

ON THE ADJACENT STRONG EDGE COLORING
OF $P_n \vee P_n$, $P_n \vee C_n$ AND $C_n \vee C_n$

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Abstract: In this paper, we discuss the adjacent strong edge coloring of join-graphs about $P_n \vee P_n$ and $P_n \vee C_n$ and $C_n \vee C_n$.

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Key Words: path, cycle, join-graph, adjacent strong edge coloring

1. Introduction

The coloring problem of graphs is widely applied in practice. In [1], some conditional coloring problems as introduced. Some network problem can be converted to the strong edge coloring (see [2]-[5]) and adjacent strong edge coloring, see [6].

Definition 1. (see [2]-[5]) For a graph $G(V, E)$, if a proper coloring f is satisfied with $C(u) \neq C(v)$ for $\forall u, v \in V(G) (u \neq v)$, then f is called k -strong edge coloring of G , is abbreviated k -SEC, and

$$\chi'_s(G) = \min\{k | k - \text{SEC of } G\}$$

is called the strong edge chromatic number of G . And for $\forall uv \in E(G), C(u) \neq$

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$C(v)$, then f is called k -adjacent strong edge coloring of G , is abbreviated k -ASEC, and

$$\chi'_{as}(G) = \min\{k | k - \text{ASEC of } G\}$$

is called the adjacent strong edge chromatic number of G ^[6]. Where

$$C(u) = \{f(uv) | uv \in E(G)\}.$$

Conjecture. (see [6]) For a connected graph with order $p \geq 3$, and $G \neq C_5$ (5-cycle),

$$\chi'_{as}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 2.$$

Where $p = |V(G)|$, $\Delta(G)$ is maximal degree of G .

There are many references proof this conjecture is true, for example ^{[7],[8]}, for $\Delta(G) \leq 3$, this conjecture is true; For a connected graph with $|V(G)| \geq 3$:

(1) If G is a bipartite graph with no isolate edges, then

$$\chi'_{as}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 2.$$

(2) If G is a k -chromatic graph with no isolate edges, then

$$\chi'_{as}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + O(\log k).$$

Definition 2. (see [9]) For graph G and graph H , $V(G) \cap V(H) = \emptyset$, and

$$\begin{cases} V(G \vee H) = V(G) \cup V(H) \\ E(G \vee H) = E(G) \cup E(H) \cup \{uv | u \in V(G), v \in V(H)\} \end{cases}$$

then $G \vee H$ is called join-graph of G and H .

For $m > n \geq 1$, there are many adjacent strong chromatic number of $P_m \vee P_n, P_m \vee C_n, C_m \vee C_n$. In this paper we have the adjacent strong chromatic number of $P_n \vee P_n, P_n \vee C_n, C_n \vee C_n$, the others terminologies refer to [9]-[10].

2. Adjacent Strong Edge Coloring of $P_n \vee P_n$

Lemma 1. (see [6]) *If G is a connected graph with $|V(G)| \geq 3$, and $uv \in E(G)$, $d(u)=d(v)=\Delta(G)$, then*

$$\chi'_{as}(G) \geq \Delta(G) + 1.$$

Theorem 1. *For $n \geq 2$, then*

$$\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee P_n) = \begin{cases} n + 3, & \text{if } 2 \leq n \leq 6; \\ n + 4, & \text{if } n \geq 7. \end{cases}$$

Proof. There are four cases to be considered.

Case 1. When $n=2$, then $P_2 \vee P_2 = K_4$ (complete graph with order 4), it's true by [6].

Case 2. When $3 \leq n \leq 6$, $\Delta(P_n \vee P_n) = n + 2$. By Lemma 1, we need to prove exists $(n + 3)$ -ASEC.

Let P_n and P_n be $u_1u_2 \cdots u_n$ and $v_1v_2 \cdots v_n$

Subcase 2.1. When $n=3$, a mapping f from $E(P_3 \vee P_3)$ to $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$ is defined as follows:

$$f(u_2v_2) = f(u_3v_1) = 1; f(u_2v_3) = f(v_1v_2) = 2; f(u_1v_3) = f(u_2u_3) = 3;$$

$$f(u_1u_2) = f(u_3v_2) = 4; f(u_1v_2) = f(u_2v_1) = f(u_3v_3) = 5;$$

$$f(u_1v_1) = f(v_2v_3) = 6.$$

Obviously, f is 6-ASEC of $P_3 \vee P_3$.

Subcase 2.2. When $n=4$, a mapping f from $E(P_4 \vee P_4)$ to $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\}$ is defined as follows:

$$f(u_1v_i) = i, i = 1, 2, 3, 4; f(u_iv_j) = i + j + 1, i = 2, 3; j = 1, 2, 3, 4;$$

$$f(u_4v_1) = 5; f(u_4v_2) = 3; f(u_4v_3) = 7; f(u_4v_4) = 1;$$

$$f(u_1u_2) = f(v_1v_2) = 7; f(u_2u_3) = f(v_2v_3) = 1; f(u_3u_4) = f(v_3v_4) = 2.$$

For such f , we have:

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{5, 6\}; \overline{C}(u_4) = \{3, 6\}; \overline{C}(v_1) = \{2, 6\}; \overline{C}(v_4) = \{3, 5\};$$

$$\overline{C}(u_2) = \{2\}; \overline{C}(u_3) = \{3\}; \overline{C}(v_2) = \{6\}; \overline{C}(v_3) = \{4\};$$

Where $\overline{C}(w) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7\} \setminus C(w)$, $w \in \{u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4\} \cup \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$. So f is 7-ASEC of $P_4 \vee P_4$. The conclusion is true.

Subcase 2.3. When $n=5$, a mapping f from $E(P_5 \vee P_5)$ to $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$ is given as follows:

$$f(u_1v_1) = 6; f(u_1v_j) = j, j = 2, 3, 4; f(u_1v_5) = 5;$$

$$f(u_iv_j) = i + j - 1, i = 2, 3, 4; j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_5v_1) = 5; f(u_1u_2) = f(u_5v_2) = 7; f(u_2u_3) = f(v_1v_2) = f(u_5v_3) = 8;$$

$$f(u_3u_4) = f(v_2v_3) = f(u_5v_4) = 1; f(u_5v_5) = 4;$$

$$f(u_4u_5) = f(v_3v_4) = 2; f(v_4v_5) = 3.$$

For such f , we have:

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{1, 8\}; \overline{C}(u_i) = \{i - 1\}, i = 2, 3, 4; \overline{C}(u_5) = \{3, 6\}; \overline{C}(v_1) = \{1, 7\};$$

$$\overline{C}(v_i) = \{i + 4\}, i = 2, 3, 4; \overline{C}(v_5) = \{1, 2\}.$$

Where $\overline{C}(w) = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\} \setminus C(w)$, $w \in \{u_i | i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\} \cup \{v_j | j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$. So f is 8-ASEC of $P_5 \vee P_5$. The conclusion is true.

Subcase 2.4. When $n = 6$, a mapping f from $E(P_6 \vee P_6)$ to $\{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$ is given as follows:

$$f(u_1v_1) = 5; f(u_1v_2) = 7; f(u_1v_3) = 2; f(u_1v_4) = 9; f(u_1v_5) = 4; f(u_1v_6) = 6;$$

$$f(u_2v_1) = 9; f(u_3v_1) = 8; f(u_4v_1) = 4; f(u_5v_1) = 3; f(u_6v_1) = 6;$$

$$f(u_iv_j) = i + j - 1, i = 2, 3, 4, 5; j = 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_6v_2) = 8; f(u_6v_3) = 3; f(u_6v_4) = 2; f(u_6v_5) = 1; f(u_6v_6) = 7;$$

$$f(u_2v_6) = 8; f(u_3v_6) = 9; f(u_4v_6) = 3; f(u_5v_6) = 5;$$

$$f(u_1u_2) = f(u_3u_4) = f(v_1v_2) = f(v_3v_4) = 1;$$

$$f(u_2u_3) = f(u_4u_5) = f(v_5v_6) = 2; f(v_4v_5) = 3;$$

$$f(u_5u_6) = 4; f(v_2v_3) = 9.$$

For the f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{3, 8\}; \overline{C}(u_2) = \{7\}; \overline{C}(u_3) = \{3\}; \overline{C}(u_4) = \{9\};$$

$$\begin{aligned} \overline{C}(u_5) &= \{1\}; \overline{C}(u_6) = \{5, 9\}; \overline{C}(v_1) = \{2, 7\}; \overline{C}(v_2) = \{2\}; \\ \overline{C}(v_3) &= \{8\}; \overline{C}(v_4) = \{4\}; \overline{C}(v_5) = \{5\}; \overline{C}(v_6) = \{1, 4\}. \end{aligned}$$

So, the f is a 9-ASEC of $P_6 \vee P_6$, the Theorem 2 is true when $n=6$.

Case 3. When $n = 7$, first we prove $\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee P_n) \geq 11$. Otherwise, $\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee P_n) = 10$ by Lemma 1.

Let $C = \{1, 2, \dots, 10\}, \overline{C}(w) = C \setminus C(w)$, suppose f of 10-ASEC of $P_7 \vee P_7$. We have

$$\begin{cases} |\overline{C}(u_i)| = |\overline{C}(v_i)| = 2, i = 1, 7; \\ |\overline{C}(u_i)| = |\overline{C}(v_i)| = 1, i = 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Obviously, we have

$$\begin{cases} \overline{C}(u_i) \neq \overline{C}(v_i), & i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7; \\ \overline{C}(u_i) \neq \overline{C}(u_{i+1}), \overline{C}(u_i) \neq \overline{C}(u_{i+1}), & i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

and

$$\begin{cases} \overline{C}(u_2) \in \overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_7); \\ \overline{C}(u_6) \in \overline{C}(u_7) \cup \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_7); \\ \overline{C}(v_2) \in \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_7); \\ \overline{C}(v_6) \in \overline{C}(v_7) \cup \overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_7); \\ \overline{C}(u_i) \in \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_7), i = 3, 4, 5; \\ \overline{C}(v_i) \in \overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_7), i = 3, 4, 5; \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

and

$$\bigcup_{i=2}^6 (\overline{C}(u_i) \cup \overline{C}(v_i)) = \overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_7) \cup \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_7). \quad (4)$$

Using (1) and (2), we have

$$\left| \bigcup_{i=2}^6 (\overline{C}(u_i) \cup \overline{C}(v_i)) \right| = 10 > |\overline{C}(u_1) \cup \overline{C}(u_7) \cup \overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_7)| \leq 8 \quad (5)$$

(4) and (5) are contradiction, hence

$$\chi'_{as}(P_7 \vee P_7) \geq 11.$$

Similar for $n \geq 8$, we can be to prove

$$\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee P_n) \geq n + 4(n \geq 8).$$

Case 4. when $n \geq 8$, we now give a $(n+4)$ -ASEC of $P_n \vee P_n$ f as follows:

$$C = \{1, 2, \dots, n + 3, 0\}, \overline{C}(w) = C \setminus C(w),$$

Let f be:

$$f(u_1v_i) = i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_iv_j) = i + j(\text{mod } (n + 4)), i = 2, 3, \dots, n; j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_iv_{(i+1)}) = f(v_iv_{(i+1)}) = n + i + 2(\text{mod } (n + 4)), i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$$

For f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{n+1, n+2, 0\}; \overline{C}(u_i) = \{i-1, i\}, i = 2, 3, \dots, n-1; \overline{C}(u_n) = \{n-2, n-1, n\}$$

$$\overline{C}(v_1) = \{2, n+2, 0\}; \overline{C}(v_i) = \{i-1, i+1\}, i = 2, 3, \dots, n-1; \overline{C}(v_n) = \{n-2, n-1, n+1\}.$$

So f is a $(n+4)$ -ASEC of $P_n \vee P_n$, hence the theorem 1 is true.

3. Adjacent Strong Edge Coloring of $P_n \vee C_n$

Theorem 2. For $n \geq 3$,

$$\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee C_n) = \begin{cases} 6, & n = 3; \\ n + 4, & n \geq 4. \end{cases}$$

Proof. There are three cases to be considered.

Let $P_n = v_1v_2 \cdots v_n, C_n = u_1u_2 \cdots u_nu_1$.

Case 1. When $n=3$, to be need only exists 6-ASEC of $P_3 \vee C_3$. We now give 6-ASEC f as follows:

$$f(u_1u_2) = f(u_3v_1) = f(v_2v_3) = 1; f(u_2u_3) = f(v_1v_2) = 2;$$

$$f(u_1u_3) = f(u_2v_1) = 3; f(u_1v_2) = f(u_3v_3) = 4;$$

$$f(u_1v_3) = f(u_2v_2) = 5; f(u_1v_1) = f(u_2v_3) = f(u_3v_2) = 6.$$

Obviously, f is a 6-ASEC of $P_3 \vee C_3$. So that $\chi'_{as}(P_3 \vee C_3) = 6$.

Case 2. When $n=4$, we prove $\chi'_{as}(P_4 \vee C_4) \geq 8$, firstly. Otherwise, if $\chi'_{as}(P_4 \vee C_4) = 7$, then $\forall u \in V(C_4)$ and $v_2, v_3 \in V(P_4)$, we have

$$|C(u)| = |C(v_2)| = |C(v_3)| = 6,$$

and

$$|C(v_1)| = |C(v_4)| = 5$$

We have

$$|\overline{C}(u)| = |\overline{C}(v_2)| = |\overline{C}(v_3)| = 1,$$

and

$$|\overline{C}(v_1)| = |\overline{C}(v_4)| = 2$$

Same Theorem 1 with $n=7$,

$$\overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_4) = \bigcup_{i=2}^4 \overline{C}(u_i) \cup \overline{C}(v_2) \cup \overline{C}(v_3)$$

$$4 \geq |\overline{C}(v_1) \cup \overline{C}(v_4)| < \left| \bigcup_{i=2}^4 \overline{C}(u_i) \cup \overline{C}(v_2) \cup \overline{C}(v_3) \right| = 6$$

Obviously, it is impossible, hence $\chi'_{as}(P_4 \vee C_4) \geq 8$.

Case 3. Similar we can prove $\chi'_{as}(P_n \vee C_n) \geq n + 4$ when $n \geq 5$.

We now give a $(n+4)$ -ASEC of $P_n \vee C_n$ ($n \geq 4$),

Let $C = \{1, 2, \dots, n+3, 0\}$, $\overline{C}(w) = C \setminus C(w)$,

When $n=4$, f as follows:

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j - 1 \pmod{8}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4; j = 1, 2, 3, 4; f(u_i u_{(i+1)}) = i + 5, i = 1, 2;$$

$$f(u_3 u_4) = 1; f(u_4 u_1) = 0; f(v_i v_{(i+1)}) = i + 6 \pmod{8}, i = 1, 2, 3;$$

For f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{5, 7\}, \overline{C}(u_2) = \{0, 1\}, \overline{C}(u_3) = \{0, 2\}, \overline{C}(u_4) = \{2, 3\}$$

$$\overline{C}(v_1) = \{5, 6, 0\}, \overline{C}(v_2) = \{1, 6\}, \overline{C}(v_3) = \{2, 7\}, \overline{C}(v_4) = \{2, 3, 0\}$$

So f is a 8-ASEC of $P_4 \vee C_4$, it's theorem 2 is true when $n=4$.

When $n=5$, f as follows:

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j - 1 \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4; j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_5 v_i) = 6 + i \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_i u_{(i+1)}) = i + 7 \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3; f(u_4 u_5) = 3; f(u_5 u_1) = 6;$$

$$f(v_i v_{(i+1)}) = i + 8 \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4;$$

It is easy to see that f is 9-ASEC of $P_5 \vee C_5$. Hence, the conclusion is true.

When $n \geq 6$, f as follows:

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j - 1 \pmod{n + 4}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1; j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_n v_i) = n + i + 1 \pmod{n + 4}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_i u_{(i+1)}) = n + i + 2 \pmod{n + 4}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2;$$

$$f(u_{(n-1)} u_n) = n - 3; f(u_n u_1) = n + 1;$$

$$f(v_i v_{(i+1)}) = n + i + 3 \pmod{n + 4}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1;$$

For f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{n + 2, 0\}; \overline{C}(u_i) = \{i - 1, n + i \pmod{n + 4}\}, i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 2;$$

$$\overline{C}(u_{(n-1)}) = \{n - 3, 2n - 1 \pmod{n + 4}\}; \overline{C}(u_n) = \{n - 1, n\}$$

$$\overline{C}(v_1) = \{n, n + 1, n + 3\}; \overline{C}(v_n) = \{n - 1, 2n - 1 \pmod{n + 4}, 2n \pmod{n + 4}\};$$

$$\overline{C}(v_i) = \{n + i - 1 \pmod{n + 4}, n + i \pmod{n + 4}\}, i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1.$$

So f is $(n+4)$ -ASEC of $P_n \vee C_n$ ($n \geq 6$). Hence the conclusion is true.

4. Adjacent Strong Edge Coloring of $C_n \vee C_n$

Theorem 3. For $n \geq 3$, then

$$\chi'_{as}(C_n \vee C_n) = n + 4.$$

Proof. Same as Theorem 2, first can be to prove $\chi'_{as}(C_n \vee C_n) \geq n + 4$.

Supposing the two cycles are $u_1 u_2 \dots u_n u_1$ and $v_1 v_2 \dots v_n v_1$ with separately.

When $n=3$, $C_3 \vee C_3 = K_6$ (complete graph with order 6), can be to see appendix.

When $n=4$, it's easy to see that $\chi'_{as}(C_n \vee C_n) \geq n + 4$

We now give a 8-ASEC of $C_4 \vee C_4$, f as follows,

Let $C = \{1, 2, \dots, 7, 0\}$, $\overline{C}(w) = C \setminus C(w)$,

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j - 1 \pmod{8}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4; j = 1, 2, 3, 4;$$

$$f(u_i u_{(i+1)}) = i + 5, i = 1, 2;$$

$$f(u_3 u_4) = 1; f(u_4 u_1) = 0; f(v_1 v_2) = 0; f(v_2 v_3) = 2; f(v_4 v_1) = 0;$$

For f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{5, 7\}, \overline{C}(u_2) = \{0, 1\}, \overline{C}(u_3) = \{0, 2\}, \overline{C}(u_4) = \{2, 3\}$$

$$\overline{C}(v_1) = \{5, 6, 0\}, \overline{C}(v_2) = \{1, 6\}, \overline{C}(v_3) = \{1, 7\}, \overline{C}(v_4) = \{1, 3\}$$

So f is a 8-ASEC of $C_4 \vee C_4$, it's theorem 3 is true when $n=4$.

When $n=5$, we now give a 9-ASEC of $C_5 \vee C_5$, f as follows,

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j - 1 \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4; j = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_5 v_i) = i + 6 \pmod{9}, i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5;$$

$$f(u_1 u_2) = 8; f(u_2 u_3) = 0; f(u_3 u_4) = 3; f(u_4 u_5) = 3; f(u_5 u_1) = 6;$$

$$f(v_1 v_2) = 6; f(v_2 v_3) = 7; f(v_3 v_4) = 2; f(v_4 v_5) = 3; f(v_5 v_1) = 0;$$

It's easy to see f is 9-ASEC of $C_5 \vee C_5$. Hence the conclusion is true.

When $n \geq 6$, let f be as follows:

the edges of $u_1 u_2, u_2 u_3, \dots, u_{n-1} u_n$ are coloring colors with $n+3, n+4$ rotate;
the edges of $v_1 v_2, v_2 v_3, \dots, v_{n-1} v_n$ are coloring colors with $n+4, n+3$ rotate;

$$f(u_1 u_n) = f(v_1 v_n) = n + 1;$$

$$f(u_1 v_j) = j, j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_i v_j) = i + j \text{ (when } i + j > n + 2, \text{ then mod } n + 2), i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1; j = 1, 2, \dots, n;$$

$$f(u_n v_1) = n + 2; f(u_n v_j) = j - 1, j = 2, 3, \dots, n.$$

For the f , we have

$$\overline{C}(u_1) = \{n + 2, n + 4\}; \overline{C}(u_i) = \{i - 1, i\}, i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1;$$

$$\overline{C}(u_n) = \{n, n + 4\} (n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}) \text{ or } \overline{C}(u_n) = \{n, n + 3\} (n \equiv 1 \pmod{2});$$

$$\overline{C}(v_1) = \{2, n + 3\}; \overline{C}(v_i) = \{i + 1, n + i\} \text{ (when } i + j > n + 2, \text{ take mod } n + 2);$$

$$\overline{C}(v_n) = \{n - 2, n + 3\} (n \equiv 0 \pmod{2}) \text{ or } \overline{C}(v_n) = \{n, n + 4\} (n \equiv 1 \pmod{2});$$

So, the f is a $(n+4)$ -ASEC of $C_n \vee C_n$, the theorem 3 is true.

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