# Neighbour sum-distinguishing edge colorings with local constraints

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An edge coloring  $\omega$  of a graph G induces a vertex coloring  $\sigma_{\omega}$ . We want  $\sigma_{\omega}$  to *distinguish* the vertices of G.

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#### Examples

$\sigma_{\omega}(u)$	Global	Local
$\bigcup_{v\in N(u)}\omega(uv)$	[Harary & Plantholt, 1985]	[Györi <i>et al.</i> , 2008]
$\sum_{v\in N(u)}\omega(uv)$	[Chartrand <i>et al.</i> , 1988]	[Karoński <i>et al.</i> , 2004]
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 $\rightarrow$  We are focusing on local sum-distinguishing edge colorings

## Sum-distinguishing edge coloring

#### Definition

Let  $\omega$  be a k-edge coloring of G. We define the vertex-coloring  $\sigma_{\omega}$ :  $\sigma_{\omega}(u) = \sum_{v \in N(u)} \omega(uv)$ . Goal: make  $\sigma_{\omega}$  proper while minimizing k.

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#### Remarks

- ▶ If *G* non-connected, work independently on each component
- ► Always exists if *G* has no *K*<sub>2</sub> component

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1-2-3 Conjecture (Karoński, Luczak, Thomason, 2004)

If no restriction on  $\omega$ , then at most 3 colors are enough.

Conjecture (Flandrin, Marczyk, Przybylo, Sacle, Woźniak, 2013)

If  $\omega$  is proper and  $G \neq C_5$ , then  $k \leq \Delta(G) + 2$ .

## State of the art

#### 1-2-3 Conjecture

- Best general bound: 5 [Kalkowski, Karoński, Pfender, 2011]
- ► Holds for 3-colorable graphs [Karoński *et al.*, 2004], 2 are enough for trees [Chang *et al.*, 2011]
- ► Holds for graphs large enough and very dense (δ(G) > 0.99985n) [Zhong, 2019] (δ(G) ≥ C log(Δ(G))) [Przybyło, 2020+]
- ▶ Bound of 4 for *d*-regular graphs, and holds if *d* ≥ 10<sup>8</sup> [Przybyło, 2021]

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#### Proper variant

- ▶ True for trees,  $K_n$ ,  $K_{n,n}$  [Flandrin *et al.*, 2013]
- ► Bound of  $\lceil \frac{10\Delta(G)+2}{3} \rceil$  [Wang & Yan, 2014]
- Bound of 6 for subcubic graphs [Huo et al. and Yu et al., 2017]

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Conjecture (D., Duchêne, Parreau, Sidorowicz, 2022)

For every connected  $G \notin \{K_2, C_5\}$ ,  $\chi_{\sum}^{\prime d}(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\Delta(G)}{d} \right\rceil + 2$ .

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► Trees: 
$$\chi_{\sum}^{\prime d}(T) = \begin{cases} \frac{\Delta(T)}{d} + 1, & \text{if } \Delta(T) \equiv 0 \mod d \text{ and there are } 2 \\ \left\lceil \frac{\Delta(T)}{d} \right\rceil, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

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d ∈ { [n-1/2],...,n-2} ⇒ χ<sup>'d</sup><sub>∑</sub>(K<sub>n</sub>) ≤ 4
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► Subcubic graphs: \(\chi\_2'(G) \le 4\) and every vertex of degree 2 has incident edges of different colors

Complete graphs, d = 2

Theorem (D., Duchêne, Parreau, Sidorowicz, 2022)

Let 
$$n \ge 4$$
. Then:  $\chi_{\sum}^{\prime 2}(\mathcal{K}_n) = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil + 1 & \text{if } n \not\equiv 3 \mod 4 \\ \lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil + 2 & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \mod 4 \end{cases}$ 

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#### Proof in two steps

1. Constructing such a 2-relaxed distinguishing coloring

#### 2. Necessary to use this many colors

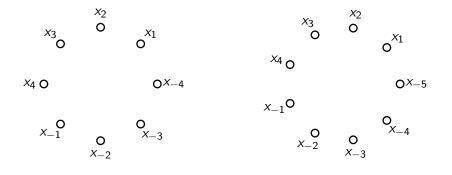
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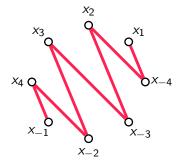
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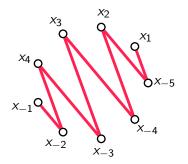
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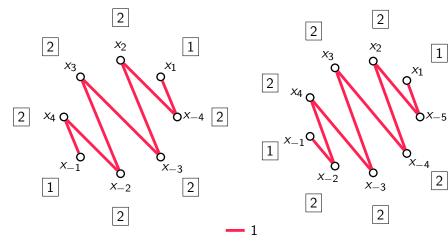
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  - $1.1\,$  Construction of the 2-relaxed coloring
  - $1.2\,$  Recoloring to make it distinguishing
- 2. Necessary to use this many colors



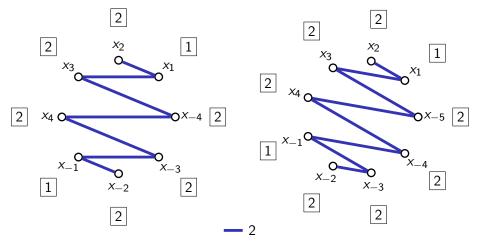


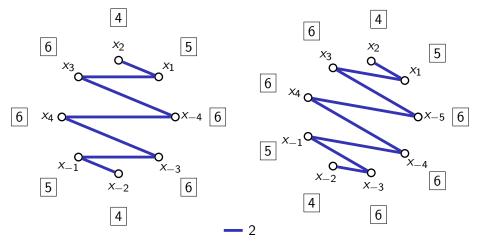


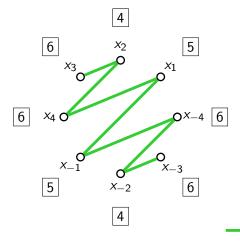
**—** 1

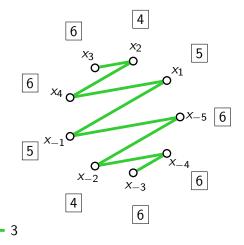


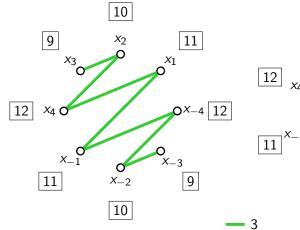
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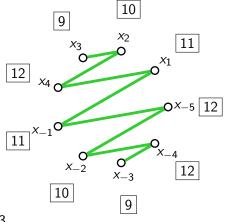


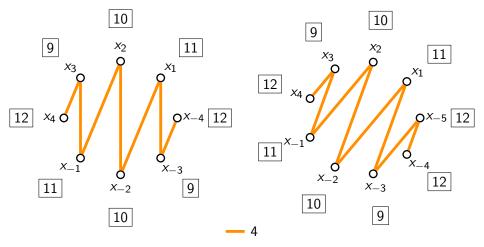


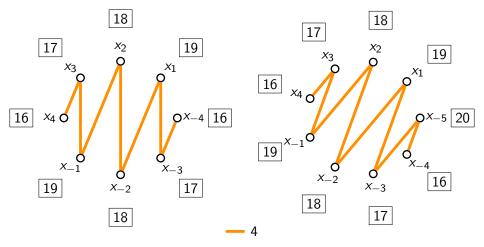


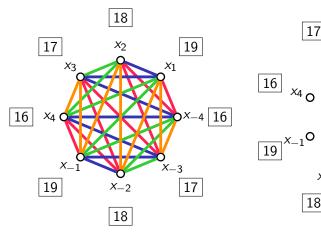


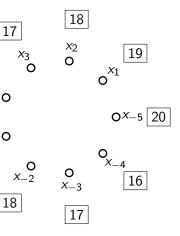


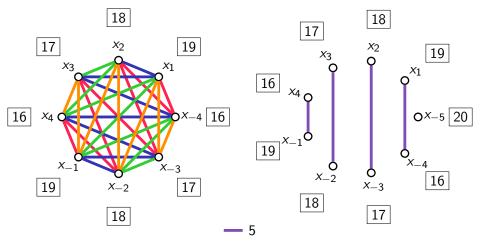


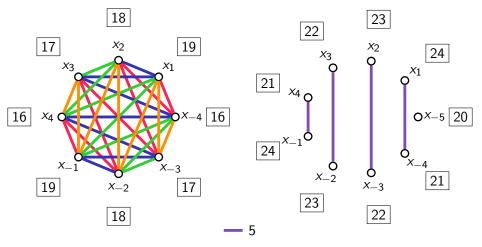




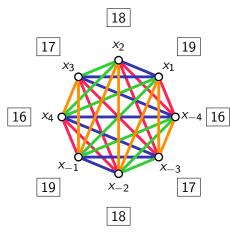


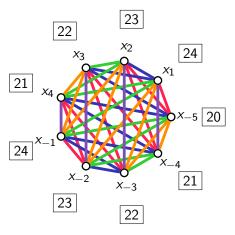




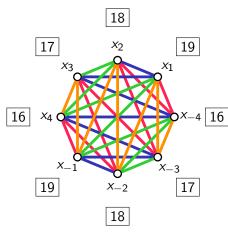


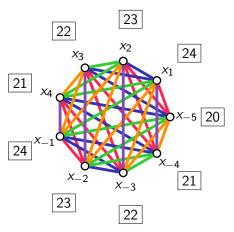
Complete graphs, d = 2: initial construction





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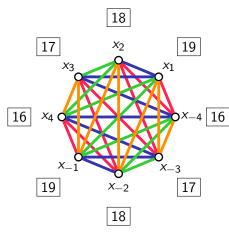


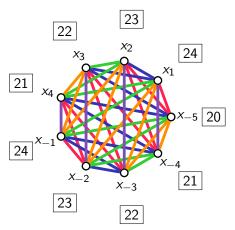


 $\blacktriangleright$   $\left\lceil \frac{n}{2} \right\rceil$  colors

• 2-relaxed coloring of  $K_n$ 

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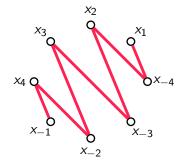


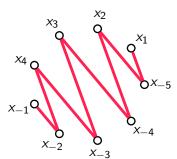




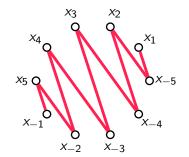
- 2-relaxed coloring of  $K_n$
- $x_i$  and  $x_{-i}$  are not distinguished

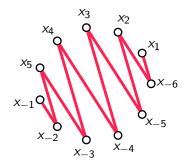
Complete graphs, d = 2: recoloring



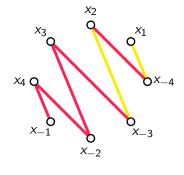


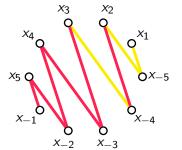
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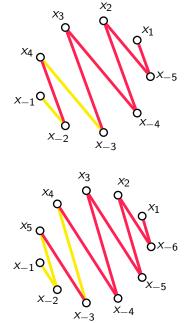




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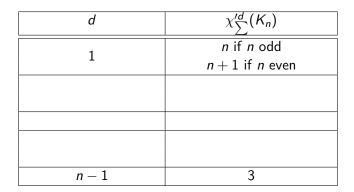




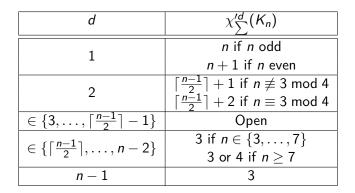


-1-c

d	$\chi_{\sum}^{\prime d}(K_n)$



d	$\chi_{\Sigma}^{\prime d}(K_n)$
1	<i>n</i> if <i>n</i> odd
	n+1 if <i>n</i> even
2	$\left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rceil + 1 \text{ if } n \not\equiv 3 \mod 4$ $\left\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \right\rceil + 2 \text{ if } n \equiv 3 \mod 4$
$\in \{\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil, \dots, n-2\}$	3 if $n \in \{3,, 7\}$
	3 or 4 if $n \ge 7$
n-1	3



Theorem (D., Duchêne, Parreau, Sidorowicz, 2022)

Every subcubic graph  $G \notin \{K_2, C_5\}$  admits a 2-relaxed sumdistinguishing 4-edge coloring such that every degree 2 vertex is incident with two edges of different colors.

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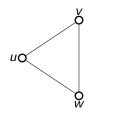
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Four cases depending on the girth, with more subcases...

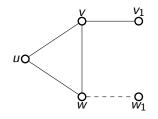
G has a degree 2 vertex in a triangle

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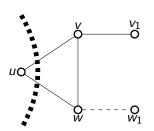


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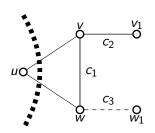


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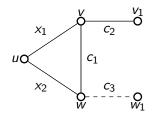
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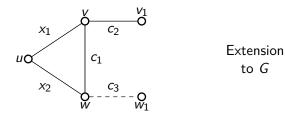
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Extension to G

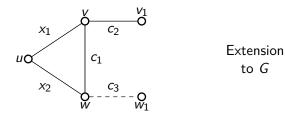
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Whether  $w_1$  exists or not: at most 2 forbidden values for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ to distinguish u from v and w.

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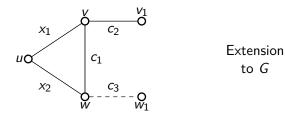
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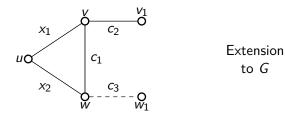


Whether  $w_1$  exists or not: at most 2 forbidden values for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ to distinguish u from v and w.

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*G* has a degree 2 vertex in a triangle Two conditions:  $\begin{cases} x_1 \neq x_2 \\ x_1 + c_2 \neq x_2 + c_3 \end{cases}$ 

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Combinatorial Nullstellensatz (Alon, 1999)

Let  $P(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  be a polynomial over a field F and  $x_1^{k_1} \ldots x_n^{k_n}$ be a monomial of nonzero coefficient and maximal degree in P. For each  $S_1, \ldots, S_n \subseteq F$  such that  $|S_i| > k_i$ , there are  $a_1 \in S_1, \ldots, a_n \in S_n$  such that  $P(a_1, \ldots, a_n) \neq 0$ .

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The monomial  $x_1x_2$  has coefficient 2 and maximal degree in P, and  $|S_1|, |S_2| > 1 \Rightarrow$  We can extend the coloring

Theorem (D., Duchêne, Parreau, Sidorowicz, 2022)

Every subcubic graph  $G \notin \{K_2, C_5\}$  admits a 2-relaxed sumdistinguishing 4-edge coloring such that every degree 2 vertex is incident with two edges of different colors.

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Every graph G with  $\Delta(G) \leq 4$  (resp. 5) admits a sumdistinguishing 6-edge coloring (resp. 7-edge coloring) such that every vertex of degree at least 2 is incident with at least two edges of different colors.

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Stronger local constraint, but weaker bound!

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Adaptation of an algorithm by Kalkowski (2009+).

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#### Proof idea

Adaptation of an algorithm by Kalkowski (2009+).

- 1. Define a vertex ordering with specific properties
- 2. Every edge receives color 4
- 3. Consider each vertex in the order
  - 3.1 The only edges that can be modified are between the vertex, its predecessors, and its first successor
  - 3.2 Ensure that the coloring is sum-distinguishing and that every vertex of degree at least 6 is incident with a non-monochromatic set of edges
  - $\rightarrow$  Several cases are considered

Corollary

 Let G be a graph. We have:

 
$$\blacktriangleright \Delta(G) \leq 3 \Rightarrow \chi_{\Sigma}^{\prime\Delta(G)-1}(G) \leq 4$$
 $\blacktriangleright \Delta(G) \leq 4 \Rightarrow \chi_{\Sigma}^{\prime\Delta(G)-1}(G) \leq 6$ 
 $\blacktriangleright \Delta(G) \leq 5 \Rightarrow \chi_{\Sigma}^{\prime\Delta(G)-1}(G) \leq 7$ 

**Corollary**  
Every graph *G* verifies 
$$\chi'^{\Delta(G)-1}_{\Sigma}(G) \leq 7$$
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Conjecture (D., Duchêne, Parreau, Sidorowicz, 2022)

For every connected 
$$G \notin \{K_2, C_5\}$$
,  $\chi_{\sum}^{\prime d}(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{\Delta(G)}{d} \right\rceil + 2$ .

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#### Open questions

- Complete graphs:  $d \in \{3, \ldots, \lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil 1\}$ , exact value for  $d \in \{\lceil \frac{n-1}{2} \rceil, \ldots, n-2\}$
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