

The Incidence Chromatic Number of 2-connected 1-trees

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Abstract In this paper, the structural properties of 1-trees are discussed in details firstly. Based on the properties of 1-trees, the incidence chromatic number of 2-connected 1-trees can be determined.

Keywords 1-tree; Incidence set; Incidence chromatic number

1 Introduction

The incidence coloring of graph is introduced by Brualdi and Massey^[1] for solving Erdős' strong edge coloring's Conjecture in 1993.

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph of order n and of size m . Let $I = \{(v, e) : v \in V, e \in E, v \text{ is incident with } e\}$ be the set of incidences of G . We say that two incidences (v, e) and (w, f) are neighborly iff one of the following conditions satisfies:

- (1) $v = w$; (2) $e = f$; (3) the edge $\{v, w\}$ equals e or f .

We define an incidence coloring of G to be a coloring of its incidences in which neighborly incidences are assigned different colors. The incidence chromatic number of G denoted by $\chi_i(G)$ is the smallest number of colors in an incidence coloring.

The incidence chromatic number and the strong chromatic number of graphs have close relations. A strong edge coloring^[2] of G is a coloring of the edges of G in which the edges with the same colors form an induced matching. The strong chromatic number $sq(G)$ equals the smallest number of colors in a strong edge coloring. Let H be the bipartite multigraph of order $n + m$ with bipartition V, E in which v_i is adjacent to e_j iff v_i is incident with e_j in G . An incidence coloring of G corresponds to a partition of the edges of H into induced matchings. Thus $\chi_i(G) = sq(H)$.

Therefore, the determination of the incidence chromatic number of a graph is a fascinating question. The incidence coloring number of complete graphs, complete bipartite graphs and trees are determined in [1]. Putting forward the following Conjecture:

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Conjecture: Every graph can be incident colored with $\Delta + 2$ colors, namely $\chi_i(G) \leq \Delta + 2$ where Δ is the maximum degree of G .

In [3], it is proved that the above conjecture is not true using Paley graphs. [3] presented that the upper bound for the incidence chromatic number of a graph is $\Delta + O(\log \Delta)$. [5] determined the incidence coloring number of paths, cycles, fans, wheels, adding-edge wheels and complete multipartite graphs. [6] determined the incidence coloring number of $P_n \times P_m$ and generalized complete graphs. [7] determined the incidence chromatic number of Halin graphs and outerplane graphs ($\Delta \geq 4$). [8] determined the incidence chromatic number of cubic graphs.

Let G be a plane graph. If $\exists v \in V(G)$ such that $G - v$ is a forest, G is called 1-tree, and v is called a root vertex. A vertex with degree k in a graph G is called a k -vertex. For a incidence coloring f of G , $v \in V(G)$, $N(v) = \{u | uv \in E(G), u \in V(G)\}$. We call $f[v] = \{f(v, vu), u \in N(v)\}$ is the near incidence set of v , and $f(v) = \{f(u, uv), u \in N(v)\}$ is the far incidence set of v . Let $f(vu)$ denote $\{f(v, vu), f(u, uv)\}$, and $f[v]$ denote $\{f(vu) | u \in N_G(v)\}$.

In addition, other terms and notations not stated can be found in [9].

2 Structural properties of 1-trees

Lemma 2.1^[4] If F is a forest, then $|V_1(F)| \geq \Delta(F)$, where $V_1(F)$ denotes all 1-vertices of F .

Lemma 2.2^[4] If T is tree with $\Delta(T) \geq 2$, then $|S(T)| \geq 1$ and $|S(T)| = 1$ iff $T \cong K_{1,p-1}$, where $(S(T) = \cup_{0 \leq i \leq 1} V_i(T - V_1(T)))$.

Lemma 2.3^[4] If G is a 2-connected 1-tree, then $\delta(G) \leq 2$.

In this paper, we discuss 2-connected 1-trees G . Hence, $\delta(G) = 2$ and G is cycle when $\Delta(G) = 2$. The incidence chromatic number of cycles has been determined. Therefore, we discuss $\Delta(G) \geq 3$ in the following.

In the following discussions, we denote a plane graph S_p with p vertices $u, v, x_1, \dots, x_{p-2}$ and $2p - 4$ edges $ux_1, ux_2, \dots, ux_{p-2}, vx_1, \dots, vx_{p-2}$. $\overline{S_p}$ has the same vertex set with S_p , and $E(\overline{S_p}) = E(S_p) \cup \{uv\}$.

For $p \geq 6$, $S_p^1, S_p^2, \dots, S_p^k$ ($k = p - 5$), are a family of plane graphs with the same vertex set with S_p . $E(S_p^1) = E(S_p) \setminus \{ux_1, vx_2\} \cup \{x_1x_2\}$, $E(S_p^2) = E(S_p^1) \setminus \{vx_3\} \cup \{x_1x_3\}$, $E(S_p^3) = E(S_p^2) \setminus \{vx_4\} \cup \{x_1x_4\}$, \dots . We denote the family of graphs by \mathfrak{K} . The maximum degree of every graph of \mathfrak{K} is $p - 3$.

Lemma 2.4^[4] If G is a 2-connected 1-tree with $\Delta(G) \geq 3$, then at least one of the following cases is true:

- 1) There are two adjacent 2-vertices u and v ;
- 2) There is a 3-face uvw such that $d(u) = 2$ and $d(v) = 3$;
- 3) There is a 4-cycle $uxvyu$ whose interior contains at most one edge xy and $d(u) = d(v) = 2$, $d(x) \leq \Delta(G) - 1$;
- 4) $G \cong S_p$ or $G \cong \overline{S_p}$.

Lemma 2.5 Let G be a 2-connected 1-tree and t be the root vertex of G , then $d_G(t) = \Delta(G)$.

Proof: Let $F = G - t$. Since G is 2-connected 1-tree, $\delta(G) = 2$ and $V_1(F) \subseteq N_G(t)$. If G is cycle, the conclusion is true. When G is not cycle, suppose $d_G(t) < \Delta(G)$, then there exists $v \in V(F)$, $d_G(v) = \Delta(G)$. If $vt \notin E(G)$, then $d_G(v) = d_F(v)$. By Lemma 2.1, $\Delta(G) = \Delta(F) \leq |V_1(F)| \leq |d_G(t)| < \Delta(G)$. The contradiction occurs. If $vt \in E(G)$, by Lemma 2.1, $\Delta(G) - 1 \leq \Delta(F) \leq |V_1(F)| \leq |d_G(t)| - 1 < \Delta(G) - 1$. There is also contradiction. Therefore, $d_G(t) = \Delta(G)$.

Lemma 2.6 Let G be a 2-connected 1-tree and t be the root vertex. For any $x, y \in V(G) \setminus \{t\}$, $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 2$.

Proof: Let G be a 2-connected 1-tree, $F = G - t$, and F be a tree and $V_1(F) \subseteq N_G(t)$. $\forall x, y \in V(F)$, $d_F(x) - 1 + d_F(y) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G)$.

1) If $xt, yt \notin E(G)$, then $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 2$.

2) If one of $xt \in E(G)$ and $yt \in E(G)$ is correct, without loss of generality, we assume $xt \in E(G)$. If x is a leaf of F , $d_G(x) = 2$, $d_F(y) = d_G(y) \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G)$, hence $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 2$. If x isn't a leaf of F , $(d_G(x) - 1) - 1 + d_G(y) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G) - 1$, $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 2$

3) If $xt, yt \in E(G)$, x and y are leaves of F . The conclusion is true. When x and y are not leaves of F , $(d_G(x) - 1) - 1 + (d_G(y) - 1) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G) - 2$, and $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 2$. When one of x and y is a leaf of F , the proof similar to the case 2).

Therefore, The conclusion is true.

Lemma 2.7 Let G be a 2-connected 1-tree and t be a root vertex. If $\exists x, y \in V(G) \setminus \{t\}$ such that $d_G(x) + d_G(y) = \Delta + 2$, then $\forall z \in V(G) \setminus \{x, y, t\}$, $d_G(z) = 2$.

Proof(disproof): Let $F = G - t$. $\forall z \in V(G) \setminus \{x, y, t\}$. Suppose that $d_G(z) \geq 3$. Since G is 2-connected, F is a tree and $|V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G)$.

Case 1 $zt \in E(G)$, then $|V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G) - 1$. For $\forall x, y \in V(G) \setminus \{t\}$, $d_F(x) - 1 + d_F(y) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)|$.

Subcase 1.1 $xt, yt \notin E(G)$, then $d_G(x) = d_F(x)$ and $d_G(y) = d_F(y)$. Therefore, $d_G(x) - 1 + d_G(y) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)|$, that is $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 1$. There is contradiction with the proposition.

Subcase 1.2 One of $xt \in E(G)$ and $yt \in E(G)$ is true, without loss of generality, we assume $xt \notin E(G)$ and $yt \in E(G)$. Thus, $d_G(x) = d_F(x)$, $d_G(y) = d_F(y) + 1$, and $d_G(x) - 1 + (d_G(y) - 1) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)|$. If y is a leaf of F , then $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 1$. If y isn't a leaf of F , then $|V_1(F)| \leq \Delta - 2$, and $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 1$. There is contradiction with the proposition.

Subcase 1.3 $xt, yt \in E(G)$, there are three cases as the following:

1) x is a leaf and y isn't a leaf, then $d_G(y) = d_F(y) + 1 \leq |V_1(F)| + 1 \leq (\Delta - 2) + 1 = \Delta - 1$, and $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 1$.

2) x and y are all leaves, then $d_G(x) + d_G(y) = 4$.

3) x and y are all not leaves, then $(d_G(x) - 1) - 1 + (d_G(y) - 1) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta - 2$. That is $d_G(x) + d_G(y) \leq \Delta + 1$. There is contradiction with the proposition.

Case 2 $zt \notin E(G)$, then $\forall x, y \in V(G) \setminus \{t\}$, $d_F(x) - 1 + d_F(y) - 1 + d_F(z) - 1 \leq |V_1(F)| \leq \Delta(G)$. There are also three subcases, and the proof is similar to Case1.

Lemma 2.8 If G is a 2-connected 1- tree and G is not cycle, then the number of the maximum degree vertex of G is at most 2. When there are two maximum degree vertices, other vertices are 2-degree vertices.

Proof: Suppose that there are three maximum degree vertices x, y, z . Let x be the root vertex. By Lemma 2.6, $d_G(y) + d_G(z) \leq \Delta + 2$, namely $\Delta \leq 2$. Since G is 2-connected, $\delta(G) = 2$. It is contradict with that G isn't cycle. Hence, the number of the maximum degree vertex of G is at most 2.

Let x and y be two maximum degree vertices of G , and x be a root vertex. $\forall z \in V(G) \setminus \{x, y\}$, by Lemma 2.6, $d_G(y) + d_G(z) \leq \Delta + 2$, $d(z) \leq 2$, and $\delta(G) = 2$. Therefore, $d(z) = 2$. The conclusion is true.

3 Incidence chromatic number of 2-connected 1-trees

Lemma 3.1^[1,5] For any graphs G with the maximum degree Δ , $\chi_i(G) \geq \Delta + 1$.

Lemma 3.2^[7] Let the maximum degree of G be Δ and there exist a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring. The far incidence of the maximum degree vertex is colored the same color.

For $S_p, \overline{S_p}$ and the graphs of \aleph , there are the following three Lemmas.

Lemma 3.3 For $p \geq 5$, $inc(S_p) = \Delta(S_p) + 2 = p$ and $inc(\overline{S_p}) = \Delta(\overline{S_p}) + 1 = p$.

Proof: Firstly, we construct a p -incidence coloring f of S_p , and $f : I(S_p) \rightarrow C = \{1, 2, \dots, p\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(u, ux_i) &= f(v, vx_i) = i, i = 1, 2, \dots, p - 2, \\ f(x_i, x_i u) &= p - 1, f(x_i, x_i v) = p, i = 1, 2, \dots, p - 2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $\chi_i(S_p) \leq p$. Now we prove $\chi_i(S_p) \geq p$

If S_p isn't satisfied, there is $\chi_i(S_p) \leq p - 1 = \Delta(S_p) + 1$. u and v are the maximum degree vertices. If f is a $(\Delta(S_p) + 1)$ -incidence coloring of S_p , then the near incidence of u and v need $\Delta(S_p)$ colors. The other two colors far incidence coloring of u and v is needed at least one color same to $f[u] \cup f[v]$. This is contradict with the definition of incidence coloring. Hence, $\chi_i(S_p) \geq p$, and $\chi_i(S_p) = p$.

For $\overline{S_p}$, we may get by the incidence coloring of S_p . If the colors of the far incidence of u and v color the same color, we get a p -incidence coloring of $\overline{S_p}$. Hence $inc(\overline{S_p}) = p$.

Lemma 3.4 For $p \geq 6$, the incidence coloring number of graphs of graph family \aleph is $p - 2$.

Proof: By Lemma 3.1, if only we give a $(p - 2)$ -incidence coloring of \aleph . Now we construct an incidence coloring f of S_p^k , $f : I(S_p^k) \rightarrow C = \{1, 2, \dots, p - 2\}$. Let the vertex set be $\{u, v, x_1, \dots, x_{p-2}\}$.

$$f(u, ux_i) = i, f(x_i, x_i u) = f(x, xx_1) = 1, i = 2, \dots, p - 2.$$

$f(v, vx_i) = f(u, ux_i), f(x_1, x_1v) = f(x_i, x_iv) = 2, i = 2 + k, \dots, p - 2, 1 \leq k \leq p - 5.$

$f(x_1, x_1x_2) = f(u, ux_{p-2}) = p - 2, f(x_1, x_1x_i) = \dots = f(u, ux_i), i = 3, \dots, 1 + k.$

$f(x_i, x_ix_1) = f(u, ux_{2+k}), i = 2, \dots, 1 + k.$

Hence, the conclusion is true.

Theorem 3.5 If G is a 2-connected 1-tree with the maximum degree $\Delta \geq 3$ and two maximum degree vertices, and $G \neq S_p^1$, then there exists a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring of G , such that the far incidence of every vertex has the same color.

Proof: If G is S_p or \bar{S}_p , the conclusion is true by Lemma 3.3. For other graphs, suppose u and v are two maximum degree vertices. Other vertices of G are 2-vertices by Lemma 2.6. There exists Δ uv -paths with different length. We construct a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring f of $G, f : I(G) \rightarrow C = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 2\}.$

Let $\sum_{i=1}^r k_i = \Delta,$ where k_i denotes the number of the uv -paths whose length is i and $k_1 = 1.$ We color every path in increasing order. Let $f(u) = \Delta + 1$ and $f(v) = \Delta + 2.$ Thus, the far incidences of u and v are colored.

1) For $i = 2,$ we color the near incidences of u and v with the same color and the color is $1, 2, \dots, k_2,$ respectively.

2) For $i = 3,$ let $uu_1^i u_2^i v (i = 1, 2, \dots, k_3)$ be k_3 uv -paths, and let $f(u, uu_1^i) = f(u_2^i, u_2^i u_1^i) = k_2 + i, f(v, vu_2^i) = f(u_1^i, u_1^i u_2^i) = \Delta - i,$ and $i = 1, 2, \dots, k_3.$

3) For $i = 4,$ let $uu_1^i u_2^i u_3^i v (i = 1, 2, \dots, k_4)$ be k_4 uv -paths, and $f(u, uu_1^i) = f(u_2^i, u_2^i u_1^i) = k_2 + k_3 + i, f(v, vu_3^i) = f(u_2^i, u_2^i u_3^i) = \Delta - k_3 - i,$ and $f(u_1^i, u_1^i u_2^i) = f(u_3^i, u_3^i u_2^i) = \alpha \in C \setminus \{f(uu_1^i), f(vv_3^i)\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, k_4.$

4) For $i = r,$ let $uu_1^i u_2^i \dots u_{r-1}^i v (i = 1, 2, \dots, k_r)$ are k_r uv -paths, and $f(u, uu_1^i) = f(u_2^i, u_2^i u_1^i) = k_2 + \dots + k_{r-1} + i, f(v, vu_{r-1}^i) = f(u_{r-2}^i, u_{r-2}^i u_{r-1}^i) = \Delta - (k_3 + \dots + k_{r-1}) - 1, i = 1, 2, \dots, k_r.$ For any $u_j^i (j = 2, 3, \dots, r - 2),$ it's the far incidences with at most 4 limits, so there exists colors and $|f(u_j^i)| = 1.$

Therefore, we prove the conclusion.

Theorem 3.6 For $p \geq 7,$ the graphs of graph family \aleph do not have $(p - 1)$ -incidence colors, therefore the far incidence of every vertex is colored the same color.

Proof: $\forall S_p^k \in \aleph, k$ is positive integer and $k \leq p - 5.$ Suppose $V(S_p^k) = \{u, v, x_1, \dots, x_{p-2}\}$ and u is the root vertex. We need $p - 2$ colors to color the far incidences and the near incidences of $u.$ By the definition of incidence coloring and the demand, the far incidences of v and x_1 need the other two different colors.

So, the conclusion is true.

Theorem 3.7 If G is a 2-connected 1-tree with $\Delta \geq 3$ and only one maximum degree vertex, and $G \notin \aleph,$ there exists a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring of $G,$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored with the same color.

Proof: We will proceed by induction on the order p of $G.$ There is $p \geq 4$ by the proposition $\Delta \geq 3.$ When $p = 4,$ it is clear that G is fan $F_4,$ so the result is true. We suppose that the conclusion is correct for graph G with order less than $p (p \geq 5).$

Now, for any graph G with order p , by Lemma 2.4, we can divide the proof into four cases. Let $C = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 2\}$ be the color set.

Case 1 There are two adjacent 2-vertices u and v . Let $N(u) = \{x, v\}$, $N(v) = \{u, y\}$, $H = G - u + xv$, and $d_G(y) < \Delta$ (by proposition only one maximum degree vertex). The order of H is less than p and $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) = \Delta$. By induction hypothesis, H has a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(xu) = f^*(xv)$, $f(v, vu) = f^*(x, xv)$, $f(u, uv) = f(y, yv) = \alpha \in C \setminus \{f^*[y] \cup f^*[x]\}$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

Case 2 There is a 3-face $uvwu$ such that $d_G(u) = 2$ and $d_G(v) = 3$. By Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.8, $d_G(w) = \Delta(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, and $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$. If $H \notin \mathfrak{K}$, by induction hypothesis, H has a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored with the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uw) = f^*(v, vw)$, $f(u, uv) = f^*(w, vw)$, $f(w, wu) = f(v, vu) = \alpha \in C \setminus \{f^*[w] \cup f^*[v]\}$. The incidence coloring of other elements the same to f^* .

If $H \in \mathfrak{K}$, we construct a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring of G . Let $V(G) = \{w, u, v, x, y, v_1, \dots, v_{\Delta-2}\}$ and $E(G) = \{wu, wv, wv_1, \dots, wv_{\Delta-2}\} \cup \{uv, vx, xy\} \cup \{xv_1, \dots, xv_{k-1}\} \cup \{yv_k, \dots, yv_{\Delta-2}\}$, $1 \leq k \leq \Delta - 2$, $f(w, wu) = f(v, vu) = 1$, $f(v) = 2$, and $f(w, wv_i) = 2 + i, i = 1, \dots, \Delta - 2$,

$$f(w) = \Delta + 1, f(x) = \Delta + 2, f(y) = 1,$$

$$f(x, xv_i) = f(w, wv_i) i = 1, \dots, k - 1, f(y, yv_i) = f(w, wv_i) i = k, \dots, \Delta - 2.$$

Clearly, f is an incidence coloring of G which satisfies the demand.

Case 3 There is a 4-cycle $uxvyu$ whose interior contains at most one edge xy , $d_G(u) = d_G(v) = 2$, $d_G(x) \leq \Delta(G) - 1$.

1) $xy \in E(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C' = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 1\}$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is color with the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, ux) = f^*(y, yx)$, $f(u, uy) = f^*(x, xy)$, $f(x, xu) = f(y, yu) = \Delta + 2$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

2) $xy \notin E(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C' = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 1\}$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored with the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 2)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uy) = f^*(v, vy)$, $f(u, ux) = f^*(v, vx)$, $f(y, yu) = f(x, xu) = \Delta + 2$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

Case 4 $G \cong S_p$ or $G \cong \overline{S}_p$. By Lemma3.3, the conclusion is true.

Theorem 3.8 Let G be a 2-connected 1-tree with $\Delta \geq 3$ and $G \neq S_p$ and $G \notin \mathfrak{K}$, $\chi_i(G) = \Delta + 1$.

Proof: We will proceed by induction on the order p of G . There is $p \geq 4$ by the proposition $\Delta \geq 3$. When $p = 4$, clearly, G is fan F_4 , so the result is true. We suppose that the conclusion holds for graph G of order less than p ($p \geq 5$). Now, for

any graph G of order p , by Lemma 2.3, we may divide the proof into four cases. Let $C = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta + 1\}$ be the color set.

Case 1 There are two adjacent 2-vertices u and v . Let $N(u) = \{x, v\}$, $N(v) = \{u, y\}$, and $H = G - u + xv$. The order of H is less than p and $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) = \Delta$. By induction hypothesis, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(xu) = f^*(xv)$, $f(v, vu) = \alpha \in C \setminus \{f^*(vy) \cup f(u, ux)\}$, $f(u, uv) = \beta \in C \setminus \{f(xu) \cup f^*(v, vy) \cup \alpha\}$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

Case 2 There is a 3-face such that $d_G(u) = 2$ and $d_G(v) = 3$. By Lemma 2.4 and Lemma 2.7, w is a root vertex and $d_G(w) = \Delta(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, then $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$. If $H \notin \mathfrak{K}$, by Theorem 3.6 and 3.7, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored with the same color. Next, we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uw) = f^*(v, vw)$, $f(u, uv) = f^*(w, wv)$, $f(v, vu) = \alpha \in C \setminus f^*[v]$, $f(w, wu) = \beta \in C \setminus f^*[w]$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

If $H \in \mathfrak{K}$, by Lemma 3.4, H has a (Δ) -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C' = \{1, 2, \dots, \Delta\}$. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uw) = f^*(v, vw)$, $f(w, wu) = f(v, vu) = \Delta + 1$, $f(u, uv) = f^*(w, wv)$. The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

Case 3 There is a 4-cycle $uxvyu$ whose interior contains at most one edge xy , $d_G(u) = d_G(v) = 2$, $d_G(x) \leq \Delta(G) - 1$, then $d_G(y) = \Delta(G)$.

1) $xy \in E(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, then $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$, and $H \notin \mathfrak{K}$. By Theorem 3.7, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$ such that the far incidence of every color w_i with the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uy) = f^*(x, xy)$, $f(u, ux) = f^*(y, yx)$, $f(y, yu) = \alpha \in C \setminus \{f^*[y]\}$, $f(x, xu) = \beta \in C \setminus f^*[x]$.

2) $xy \notin E(G)$. Let $H = G - u$, then $\Delta(H) = \Delta(G) - 1$. By Theorem 3.7, H has a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring $f^* : I(H) \rightarrow C$ such that the far incidence of every vertex is colored with the same color. Now we extend f^* to a $(\Delta + 1)$ -incidence coloring f of G as follows: $f(u, uy) = f^*(v, vy)$, $f(y, yu) = \alpha \in C \setminus f^*[y]$. If $\alpha \notin f^*[x]$, $f(x, xu) = \alpha$, $f(u, ux) = \beta \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f^*(uy)\}$. If $\alpha \in f^*[x]$, $f(x, xu) = \beta \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f^*(y)\}$, $f(u, ux) = \gamma \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f(u, uy) \cup \beta\}$. If $\alpha \in f^*(x)$, when $d(x) < \Delta - 1$, $f(x, xu) = \beta \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f^*(y)\}$, $f(u, ux) = r \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f^*(y) \cup \beta\}$. When $d(x) = \Delta + 1$, by Lemma 2.7 and Lemma 2.8, G has one only one 3-vertex and other vertices are 2-vertices. Let $f(x) = \beta \in C \setminus \{f^*[x] \cup f^*(y)\}$, $f(x, xu) = \alpha = f(y, yu)$, if the near incidence of adjacent vertices of x is colored β in coloring f^* , since there is at most 4 limitations, we may recolor it.

The incidence coloring of other elements is same to f^* .

Case 4 $G \cong \overline{S}_p$. By Lemma 2.4, the conclusion is correct.

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