

GENERALIZED COLOR  
COMPLEMENTS IN GRAPHS

Sahana S R <sup>1</sup> , Sabitha D'Souza <sup>2</sup>, Swati Nayak <sup>\*</sup>

<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Department of Mathematics

Manipal Institute of Technology

Manipal Academy of Higher Education

Manipal, Karnataka

INDIA - 576104

e-mails: <sup>1</sup> saanu5659@gmail.com,

<sup>2</sup> sabitha.dsouza@manipal.edu,

<sup>\*</sup> swati.nayak@manipal.edu (corresponding author)

**Abstract**

Let  $G_c = (V, E)$  be a color graph, and  $P = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$  be a partition of  $V$  of order  $k \geq 1$ . The  $k$  and  $k(i)$ -color complement of  $G_c$  is defined as follows: For all  $V_i$  and  $V_j$  in  $P$ ,  $i \neq j$ , remove the edges between  $V_i$  and  $V_j$  and add the edges which are not in  $G_c$  such that end vertices have different colors. For each subset  $V_r$  in the partition  $P$ , remove the edges of  $G_c$  that exist within  $V_r$  and add the edges of  $\overline{G_c}$  joining the vertices of  $V_r$ . The resulting graph  $(G_c)_{k(i)}^P$  is known as  $k(i)$ -color complement of  $G_c$  with respect to the partition  $P$  of  $V$ .

This paper establishes connectivity conditions for the  $k$ -color complement and  $k(i)$ -color complement of a connected graph based on specific vertex partitioning and color assignments. Additionally, the relationship between clique numbers and independence numbers in the generalized color complements is explored with respect to same color class partitions, and the number of edges is determined for certain graph families.

**Math. Subject Classification:** 05C45, 05C15, 05C07

**Key Words and Phrases:** generalized color complement, connectivity, clique, independent set, partition

## 1. Introduction

In this work, all graphs are finite, undirected, no loops and multiple edges. Let  $n = |V|$  and  $m = |E|$  denote the number of vertices and edges in a graph  $G$ , respectively. The complement of graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\overline{G}$ , shares the same vertex set as  $G$ , with two vertices being adjacent in  $G$  if and only if they are non-adjacent in  $\overline{G}$ . A graph  $G$  is called self-complementary if it is isomorphic to its complement. For any two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$ , adjacency is denoted as  $u \sim v$ , and non-adjacency is denoted as  $u \not\sim v$ . The degree of a vertex  $v$  in a graph, denoted by  $d(v)$ , is the number of edges incident to  $v$ . For notation and graph theory terminology we generally follow [2]. Graph partitioning is a key problem with applications in computing, engineering, and network science, including clustering, route optimization, and biological networks. In 1998, Sampathkumar et al. [4] introduced a complement definition based on vertex partitions. Later in 2020, Swati Nayak et al. [3] defined generalized color complements of graphs. Coloring all the vertices of a graph such that no two adjacent vertices have the same color is called the proper coloring of a graph. A graph in which every vertex has been assigned a color according to a proper coloring is called a properly colored graph. The proper coloring which is of interest to us is one that requires the minimum number of colors. A graph  $G$  that requires  $k$  different colors for its proper coloring, and no less, is called a  $k$ -chromatic graph, and the number  $k$  is called the chromatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\chi(G) = k$ . In this article, we denote  $G_c = (V, E)$  as a colored graph. Then the complement of graph  $G_c$ , denoted by  $\overline{G_c}$  has the same coloring of  $G_c$  with the following properties [3]:

- $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $\overline{G_c}$ , if  $u$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent in  $G_c$  with  $c(u) \neq c(v)$ .
- $u$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent in  $\overline{G_c}$ , if  $u$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent in  $G_c$  with  $c(u) = c(v)$ .
- $u$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent in  $\overline{G_c}$ , if  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $G_c$ .

DEFINITION 1.1. [1] The tadpole graph,  $T_{p,q}$  is a special type of graph consisting of a cycle graph on  $p$  (at least 3) vertices and a path graph on  $q$  vertices, connected with a bridge.

DEFINITION 1.2. A set  $M$  of vertices in a graph  $G$  is independent if no two vertices of  $M$  are adjacent. The number of vertices in a maximum independent set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\beta(G)$ . Opposite to an independent set of vertices in a graph is a clique. A clique in a graph  $G$  is a complete subgraph of  $G$ . The clique number of a graph  $G$ , denoted  $\omega(G)$ , is the order of the largest clique in  $G$ .

## 2. Main results

THEOREM 2.1. *The  $k$ -color complement of a connected graph  $G_c$  remains connected if the vertex set is partitioned as  $P = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$ , under the following conditions:*

- There exists a path between every pair of vertices within each partite set  $V_i$ .*
- For each  $V_i$ , there is at least one vertex that is non-adjacent to at least one vertex in a different partite set  $V_j, i \neq j$ , and these non-adjacent vertices must have distinct colors.*

P r o o f. Let  $G_c$  be a connected graph with a vertex partition  $P = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$ . Since each partite set is internally connected, all vertices within  $V_i$  have a path between them. Additionally, at least one vertex in  $V_i$  is non-adjacent to at least one vertex in  $V_j$  for  $j \neq i$ . If non-adjacent vertices shared the same color, no edge would be added between them in the  $k$ -color complement, potentially causing disconnection. However, when non-adjacent vertices receive distinct colors, the necessary edges are introduced to preserve connectivity. These edges create links between different partite sets, ensuring that every vertex remains reachable. Therefore, the  $k$ -color complement of  $G_c$  remains connected.  $\square$

**THEOREM 2.2.** *The  $k(i)$ -color complement of a connected graph  $G_c$  remains connected if the vertex set is partitioned as  $P = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$  such that no two vertices in  $V_i$  are adjacent, and at least one vertex in  $V_i$  has a color different from the rest of the vertices.*

**P r o o f.** Let  $G_c$  be a connected graph with a partition  $P = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$  of  $V(G_c)$ , where no two vertices within  $V_i$  are adjacent, ensuring that each  $V_i$  consists of an independent set of vertices. Additionally, at least one vertex in  $V_i$  possesses a unique color compared to the others. In the  $k(i)$ -color complement, edges are introduced within each partition  $V_i$  between non-adjacent vertices that have distinct colors. This ensures that no vertex remains isolated within its own partition, effectively preventing the formation of disconnected components in  $(G_c)_{k(i)}^P$ . Furthermore, as  $G_c$  was originally connected, and connectivity is preserved within each partition through these new edges, the connectivity of the graph  $(G_c)_{k(i)}^P$  is preserved. Thus,  $(G_c)_{k(i)}^P$  is a connected graph.  $\square$

### 2.1. Generalized color complements of graphs with respect to partition of same color class.

**REMARK 2.1.**

- i. Let  $G_c$  be a  $(n, m)$  graph. Then,  $\chi((G_c)_k^P) = 1$  and  $\chi((G_c)_{k(i)}^P) = n$  if and only if  $G_c$  is isomorphic to  $K_n$  or  $\overline{K_n}$  or  $K_{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_n}$ .
- ii. The graph  $G_c$  is  $k$ -co-self color complementary and  $k(i)$ -self color complementary with respect to the partition of same color class.

**PROPOSITION 2.1.** *Let  $G_c$  be a non-trivial  $(n, m)$  graph. Then,*

- i.  $\beta((G_c)_{k(i)}^P) = \beta(G_c) \leq \beta((G_c)_k^P)$ ,
- ii.  $\omega((G_c)_k^P) \leq \omega(G_c) = \omega((G_c)_{k(i)}^P)$ .

**P r o o f.** Let  $G_c$  be a graph of order  $n$ .

- i. Since  $G_c \cong (G_c)_{k(i)}^P$ ,  $\beta((G_c)_{k(i)}^P) = \beta(G_c)$ . However, for  $(G_c)_k^P$ , partitioning may increase the independence number, ensuring  $\beta(G_c) \leq \beta((G_c)_k^P)$ .
- ii. As the graph  $G_c$  is  $k(i)$ -self color complementary,  $\omega(G_c) = \omega((G_c)_{k(i)}^P)$ . Furthermore, in  $(G_c)_k^P$ , partitioning might break some edges within the largest clique, leading to  $\omega((G_c)_k^P) \leq \omega(G_c)$ . Hence, the result follows.

□

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Let  $G_c$  be  $(n, m)$  graph and  $m'$  be the number of pairs of non-adjacent vertices in  $G_c$  that receive the same color. The number of edges in  $(G_c)_k^P$  is  $m((G_c)_k^P) = \binom{n}{2} - m(G_c) - m'$  for the partition of same color class.*

**P r o o f.** We begin by noting that the graph  $G_c$  is  $k$ -co-self color complementary and  $k(i)$ -self color complementary under the partition of the same color class, as stated in Remark 2.1.

This implies that,  $(G_c)_k^P \cong \overline{G_c} \implies m((G_c)_k^P) = m(\overline{G_c})$ .

Since  $m(G_c) + m(\overline{G_c}) + m' = m(K_n)$ , where  $m'$  denotes the number of pairs of non-adjacent vertices that receive the same color,

$$\implies m(\overline{G_c}) = m(K_n) - m(G_c) - m',$$

$$\implies m((G_c)_k^P) = \binom{n}{2} - m(G_c) - m'.$$

□

The table below presents the number of edges in  $(G_c)_k^P$  for specific families of graphs  $G_c$ .

**PROPOSITION 2.2.** *Let  $G_c$  be a Tadpole graph  $T_{p,q}$  with  $n = p + q$  vertices and  $p+q$  edges. Then, the number of edges in  $k$ -color complement of  $G_c$  is given by:*

$$m((G_c)_k^P) = \begin{cases} \frac{n^2-2n-4}{4}, & \text{if both } p \text{ and } q \text{ are odd,} \\ \frac{n^2-2n-3}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd and } q \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{n^2-4n}{4}, & \text{if both } p \text{ and } q \text{ are even,} \\ \frac{n^2-4n-1}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is even and } q \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

| Graphs               | $m'$                                                                                                                                  | $m((G_c)_k^P)$                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| $C_n$                | $\begin{cases} \frac{n(n-2)}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{n^2-4n+3}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$     | $\begin{cases} \frac{n^2-2n-3}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{n(n-4)}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$        |
| $P_n$                | $\begin{cases} \frac{n(n-2)}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ (\frac{n-1}{2})^2, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$      | $\begin{cases} (\frac{n}{2}-1)^2, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{n^2-4n+3}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$       |
| $W_n,$<br>$n \geq 4$ | $\begin{cases} \frac{n^2-6n+8}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{n^2-4n+3}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$   | $\begin{cases} \frac{n(2-n)}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{5-n^2}{4}, & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$           |
| $K_{r_1, r_2}$       | $\frac{r_1(r_1-1)+r_2(r_2-1)}{2}$                                                                                                     | 0                                                                                                                                        |
| $K_{p \times 2}$     | $p$                                                                                                                                   | 0                                                                                                                                        |
| $F_p$                | $p(p-1)$                                                                                                                              | $p(p-1)$                                                                                                                                 |
| $L_p$                | $p(p-1)$                                                                                                                              | $p^2-3p+2$                                                                                                                               |
| $S_p^0$              | $p(p-1)$                                                                                                                              | $p$                                                                                                                                      |
| $S(p, q)$            | $\frac{p(p-1)+q(q-1)}{2}$                                                                                                             | $(p-1)(q-1)$                                                                                                                             |
| $BF_p$               | $\begin{cases} p(p-1), & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ p^2-p+1, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$                          | $\begin{cases} (p-1)^2+1, & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ (p-1)^2, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$                          |
| $H_p$                | $\begin{cases} \frac{3p^2-8p+8}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ \frac{3p^2-6p+3}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$ | $\begin{cases} \frac{5p^2-16p+8}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ \frac{5p^2-18p+13}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$ |
| $f_p$                | $\begin{cases} \frac{p(p-2)}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ (\frac{p-1}{2})^2, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$      | $\begin{cases} (\frac{p}{2}-1)^2, & \text{if } p \text{ is even} \\ \frac{p^2-4p+3}{4}, & \text{if } p \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$       |
| $G_p$                | $p^2$                                                                                                                                 | $p^2-2p$                                                                                                                                 |

**Note:** We denote Cycle, Path, Wheel, Complete Bipartite, Cocktail Party, Friendship, Ladder, Crown, Double Star, Butterfly, Helm, Fan and Gear graphs by  $C_n$ ,  $P_n$ ,  $W_n$ ,  $K_{r_1, r_2}$ ,  $K_{p \times 2}$ ,  $F_p$ ,  $L_p$ ,  $S_p^0$ ,  $S(p, q)$ ,  $BF_p$ ,  $H_p$ ,  $f_p$  and  $G_p$  respectively.

### 3. Conclusion

We analyzed the conditions under which the  $k$ -color and  $k(i)$ -color complements remain connected and explored their structural properties. Additionally, we investigated the relationship between clique and independence number in generalized color complements and determined the edge counts for specific graph families with respect to the partition of same color class. These findings provide valuable insights into graph modifications and their combinatorial implications.

### References

- [1] J. DeMaio, and J. Jacobson, Fibonacci number of the tadpole graph, *Electronic Journal of Graph Theory and Applications*, **2** (2014), 129-138.
- [2] F. Harary, *Graph Theory*, CRC Press (2018).
- [3] S. Nayak, S. D'Souza, H.J. Gowtham, P.G. Bhat, Color energy of generalized complements of a graph, *IAENG International Journal of Applied Mathematics*, **50** (2020), 1–9.
- [4] E. Sampathkumar, L. Pushpalatha, Complement of a graph: A generalization, *Graphs and Combinatorics*, **14** (1998), 377–392; doi: 10.1007/pl00021185.