

# RECURRENCE RELATION FOR ACHROMATIC NUMBER OF LINE GRAPH OF GRAPH

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**Abstract** – In this paper, we have studied vertex coloring, chromatic and achromatic number of a graph. For certain  $n$ , upper bound of  $A(n)$  is discussed. A recurring relation is obtained for  $A(n)$ ,  $n \geq 4$ .

**Key Words:** k-colouring, colourclass, chromatic number, achromatic number, Line graph.

## 1.INTRODUCTION

A k-colouring of a graph  $G$  is a labeling  $f: V(G) \rightarrow S$ , where  $|S| = k$ . Often we use  $S = [k] = \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ . The labels are colours. The vertices of one colour form a colourclass. A k-colouring is proper if adjacent vertices have different colours or labels.

A graph is k-colourable if it has a proper k-colouring. The chromatic number  $\chi(G)$  is the least  $k$ , such that  $G$  is k-colourable. i.e there does not exist any proper  $k - 1$  colouring.

The Achromatic number : The largest  $k$  so that there exists a complete k-colouring of  $V(G)$  is called the achromatic number  $\Psi(G)$ . For any  $k$  between  $\chi(G)$  and  $\Psi(G)$  a complete k-colouring of  $G$  exists.

Line Graph: The Line graph of  $G$ , written as  $L(G)$ , is the simple graph whose vertices are the edges of  $G$ , with  $ef \in E(L(G))$  when  $e$  and  $f$  have a common endpoint in  $G$ .

Let  $G = K_n$ , then  $\Psi(G) = \Psi(K_n) = A(n)$

The achromatic number  $A(n)$  of the line graph of  $K_n$  i.e.  $A(n) = \Psi(L(K_n))$ .

## Results and Discussion:

**Lemma 1.** For any  $t < (n - 1) / 2$   $A(n) \leq \max \{g(n, t + 1), h(n, t + 1)\}$

Proof. Consider any complete k- colouring of

$L(K_n)$ . Assume that there is a

colourclass  $\Gamma$  with  $s \leq t$  edges of  $K_n$  in it. (i.e.  $2s$  vertices of  $L(K_n)$ )

Let  $S$  be the set of  $2s$  nodes of  $K_n$  covered by the  $s$  edges in  $\Gamma$ .

An edge of  $K_n$  is adjacent to an edge of  $\Gamma$  in  $L(K_n)$  has an endnode in  $S$ . Since  $K_n$  is  $n - 1$  regular, at each point of  $S$ , there are  $n - 1$  edges of  $K_n$  incident with it. i.e.  $2s(n - 1)$  edges in  $K_n$  incident on  $S$ .

Thus, there are  $2s(2s - 1)$  possible edges in  $S$ , but counted twice.

Therefore, total No. of edges in  $S$  is

$$2s(2s - 1) / 2 = S(2s - 1)$$

Thus there are  $s(2s - 1)$  edges of  $K_n$  incident with two points of  $S$ .

Thus No. of edges of  $K_n$  not in  $\Gamma$  but incident with a point of  $S$  is  $2sn - 1 - s(2s - 1) - s$

$$= 2sn - 2s - 2s^2 + s - s$$

$$= 2s(n - s - 1)$$

$$= g(n, s)$$

Now,  $\Gamma$  is a colourclass and k-colouring is a proper colouring.

Therefore,  $\Gamma$  must be adjacent to atleast one edge of every other colourclass.

Thus, there are atleast  $k - 1$  edges starting from  $S$  but having other endpoints outside  $\Gamma$  and  $S$ . There are such  $g(n, s)$  edges.

$$k - 1 \leq g(n, s)$$

$$k \leq g(n, s) + 1$$

But,  $s \leq t$  and  $t < (n - 1) / 2$  and  $g(n, s)$  is increasing for  $t < (n - 1) / 2$

$$g(n, s) + 1 \leq g(n, t) + 1$$

$$k \leq g(n, t) + 1$$

Hence,  $A(n) \leq \max \{g(n, t) + 1, h(n, t) + 1\}$  as if  $g(n, t) + 1$  is maximum  $A(n) = k \leq g(n, t) + 1$ . if  $g(n, t) + 1$  is not maximum then  $g(n, t) + 1 \leq h(n, t) + 1$

$$\text{But } k = A(n) \leq g(n, t) + 1 \leq h(n, t) + 1$$

$$\text{Thus, } A(n) \leq \max \{g(n, t) + 1, h(n, t) + 1\}$$

Now if no colourclass contains No. of edges  $\leq t$  i.e. every colourclass contains atleast  $t + 1$  edges.

But there are in all  $n(n - 1) / 2$  edges,

We can have almost  $\lceil \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \rceil / (t+1)$  colourclasses. i.e.  $\lceil \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \rceil / (2(t+1)) = h(n, t + 1)$  Thus,  $k \leq h(n, t + 1)$

Thus by similar arguements,

$$A(n) = k \leq \max\{g(n, t) + 1, h(n, t) + 1\}$$

Notations:

Let  $[x]$  denote the greatest integer in  $x$ .

$$\beta_t(n) = \max\{g(n, t) + 1, [h(n, t + 1)]\}$$

$$B(n) = \min\{\beta_t(n) | 0 < t < \frac{(n-1)}{2}\}$$

Lemma can be formulated as  $A(n) \leq B(n)$

**Lemma 2.** suppose  $t \geq 2, 4t^2 - t \leq n \leq 4t^2 + 3t - 1$  then  $B(n) = g(n, t) + 1$ , If  $4t^2 + 3t \leq n \leq 4(t + 1)^2 - t - 2$  then  $B(n) = [h(n, t + 1)]$ .

**Proof.** We need to compare  $g$  and  $h$ . Note that  $g$  is an integer.

$$\text{So, } g(n, t) + 1 \leq [h(n, t)] \text{ iff } g(n, t) + 1 \leq h(n, t)$$

$$\text{i.e. iff } 0 \leq h(n, t) - g(n, t) - 1$$

$$\text{Let } p(n, t) = h(n, t) - g(n, t) - 1$$

$$\text{Thus } g(n, t) + 1 \leq [h(n, t)] \text{ iff } p(n, t) \geq 0 \dots\dots(1)$$

$$p(n, t) = h(n, t) - g(n, t) - 1$$

$$= \frac{[n(n-1)]}{2t} - 2t(n-t-1) - 1$$

$$= \frac{[n(n-1) - 4t^2(n-t-1) - 2t]}{2t}$$

$$\text{Now } 2tp(n, t) = n^2 - n - 4t^2n + 4t^3 + 4t^2 - 2t$$

$$= n^2 - (4t^2 + 1)n + 4t^3 + 4t^2 - 2t$$

$$\text{Now consider } q(n, t) = h(n, t + 1) - g(n, t) - 1$$

$$\text{Thus, } g(n, t) + 1 \leq [h(n, t + 1)]$$

$$\text{iff } q(n, t) \geq 0 \dots\dots(2)$$

$$q(n, t) = h(n, t + 1) - g(n, t) - 1$$

$$= \frac{[n(n-1)]}{2(t+1)} - 2t(n-t-1) - 1$$

Now

$$2(t+1)q(n, t) = n(n-1) - 4(t^2+t)(n-t-1) - 2(t+1)$$

$$= n^2 - n - 4nt^2 + 4t^3 + 4t^2 - 4nt + 4t^2 + 4t - 2(t+1)$$

$$= n^2 - (4t^2 + 4t + 1)n + 4t(t+1)^2 - 2(t+1)$$

Now consider,

$$p(4t^2 - t - 1, t) = -3t^2 + t + 2 < 0 \text{ if } t > 0$$

$$p(4t^2 - t, t) = t^2 - t \geq 0 \text{ if } t > 0$$

$$q(4t^2 - t, t) = -3t^2 - 3t < 0 \text{ if } t > 0$$

$$q(4t^2 + 3t, t) = t^2 - t - 2 \geq 0 \text{ if } t \geq 2$$

Let us denote this set of statement as  $\Lambda$  Now, let  $t \geq 2$ , differentiating  $q(x, t)$  with

respect to  $x$

$$D_x q(x, t) = 2x - (4t^2 + 4t + 1)$$

$$\text{Consider } 4t^2 - t \leq x \leq 4t^2 + 3t - 1$$

$$\text{For } x \geq 4t^2 - t$$

$$D_x q(x, t) = 2(4t^2 - t) - (4t^2 + 4t + 1)$$

$$= 8t^2 - 2t - 4t^2 - 4t - 1$$

$$= 4t^2 - 6t - 1$$

$$\geq 0$$

$$(t \geq 2)$$

Thus, for  $x \geq 4t^2 - t$  we get  $D_x q(x, t) > 0$

Therefore,  $q(x, t)$  is increasing function. By  $\Lambda$ ,  $q(4t^2 + 3t - 1) < 0$

$$\text{Hence } q(n, t) < 0$$

$$\forall n \text{ such that } 4t^2 - t \leq n \leq 4t^2 + 3t - 1$$

By (2),

$$\text{for such } n, h(n, t + 1) < g(n, t) + 1 \dots\dots(3)$$

$$\text{So, } \beta_t(n) = g(n, t) + 1 \dots\dots(4)$$

by definition of  $\beta_t(n)$

Now, if  $t < u < \frac{(n-1)}{2}$ , then  $g(n, u) + 1 \geq g(n, t) + 1$  (since  $g$  is increasing.)

$$> h(n, t + 1) \text{ by 3}$$

$\geq h(n, u + 1)$  (as  $g$  is increasing for  $y < \frac{(x-1)}{2}$  and  $h$  is decreasing).

Thus,

$$\beta_u(n) \geq \beta_t(n) \dots\dots(B)$$

Now, consider  $s < t$ , differentiating  $p(x, t)$  with respect to  $x$  from (1)

$$D_x p(x, t) = 2x - (4t^2 + 1)$$

For  $x \geq 4t^2 - t$

$$D_x p(x, t) = 2(4t^2 - t) - 4t^2 - 1$$

$$= 8t^2 - 2t - 4t^2 - 1$$

$$= 4t^2 - 2t - 1$$

$> 0$  as  $t \geq 2$

Hence,  $p(x, t)$  is increasing.

$$\text{By } \Delta, P(4t^2 - t, t) \geq 0$$

$$\text{So, } P(n, t) \geq 0$$

$$\forall n \geq 4t^2 - t$$

Thus **by (1)** for such  $n$ ,

$$[h(n, t)] \geq g(n, t) + 1 \dots\dots\dots(5)$$

(as  $t \geq 2$ ).

Hence, for  $s < t$ , we get,

$$\beta_s(n) \geq [h(n, s + 1)] \geq [h(n, t)]$$

$$h(n, t)$$

] (as  $h$  is increasing)

$$\geq g(n, t) + 1 \text{ by (5)}$$

$$= \beta_t(n)$$

Therefore, if  $s < t$  then  $\beta_s(n) \geq \beta_t(n)$

**.....(A)**

Thus,  $B(n) = \beta_t(n) = g(n, t) + 1$  as desired.

**By (A) and (B)** we get

$$B(n) = \min\{\beta_t(m)\}$$

$$= \beta_t(n)$$

$$= g(n, t) + 1$$

Now,

let us consider  $4t^2 + 3t \leq n \leq 4(t + 1)^2 - t - 2$

We know that, for  $x \geq 4t^2 - t$ ,  $q(x, t)$  is increasing.

$$\text{By } \Delta q(4t^2 + 3t, t) > 0$$

It implies  $q(n, t) > 0$ ,

for above choice of  $n$

So, **by (2)**

$$[h(n, t + 1)] \geq g(n, t) + 1 \dots\dots\dots(6)$$

for  $n \geq 4t^2 + 3t$

$$\text{Hence, } \beta^t(n) = [h(n, t + 1)] \dots\dots\dots(7)$$

for  $n \geq 4t^2 + 3t$

Now if  $s < t$

$$\beta_s(n) \geq [h(n, s + 1)] \geq [h(n, t + 1)] = \beta_t(n)$$

For  $s < t$ ,  $\beta_s(n) \leq \beta_t(n) \dots\dots\dots(C)$

Consider  $t + 1 \leq u <$

$$(n-1)*2$$

$$p(x, t + 1) = x^2 - (4(t + 1)^2 + 1)x + 4(t + 1)^3 + 4(t + 1)^2 - 2(t + 1)$$

Therefore,

$$D_x p(x, t + 1) = 2x - 4(t + 1)^2 - 1$$

$$D_n p(n, t + 1) = 2n - 4(t + 1)^2 - 1$$

If  $n \geq 4t^2 + 3t$

$$D_n p(n, t + 1) = 2(4t^2 + 3t) - 4(t + 1)^2 - 1$$

$$= 8t^2 + 6t - 4t^2 - 8t - 5$$

$$= 4t^2 - 2t - 5$$

$$\geq 0$$

$$\forall t \geq 2$$

Thus,  $D_n p(n, t + 1)$  is positive for  $n \geq 4t^2 + 3t$

Hence  $p$  is increasing for  $n \geq 4t^2 + 3t$ .

$$p(4(t + 1)^2 - (t + 1) - 1, t + 1) < 0$$

$$p(n, t + 1) < 0$$

by  $\Delta$

$$\forall n \in (4t^2 + 3t, 4(t + 1)^2 - t - 2)$$

Hence for  $n$  in this range,  $[h(n, t + 1)] \geq g(n, t + 1) + 1$

**.....(8)**

Thus,

$$\beta_t(n) = [h(n, t + 1)] \geq g(n, t + 1) + 1$$

$$\leq g(n, u) + 1$$

**by(7) and by(8)**

(since g is increasing.)

$$\leq \beta_u (n)$$

Thus,

$$\beta_t(n) \leq \beta_u (n)$$

for  $t + 1 < u <$

$$(n - 1$$

$$)/2$$

.....(D)

Hence by (C)and(D),  $\beta_t (n) = \min\{\beta_t (n)\}$

Therefore,  $B(n) = \beta_t (n) = [h(n, t + 1)$

] **by(7)**

Thus proved.

**Theorem.**  $A(n + 2) \geq A(n) + 2$

if  $n > 4$ .

**Proof.** Consider an optimal colouring of  $K_n$  i.e. with  $A(n)$  colours. We select a maximal collection of  $\Gamma$  disjoint edges of different colours i.e. no colour is repeated in  $\Gamma$  i.e. there can be maximum one edge of each colour. But in order to collect only disjoint edges, there may not be any edge of a colour. But a vertex at which such an edge is incident is present in  $\Gamma$  with some edge of different colour.

Thus  $\Gamma$  meets every colourclass,  $\Gamma$  is a matching and can have maximum  $n / 2$  edges since there are  $n$  vertices and edges are disjoint. Let  $st$  be an edge of  $\Gamma$ .

There are  $n - 2$  more edges incident at  $t$  other than  $st$ , and these are all of distinct colours being a proper colouring.

Let  $tu$  be the edge whose colour does not occur in  $\Gamma$ .

We collect a maximal set  $\Delta$  of disjoint edges coloured with colours not used in  $\Gamma$ .  $tu$

is one of edge in  $\Delta$ . Now, we prove that subgraph  $G$  generated by disjoint  $\Gamma \cup \Delta$  is bipartite.

Let there be an odd cycle in  $G = \Gamma \cup \Delta$ , say  $c = e_1 e_2$

$$e_3 \dots e_{2n} e_{2n+1}$$

Let  $e_1 \in \Delta$ , w.l.o.g. then since  $\Delta$  is disjoint edge's collection  $e_2$ . which is having one vertex common with  $e_1$  can not be in  $\Delta$ .

Therefore  $e_2 \in \Gamma$ . By similar argument  $e_3 \in \Delta$

and so on . . .

Thus,  $e_{2n} \in \Gamma$

Therefore,  $e_{2n+1} \in \Delta$  but  $e_{2n+1}$  and  $e_1 \in \Delta$  and have a vertex in common.

A contradiction to the construction of  $\Delta$ .

Hence, there is no odd cycle in  $G$ , giving  $G$  is bipartite.

So, there exist a proper 2 colouring of vertices of  $G$ . (i.e. a vertex colouring)

Let vertices in one partition of  $G$  be coloured by black and vertices in another partition

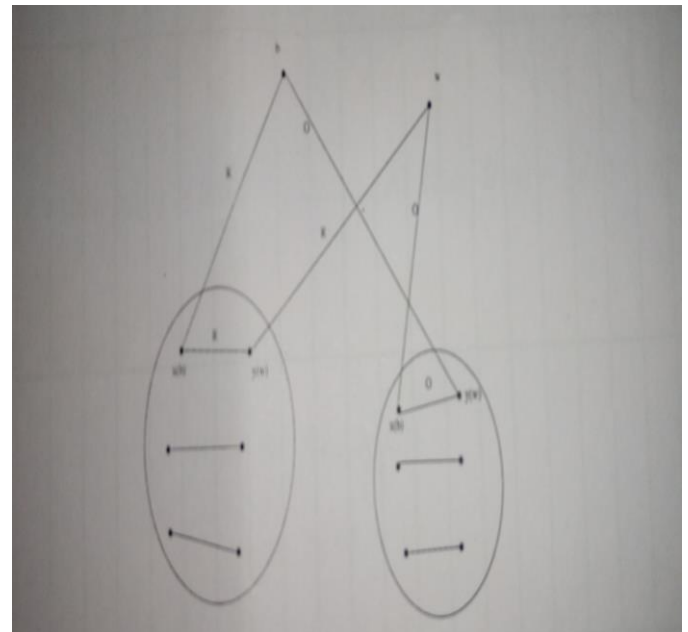
of  $G$  be coloured by white.

Now, we add two nodes  $b$  and  $w$  in  $K_n$ . Let  $xy$  be an edge of  $G$  such that  $x$  is black

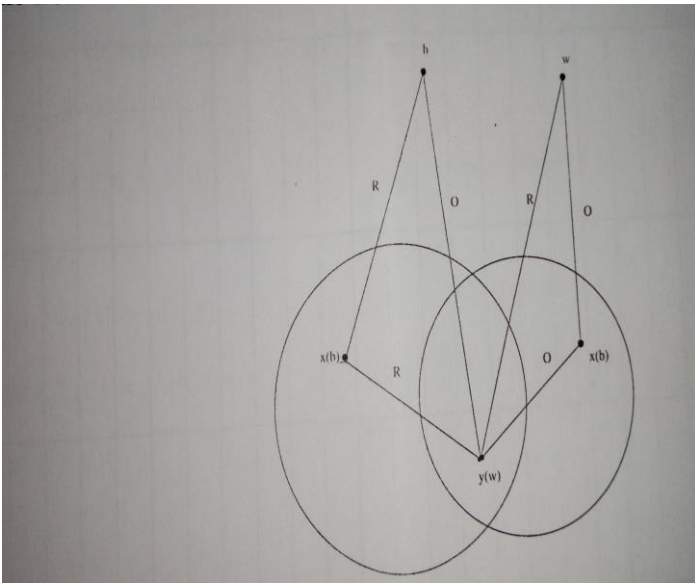
and  $y$  is white.  $xy$  either is in  $\Gamma$  or in  $\Delta$ .

If  $xy \in \Gamma$ , we colour edges  $bx$  and  $wy$  both with the same colour as that of  $xy$ . If

$xy \in \Delta$ , we colour edges  $wx$  and  $by$  both with the same colour as that of  $xy$



Now consider any vertex of  $G$ . Since there are at most two edges, one from  $\Gamma$  and one from  $\Delta$  at each node of  $G$  this is consistent colouring. See below.



Look at  $y$ . There is one orange colour edge  $yb$  and one red color edge  $yw$ . (This has become possible to get two different colour edges at a common vertex of  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  due to bipartition) The edges through  $y$ , orange and red inside  $\Gamma$  and  $\Delta$  are going to be of some different colours later on. More over, since all the colours in  $\Gamma \cup \Delta$  are different, no colour appears twice at either  $b$  or  $w$ . Now, we erase the old colours on the edges of  $\Gamma$  and make  $\Gamma$  a new colourclass using colour other than used  $A(n)$  colours. Note here that for any edge  $xy \in \Gamma$ . Also,  $bx$

and  $wy$  are of same old colour.  $x$  and  $y$  still belong in the support of old colourclass.

In fact  $b$  and  $w$  also are in the support of old colourclass in this new colouring.

Now, erase the old colours on the edges of  $\Delta$  and make  $\Delta (\Lambda) = \Delta \cup \{bw\}$  a new colourclass i.e. other than used  $\Delta(n) + 1$  colours. Similar arguments hold true even for each each  $xy \in \Delta$  Thus, this new colouring with  $A(n) + 2$  colours is a proper colouring. Since the supports of old colours are either left the same or enlarged by  $b$  and  $w$ , it follows that any two old colourclasses still meet. Also,  $\Gamma$  meets every old colour. Therefore,  $(A(n) + 1)^{st}$  colour meets every colourclass.  $\Delta (\Lambda)$  meets every old colour not appering on an edge in  $\Gamma$ .  $bw$  is coloured in  $(A(n) + 2)^{th}$  colour. Hence  $(A(n) + 2)^{th}$  meets every old colour, as  $bw$  meets all colours and  $(A(n) + 1)^{st}$   $(A(n) + 2)^{th}$  colours meet on the special edges  $st$  and  $tu$ . Thus colouring is complete.

But this is a colouring of  $G$ , a subgraph of  $K_{n+2}$ , Thus, If  $\Psi(G) \geq A(n) + 2$  then  $\Psi(L(K_{n+2})) = A(n+2) \geq A(n) + 2$  Therefore,  $A(n+2) \geq A(n) + 2$ .

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