



## BARBELL GRAPHS ON b-COLORING

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### Abstract

$\phi(G)$  is the b-chromatic number of  $G$ , is the maximum  $k$  for which  $G$  has a b-coloring by  $k$  colors. A b-coloring of  $G$  by  $k$  colors is proper  $k$ -coloring of the vertices of  $G$  such that in each color class  $i$  there exists a vertex  $x_i$  having neighbors in all the other  $k-1$  color classes. Such a vertex  $x_i$  is called a b-dominating vertex, and the set of vertices  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k\}$  is called a b-dominating system. In this paper, we investigate the b-coloring of corona graph of barbell graph with cycle graph, cycle graph with barbell graph denoted by,  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$   $C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)$  respectively.

**Keywords:** b-coloring, b-chromatic Number, Barbell Graph, Path Graph, Cycle Graph.

### 1. Introduction

Graph theory is the theory of graphs dealing with nodes and connections or vertices and edges. The subject has skilled explosive growth, due in large measure to its role as a necessary arrangement underpinning modern applied mathematics. Configurations of nodes and connections have great diversity of applications. They may be physical networks, such as electrical circuits, roadways, or organic molecules. Let  $G, V$  be a graph with vertex set and edge set  $E$ .

A  $k$ -coloring of a graph  $G$  is a partition  $P = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\}$  of  $V$  into independent sets of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality  $k$  for which  $G$  has a  $k$ -coloring is the chromatic number  $\chi(G)$  of  $G$ . The b-chromatic number  $\phi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the largest positive integer  $k$  such that  $G$  admits a proper  $k$ -coloring in which every color class has a representative neighboring to at least one vertex in each of the other color classes. Such a coloring is called a b-coloring.

The b-chromatic number was introduced by Irving and Manlove [1] considering proper colorings that are minimal with respect to a partial order defined on the set of all partitions of  $V(G)$ . They have shown that determination of  $\phi(G)$  is NP-hard for general graphs, but polynomial for trees. There has been an increasing interest in the study of b-coloring since the publication of [1]. Kouider and Maheo [5] gave some lower and upper bounds for the b-chromatic number of the cartesian product of two graphs. Kratochvil [6] characterized bipartite graphs for which the lower bound on the b-chromatic number is attained and proved the NP-completeness of the problem to decide whether there is a connected bipartite graphs which is dominating proper b-coloring even for with  $k = \Delta(G) + 1$ . Corteel [7] proved that the b-chromatic number problem is not approximable within  $120/133 - \epsilon$  for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , unless  $P = NP$ . Lot of interesting b-colouring research works done by Vernold Vivin and Venkatachalam [9], Vijayalakshmi and M.Kalpana [11].

### 2. Preliminaries

The  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are two graphs, the corona of two graph is  $G = G_1 \circ G_2$  formed from one copy of  $G_1$  and  $|V(G_1)|$  copies of  $G_2$  where the  $i^{th}$  vertex of  $G_1$  and every vertex in the  $i^{th}$  copy of  $G_2$  are adjacent. This kind of product was introduced by Harary and Frucht in 1970 [3]. The barbell graph [10] is constructed by connecting two arbitrary connected graphs  $G$  and  $H$  by a bridge.

### 3. Main Results

#### The b-coloring of corona graph of Barbell graph with Cycle graph Algorithm:3.1.

Input:  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

$V \leftarrow \{x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n, y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots, y_n, p_1^1, p_2^1, \dots, p_n^1, q_1^1, q_2^1, \dots, q_n^1\}.$

for  $i=1$  to  $n$

$x_i \leftarrow i;$

end for

for  $i=1$  to  $n$

$y_i \leftarrow n+i;$

end for

for  $i=1$  to  $n, j=1$  to  $n$

$p_j^i \leftarrow n+j;$

end for

for  $i=1$  to  $n, j=1$  to  $n$

$q_j^i \leftarrow j;$

end for

end procedure

output: vertex colored  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$ .

### Theorem:3.1

For any barbell graph  $B(K_n, K_n)$  and cycle graph  $C_n$ , the  $b$ -chromatic number of corona graph of  $B(K_n \circ K_n) \circ C_n$  is

$$\varphi [B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n] = 2n, n \geq 3.$$

### Proof:

Let  $V[B(K_n, K_n)] = \{x_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{y_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$$V(C_n) = \{p_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

By the definition of corona product, each vertex of  $B(K_n \circ K_n)$  is adjacent to every vertex of number of copies of  $C_n$ .

ie.,  $\{x_i, y_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\} \in V(B(K_n, K_n))$ , is adjacent to every vertex of

$$\{p_j^i, q_j^i: 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\} \in V(C_n)$$

Then the vertex set of the corona product  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$  is

$$V[B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n] = \{x_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{y_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

$$\cup \{p_j^i: 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\} \cup \{q_j^i: 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$$

Assign the coloring as per the algorithm 3.2

By this coloring procedure, we get that

$$\varphi [B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n] \geq 2n$$

To prove the lower bound, let us assume that, the  $b$ -chromatic number of corona product of barbell graph  $B(K_n, K_n)$  with cycle graph  $C_n$  is greater than  $2n$ .

That is the  $b$ -chromatic number of  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$  is equal to  $2n+1$ .

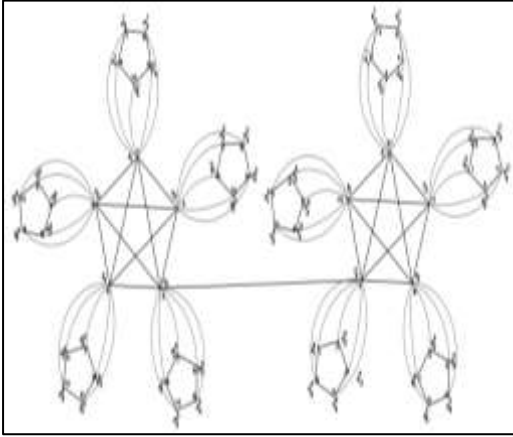
Assigning  $2n+1$  colors, the graph  $B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$  should have  $2n+1$  vertices with  $2n$  degree along with distinct colors. But the graph

$B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n$  having only  $2n$  vertices with maximum degree  $2n-1$ , which is the contradiction.

Therefore assigning  $2n+1$  colors is impossible.

$$\therefore \varphi [B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n] \leq 2n$$

$$\text{Hence } \varphi [B(K_n, K_n) \circ C_n] = 2n.$$



$$\varphi[B(K_5, K_5) \circ C_5] = 10$$

### The b-coloring of corona graph of Cycle graph with Barbell graph Algorithm:3.2

Input:  $C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

$$V \leftarrow \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n, x_1^1, x_2^1, \dots, x_n^1, y_1^1, y_2^1, \dots, y_n^1\}.$$

for  $i=1$  to  $n$

$a_i \leftarrow i$ ;

end for

for  $i=1$  to  $n$ ,  $j=1$  to  $n-1$ ,  $k=1$  to  $n$

$x_j^i \leftarrow k$ ;

end for

for  $j=n$

$x_j^i \leftarrow n+1$ ;

end for

for  $i=1$  to  $n$ ,  $j=1$  to  $n-1$ ,  $k=1$  to  $n$

$y_j^i \leftarrow k$ ;

end for

for  $j=n$

$y_j^i \leftarrow n+2$ ;

end for

end procedure

output: vertex colored  $C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)$ .

### Theorem:3.2

For any cycle graph  $C_n$  and barbell graph  $B(K_n, K_n)$ , the b-chromatic number is

$$\varphi[C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] = n+2, n \geq 3.$$

### Proof:

Let  $V(C_n) = \{a_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and

$$V[B(K_n, K_n)] = \{x_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{y_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\}$$

By the definition of corona product each vertex of  $C_n$  is adjacent to every vertex of number of copies of  $B(K_n, K_n)$ , then the vertex set of the corona product  $C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)$  is

$$V[C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] = \{a_i: 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{x_j^i: 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$$

$$\cup \{y_j^i: 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$$

Assign the colors as per the algorithm 3.3.

By this coloring procedure, we have that

$$\varphi[C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] \geq n+2$$

To prove the lower-bound, let us assume that, b-chromatic number of corona product of cycle graph  $C_n$  with barbell graph  $B(K_n, K_n)$  is greater than  $n+2$ .

That is the b-chromatic number of  $[C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] = n+3$

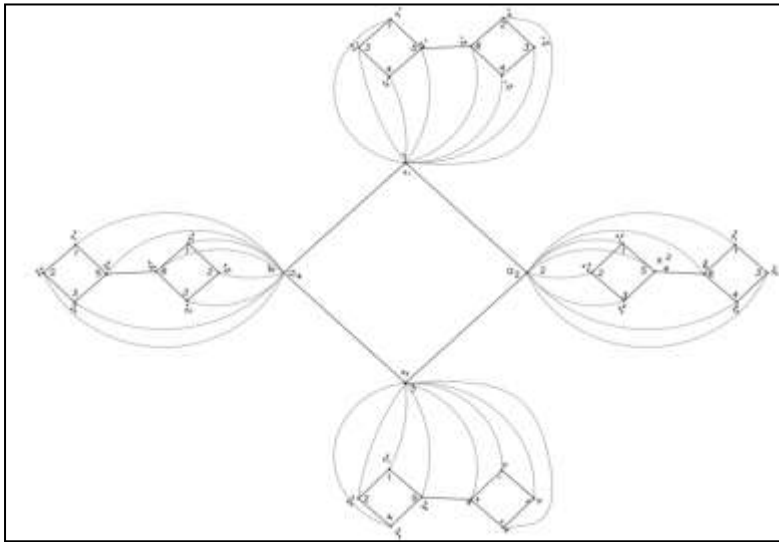
We can assign  $n+3$  colors only if the graph having  $n+3$  vertices assigned with  $n+3$  distinct colors which are adjacent to each other.

Here the colour class  $c_{n+3}$  is not adjacent to the colour class  $c_{n+2}$ ,  $c_{n+1}$  &  $c_n$  which is the contradiction.

Therefore assigning  $n+3$  colours is not possible.

$\therefore \varphi [C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] \leq n+2$

Hence  $\varphi [C_n \circ B(K_n, K_n)] = n+2$ .



$$C_4 \circ B(K_4, K_4) = 6$$

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