

Combinatorial Networks
May 20th-21st, Wednesday

- **Definition.** For graph G , let
 $\alpha(G)$ = the largest size of the independent set (IS) in G ,
 $\omega(G)$ = the largest size of the clique in G ,
 $\chi(G)$ = the chromatic number of G .
- **Fact1.** (1) $\chi(G) \geq \omega(G)$; (2) $|V(G)| \leq \alpha(G)\chi(G)$.
- **Definition.** A graph is *perfect* if for any induced subgraph H of G , we have $\chi(H) = \omega(H)$.
- **Fact2.** Bipartite graph G is perfect.
- **Lemma1.** If G is bipartite, then $\chi(G^c) = \omega(G^c)$

Proof. Let $G = (A, B)$, $|A| = n$, $|B| = m$, M and M^* are the matching and the maximum matching of G , VC and VC^* are the vertex-cover and the minimum vertex-cover of G , then we have

- $n + m - |M| \geq \chi(G^c)$;
- $\omega(G^c) \geq n + m - |VC|$.

So

$$n + m - |M^*| \geq \chi(G^c) \geq \omega(G^c) \geq n + m - |VC^*| \stackrel{\text{König's Theorem}}{=} n + m - |M^*|.$$

Then we get

$$\chi(G^c) = \omega(G^c) = n + m - |M^*| = n + m - |VC^*|.$$

■

- **Remark:** König's Theorem: For bipartite graph G , $\max|M| = \min|VC|$.
- **Thm1(Weak Perfect Graph Theorem:)** G is perfect iff G^c is perfect.

Proof. We use the Theorem:

G is perfect iff for any induced subgraph H of G , $|V(H)| \leq \alpha(H)\omega(H)$. (We will prove it later.)

G is perfect \Leftrightarrow for any induced subgraph H of G , $|V(H)| \leq \alpha(H)\omega(H) \Leftrightarrow$ for any induced subgraph H^c of G^c , $|V(H^c)| \leq \omega(H^c)\alpha(H^c) \Leftrightarrow G^c$ is perfect. ■

- **Thm2:** G is perfect iff for any induced subgraph H of G , $|V(H)| \leq \alpha(H)\omega(H)$.

Proof.

\Rightarrow : G is perfect, then for any induced subgraph H , $\chi(H) = \omega(H)$. By Fact1, $|V(G)| \leq \alpha(G)\chi(G) = \alpha(G)\omega(G)$.

\Leftarrow : By induction on $|V(G)|$.

Suppose every graph with less than n vertices satisfying (*) is perfect.

Suppose G satisfies $(*)$ but is not perfect, then $\chi(G) > \omega(G)$ because $(*)$ is monotone, that is **if $G_1 \subseteq G_2$ and G_2 has $(*)$, then G_1 has $(*)$** .

We will show $n = |V(G)| \geq \alpha(G)\omega(G) + 1$.

- **Claim1:** Suppose U is an IS in G , then $\chi(G \setminus U) = \omega(G \setminus U) = \omega(G)$.

Proof. It's easy to get $\chi(G \setminus U) = \omega(G \setminus U)$ by induction.

Clearly, $\omega(G \setminus U) \leq \omega(G)$.

Suppose not "=", then

$$\chi(G \setminus U) = \omega(G \setminus U) \leq \omega(G) - 1 \leq (\chi(G) - 1) - 1.$$

And we have $\chi(G) \leq \chi(G \setminus U) + 1$.

So $\chi(G) - 1 \leq \chi(G) - 2$. A contradiction!

That means $\omega(G \setminus U) = \omega(G)$.

From now on, we denote $\omega(G) = \omega, \alpha(G) = \alpha$.

- **Claim2:** Let U be an IS and K be a clique with size ω in G , if $K \cap U = \emptyset$, then in any ω -coloring of $G \setminus U$, K intersects in every color class by exactly one vertex; if $K \cap U \neq \emptyset$ (ie. $|K \cap U| = 1$), then K intersects all but one of the color classes of any ω -coloring of $G \setminus U$ by exactly one vertex.

Let $U_0 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_\alpha\}$ be an IS of G with size $\alpha = \alpha(G)$.

Let $U_{(i-1)\omega+1}, U_{(i-1)\omega+2}, \dots, U_{(i-1)\omega+\omega}$ be the color-classes of a ω -coloring in $G \setminus \{v_i\}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha$. All together, we have $\alpha\omega + 1$ IS.

For $0 \leq i \leq \alpha\omega$, let K_i be a clique in $G \setminus U_i$ of size ω .

- **Claim3:** $\forall i \neq j, |K_i \cap U_j| = 1, (i, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \alpha\omega)$.

Proof.

(1) for $i = 0, j = (p-1)\omega + q, p = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha, q = 1, 2, \dots, \omega$,

since $K_0 \cap U_0 = \emptyset$, so $K_0 \cap \{v_p\} = \emptyset$. By Claim2, $|K_0 \cap U_j| = 1$.

(2) for $j = 0, i = (p-1)\omega + q, p = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha, q = 1, 2, \dots, \omega$,

since $v_p \in K_i$ (By Claim2) and $v_p \in K_0$, so $K_i \cap U_0 \neq \emptyset$. Since $|K_i \cap U_0|$ is not more than 1, then $|K_i \cap U_0| = 1$.

(3) for $i = (p_1 - 1)\omega + q_1, j = (p_2 - 1)\omega + q_2, p_1, p_2 = 1, 2, \dots, \alpha, q_1, q_2 = 1, 2, \dots, \omega$, and $i \neq j$,

when $p_1 = p_2$, since $K_i \subseteq G \setminus U_i$, then $K_i \cap U_i = \emptyset$. So $|K_i \cap U_{(p_2-1)\omega+1}|, |K_i \cap U_{(p_2-1)\omega+2}|, \dots, |K_i \cap U_{(p_2-1)\omega+\omega}|$ all are one, that is $|K_i \cap U_j| = 1$.

when $p_2 \neq p_1$, if $K_i \cap U_j = \emptyset$, then $v_{p_2} \in K_i$. But $v_{p_1} \in K_i$, a contradiction! So $|K_i \cap U_j| = 1$.

Let $A = (a_{ij})$ is a $n \times (\alpha\omega + 1)$ matrix with

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } v_i \in U_j, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Let $B = (b_{ij})$ is a $(\alpha\omega + 1) \times n$ matrix with

$$b_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } v_j \in K_i, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{(\alpha\omega+1)(\alpha\omega+1)} = J - I$$

So $n \geq \text{rank}(A) \geq \text{rank}(BA) = \alpha\omega + 1$. This contradiction completes the proof. ■

• **Remark:**

$$\text{Det}(aI_n + bJ_n) = \begin{vmatrix} a+b & b & \cdots & b \\ b & a+b & \cdots & b \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ b & b & \cdots & a+b \end{vmatrix} = (a + nb)a^{n-1}$$

So $\text{Det}(BA) = \alpha\omega(-1)^{\alpha\omega} \neq 0$. It means that $\text{rank}(BA) = \alpha\omega + 1$.