} H = H\{zy, y^{-1}z\}^o H = H\{zy^{-1}, yz\}H = H\{x, x^{-1}\}H$. Then it is easily shown that \tilde{z} is an automorphism of Σ . Set $\tilde{Y} = T : \langle \tilde{z}z \rangle$. Then $\tilde{Y} \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, and \tilde{Y} has exactly two orbits on $V\Sigma$, say $\{Ht \mid t \in T\}$ and $\{Hzt \mid t \in T\}$. Let u be the vertex corresponding to H . Then $\Sigma(u) = \{Hg \mid g \in H\{yz, zy^{-1}\}H\}$, and $\tilde{Y}_u = H : \langle \tilde{z}z \rangle \cong \text{D}_{16}$ is a Sylow 2-subgroup of \tilde{Y} . It is easily shown that \tilde{Y}_u is transitive on $\Sigma(u)$. Thus Σ is \tilde{Y} -edge-transitive. Note that \tilde{Y} is normal in $Y \times \langle \tilde{z} \rangle$. For an arbitrary vertex $v = Hg$, we have $\tilde{Y}_v = (Y \times \langle \tilde{z} \rangle)_v \cap \tilde{Y} = (Y \times \langle \tilde{z} \rangle)_u^g \cap \tilde{Y} = \tilde{Y}_u^g \cong \text{D}_{16}$, so \tilde{Y}_v and \tilde{Y}_u are conjugate in \tilde{Y} . Then, by [8, Lemma 3.4], Σ is the standard double cover of a \tilde{Y} -arc-transitive graph Σ_1 of order 21 and valency 4. By [16], $\Sigma_1 \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$, so $\Sigma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$.

Now we extend $\sigma := \tilde{z}z$ to an automorphism of Γ . Let $\tau \in \text{Aut}(\langle c \rangle)$ with $c^\tau = c^{-1}$. Consider the direct product $\tilde{X} := Y \times \langle \tilde{z} \rangle \times (\langle c \rangle : \langle \tau \rangle)$. Then the element $\theta := \tau\sigma$ is an involution which normalizes both Y and H . Thus θ induces an automorphism of $X = Y \times \langle c \rangle$ by conjugation. Moreover, $(HcxH)^\theta = H(cx)^\theta H = H(cx)^{-1}H$. Then it is easily shown that $Hg \mapsto Hg^\theta$ gives an automorphism of Γ , and $X : \langle \theta \rangle$ is transitive on the arcs of Γ . Moreover, $\theta z = \tau\tilde{z}$ centralizes Y . Let L be a subgroup of Y with $L \cong \mathbb{Z}_7 : \mathbb{Z}_3$. Then $X : \langle \theta \rangle$ contains a regular subgroup $L \times (\langle c \rangle : \langle \theta z \rangle) \cong (\mathbb{Z}_7 : \mathbb{Z}_3) \times \text{D}_{21}$. Noting that $\text{Aut} \Gamma \geq \langle Y, c, \theta \rangle = \langle Y, c, \theta z \rangle \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \text{D}_{21}$, the lemma follows. \square

3. SOLUBLE AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

In this section we determine the graphs having soluble edge-transitive automorphism groups. We first list two basic facts about edge-transitive (Cayley) graphs.

Lemma 3.1. *Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected regular X -edge-transitive graph, and let $N \trianglelefteq X$. Then, for any given vertex $u \in V$, all N_u -orbits on $\Gamma(u)$ have the same length. If further X is transitive on V , then the following statements hold:*

- (i) $|N_u : N_{uv}|$ is constant while $\{u, v\}$ runs over E ; in particular, $|N_u : N_{uv}| \neq 1$ if N is not semiregular on V ;
- (ii) N has at most two orbits on V provided that N_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$.

Proof. Since Γ is X -edge-transitive, either X is transitive on V , or X is intransitive on V and X_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$ for each $u \in V$. If X_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$ then, since $N_u \trianglelefteq X_u$, all N_u -orbits on $\Gamma(u)$ have the same length. Thus, to complete the proof, we assume that X is transitive on V in the following.

Let Δ be an N_u -orbit on $\Gamma(u)$. Then $|\Delta| = |N_u : N_{uv}|$ for $v \in \Delta$. Let $x \in X$ with $v = u^x$. Then $N_v = X_{u^x} \cap N = (N_u)^x$; in particular, $|N_u| = |N_v|$, and so $|\Delta| = |N_v : N_{uv}|$. Let $\{u', v'\}$ be an arbitrary edge of Γ . Since X is transitive on E , there is $y \in X$ with $\{u', v'\}^y = \{u, v\}$, so $(u', v')^y = (u, v)$ or (v, u) . Thus $(N_{u'})^y = X_{u'^y} \cap N = N_{u'^y} = N_u$ or N_v , and $N_{uv} = N_{u'^y v'^y} = X_{u'^y v'^y} \cap N = (N_{u'v'})^y$. Then $|N_{u'} : N_{u'v'}| = |(N_{u'})^y : (N_{u'v'})^y| = |N_{u'^y} : N_{u'^y v'^y}| = |\Delta|$.

Assume that $|N_u : N_{uv}| = 1$ for some edge $\{u, v\} \in E$. Then $N_{u'} = N_{v'}$ for any $\{u', v'\} \in E$. It follows from the connectedness that $N_u = N_w$ for any $w \in V$. Thus $N_u = 1$ as $N_u \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$, so N is semiregular. Then (i) follows.

Assume further that N_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$ but N is intransitive on V . Let B and B' be two N -orbits such that $u \in B$ is adjacent to some $u' \in B'$. By (i), since B' is N_u -invariant, the subgraph $[B, B']$ induced by $B \cup B'$ is regular and has the same valency as Γ . Since Γ is connected, $\Gamma = [B, B']$, and so (ii) follows. \square

Lemma 3.2. *Let $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ be a connected Cayley graph and $G \leq X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$. Let v be the vertex corresponding to the identity of G . Then Γ is X -half-transitive if and only if S consists of two X_v -orbits S_1 and S_2 with $S_2^{-1} = S_1$, in particular, S contains no involutions.*

Proof. Note that $\{1, s\}^{\widehat{s^{-1}}} = \{1, s^{-1}\}$ for $s \in S$. Then the sufficiency follows.

Assume that Γ is X -half-transitive. Then X_v has exactly two orbits S_1 and S_2 on S , and $|S_1| = |S_2|$. Thus there is some $x \in X$ such that $\{1, s_1\}^x = \{1, s_2\}$, where $s_1 \in S_1$ and $s_2 \in S_2$. Since $X = GX_v = X_vG$, write $x = x_1\hat{g}$ for $x_1 \in X_v$ and $1 \neq g \in G$. Then $\{g, s_1'g\} = \{1, s_1\}^x = \{1, s_2\}$ for some $s_1' \in S_1$ with $x_1 : s_1 \mapsto s_1'$. Thus $g = s_2$ and $s_1'g = 1$; in particular, $s_2^{-1} = s_1' \in S_1$. Then $S_2^{-1} \subseteq S_1$, and so $S_2^{-1} = S_1$. Since $S_1 \cap S_2 = \emptyset$, there are no involutions in S . \square

Let G be a group of square-free order, and $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected tetravalent X -edge-transitive Cayley graph of G , where $G \leq X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$ and X is soluble.

Lemma 3.3. *Either $\Gamma \cong \mathbf{C}_{m[2]}$, or X has a normal regular subgroup R .*

Proof. For an arbitrary prime divisor p of $|X|$, let $\mathbf{O}_p(X)$ be the largest normal p -subgroup of X . Set $M = \mathbf{O}_p(X)$. Since Γ is of square-free order, either $M = 1$ or the orbits of M are of size p . Suppose that M is not semiregular on V . Then $1 \neq M_u \trianglelefteq X_u$ for $u \in V$. Since Γ has valency 4, the stabilizer X_u is a $\{2, 3\}$ -group. By Lemma 3.1, we know that $p = 2$, and so the orbits of M are of size 2. Since M is not semiregular, we have that $\Gamma \cong \mathbf{C}_{m[2]}$, where $m = \frac{|V|}{2}$.

Assume now that $\mathbf{O}_p(X)$ is semiregular on V for all primes p . (Since $X \neq 1$ is soluble, there exists a prime p such that $\mathbf{O}_p(X)$ is nontrivial.) Then $\mathbf{O}_p(X)$ has order 1 or p , so $\mathbf{O}_p(X)$ is cyclic. Let F be the Fitting subgroup of X , that is, $F = \langle \mathbf{O}_p(X) \mid p \text{ divides } |G| \rangle$. Then F is cyclic and acts semiregularly on V ; in particular, $|F|$ is a divisor of $|G|$. Since $|G|$ is square-free, there exists a subgroup $L \leq G$ of order $|G|/|F|$. Set $R = F:L$. Then $|R| = |G| = |V|$. Let B be an F -orbit on V . Then G_B is regular on B , and so $|F| = |B| = |G_B|$. Thus $|G| = |G_B||L|$, yielding $G = G_B L$. It follows that L acts transitively on the set of all F -orbits. Then R is transitive on V , and so R is a regular subgroup of X .

Since X is soluble, $\mathbf{C}_X(F) \leq F$, yielding $\mathbf{C}_X(F) = F$. Thus $X/F = \mathbf{N}_X(F)/\mathbf{C}_X(F)$ is isomorphic to a subgroup of $\text{Aut}(F)$. Since F is cyclic, $\text{Aut}(F)$ is abelian, so X/F is abelian. Then $R/F \trianglelefteq X/F$, and so $R \trianglelefteq X$. \square

This lemma allows us to assume that X contains a normal regular subgroup R . Set $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(R, S)$ for some $S \subset R$. Choose v to be the vertex corresponding to the

identity of R . Then we have a subgroup of $\text{Aut}(R)$:

$$\text{Aut}(R, S) = \{\sigma \in \text{Aut}(R) \mid x^\sigma \in S \text{ for all } x \in S\},$$

which is contained in the stabilizer of v in $\text{Aut}\Gamma$. Moreover, by [9, Lemma 2.1], the normalizer $\mathbf{N}_{\text{Aut}\Gamma}(R) = R:\text{Aut}(R, S)$. Since $X \leq \mathbf{N}_{\text{Aut}\Gamma}(R)$, we have $X_v \leq \text{Aut}(R, S)$.

The next lemma determines $\text{Aut}(R, S)$.

Lemma 3.4. *The subgroup $\text{Aut}(R, S)$ is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_2 , \mathbb{Z}_4 or \mathbb{Z}_2^2 .*

Proof. Since Γ is connected, $\langle S \rangle = R$, so $\text{Aut}(R, S)$ acts faithfully on S . Since $|S| = 4$, we have $\text{Aut}(R, S) \leq S_4$.

Write $R = (A:B) \times C$, where A , B and $C = \mathbf{Z}(R)$ are cyclic. Then $|A|$ is odd. By Lemma 2.2, $\bar{A} \trianglelefteq \text{Aut}(R)$ and $\text{Aut}(R)/\bar{A} \cong \text{Aut}(C) \times \text{Aut}(A)$ is abelian. Then the commutator subgroup of $\text{Aut}(R)$ has order dividing $|\bar{A}| = |A|$. Thus the commutator subgroup of every subgroup of $\text{Aut}(R)$ is of odd order. Then $\text{Aut}(R, S)$ has no subgroups isomorphic to D_8 , A_4 or S_4 , so $\text{Aut}(R, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$, \mathbb{Z}_4 or \mathbb{Z}_2^2 . \square

The following lemma allows us to choose $R = G$.

Lemma 3.5. *Assume that X contains a normal regular subgroup. Then $G \trianglelefteq X$.*

Proof. Let R be a normal regular subgroup of X . Then RG is a subgroup of $X = R:X_v$, so $|RG| = |R||G|/|R \cap G|$ is a divisor of $|X| = 2|R|$ or $4|R|$. Then either $R = G$ or $R \cap G$ is the 2'-Hall subgroup of R (and of G). Assume the latter case occurs. Then $R \cap G$ is characteristic in R , and so $R \cap G \trianglelefteq X$. Let P be a Sylow 2-subgroup of X with $X_v \leq P$. Then $P = (RX_v) \cap P = (R \cap P)X_v$. Since $R \trianglelefteq X$ and $|R|$ is square-free, $R \cap P \trianglelefteq P$ and $|R \cap P| = 2$. It follows that $P = (R \cap P)X_v = (R \cap P) \times X_v$ is abelian. Thus $X/(R \cap G) = (RX_v)/(R \cap G) = (R \cap G)P/(R \cap G) \cong P$ is abelian, so $G/(R \cap G) \trianglelefteq X/(R \cap G)$, and hence $G \trianglelefteq X$. \square

Thus we assume that $G \trianglelefteq X$ in the following. Write $\Gamma = \text{Cay}(G, S)$ and $G = (\langle a \rangle : \langle b \rangle) \times \langle c \rangle \cong (\mathbb{Z}_m : \mathbb{Z}_n) \times \mathbb{Z}_l$ with center $\mathbf{Z}(G) = \langle c \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$.

Lemma 3.6. *There exists $\rho \in \text{Aut}(G)$ such that $ab^j c \in S^\rho$ and $X_v^\rho \leq \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(\langle b \rangle)$, where $(j, n) = 1$ and v is the vertex corresponding to the identity of G .*

Proof. Let $A = \langle a \rangle$, $B = \langle b \rangle$ and $C = \langle c \rangle$. By Lemma 2.2, since $|\bar{A}| = |A| = m$ is odd, $\mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B) = \text{Aut}(C) \times \text{Aut}(A)$ contains a Sylow 2-subgroup of $\text{Aut}(G)$. Recall that $X_v \leq \text{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$, \mathbb{Z}_4 or \mathbb{Z}_2^2 . Then there is some $\alpha \in \text{Aut}(G)$ such that $X_v^\alpha \leq \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B)$. Note that α induces an isomorphism from $\text{Cay}(G, S)$ to $\text{Cay}(G, S^\alpha)$ such that $v^\alpha = v$, and that X^α is transitive on the edges of $\text{Cay}(G, S^\alpha)$. Clearly, X^α contains G as a normal regular subgroup. Take $x = a^i b^j c^k \in S^\alpha$. Since $\text{Cay}(G, S^\alpha)$ is connected and X^α is transitive on the edges of $\text{Cay}(G, S^\alpha)$, we have $\langle x^\sigma \mid \sigma \in X_v^\alpha \rangle = G$. Then $G = \langle a^i b^j c^k, a^{i' i'' i'''} b^j c^{k k'} \rangle$ or $\langle a^i b^j c^k, a^{i' i'' i'''} b^j c^{k k'}, a^{i' i'' i'''} b^j c^{k k''}, a^{i' i'' i'''} b^j c^{k k''''} \rangle$, where i', i'', i''', k', k'' and k'''' are integers. It follows that $\langle c^k \rangle = \langle c \rangle$, $\langle a^i \rangle = \langle a \rangle$ and $\langle b^j \rangle = \langle b \rangle$, which implies that $(k, l) = 1$, $(i, m) = 1$ and $(j, n) = 1$, respectively. Take $\beta \in \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B)$ with $(c^k)^\beta = c$ and $(a^i)^\beta = a$. Set $\rho = \alpha\beta$. Then $cab^j \in S^\rho$ and $X_v^\rho \leq \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(B)$, as desired. \square

Now we determine the graphs when X is soluble and G is normal in X .

Lemma 3.7. *Assume that G is normal in X . Then one of the following holds.*

- (1) $\text{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ or \mathbb{Z}_4 , and either G is cyclic or $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_l \times D_{2m}$; Γ is constructed as in Construction 2.3 and 2.4.
- (2) $\text{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ and $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_l \times (\mathbb{Z}_m : \mathbb{Z}_n)$, where $n \geq 3$ and the center $\mathbf{Z}(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$; Γ is constructed as in Construction 2.6.

Proof. Since G is normal in X , we have $X \leq \mathbf{N}_{\text{Aut}\Gamma}(G) = G : \text{Aut}(G, S)$ and $X_v \leq \text{Aut}(G, S)$. Note that $G : \text{Aut}(G, S)$ is transitive on the edges of Γ as Γ is X -edge-transitive. To complete the proof of Lemma 3.7, we may assume that $X_v = \text{Aut}(G, S)$ and $X = G : \text{Aut}(G, S)$. By Lemma 3.6, up to isomorphism of graphs, we may assume that $ab^j c \in S$ and $X_v = \text{Aut}(G, S) \leq \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(\langle b \rangle)$, where $1 \leq j \leq n-1$ with $(j, n) = 1$.

Assume first that $G = \langle c \rangle = \mathbb{Z}_l$. Then $a = b = 1$ and $c \in S$. Since $\sigma : c^i \mapsto c^{-i}$ is an automorphism of G , we have $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G, S)$. By Lemma 3.2, Γ is X -arc-transitive, so $\text{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$ or \mathbb{Z}_2^2 . Thus the four elements of S are conjugate under $\text{Aut}(G, S)$, and Γ is given as in Construction 2.3.

Assume that $n = 2$ and $l = 1$. Then $G = \langle a \rangle : \langle b \rangle \cong D_{2m}$, and S contains the involution ab . By Lemma 3.2, Γ is X -arc-transitive, hence $\text{Aut}(G, S)$ is transitive on S , and so $\text{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$ or \mathbb{Z}_2^2 . Suppose first that $\text{Aut}(G, S) = \langle \rho \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$. Then $a^\rho = a^i$ and $b^\rho = b$ for $i^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$, and $S = \{ab, a^i b, a^{i^2} b, a^{i^3} b\}$. Since Γ is connected, $G = \langle S \rangle = \langle a^{i-1}, a^{i^2-1}, a^{i^3-1}, ab \rangle = \langle a^{i-1} \rangle : \langle ab \rangle$. Thus $\langle a^{i-1} \rangle = \langle a \rangle$, so $(i-1, m) = 1$, yielding $i^3 + i^2 + i + 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$. Thus Γ is given as in Construction 2.4 (i). Now let $\text{Aut}(G, S) = \langle \sigma \rangle \times \langle \tau \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Set $a^\sigma = a^{i_1}$ and $a^\tau = a^{i_2}$, where $i_1^2 \equiv i_2^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. Then $S = \{ab, a^{i_1} b, a^{i_2} b, a^{i_1 i_2} b\}$. Since $G = \langle S \rangle = \langle a^{i_1-1}, a^{i_2-1}, a^{i_1 i_2-1}, ab \rangle = \langle a^{i_1-1}, a^{i_2-1} \rangle : \langle ab \rangle$, we have $\langle a \rangle = \langle a^{i_1-1}, a^{i_2-1} \rangle$, yielding $(i_1-1, i_2-1, m) = 1$. Then Γ is given as in Construction 2.4 (ii).

Assume that $n = 2$ and $l > 1$. Then $abc \in S$, l is odd and abc has order $2l$. By Lemma 3.2, since Γ is X -edge-transitive, there is $\rho \in X_v = \text{Aut}(G, S)$ such that $(abc)^\rho \neq (abc)^{-1}$. Noting that ρ has order 2 or 4, we set $a^\rho = a^i$ and $c^\rho = c^k$, where $i^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $k^4 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$. Then $S^{-1} = S = \{abc, a^i b c^k, abc^{-1}, a^i b c^{-k}\}$. Since Γ is connected, $G = \langle S \rangle = \langle abc, a^i b c^k \rangle = \langle a^{i-1}, ab, c \rangle = (\langle a^{i-1} \rangle : \langle ab \rangle) \times \langle c \rangle$. It follows that $\langle a^{i-1} \rangle = \langle a \rangle$, so $(i-1, m) = 1$. Suppose that ρ has order 4, then $S = \{abc, a^i b c^k, a^{i^2} b c^{k^2}, a^{i^3} b c^{k^3}\}$, so $abc^{-1} = (abc)^{-1} = a^{i^2} b c^{k^2}$ or $a^{i^3} b c^{k^3}$, yielding $i^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $k^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{l}$. Moreover, $i \equiv -1 \pmod{m}$ as $(i-1, m) = 1$. Thus Γ is given as in Construction 2.4 (iii). Now let $\sigma := \rho$ be of order 2. Then $i^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$. Thus $i \equiv -1 \pmod{m}$, and Γ is given as in Construction 2.4 (iv). Take $\tau \in \text{Aut}(G)$ such that $a^\tau = a$, $b^\tau = b$ and $c^\tau = c^{-1}$. Then $\sigma \neq \tau \in \text{Aut}(G, S)$, $\sigma\tau = \tau\sigma$ and $\tau^2 = 1$, so $\text{Aut}(G, S) = \langle \sigma, \tau \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$.

Finally, let $n \geq 3$. Recall that $ab^j c \in S$. Since Γ is X -edge-transitive, by Lemma 3.2, there is $\tau \in X_v = \text{Aut}(G, S)$ such that $(ab^j c)^\tau \neq (ab^j c)^{-1}$. Set $a^\tau = a^i$ and $c^\tau = c^k$. Then $S = \{ab^j c, a^i b^j c^k, b^{-j} a^{-1} c^{-1}, b^{-j} a^{-i} c^{-k}\}$. It is easily shown that $\{ab^j c, a^i b^j c^k\}^\sigma \neq \{b^{-j} a^{-1} c^{-1}, b^{-j} a^{-i} c^{-k}\}$ for any $\sigma \in \mathbf{C}_{\text{Aut}(G)}(\langle b \rangle)$. Thus $\text{Aut}(G, S)$ is not transitive on S , and so $\text{Aut}(G, S) = \langle \tau \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. Then $i^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$ and $k^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{l}$. Since Γ is connected, $G = \langle S \rangle = \langle ab^j c, a^i b^j c^k \rangle = \langle a^{i-1}, ab^j, c \rangle = (\langle a^{i-1} \rangle : \langle ab^j \rangle) \times \langle c \rangle$. Thus $\langle a^{i-1} \rangle = \langle a \rangle$, so $(i-1, m) = 1$, hence $i \equiv -1 \pmod{m}$ as $i^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{m}$. Then Γ is given as in Construction 2.6. \square

4. INSOLUBLE AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

In this section, we study the case where the automorphism groups are insoluble.

An s -arc of $\Gamma = (V, E)$ is a sequence of $s + 1$ vertices v_0, v_1, \dots, v_s such that v_i is adjacent to v_{i+1} and $v_i \neq v_{i+2}$. For a subgroup $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$, the graph Γ is said to be (X, s) -arc-transitive if X acts transitively on V and on the set of all s -arcs of Γ , and (X, s) -transitive if further X is intransitive on the set of all $(s + 1)$ -arcs of Γ .

The vertex stabilizer for s -arc-transitive graphs of valency 4 is known, refer to [34].

Lemma 4.1. *Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected (X, s) -transitive graph of valency 4. Then, for $u \in V$, the stabilizer X_u and s are listed in the following table,*

s	2	3	4	7
X_u	A_4, S_4	$\mathbb{Z}_3 \times A_4, (\mathbb{Z}_3 \times A_4). \mathbb{Z}_2, S_3 \times S_4$	$\mathbb{Z}_3^2 : \text{GL}(2, 3)$	$[3^5] : \text{GL}(2, 3)$

where $[3^5]$ is a 3-group of order 3^5 .

For a finite group X , the socle of X , denoted by $\text{soc}(X)$, is the subgroup generated by all minimal normal subgroups of X . The group X is said to be *almost simple* if its socle $\text{soc}(X)$ is a non-abelian simple group.

In the rest of this section, assume that $\Gamma = (V, E)$ is a connected tetravalent graph of square-free order such that a subgroup $X \leq \text{Aut}\Gamma$ is transitive on both V and E .

Lemma 4.2. *If Γ has order $|V| = 21$ then $X \neq \text{PSL}(2, 7)$.*

Proof. Suppose that $X = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ and Γ is a connected X -edge-transitive graphs of valency 4 and order 21. Then X is transitive on V and, for $u \in V$, the stabilizer $X_u \cong D_8$ is a Sylow 2-subgroup of X . Let $v \in \Gamma(u)$. Then $|X_u : X_{uv}| = 2$ or 4. Set $v = u^x$ for some $x \in X$. Since Γ is connected, $\langle X_u, x \rangle = X$; in particular, $x \notin X_u$.

Let $|X_u : X_{uv}| = 4$. Then X_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$, so Γ is X -arc-transitive. We may choose x such that $(u, v)^x = (v, u)$, yielding $x \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \cong D_8$. In particular, $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \neq X_u$. Then $|\mathbf{N}_{X_u}(X_{uv})| = 4$. Thus $\mathbf{N}_{X_u}(X_{uv})$ is normal in both $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$ and X_u , so $\mathbf{N}_{X_u}(X_{uv}) \trianglelefteq \langle X_u, \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \rangle$. Checking the subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$, we get $\langle X_u, \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \rangle \cong S_4$, which contradicts $\langle X_u, x \rangle = X$.

Let $|X_u : X_{uv}| = 2$. Then $|X_{uv}| = 4$, so $X_{uv} \trianglelefteq M := \langle X_u, X_v \rangle$, and hence $M \cong S_4$. Noting that X_u and X_v are two Sylow 2-subgroups of M , there is some $y \in M$ such that $X_u^y = X_v = X_u^x$. Thus $xy^{-1} \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_u) = X_u$, so $\langle X_u, x \rangle \leq \langle X_u, xy^{-1}, y \rangle \leq M$, again a contradiction. Then the lemma follows. \square

Lemma 4.3. *Assume that X is almost simple and contains a regular subgroup G . Then, for $u \in V$, the triple (X, G, X_u) is one of the triples listed in Table 3.*

Proof. By the assumption, $X = GX_u$, so $|X| = |G||X_u|$ for $u \in V$. Since Γ is of valency 4 and $|G|$ is square-free, either

- (i) X_u is a 2-group, and hence r^2 does not divide $|X|$ for any odd prime r ; or
- (ii) X_u is given in Lemma 4.1, and hence none of $2^6, 3^8$ and r^2 is a divisor of $|X|$, where r is a prime with $r \geq 5$.

In particular, $|X|$ is not divisible by $2^6 \cdot 3^2$. Next we consider the socle T of X . Since T is normal in X , the T -orbits on V have the same length $|T : T_u|$. Thus $|T : T_u|$ is square-free, and T has a $\{2, 3\}$ -subgroup of square-free index.

X	G	X_u
A_5	\mathbb{Z}_5	A_4
S_5	\mathbb{Z}_5	S_4
$\text{PGL}(2, 7)$	D_{14}	S_4
	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$	D_{16}
	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$	D_8
$\text{PSL}(2, 11)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$	A_4
$\text{PGL}(2, 11)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$	S_4
$\text{PGL}(2, 11)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$	A_4
$\text{PSL}(2, 23)$	$\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}$	S_4
$\text{PSL}(3, 3):\mathbb{Z}_2$	D_{26}	$\mathbb{Z}_3^2:\text{GL}(2, 3)$

Table 3

Suppose that T is a sporadic simple group. Since $|T|$ is not divisible by $2^6 \cdot 3^2$, we have $X = T = M_{11}$ or J_1 , and further, by the Atlas [5], J_1 does not have a proper subgroup of index a $\{2, 3\}$ -number. Thus $X = M_{11}$, and then $3 \cdot 2^3$ divides $|X_u|$ and $|X_u|$ divides $2^4 \cdot 3^2$. By Lemma 4.1, $X_u \cong S_4, (3 \times A_4).2$ or $S_4 \times S_3$. Checking the subgroups of M_{11} in the Atlas [5], we get $X_u \cong S_4$, so $|V| = |X : X_u| = 330$. Then $|G| = 330$ as G is regular on V ; however, M_{11} has no such a subgroup, a contradiction.

Let $T = A_n$. Since 5^2 does not divide $|X|$, we have $n \leq 9$. The groups A_8 and A_9 are excluded as their orders are divisible by $2^6 \cdot 3^2$. For A_7 , neither A_7 nor S_7 has a subgroup of index dividing $|X_v|$ other than A_7 . Suppose that $T = A_6$. Then $X \leq \text{Aut}(T) \cong A_6.\mathbb{Z}_2^2$, so $|X_u|$ is divisible by 3 but not by 3^3 . Examining the maximal subgroups of X in the Atlas [5], it follows that $X_u \cong A_4$ or S_4 ; however, X does not have a subgroup of order divisible by 15, a contradiction. Thus $T = A_5$, and $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_5$.

Assume now that T is a simple group of Lie type defined over $\text{GF}(q)$, where $q = p^f$ is a power of a prime p . Then we can get T by checking the orders of finite simple groups of Lie type (see [12, Table 5.1.A and Table 5.1.B], for example). Since r^2 does not divide $|T|$ for any prime $r \geq 5$, either $T = \text{PSL}(2, p)$, or $p \in \{2, 3\}$.

Case 1. Let $T = \text{PSL}(2, p)$ for a prime $p \geq 5$. In this case, $X = T$ or $\text{PGL}(2, p)$, a Sylow 2-subgroup of X is dihedral, and a Sylow 3-subgroup of X is cyclic. Thus, by Lemma 4.1, either X_u is a 2-group, or $X_u \cong A_4$ or S_4 .

Note that TG is a subgroup of X as $T \trianglelefteq X$. Then $|TG : G|$ is a divisor of $|X : G| = |X_u|$. If $X \neq TG$ then $G \leq T$, so $|G| = |T : T_u| = |X : X_u|$, yielding $|X_u : T_u| = 2$. Since $|TG| = |T||G|/|T \cap G|$, we have $|TG : G| = |T : (T \cap G)|$, so $|T : (T \cap G)| = |X_u|$ or $|T_u|$ depending on whether or not $X = TG$, respectively.

Assume that $X_u \cong A_4$ or S_4 . Then $T_u \cong A_4$ or S_4 . Consider the action of T on $[T : (T \cap G)]$ induced by right multiplication. Then T has a (faithful) transitive representation of degree 12 or 24. It follows from [12, Table 5.2 A] that $p \leq 23$. Checking the subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2, p)$ and $\text{PGL}(2, p)$ in the Atlas [5], we conclude that $p = 5, 7, 11$ or 23 , and the triple (X, G, X_u) is described as in Table 4.3.

Now let X_u be a 2-group. Then $|T : (T \cap G)|$ is a power of 2. By [10], $|T : (T \cap G)| = p + 1 = 2^e$ for $e \geq 3$. It follows that $|T_u| = 2^{e-1}$ or 2^e . Thus $T_u \cong D_{2^e}$ or $D_{2^{e-1}}$.

Suppose that 32 divides $|T_u|$. Let $v \in \Gamma(u)$. By Lemma 3.1, T_{uv} has index 2 or 4 in both T_u and T_v , then T_{uv} contains a subgroup $C \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$. It is easily shown that C is normal in both T_u and T_v , and so $C \trianglelefteq \langle T_u, T_v \rangle$. Thus $T \neq \langle T_u, T_v \rangle := Q$ as T is

simple. Checking the subgroups of T (see [11, 8.27], for example), we conclude that $T_u \cong T_v \cong D_{2^{e-1}}$, and $Q \cong D_{2^e} = D_{p+1}$ which is maximal in T . Let $w \in \Gamma(v)$. Then a similar argument implies that $Q_1 := \langle T_v, T_w \rangle \cong D_{p+1}$. Note that T_v is normal in both Q and Q_1 . Thus $T_v \trianglelefteq \langle Q, Q_1 \rangle$, yielding $Q = Q_1$. By the connectedness of Γ , we conclude that $Q = \langle T_v \mid v \in V \rangle$. Thus, for any $x \in X$, we have $T_v^x = (X_v \cap T)^x = X_{v^x} \cap T = T_{v^x} \leq Q$. Then $Q \trianglelefteq T$, a contradiction. Therefore, $|T_u|$ divides 16, and so $2^e = 8, 16$ or 32 . Then $p = 2^e - 1 = 7$ or 31 , and $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ or $\text{PSL}(2, 31)$, respectively.

Suppose that $T = \text{PSL}(2, 31)$. Then $T_u \cong D_{16}$ as $|T : T_u|$ is square-free and $|T_u|$ is not divisible by 32. Checking the subgroups of T , we know that T has no subgroups of order $|T : T_u| = 930$. Thus $X = \text{PGL}(2, 31)$ and $X_u \cong D_{32}$. Note that each Sylow 2-subgroup of X is a maximal subgroup. Then a similar argument as above implies that X has a normal Sylow 2-subgroup, which is impossible.

Therefore, $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$, so $X = T$ or $\text{PGL}(2, 7)$. By Lemma 4.2, checking the subgroups of X implies that $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$ and $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$ or $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$.

Case 2. Let $p \in \{2, 3\}$. Assume that X_u is a 2-group. Then T has a subgroup of square-free order with index a power of 2. By [10], $T = \text{PSL}(t, s)$ and $\frac{t^s-1}{s-1}$ is a power of 2, where t is a prime and s is a power of some odd prime. Recall that, in this case, $|X|$ is not divisible by r^2 for any odd prime. It follows that $t = 2$ and s is a prime, so $T = \text{PSL}(2, s)$. By Case 1, $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7) \cong \text{PSL}(3, 2):\mathbb{Z}_2$ and $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$ or $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$.

We next assume that X_u is not a 2-group. Then, by Lemma 4.1, $|X_u|$ is not divisible by 2^5 and 3^7 . Thus $|X| = |G||X_u|$ is not divisible by p^8 . We check the orders of simple groups. Taking into account the isomorphisms among simple groups (see [12, Proposition 2.9.1]), we know that T is one of $\text{PSL}(2, q)$, $\text{PSL}(3, 2)$, $\text{PSL}(3, 3)$, $\text{PSL}(3, 9)$, $\text{PSL}(4, 2)$, $\text{PSL}(4, 3)$, $\text{PSU}(3, 3)$, $\text{PSU}(3, 9)$, $\text{PSp}(4, 3)$, $\text{Sz}(8)$ and $G_2(3)$. However, $\text{PSL}(3, 9)$, $\text{PSL}(4, 2)$, $\text{PSL}(4, 3)$ and the last four groups are excluded as they have orders divisible by 2^6 or 5^2 . Recalling that T has a $\{2, 3\}$ -subgroup of square-free index, $\text{PSU}(3, 3)$ is excluded by checking its subgroups in the Atlas [5]. For $T = \text{PSL}(3, 2)$ or $\text{PSL}(3, 3)$, checking the subgroups of X , the triple (X, G, X_u) is known as in Table 4.3.

To complete the proof, we let $T = \text{PSL}(2, p^f)$ with $f \geq 2$ and $p = 2$ or 3 . Then a Sylow p -subgroup of T has order p^f . Suppose that $f \geq 4$. Then p^3 is a divisor of $|T_u|$. Checking the subgroups of T (see [11, 8.27], for example), we know that $T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_p^f:\mathbb{Z}_t$ or $\mathbb{Z}_p^{f-1}:\mathbb{Z}_t$, where t divides $p^f - 1$; however, none of the groups in Lemma 4.1 has such a subgroup of index no more than 2, a contradiction. Thus $f \leq 3$. Further, by the Atlas [5], neither $\text{PSL}(2, 8)$ nor $\text{PSL}(2, 27)$ has subgroups of square-free index. Noting that $\text{PSL}(2, 9) \cong A_6$, we have $T = \text{PSL}(2, 4) \cong A_5$. Then the Lemma follows. \square

We now determine the structure of insoluble groups X . Let K be the largest soluble normal subgroup of X . Consider the normal quotient Γ_K . By Lemma 2.9, since X/K is insoluble, Γ is a normal cover of Γ_K . Thus K is the kernel of X acting on $V\Gamma_K$, and K is semiregular on V ; in particular, $|K|$ is square-free.

Lemma 4.4. *Assume that X is insoluble. Let K be the largest soluble normal subgroup of X . Then $X = K:Y$, where Y is almost simple such that the socle $\text{soc}(Y)$ is normal in X , the greatest common divisor $(|Y|, |K|)$ is a divisor of 6, and $X_u \cong Y_B$ for a K -orbit B and $u \in V$. If further X has a regular subgroup G , then we may*

choose the group Y such that X contains a regular subgroup $K:(G \cap Y)$; in this case, Y , $G \cap Y$ and Y_B are known respectively as in the three columns of Table 3.

Proof. We first show that X is a split extension of K and some $Y \leq X$ by induction on the order of K . This is trivial if $K = 1$. Let $K \neq 1$, p be the largest prime divisor of $|K|$, and P be the Sylow p -subgroup of K . Then P has order p and is normal in X and, by Lemma 2.9, Γ is a normal cover of Γ_P as X/P is insoluble. Let $u \in V$ and Δ be the P -orbit containing u . Since $|V|$ is square-free, $|\Delta| = p$ is coprime to $|X : X_\Delta|$. Then $X_\Delta = P:X_u$ contains a Sylow p -subgroup of X . It follows from Gaschtz' Theorem (see [2, 10.4]) that the extension $X = P.(X/P)$ splits over P , that is, $X = P:X_1$ for $X_1 \leq X$ with $X_1 \cap P = 1$. Since Γ is a normal cover of Γ_P , the kernel of X acting on $V\Gamma_P$ equals to P . Thus X_1 is faithful and transitive on both $V\Gamma_P$ and $E\Gamma_P$. Further, $K = K \cap PX_1 = P(K \cap X_1)$ and $K \cap X_1 \trianglelefteq X_1$. Since $|V\Gamma_P| < |V|$, we may assume by induction that $X_1 = (K \cap X_1):Y$. Then $X = P((K \cap X_1)Y) = KY$, and $K \cap Y \leq K \cap X_1$ yielding $K \cap Y \leq K \cap X_1 \cap Y = 1$. Thus $X = K:Y$.

Since Γ is a normal cover of Γ_K , we know that Y is faithful and transitive on both $V\Gamma_K$ and $E\Gamma_K$. Let N be a minimal normal subgroup of Y . Then KN is normal in X , so KN is insoluble by the choice of K . Thus N is insoluble, so N is a direct product of isomorphic non-abelian simple groups. Recalling that $|X|$ is not divided by r^2 for a prime $r \geq 5$, it follows that N is simple. Since Γ_K has square-free order, N is not semiregular on $V\Gamma_K$. Thus either N is transitive on $V\Gamma_K$, or Γ_K is not a normal cover of its quotient graph with respect to N . By Lemma 2.9, Y/N is soluble. It follows that N is the unique minimal normal subgroup of Y . Then Y is almost simple. Since $K \trianglelefteq X$, we have $X/\mathbf{C}_X(K) = \mathbf{N}_X(K)/\mathbf{C}_X(K) \lesssim \mathbf{Aut}(K)$. Noting that $\mathbf{Aut}(K)$ is soluble as $|K|$ is square-free, $N = \mathbf{soc}(Y) < \mathbf{C}_X(K)$, yielding $N \trianglelefteq X$.

Let B be the K -orbit containing $u \in V$. Then $K:X_u = X_B = X_B \cap (K:Y) = K:Y_B$, so $X_u \cong Y_B$ is a $\{2, 3\}$ -group. Noting that $|Y| = |V\Gamma_K||Y_B|$, since $|V|$ is square-free, we have $(|K|, |V\Gamma_K|) = 1$. Thus $(|Y|, |K|) = (|Y_B|, |K|)$ is a divisor of 6.

Finally, assume that G is a regular subgroup of X . Let $L \leq G$ with $|G| = |K||L|$. Then $R := K:L$ is a regular subgroup of X , and $R = R \cap X = R \cap (K:Y) = K:(R \cap Y)$. Note L and $R \cap Y$ are Hall subgroups of R . Then L and $R \cap Y$ are conjugate in R , that is, $L = (R \cap Y)^h$ for some $h \in R$. Thus, replacing Y by Y^h , we may assume that $L = R \cap Y$, and so $L = G \cap Y$. It is easily shown that L is regular on the set of all K -orbits on V . Then, identifying Y with a subgroup of $\mathbf{Aut}\Gamma_K$, the quotient graph Γ_K is a Y -edge-transitive Cayley graph of L . Further, since Y is almost simple, the triple (Y, L, Y_B) is known by Lemma 4.3. \square

5. GRAPHS WITH INSOLUBLE AUTOMORPHISM GROUPS

Let G be a group of square-free order, and $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected X -edge-transitive tetravalent Cayley graph of G , where $G \leq X \leq \mathbf{Aut}\Gamma$ and X is insoluble. Set $X = K:Y$ as in Lemma 4.4. Then X has a regular subgroup $K:L$ for $L = G \cap Y$.

5.1. 2-arc-transitive graphs. Assume that Γ is $(X, 2)$ -arc-transitive. Then, for $u \in V$, the stabilizer X_u is 2-transitive on $\Gamma(u)$. Since $T := \mathbf{soc}(Y) \trianglelefteq X$, by Lemma 3.1 (i), T_u acts nontrivially on $\Gamma(u)$, and so T_u acts transitively on $\Gamma(u)$. Then, by Lemma 3.1 (ii), T has at most two orbits on V . It follows that Γ is T -edge-transitive.

Since K is semiregular, $|K|$ is a divisor of $|V|$. Then each odd prime divisor of $|K|$ is also a divisor of $|T|$. Recalling that $(|Y|, |K|)$ divides 6, we have $|K| = 1, 2, 3$ or 6.

Lemma 5.1. *Let B be a K -orbit on V and $u \in B$. Then $T_u \trianglelefteq T_B$, and*

- (1) $|K| = 1$ or 3, $T_B/T_u \cong K$; or
- (2) $|K| = 2$ or 6, $T_B/T_u \cong K$, and T is transitive on V ; or
- (3) $|K| = 2$ or 6, $|T_B/T_u| = \frac{|K|}{2}$ and T has two orbits on V .

Proof. Let $N = K \times T$. Assume that $|K| = 1$ or 3. Then either T is transitive on V or both N and T have two orbits on V . Thus the K -orbit B lies in one of T -orbits, so T_B is transitive on B . Denote by T_B^B the permutation group induced by T_B on B . Noting that $KT_B = K \times T_B$ and K is regular on B , it follows from [6, Theorem 4.3A] that $T_B^B \cong K^B \cong K$ and T_B^B is regular on B , and so $T_u \trianglelefteq T_B$, hence $K \cong T_B^B \cong T_B/T_u$.

Assume that $|K| = 2$ or 6. Then N is transitive on V . If T is transitive on V , then T_B is transitive on B , so $K \cong T_B^B \cong T_B/T_u$. Suppose that T has two orbits on V . Then T_B has exactly two orbits on B with length $\frac{|K|}{2}$. Let B_1 be the T_B -orbit containing u . Considering the action of $K_{B_1} \times T_B$ on B_1 , we get $T_u \trianglelefteq T_B$ and $K_{B_1} \cong T_B^{B_1} \cong T_B/T_u$. Then the lemma follows. \square

Lemma 5.2. *If $T = \text{PSL}(3, 3)$, then Γ is the point-line incidence graph of the projective plane $\text{PG}(2, 3)$, which is a 4-transitive Cayley graph of D_{26} .*

Proof. Let $T = \text{PSL}(3, 3)$. Then $L \cong D_{26}$, $|K| = 1$ or 3, and $Y_B = T_B \cong \mathbb{Z}_3^2:\text{GL}(2, 3)$. It is easily shown that T_B has no normal subgroups of index 3. By Lemma 5.1, $K = 1$. Then $X = Y = \text{PSL}(3, 3):\mathbb{Z}_2$. By [14], the lemma follows. \square

Noting that $\text{PSL}(2, 7) \cong \text{PSL}(3, 2)$ and S_4 has no normal subgroups of index 3, a similar argument as above implies the following lemma.

Lemma 5.3. *If $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$, then Γ is the point-line non-incidence graph of the projective plane $\text{PG}(2, 2)$, which is a Cayley graph of D_{14} .*

Lemma 5.4. *If $T = A_5$, then Γ is isomorphic to one of K_5 , $K_{5,5} - 5K_2$ and the S_3 -cover of K_5 given in Example 2.14.*

Proof. Let $T = A_5$. If K is cyclic, then Γ is a circulant and, by [18], Γ is one of K_5 and $K_{5,5} - 5K_2$. Thus we assume that $K = S_3$. Since $X/\mathbf{C}_X(K) = \mathbf{N}_X(K)/\mathbf{C}_X(K) \lesssim \text{Aut}(K) = \text{Inn}(K) \cong S_3$, we have $Y \leq \mathbf{C}_X(K)$, so $X = K \times Y$. Then, for a K -orbit B and $u \in B$, we have $X_u \cong Y_B \cong A_4$ or S_4 , $X_B = K \times Y_B$, so $|V| = |K||Y : Y_B| = 30$. Recalling that T_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$, it follows that $|T_u|$ is divided by 4, so T is not transitive on V . Then T has two orbits on V , so $|T_u| = 4$, hence $T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ as $T_u \trianglelefteq X_u$. Noting that T_u is regular on $\Gamma(u)$, we have $X_u = T_u : X_{uv}$, where $v \in \Gamma(u)$

Let $Y = S_5$. Then $T_B \cong A_4$, $X_u \cong Y_B \cong S_4$, and $X_{uv} \cong S_3$. Write $X_{uv} = \langle g \rangle : \langle h \rangle$, where g is of order 3 and h is an involution with $g^h = g^{-1}$. Clearly, $g, h \notin K$. Since $|T_u| = 4$, we have $|Y_u| = 4$ or 8 as $|Y:T| = 2$. Consider the action of Y_B on B . Since K is regular on B , it follows from [6, Theorem 4.3A] that Y_B^B is semiregular on B . So $Y_u \trianglelefteq Y_B \cong S_4$. It follows that $Y_u = T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Thus $g, h \notin Y$, so $g = y_1 y_2$ and $h = z_1 z_2$, where $y_1 \in Y$, $y_2 \in K$, $z_1 \in Y$ and $z_2 \in K$. It is easily shown that $\langle y_1, z_1 \rangle \cong S_3$ and $\langle T_u, y_1, z_1 \rangle \cong S_4$. Thus Γ is the S_3 -cover of K_5 given in Example 2.14.

Now let $Y = T = A_5$. Then $X_u \cong Y_B = T_B \cong A_4$ and $X_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$. It is easily shown that $X_{uv} = \langle y_1 y_2 \rangle$, where $y_1 \in Y$ and $y_2 \in K$ are of order 3. Further, $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle y_1 y_2 \rangle) = \langle y_1, y_2 \rangle : \langle z_1 z_2 \rangle = \langle y_1 y_2 \rangle : \langle y_2, z_1 z_2 \rangle$, where $z_1 \in Y$ is an involution such that $\langle y_1 \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle \cong S_3$. Write $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u x X_u)$ for a 2-element $x \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle y_1 y_2 \rangle)$ with $\langle x, X_u \rangle = X$. Then $X_u x X_u = X_u y_2^i z_1 z_2 X_u$. Noting that $X_u^{y_2} = X_u$ and $(X_u y_2^i z_1 z_2 X_u)^{y_2} = X_u y_2^{i+1} z_1 z_2 X_u$, it follows that $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u z_1 z_2 X_u)$, that is, Γ is unique up to isomorphism. Note that the graph in the above paragraph is $(KT, 2)$ -arc-transitive. Thus Γ is isomorphic to the S_3 -cover of K_5 given in Example 2.14. \square

Lemma 5.5. *If $T = \text{PSL}(2, 23)$, then Γ is isomorphic to one of the following graphs: $P_{23,11}$, $P_{23,11}^{(2)}$, the graphs in Examples 2.11 and 2.14.*

Proof. Assume that $T = \text{PSL}(2, 23)$. Then $X = K \times T$ and $X_u \cong T_B \cong S_4$, where $u \in V$ and B is the K -orbit containing u . Noting that S_4 has no quotients isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_3 and \mathbb{Z}_6 , it follows from Lemma 5.1 that K is one of 1, \mathbb{Z}_2 and S_3 .

If $K = 1$, then $X = T$ and X_u is a maximal subgroup, so $\text{Aut} \Gamma = X$ and $\Gamma \cong P_{23,11}$ by [16]. If $K = S_3$, then $T_u = \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ and a routine argument similar as in Lemma 5.4 implies that Γ is the S_3 -cover of $P_{23,11}$ given in Example 2.14.

Let $K = \mathbb{Z}_2$. Then $T_u \cong A_4$ or S_4 by Lemma 5.1.

Assume first that $T_u \cong S_4$. Then $X_u = T_u \leq T$, and T has two orbits on V , say U and U^z , where $\langle z \rangle = K$. Note that $X_{uz} = (X_u)^z = X_u$. It follows that all vertex stabilizers are conjugate in T . Recalling that Γ is T -edge-transitive, it follows from [8, Lemma 3.4] that Γ is the standard double cover of a T -arc-transitive graph Σ of valency 4 and order 253. By [16], $\Sigma \cong P_{23,11}$, and so $\Gamma \cong P_{23,11}^{(2)}$.

Assume now that $T_u \cong A_4$. Then $X_u \cong S_4$ and $X_{uv} \cong S_3$. Set $X_u = T_u : \langle z_1 z_2 \rangle$ and $X_{uv} = \langle x \rangle : \langle z_1 z_2 \rangle$, where $z_1 \in T$ and $z_2 \in K$ are involutions, and $x \in T_u$ has order 3. Let $z = z_1 z_2$. For $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$, it is easily shown that g normalizes $\langle x \rangle$. It follows that $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \leq \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle) \times K$. By the Atlas [5], $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle) \cong D_{24}$ and $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x, z_1 \rangle) \cong D_{12}$. We may write $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x, z_1 \rangle) = \langle x \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle \times \langle o \rangle$, where o is the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle)$. Note that all involutions of $\langle x, z \rangle$ are conjugate under $\langle x \rangle$. Then an element $h \in \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle)$ normalizes $\langle x, z \rangle$ if and only if $z^h = z^{x^i}$ for some $0 \leq i \leq 2$, yielding $x^i h^{-1} \in \mathbf{C}_T(z)$, so $x^i h^{-1} \in \mathbf{C}_T(z_1)$, and hence $x^i h^{-1} \in \mathbf{C}_T(z_1) \cap \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x, z_1 \rangle)$. It follows that $h \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle x, z \rangle) \cap \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle)$ if and only if $x^i h^{-1} \in \langle z_1, o \rangle$, yielding $h \in \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x, z_1 \rangle)$. Therefore, $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) = \mathbf{N}_T(\langle x, z_1 \rangle) \times K = \langle x \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle \times \langle o \rangle \times \langle z_2 \rangle = \langle x, z \rangle \times \langle o \rangle \times \langle z_2 \rangle$. Then, for $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle x, z \rangle) \setminus X_u$, we have $X_u g X_u = H o H, H o z_2 H$ or $H z_2 H$. Note that $\langle H, z_2 \rangle = \langle H_1, z_1, z_2 \rangle \cong S_4 \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. Thus, writing Γ as a coset graph, Γ is one of the graphs in Example 2.11. \square

We next determine the 2-arc-transitive graphs associated with $\text{PSL}(2, 11)$.

Lemma 5.6. *Let $\Gamma = (V, E)$ be a connected tetravalent $(\text{PSL}(2, 11), 2)$ -arc-transitive graph of order 55. Then $\Gamma \cong P_{11,5}$.*

Proof. Let $X = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$. Then $X_u \cong A_4$ and $X_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ for $u \in V$ and $v \in \Gamma(u)$. Write Γ as a coset graph $\text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u x X_u)$, where $x \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$ with $\langle x, X_u \rangle = X$ and $x^2 \in X_{uv}$. By the Atlas [5], $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) \cong D_{12} = \mathbb{Z}_3 : \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Then $X_u x X_u = X_u y X_u$ for some involution $y \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$. Checking the subgroups of $\text{PSL}(2, 11)$, we know that $X_u = \mathbf{N}_X(P)$ for a Sylow 2-subgroup P of X . It follows that the subgroups isomorphic

to A_4 are all conjugate in X . Then there are two non-conjugate maximal subgroups M_1 and M_2 of X such that $X_u \leq M_i \cong A_5$, $i = 1, 2$. Note that $\mathbf{N}_{M_i}(X_{uv}) \cong S_3$. Then $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) = \mathbf{N}_{M_i}(X_{uv}) \times \langle o \rangle$, where o is the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$. It is easily shown that $\langle X_u, \mathbf{N}_{M_i}(X_{uv}) \rangle = M_i$, $i = 1, 2$. Thus $\mathbf{N}_{M_1}(X_{uv}) \cap \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(X_{uv})$ contains no involutions; otherwise, $\mathbf{N}_{M_1}(X_{uv}) = \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(X_{uv})$, so $M_1 = M_2$, a contradiction. Then $\mathbf{N}_{M_1}(X_{uv}) \cup \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(X_{uv})$ contains exactly 6 of the 7 involutions in $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$, and so we have $X_u x X_u = X_u y X_u = X_u o X_u$. Thus $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u o X_u)$ is unique. Since $P_{11,5}$ is $(\text{PSL}(2, 11), 2)$ -arc-transitive, $\Gamma \cong P_{11,5}$. \square

Lemma 5.7. *If $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$ and $K \neq 1$, then K is isomorphic to \mathbb{Z}_2 , \mathbb{Z}_3 or \mathbb{Z}_6 .*

Proof. Assume $T = \text{soc}(Y) = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$ and $K \neq 1$. Then $|K| = 2, 3$ or 6 .

Suppose that $K \cong S_3$. Recall that $X = K:Y$ has a regular subgroup $K:(G \cap Y)$. Then $|G \cap Y|$ is odd. By Lemmas 4.4 and 4.3, $T_B \cong A_4$ and $G \cap Y \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$. Thus, by Lemma 5.1, $T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$ and $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$ has two orbits on V . It is easily shown that Γ is $(KT, 2)$ -arc-transitive. Without loss of generality, we assume $X = K \times T$. Then $X_{uv} = \langle xy \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ and $X_u = T_u:X_{uv}$ for $v \in \Gamma(u)$, where $x \in T$ and $y \in K$ are of order 3 such that $T_u:\langle x \rangle \cong A_4$. Computation shows that $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) = \langle o \rangle \times (\langle x \rangle \times \langle y \rangle) : \langle z_1 z_2 \rangle$, where o is the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle)$, $z_1 \in T$ and $z_2 \in K$ are involutions with $x^{z_1} = x^{-1}$ and $y^{z_2} = y^{-1}$. For an arbitrary element $g = o^i x^s y^t (z_1 z_2)^j \in \mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy \rangle)$, set $W = \langle g, X_u \rangle$. Then $W \leq \langle T_u, x, o^i z_1^j \rangle \times \langle y, z_2^j \rangle$. If $j \equiv 0 \pmod{2}$, then $W \neq X$. Assume that $j \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$. Then $W \leq \langle T_u, x, o^i z_1 \rangle \times K$. Checking the subgroups of $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$, we conclude that $\mathbf{N}_T(T_u) = T_u:\langle x \rangle$. Let M_1 and M_2 be two non-conjugate maximal subgroups of T with $M_i \cong A_5$ and $T_u \leq M_i$, $i = 1, 2$. Then $\mathbf{N}_{M_i}(T_u) \cong A_4$ for $i = 1, 2$. Thus $M_1 \cap M_2 = T_u:\langle x \rangle$. Noting that $\mathbf{N}_{M_1}(\langle x \rangle) \cong S_3 \cong \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(\langle x \rangle)$, a similar argument as in the proof of Lemma 5.6 implies that $\mathbf{N}_{M_1}(\langle x \rangle) \cup \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(\langle x \rangle)$ contains 6 of the 7 involutions in $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle) = \langle o \rangle \times \langle x, z_1 \rangle$. Since A_5 has no elements of order 6, we have $o \notin M_i$ for $i = 1, 2$. Thus $o^i z_1 \in \mathbf{N}_{M_1}(\langle x \rangle) \cup \mathbf{N}_{M_2}(\langle x \rangle)$. Then $\langle T_u, x, o^i z_1 \rangle \cong A_5$, and so $W \neq X$. Thus there is no $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$ with $\langle g, X_u \rangle = X$, a contradiction.

Therefore, $K \not\cong S_3$, so K is isomorphic to one of \mathbb{Z}_2 , \mathbb{Z}_3 and \mathbb{Z}_6 . \square

Lemma 5.8. *Assume that $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$. Then Γ is isomorphic to one of $P_{11,5}$, $P_{11,5}^{(2)}$, the graph in Example 2.12 and its standard double cover.*

Proof. Let K be the largest soluble normal subgroup of X . Then, by Lemma 5.7, either $K = 1$, or K is isomorphic to one of \mathbb{Z}_2 , \mathbb{Z}_3 and \mathbb{Z}_6 .

Case 1. Let $K = 1$. By Lemma 4.3, $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$ or $\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$. If $|G| = 55$, then $T_u \cong A_4$ and Γ is $(T, 2)$ -arc-transitive, so $\Gamma \cong P_{11,5}$ by Lemma 5.6. Thus we assume next that $X = \text{PGL}(2, 11)$, $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$ and $X_u \cong A_4$. Then $G \cap T \cong \mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$, $X_u = T_u \cong A_4$ and $X_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ for $v \in \Gamma(u)$. Let M be a maximal subgroup of X with $X_u \leq M \cong S_4$. Then $M = X \cap M = GX_u \cap M = (G \cap M)X_u = X_u:(G \cap M)$. Let $G \cap M = \langle z \rangle$. Then z is an involution. Replacing v by v^h for $h \in X_u$ if necessary, we assume that z normalizes X_{uv} . Then $X_{uv}:\langle z \rangle \cong S_3$. By the Atlas [5], we conclude that $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) = (X_{uv} \times \langle y \rangle) : \langle z \rangle \cong D_{24}$, where $y \in X$ has order 4.

Write $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u x X_u)$ for $x \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$ with $\langle x, X_u \rangle = X$ and $x^2 \in X_{uv}$. It implies that $x = hy^i z$ for $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $h \in X_{uv}$, so $X = \langle x, X_u \rangle = \langle y^i z, X_u \rangle$. In particular, $y^i z \notin T$ as $X_u \leq T$. It is easy to know that $y^2 \in T$, $y \notin T$, $z \notin T$,

$\langle y, z \rangle \cong D_8$ and $T \cap \langle y, z \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. It follows that $yz, y^3z \in T$. Thus $i = 2$, and so $X_u x X_u = X_u y^2 z X_u$. Hence $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u y^2 z X_u)$.

Identify $V\Gamma$ with $U \cup U'$, where $U = \{X_u g \mid g \in G \cap T\}$ and $U' = \{X_u z g \mid g \in G \cap T\}$ are in fact the bipartition subsets of Γ . Then $X_u g$ and $X_u z g_1$ are adjacent whenever $z g_1 g^{-1} \in X_u y^2 z X_u = z X_u y^2 X_u$, i.e., $g_1 g^{-1} \in X_u y^2 X_u$. Noting that $T_u = X_u$, it follows that Γ is the standard double cover of $\Sigma := \text{Cos}(T, T_u, T_u y^2 T_u)$. Clearly, Σ is $(T, 2)$ -arc-transitive and of order 55. By Lemma 5.6, $\Sigma \cong P_{11,5}$, so $\Gamma \cong P_{11,5}^{(2)}$.

Case 2. Let $K \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. Then $X = Y \times K$. By Lemmas 4.4 and 4.3, $(Y, Y_B) = (\text{PSL}(2, 11), A_4)$ or $(\text{PGL}(2, 11), S_4)$. Then $T_B \cong A_4$. By Lemma 5.1, $T_u \cong A_4$ and T has two orbits on V . Moreover, Γ is $(K \times T, 2)$ -arc-transitive. Recalling that Γ is T -edge-transitive, by [8, Lemma 3.4], Γ is the standard double cover of a T -edge-transitive graph Σ of order 55. It is easily shown that Σ is $(\text{PSL}(2, 11), 2)$ -arc-transitive. By Lemma 5.6, $\Sigma \cong P_{11,5}$, and so $\Gamma \cong P_{11,5}^{(2)}$.

Case 3. Let $K = \mathbb{Z}_3$. By Lemma 5.1, $T_B \cong A_4$ and $T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, where $u \in V$ and B is the K -orbit containing u . Since T_u is normal in X_u and transitive on $\Gamma(u)$, we have $X_u = T_u : X_{uv}$ for $v \in \Gamma(u)$. Write $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u g X_u)$ for a 2-element $g \in \mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv})$ with $\langle g, X_u \rangle = X$ and $g^2 \in X_{uv}$.

Assume first that T is transitive on V . Then $|V| = |T : T_u|$ is odd, and $(Y, X_u) = (\text{PSL}(2, 11), A_4)$ or $(\text{PGL}(2, 11), S_4)$ by Lemmas 4.4 and 4.3.

Suppose that $(Y, X_u) = (\text{PSL}(2, 11), A_4)$. Then $X_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$. Write $X_{uv} = \langle xy \rangle$, where $x \in T$ and $y \in K$ are of order 3. Then $\mathbf{N}_X(X_{uv}) = \langle o \rangle \times \langle x \rangle \times \langle y \rangle$, and so $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u o X_u)$ is unique up to isomorphism. Noting that the graph in Example 2.12 is $(K \times T, 2)$ -arc-transitive, Γ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.12.

Suppose that $(Y, X_u) = (\text{PGL}(2, 11), S_4)$. Then $X_{uv} \cong S_3$ and, since T is transitive, $K : Y = X = (K \times T) X_u = (K \times T) X_{uv}$. Since $|X : (K \times T)| = 2$, we conclude that the Sylow 3-subgroup of X_{uv} is contained in $K \times T$. Then we may set $X_{uv} = \langle xy \rangle : \langle z \rangle$, where $x \in T$, $y \in K$ and z is an involution. Then $X = (K \times T) : \langle z \rangle$. If $y = 1$ then $x \in T \cap X_u = T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$, a contradiction. If $x = 1$ then $X_u = T_u : X_{uv} = \langle T_u, y, z \rangle = (T_u \times \langle y \rangle) \langle z \rangle \not\cong S_4$, again a contradiction. Thus both x and y have order 3. Since $X_{uv} \cong S_3$, we have $(xy)^z = (xy)^{-1}$, so $x^z = x^{-1}$ and $y^z = y^{-1}$. Then a routine argument implies that Γ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.12.

Assume now that T has two orbits on V . Then $(X, X_u) = (K : \text{PGL}(2, 11), A_4)$. It follows that $X_{uv} = \langle xy \rangle$, where $x \in T$ and $y \in K$ are of order 3 such that $T_u : \langle x \rangle \cong A_4$.

Let $z \in \text{PGL}(2, 11) \setminus T$ be an involution with $x^z = x^{-1}$ and $T_u : \langle x, z \rangle \cong S_4$. Let o be the involution in the center of $\mathbf{N}_T(\langle x \rangle) \cong D_{12}$. If $yz = zy$, $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy \rangle) = \langle o \rangle \times \langle x, y \rangle$, and $\langle g, X_v \rangle \leq K \times T$, a contradiction. Thus $y^z = y^{-1}$, and $\mathbf{N}_X(\langle xy \rangle) = \langle o \rangle \times \langle x, y \rangle : \langle z \rangle = \langle xy \rangle : \langle x, z \rangle \times \langle o \rangle$. Then we may take $g = zo, xzo$ or x^2zo . Noting that $X_u^x = X_u$ and $(X_u x^i z o X_u)^x = X_u x^{i-2} z o X_u$, it follows that $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u z o X_u)$.

Write $V\Gamma = \{X_u g \mid g \in KT\} \cup \{X_u z g \mid g \in KT\}$. Then $X_u z g_2$ and $X_u g_1$ are adjacent in Γ if and only if $z g_2 g_1^{-1} \in X_u z o X_u = z X_u o X_u$, that is, $g_2 g_1^{-1} \in X_u o X_u$. Noting that $X_u = T_u : X_{uv} \leq K \times T$, it follows that Γ is the standard double cover of $\Sigma := \text{Cos}(KT, X_u, X_u o X_u)$. By the argument in the third paragraph of this case, Σ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.12.

Case 4. $K = \mathbb{Z}_6$. Then $(X, X_u) = (K \times \text{PSL}(2, 11), A_4)$ or $(K : \text{PGL}(2, 11), S_4)$. In this case, $T = \text{PSL}(2, 11)$ has two orbits on V , and Γ is $(KT, 2)$ -arc-transitive. It is easily shown that $A_4 \cong (KT)_u \leq Q \times T$, where $Q \cong \mathbb{Z}_3$ is the Sylow 3-subgroup of K .

By [8, Lemma 3.4], Γ is the standard double cover of a $(QT, 2)$ -arc-transitive graph Σ . By the argument in the third paragraph of Case 3, Σ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.12. This completes the proof. \square

5.2. Graphs associated with $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$. Now we consider graphs associated with the simple group $\text{PSL}(2, 7)$. If Γ is $(X, 2)$ -arc-transitive, then Γ is known. Thus we assume that $X = K:Y$, $Y = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$ and $X_u \cong Y_B \cong \text{D}_{16}$ or D_8 , where B is the K -orbit containing $u \in V$. In particular, $|V| = 21|K|$ or $42|K|$, and $(|K|, |Y|) \leq 2$.

Lemma 5.9. *If $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, then either $\Gamma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$, or Γ is bipartite and is isomorphic one of $\text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$ and the graphs in Example 2.8.*

Proof. Assume that $X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$. If $X_u = \text{D}_{16}$, then X_u is maximal in X , so $\Gamma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$ by [16]. Thus we assume further that $X_u \cong \text{D}_8$ in the following.

Suppose that $X_u \not\leq T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$. Then $|T_u| = 4$. Note that X has a factorization $X = GX_u$ with $G \cap X_u = 1$, where $G \cong \mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$. Let P be a Sylow 2-subgroup of X with $X_u < P$. Then $P \cong \text{D}_{16}$, and P contains exactly two subgroups isomorphic to D_8 : one is X_u and the other one, say Q , is a Sylow 2-subgroup of T . It is easily shown that $X_u \cap Q \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$. Then $X_u = \langle h \rangle : \langle z_1 \rangle$, where $h \in T$ is of order 4 and $z_1 \in X \setminus T$ is an involution. Noting that $P = X \cap P = (G \cap P)X_u$, we find that $G \cap P = \langle z_2 \rangle$ and $P = X_u : \langle z_2 \rangle$ for an involution z_2 . Since T has no subgroups isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$, we have $z_2 \in X \setminus T$. Clearly, $z_2 \notin X_u$. Thus P contains another subgroup $\langle h, z_2 \rangle$ which is isomorphic to D_8 and not contained in T , a contradiction. Therefore, $X_u = T_u$. In particular, T has two orbits on V , and so Γ is a bipartite graph.

Suppose that Γ is X -half-transitive. Write $\Gamma \cong \text{Cos}(X, T_u, T_u\{x, x^{-1}\}T_u)$, where $x \in X$ with $\langle T_u, x \rangle = X$. Then $|T_u : (T_u \cap T_u^x)| = 2$, so $T_u \cap T_u^x$ is normal in both T_u and T_u^x , hence $T_u \cap T_u^x \trianglelefteq M := \langle T_u, T_u^x \rangle$. Checking the subgroups of T , since $T_u \neq T_u^x$, we have $M \cong \text{S}_4$. Then there is an element $y \in M$ of order 3 such that $T_u^x = T_u^y$, so $xy^{-1} \in \mathbf{N}_X(T_u) \cong \text{D}_{16}$. Write $\mathbf{N}_X(T_u) = T_u : \langle z \rangle$ for an involution $z \notin T$. Then $xy^{-1} = hz^i$ for $h \in T_u$ and $i = 0$ or 1 , so $x = hz^i y$. Since $\langle T_u, x \rangle = X = \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, we have $i = 1$. Thus $T_u\{x, x^{-1}\}T_u = T_u\{zy, (zy)^{-1}\}T_u$, so Γ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.15 (1). Then $\Gamma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$ by Lemma 2.16.

Suppose that Γ is X -arc-transitive. Then $|T_u : T_{uv}| = 4$, so $T_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. By the information given in the Atlas [5], we have $\mathbf{N}_X(T_{uv}) \cong \text{D}_{16}$ and $\mathbf{N}_T(T_{uv}) \cong \text{D}_8$. Write $\mathbf{N}_X(T_{uv}) = \mathbf{N}_T(T_{uv}) : \langle z \rangle$ for an involution $z \notin T$. Set $T_{uv} = \langle o \rangle$. If o lies in the center of T_u , then $\mathbf{N}_T(T_{uv}) = T_u$, so $|T_{uv}| = |T_u \cap T_v| \geq 4$ by noting that $|\mathbf{N}_{T_v}(T_{uv})| \geq 4$, a contradiction. Thus $\mathbf{N}_{T_u}(T_{uv}) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2^2$. Let y be an element of order 4 in $\mathbf{N}_T(T_{uv})$. Then $y^2 = o$, $\mathbf{N}_T(T_{uv}) = \mathbf{N}_{T_u}(T_{uv})\langle y \rangle$, and so $\mathbf{N}_X(T_{uv}) = (\mathbf{N}_{T_u}(T_{uv})\langle y \rangle) : \langle z \rangle$. Thus $T_u\mathbf{N}_X(T_{uv})T_u = T_u \cup (T_u y T_u) \cup (T_u z T_u) \cup (T_u y z T_u)$. Since Γ is connected, we conclude that Γ is isomorphic to one of the graphs in Example 2.8. \square

Lemma 5.10. *If $K \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ then $\Gamma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$ and $X \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$.*

Proof. Assume that $K = \mathbb{Z}_2$. Then $X = Y \times K$, $\Gamma_K \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$ and $|V| = 21|K| = 42$. Suppose that T is transitive on V . Then $|T_u| = 4$, so $T_u \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$ as T_u is normal in $X_u \cong \text{D}_{16}$. Since T is not regular, either $T_{uv} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ or T_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$, where $v \in \Gamma(u)$. The latter case yields that Γ is $T \times K$ -arc-transitive, so Γ_K is a T -arc-transitive graph of order 21, which contradicts Lemma 4.2. By Lemma 3.1, the

former case implies that $T_{vw} \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$ for $w \in \Gamma(v)$, so $T_{uv} = T_{vw}$ as $T_v \cong \mathbb{Z}_4$ has a unique subgroup of order 2. By the connectedness of Γ we conclude that T_{uv} fixes every vertex of Γ , a contradiction. Therefore, T is intransitive on V . Noting that T_u is a 2-group, $T_u \cong D_8$ and T has exactly two orbits. Then Γ is bipartite with two parts being T -orbits on V . Let \tilde{Y} be the maximal subgroup of X preserving the bipartition of Γ . Then $\text{PGL}(2, 7) \cong \tilde{Y} = Y$ or $T:\langle z_1 z_2 \rangle$, where $z_1 \in Y \setminus T$ and $z_2 \in K$ are involutions. It is easily shown that $X = \tilde{Y} \times K$. Note that \tilde{Y} , viewed as a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Gamma_K$, is transitive on the arcs of $\Gamma_K \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$. It follows that Γ is X -arc-transitive, so \tilde{Y}_u is transitive on $\Gamma(u)$, hence Γ is \tilde{Y} -edge-transitive. By [8, Lemma 3.4], Γ is isomorphic to the standard double cover of a \tilde{Y} -arc-transitive graph Σ of order 21. Then, by Lemma 5.9, $\Sigma \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$, and this lemma follows. \square

Lemma 5.11. *If $|K| > 3$ is odd then $Y_B \cong X_u \cong D_8$ for a K -orbit B containing u .*

Proof. Assume that $|K| > 3$ is odd. Set $Y = T:\langle z \rangle$, where $T = \text{PSL}(2, 7)$ and $z \in Y \setminus T$ is an involution. Then $X = (T \times K):\langle z \rangle$. Since Γ is X -edge-transitive, we may write $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u\{x, x^{-1}\}X_u)$, where $x \in X \setminus X_u$ with $\langle x, X_u \rangle = X$. Write $x = yz^i c$ for $c \in K$, $y \in T$ and $i = 0$ or 1 .

Suppose that $X_u \cong D_{16}$. Then X_u is a Sylow 2-subgroup of X . Since $|K|$ is odd, we may assume that $z \in X_u \leq Y$. Then $Y_B = X_u = T_u:\langle z \rangle$. Since $Y_B \cong D_{16}$, the quotient $\Gamma_K \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$ is Y -arc-transitive, and so Γ is X -arc-transitive. Thus we may choose x such that $x^2 \in X_u$. So $x^2 = yz^i c y z^i c = y c^{z^i} y^{z^i} c = y y^{z^i} c^{z^i} c \in X_u$. Since $y y^{z^i} \in T$ and $c^{z^i} c \in K$ has odd order, $c^{z^i} c = 1$. Since $X = \langle x, X_u \rangle = \langle y z^i c, X_u \rangle \leq \langle y z^i, c, X_u \rangle \leq K:\langle y z^i, X_u \rangle$, we have $c \neq 1$ and $Y = \langle y z^i, X_u \rangle$. It implies that $i = 1$, $x = y z c$, $y y^z \in T_u$ and $c c^z = 1$, so $c^z = c^{-1}$. Recalling $Y = \langle y z, X_u \rangle$, we have $T:\langle z \rangle = Y = \langle y z, T_u:\langle z \rangle \rangle = \langle y, T_u, z \rangle = \langle y, y^z, T_u, z \rangle = \langle y, y^z, T_u \rangle:\langle z \rangle = \langle y, T_u \rangle:\langle z \rangle$. Then $T = \langle y, T_u \rangle$, and so $\Sigma := \text{Cos}(T, T_u, T_u\{y, y^{-1}\}T_u)$ is a connected T -edge-transitive graph of order 21. Since Γ is X -arc-transitive, $|X_u : (X_u \cap X_u^x)| = 4$, so $|X_u \cap X_u^x| = 4$. Noting that $X_u \cap X_u^x \leq Y$ and $T_u, T_u^y \leq T$, we have $4 = |X_u \cap X_u^x| = |X_u \cap X_u^{y z c}| = |X_u \cap X_u^{y c^{-1} z}| = |X_u \cap X_u^{c^{-1} y}| = |(T_u:\langle z \rangle) \cap (T_u^y:\langle c^2 z^y \rangle)| = |T_u \cap T_u^y|$. Thus $|T_u : (T_u \cap T_u^y)| = 2$, and Σ has valency 4, which contradicts Lemma 4.2. Then the lemma follows. \square

Lemma 5.12. *Assume that $|K| > 3$. Then Γ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.15, $X \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \mathbb{Z}_l$ or $\text{PGL}(2, 7) \times D_{2l}$, where l is odd and square-free.*

Proof. Assume first $|K| = l$ is odd. Then $Y_B \cong X_u \cong D_8$, $|V| = 42l$ and Y contains a Sylow 2-subgroup of X . Thus, without loss of generality, we assume that $X_u < Y$, and so $X_u = Y_B$. Let $z \in Y \setminus T$ be an involution such that $\langle X_u, z \rangle \cong D_{16}$. Then $Y = T:\langle z \rangle$ and $X = (T \times K):\langle z \rangle = \langle z \rangle(T \times K)$. Write $\Gamma = \text{Cos}(X, X_u, X_u\{x, x^{-1}\}X_u)$, where $x \in X \setminus X_u$ with $\langle x, X_u \rangle = X$. Write $x = z^i g c$ for $c \in K$, $g \in T$ and $i = 0$ or 1 .

Since T centralizes K , we have $\langle c, c^z \rangle = \langle c^y \mid y \in Y \rangle$; in particular, Y normalizes $\langle c, c^z \rangle$. Noting that Γ is connected, $K:Y = X = \langle z^i g c, X_u \rangle \leq \langle z^i g, c, X_u \rangle \leq \langle c, c^z, z^i g, X_u \rangle = \langle c, c^z \rangle:\langle z^i g, X_u \rangle$. It follows that $K = \langle c, c^z \rangle$ and $Y = \langle z^i g, X_u \rangle$.

Note that the quotient Γ_K is Y -edge-transitive and of order 42 . By Lemma 5.9, Γ_K is bipartite, so Γ is also bipartite. It is easily shown that $T \times K$ is the maximal subgroup preserving the bipartition of Γ . Thus $X_u \leq T \times K$, and so $X_u = T_u$ as $|K| = l$ is odd. Since $Y = \langle z^i g, X_u \rangle$ and $g \in T$, we have $i = 1$, so $Y = \langle z g, T_u \rangle$.

Suppose that Γ_K is Y -arc-transitive. Then Γ is X -arc-transitive, so we may choose x with $x^2 \in T_u$. Since $x^2 = zgc zgc = g^z c^z gc = g^z gc^z c$, we have $c^z c = 1$, so $c^z = c^{-1}$, hence zc has order 2. Then $X = \langle zgc, T_u \rangle \leq \langle g, T_u, cz \rangle \leq \langle T, cz \rangle \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, a contradiction. Therefore, by Lemma 5.9, $\Gamma_K \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$ is Y -half-transitive.

Note that $T:\langle c, z \rangle = (T \times K):\langle z \rangle = X = \langle zgc, T_u \rangle \leq \langle g, T_u, cz \rangle \leq T\langle zc \rangle \leq X$. Thus $\langle c, z \rangle \cong X/T \cong (T\langle zc \rangle)/T$ is cyclic. Then $c^z = c$ and $K = \langle c \rangle$. Thus $X = Y \times K$. Since Γ_K is Y -half-transitive, Γ is X -half-transitive, so $2 = |X_u : (X_u \cap X_u^x)| = |T_u : (T_u \cap T_u^{zg})|$. Recalling that $\langle T_u, z \rangle = \langle X_u, z \rangle \cong \text{D}_{16}$, we know that z normalizes T_u , so $|T_u \cap T^g| = |T_u \cap T_u^{zg}| = 4$. It follows that $T_u \cap T_u^g$ is normal in $M := \langle T_u, T_u^g \rangle$, so $M \cong \text{S}_4$ by checking the subgroups of T . Then $T_u^g = T_u^y$ for an element $y \in M$ of order 3. Thus $gy^{-1} \in \mathbf{N}_T(T_u) = T_u$, so $g = hy$ for $h \in T_u$. Then $T_u\{x, x^{-1}\}T_u = T_u\{zhyc, (zhyc)^{-1}\}T_u = T_u\{h^z zyc, (h^z zyc)^{-1}\}T_u = T_u\{zyc, (zyc)^{-1}\}T_u$. Noting that $\text{S}_4 \cong M = \langle T_u, y \rangle$, it follows that Γ is the graph in Example 2.15.

Now let $|K| = 2l$. Then $\Gamma_K \cong \text{P}_{7,3}$ and $X_u \cong Y_B \cong \text{D}_{16}$. In this case, Γ is X -arc-transitive as Γ_K is Y -arc-transitive. Since K is of square-free order, K has a unique $2'$ -Hall subgroup $K_{2'}$, which is characteristic in K . It implies that $K_{2'} \triangleleft X$, and $X/K_{2'} \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7) \times \mathbb{Z}_2$. Then the quotient graph $\Gamma_{K_{2'}}$ is $X/K_{2'}$ -arc-transitive. By Lemma 5.10, $\Gamma_{K_{2'}} \cong \text{P}_{7,3}^{(2)}$. It is easily shown that $X/K_{2'}$ contains a subgroup $Z/K_{2'} \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7)$ acting transitively on the edges of $\Gamma_{K_{2'}}$. Then Γ is Z -edge-transitive. By the argument for the odd $|K|$ case, we conclude that $K_{2'} \cong \mathbb{Z}_l$, $Z = \tilde{Y} \times K_{2'}$ with $\tilde{Y} \cong \text{PGL}(2, 7)$, and Γ is isomorphic to the graph in Example 2.15.

Recalling that $|V| = 42l$ is square-free, we conclude that \tilde{Y} is a Hall subgroup of Z , so \tilde{Y} is characteristic in Z . Thus \tilde{Y} is normal in X as Z has index 2 in X . Let z be an involution in K . Then $\langle \tilde{Y}, z \rangle = \tilde{Y} \times \langle z \rangle$. Thus $X = Z:\langle z \rangle = \tilde{Y} \times K$.

Suppose that K is not a dihedral group. Then $K = N \times M$, where $N \neq 1$ is cyclic and of odd order. By Lemma 2.9, Γ is normal cover of $\Sigma := \Gamma_M$. Identify $\bar{X} := \tilde{Y} \times N$ with a subgroup of $\text{Aut}\Sigma$. Then Σ is \bar{X} -edge-transitive as Γ is X -edge-transitive. Since $|N|$ is odd, for $\alpha \in V\Sigma$, $\bar{X}_\alpha \cong \text{D}_8$ by Lemma 5.11; in particular, $|V\Sigma| = 42|N|$. Thus $|V| = 42|N||M| = 42|K| = 84l$, a contradiction. Then $K \cong \text{D}_{2l}$ is dihedral. \square

6. PROOFS OF THEOREM 1.1 AND COROLLARY 1.2

Let G be a finite group of square-free order, and let Γ be a connected edge-transitive Cayley graph of G of valency 4. If $\text{Aut}\Gamma$ is soluble then, by Lemmas 3.3 and 3.7, one of Theorem 1.1 (1-3) occurs. Thus we assume next that $X := \text{Aut}\Gamma$ is insoluble. Then Γ and X are known and listed in either Table 1 by Lemmas 4.3, 4.4, 5.2, 5.3, 5.5, 5.8 and 5.9, or Table 2 by Lemmas 5.4, 5.9, 5.10 and 5.12.

Proof of Theorem 1.1. It suffices to determine G up to isomorphism. If X is almost simple, then all possible G are known by checking the subgroups of X in the Atlas [5]. Thus we assume that X is not almost simple. By Lemma 4.4 and checking the automorphism group X listed in Tables 1 and 2, we know that $X = K:Y$ has a regular subgroup $R := L \times K$, where $L \leq T \cap G$, $T = \text{soc}(Y)$ and K is the largest soluble normal subgroup of X . Thus $G \leq \mathbf{N}_X(G) \leq \mathbf{N}_X(L) = K:\mathbf{N}_Y(L) = \mathbf{N}_X(R)$,

and further Y , K , L and $\mathbf{N}_Y(L)$ are known as in the following table:

Y	K	L	$\mathbf{N}_Y(L)$
$\mathrm{PSL}(2, 23)$	$\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathrm{S}_3$	$\mathbb{Z}_{23}:\mathbb{Z}_{11}$	L
$\mathrm{PGL}(2, 11)$	$\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathbb{Z}_3, \mathbb{Z}_6$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_5$	$\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10}$
S_5	$\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathrm{S}_3$	\mathbb{Z}_5	$\mathbb{Z}_5:\mathbb{Z}_4$
$\mathrm{PGL}(2, 7)$	$\mathbb{Z}_2, \mathrm{D}_{2l}$	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3$	$\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$

Let $K_{2'}$ be the $2'$ -Hall subgroup of K . Then $L \times K_{2'}$ is the unique $2'$ -Hall subgroup of R . It follows that $L \times K_{2'} \trianglelefteq \mathbf{N}_X(R)$. Let Q be a Sylow 2-subgroup of K . Then $\mathbf{N}_X(R)$ has a Sylow 2-subgroup $Q:P$, where P is a Sylow 2-subgroup of $\mathbf{N}_Y(L)$. Noting that $|Q| \leq 2$, we have $QP = Q \times P$, and so QP is abelian. Considering the subgroup $(L \times K_{2'})G$, we conclude that $L \times K_{2'} \leq G$ and $G \trianglelefteq \mathbf{N}_X(R)$. In particular, $G = (L \times K_{2'})\langle z \rangle$ for an involution $z \in Q \times P$. Checking all possible involutions z , we conclude that G is listed in Tables 1 and 2 up to isomorphism.

Proof of Corollary 1.2. It is easy to check that $\mathbf{N}_X(G) = G:\mathbb{Z}_3$ or G while Γ is a graph listed in Lines 1 to 7 of Table 1, so Γ is not normal-edge-transitive. For Lines 1 to 3 of Table 2, we have $\mathbf{N}_X(G) \cong G:\mathbb{Z}_4$, so Γ is normal-edge-transitive. We next deal with the rest of the graphs in Tables 1 and 2.

Suppose that X is not almost simple. Then, by the argument in Proof of Theorem 1.1, $X = K:Y$ has a regular subgroup $R = L \times K$, where $L \leq T \cap G$, $T = \mathrm{soc}(Y)$ and K is the largest soluble normal subgroup of X . Recalling that $\mathbf{N}_X(G) \leq \mathbf{N}_X(L) = K:\mathbf{N}_Y(L) = \mathbf{N}_X(R)$ and $G \trianglelefteq \mathbf{N}_X(R)$, we have $\mathbf{N}_X(G) = \mathbf{N}_X(R) = K:\mathbf{N}_Y(L)$. Then Γ is normal-edge-transitive with respect to G whenever Γ is a normal-edge-transitive Cayley graph of R . Noting that K is a normal Hall subgroup of R , it follows that $\mathbf{N}_X(R)/K = \mathbf{N}_{X/K}(R/K) \cong \mathbf{N}_Y(L)$. Note that the quotient graph Γ_K has automorphism group isomorphic to Y . Thus, it suffices to determine whether or not Γ_K is a normal-edge-transitive Cayley graph of L .

Therefore, the above argument allows us to assume that X is almost simple, that is, Γ is described as either Line 8 of Table 1 or Line 4 of Table 2.

Suppose that Γ is described as Line 8 of Table 1. Then $X = \mathrm{PGL}(2, 11)$ and, for $u \in V\Gamma$, the stabilizer $X_u \cong \mathrm{S}_4$ and $X = GX_u$. Hence $\mathbb{Z}_{11}:\mathbb{Z}_{10} \cong \mathbf{N}_X(G) = G:(\mathbf{N}_X(G) \cap X_u)$. Thus $\mathbf{N}_X(G) \cap X_u = \langle o \rangle \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. It is easily shown that $o \notin T = \mathrm{soc}(X)$. Noting that $T_u \cong \mathrm{A}_4$, it follows that o induces an odd permutation on $\Gamma(u)$; in particular, o fixes at least one vertex in $\Gamma(u)$. Thus Γ is not normal-edge-transitive.

Finally, let Γ be described as Line 4 of Table 2. Then $X = \mathrm{PGL}(2, 7)$, $\mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_3 \cong G < T = \mathrm{PSL}(2, 7)$ and $\mathbf{N}_X(G) \cong \mathbb{Z}_7:\mathbb{Z}_6$. Write $\Gamma = \mathrm{Cay}(G, S)$ with $S = \{x, x^{-1}, y, y^{-1}\}$. Then $\mathrm{Aut}(G, S) \cong \mathbb{Z}_2$. Let u be the vertex corresponding to the identity of G . Then $X_u \cong \mathrm{D}_{16}$ and $T_u \cong \mathrm{D}_8$. By Lemma 4.2, Γ is not T -edge-transitive, it follows from Lemma 3.2 that T_u has two orbits $\{x, x^{-1}\}$ and $\{y, y^{-1}\}$ on S . Noting that $\mathbf{N}_X(G) \not\leq T$, we have $X_u = T_u \cdot \mathrm{Aut}(G, S)$. Then, since Γ is arc-transitive, there is $\sigma \in \mathrm{Aut}(R, S)$ such that $x^\sigma = y$ or y^{-1} . Thus Γ is normal-edge-transitive.

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