ISSN: 2347-1557

Available Online: http://ijmaa.in/



## International Journal of Mathematics And its Applications

# On Proper 2-rainbow Domination in Graphs

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**Abstract:** For a graph G, let  $f:V(G)\to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2,...,k\})$  be a function. If for each vertex  $v\in V(G)$  such that  $f(v)=\phi$  we have  $\cup_{u\in N(v)}f(u)=\{1,2,...,k\}$ , then f is called a k-rainbow dominating function (or simply kRDF) of G. The weight w(f), of a kRDF f is defined as  $w(f)=\sum_{v\in V(G)}|f(v)|$ . The minimum weight of a kRDF of G is called the k-rainbow

domination number of G, and is denoted by  $\gamma_{rk}(G)$ . In this paper we define and study a new domination called proper k-rainbow domination. A k-rainbow dominating function is called a proper k-rainbow dominating function if for every pair of adjacent vertices u and v,  $f(u) \not\subseteq f(v)$  and  $f(v) \not\subseteq f(u)$ . The weight, w(f), of a proper kRDF f is defined as  $w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} |f(v)|$ . The minimum weight of a proper kRDF of G is called the proper k-rainbow domination number

of G, and is denoted by  $\gamma_{prk}(G)$ . The bounds for 2-rainbow domination and proper 2-rainbow domination for different classes of graphs namely cycles, complete multipartite graph,  $P_n \times P_m$  and Harary graph are found.

MSC: 05C69, 05C76

Keywords: Rainbow domination, proper rainbow domination, Harary graph.

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## 1. Introduction

Let G = (V(G), E(G)) be a simple graph of order n. We denote the open neighborhood of a vertex v of G by  $N_G(v)$ , or just N(v), and its closed neighborhood by N[v]. For a vertex set  $S \subseteq V(G)$ , we let  $N(S) = \cup_{v \in S} N(v)$  and  $N[S] = \cup_{v \in S} N[v]$ . A set of vertices S in G is a dominating set if N[S] = V(G). The domination number of G,  $\gamma(G)$ , is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set of G. For a graph G, let  $f: V(G) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, ..., k\})$  be a function. If for each vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $f(v) = \phi$  we have  $\cup_{u \in N(v)} f(u) = \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ , then f is called a k-rainbow dominating function (or simply kRDF) of G. The weight w(f), of a kRDF f is defined as  $w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} |f(v)|$ . The minimum weight of a kRDF of G is called the k-rainbow domination number of G, and is denoted by  $\gamma_{rk}(G)$ . We denote cartesian product of two graphs G and G by  $G \times G$ . The Harary graph denoted by G is a graph on the G vertices G is each vertex G is a graph of the G vertices G is each vertex G is a graph of the G vertices are subjected to the wraparound G is even, then each vertex G is adjacent to G is a graph on the G vertices are subjected to the wraparound

- If k is odd and n is even, then  $H_{k,n}$  is  $H_{k-1,n}$  with additional adjacencies between each  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+\frac{n}{2}}$  for each i.
- If k and n are both odd, then  $H_{k,n}$  is  $H_{k-1,n}$  with additional adjacencies  $\{v_1,v_{1+\frac{n-1}{2}}\}, \{v_1,v_{1+\frac{n+1}{2}}\}, \{v_2,v_{2+\frac{n+1}{2}}\}, \{v_3,v_{3+\frac{n+1}{2}}\}, \ldots, \{v_{\frac{n-1}{2}},v_n\}.$

The concept of rainbow domination was first introduced and studied in [2]. The exact values of 2-rainbow domination

convention that  $v_i \cong v_{i+n}$ .

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numbers of several classes of graphs namely paths, cycles, suns and trees are found in [3] and [4]. The bounds of 2-rainbow domination for generalized petersen graphs are discussed in [3] and [6]. Some bounds for classes of graphs namely Harary graph, k-regular graph,  $P_1 \times P_m$  are estimated in [1]. The critical concept for 2-rainbow domination in graphs was studied in [5].

# 2. Proper 2-rainbow Domination and 2-rainbow Domination

#### 2.1. Proper k-rainbow Domination

Assume that there are k different types of weapons. Our aim is that each vertex/location that is not occupied by any weapon has in its neighborhood all the k weapons and adjacent vertices/locations store different weapons so that defence becomes strong when an attack happens at a particular vertex/location. This leads us to the following definition. Let G be a graph and let  $f: V(G) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1, 2, ..., k\})$  be a function. Then f is called a proper k- rainbow dominating function if, (i) for each vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $f(v) = \phi$  we have  $\bigcup_{u \in N(v)} f(u) = \{1, 2, ..., k\}$  and (ii) for every pair of adjacent vertices u and v,  $f(u) \not\subseteq f(v)$  and  $f(v) \not\subseteq f(u)$  (except  $\phi$ ). The weight w(f), of a proper kRDF f is defined as  $w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} |f(v)|$ . The minimum weight of a proper kRDF of G is called the proper k-rainbow domination number of G, and is denoted by  $\gamma_{prk}(G)$ . Clearly, when k = 1 this concept coincides with the ordinary domination and rainbow domination. In this paper we consider the 2-rainbow domination and proper 2-rainbow domination of graphs. The following are some observations on proper 2-rainbow domination.

Observation 2.1.  $\gamma_{rk}(G) \leq \gamma_{prk}(G)$ .

**Observation 2.2.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(P_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1; n \ge 1.$ 

**Observation 2.3.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(C_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor; n = 2k, k \geq 2.$ 

**Observation 2.4.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(C_n) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor; n = 4k - 1, k \ge 1.$ 

Observation 2.5.  $\gamma_{pr2}(K_n) = 2; n \geq 1.$ 

**Observation 2.6.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(F_n) = 2; n \geq 1$ , where  $F_n$  is the friendship graph.

#### 2.2. Bounds for 2-rainbow Domination and Proper 2-rainbow Domination

**Theorem 2.7.** For  $n_1, n_2, ..., n_m > 1$ ,  $\gamma_{pr2}(K_{n_1, n_2, ..., n_m}) = min\{n_1, n_2, ..., n_m\}$ .

*Proof.* Let G be a complete multipartite graph with m partitions  $V_1, V_2, \ldots, V_m$  of sizes  $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_m$  respectively. Without loss of generality, assume that  $V_1$  has least number of vertices. Now we define a proper 2-rainbow dominating function as follows:

Assign  $\{1\}$  to  $u_1$  and  $\{2\}$  to  $u_2$  where  $u_1, u_2 \in V_1$ . Since  $u_1, u_2$  are adjacent to all vertices in  $V_2, \ldots, V_m$ , the vertices in  $V_2, \ldots, V_m$  can be assigned  $\phi$ . The remaining  $n_1 - 2$  vertices in  $V_1$  can be assigned  $\{1\}$  or  $\{2\}$ . Now this is a proper 2-rainbow dominating function with weight  $n_1$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{pr2}(G) \leq n_1$ . It suffices to show that  $\gamma_{pr2}(G) \not< n_1$ . Let f be a proper 2-rainbow dominating function with minimum weight. If suppose we assign  $\{1\}$  to a vertex  $u_1$  in  $V_1$ . Then no vertex in  $V_2, \ldots, V_m$  can receive the same label, as  $u_1$  is adjacent to all vertices in  $V_2, \ldots, V_m$ . Therefore, assign  $\{2\}$  to a vertex  $u_2$  in  $V_2$ . Now all vertices in  $V_3, \ldots, V_m$  can be assigned  $\phi$ . But the remaining vertices cannot assign  $\{2\}$  in  $V_1$  and  $\{1\}$  in in  $V_2$ .  $w(f) \geq n_1 + n_2$ . This is a contradiction, since  $\gamma_{pr2}(G) \leq n_1$ . If suppose  $\{1,2\}$  is assigned to a vertex  $u_1$  in  $V_1$ . Then all vertices in the partitions  $V_2, \ldots, V_m$  can be assigned  $\phi$ . Since  $V_1$  is an independent set, the remaining vertices cannot be assigned  $\phi$ . Therefore,  $w(f) \geq n_1 + 1$ . This is not possible, since  $\gamma_{pr2}(G) \leq n_1$ .

**Theorem 2.8.**  $\gamma_{r2}(K_{n_1,n_2,...,n_m}) \leq 4$ , where  $\max\{n_1,n_2,...,n_m\} > 1$  and  $m \geq 3$ .

Proof. Let G be a complete multipartite graph with m (m > 3) partitions  $V_1, V_2, \ldots, V_m$  of sizes  $n_1, n_2, \ldots, n_m$  respectively. Without loss of generality, assume that  $n_1 > 1$ . Now we construct a 2-rainbow dominating function as follows: Assign  $\{1\}$  to  $u_1$  and  $\{2\}$  to  $u_2$  where  $u_1, u_2 \in V_1$ . Assign  $\{1\}$  to  $u_3$  and  $\{2\}$  to  $u_4$  where  $u_3 \in V_2$  and  $u_4 \in V_3$ . Now we can assign  $\phi$  to all other vertices in G, as these vertices has  $\{1,2\}$  in its neighborhood. Clearly this is a 2-rainbow dominating function whose weight is 4.

**Theorem 2.9.** For  $k \ge 1$ ,  $\gamma_{pr2}(C_{4k+1}) = \gamma_{r2}(C_{4k+1}) + 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $C_n$  be the cycle  $v_1v_2$ ... $v_nv_1$ , where n=4k+1. Let  $f:V(C_n)\to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2\})$  be a function defined as follows: For  $1\leq i\leq n-2$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \cong 1 \pmod{4} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \cong 3 \pmod{4} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$f(v_{n-1}) = \{1\}$$
$$f(v_n) = \{2\}$$

Now, f is a proper 2-rainbow dominating function of  $C_n$ . Therefore,

$$w(f) = 2 + \gamma_{pr2}(P_{n-2})$$

$$= 2 + \lfloor \frac{n-2}{2} \rfloor + 1$$

$$= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1$$

$$= \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$$

$$= \gamma_{r2}(C_n) + 1.$$

It suffices to prove that  $\gamma_{pr2}(C_n) \geq \gamma_{r2}(C_n) + 1$ . Let f be a proper 2-rainbow dominating function of  $C_n$  with minimum weight. If suppose there is a vertex  $x \in C_n$  with  $f(x) = \{1, 2\}$ . Then,

$$w(f) \ge 2 + \gamma_{pr2}(P_{n-3}) = 2 + \lfloor \frac{n-3}{2} \rfloor + 1$$
$$= \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1$$
$$= \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor + 1$$
$$= \gamma_{r2}(C_n) + 1.$$

Assume that  $|f(x)| \leq 1 \ \forall x \in C_n$ . Then for any pair of adjacent vertices x and y, to at least one of them f assigns a non empty value where  $x, y \notin \{v_{n-1}, v_n\}$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{split} w(f) &\geq 2 + \lceil \frac{n-2}{2} \rceil = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1 \\ &= \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor + 1 \\ &= \gamma_{r2}(C_n) + 1. \end{split}$$

**Theorem 2.10.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(P_n \times P_m) \leq \frac{nm}{2}$ , where n is even and m > 1.

*Proof.* It suffices to construct a proper 2-rainbow dominating function of  $P_n \times P_m$  with weight  $\frac{nm}{2}$ . In  $P_n \times P_m$ , there are nm vertices. Let

$$v_{11}, v_{12}, \ldots, v_{1n}$$
 $v_{21}, v_{22}, \ldots, v_{2n}$ 
 $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ 
 $v_{m1}, v_{m2}, \ldots, v_{mn}$ 

be vertices in  $P_n \times P_m$ . We define a proper 2-rainbow dominating function  $f: V(P_n \times P_m) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2\})$  as follows: For  $1 \le i \le m, 1 \le j \le n$ ,

$$f(v_{ij}) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ are odd} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \text{ and } j \text{ are even} \end{cases}$$

$$\phi \quad \text{otherwise}$$

Since nm is even and every vertex with indices i, j of same parity are labeled with a non empty singleton set,  $w(f) = \frac{nm}{2}$ .

**Theorem 2.11.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(P_n \times P_m) \leq \frac{(n-1)m}{2} + \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ , where n is odd and m > 1.

*Proof.* In  $P_n \times P_m$ , there are nm vertices. Let

$$v_{11}, v_{12}, \ldots, v_{1n}$$
 $v_{21}, v_{22}, \ldots, v_{2n}$ 
 $\ldots \ldots \ldots$ 
 $v_{m1}, v_{m2}, \ldots, v_{mn}$ 

be vertices in  $P_n \times P_m$ . We define a proper 2-rainbow dominating function of  $P_n \times P_m$  with weight  $\frac{(n-1)m}{2} + \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$  as follows: For  $1 \le i \le m$ ,  $1 \le j \le n$ ,

$$f(v_{ij}) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \text{ is even and } j \text{ is odd} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \text{ is odd and } j \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

$$\phi \quad \text{otherwise}$$

Case (1): Assume that m is even.

Since nm is even and every vertex with indices i, j of opposite parity are labeled with a non empty singleton set,  $w(f) = \frac{nm}{2} = \frac{(n-1)m}{2} + \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ .

Case (2): Suppose that m is odd.

Since there are  $(\frac{m-1}{2})(\frac{n+1}{2})$  vertices with indices i as even, j as odd and  $(\frac{m+1}{2})(\frac{n-1}{2})$  vertices with indices i as odd, j as even,  $w(f) = (\frac{m-1}{2})(\frac{n+1}{2}) + (\frac{m+1}{2})(\frac{n-1}{2}) = \frac{mn-1}{2} = \frac{(n-1)m}{2} + \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor$ .

**Theorem 2.12.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(H_{3,n}) \leq \frac{n}{2}$ , where n is even and  $n \geq 4$ .

*Proof.* Clearly it suffices to construct a proper 2-rainbow dominating function of  $H_{3,n}$  with weight  $\frac{n}{2}$ . We define a proper 2-rainbow dominating function  $f: V(H_{3,n}) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2\})$  as follows:

For  $1 \le i \le n$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \cong 1 \pmod{4} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \cong 3 \pmod{4} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Since n is even and every odd indexed vertices are labeled with a non empty singleton set,  $w(f) = \frac{n}{2}$ .

**Theorem 2.13.**  $\gamma_{r2}(H_{k,n}) \leq 2\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$ , where n is even, k is odd,  $k \geq 5$  and  $n \neq k+3$ .

*Proof.* It suffices to define a 2-rainbow dominating function of  $H_{k,n}$  with weight  $2\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$ . We define a 2-rainbow dominating function  $f: V(H_{k,n}) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2\})$  as follows:

Case (1): Suppose that  $n \cong 0, k-1 \pmod{k+1}$ 

For  $1 \le i \le n$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \cong 1 \pmod{k+1} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \cong \frac{k+3}{2} \pmod{k+1} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

If  $n \cong 0 \pmod{k+1}$ , then n = p(k+1).  $w(f) = 2p = \frac{2n}{k+1}$ . When  $n \cong k-1 \pmod{k+1}$ ,  $\frac{k+3}{2} < k-1$  for  $k \geq 5$ . Hence, there are exactly  $\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$  vertices that receive the label  $\{1\}$  and  $\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$  vertices that receive the label  $\{2\}$ . Therefore,  $w(f) = 2\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$ .

Case (2): Assume that  $n \not\cong 0, k-1 \pmod{k+1}$ 

For  $1 \le i \le n-1$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \cong 1 \pmod{k+1} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \cong \frac{k+3}{2} \pmod{k+1} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$f(v_n) = \{2\}$$

Since there are exactly  $\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$  vertices that receive the label  $\{1\}$  and  $\lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$  vertices that receive the label  $\{2\}$ ,  $w(f) = \lceil \frac{n}{k+1} \rceil$ .

**Proposition 2.14.**  $\gamma_{r2}(H_{k,n}) \leq 3$ , where n is even, k is odd,  $k \geq 5$  and n = k + 3.

*Proof.* We construct a 2-rainbow dominating function of  $H_{k,n}$  with weight 3. We define a 2-rainbow dominating function  $f: V(H_{k,n}) \to \mathcal{P}(\{1,2\})$  as follows:

For  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$$f(v_i) = \begin{cases} \{1\} & \text{if } i \cong 1 \pmod{k+1} \\ \{2\} & \text{if } i \cong \frac{k+3}{2} \pmod{k+1} \\ \phi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Since n = k + 3 and  $k \ge 5$ , there are exactly 2 vertices whose indices are congruent to 1 modulo k + 1 and 1 vertex whose index is congruent to  $\frac{k+3}{2}$  modulo k + 1. Therefore, w(f) = 3.

**Proposition 2.15.**  $\gamma_{pr2}(H_{k,n}) = 2$ , where n = k + 2 and n, k are odd.

Proof. Since there is a vertex of degree n-1, assigning  $\{1,2\}$  to that vertex will result all other vertices receiving the label  $\phi$ . Hence w(f)=2. It suffices to show that  $\gamma_{pr2}(H_{k,n})\neq 1$ . Let f be a proper 2-rainbow dominating function with minimum weight. If suppose  $\gamma_{pr2}(H_{k,n})=1$ . Then only one vertex has  $|f(v_i)|=1$  and all other vertices should be assigned  $\phi$ , which is not possible.

# 3. Conclusion

In this paper we defined and discussed on proper 2-rainbow domination in graphs. Also we have found bounds for proper 2-rainbow domination number for various classes of graphs namely complete multipartite graphs, Harary graphs,  $P_n \times P_m$  and cycles. Further works can be done in this area by finding proper 2-rainbow domination numbers for other classes of graphs and by characterizing graphs G such that  $\gamma_{pr2}(G) = \gamma_{r2}(G)$ .

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