### GOLDEN ROOTS OF CHROMATIC POLYNOMIALS by Troy Parkinson



Tuesday, December 8, 2009

## WHO, WHERE & WHEN

Ruth Bari - Johns Hopkins
 Univ., 1966







William Tutte - Univ. of Waterloo, Canada, 1968



 Saaty & Kainen - The Four-Color Problem, 1977



## WHAT & WHY - BARI

- Absolute Reducibility of Maps of at Most 19 Regions
- All maps with < 20</li>
  regions determined up
  to homeomorphisms



## WHAT & WHY - TUTTE

1 negative, non-integral
 root, u = (-3 + √5)/2 =
 -0.38196601...

•  $u + 2 = \phi = 1.618033988...$ •  $(3 + \sqrt{5})/2 = 2.618033988...$ = Golden Root  $\rightarrow \phi + 1$ 



## WHAT & WHY - SAATY & KAINEN

- Four-Color Theorem proved in 1976
  by Appel & Haken
- 1st major theorem to be proved using a computer
- Four-Color Problem Assaults & conquest.
- φ + 1 is never a root of a chromatic polynomial



## WHAT & WHY - PARKINSON ACADEMIC MOTIVATION



Tuesday, December 8, 2009

### TERMINOLOGY



Vertex *Degree*: the number of edges at a vertex

### **SIMPLE GRAPHS**



All graphs finite and loopless, but multiedges have no effect on outcome.

## **VERTEX COLORING**



## DELETION/ CONTRACTION



**Deletion**: remove an edge, keep its vertices



**Contraction**: remove an edge and identify their vertices



Tuesday, December 8, 2009

## DELETION/CONTRACTION ALGORITHM

- Give *G* a *positive value*
- While there is a *signed* graph, and an edge, *e*, in the signed graph, Do:
  - Choose a non-null, signed graph and an edge, *e*
  - Remove *e* from the graph, while keeping its sign if *e* was *deleted*, and negating its sign if *e* was *contracted*
- Sum up all **X**(*G*,*k*) of null graphs with the appropriate signs





### THEOREM 1: IF G HAS n > 0 VERTICES AND NO EDGES, THEN $\chi(G, k) = k^n$

- Suppose G is a Null Graph.
- Assume  $\exists n$  vertices, k colors
- No Edges ⇒ Vertices are not adjacent

• 
$$\mathbf{x}(G, \mathbf{n}) = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} \cdot \dots \cdot \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{k} = \mathbf{k}^n$$

## 

### THEOREM 2: IF G IS A COMPLETE GRAPH WITH n>0 VERTICES, THEN $\mathbf{x}(K_n, k) = k!/(k-n)!$

- Suppose G is a Complete Graph, K<sub>n</sub>
- All vertices are adjacent to one another
- Choose any vertex and color it with one of *k* colors available.
- Next vertex has *k-1* remaining colors to choose from and so on.
- color k-4 **k-1** choices of choices of color color *k*-2 k-3 choices of choices of color color

*k* choices of

For n=5,  $\mathbf{X}(K_5, k) = k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)(k-4)$ 

•  $\mathbf{X}(K_n, k) = k!/(k-n)!$ 

#### THEOREM 3: IF G HAS 2 EDGES WITH SAME PAIR OF VERTICES, THEN THE DELETION OF 1 OF THE EDGES DOES NOT AFFECT THE VALUE OF X(G, k)

- Suppose *G* contains multiedges
- Delete *extra* edges
- More or less adjacent has no effect on colorings
- Unchanged X(G,k)



THEOREM 4: LET G BE THE UNION OF TWO SUBGRAPHS H AND J WHOSE INTERSECTION IS A COMPLETE GRAPH. THEN  $X(G, k) \cdot X(H \cap J, k) = X(H, k) \cdot X(J, k)$ 

### ■ Suppose Graph $G = H \cup J$ where $H \cap J = K_n$



∃ 2 disjoint vertex sets, G<sub>H</sub> and G<sub>J</sub>, whose colorings not determined by other

(CONTINUED) THEOREM 4: LET G BE THE UNION OF TWO SUBGRAPHS H AND J WHOSE INTERSECTION IS A COMPLETE GRAPH. THEN  $X(G, k) \cdot X(H \cap J, k) = X(H, k) \cdot X(J, k)$ 



(CONTINUED)THEOREM 4: LET G BE THE UNION OF TWO SUBGRAPHS H AND J WHOSE INTERSECTION IS A COMPLETE GRAPH. THEN  $X(G, k) \cdot X(H \cap J, k) = X(H, k) \cdot X(J, k)$ 

• Vertex set of  $H \cap J$  is complete, so disjoint from

В

- either  $G_H$  or  $G_J$
- Thus,  $X(H \cap J,k) = X(K_n,k)$  and
- $\mathbf{X}(G,k) = \mathbf{X}(G_H,k) \cdot \mathbf{X}(H \cap J,k) \cdot \mathbf{X}(G_J,k).$

k-1 choices k choices k-1 choices of color A B D O Of color



(CONCLUDED) THEOREM 4: LET G BE THE UNION OF TWO SUBGRAPHS H AND J WHOSE INTERSECTION IS A COMPLETE GRAPH. THEN  $X(G, k) \cdot X(H \cap J, k) = X(H, k) \cdot X(J, k)$ 

- $\mathbf{X}(G,k)\cdot\mathbf{X}(H\cap J,k) = {\mathbf{X}(G_H,k)\cdot\mathbf{X}(G_J,k)\cdot\mathbf{X}(H\cap J,k)}\cdot\mathbf{X}(K_n,k)$ (2 copies of  $K_n$ )
- $\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{X}(G_{H,k}) \cdot [k(k-1)\cdots(k-r)(k-r-1)] \mathbf{X}(G_{J,k}) \cdot [k(k-1)\cdots(k-r)(k-r-1)]$



Tuesday, December 8, 2009

### THEOREM 5: DELETION-CONTRACTION $X(G,k) = X(G-e,k)-X(G \cdot e,k)$

#### • Let $\exists e \text{ in } G, G-e \text{ and } G \cdot e$

- k-colorings of *G* are k-colorings of
  *G-e* ⇔ k-coloring gives distinct
  colors to vertices of edge *e*
- Subtract from X(G-e,k) number of k-colorings of G-e that give endpoint vertices the same color
- These colorings correspond to  $G \cdot e'$ s



THEOREM 6: LET V BE A VERTEX THAT IS ADJACENT TO EVERY OTHER VERTEX IN A GRAPH, G, THEN  $X(G, k) = k X(G_v, k-1)$ 

- *v* adjacent to all other vertices, no
  vertex has same color as *v*
- X(*G*,*k*) an arrangement with
  respect to *k* colors, we selected 1 of
  *k* colors.
- Rest of arrangement determined by colorings of G<sub>v</sub> without use of first k color chosen



 $X(G, K) = K \cdot X(G_v, K-1)$ 



## SPECIFIC GRAPH EXAMPLES & X(G,k)

- *Tree, T<sub>n</sub>*: A connected graph that contains no cycles
- *Cycle, C<sub>n</sub>*: A closed path in a graph
- Wheel, W<sub>n</sub>: A graph that has a single vertex adjacent to every other *n* vertices of a cycle



## Theorem 7: Let Tn be a tree with n vertices, then $X(T_n, k) = k \cdot (k-1)^{n-1}$

- By induction, Base Case for n=1 true
- Suppose IndHyp. true for some  $T_{n-1}$  and  $\exists e$  adjacent to leaf
- *T-e* has two components (note:  $T_{n-2} = T \cdot e$ )
- $X(T-e,k)=k\cdot X(T\cdot e,k)$  by IndHyp.,  $X(T_n,k)=X(T-e,k)-X(T\cdot e,k)$  by Theorem 5
- $\mathbf{X}(T_{n,k}) = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{X}(T \cdot e, k) \mathbf{k}(\mathbf{k} 1)^{n-2}$ = $\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{k} - 1)^{n-2} \cdot [\mathbf{k} - 1]$ = $\mathbf{k} \cdot (\mathbf{k} - 1)^{n-1}$



Theorem 8: Let  $C_n$  be a cycle with n vertices, then **X**(**C**<sub>*n*</sub>, **k**)=(**k**-1)<sup>*n*-1</sup>+(-1)<sup>*n*</sup> (**k**-1)

- $X(C_{2},k) = X(K_{2},k) = X(T_{2},k) = k \cdot (k-1),$  $X(C_{3},k) = X(K_{3},k) = k \cdot (k-1)(k-2)$
- $C_n e$  is a tree on *n* vertices, so  $X(C_n e, k) = k \cdot (k-1)^{n-1}$
- $C_n \cdot e$  is a cycle graph with *n*-1 vertices, so Del/Con Alg  $\Rightarrow$  $X(C_n,k) = k \cdot (k-1)^{n-1} - X(C_n \cdot e,k)$
- Using  $X(C_{3},k) = (k-1)^{3} (k-1)$  as initial condition to solve recursion or using characteristic equation

 $X(Cn, K) = (K-1)^{n-1} + (-1)^n (K-1)$ 



Theorem 9: Let  $W_n$  be a wheel with n spokes, then **X**( $W_{n}$ , k) =  $k(k-2)^n + (-1)^n(k-2)$ 

- $\exists$  cycle,  $C_n$  surrounding *hub* vertex, v.
- Theorem  $6 \Rightarrow \mathbf{X}(W_n, k) = k \cdot \mathbf{X}(G_v, k-1)$
- Assuming *v* is wheel center, *G<sub>v</sub>* = *C<sub>n</sub>* and by Theorem 8,
   X(*Cn*, *k*)=(*k*-1)<sup>*n*-1</sup>+(-1)<sup>*n*</sup> (*k*-1)
- Substituting (*n*-1) for *n* gives us the result





 $X(W_{3,k}) = k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)$ 

## CHROMATIC POLYNOMIAL, X(G, k)

- X(G,k) is function counting distinct ways to color G, with k or fewer colors, and where permutations of colors are also distinct
- For *G* with *n* vertices, *m* edges, and *t* components, G<sub>1</sub>, G<sub>2</sub>, ..., G<sub>t</sub> :
  - Coefficient of  $k^n$  in X(G,k) is 1
  - Coefficient of  $k^{n-1}$  in X(G,k) is -*m*
  - Coefficients of  $k^0$ ,  $k^1$ ,  $k^{t-1}$  are all 0
  - Coefficient of k<sup>t</sup> is nonzero
  - $\mathbf{X}(\mathbf{G},k) = \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{G}_1) \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{G}_2) \dots \mathbf{X}(\mathbf{G}_t)$



 $X(K_4, k) = k(k-1)(k-2)(k-3)$  $X(K_4, k) = k^4 - 6k^3 + 11k^2 - 6k$ 

Coefficients of *every* X(G,k) alternate in signs

## Φ, THE GOLDEN RATIO

- Given a rectangle having sides in the ratio 1:Φ
- Φ is defined as unique number such that
   partitioning the original
   rectangle into a square
   and new rectangle which
   also has sides in ratio 1:Φ



 $= 1.6180339887498948482045868343\ldots$ 

## Φ, THE GOLDEN RATIO

• If  $\Phi^2 - \Phi - 1 = 0$ , then  $\Phi^2 = \Phi + 1$ 



■ If  $k = \Phi + 1$ 

Then  $k = \Phi^2$ ,  $k - 1 = \Phi$ , and  $k - 2 = \Phi^{-1}$ 



THEOREM 10: LET G BE THE UNION OF TWO SUBGRAPHS H AND J WHOSE INTERSECTION IS A COMPLETE GRAPH WITH  $0 \le n_k \le 3$  VERTICES. THEN  $X(G, 1 + \Phi) = \Phi^{-\theta} X(H, 1 + \Phi) \cdot X(J, 1 + \Phi)$ 

• Where  $\theta = 0, 2, 3 \text{ or } 2$ , respectively to  $n_k = 0, 1, 2, 3$ 

- Proof consists of 4 cases
- Case1: θ= 0, n<sub>k</sub> = 0 ⇒ The intersection of *H* and *J* is a null graph (complete 0-graph), X(Ø,k)=1 by Theorem 1 and X(H ∩ J,k)=1

• Theorem  $4 \Rightarrow X(G, 1 + \Phi) \cdot 1 = X(H, 1 + \Phi) \cdot X(J, 1 + \Phi)$ 

**X**(*G*, 1 + Φ)= Φ<sup>0</sup> X(*H*, 1 + Φ)·X(*J*, 1 + Φ)

(CONCLUDED)THEOREM 10: LET G=HUJ, WHERE H $\cap$ J=K<sub>n</sub> AND WITH 0  $\leq$  n<sub>k</sub>  $\leq$  3 VERTICES. THEN X(G, 1 +  $\Phi$ ) =  $\Phi^{-\theta}$  X(H, 1 +  $\Phi$ )·X(J, 1 +  $\Phi$ )

- Case 4:  $\theta = 2$ ,  $n_k = 3 \Rightarrow H \cap J = K_3$ , and by Theorem 2 X(H  $\cap$  J,k)=k(k-1)(k-2)
- $X(K_3, 1 + \Phi) \Rightarrow X(K_3, 1 + \Phi = \Phi^2) \cdot \Phi^2((\Phi + 1) 1)((\Phi + 1) 2) = \Phi^2(\Phi)(\Phi 1) = \Phi^2(\Phi)(\Phi^{-1}) = \Phi^2$
- Theorem  $4 \Rightarrow X(G, 1 + \Phi) \cdot \Phi^2 = X(H, 1 + \Phi) \cdot X(J, 1 + \Phi)$  $\Rightarrow X(G, 1 + \Phi) = \Phi^{-2} \cdot X(H, 1 + \Phi) \cdot X(J, 1 + \Phi)$

### **PLANAR GRAPHS:** A GRAPH THAT CAN BE DRAWN ON THE PLANE IN SUCH A WAY THAT ITS EDGES INTERSECT ONLY AT THEIR ENDPOINTS



## G PLANAR, CONNECTED⇒G HAS AT LEAST ONE VERTEX OF DEGREE < 6

- By contradiction, let *every* vertex in G be of degree  $\ge 6$
- $\sum \delta(G) = 2 \cdot e \le 2(3n 6) = 6n 12$ , so degree sum at most 6*n*-12
  - average vertex degree

$$\frac{6n-12}{n} = 6 - \frac{12}{n} < 6$$

Contradiction since every vertex had degree  $\ge 6$ 





### **THEOREM 11**: vertex *v* enclosed by cycle $C_n$ in planar graph, $G \Rightarrow X(G, 1+\Phi)=(-1)^n \Phi^{1-n} X(G_v, 1+\Phi)$

 $\chi_1$ Cycle enclosing v, induct on |G| = |V| + |E|Base Case true since  $|G| = 1 \Rightarrow \nexists$  cycle, n=0 $\boldsymbol{\chi}_{\boldsymbol{0}}$ 3 subcases  $y_2 = c_1$  $x_0$  is not adjacent to *any* other vertex of *G*,  $x_1$  adjacent to vertex  $y_1 \neq v$ , but not a vertex *C<sub>i</sub>* in cycle *C* 

**Y**1

• *x* joined to some vertex  $y_2 = C_i$  in cycle *C* 

### **THEOREM 11:** SUBCASE A-X(G, 1+Φ)=(-1)<sup>n</sup> Φ<sup>1-n</sup> X(G<sub>v</sub>, 1+Φ)

- *G-e* and *G-e* retain planarity since invariant WRT deletions / contractions
- $|G \cdot e| < |G e| < |G|, (G_v) e = (G e)_v \text{ and } (G_v) \cdot e = (G \cdot e)_v$
- $\operatorname{Del}/\operatorname{Con} \Rightarrow \chi(G, 1+\Phi) = \chi(G-e, 1+\Phi) \chi(G \cdot e, 1+\Phi)$
- Ind.Hyp  $\Rightarrow$   $(-1)^n \Phi^{1-n} \cdot \chi((G-e)_v, 1+\Phi) \chi((G-e)_v, 1+\Phi) = (-1)^n \Phi^{1-n} \cdot \chi(G_v, 1+\Phi)$



**THEOREM 11: CASE B-** Assume that *G* has no other vertices other than type *v* and  $C_i$  $X(G, 1+\Phi)=(-1)^n \Phi^{1-n} X(G_v, 1+\Phi)$ 

### 2 subcases

- *G* is equivalent to a *wheel* of *n* spokes and *n* enclosing
  cycle edges
- ∃ edge *e* whose endpoints
  are non-consecutive
  vertices *C<sub>i</sub>* and *C<sub>i</sub>* of cycle *C*





### **THEOREM 11:** SUBCASE B-X(G, 1+Φ)=(-1)<sup>n</sup> Φ<sup>1-n</sup> X(G<sub>v</sub>, 1+Φ)

- $\exists$  edges  $e_1$  and  $e_j$  joining v to  $C_1$  and  $C_j$ , respectively
- Consider complete 3graph formed by edges *e*,
   *e*<sub>1</sub> and *e*<sub>j</sub>



### (concluded)**THEOREM 11**: SUBCASE B-X(G, 1+ $\Phi$ )=(-1)<sup>n</sup> $\Phi$ <sup>1-n</sup> X(G<sub>v</sub>, 1+ $\Phi$ )

- Planar  $G = H \cup J$ , where  $H \cap J$  is cycle  $v \rightarrow C_1 \rightarrow C_3 = C_j$
- H includes  $C_{j+1}$  not  $C_2$ , J includes  $C_2$ not  $C_{j+1}$
- Planar  $G_v = H_v \cup J_v$ , where  $H_v \cap J_v$  is K<sub>2</sub> using *e*
- So Ind.Hyp, Thm  $10 \Rightarrow X(G, 1+\Phi) =$  $(-1)^n \Phi^{-2-n} X(H_v, 1+\Phi) \cdot X(J_v, 1+\Phi) =$  $(-1)^n \Phi^{1-n} X(G_v, 1+\Phi)$





## FINAL SETUP FOR MAIN THEOREM

- Let *G* be in 2-sphere or closed plane
- Regions bounded by cycle in *G*,
  regions are *faces* of a *plane map M* of
  which *G* is the 1-section (the face that
  bounds all other regions)
- Faces are *m*-gons
- Edge or vertex incident with face if it belongs to bounding cycle of that face
- $X(G, k) = X(M_n, k)$
- Planar Triangulations, Z(n), Z(n, m)



# $\begin{array}{l} \text{MAIN THEOREM:} \\ \text{(i) If } M \in Z(n), \text{ then } |X(M_n, 1+\Phi)| \leq \Phi^{5-n} \\ \text{(ii) If } M \in Z(n,m), \text{ then } |X(M_{n,m}, 1+\Phi)| \leq \Phi^{3+m-n} \end{array}$

- Induct on |M|: Base case true for n=1, m=0, and for null graph  $X(M_1,k)=1$
- $|X(M_{1}, 1+\Phi)| = |1| \le \Phi^{5-n} = \Phi^{5-1} = \Phi^4$
- $|X(M_{1,0}, 1+\Phi)| = |1| \le \Phi^{3+m-n} = \Phi^{3+0-1} = \Phi^2$
- 3 Subcases for 1-section *G* of *M* 
  - *G* has a cycle that is a 2-gon
  - *G* may be a complete 3-graph
  - *G* wheel-like at v (note  $M_{20}$  does not work)



### **MAIN THEOREM:** (ii) If $M \in Z(n,m)$ , then $|\chi(M_{n,m}, 1+\Phi)| \le \Phi^{3+m-n}$



### **MAIN THEOREM:** SUBCASES (ii) If $M \in Z(n,m)$ , then $|\chi(M_{n,m}, 1+\Phi)| \le \Phi^{3+m-n}$

- $m=4 \Rightarrow \exists 2 \text{ non-consecutive vertices}$
- Add edge to subdivide m-gon into a triangle and an (m-1)-gon - - Call it N
- Identify vertices x and y Call it N<sub>1</sub>
- $\chi(M, 1+\Phi) = \chi(N, 1+\Phi) \chi(N_1, 1+\Phi) \Rightarrow$  $|\chi(M, 1+\Phi)| \le |\chi(N, 1+\Phi)| + |\chi(N_1, 1+\Phi)|$
- For m=4,  $N \in Z(q)$  and  $N_1 \in Z(q-1,2) \Rightarrow$  $|\chi(M,1+\Phi)| \le \Phi^{5-q} + \Phi^{5-(q-1)} = \Phi^{7-q} = \Phi^{3+m-q}$ since m=4



### MAIN THEOREM: SUBCASES (ii) If $M \in Z(n,m)$ , then $|\chi(M_{n,m}, 1+\Phi)| \le \Phi^{3+m-n}$



## **EPILOGUE:** 1+Φ never a root of a Chromatic Polynomial

- $\chi(G, k) > 0$  if |V| is even,  $\chi(G, k) < 0$  if |V| is odd
- For *K* components,  $\exists \sigma(G, k) \ni \chi(G, k) = k^{|K|} \cdot \sigma(G, k)$

