Extending graph choosability results to paintability

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Joint work with James Carraher, Sarah Loeb, Gregory J. Puleo, Mu-Tsun Tsai, and Douglas West;

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Let's play the Marker/Remover game on $\Theta_{2,2,4}$.



Conclude: Marker has a winning strategy on this graph when each vertex has 2 tokens.

Definitions

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Def. The least such k for which this is true is the paintability or paint number of G and is denoted $\chi_p(G)$.

Obs. Sets removed by Remover form a proper coloring.

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Prop. $\chi(C_5) = 3$.



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Ex. Consider the following strategy for Marker:



Obs. If Marker always marks all available vertices, then the least k such that Remover can win against this strategy is $\chi(G)$.

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Choosability Example

Obs. If $L(v) = \{1, ..., k\}$ for all $v \in V(G)$, then the least such k for which G is L-colorable is $\chi(G)$, thus $\chi(G) \le \chi_{\ell}(G)$.
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Ex. Consider the same example for paintability.

Obs. If Marker's strategy mimics list assignments by marking vertices whose list has color *i* on the *i*th round, then the least *k* such that Remover has a winning strategy against all *L* having list of size *k* is $\chi_{\ell}(G)$.



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Obs. Similarly, Marker could list moves ahead of time, but an adaptive strategy may be better.

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- ► Planar Graphs: $\chi_{\ell}(G) \le \chi_{p}(G) \le 5$ if G is planar (Thomassen [1994], Schauz [2009])

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Ques. What analogous bounds hold for paintability?

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Thm. For any graph *G*, there exists $t_0 \in \mathbb{N}$ such that if $t > t_0$, then $G \oplus K_t$ is chromatic-paintable.
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Obs. Determining when $K_{\ell,r}$ is $(\ell - 1)$ -paintable is different and more complicated than $(\ell - 1)$ -choosable.

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Obs. The natural inequality $\chi_{sc}(G) \leq \chi_{sp}(G)$ holds.

Lem. Adding a leaf to *G* increases $\chi_{sp}(G)$ by 2. When $e \ge 3$, adding an ear with *e* edges increases $\chi_{sp}(G)$ by 2e - 1.

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Cor. These Lemmas determine the sum-paintability of generalized theta-graphs.

Obs. Let b(G) = |V(G)| + |E(G)|. For any graph G, $\chi_{sc}(G) \le \chi_{sp}(G) \le b(G)$.

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Thm. (Isaak [2004]) If each block in *G* is sc-greedy, then *G* is sc-greedy.

Thm. (BBBD [2006]) Cycles, trees, complete graphs, and line graphs of trees are all sc-greedy.

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Thm. (Isaak [2004]) If each block in *G* is sc-greedy, then *G* is sc-greedy.

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Obs. Adding leaves and ears of length at least 3 to an sp-greedy graph creates another sp-greedy graph.

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Cor. $\chi_{sp}(G) - \chi_{sc}(G)$ can be arbitrarily large.

Ques. Can $\chi_{\rho}(G) - \chi_{\ell}(G) > 1$? If so, by how much?

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Ques. What other choosability results hold for paintability?