

# Color-Reversal by Local Complementation

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# Problem Statement

- **Input:** A connected bicolored graph  $G$  of order  $n \geq 2$
- **Output:** Same underlying graph  $G$ , with color of its vertices reversed.

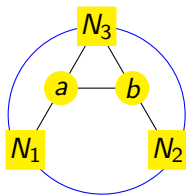


Figure: Input

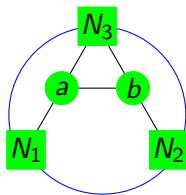
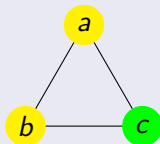


Figure: Output

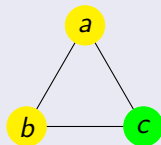
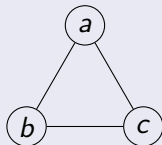
# Mathematical Preliminaries

## Definitions

- Graph  $G = (V, E)$ .
- Bicoloration of a graph  $\beta : V \mapsto \{-1, 1\}$



- Bicolored graph  $B = (G, \beta)$ .



# Notation

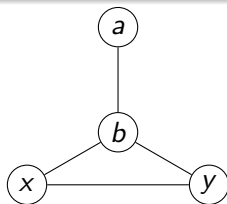
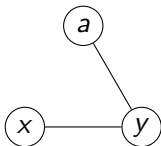
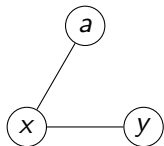
- ① Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we use  $V(a; G)$  to denote the adjacent vertices of  $a$  in  $G$ .
- ② We use  $a \in V$  as pivot vertex or a distinguished vertex of  $G$ .
- ③ Induced subgraph.
  - Induced Subgraph: An induced subgraph of a graph  $G$  is a graph formed by subset  $U \subset V$  and all edges among the vertices of  $U$  from the original graph.  
We use  $G[U]$  to denote the subgraph induced by  $U \subset A$ .

# Two relations

## Relation 1

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be any two different arbitrary vertices of  $G$ . We define a binary relation  $R_1$  over the set  $V_G$  as follows:  $(x, y) \in R_1$  if and only if

$$((x, y) \in E) \wedge ((x \notin V(a; G)) \vee (y \notin V(a; G))).$$

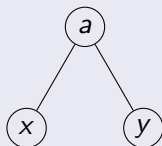


# Two relations

## Relation 2

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. Let  $x$  and  $y$  be any two different arbitrary vertices of  $G$ . We define a binary relation  $R_2$  over the set  $V_G$  as follows:  $(x, y) \in R_2$  if and only if

$$((x, y) \notin E) \wedge ((x \in N(a; G)) \wedge (y \in N(a; G))).$$

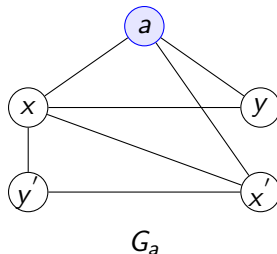
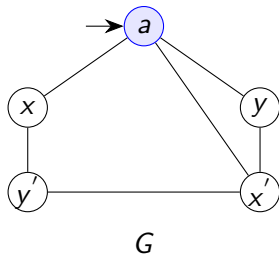


# Local complement of a graph with respect to vertex $a$

## Definition (Local complement of a graph with respect to a vertex)

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $a \in V$  be any arbitrary vertex of  $G$ . Then the *local complement* of  $G$  with respect to  $a$  on  $A$ , denoted as  $G_a$ , defined as reversing the relation of the adjacency between the neighbors. In other words,  $E(G)$  is defined as follows:

$$\forall (x, y) \in V \times V, [((x, y) \in E(G_a)) \iff (R_1 \vee R_2)].$$



# Some notations

- Let  $A = V(G)$ .
- String over  $A$ : It is a finite sequence of elements from  $A$ .
- Kleene star of  $A$ : The Kleene star of  $A$ , denoted as  $A^*$ , is the set of all finite sequence of elements of  $A$ . In other words,

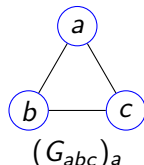
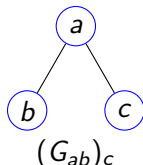
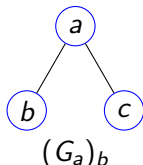
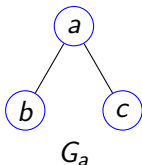
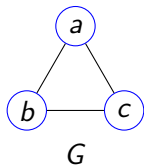
$$A^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} A^i.$$

- We use  $\varepsilon$  to denote the empty string.
- Reverse of a string: reverse of  $w = w_1 w_2 w_3 \cdots w_{n-2} w_{n-1} w_n$  is  $w^R = w_n w_{n-1} w_{n-2} \cdots w_3 w_2 w_1$



# Local complement of a graph with respect to a string

- Let  $G = (A, E(G))$  be a graph and  $a \in A$ .
- Let  $w \in A^*$  be any string.
- We define the local complement of  $G$  with respect to a string  $w$ , denoted as  $G_w$ , inductively as follows:
  - Base case:  $G_\varepsilon = G$ .
  - Inductive case:  $G_{w'a} = (G_{w'})_a$ .



# Local complement of a graph with respect to a string

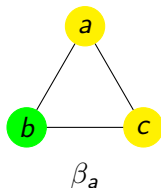
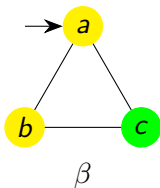
- $u \sim w \iff G_u = G_w$  where  $u, w \in A^*$
- $a^2 \sim \varepsilon$
- $ww^R \sim \varepsilon$  where  $w \in A^*$  and  $w^R$  is reverse of  $w$
- $a \sim \varepsilon \iff a$  is a pendant vertex

# a new bicoloration $\beta_a$

- 1 Invert the color of a vertex  $x$  if and only if  $x$  is an adjacent vertex of  $a$ .
- 2 In other words,  $\beta_a(x)$  is a function from the set  $A$  of vertices of  $G$  into a set of binary colors and is defined as follows:

$$\beta_a(x) = -\beta(x), \text{ if } x \in V(a; G)$$

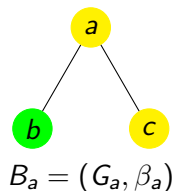
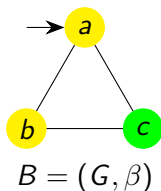
$$\beta_a(x) = \beta(x), \text{ otherwise}$$



# local inversion of a bicolored graph $B$

- Let  $B = (G, \beta)$  be a bicolored graph
- Let  $a$  be a pivot vertex.
- Let  $G_a$  be the local complement of  $G$  with respect to  $a$
- Let  $\beta_a$  be a new bicoloration.

Then the local inversion of  $B$  at  $a$ , denoted as  $B_a$ , is the 2-tuple  $B_a = (G_a, \beta_a)$ .



# Complemented neighbors of a set of vertices with respect to a subset

- Let  $G = (A, E(G))$  be a graph and  $X \subset U \subset A$ .
- The complemented neighbours of  $U$  with respect to  $X$ , denoted as  $A_U(X, G)$ , defined as the set of those vertices none of which belong to  $U$  but  $X$  is the largest common subset of both, the set of their adjacency vertices as well as  $U$ .
- Mathematically,

$$A_U(X, G) = \{x \in A \setminus U : V(x; G) \cap U = X\}.$$

# Computing local inversion

- $U = \{a, b\}$
- $X \in \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{a, b\}\}$
- Let  $N_1 = A_{ab}(a, G)$ ,  $N_2 = A_{ab}(b, G)$ , and  $N_3 = A_{ab}(ab, G)$

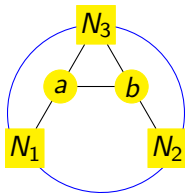
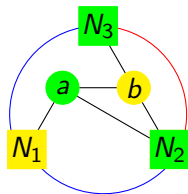
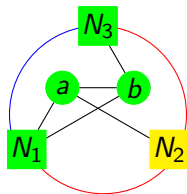
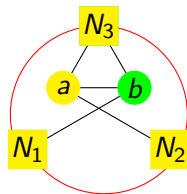
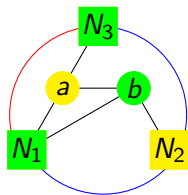
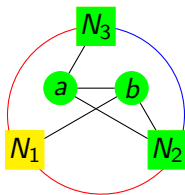
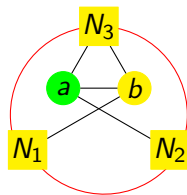


Figure:  $B$

# Computing $B_{bab}$

Figure:  $B_b$ Figure:  $B_{ba}$ Figure:  $B_{bab}$

# Computing $B_{aba}$

Figure:  $B_a$ Figure:  $B_{ab}$ Figure:  $B_{aba}$



# Lemma 3

- Let  $G = (A, E(G))$  be a graph.
- Let  $(a, b) \in E(G)$ .
- Then the two local complementations of  $G$  with respect to two strings  $aba$  and  $bab$  have the same underlying structure.
- The two graphs, namely  $G_{aba}$  and  $G_{bab}$  have the same underlying structure.

# Lemma 3 continued

We define a function  $h_u : V_G \mapsto \{1, -1\}$  as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} h_u(x) &= -1, \text{ if } x = u \\ &= 1, \text{ otherwise} \end{aligned}$$

We have the following expressions:

- $\beta_{aba} = \beta h_a$ , and
- $\beta_{bab} = \beta h_b$ .

# Lemma 3 continued

- Lemma: Let  $G = (A, E(G))$  be a graph. Let  $(a, b) \in E(G)$ . Then the two local complementations of  $G$  with respect to two strings  $aba$  and  $bab$  have the same underlying structure. In other words, the two graphs, namely  $G_{aba}$  and  $G_{bab}$  have the same underlying structure.
- $G_{aba} = G_{bab}$

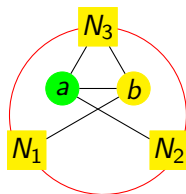


Figure:  $B_{aba}$

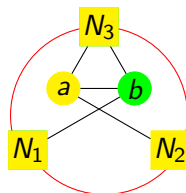


Figure:  $B_{bab}$

# Lemma 1

Lemma: Let  $G = (A, E(G))$  be a graph. Let  $(a, b) \in E(G)$ . Then performing local inversion successively at  $a, b, a, b, a, b$  reproduces the graph  $G$  with colors of the vertex  $a$  and  $b$  are reversed and all other colors unchanged.

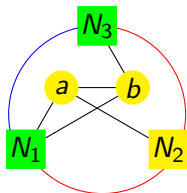


Figure:  $B_{(aba)b}$

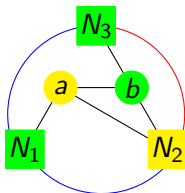


Figure:  $B_{(aba)ba}$

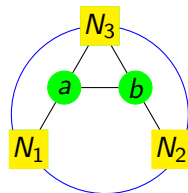


Figure:  $B_{(aba)bab}$

# Lemma 2

## Lemma

Let  $\Delta = abc$  be a triangle in  $G$ . Then performing local inversion successively at  $a, b, a, c, b, a, c$  reproduces the same graph  $G$  with the color of the vertex  $a$  reversed and all other colors unchanged.

Let  $a_0, a_1, a_2$  be the three vertices of a triangle in  $G$ . Then

$$G_{(a_0 a_1 a_0)(a_1 a_2 a_1)(a_2 a_0 a_2)} = G_{\varepsilon}.$$

**Proof:** Let  $u_0 = a_0 a_1 a_0$ ,  $u_1 = a_1 a_2 a_1$ , and  $u_2 = a_2 a_0 a_2$ . Then we have the following results from Lemma-3:

- ①  $G_0 = G$ ,
- ②  $G_1 = (G_0)_{u_0}$ ,
- ③  $G_2 = (G_1)_{u_1}$ ,
- ④  $G_3 = G_0 = (G_2)_{u_2}$

# Lemma-2 Proof continued...

Let us consider the following three partitions:

- $P_0 = A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(X, G_0)$
- $P_1 = A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(X, G_1)$
- $P_2 = A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(X, G_2)$
- $X \subseteq \{a_0, a_1, a_2\} \implies X \subseteq 2^{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}$  Therefore,  
 $X \in \{\emptyset, \{a_0\}, \{a_1\}, \{a_2\}, \{a_0, a_1\}, \{a_1, a_2\}, \{a_0, a_2\}, \{a_0, a_1, a_2\}\}.$
- $A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(X, G_0)$  defines blocks of  $P_0$ .

Let us denote the blocks of  $P_0$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 Y_0 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\emptyset, G) = \{\emptyset\} \\
 Y_1 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_0\}, G) = \{x\} \\
 Y_2 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_1\}, G) = \{y\} \\
 Y_3 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_2\}, G) = \{z\} \\
 Y_4 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_0, a_1\}, G) = \{p\} \\
 Y_5 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_0, a_2\}, G) = \{r\} \\
 Y_6 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_1, a_2\}, G) = \{q\} \\
 Y_7 &= A_{\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}}(\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}, G) = \{s\}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Lemma-2 Proof continued...

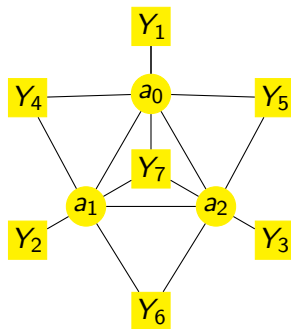


Figure: Blocks of  $P_0$

Now we will apply lemma-3 on  $G_i$  and  $e_i$ , where  $e_i = [a_i, a_{i+1}]$  where  $i = 0, 1, 2$ .

$$G_0 \xrightarrow{a_0 a_1 a_0} G_1$$

- Apply Lemma-3 on  $G_0$  and  $e_0 = [a_0, a_1]$ . That is apply local inversion in order  $a_0, a_1, a_0$ .
- Note:  $u_0 = (a_0, a_1, a_0)$
- $G_0 \xrightarrow{a_0, a_1, a_0} G_1$

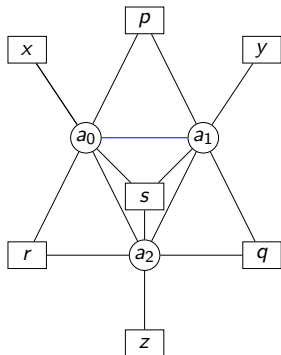


Figure:  $G_0 = G$

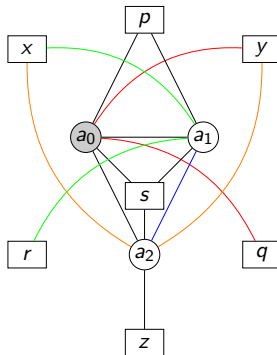


Figure:  $G_1 = (G_0)_{a_0 a_1 a_0}$



# Outcomes of $G_0 \xrightarrow{a_0 a_1 a_0} G_1$

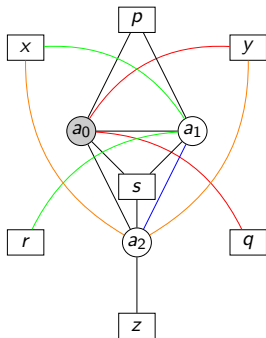
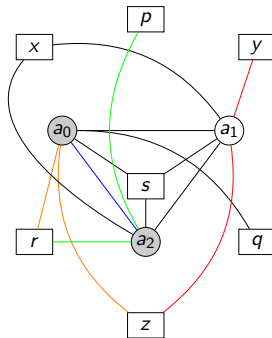
- $N_{01}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_0$  only =  $\{x\} \cup \{r\}$
- $N_{02}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_1$  only =  $\{y\} \cup \{q\}$
- $N_{03}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  simultaneously =  $\{p\} \cup \{s\} \cup \{a_2\}$

Applying Local Inversion in sequence  $a_0 a_1 a_0$  changes the adjacency as follows:

- By lemma-3,  $N_{01}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_1$  and non-adjacent to  $a_0$ .
- $N_{02}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_0$  and non-adjacent to  $a_1$ .
- $N_{03}$  remains adjacent to  $a_0, a_1$ .
- Adjacency between  $N_{01}, N_{02}, N_{03}$  are reversed. Therefore,  $x, y$  become adjacent to  $a_2$ .
- Color of  $a_0$  is reversed.
- Colors of all other vertices are unchanged.

$$G_1 \xrightarrow{a_2, a_1, a_2} G_2$$

- Apply Lemma-3 on  $G_1$  and  $e_1 = [a_1, a_2]$ . That is apply local inversion in order  $a_1, a_2, a_1$ .
- Note:  $u_1 = (a_1, a_2, a_1)$
- Note:  $a_1, a_2, a_1 \sim a_2, a_1, a_2$ . **Therefore we will apply lemma-3 in order  $a_2, a_1, a_2$ .**
- $G_1 \xrightarrow{a_2, a_1, a_2} G_2$

Figure:  $G_1$ Figure:  $G_2 = (G_1)_{a_2 a_1 a_2}$

# Outcomes of $G_1 \xrightarrow{a_2 a_1 a_2} G_2$

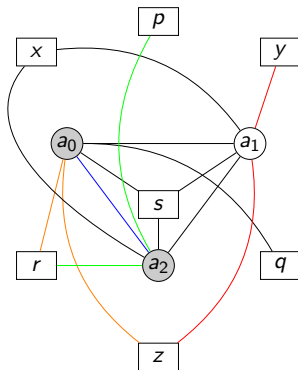
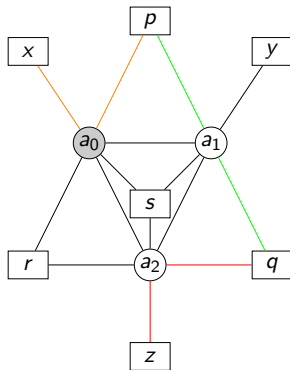
- $N_{11}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_2$  only =  $\{z\} \cup \{y\}$
- $N_{12}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_1$  only =  $\{r\} \cup \{p\}$
- $N_{13}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_2$  and  $a_1$  simultaneously =  $\{s\} \cup \{x\} \cup \{a_0\}$

Applying Local Inversion in sequence  $a_2 a_1 a_2$  changes the adjacency as follows:

- By lemma-3,  $N_{11}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_1$  and non-adjacent to  $a_2$ .
- $N_{12}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_2$  and non-adjacent to  $a_1$ .
- $N_{13}$  remains adjacent to  $a_2, a_1$ .
- Adjacency between  $N_{11}, N_{12}, N_{13}$  are reversed. Therefore,  $z, r$  become adjacent to  $a_0$  and  $y, p$  become non-adjacent to  $a_0$ .
- Color of  $a_2$  is reversed.
- Colors of all other vertices are unchanged.

# Outcomes of $G_2 \xrightarrow{a_2 a_0 a_2} G_3$

- Apply Lemma-3 on  $G_2$  and  $e_2 = [a_2, a_0]$ . That is apply local inversion in order  $a_2, a_0, a_2$ .
- We will apply lemma-3 in order  $a_2, a_0, a_2$ .
- $G_2 \xrightarrow{a_2, a_0, a_2} G_3$

Figure:  $G_2$ Figure:  $G_3 = (G_2)_{a_2 a_0 a_2} = G_0 = G$

# Outcomes of $G_2 \xrightarrow{a_2 a_0 a_2} G_3$

- $N_{21}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_2$  only =  $\{p\} \cup \{x\}$
- $N_{22}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_0$  only =  $\{q\} \cup \{z\}$
- $N_{23}$  : blocks adjacent to  $a_2$  and  $a_0$  simultaneously =  $\{s\} \cup \{r\} \cup \{a_1\}$

Applying Local Inversion in sequence  $a_2 a_0 a_2$  changes the adjacency as follows:

- By lemma-3,  $N_{21}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_0$  and non-adjacent to  $a_2$ .
- $N_{22}$  becomes adjacent to  $a_2$  and non-adjacent to  $a_0$ .
- $N_{23}$  remains adjacent to  $a_2, a_0$ .
- Adjacency between  $N_{21}, N_{22}, N_{23}$  are reversed. Therefore,  $p, q$  become adjacent to  $a_1$  and  $x, z$  become non-adjacent to  $a_1$ .
- Color of  $a_2$  is reversed.
- Colors of all other vertices are unchanged.

# Lemma-2 Proof continued...

- $u_0 u_1 u_2 = (a_0 a_1 a_0)(a_1 a_2 a_1)(a_2 a_0 a_2) \sim$   
 $(a_0 a_1 a_0)(a_2 a_1 a_2)(a_2 a_0 a_2) \sim a_0 a_1 a_0 a_2 a_1 a_0 a_2 = w = \varepsilon$
- $a_0 \rightarrow a, a_1 \rightarrow b, a_2 \rightarrow c$
- $a_0 a_1 a_0 a_2 a_1 a_0 a_2 = a, b, a, c, b, a, c \sim \varepsilon$
- From Lemma-3,  $\beta_w = \beta h_{a_0} h_{a_2}^2 = \beta h_{a_0}$
- That means, after applying local inversion in sequence  $w$ , color of vertex  $a$  is reversed, with colors of other vertices unchanged.

# Evolution of adjacency between vertices in different blocks of $P$

Consider the sets:

$$N_{i1} = A_i(a_i, G_i), N_{i2} = A_i(a_i, G_i), N_{i3} = A_i(a_i, G_i)$$

where  $A_i$  is short for  $A_{a_i a_{i+1}}$ . We have the following equations:

- $N_{i1} = A(a_i, G_i) \cup A(a_i a_{i+2}, G_i)$
- $N_{i2} = A(a_{i+1}, G_i) \cup A(a_{i+1} a_{i+2}, G_i)$
- $N_{i1} = A(a_i a_{i+1}, G_i) \cup A(\Delta, G_i) \cup a_{i+2}$

$G_0$	$G_1$	$G_2$
$N_{01} = Y_1 \cup Y_5 = \{x\} \cup \{r\}$	$N_{11} = Y_5 \cup Y_4 = \{z\} \cup \{y\}$	$N_{21} = Y_4 \cup Y_1 = \{p\} \cup \{x\}$
$N_{02} = Y_2 \cup Y_6 = \{y\} \cup \{q\}$	$N_{12} = Y_3 \cup Y_2 = \{r\} \cup \{p\}$	$N_{21} = Y_6 \cup Y_3 = \{z\} \cup \{q\}$
$N_{03} = Y_4 \cup Y_7 \cup a_2 = \{p\} \cup \{s\} \cup \{a_2\}$	$N_{13} = Y_1 \cup Y_7 \cup a_0 = \{x\} \cup \{s\} \cup \{a_0\}$	$N_{23} = Y_5 \cup Y_7 \cup a_1 = \{r\} \cup \{s\} \cup \{a_1\}$

- Let  $x \in Y_r, y \in Y_s, r \neq s$ . Then we have that  $[x, y] \notin E(G_{i+1}) \iff [x, y] \in E(G_i)$  and  $Y_r \subset N_{ij}, Y_s \subset N_{ik}, j \neq k$ .
- The number of times the adjacency between  $x$  and  $y$  is changed to its complement is either zero or two.
- Therefore, adjacency between different blocks remains same as original graph.

# Theorem

Let  $G$  be a connected bicolored graph of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $G$  can be color-reversed by local inversion in  $6n + 3$  moves. More generally, given two arbitrary bicolorations  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  of  $G$ , then  $\beta'$  can be obtained from  $\beta$  in  $\leq 9n$  moves.

## Proof:

- From lemma-1, that simultaneous color reversal of two adjacent vertices takes 6 steps.
- Let  $G$  be a graph of even number of vertices. By using Perfect Forest Theorem, we can always get spanning forests of graph  $G$  such that every nodes of this forest have odd degree.
- Therefore, if the spanning forests of graph  $G$  have  $m$  edges, then reversing the color of vertices of  $G$  using lemma-1 will take  $6m$  moves.



# Theorem

## Proof continued:

- If graph  $G$  has odd number of vertices say  $n$ , then we can split this graph into two induced subgraphs say  $G_1$  having  $n - 1$  vertices (even number of vertices) and  $G_2$  having remaining one vertex.
- We can obtain perfect forests out of induced subgraph  $G_1$  and reverse the colors of these  $n - 1$  vertices using lemma-1 in  $\leq 6(n - 1)$  moves.
- After reversing the color of  $G_1$ , consider the original graph  $G$ , then perform lemma-2 operations on vertex of  $G_2$  in  $G$  which will take at most 9 (*7 moves if this vertex is a part of a triangle already, else make it a part of triangle by using local complement, which will take at most 2 more moves to do and undo at the end*) moves.
- Therefore, if  $G$  has odd number of vertices then its vertices can be color reversed in  $\leq 6(n - 1) + 9$  i.e.  $\leq 6n + 3$  steps.

# Sagartanu's Thesis

Local complementation is an equivalence relation.

- $G \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} G$  : Reflexive
- If  $G \xrightarrow{w} G'$  then  $G' \xrightarrow{w^R} G$  : Symmetric
- If  $G \xrightarrow{w_1} G'$  and  $G' \xrightarrow{w_2} G''$  then  $G \xrightarrow{w_1 w_2} G''$  : Transitive

## Local complement equivalent graphs

- $G$  and  $G'$  are equivalent if one can be generated from the other.
- Each equivalence class is known as an orbit.
- For a graph class  $\mathcal{G}$ , we refer to an orbit as a  $\mathcal{G}$  orbit if every graph  $G$  in the orbit belongs to  $\mathcal{G}$ .

# Sagartanu's Thesis

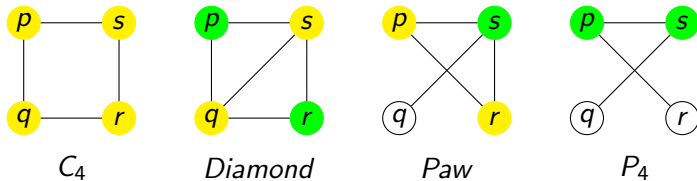


Figure: Equivalent Graphs

# Observations

- ① A graph  $G$  in an  $H$  – free orbit is  $\mathcal{H}$  – free, where  $\mathcal{H}$  is the orbit of  $H$ .
- ②  $K_t$  and  $K_{1,t-1}$  form an orbit.
- ③ A graph  $G$  belongs to a  $K_2$  – free orbit if and only if  $G$  is an empty graph.
- ④ A graph  $G$  in a *triangle* – free orbit is a disjoint union of  $K_2$ s and  $K_1$ s.
- ⑤ A graph  $G$  in a complete bipartite orbit is either a  $K_2$  or an empty graph.

## Lemma

A connected component  $G$  of a graph  $X$  in  $K_t$  – free orbit is  $P_{2t-3}$  – free for  $t \geq 4$ .

# Applications

Local complementation has significant applications in quantum computing:

- **Graph states:** Quantum states represented by graphs where vertices represent qubits and edges represent entanglement
- **Local complementation:** Corresponds to local Clifford operations on graph states
- **Color reversal:** Relates to phase flips across a set of qubits

# References

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Thank you