fixable

December 26, 2014

Let G be a loopless multigraph and L a list assignment on $V(G)$. For different colors $a, b \in Pot(L)$, let $S_{a,b}$ be all the vertices of G that have exactly one of a or b in their list; more precisely, $S_{a,b} = \{v \in V(G) \mid |\{a, b\} \cap L(v)| = 1\}$. We say that G is L-*fixable* if

1. G has an edge coloring π such that $\pi(x) \in L(x) \cap L(y)$ for all $xy \in E(G)$; or
2. There are different $a, b \in Pot(L)$ such that for every partition $P_1, ..., P_k$ of $S_{a,b}$ into sets of size at most two, there is $J \subseteq [k]$ so that G is L'-fixable where L' is formed from L by swapping a and b in $L(v)$ for every $v \in \bigcup_{i \in J} P_i$.