

Comp Sci 212

1. Graph Coloring

2. Bipartite Graphs

Def. A graph $G=(V,E)$ is k -colorable if

there exists a function $f: V \rightarrow [k]$ s.t.
if $\{u,v\} \in E$, then $f(u) \neq f(v)$.
↓ colors
coloring

Def. The chromatic number of a graph
 $\chi(G)$ is the smallest k s.t. G is k -colorable.

- If G is k -colorable, $\chi(G) \leq k$.

- $\chi(G) \leq |V|$

1, 2, 3, 4 - colors



2-colorable

$\chi(G)=2$



4-colorable



3-colorable

$\chi(G)=3$

Cycle. $V = [n]$ $E = \{\{1,2\}, \{2,3\}, \dots, \{n-1,n\}, \{n,1\}\}$

Thm. If $G=(V,E)$ is a cycle and n is even, $\chi(G)=2$.

Proof. G has edges, so $\chi(G) > 1$.

Let $f: [n] \rightarrow \{1,2\}$

$f(v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is odd} \\ 2 & \text{if } v \text{ is even} \end{cases}$

Then if $\{u,v\} \in E$, either $v=u+1$, and $f(u) \neq f(v)$, or $u=1, v=n$, so $f(u)=1, f(v)=2$.

□

Thm. If $G=(V,E)$ is a cycle, n is odd, $\chi(G)=3$.

Proof. Prove that $\chi(G) > 2$ by contradiction.

Assume G is 2-colorable. $f: [n] \rightarrow [2]$.

Then, $f(2) \neq f(1)$, $f(3) \neq f(2)$ so
 $f(1) = f(3)$. In general, $f(i) = f(i+2)$,
 $f(i+1) \neq f(i+2)$, $f(i) = f(i+2)$ ($i \leq n-2$)

$f(1) = f(3) = f(5) = \dots = f(n)$ f is
not a valid 2-coloring, $\{1,n\} \in E$.

G is 3-coloring. $f: [n] \rightarrow [3]$.

$f(v) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } v \text{ is odd and } v \neq n \\ 2 & \text{if } v \text{ is even} \\ 3 & \text{if } v \text{ is } n \end{cases}$

□

Complete graph (all possible edges) ^{edge = every pair of vertices}

Thm. If $G=(V,E)$ is the complete graph,
 $\chi(G)=n$.

Proof. All colors must be different from each other,
so $\chi(G) \geq n$. $\chi(G) \leq n$, $f: [n] \rightarrow [n]$,
 $f(i)=i$, valid n -coloring.

Thm. If $G=(V,E)$ is a graph where all
vertices have degree k or less, G is
 $(k+1)$ -colorable. $\hookrightarrow \deg(v) \leq k$ for all v

Proof. Use induction. ^{each vertex is connected to at most k other vertices.}

Base case - $N=1$, it's 1-colorable, $\rightarrow N=n$.

Inductive - Let $v \in V$, $S = \{e \mid e \in E, v \in e\}$

Assume true if $\hookrightarrow$ set of edges that contain v
less than n vertices

Let $G' = (V \setminus \{v\}, E \setminus S)$

G' is $(k+1)$ -colorable by inductive hypothesis.

Use same coloring for G , color v anything
diff. from neighbours. This is possible because
 v has at most k neighbors.

□

