

1. Complete the table by finding all nonnegative integers  $m$  and  $n$  for which the graphs below have the following properties:

	bipartite	$n$ -connected	$\chi = n$	$\chi' = n$
$C_n$	$n \geq 3$	$n = 3$	$n = 3$	$n = 3$
$K_{m,n}$	$m, n \geq 0$	$m \geq n \geq 0$ ; or $(m, n) = (0, 1)$	$n = 2, m \geq 1$ ; or $(m, n) = (0, 0), (0, 1)$	$n \geq m \geq 1$ ; or $(m, n) = (0, 0)$
$K_n$	$n \leq 2$	$n \geq 0$	$n \geq 0$	odd $n \geq 3$ ; or $n = 0$

2. In a connected graph with a 2-coloring of the vertices, two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  have the same color if and only if **the distance  $d(x, y)$  between  $x$  and  $y$  is even.**
3. (a)  $K_4$  is a cubic (3-regular) graph with  $\chi(K_4) = 4 > 3\chi'(K_4)$ .  
 (b)  $\overline{K_2}$  (two isolated vertices) is a disconnected graph where  $\chi(\overline{K_2}) = 1 > 0 = \Delta(\overline{K_2})$ .
4. Let  $S_j = K_{1,j}$  denote the star with  $j$  leaves. Let us prove that the Ramsey number

$$r(S_m, S_n) = \begin{cases} m + n - 1 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are even,} \\ m + n & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

In a coloring *without* either a red  $S_m$  and a blue  $S_n$ , every vertex has  $\leq m - 1$  red edges and  $\leq n - 1$  blue edges incident with it. So each vertex has  $\leq m + n - 2$  neighbors and the number of vertices is  $\leq m + n - 1$ . Thus,  $r(S_m, S_n) \leq m + n - 1 + 1 = m + n$ .

*Case 1.* If  $m + n - 1$  is even, then there is an  $(m - 1)$ -regular graph on  $m + n - 1$  vertices. Take a 1-factor of  $K_{m+n-1}$  and use a turning trick  $m - 1$  times to get an  $(m - 1)$ -regular red subgraph. Then continue with the turning trick and use it  $n - 1$  more times to get an  $(n - 1)$ -regular blue subgraph. Hence, in this case  $r(S_m, S_n) > m + n - 1$ , so  $r(S_m, S_n) = m + n$ .

*Case 2.* If  $m + n - 1$  is odd, but both  $m - 1$  and  $n - 1$  are even, then there is an  $(m - 1)$ -regular red subgraph and an  $(n - 1)$ -regular blue subgraph of  $K_{m+n-1}$  since  $K_{m+n-1}$  is decomposable into Hamilton cycles (which are 2-factors of  $K_{m+n-1}$ ). Start with a Hamilton cycle  $C_{m+n-1}$  of  $K_{m+n-1}$  and use a turning trick  $(m - 1)/2$  times for the red subgraph, then the remaining  $(n - 1)/2$  times for the blue subgraph. Hence, in this case  $r(S_m, S_n) > m + n - 1$ , so  $r(S_m, S_n) = m + n$  as well.

*Case 3.* If  $m + n - 1$  is odd and both  $m - 1$  and  $n - 1$  are odd, then there is no  $(m - 1)$ -regular or  $(n - 1)$ -regular graph on  $m + n - 1$  vertices since the sum of the degrees in such a graph would have been odd. Hence, in this case we cannot avoid both a red  $K_m$  and a blue  $K_m$ . Therefore,  $r(S_m, S_n) \leq m + n - 1$  in this case. However,  $m + n - 2$  is even, so Case 1 applies, and hence,  $r(S_m, S_n) > m + n - 2$ , so  $r(S_m, S_n) = m + n - 1$  when both  $m$  and  $n$  are even.

5.  $K_{4,4}$  may be decomposed into 2 Hamilton cycles  $C_8$ . If one is colored red and the other blue, we will have no monochromatic  $K_{2,2}$  (i.e.  $C_4$ ).

6.

$$\chi_{\text{new}}(C_n) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } n \text{ is a multiple of 3,} \\ 5, & \text{if } n = 5, \\ 4, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To see this, note that the first 3 vertices must be colored in 3 different colors, hence,  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_n) \geq 3$ . If  $n = 3k$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ , then it is easy to see that 123123...123 is a valid coloring (check!). Note

that this is the *only* way (up to renaming colors) to color  $C_n$  in 3 colors so that vertices with distance at most 2 from each other receive different colors. Hence, it is not a valid coloring when  $n \neq 3k$ , so for those  $n$ ,  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_n) \geq 4$ . If  $n = 3k + 1$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$  (i.e.  $n = 4, 7, 10, \dots$ ), then again it is easy to see that  $4123123 \dots 123$  is a valid coloring (check!), so  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_n) \leq 4$ . If  $n = 3k + 2$  for  $k \geq 2$  (i.e.  $n = 8, 11, 14, \dots$ ), then  $41234123123 \dots 123$  is a valid coloring (check!), so  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_n) \leq 4$ . If  $n = 5$ , then the distance between any two vertices is either 1 or 2 (going clockwise or counterclockwise, whichever is shorter). Hence,  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_5) \geq 5$ , but coloring  $12345$  is valid, so  $\chi_{\text{new}}(C_5) \leq 5$ .

7. Let us prove by induction that  $\kappa(Q_n) = n$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Since,  $Q_2 \cong C_4$ , we have  $\kappa(Q_2) = \kappa(C_4) = 2$ , so the base case is true. For the induction step, let us now assume that the statement is true for  $Q_{n-1}$ , i.e. that  $\kappa(Q_{n-1}) = n - 1$ . Since  $Q_n$  is  $n$ -regular,  $\kappa(Q_n) \leq \delta(Q_n) = n$ . Hence, we only need to prove that  $\kappa(Q_n) \geq n$ .

Consider two subgraphs of  $Q_n$ : the bottom  $Q_{n-1} \times \{0\}$  and the top  $Q_{n-1} \times \{1\}$ . Choose a set  $U$  of  $n - 1$  vertices in  $Q_n$  to be deleted. We distinguish two cases.

*Case 1.* Suppose the  $n - 1$  vertices in  $U$  are all in the top subgraph. Then the bottom is left untouched in  $Q_n - U$ , hence the bottom remains connected. Moreover, all remaining top vertices are connected to their bottom counterparts. Therefore,  $Q_n - U$  is connected. The case where  $n - 1$  vertices in  $U$  are all in bottom subgraph is very similar.

*Case 2.* Suppose some vertices in  $U$  are in the top subgraph and some are in the bottom subgraph. That means  $< n - 1$  vertices were deleted from the top and from the bottom, so the remainders of the top and of the bottom are still connected by the induction hypothesis that  $\kappa(Q_{n-1}) = n - 1$ . But are they connected to each other? Notice that  $Q_{n-1}$  has  $2^{n-1} > n - 1$  vertices, so no matter which  $n - 1$  vertices we delete from  $Q_n$ , there must be a vertex  $x$  in  $Q_{n-1}$  so that neither  $(x, 0)$  nor  $(x, 1)$  are in  $U$ . Therefore, the remains of the top and the bottom in  $Q_n - U$  are connected at least by the edge between  $(x, 0)$  and  $(x, 1)$ . Thus, in  $Q_n - U$ , the top is connected, the bottom is connected, and the top is connected to the bottom, so the whole  $Q_n - U$  is connected.

In both cases,  $Q_n - U$  is connected for any set  $U$  of  $n - 1$  vertices, so  $\kappa(Q_n) \geq n$ . QED.

8. Let us prove that a regular graph which is decomposable into spanning trees must be complete. Let  $G$  be an  $r$ -regular graph with  $p$  vertices and  $q$  edges, which is decomposable into  $k$  spanning trees. Each of  $p$  vertices of  $G$  has degree  $r$ , so the sum of all degrees is  $rp = 2q$ . On the other hand, each spanning tree of  $G$  also has  $p$  vertices, hence  $p - 1$  edges. If  $G$  is decomposable into  $k$  spanning trees, then  $q = k(p - 1)$ . Therefore,  $rp = 2k(p - 1)$ , so  $r = rp - r(p - 1) = 2k(p - 1) - r(p - 1) = (2k - r)(p - 1)$ , so  $r$  is a multiple of  $p - 1$ . But  $0 \leq r \leq p - 1$ , so  $r = 0$  or  $r = p - 1$ . Therefore,  $p = 2k(p - 1)/r = 2k$ , i.e.  $p$  is even and  $k = p/2$ . If  $r = 0$ , then  $G$  has no edges and is disconnected, hence cannot be decomposable into spanning trees. Therefore,  $r = p - 1$ , i.e.  $G$  is complete. We also get that  $p = 2k(p - 1)/r = 2k$ , i.e.  $p$  is even and  $k = p/2$ .
9. (a) Let  $C$  be the longest cycle in a graph and suppose there exists a vertex  $w$  not on the cycle. If  $w$  had two consecutive neighbors on the cycle, say  $x$  and  $y$ , then replacing the edge  $xy$  with  $xw$  and  $wy$  would result in a longer cycle than  $C$ . Therefore,  $w$  cannot have two consecutive neighbors on the cycle.
- (b) Pick an orientation on  $C$  (i.e. a direction in which to travel along  $C$ ). Let  $S$  denote the set of successors of neighbors of  $w$  on  $C$ . Suppose that two vertices on  $S$  are adjacent, say  $x'$  and  $y'$ , successors of neighbors  $x$  and  $y$  of  $w$ . Without loss of generality, assume that in the direction we travel along  $C$ , we encounter  $x$  (then  $x'$ ), then  $y$  (then  $y'$ ). Then the cycle  $C' = xwy$ (back along  $C$  to) $x'y'$ (forward along  $C$  to) $x$  obtained by deleting  $xx'$  and  $yy'$  and inserting  $xw$ ,  $wy$  and  $x'y'$ , is a longer cycle than  $C$ , which contradicts our assumption. Therefore  $S$  is an independent set.