

An Upper Bound for the Parameter μ_{21} of Regular Graphs

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ABSTRACT

An upper bound for the parameter μ_{21} of regular graphs is found.

Keywords

Regular graph, proper edge coloring, interval spectrum, game.

1. INTRODUCTION

We consider undirected connected simple finite graphs, which contain at least one edge. $V(G)$ and $E(G)$ denote the sets of vertices and edges of a graph G , respectively. An arbitrary nonempty finite subset of consecutive integers is called an interval. A function $\varphi : E(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, t\}$ is called a proper edge t -coloring of a graph G , if it satisfies the following two conditions: 1) for $\forall i, 1 \leq i \leq t, \exists e^{(i)} \in E(G)$ with $\varphi(e^{(i)}) = i$, 2) for arbitrary adjacent edges $e' \in E(G)$ and $e'' \in E(G)$ $\varphi(e') \neq \varphi(e'')$. The least value of t , for which there exists a proper edge t -coloring of a graph G , is denoted by $\chi'(G)$. For a graph G and for $\forall t$, satisfying the inequality $\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|$, we denote by $\alpha(G, t)$ the set of all proper edge t -colorings of G . Let us also define the set $\alpha(G)$ of all proper edge colorings of a graph G :

$$\alpha(G) \equiv \bigcup_{t=\chi'(G)}^{|E(G)|} \alpha(G, t).$$

The terms and concepts which are not defined here can be found in [1].

If G is a graph, $x \in V(G)$, $\varphi \in \alpha(G)$, then let us define the spectrum $S_G(x, \varphi)$ of the vertex x at the coloring φ as follows: $S_G(x, \varphi) \equiv \{\varphi(e)/e \in E(G), e \text{ is incident with } x\}$; let $f_G(\varphi) \equiv |\{x \in V(G) / S_G(x, \varphi) \text{ be an interval}\}|$.

If G is a graph and t is an integer satisfying the inequality $\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|$, let us set [2]:

$$\mu_1(G, t) \equiv \min_{\varphi \in \alpha(G, t)} f_G(\varphi),$$

$$\mu_2(G, t) \equiv \max_{\varphi \in \alpha(G, t)} f_G(\varphi).$$

For any graph G , set [2]:

$$\mu_{11}(G) \equiv \min_{\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|} \mu_1(G, t),$$

$$\mu_{12}(G) \equiv \max_{\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|} \mu_1(G, t),$$

$$\mu_{21}(G) \equiv \min_{\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|} \mu_2(G, t),$$

$$\mu_{22}(G) \equiv \max_{\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|} \mu_2(G, t).$$

Clearly, the parameters μ_{11} , μ_{12} , μ_{21} and μ_{22} are correctly defined for an arbitrary graph.

Let us note that exact values of the parameters μ_{12} and μ_{21} have certain game interpretations. Suppose that all edges of a graph G are colored in the game of Alice and Bob with antagonistic interests and asymmetric distribution of roles. Alice determines the number t of colors in the future proper edge coloring φ of the graph G , satisfying the condition $\chi'(G) \leq t \leq |E(G)|$, Bob colors edges of G with t colors.

When Alice aspires to maximize, Bob aspires to minimize the value of the function $f_G(\varphi)$, and both players choose their best strategies, then at the finish of the game exactly $\mu_{12}(G)$ vertices of G will receive an interval spectrum.

When Alice aspires to minimize, Bob aspires to maximize the value of the function $f_G(\varphi)$, and both players choose their best strategies, then at the finish of the game exactly $\mu_{21}(G)$ vertices of G will receive an interval spectrum.

The exact values of the parameters μ_{11} , μ_{12} , μ_{21} and μ_{22} were found for simple paths, simple cycles and simple cycles with a chord [3, 4], "Möbius ladders" [2, 5], complete graphs [6], complete bipartite graphs [7, 8], prisms [9, 5], n -dimensional cubes [9, 10] and the Petersen graph [11]. The exact values of μ_{11} and μ_{22} for trees are found in [12]. The exact value of μ_{12} for an arbitrary tree is found in [13] (see also [14, 15]).

In this paper an upper bound for the parameter μ_{21} of regular graphs is found.

2. RESULT

Theorem 1. If G is an arbitrary r -regular graph, $r \geq 2$, then

$$\mu_{21}(G) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{r \cdot |V(G)| - 2}{2 \cdot (r - 1)} \right\rfloor.$$

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