



# Chromatic completion number of corona of path and cycle graphs

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## Abstract

Following the introduction of the notion of chromatic completion of a graph, this paper presents results for the *chromatic completion number* for the corona operations,  $P_n \circ P_m$  and  $P_n \circ C_m$ ,  $n \geq 1$  and  $m \geq 1$ . From the aforesaid a general result for the chromatic completion number of  $P_n \circ K_m$  came to the fore. The paper serves as a basis for further research with regards to the chromatic completion number of corona, join and other graph products.

## Keywords

Chromatic completion number, chromatic completion graph, chromatic completion edge.

## AMS Subject Classification

05C15, 05C38, 05C75, 05C85.

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Article History: Received 5 October 2019; Accepted 12 December 2019

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## 1. Introduction

For general notation and concepts in graphs see [1, 2, 5]. It is assumed that the reader is familiar with the concept of graph coloring. Recall that in a proper coloring of  $G$  all edges are good i.e.  $uv \Leftrightarrow c(u) \neq c(v)$ . For any proper coloring  $\varphi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  the addition of all good edges, if any, is called the chromatic completion of  $G$  in respect of  $\varphi(G)$ . The additional edges are called *chromatic completion edges*. The set of such chromatic completion edges is denoted by,  $E_\varphi(G)$ . The resultant graph  $G_\varphi$  is called a *chromatic completion graph* of  $G$ . See [3] for an introduction to chromatic completion of a graph.

The *chromatic completion number* of a graph  $G$  denoted by,  $\zeta(G)$  is the maximum number of good edges that can be added to  $G$  over all chromatic colorings ( $\chi$ -colorings). Hence,  $\zeta(G) = \max\{|E_\chi(G)| : \text{over all } \varphi_\chi(G)\}$ .

A  $\chi$ -coloring which yields  $\zeta(G)$  is called a *Lucky  $\chi$ -coloring* or simply, a *Lucky coloring* and is denoted by,  $\varphi_\chi(G)$ . The resultant graph  $G_\zeta$  is called a *minimal chromatic completion graph* of  $G$ . It is trivially true that  $G \subseteq G_\zeta$ . Furthermore, the graph induced by the set of completion edges,  $\langle E_\chi \rangle$  is a subgraph of the complement graph,  $\overline{G}$ . See [4] for the notion of stability in respect of chromatic completion.

Recall that perfect Lucky  $\chi$ -coloring<sup>1</sup> of a graph  $G$  is a

<sup>1</sup>Note that for many graphs a perfect Lucky coloring is equivalent to an

graph for which the vertex  $V(G)$  can be partitioned in accordance to Lucky's theorem i.e. in the Lucky partition form,

$$\underbrace{\{\{\lfloor \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rfloor\text{-element}\}, \{\lfloor \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rfloor\text{-element}\}, \dots, \{\lfloor \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rfloor\text{-element}\}\}}_{(\chi(G)-r)\text{-subsets}} \\ \underbrace{\{\{\lceil \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rceil\text{-element}\}, \{\lceil \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rceil\text{-element}\}, \dots, \{\lceil \frac{n}{\chi(G)} \rceil\text{-element}\}\}}_{(r \geq 0)\text{-subsets}}.$$

Else, any graph is always *near* Lucky  $\chi$ -colorable (similar to near equitable colorable). The vertex partition which approximates a Lucky partition closest is called an *optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition*. See [3, 4]. The number of times a color  $c_i$  is assigned in a graph coloring is denoted by,  $\theta_G(c_i)$ . If the graph context is clear we abbreviate as,  $\theta(c_i)$ .

Various graph parameters have been studied in respect of *sensitivity* (how critical) the parameters are in respect of edge deletion, edge addition, vertex deletion or vertex insertion and alike. Note that after chromatic completion of a graph  $G$  which has been assigned a chromatic coloring ( $\chi(G)$  colors), the chromatic completion graph itself has chromatic number,  $\chi(G)$ . However, the addition of one or more further edges will result in an increase in chromatic number. If vertices and edges in a graph  $G$  represent modules (or entities) and initial linkages in machine learning or artificial intelligence configurations, then:

- (a) Different color classes could signal destructive linkages which may not occur and,
- (b) Maximum permissible linkages may be needed to enhance machine learning or artificial intelligence interactive learning.
- (c) In such application the chromatic completion number of  $G$  signals the critical threshold.

Similar applications can be envisioned. This justifies further research into this parameter.

## 2. Chromatic Completion Number of

$$P_n \circ P_m$$

Recall that the corona between graph  $G$  of order  $n$  and graph  $H$  of order  $m$  is obtained by taking  $n$  copies of  $H$  say,  $H_1, H_2, H_3, \dots, H_n$  and adding the edges,  $v_i u_{i,j}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  and  $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$ . Put differently,  $\forall v_i$  construct  $v_i + H_i$  to  $G$ . We say,  $H$  has been *corona'd* with  $G$ .

A path graph (or simply, a path) of order  $n$  denoted by,  $P_n$ , is a graph on  $n \geq 1$  vertices say,  $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $n - 1$  edges namely,  $E(P_n) = \{v_i v_{i+1} : i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1\}$ . In this section we denote,  $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $V(P_m) = \{u_{i,1}, u_{i,2}, u_{i,3}, \dots, u_{i,m}\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  and the edges accordingly. The corona operator (not necessarily commutative) will be,  $P_n \circ P_m$ .

equitable  $\chi$ -coloring. Since it is not generally the case the alias is meant to associate the paper with Lucky's Theorem and the notion of chromatic completion in [3, 4].

For  $P_1 \circ P_1$  it follows that  $\zeta(P_1 \circ P_1) = 0$  because,  $P_1 \circ P_1 \cong K_2$ . Similarly,  $\zeta(P_1 \circ P_2) = 0$  because,  $P_1 \circ P_2 \cong K_3$ . Also,  $\zeta(P_1 \circ P_3) = 0$  because,  $c(u_{1,1}) = c(u_{1,3})$  in any perfect Lucky  $\chi$ -coloring. We recall two important results from [3].

**Lemma 2.1.** [3] For a chromatic coloring  $\varphi : V(G) \mapsto \mathcal{C}$  a pseudo completion graph,  $H(\varphi) = K_{n_1, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_\chi}$  exists such that,

$$\varepsilon(H(\varphi)) - \varepsilon(G) = \sum_{i=1}^{\chi-1} \theta_G(c_i) \theta_G(c_j)_{(j=i+1, i+2, i+3, \dots, \chi)} - \varepsilon(G) \\ \leq \zeta(G).$$

**Corollary 2.1.** [3] Let  $G$  be a graph. Then

$$\zeta(G) = \max\{\varepsilon(H(\varphi)) - \varepsilon(G) : \text{over all } \varphi : V(G) \mapsto \mathcal{C}\}.$$

**Corollary 2.2.** (a) For  $P_1 \circ P_m$ ,  $m \geq 4$  it follows that,  $\zeta(P_1 \circ P_m) = \lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor - (m - 1)$ .

(b) For  $P_n \circ P_1$ ,  $n \geq 2$  it follows that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_1) = n^2 - n + 1$ .

*Proof.* (a) Since  $\chi(P_1 \circ P_m) = 3$  let  $c(v_1) = c_1$ . Clearly  $P_m$  can be assigned a perfect Lucky 2-coloring with the set of colors,  $\{c_2, c_3\}$ . Because  $P_1 \circ P_m \cong P_1 + P_m$ , no chromatic completion edges,  $v_1 u_{1,i}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$  can be added. Hence,  $\zeta(P_1 \circ P_m) = \zeta(P_m) = \lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor - (m - 1)$ . See [3].

(b) Because  $P_n \circ P_1$  is a tree on  $2n$  vertices the result is immediate from Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1.  $\square$

Note the subtlety in the proof above i.e.  $P_1 \circ P_m$  is not perfect Lucky 3-colorable. However, the induced subgraph  $P_m$  of  $P_1 \circ P_m$ , is perfect 2-colorable. Such vertex partition is called an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition.

**Proposition 2.1.** For  $P_2 \circ P_m$ ,  $m \geq 2$  it follows that,

$$\zeta(P_2 \circ P_m) = \begin{cases} \frac{5m^2}{4} - m + 2, & \text{if } m \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{5m^2 + 2m + 1}{4} - m, & \text{if } m \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Part 1. Consider  $m$  is even. Without loss of generality, let  $c(v_1) = c_1$ ,  $c(v_2) = c_2$ . Also without loss of generality let  $c(u_{1,j}) = c_2$ ,  $j = 1, 3, 5, \dots, (m - 1)$  and  $c(u_{1,j}) = c_3$ ,  $j = 2, 4, 6, \dots, m$ . Also let,  $c(u_{2,j}) = c_1$ ,  $j = 1, 3, 5, \dots, (m - 1)$  and  $c(u_{2,j}) = c_3$ ,  $j = 2, 4, 6, \dots, m$ . Therefore,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{m}{2} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{m}{2} + 1$  and  $\theta(c_3) = m$ . Clearly for  $m \geq 6$ , the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition.

From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,

$$\zeta(P_2 \circ P_m) = (\frac{m}{2} + 1)^2 + 2m(\frac{m}{2} + 1) - (4m - 1) = \frac{5m^2}{4} - m + 2.$$

Part 2. Consider  $m$  is odd. Without loss of generality, let  $c(v_1) = c_1$ ,  $c(v_2) = c_2$ . Also without loss of generality let  $c(u_{1,j}) = c_2$ ,  $j = 1, 3, 5, \dots, m$  and  $c(u_{1,j}) = c_3$ ,  $j = 2, 4, 6, \dots, (m - 1)$ . Also let,  $c(u_{2,j}) = c_1$ ,  $j = 1, 3, 5, \dots, m$  and  $c(u_{2,j}) = c_3$ ,  $j = 2, 4, 6, \dots, (m - 1)$ . Therefore,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{m+1}{2} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{m+1}{2} + 1$  and  $\theta(c_3) = m - 1$ . Clearly for  $m \geq 7$ , the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition.

From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,



$$\zeta(P_2 \circ P_m) = \left(\frac{m+1}{2} + 1\right)^2 + 2(m-1)\left(\frac{m+1}{2} + 1\right) - (4m-1) = \frac{5m^2 + 2m + 1}{4} - m.$$

□

### 2.1 Corona of paths, $P_n \circ P_m$ , $n = 3t$ , $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and $m$ is even

The families of paths considered first, i.e.  $n = 0 \pmod{3}$  is meant to provide the foundation for  $n = 1 \pmod{3}$  or  $n = 2 \pmod{3}$  as well as for the corona,  $P_n \circ C_m$ ,  $m$  is even.

**Proposition 2.2.** For  $P_n \circ P_m$ ,  $n = 3t$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m$  is even it follows that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = \frac{n^2(m-1)^2}{3} - 2nm + 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\chi(P_n \circ P_m) = 3$ , color the vertices  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  as follows,  $c(v_{i+3j}) = c_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  and  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (t-1)$ . Furthermore, color the vertices of the  $n$  copies of  $P_m$ , as follows. For  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (t-1)$  and  $k_1 = 1, 3, 5, \dots, (m-1)$ ,  $k_2 = 2, 4, 6, \dots, m$ , let:

$$\begin{aligned} c(u_{1+3j,k_1}) &= c_2, c(u_{1+3j,k_2}) = c_3, \\ c(u_{2+3j,k_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{2+3j,k_2}) = c_3, \\ c(u_{3+3j,k_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{3+3j,k_2}) = c_2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows easily that,  $\theta(c_1) = \theta(c_2) = \theta(c_3)$  which is a perfect Lucky 3-coloring of  $P_n \circ P_m$ .

Furthermore,  $\theta(c_i) = 2t\frac{m}{2} + t = \frac{n(m-1)}{3}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Also,  $\varepsilon(P_n \circ P_m) = (n-1) + nm + n(m-1) = 2nm - 1$ . Therefore, from Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = \frac{n^2(m-1)^2}{3} - 2nm + 1$ . □

### 2.2 Corona of paths, $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ , $n' = 3t + 1$ , $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and $m$ is even

Through immediate induction it follows we just need to extend path  $P_n$  in Proposition 2.2 to path,  $P_{n+1}$  and derive the result through similar reasoning. The result is presented as a corollary of Proposition 2.2.

**Corollary 2.3.** For  $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ ,  $n' = 3t + 1$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m$  is even it follows that,  $\zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) = 2\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right)^2 - 2m(n+1) + 1$ .

*Proof.* Following the coloring protocol in Proposition 2.2 and without loss of generality let,  $c(v_{n+1}) = c_1$ . It implies that,  $c(u_{(n+1),i}) = c_2$ ,  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, (m-1)$  and  $c(u_{(n+1),i}) = c_3$ ,  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, m$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}$  and  $\theta(c_3) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}$ . Clearly, for sufficiently large  $m$  the coloring is not a perfect Lucky 3-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_{n+1} \circ P_m) = 2nm - 1 + (1 + m + (m-1)) = 2m(n+1) - 1$ . Finally,

$$\zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) = \zeta(P_{n+1} \circ P_m) = 2\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right)^2 - 2m(n+1) + 1.$$

□

### 2.3 Corona of paths, $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ , $n' = 3t + 2$ , $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ and $m$ is even

Through immediate induction it follows we just need to extend path  $P_{n+1}$  in Corollary 2.3 to path,  $P_{n+2}$  and derive the result through similar reasoning. The result is presented as a corollary of Proposition 2.2.

**Corollary 2.4.** For  $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ ,  $n' = 3t + 2$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m$  is even it follows that,  $\zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) = \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) - 2nm - 4m + 1$ .

*Proof.* Following the coloring protocol in Corollary 2.3 (extended from Proposition 2.2) and without loss of generality let,  $c(v_{n+2}) = c_2$ . It implies that,  $c(u_{(n+2),i}) = c_1$ ,  $i = 1, 3, 5, \dots, (m-1)$  and  $c(u_{(n+2),i}) = c_3$ ,  $i = 2, 4, 6, \dots, m$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}$  and  $\theta(c_3) = \frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m$ . Clearly, for sufficiently large  $m$  the coloring is not a perfect Lucky 3-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_{n+2} \circ P_m) = 2nm - 1 + 2(1 + m + (m-1)) = 2nm + 4m - 1$ . Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) &= \zeta(P_{n+2} \circ P_m) = \\ & \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) + \\ & \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) - \varepsilon(P_{n+2} \circ P_m) = \\ & \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) + \\ & \left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right)\left(\frac{n(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) - 2nm - 4m + 1. \end{aligned}$$

□

The results can be summarized as a main result for  $n = i \pmod{3}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** For  $P_n \circ P_m$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $m$  is even it follows that,

- (a) If  $m = 0 \pmod{3}$  then,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = \frac{n^2(m-1)^2}{3} - 2nm + 1$ .  
 (b) If  $m = 1 \pmod{3}$  then,

$$\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = 2\left(\frac{(n-1)(m-1)}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{(n-1)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{(n-1)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2}\right)^2 - 2mn + 1.$$

- (c) If  $m = 2 \pmod{3}$  then,

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(P_n \circ P_m) &= \left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right) + \\ & \left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) + \\ & \left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + \frac{m}{2}\right)\left(\frac{(n-2)(m-1)}{3} + \frac{m}{2} + m\right) - \\ & 2m(n-2) - 4m + 1. \end{aligned}$$



## 2.4 Corona of paths, $P_n \circ P_m$ , $n = 3t$ , $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and $m$ is odd

The families of paths considered first, i.e.  $n = 0 \pmod{3}$  is meant to provide the foundation for  $n = 1 \pmod{3}$  or  $n = 2 \pmod{3}$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** For  $P_n \circ P_m$ ,  $n = 3t$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m \geq 3$ ,  $m$  is odd it follows that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = n^2(m+1)^2 - 2nm + 1$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\chi(P_n \circ P_m) = 3$ , color the vertices  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ,  $n$  as follows,  $c(v_{i+3j}) = c_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$  and  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (t-1)$ . Furthermore, color the vertices of the  $n$  copies of  $P_m$ , as follows. For  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (t-1)$  and  $k_1 = 1, 3, 5, \dots, m$ ,  $k_2 = 2, 4, 6, \dots, (m-1)$ , let:

$$\begin{aligned} c(u_{1+3j,k_1}) &= c_2, c(u_{1+3j,k_2}) = c_3, \\ c(u_{2+3j,k_1}) &= c_3, c(u_{2+3j,k_2}) = c_1, \\ c(u_{3+3j,k_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{3+3j,k_2}) = c_2. \end{aligned}$$

It follows easily that,  $\theta(c_1) = \theta(c_2) = \theta(c_3)$  which is a perfect Lucky 3-coloring of  $P_n \circ P_m$ .

Furthermore,  $\theta(c_i) = t(\lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil + \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor) + t = \frac{n(m+1)}{3}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . Also,  $\varepsilon(P_n \circ P_m) = (n-1) + nm + n(m-1) = 2nm - 1$ . Therefore, from Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ P_m) = n^2(m+1)^2 - 2nm + 1$ .  $\square$

For  $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ ,  $n' = 3t + 1$  or  $n' = 3t + 2$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m \geq 3$ ,  $m$  is odd, a corollary follows since the methodology of proof is similar to that in Subsections 2.2 and 2.3.

**Corollary 2.5.** For  $P_{n'} \circ P_m$ ,  $t = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ , and  $m \geq 3$ ,  $m$  is odd we have that:

(a) If  $n' = 3t + 1$  then,

$$\zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) = 2\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m-1}{2}\right) + \left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m-1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m-1}{2}\right) - 2m(n+1) + 1.$$

(b) If  $n' = 3t + 2$  then,

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(P_{n'} \circ P_m) &= \left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m-1}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m+1}{2} + 1\right) + \\ &\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m-1}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + m\right) + \left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + \frac{m+1}{2} + 1\right)\left(\frac{n(m+1)}{3} + m\right) - \\ &2m(n+2) + 1. \end{aligned}$$

## 3. Chromatic Completion Number of

$$P_n \circ C_m$$

A cycle graph (or simply, a cycle) of order  $n$  denoted by,  $C_n$ , is a graph on  $n \geq 1$  vertices say,  $V(C_n) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $n$  edges namely,  $E(C_n) = \{v_i v_{i+1} : i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n-1\} \cup \{v_n v_1\}$ .

In this section we denote,  $V(C_m) = \{u_{i,1}, u_{i,2}, u_{i,3}, \dots, u_{i,m}\}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$  and the edges accordingly.

**Theorem 3.1.** For  $P_n \circ C_m$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $m \geq 4$  is even it follows that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ C_m) = \zeta(P_n \circ P_m) - n$ .

*Proof.* Since  $m$  is even,  $c(u_{i,1}) \neq c(u_{i,m})$ ,  $\forall i$  in any proper coloring. Since edge  $u_{i,1}u_{i,m} \in E(C_m)$  it cannot be a chromatic completion edge as yielded in the chromatic completion of  $P_n \circ P_m$ . Therefore, the result is immediate.  $\square$

The next general result provides for the result,  $\zeta(P_n \circ C_3) = (n-1)(6n-1)$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** For  $P_n \circ K_m$ ,  $n \geq 1$ ,  $m \geq 1$ , it follows that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ K_m) = (n-1)\left(\frac{nm(m+1)}{2} - 1\right)$ .

*Proof.* Consider  $P_n \circ K_m$ ,  $n \geq 1$ ,  $m \geq 1$ . Since,  $P_n \circ K_m \cong H$  where  $H$  is the graph obtained from  $n$  copies of  $\langle \{v_i\} \cup \{u_{i,j}\}_{j \in V(K_{m,i})} \rangle \cong K_{(m+1),i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$ ,  $j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$  linked as a string by the edges  $v_i v_{i+1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, (n-1)$ , it follows that  $\chi(P_n \circ K_m) = m+1$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_i) = n$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq (m+1)$  which is a perfect Lucky  $(m+1)$ -coloring. Also,  $\varepsilon(P_n \circ K_m) = \frac{nm(m+1)}{2} + (n-1)$ . Thus, from Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ K_m) = \left(\frac{n^2 m(m+1)}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{nm(m+1)}{2} + (n-1)\right) = (n-1)\left(\frac{nm(m+1)}{2} - 1\right)$ . Immediate induction ensures that the result holds for,  $n, m \in \mathbb{N}$ .  $\square$

It follows easily that for,  $P_1 \circ G$ ,  $G$  any graph,  $\zeta(P_1 \circ G) = \zeta(G)$ . The set of odd integers,  $\{m \in \mathbb{N} : m \geq 3 \text{ and } m \text{ is odd}\}$  will be partitioned into three sets. The sets are,  $O_1 = \{3 + 6t : t = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ ,  $O_2 = \{5 + 6t : t = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$  and  $O_3 = \{7 + 6t : t = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ .

### 3.1 Corona $P_n \circ C_m$ , $m \in O_1$ and $n = 4k$ , $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

First the cases  $n = 2, 3$  will be presented.

**Proposition 3.1.** For  $P_2 \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $m \geq 9$  it follows that,  $\zeta(P_2 \circ C_m) = \frac{m(13m-6)}{9}$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality let  $c(v_1) = c_1$ ,  $c(v_2) = c_2$ . Because  $m \in O_1$  we have,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_3) = \frac{2m}{3}$  and  $\theta(c_4) = \frac{2m}{3}$  which is not a perfect Lucky 3-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_2 \circ C_m) = 4m + 1$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_2 \circ C_m) = \frac{13m^2}{9} + \frac{10m}{3} + 1 - (4m + 1) = \frac{m(13m-6)}{9}$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.** For  $P_3 \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $m \geq 9$  it follows that,  $\zeta(P_3 \circ C_m) = 3\left(\left(\frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)^2 + m\left(\frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)\right) - 2(3m + 1)$ .

*Proof.* Without loss of generality let  $c(v_1) = c_1$ ,  $c(v_2) = c_2$ ,  $c(v_3) = c_3$ . Because  $m \in O_1$  we have,  $\theta(c_1) = \frac{2m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \frac{2m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_3) = \frac{2m}{3} + 1$  and  $\theta(c_4) = \frac{3m}{3} = m$  which is not a perfect Lucky 3-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_3 \circ C_m) = 2(3m + 1)$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_3 \circ C_m) = 3\left(\left(\frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)^2 + m\left(\frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)\right) - 2(3m + 1)$ .  $\square$





**Proposition 3.3.** For  $P_n \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $n = 4k$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  it follows that,

$$\zeta(P_n \circ C_m) = \frac{3n^2}{8}(m+1)^2 - n(m+1) - (m-1).$$

*Proof.* Since  $\chi(P_n \circ C_m) = 4$ , color the vertices  $v_i$  as follows,  $c(v_{i+4j}) = c_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4$  and  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (k-1)$ . Furthermore, color the vertices of the  $n$  copies of  $C_m$ , as follows. For  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, (k-1)$  and  $s_1 = 1, 4, 7, \dots, (m-2)$ ,  $s_2 = 2, 5, 8, \dots, (m-1)$ ,  $s_3 = 3, 6, 9, \dots, m$  let:

$$\begin{aligned} c(u_{1+4j,s_1}) &= c_2, c(u_{1+4j,s_2}) = c_3, c(u_{1+4j,s_3}) = c_4, \\ c(u_{2+4j,s_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{2+4j,s_2}) = c_3, c(u_{2+4j,s_3}) = c_4, \\ c(u_{3+4j,s_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{3+4j,s_2}) = c_2, c(u_{3+4j,s_3}) = c_4, \\ c(u_{4+4j,s_1}) &= c_1, c(u_{4+4j,s_2}) = c_2, c(u_{4+4j,s_3}) = c_3. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the vertex partition is a perfect Lucky 4-partition yielding a perfect Lucky 4-coloring. Also,  $\theta(c_i) = k(m+1)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq 4$  and  $\varepsilon(P_n \circ C_m) = n(m+1) + (m-1)$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_n \circ C_m) = 6k^2(m+1)^2 - n(m+1) - (m-1) = \frac{3n^2}{8}(m+1)^2 - n(m+1) - (m-1)$ .  $\square$

### 3.2 Corona $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ , $m \in O_1$ and $n' = 4k+1$ , $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Through immediate induction it follows that we just need to extend path  $P_n$  in Proposition 3.3 to path  $P_{n+1}$  and derive the result through similar reasoning.

**Corollary 3.1.** For  $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $n' = 4k+1$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  it follows that,

$$\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = 3\left[\left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + 1\right)\left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3}\right)^2\right] - n(m+1) - 3m.$$

*Proof.* Following the coloring protocol in Proposition 3.3 and without loss of generality let,  $c(v_{n+1}) = c_1$ . It implies that  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_2$ ,  $i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, (m-2)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_3$ ,  $i = 2, 5, 8, \dots, (m-1)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_4$ ,  $i = 3, 6, 8, \dots, m$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_1) = k(m+1) + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = \theta(c_3) = \theta(c_4) = k(m+1) + \frac{m}{3}$  which is not a perfect Lucky 4-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = n(m+1) + (m-1) + (m+1) + m = n(m+1) + 3m$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = 3\left[\left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + 1\right)\left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3}\right) + \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3}\right)^2\right] - n(m+1) - 3m$ .  $\square$

### 3.3 Corona $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ , $m \in O_1$ and $n' = 4k+2$ , $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Through immediate induction it follows that we just need to extend path  $P_n$  in Proposition 3.3 to path  $P_{n+2}$  and derive the result through similar reasoning.

**Corollary 3.2.** For  $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $n' = 4k+2$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  it follows that,

$$\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{5n}{4}(m+1) + 3m + 1\right) + \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3}\right)^2 - n(m+1) - 5m - 1.$$

*Proof.* Consider the coloring of  $P_{n+1}$  in Corollary 3.2. Follow the coloring protocol in Proposition 3.3 and without loss of generality let,  $c(v_{n+2}) = c_2$ . It implies that  $c(u_{n+2,i}) = c_1$ ,  $i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, (m-2)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_3$ ,  $i = 2, 5, 8, \dots, (m-1)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_4$ ,  $i = 3, 6, 8, \dots, m$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_1) = k(m+1) + \frac{m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_2) = k(m+1) + \frac{m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_3) = \theta(c_4) = k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3}$  which is not a perfect Lucky 4-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = n(m+1) + 5m + 1$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{m}{3} + 1\right)\left(\frac{5n}{4}(m+1) + 3m + 1\right) + \left(\frac{n}{4}(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3}\right)^2 - n(m+1) - 5m - 1$ .  $\square$

### 3.4 Corona $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ , $m \in O_1$ and $n' = 4k+3$ , $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

Through immediate induction it follows that we just need to extend path  $P_n$  in Proposition 3.3 to path  $P_{n+3}$  and derive the result through similar reasoning.

**Corollary 3.3.** For  $P_{n'} \circ C_m$ ,  $m \in O_1$  and  $n' = 4k+3$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  it follows that,

$$\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = 3\left[\left(k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)^2 + \left(k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)(k(m+1) + m)\right] - n(m+1) - 7m - 2.$$

*Proof.* Consider the coloring of  $P_{n+2}$  in Corollary 3.2. Follow the coloring protocol in Proposition 3.3 and without loss of generality let,  $c(v_{n+3}) = c_3$ . It implies that  $c(u_{n+3,i}) = c_1$ ,  $i = 1, 4, 7, \dots, (m-2)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_2$ ,  $i = 2, 5, 8, \dots, (m-1)$ ,  $c(u_{n+1,i}) = c_4$ ,  $i = 3, 6, 8, \dots, m$ . Hence,  $\theta(c_1) = \theta(c_2) = \theta(c_3) = k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3} + 1$ ,  $\theta(c_4) = k(m+1) + m$  which is not a perfect Lucky 4-coloring. However, the vertex partition is an optimal near-completion  $\chi$ -partition. Therefore, the chromatic completion will yield the chromatic completion number.

Also,  $\varepsilon(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = n(m+1) + 7m + 2$ . From Lemma 2.1 and Corollary 2.1 it follow that,  $\zeta(P_{n'} \circ C_m) = 3\left[\left(k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)^2 + \left(k(m+1) + \frac{2m}{3} + 1\right)(k(m+1) + m)\right] - n(m+1) - 7m - 2$ .  $\square$

## 4. Conclusion

In Section 3 the family of paths were considered by a partition of order i.e.  $n = 1, 2, 3$  and  $n = 4k, (4k+1), (4k+2), (4k+3)$ ,  $k = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Corona'd to these paths  $P_n$ , only the cycles  $C_m$  of order  $m \in O_1$  were considered. It is the author's considered view that the methodology has been well established in this paper. Therefore, deriving the results for the cycles of order  $m \in O_2$  and  $m \in O_3$  Corona'd with the path partitions respectively, remain an exercise for the reader.

**Conjecture:**  $\zeta(C_n \circ P_m) = \zeta(P_n \circ P_m) - 1$  and  $\zeta(C_n \circ C_m) = \zeta(P_n \circ C_m) - 1$ . Prove or disprove the conjecture.

It is deemed worthy research to find results for other known graph operations.



## 5. Acknowledgments

The author would like to express sincere gratitude to the reviewers for his/her valuable suggestions.

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