# THE GAME CHROMATIC NUMBER OF SOME JOIN GRAPHS 

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#### Abstract

Two players, Alice and Bob, alternatively color vertices of a graph using a fixed set of colors with Alice staring first so that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. Alice wins if all vertices are successfully colored and Bob wins if one of the players has no legal move before all vertices are completely colored. The game chromatic number of a graph $G$, denoted by $\chi_{g}(G)$, is the least number of colors such that Alice has a winning strategy. The join graph $G \vee H$ is the graph obtained from $G$ and $H$ by adding the edges between all vertices of $G$ and all vertices of $H$. In this paper, we investigate the game chromatic number of some join graphs.


## 1 Introduction

Two players, Alice and Bob, alternatively color vertices of a graph using a fixed set of colors with Alice staring first so that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. Alice wins if all vertices are successfully colored and Bob wins if, at some time before all vertices are completely colored, one of the players has no legal move. The game chromatic number of a graph $G$, denoted by $\chi_{g}(G)$, is the least number of colors such that Alice has a winning strategy.

The well-known game coloring was invented by Steven J. Bram and was published in 1981 by Martin Gardner[4]. Bodlaender[2] reinvented this game in 1991. Define $\chi_{g}(\mathcal{G})=\max \left\{\chi_{g}(G) \mid G \in \mathcal{G}\right\}$. The game chromatic number of several classes of graphs are investigated. For example, $\chi_{g}(\mathcal{F})=4$ when $\mathcal{F}$ is the class of forests[3], $6 \leq \chi_{g}(\mathcal{O P}) \leq 7$ when $\mathcal{O P}$ is the class of outerplanar

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graphs[5], [6], $8 \leq \chi_{g}(\mathcal{P}) \leq 17$ when $\mathcal{P}$ is the class of planar graphs[6],[12], $\chi_{g}(\mathcal{K} \mathcal{T})=3 k+2$ for $k \geq 2$ when $\mathcal{K} \mathcal{T}$ is the class of $k$-trees[9],[11].

In 2007, Bartnicki et.al.[1] investigated the game chromatic number of the Cartesian product of two graphs. The Cartesian product $G \square H$ is the graph with vertex set $V(G) \times V(H)$ where two vertices $\left(u_{1}, v_{1}\right)$ and ( $u_{2}, v_{2}$ ) are adjacent if and only if either $u_{1}=u_{2}$ and $v_{1} v_{2} \in E(H)$ or $v_{1}=v_{2}$ and $u_{1} u_{2} \in E(G)$. In the paper, the authors proved that $\chi_{g}(G \square H)$ is not bounded above in terms of $\chi_{g}(G)$ and $\chi_{g}(H)$. However, Zhu[10] found the the upper bound of $\chi_{g}(G \square H)$ in terms of the game chromatic number of $G$ and the acyclic chromatic number of $H$. Furthermore, Bartnicki et.al. also gave the exact values of $\chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \square P_{n}\right), \chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \square C_{n}\right)$ and $\chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \square K_{n}\right)$. Later, Sia[8] found the exact value of $\chi_{g}\left(S_{m} \square P_{n}\right), \chi_{g}\left(S_{m} \square C_{n}\right), \chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \square W_{n}\right)$ and $\chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \square K_{m, n}\right)$. In 2009, Raspaud and $\mathrm{Wu}[7]$ proved that $\chi_{g}\left(C_{m} \square C_{n}\right) \leq 5$ and $\chi_{g}\left(C_{2 m} \square C_{n}\right)=5$ for $m \geq 3$ and $n \geq 7$.

The join graphs $G \vee H$, is the graph obtained from $G$ and $H$ by adding the edges between all vertices of $G$ and all vertices of $H$. In this paper, we investigated the game chromatic number of $G \vee H$.

## 2 Preliminaries

In this section, we will introduce some examples and remarks of the game chromatic number of graphs.

Example 2.1. Let $n$ be a positive number. Then

$$
\chi_{g}\left(P_{n}\right)= \begin{cases}1 & ; n=1 \\ 2 & ; n=2,3 \\ 3 & ; n \geq 4\end{cases}
$$

Denote the vertices of the fiber of $P_{n}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots, u_{n}$.
Case 1. $n=1$. Alice chooses a color to label $u_{1}$. Then her goal is achieved.
Case 2. $n=2$. To label $P_{2}$, it requires at least two colors because $u_{1}$ and $u_{2}$ need different colors. Suppose that there are two available colors. First, Alice labels $u_{1}$ by color 1 . By the game rule, Bob must use another color to label $u_{2}$; hence, Alice achieves her goal.

Case 3. $n=3$. To label $P_{3}$, it also requires at least two colors. Suppose that there are two available colors. First, Alice labels $u_{2}$ by color 1. Without loss of generality, Bob has to label $u_{1}$ by color 2. Finally, Alice labels $u_{3}$ by color 2; hence, Alice wins.

Case 4. $n \geq 4$. If there are three available colors, all vertices of $P_{n}$ can be labeled because $\Delta\left(P_{n}\right)=2<3$. Suppose that there are only two available colors. On the first move, if Alice labels $v_{i}$ by color 1, then Bob can choose to label $v_{i-2}$ or $v_{i+2}$ by color 2 . Then, $v_{i-1}$ or $v_{i+1}$ cannot be labeled. Hence, Bob wins.

Next, we will study about a relation between $\chi_{g}(H)$ and $\chi_{g}(G)$ when $H$ is a subgraph of a graph $G$.

Remark 2.2. If $H$ is a subgraph of a graph $G$ such that $n(H)=n(G)$, then $\chi_{g}(H) \leq \chi_{g}(G)$.

Proof. Suppose that $H$ is a subgraph of a graph $G$ such that $n(H)=n(G)$. Let $m=\chi_{g}(G)$. For $G$, Alice has a winning strategy when there are $m$ available colors. For $H$, Alice applies the same strategy with $G$ to win this game.

The condition $n(H)=n(G)$ in Remark 2.2 is essential because there exists a subgraph $H$ of a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(H)>\chi_{g}(G)$ as shown in Remark 2.3.

Remark 2.3. There is a subgraph $H$ of a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(H)>\chi_{g}(G)$.
Proof. Let $H$ and $G$ be graphs shown in Figure 2.1.


Figure 2.1: A subgraph $H$ of a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(H)>\chi_{g}(G)$
It suffices to show that $\chi_{g}(H)>4$ but $\chi_{g}(G) \leq 4$. Suppose that there are four available colors.

For $H$, without loss of generality, Alice labels $v_{1}$ by color 1 , first. Then Bob labels $v_{2}$ by color 2 . In the next move, Alice must use a new color because all remaining vertices are adjacent to both $v_{1}$ and $v_{2}$. Suppose that Alice labels $v_{3}$ by color 3 . Then Bob labels $v_{4}$ by color 4 . Hence, there is no available color $v_{5}$ and $v_{6}$. Therefore, Bob wins.

For $G$, Alice first labels $u$ by color 1 . Now, we focus on six remaining vertices with three available colors. Let $A_{i}=\left\{v_{2 i-1}, v_{2 i}\right\}$ for $i=1,2,3$. Alice can force Bob to play first in each set. For $i=1,2,3$, if Bob labels a vertex from $A_{i}$ by any color, then Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Hence, Alice wins.

In fact, for any positive integer $m$, there exists a subgraph $H$ of a graph $H$ such that $n(H)+1=n(G)$ and $e(H)+1=E(G)$, but $\chi_{g}(H) \geq \chi_{g}(G)+n$, see Theorem 2.4.

Theorem 2.4. For any positive integer $m$, there is a subgraph $H$ of a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(H) \geq \chi_{g}(G)+m$.

Proof. Let $m$ be a positive integer. We will construct a graph $G$ and its subgraph $H$ such that $\chi_{g}(H) \geq 2 m+3$ but $\chi_{g}(G) \leq m+3$. Let $G$ be a graph with $V(G)=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{2 m+4}, u\right\}$ such that each pair of $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{2 m+4}$ is adjacent except $v_{2 i-1}$ and $v_{2 i}$ for all $i$, and $u$ is a vertex with degree 1 which is adjacent to $v_{2 m+4}$. Let $H$ be the subgraph of $G$ obtained from $G$ by deleting $u$. Let $A_{i}=\left\{v_{2 i-1}, v_{2 i}\right\}$ for $i=1,2, \ldots, m+2$.

Suppose that there are only $2 m+2$ available colors for coloring $H$. Bob can force Alice to first label a vertex in each $A_{i}$. For each $A_{i}$, when Alice labels a vertex by a color, Bob uses a different color to label the other vertex. Then each move requires a new color. After $2 m+2$ moves, there is no available color for two remaining vertices because two vertices. Hence, Bob wins.

Suppose that there are only $2 m+3$ available colors for coloring $G$. Alice first labels $u$ by color 1 . Now, we focus on $2 m+4$ remaining vertices with $m+2$ available colors. Alice can force Bob to play first in each set $A_{i}$. For $i=1,2, \ldots, m+2$, if Bob labels a vertex from $A_{i}$ by any color, then Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Then $m+2$ colors is enough for $2 m+4$ vertices; hence, Alice wins.

## 3 The join of graphs

In this section, we start investigating relations between join of some graphs. First, we study a relation between $\chi_{g}(G)$ and $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee K_{1}\right)$. It is not true that $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee K_{1}\right)=\chi_{g}(G)+1$. There exists a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee P_{1}\right)=\chi_{g}(G)$. The graph is $P_{4}$. Example 2.1 shows that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4}\right)=3$ and Example 3.1 confirms that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee P_{1}\right)=3$, as well.

Example 3.1. Let $P_{4}$ and $P_{1}$ be paths with four and one vertices, respectively. Then $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee P_{1}\right)=3$.

Denote the vertices of two fibers $P_{n}$ and $P_{2}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}, u_{4}$ and $v$, respectively. Since $P_{4}$ requires two colors and $P_{1}$ requires one more color, $P_{4} \vee P_{1}$ need at least three colors. Suppose that there are three available colors. We will prove that Alice has a winning strategy.

On the first move, Alice labels $v$ by color 1. Let $A_{1}=\left\{u_{1}, u_{3}\right\}$ and $A_{2}=$ $\left\{u_{2}, u_{4}\right\}$. For $i=1,2$, Alice can force Bob to first label a vertex in $A_{i}$. If Bob labels a vertex in $A_{i}$ then Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Hence, Alice wins.

Example 3.2 shows that there exists a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee P_{1}\right)=$ $\chi_{g}(G)+2$. The graph is $P_{4} \vee P_{1}$.

Example 3.2. Let $P_{4}$ and $P_{2}$ be paths with four and two vertices, respectively. Then $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee P_{2}\right)=5$.

Denote the vertices of two fibers $P_{4}$ and $P_{2}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}, u_{4}$ and $v_{1}, v_{2}$, respectively. Bob can force Alice to first label a vertex of $P_{4}$, say $u_{i}$ Then Bob labels $u_{i-2}$ or $u_{i+2}$. Hence, $u_{i-1}$ or $u_{i+1}$ requires the third color. Since $P_{2}$ need two more colors, $P_{4} \vee P_{2}$ need at least five colors.

To prove that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee P_{2}\right) \leq 5$, suppose that there are five available colors. We will prove that Alice has a winning strategy.

Notice that $P_{4} \vee P_{2}$ has six vertices but there are five available colors. Hence, Alice immediately wins when two vertices are labeled by the same color. On the first move, Alice labels $u_{2}$ by color 1 . On the second move, we divide Bob's choice into three cases. If bob does not label $u_{4}$, then Alice labels $u_{4}$ by color 1. If Bob labels $u_{4}$ by color 2 , then Alice labels $u_{1}$ by color 2. If Bob labels $u_{4}$ by color 1, then Alice can label any vertex with any color. The remaining vertices can be labeled. Hence, Alice wins.

Recall that if $G$ is $P_{4}$ then $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee P_{1}\right)=\chi_{g}(G)$ and, if $G$ is $P_{4} \vee P_{1}$ then $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee P_{1}\right)=\chi_{g}(G)+2$.

Example 3.3 and Example 3.4 show that there exist a subgraph $H$ of a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(H)>\chi_{g}(G)$.

Example 3.3. Let $P_{3}$ be a path with three vertices. Then $\chi_{g}\left(P_{3} \vee P_{3}\right)=5$.
Denote the vertices of the two fibers of $P_{3}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}$ and $v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}$, respectively. It suffices to show that Bob wins if four colors are available and Alice wins if five colors are available.

Suppose that there are four available colors. Let $A=\left\{u_{1}, u_{3}, v_{1}, v_{3}\right\}$. Bob can force Alice to first label vertices in $A$ because the number of vertices outside $A$ is even. Without loss of generality, Alice labels $u_{1}$ by color 1. Then Bob label $u_{3}$ by color 2 . However, $v_{2}, u_{1}, u_{2}$ need three more different colors. Therefore, Bob wins.

Suppose that there are five available colors. Notice that $u_{1}, u_{3}, v_{1}, v_{3}$ have degree four; hence, they can always be labeled. First, Alice labels $v_{2}$ by color 1. If Bob labels $u_{2}$ in the second move, then the proof is done; otherwise, Alice labels $u_{2}$ in the third move.

Example 3.4. Let $P_{4}$ and $P_{3}$ be paths with four vertices and three vertices, respectively. Then $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee P_{3}\right)=4$.

Denote the vertices of the two fibers of $P_{4}$ and $P_{3}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, u_{3}, u_{4}$ and $v_{1}, v_{2}, v_{3}$, respectively. Notice that $P_{4}$ need at least two colors and $P_{3}$ need two more colors. Then $P_{4} \vee P_{3}$ need at least four colors. Suppose that there are four available colors. We will prove that Alice has a winning strategy. First, Alice label $v_{2}$ by color 1 . Let $A_{1}=\left\{u_{1}, u_{3}\right\}, A_{2}=\left\{u_{2}, u_{4}\right\}$ and $A_{3}=\left\{v_{1}, v_{3}\right\}$. For $=1,2,3$, Alice can force Bob to plays first in each $A_{i}$. When Bob labels a vertex in $A_{i}$, Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Hence, Alice wins.

Next, we study a relation between $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)$ in terms of $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.

Remark 3.5. If $n\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $n\left(G_{2}\right)$ are even, then $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right) \geq \chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.

Proof. Let $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ be graphs such that $n\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $n\left(G_{2}\right)$ are even. Let $m=\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $n=\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$. Notice that Bob can force Alice to first label in both graphs because $n\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $n\left(G_{2}\right)$ are even.

Assume that there are $m+n-1$ available colors. Without loss of generality, suppose that there are at most $m-1$ available colors for $G_{1}$. Then Bob can apply a winning strategy when there are $m-1$ colors for $G_{1}$.

The condition $n\left(G_{1}\right)$ and $n_{( }\left(G_{2}\right)$ in Remark 3.5 is necessary. Without the condition, there exist graphs $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ such that $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)<\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$ as shown in Remark 3.6.
Remark 3.6. There exist graphs $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ such that $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)<\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.

Proof. Let $G_{1}=P_{4}$ and $G_{2}=K_{1}$. Then $G_{1} \vee G_{2}=P_{4} \vee K_{1}$. Recall that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4}\right)=3, \chi_{g}\left(K_{1}\right)=1$ and $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee K_{1}\right)=3$. Hence, $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)<$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.
Remark 3.7. There exist graphs $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ such that $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)>\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.

Proof. Let $G_{1}=P_{4} \vee K_{1}$ and $G_{2}=K_{1}$. Then $G_{1} \vee G_{2}=P_{4} \vee K_{2}$. Recall that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee K_{1}\right)=3, \chi_{g}\left(K_{1}\right)=1$ and $\chi_{g}\left(P_{4} \vee K_{2}\right)=5$. Hence, $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1} \vee G_{2}\right)>$ $\chi_{g}\left(G_{1}\right)+\chi_{g}\left(G_{2}\right)$.
Theorem 3.8. For a positive integer $m$, there exists a graph $G$ such that $\chi_{g}(G) \geq \chi_{g}\left(G \vee K_{1}\right)+m$.

Proof. Let $m$ be a positive integer and $K_{1}$ be the graph with one vertex, say $u$. Let $G$ be the graph with $V(G)=\left\{v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{2 m+4}\right\}$ and all vertices are adjacent except $v_{2 i-1}$ and $v_{2 i}$ for all $i$. Consider $G \vee\{u\}$.

It suffices to show that $\chi_{g}(G)>2 m+2$ but $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee K_{1}\right) \leq m+3$. Let $A_{i}=\left\{v_{2 i-1}, v_{2 i}\right\}$ for $i=1,2, \ldots, m+2$.

For $G$, Bob can force Alice to first label a vertex in each $A_{i}$. When Alice labels a vertex in $A_{i}$, Bob uses a different color to label the other vertex. After $2 m+2$ moves, there is no available color for remaining vertices because two vertices in different sets $A_{i}$ must be labeled by different colors. Hence, Bob wins.

For $G \vee K_{1}$, Alice first labels $u$ by color 1 . Now, we focus on $2 m+4$ remaining vertices with $m+2$ available colors. Alice can force Bob to play first in each $A_{i}$. When Bob labels a vertex from $A_{i}$, Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Hence, $m+2$ colors are enough for $2 m+4$ vertices. That is, Alice wins.

## 4 Exact Values

In this section, we study the join of a path and another graph $G$.
Theorem 4.1. If $P_{n}$ is a path with $n$ vertices, then

$$
\chi_{g}\left(P_{n} \vee P_{1}\right)= \begin{cases}2 & ; n=1 \\ 3 & ; n=2,3,4 \\ 4 & ; n \geq 5\end{cases}
$$

Proof. Denote the vertices of the two fibers of $P_{n}$ and $P_{1}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots u_{n}$ and $v$, respectively. It is easy to check that $\chi_{g}\left(P_{1} \vee P_{1}\right)=2$ and $\chi_{g}\left(P_{2} \vee P_{1}\right)=3$. Then suppose that $n \geq 3$.

Case 1. $n=3$, 4. Since $K_{3}$ is a subgraph of $P_{n} \vee P_{1}$, we obtain $\chi_{g}\left(P_{n} \vee P_{1}\right) \geq$ 3. Next, suppose that there are three available colors. We will show that Alice has a winning strategy. On the first move, Alice labels $v$ by color 1 . On the second move, if Bob labels $u_{i}$ for some $i$, then Alice labels either $u_{i-2}$ or $u_{i+2}$ by the same color. Hence, all vertices of $P_{n}$ can be labeled by using two colors. Therefore, Alice has a winning strategy.

Case 2. $n \geq 5$. Suppose that there are four available colors. On the first move, Alice labels $v$ by color 1 . The remaining vertices are $P_{n}$ and $\Delta\left(P_{n}\right)=$ $2<3$, all remaining vertices can be labeled by three remaining colors. Hence, Alice has a winning strategy.

Suppose that there are three available colors and we will prove that Bob has a winning strategy. On the first move, we divide into two cases.

Case 1. Alice labels $u_{i}$ for some $i$. Then Bob labels either $u_{i-2}$ or $u_{i+2}$ by another color. Hence $u_{i-1}$ or $u_{i+1}$ requires the third color. That is, there is no available color for $v$.

Case 2. Alice labels $v$ by color 1 . On the second move, Bob labels $u_{3}$ by color 2. On the forth move, Bob can choose to label $u_{1}$ or $u_{5}$ by color 3. Hence, there is no available color for $u_{2}$ or $u_{4}$. Therefore, Bob wins.

Lemma 4.2. Let $G$ be a graph. Then $\chi_{g}\left(G \vee K_{2 n}\right) \geq \chi_{g}(G)+2 n$.
Proof. Let $G$ be a graph such that $\chi_{g}(G)=m$. Suppose that there are only $m+2 n-1$ available colors for $G \vee K_{2 n}$. It suffices to prove that Bob has a winning strategy.

Notice that if $G$ uses more than $m-1$ colors, then there is not enough color for $K_{2 n}$; hence, Bob wins. Suppose that there are $m-1$ available colors for $G$.

Bob can force Alice to be the first to label a vertex of $G$ because the number of vertices of $K_{2 n}$ is even. Whenever Alice labels a vertex of $K_{2 n}$, Bob labels a vertex of $K_{2 n}$, as well. Hence, Bob can apply a winning strategy when labeling $G$ for $m-1$ colors. That is, Bob has a winning strategy when labeling $G \vee K_{2 n}$ for $m+2 n-1$ colors.

Remark 4.3. Let $G$ be a graph. Then $\chi_{g}(G) \leq \Delta(G)+1$
Theorem 4.4. Let $m, n$ be positive integer. Then

$$
\chi_{g}\left(P_{n} \vee K_{m}\right)= \begin{cases}m+1 & \text { if } n=1 \\ m+2 & \text { if } n=2,3, \text { or } n=4 \text { and } m \text { is odd } \\ m+3 & \text { if } n=4 \text { and } m \text { is even, or } n \geq 5\end{cases}
$$

Proof. Denote the vertices of the fibers of $P_{n}$ by $u_{1}, u_{2}, \ldots u_{n}$ and the vertices of $K_{m}$ by $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{m}$

By Example 2.1, Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 4.2, we obtain that

$$
\chi_{g}\left(P_{n} \vee K_{m}\right) \geq \begin{cases}m+1 & \text { if } n=1 \\ m+2 & \text { if } n=2,3, \text { or } n=4 \text { and } m \text { is odd } \\ m+3 & \text { if } n=4 \text { and } m \text { is even, or } n \geq 5\end{cases}
$$

By Remark 4.3, we obtain that

$$
\chi_{g}\left(P_{n} \vee K_{m}\right) \leq \begin{cases}m+1 & \text { if } n=1 \\ m+2 & \text { if } n=2 \\ m+3 & \text { if } n=4 \text { and } m \text { is even, or } n \geq 5\end{cases}
$$

Hence, two cases are remaining.
Case 1. $n=3$. First, Alice labels $u_{2}$ by color 1. Let $A=\left\{u_{1}, u_{3}\right\}$. Notice that if both vertices in $A$ are labeled by the same colors, then $P_{3} \vee K_{m}$ can be labeled by $m+2$ colors. Whenever Bob labels a vertex in $A$, Alice will label the other vertex by the same color. Bob can force Alice to first label a vertex from $A$ only if $m$ is odd and they label all vertices of $K_{m}$. That is, $u_{1}$ and $u_{3}$ have only one available color; hence, they have no choice but label the last color on both vertices. Hence, Alice wins. That is, $\chi_{g}\left(P_{3} \vee K_{m}\right) \leq m+2$.

Case 2. $n=4$ and $m$ is odd. Notice that if all vertices of $V\left(P_{4}\right)$ are labeled by only two colors, then $P_{4} \vee K_{m}$ can be labeled by $m+2$ colors. Let $A_{1}=\left\{u_{1}, u_{3}\right\}$ and $A_{2}=\left\{u_{2}, u_{4}\right\}$. Alice can force Bob to first label vertices in each $A_{i}$ because $m$ is odd. When Bob labels a vertex in $A_{i}$, Alice labels the other vertex by the same color. Hence, Alice wins.

## 5 Open problems

In the previous section, the game chromatic number of $P_{n} \vee K_{m}$ is investigated. Let $G$ be an $m$-vertex graph and $S_{m}$ be an independent set of size $m$. The upper bound of the game chromatic number of $P_{n} \vee G$ is obtained. The game chromatic number of $P_{n} \vee S_{m}$ is not yet investigated. If the game chromatic number of $P_{n} \vee S_{m}$ is studied, then the lower bound of the game chromatic number of $P_{n} \vee G$ is also obtained.

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