



# Dominator chromatic number of grid graph

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## Abstract

Let  $G$  be a graph. A dominator coloring of  $G$  is a proper coloring in which every vertex of  $G$  dominates at least one color class. The dominator chromatic number of  $G$  is denoted by  $\chi_d(G)$  and is defined by the minimum number of colors needed in a dominator coloring of  $G$ . In this paper, we obtain dominator chromatic number of grid graphs.

## Keywords

Dominator chromatic number, grid graph.

## AMS Subject Classification

05C15, 05C69

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## 1. Introduction

All graphs considered in this paper are finite, undirected graphs and we follow standard definition of graph theory as found in [1]. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph of order  $n$ . The open neighborhood  $N(v)$  of a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  consists of the set of all vertices adjacent to  $v$ . The closed neighborhood of  $v$  is  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . The path and cycle of order  $n$  are denoted by  $P_n$  and  $C_n$  respectively. For any two graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , we define the cartesian product, denoted by  $G \times H$ , to be the graph with vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  and edges between two vertices  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  iff either  $u_1 = u_2$  and  $v_1 v_2 \in E(H)$  or  $u_1 u_2 \in E(G)$  and  $v_1 = v_2$ . A grid graphs can be defined as  $P_m \times P_n$  where  $m, n \geq 2$  and denoted by  $P_{m \times n}$ .

A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called a dominating set if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $S$ . The dominating set is minimal dominating set if no proper subset of  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . The domination number  $\gamma$  is the minimum cardinality taken over all minimal dominating set of  $G$ . A  $\gamma$ -set is any minimal dominating set with cardinality  $\gamma$ .

A proper coloring of  $G$  is an assignment of colors to the ver-

tices of  $G$  such that adjacent vertices have different colors. The minimum number of colors for which there exists a proper coloring of  $G$  is called chromatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\chi(G)$ . A dominator coloring of  $G$  is a proper coloring of  $G$  in which every vertex of  $G$  dominates atleast one color class. The dominator chromatic number is denoted by  $\chi_d(G)$  and is defined by the minimum number of colors needed in a dominator coloring of  $G$ . This concept was introduced by Raluca Michelle Gera in 2006 [2].

In a proper coloring  $C$  of  $G$ , a color class of  $C$  is a set consisting of all those vertices assigned the same color. Let  $C^1$  be a minimal dominator coloring of  $G$ . We say that a color class  $c_i \in C^1$  is called a non-dominated color class ( $n - d$  color class) if it is not dominated by any vertex of  $G$ . These color classes are also called repeated color classes. The dominator chromatic number of paths found in [2]. We have the following observation from [2].

**Theorem 1.1.** [2] The path  $P_n$  of order  $n \geq 2$  has

$$\chi_d(P_n) = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 1 & \text{if } n = 2, 3, 4, 5, 7 \\ \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

In this paper, we obtain the least value for dominator chromatic number for grid graphs.

## 2. Main Results

**Theorem 2.1.** *If  $m$  and  $n$  both even then*

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{mn}{4} + 2 & \text{if } m, n \equiv 0(\text{mod}4) \\ \frac{mn}{4} + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Let the vertex set of

$$P_{m \times n} = V(P_{m \times n}) = \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} 1 \leq i \leq m \\ 1 \leq j \leq n \end{matrix} \right\}.$$

We consider two cases.

**Case (1):** Let  $m, n \equiv 0(\text{mod}4)$ . Let

$$D^{(1)} = \left\{ \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 2, 6, 10, \dots, (n-2) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 2, 6, 10, \dots, (m-2) \\ j = 4, 8, 12, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (n-3) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 4, 8, 12, \dots, m \\ j = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (n-1) \end{matrix} \right\} \right\}$$

be any arbitrary  $\gamma$ -set of  $P_{m \times n}$ . We assign one new color say  $3, 4, 5, \dots, (\frac{mn}{4} + 2)$  to every vertex in  $D^{(1)}$ . Also we assign two repeated colors say  $1, 2$  to the vertices  $u_{ij}$  and  $u_{kl} \in V(P_{m \times n}) - D^{(1)}$  such that  $|i - k| + |j - l| = 1$ . So  $\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \frac{mn}{4} + 2$ .

**Case (2):** Let except  $m, n \equiv 0(\text{mod}4)$ . we have three sub cases.

**Subcase (2.1):** Let  $m \equiv 0(\text{mod}4) \& n \equiv 2(\text{mod}4)$ . Let

$$S^{(1)} = \left\{ \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 2, 6, 10, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 2, 6, 10, \dots, (m-2) \\ j = 4, 8, 12, \dots, (n-2) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (n-1) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 4, 8, 12, \dots, m \\ j = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (n-3) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \{u_{mn}\} \right\}$$

be any arbitrary  $\gamma$ -set of  $P_{m \times n}$ . We assign one new color say  $3, 4, 5, \dots, (\frac{mn}{4} + 3)$  to every vertex in  $S^{(1)}$ . Also we assign two repeated colors say  $1, 2$  to the vertices  $u_{ij}$  and  $u_{kl} \in V(P_{m \times n}) - S^{(1)}$  such that  $|i - k| + |j - l| = 1$ . So  $\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \frac{mn}{4} + 3$ .

**Subcase (2.2):** Let  $m \equiv 2(\text{mod}4) \& n \equiv 0(\text{mod}4)$ . Let

$$S^{(2)} = \left\{ \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 2, 6, 10, \dots, (n-2) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 2, 6, 10, \dots, m \\ j = 4, 8, 12, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (m-3) \\ j = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (n-3) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 4, 8, 12, \dots, (m-2) \\ j = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (n-1) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \{u_{m1}\} \right\}$$

be any arbitrary  $\gamma$ -set of  $P_{m \times n}$ . We assign one new color say  $3, 4, 5, \dots, (\frac{mn}{4} + 3)$  to every vertex in  $S^{(2)}$ . Also we assign two repeated colors say  $1, 2$  to the vertices  $u_{ij}$  and  $u_{kl} \in V(P_{m \times n}) - S^{(2)}$  such that  $|i - k| + |j - l| = 1$ . So  $\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \frac{mn}{4} + 3$ .

**Subcase (2.3):** Let  $m \equiv 2(\text{mod}4) \& n \equiv 2(\text{mod}4)$ . Let

$$S^{(3)} = \left\{ \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (m-1) \\ j = 2, 6, 10, \dots, n \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 2, 6, 10, \dots, m \\ j = 4, 8, 12, \dots, (n-2) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (m-3) \\ j = 1, 5, 9, \dots, (n-1) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \left\{ u_{ij} \mid \begin{matrix} i = 4, 8, 12, \dots, (m-2) \\ j = 3, 7, 11, \dots, (n-3) \end{matrix} \right\} \cup \{u_{mn}\} \right\}$$

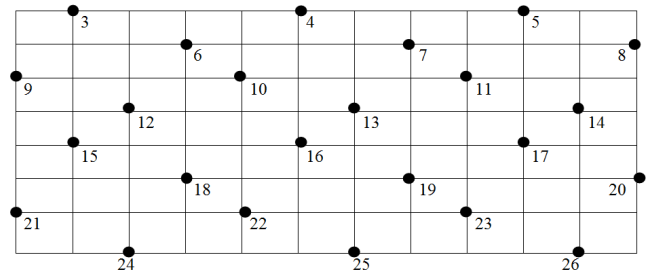
be any arbitrary  $\gamma$ -set of  $P_{m \times n}$ . We assign one new color say  $3, 4, 5, \dots, (\frac{mn}{4} + 3)$  to every vertex in  $S^{(3)}$ . Also we assign two repeated colors say  $1, 2$  to the vertices  $u_{ij}$  and  $u_{kl} \in V(P_{m \times n}) - S^{(3)}$  such that  $|i - k| + |j - l| = 1$ . So  $\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \frac{mn}{4} + 3$ . Thus

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{mn}{4} + 2 & \text{if } m, n \equiv 0(\text{mod}4) \\ \frac{mn}{4} + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

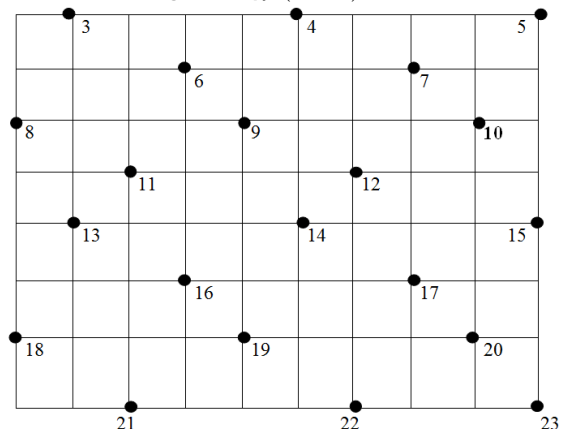
□

## 3. Illustration

Consider  $P_{8 \times 12}$  and  $P_{8 \times 10}$



**Figure 1.**  $\chi_d(P_{8 \times 12}) = 26$



**Figure 2.**  $\chi_d(P_{8 \times 10}) = 23$



Consider  $P_{6 \times 12}$  and  $P_{6 \times 10}$

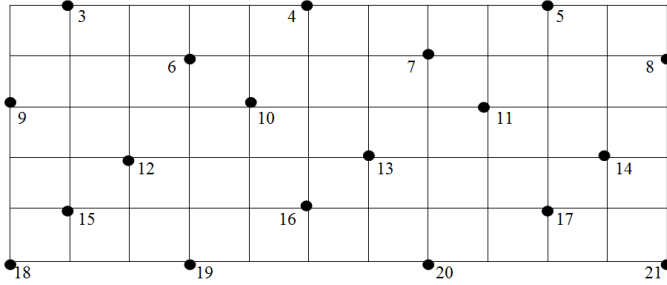


Figure 3.  $\chi_d(P_{6 \times 12}) = 21$

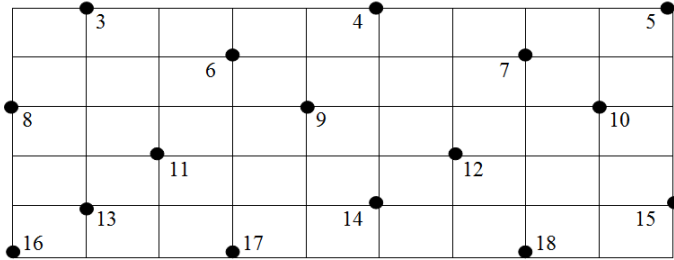


Figure 4.  $\chi_d(P_{6 \times 10}) = 18$

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $m$  is odd and  $n$  is even then*

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* We have  $P_{m \times n}$  is obtained by  $P_{(m-1) \times n}$  followed by  $P_n$ . Since in a dominator coloring of  $P_{m \times n}$  we cannot use the non-repeated colors of vertices in  $P_n$  and we can use the same repeated colors of vertices in the graphs  $P_{(m-1) \times n}$  and  $P_n$ . Since  $m-1$  is even, we get by Theorem 1.1

$$\chi_d(P_{(m-1) \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

So

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)n}{4} + \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

□

Let us consider  $P_{7 \times 8}$

**Theorem 3.2.** *If  $m$  is even and  $n$  is odd then*

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Since  $m$  and  $n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $P_{m \times n}$  is obtained by  $P_{m \times (n-1)}$  followed by  $P_m$ . By Theorem 3.1,

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \chi_d(P_{m \times (n-1)}) + \chi_d(P_m) - 2.$$

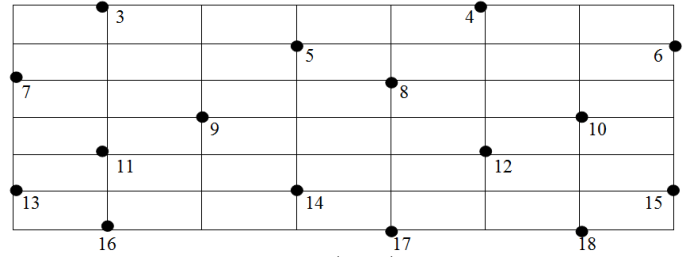


Figure 5.  $\chi_d(P_{7 \times 8}) = 18$

By Theorem 1.1

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times (n-1)}) = \begin{cases} \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + 2 & \text{if } m, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

So

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{m(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

□

Now consider  $P_{8 \times 11}$

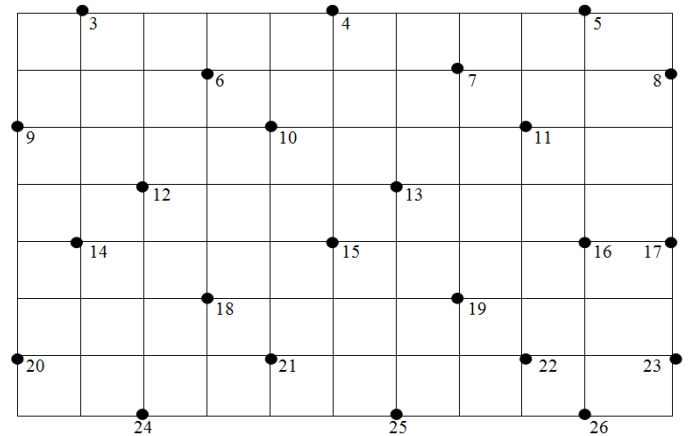


Figure 6.  $\chi_d(P_{8 \times 11}) = 26$

**Theorem 3.3.** *If  $m$  is odd and  $n$  is odd then*

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m+n-1}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m+n-1}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* Since  $(m-1)$  and  $(n-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{4}$  and  $P_{m \times n}$  is obtained by  $P_{(m-1) \times (n-1)}$  followed by  $P_{m+n-1}$ . By theorem 3.1,

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \chi_d(P_{(m-1) \times (n-1)}) + \chi_d(P_{m+n-1}) - 2.$$

By Theorem 1.1,

$$\chi_d(P_{(m-1) \times (n-1)}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



So

$$\chi_d(P_{m \times n}) = \begin{cases} \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m+n-1}{3} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } m-1, n-1 \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ \frac{(m-1)(n-1)}{4} + \lceil \frac{m+n-1}{3} \rceil + 3 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

□

Let us consider  $P_{11 \times 7}$

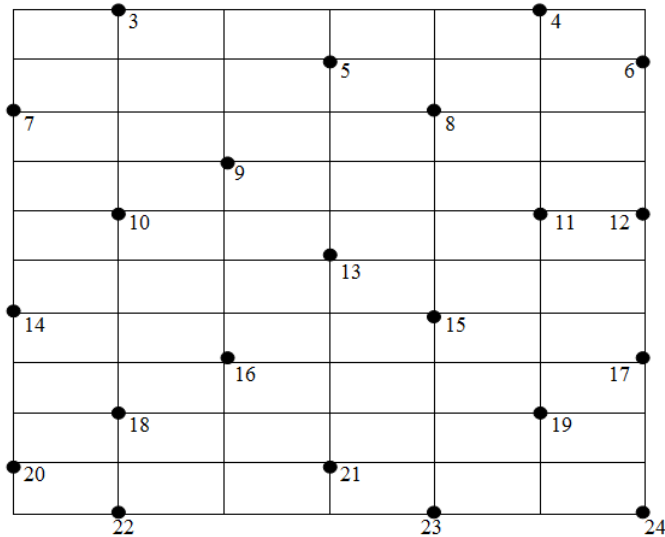


Figure 7.  $\chi_d(P_{11 \times 7}) = 24$

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