

CS6350: Topics in Combinatorics
Assignment 5

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October 14, 2020

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1. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a bipartite graph with n vertices and a list $S(v)$ of more than $\log_2 n$ colors associated with each vertex $v \in V$. Prove that there is a proper coloring of G assigning to each vertex v a color from its list $S(v)$.

A. Let the bipartitions for the graph be V_1 and V_2 .

Let $S = \bigcup_{v \in V} S(v)$.

Now distribute each element of S into S_{V_1} and S_{V_2} with equal probability.

For each $v \in V_1$, define $S_{V_1}(v) = S_{V_1} \cap S_v$

Similarly, for each $v \in V_2$, define $S_{V_2}(v) = S_{V_2} \cap S_v$

Then for all $v \in V_1$, $P(S_{V_1}(v) = \phi) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{|S(v)|} < \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\log_2 n} = \frac{1}{n}$

Similarly, for all $v \in V_2$, $P(S_{V_2}(v) = \phi) = \frac{1}{n}$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\bigcup_{v \in V_1} (S_{V_1}(v) = \phi)\right) \cup P\left(\bigcup_{v \in V_2} (S_{V_2}(v) = \phi)\right) &= \sum_{v \in V_1} P(S_{V_1}(v) = \phi) + \sum_{v \in V_2} P(S_{V_2}(v) = \phi) \\ &< \sum_{v \in V_1} \frac{1}{n} + \sum_{v \in V_2} \frac{1}{n} \\ &= \sum_{v \in V} \frac{1}{n} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

So, we can say that there always exists a vertex coloring where vertices of V_1 only use colors of S_{V_1} and vertices of V_2 only use colors of S_{V_2} . As V_1 and V_2 are bipartities of graph G we can make a proper coloring.

Hence Proved.