

# Dominator Coloring on Star and Double Star Graph Families

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## ABSTRACT

Dominator chromatic number of central, middle and total graphs of star and double star graph families are found in this paper. Also the relationship between dominator chromatic number and star chromatic number of the above graph families are obtained.

## Key words

Central graph, middle graph, total graph and dominator coloring.

## AMS Subject Classification

05C15, 05C69

## 1. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we review the notions of central graph, middle graph, total graph and dominator coloring [1, 2, 3, 5].

### Definition 1.1

Let  $G$  be a simple and undirected graph and let its vertex set and edge set be denoted by  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$ . The *central graph* of  $G$ , denoted by  $C(G)$  is obtained by subdividing each edge of  $G$  exactly once and joining all the non-adjacent vertices of  $G$  in  $C(G)$ .

### Definition 1.2

The *middle graph*  $M(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is defined as follows. The vertex set of  $M(G)$  is  $V(G) \cup E(G)$ . Two vertices  $x, y$  in the vertex set of  $M(G)$  are adjacent in  $M(G)$  if either (i)  $x, y$  are in  $E(G)$  and  $x, y$  are adjacent in  $G$  or (ii)  $x$  is in  $V(G)$ ,  $y$  is in  $E(G)$  and  $x, y$  are incident in  $G$ . In other words,  $M(G)$  is obtained by subdividing each edge of  $G$  exactly once and joining all these newly added middle vertices of adjacent edges of  $G$ .

### Definition 1.3

The *total graph*  $T(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is defined as a graph with vertex set  $V(G) \cup E(G)$  and two vertices  $x, y$  of  $T(G)$  are adjacent in  $T(G)$  if either (i)  $x, y$  are in  $V(G)$  and  $x$  is adjacent to  $y$  in  $G$  or (ii)  $x, y$  are in  $E(G)$  and  $x, y$  are adjacent in  $G$  or (iii)  $x$  is in  $V(G)$ ,  $y$  is in  $E(G)$  and  $x, y$  are incident in  $G$ .

### Definition 1.4

A *proper coloring* of a graph  $G$  is an assignment of colors to the vertices of  $G$  in such a way that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. The *chromatic number*  $\chi(G)$ , is the minimum number of colors required for a proper coloring of

$G$ . A *Color class* is the set of vertices, having the same color. The color class corresponding to the color  $i$  is denoted by  $V_i$ .

## Definition 1.5

A *dominator coloring* of a graph  $G$  is a proper coloring in which every vertex of  $G$  dominates every vertex of at least one color class. The convention is that if  $\{v\}$  is a color class, then  $v$  dominates the color class  $\{v\}$ . The dominator chromatic number  $\chi_d(G)$  is the minimum number of colors required for a dominator coloring of  $G$ .

## 2. DOMINATOR COLORING ON CENTRAL GRAPH, MIDDLE GRAPH AND TOTAL GRAPH OF STAR GRAPH

In this section, dominator chromatic number of central graph, middle graph and total graph of the family of star graphs are obtained. Here it is assumed that the vertex set  $V(K_{1,n})$  of the star graph  $K_{1,n}$  is  $\{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ , where  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are the pendent vertices of  $K_{1,n}$  and the center vertex  $v$  is adjacent to  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

### Theorem 2.1

For star graph  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_d[C(K_{1,n})] = n + 1$ .

### Proof

By the definition of central graph,  $C(K_{1,n})$  is obtained by subdividing each edge  $vv_i$  of  $K_{1,n}$  exactly once by the vertex  $c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  in  $C(K_{1,n})$  and joining all the non-adjacent vertices  $v_i v_j$  of  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$ . Then  $V(C(K_{1,n})) = V_1 \cup V' \cup \{v\}$ , the set  $V'$  is linearly independent and  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v$  and  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Also observe that induced subgraph  $\langle V_1 \rangle$  is complete in  $C(K_{1,n})$ .

A procedure to obtain a dominator coloring of  $C(K_{1,n})$  is as follows. Notice that  $C(K_{1,n})$  contains a clique  $\langle V_1 \rangle$  of order  $n$  and hence  $n$  colors are required to color the vertices in  $V_1$ . Let  $v_i$  be colored by color  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$  and non-adjacent with  $v_{i+1}$ , assign color  $i+1$  to

$c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and assign color 1 to  $c_n$ . As the vertex  $v$  is adjacent to all vertices  $c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , a new color  $(n+1)$  is assigned to  $v$ .

The above procedure guarantees a dominator coloring of  $C(K_{1,n})$  as  $v_i$  dominates the color class  $i+1$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and  $v_n$  dominates color class 1. Also vertices  $c_i$

$1 \leq i \leq n$  dominate the color class  $(n+1)$  and vertex  $v$  dominates itself. Hence  $\chi_d[C(K_{1,n})] = n+1$ .

The following example illustrates the procedure discussed in the above result.

### Example 2.2

In figure 1, central graph of  $K_{1,4}$  is depicted with a dominator coloring.

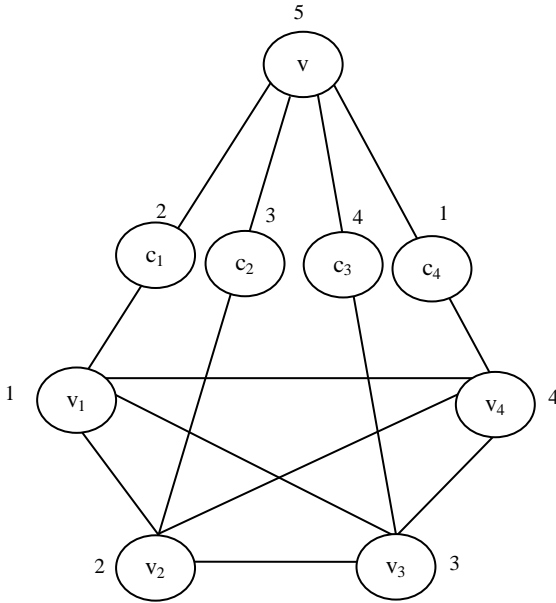


Figure 1

The color classes of  $C(K_{1,4})$  are  $V_1 = \{v_1, c_4\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{v_2, c_1\}$ ,  $V_3 = \{v_3, c_2\}$ ,  $V_4 = \{v_4, c_3\}$  and  $V_5 = \{v\}$ . Therefore  $\chi_d[C(K_{1,4})] = 5$ .

### Theorem 2.3

For star graph  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_d[M(K_{1,n})] = n+1$ .

### Proof

It is clear from the definition of middle graph,  $M(K_{1,n})$  is obtained by subdividing each edge  $vv_i$  of  $K_{1,n}$  exactly once by the vertex  $c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  in  $M(K_{1,n})$  and joining all these middle vertices  $c_i$  and  $c_j$  of adjacent edges of  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$ . Then  $V(M(K_{1,n})) = V_1 \cup V' \cup \{v\}$  and  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Also notice that induced subgraph  $\langle V' \rangle$  is complete in  $M(K_{1,n})$ .

The following procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $M(K_{1,n})$ . As  $M(K_{1,n})$  contains a clique of order  $n$ , minimum  $n$  colors are required to color the vertices  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  of this clique. So the vertices  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  are colored by the colors  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . As the vertex  $v$  is adjacent to  $c_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , a new color  $(n+1)$  is assigned to  $v$ . Since  $v_i$  is independent and  $v_i$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent, the color  $(n+1)$  which is assigned to  $v$  can also be assigned to  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

In  $M(K_{1,n})$ ,  $c_i$  dominates itself. Since  $v$  and  $v_i$  are adjacent to  $c_i$ , vertices  $v$  and  $v_i$  dominate the color class  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . So the given procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $M(K_{1,n})$ . Hence  $\chi_d[M(K_{1,n})] = n+1$ .

### Theorem 2.4

For star graph  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_d[T(K_{1,n})] = n+1$ .

### Proof

Observe from the definition of total graph that  $T(K_{1,n})$  is obtained by subdividing each edge  $vv_i$  of  $K_{1,n}$  exactly once by the vertex  $c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  in  $T(K_{1,n})$  and joining all these middle vertices  $c_i$  and  $c_j$  of adjacent edges of  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $1 \leq i, j \leq n$  and also joining the adjacent vertices  $v$  and  $v_i$  of  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  in  $T(K_{1,n})$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$ . Then  $V(T(K_{1,n})) = V_1 \cup V' \cup \{v\}$  and  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v$  and  $v_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . The induced subgraph  $\langle V' \rangle$  is complete in  $T(K_{1,n})$ .

The procedure given in theorem 2.1 also gives a dominator coloring for  $T(K_{1,n})$ . It can be easily observed that all vertices in  $T(K_{1,n})$  dominate color class  $n+1$ . Hence  $\chi_d[T(K_{1,n})] = n+1$ .

## 3. DOMINATOR COLORING ON CENTRAL GRAPH, MIDDLE GRAPH AND TOTAL GRAPH OF DOUBLE STAR GRAPH

In this section, we find the dominator chromatic number of central graph, middle graph and total graph of the double star graph families. Here it is assumed that the vertex set  $V(K_{1,n,n})$  of double star  $K_{1,n,n}$  is  $\{v, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ , where  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  are the pendent vertices of  $K_{1,n,n}$  and  $v_i$  is adjacent to  $u_i$  and  $v$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

### Theorem 3.1

For double star graph  $K_{1,n,n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\chi_d[C(K_{1,n,n})] = n+2$ .

### Proof

By the definition of central graph,  $C(K_{1,n,n})$  is obtained by subdividing edge  $vv_i$  by  $c_i$  and  $v_i u_i$  by  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  of  $K_{1,n,n}$  and joining all non-adjacent vertices of  $K_{1,n,n}$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ ,  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$  and  $V'' = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ . Then  $V(C(K_{1,n,n})) = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V' \cup V'' \cup \{v\}$ ,  $\{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$  and  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  are linearly independent and  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v$  and  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The induced subgraphs  $\langle V_1 \rangle$  and  $\langle V_2 \rangle$  are complete in  $C(K_{1,n,n})$ .

The following procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $C(K_{1,n,n})$ . As  $C(K_{1,n,n})$  contains two cliques  $\langle v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n \rangle$  and  $\langle u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n \rangle$  each of order  $n$  and  $v_i$  and  $u_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  are non-adjacent,  $n$  colors are sufficient to color the vertices  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  and  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$ . So vertices  $v_i$  and  $u_i$  are colored by color  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since  $c_i$  and  $s_i$  are non-adjacent, assign color  $(n+1)$  to  $c_i$  and  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . As vertex  $v$  is adjacent to  $c_i$  and  $u_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , a new color  $(n+2)$  is assigned to  $v$ .

In  $C(K_{1, n, n})$ ,  $v_i$  dominates the color class  $i+1$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and  $v_n$  dominates color class 1. Since  $s_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$  and  $u_i$ ,  $s_i$  dominates the color class  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . As  $c_i$  and  $u_i$  are adjacent to  $v$ ,  $c_i$  and  $u_i$  dominate the color class  $(n+2)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The vertex  $v$  dominates itself. So the given procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $C(K_{1, n, n})$  and hence  $\chi_d[C(K_{1, n, n})] = n + 2$ .

The following example illustrates the procedure discussed in the above result.

### Example 3.2

In figure 2, central graph of  $K_{1, 3, 3}$  is depicted with a dominator coloring.

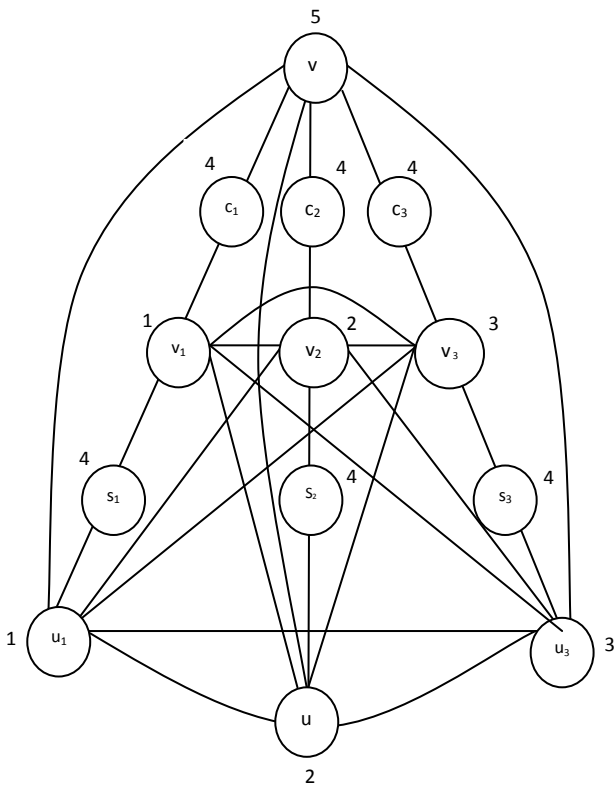


Figure 2

The color classes of  $C(K_{1, 3, 3})$  are  $V_1 = \{v_1, u_1\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{v_2, u_2\}$ ,  $V_3 = \{v_3, u_3\}$ ,  $V_4 = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, s_1, s_2, s_3\}$  and  $V_5 = \{v\}$ . Therefore  $\chi_d[C(K_{1, 3, 3})] = 5$ .

### Theorem 3.3

For double star graph  $K_{1, n, n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  
 $\chi_d[M(K_{1, n, n})] = 2n + 1$ .

### Proof

Observe that  $M(K_{1, n, n})$  is obtained from  $K_{1, n, n}$  by subdividing edge  $vv_i$  by  $c_i$  and  $v_iu_i$  by  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and joining all these middle vertices of adjacent edges of  $K_{1, n, n}$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ ,  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$  and  $V'' = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ . Then  $V(M(K_{1, n, n})) = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V' \cup V'' \cup \{v\}$ ,  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  is linearly independent and  $c_i$  is

adjacent to  $v$  and  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The induced subgraph  $\langle V' \rangle$  is complete in  $M(K_{1, n, n})$ .

A procedure to obtain a dominator coloring of  $M(K_{1, n, n})$  is given below. As  $M(K_{1, n, n})$  contains a clique  $\langle V' \rangle$  of order  $n$ , we require  $n$  colors to color the vertices of this clique. So vertex  $c_i$  is colored by color  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since the vertex  $v$  is adjacent to clique  $\langle V' \rangle$ , a new color  $(n+1)$  is used to color  $v$ . Since  $v_i$ ,  $u_i$  and  $v$  are non-adjacent, assign the color  $(n+1)$  to  $v_i$  and  $u_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . As  $s_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$ ,  $u_i$  and  $c_i$ , assign color  $(n+i+1)$  to  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

In  $M(K_{1, n, n})$ ,  $c_i$  dominates itself,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $v$  dominates all color classes 1 to  $n$ . Since  $s_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$ ,  $u_i$  and  $c_i$ , the vertices  $v_i$  and  $u_i$  dominate the color class  $(n+i+1)$  and  $s_i$  dominates itself,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . So the given procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $M(K_{1, n, n})$  and hence  $\chi_d[M(K_{1, n, n})] = 2n + 1$ .

### Theorem 3.4

For double star graph  $K_{1, n, n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$ ,  
 $\chi_d[T(K_{1, n, n})] = 2n + 1$ .

### Proof

It is clear from the definition of total graph,  $T(K_{1, n, n})$  is obtained from  $K_{1, n, n}$  by subdividing edge  $vv_i$  by  $c_i$  and  $v_iu_i$  by  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , joining all these middle vertices of adjacent edges of  $K_{1, n, n}$  and also joining all adjacent vertices of  $K_{1, n, n}$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ ,  $V_2 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$ ,  $V' = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n\}$  and  $V'' = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$ . Then  $V(T(K_{1, n, n})) = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V' \cup V'' \cup \{v\}$ ,  $\{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n\}$  is linearly independent and  $c_i$  is adjacent to  $v$  and  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . The induced subgraph  $\langle V' \rangle$  is complete in  $T(K_{1, n, n})$ .

A following procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $T(K_{1, n, n})$ . As  $T(K_{1, n, n})$  contains a clique  $\langle V' \rangle$  of order  $n$ , we require  $n$  colors to color the vertices of this clique. That is, vertex  $c_i$  is colored by color  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . Since  $v_i$  is adjacent to  $c_i$ ,  $s_i$ ,  $u_i$  and  $v$ , assign color  $i+1$  to  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$  and assign color 1 to  $v_n$ . As the vertex  $v$  is adjacent to  $c_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , assign a new color  $(n+1)$  to  $v$ . Since  $v$  and  $u_i$  are non-adjacent,  $u_i$  is colored by the same color  $(n+1)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ . As  $s_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$  and  $u_i$ , assign the colors  $(n+i+1)$  to  $s_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

In  $T(K_{1, n, n})$ ,  $c_i$  dominates itself,  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $v$  dominates all color classes 1 to  $n$ . Since  $s_i$  is adjacent to  $v_i$  and  $u_i$ , the vertices  $v_i$  and  $u_i$  dominate the color class  $(n+i+1)$  and  $s_i$  dominates itself. So the given procedure gives a dominator coloring of  $T(K_{1, n, n})$  and hence  $\chi_d[T(K_{1, n, n})] = 2n + 1$ .

By combining the observations of [4] and theorems 3.1, 3.3 and 3.4, we have the following result.

### Result 3.5

- (i)  $\chi_d[C(K_{1, n, n})] = X_s[C(K_{1, n, n})] - (n-1)$
- (ii)  $\chi_d[M(K_{1, n, n})] = X_s[M(K_{1, n, n})] + n$
- (iii)  $\chi_d[T(K_{1, n, n})] = X_s[T(K_{1, n, n})] + n$ .

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

In this paper, we obtained the dominator chromatic number of star and double star graphs and compared these parameters with star chromatic number of the corresponding graph families. This paper can further be extended by identifying graph families of graphs for which these two chromatic numbers are equal.

#### **5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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