

CHROMATIC EQUIVALENCE OF
 K_4 -HOMEOMORPHS WITH GIRTH 9

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Abstract: For a graph G , let $P(G, \lambda)$ denote the chromatic polynomial of G . Two graphs G and H are chromatically equivalent (or simply χ -equivalent), denoted by $G \sim H$, if $P(G, \lambda) = P(H, \lambda)$. A graph G is chromatically unique (or simply χ -unique) if for any graph H such as $H \sim G$, we have $H \cong G$, i.e, H is isomorphic to G . A K_4 -homeomorph is a subdivision of the complete graph K_4 . In this paper, we discuss a pair of chromatically equivalent of K_4 -homeomorphs with girth 9, that is, $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ and $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$. As a result, we obtain two infinite chromatically equivalent non-isomorphic K_4 -homeomorphs.

AMS Subject Classification: 05C15

Key Words: chromatic polynomial, chromatic equivalence, K_4 -homeomorphs

1. Introduction

All graphs considered here are simple graphs. For such a graph G , let $P(G, \lambda)$ denote the chromatic polynomial of G . Two graphs G and H are chromatically

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equivalent (or simply χ -equivalent), denoted by $G \sim H$, if $P(G, \lambda) = P(H, \lambda)$. A graph G is chromatically unique (or simply χ -unique) if for any graph H such as $H \sim G$, we have $H \cong G$, i.e, H is isomorphic to G .

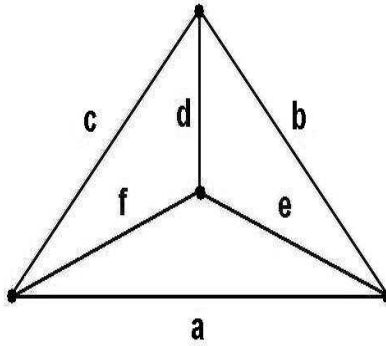


Figure 1: $K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)$

A K_4 -homeomorph is a subdivision of the complete graph K_4 . Such a homeomorph is denoted by $K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)$ if the six edges of K_4 are replaced by the six paths of length a, b, c, d, e, f , respectively, as shown in Figure 1. So far, the chromaticity of K_4 -homeomorphs with girth g , where $3 \leq g \leq 7$ has been studied by many authors (see [2,5,6,7]). The chromaticity of K_4 -homeomorphs with girth 8 or 9 is still remains open. For some results on chromatic equivalence of K_4 -homeomorphs with girth 8, the reader is referred to [3,8,9].

In this paper, we shall discuss a chromatically equivalence pair of K_4 -homeomorphs, $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ (as in Figure 2) and $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$. We obtain two infinite chromatically equivalent non-isomorphic K_4 -homeomorphs. This result can be extended to the study of chromatic equivalence classes of $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ and chromatic uniqueness of K_4 -homeomorphs with girth 9.

2. Preliminary Results

In this section, we give some known results used in the sequel.

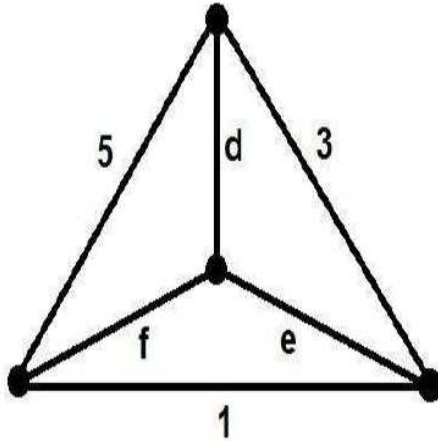


Figure 2: $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$

Lemma 2.1. Assume that G and H are χ -equivalent. Then

- (1) $|V(G)| = |V(H)|, |E(G)| = |E(H)|$ (see [4]);
- (2) G and H has the same girth and same number of cycles with length equal to their girth (see [11]);
- (3) If G is a K_4 -homeomorph, then H must itself be a K_4 -homeomorph (see [1]);
- (4) Let $G = K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)$ and $H = K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)$, then
 - (i) $\min(a, b, c, d, e, f) = \min(a, b, c, d, e, f)$ and the number of times that this minimum occurs in the list $\{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ is equal to the number of times that this minimum occurs in the list $\{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ (see[10]);
 - (ii) if $\{a, b, c, d, e, f\} = \{a, b, c, d, e, f\}$ as multisets, then $H \cong G$ (see [5]).

Theorem 2.1. (Yanling Peng [8]) Let $K_4(1, 2, 5, d, e, f)$ and $K_4(1, 2, 5, d, e, f)$ be chromatically equivalent, then

$$K_4(1, 2, 5, i, i + 6, i + 1) \sim K_4(1, 2, 5, i + 2, i, i + 5),$$

$$K_4(1, 2, 5, i, i + 1, i + 6) \sim K_4(1, 2, 5, i + 5, i, i + 2),$$

$$K_4(1, 2, 5, i, i + 1, i + 3) \sim K_4(1, 2, 5, i + 2, i + 2, i).$$

Theorem 2.2. (Yanling Peng [9]) Let $K_4(2, 3, 3, d, e, f)$ and $K_4(2, 3, 3, d, e, f)$ be chromatically equivalent, then $K_4(2, 2, 3, d, e, f)$ is isomorphic to $K_4(2, 2, 3, d, e, f)$.

Theorem 2.3. (Roslan et al. [3]) Let $K_4(1, 3, 4, d, e, f)$ and $K_4(1, 3, 4, d, e, f)$ be chromatically equivalent, then

$$K_4(1, 3, 4, i, i + 5, i + 1) \sim K_4(1, 3, 4, i + 2, i, i + 4),$$

$$K_4(1, 3, 4, i, i + 1, i + 4) \sim K_4(1, 3, 4, i + 2, i + 3, i).$$

where $i \geq 1$.

3. Main Results

In this section, we present our main results.

Lemma 3.1. Assume that $G \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ and $H \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$, then

- (1) $P(G) = (-1)^{x-1} [s/(s-1)^2] [-s^{x-1} - s^6 - s^5 - s^4 - s^3 + 2s + 2 + R(G)]$,
 where
 $R(G) = -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+e+f}$,
 $s = 1 - \lambda$, x is the number of the edges of G .
- (2) If $P(G) = P(H)$, then $R(G) = R(H)$.

Proof. (1) Let $s = 1 - \lambda$. From [10], we have the chromatic polynomial of K_4 -homeomorphs $K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)$ is as follows:

$$P(K_4(a, b, c, d, e, f)) = (-1)^{x-1} [s/(s-1)^2] [(s^2 + 3s + 2) - (s+1)(s^a + s^b + s^c + s^d + s^e + s^f) + (s^{a+d} + s^{b+f} + s^{c+e} + s^{a+b+e} + s^{b+d+c} + s^{a+c+f} + s^{d+e+f} - s^{x-1})]$$

So, when $a = 1, b = 3$ and $c = 5$, we have

$$P(K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)) = (-1)^{x-1} [s/(s-1)^2] [(s^2 + 3s + 2) - (s+1)(s + s^3 + s^5 + s^d + s^e + s^f) +$$

$$\begin{aligned} & (s^{1+d} + s^{3+f} + s^{5+e} + s^{4+e} + \\ & s^{8+d} + s^{6+f} + s^{d+e+f} - s^{x-1})] \\ & = (-1)^{x-1} [s/(s-1)^2] [-s^{x-1} - s^6 \\ & -s^5 - s^4 - s^3 + 2s + 2 + R(G)] \end{aligned}$$

where $R(G) = -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+4} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+e+f}$ as required.

(2) If $P(G) = P(H)$, then we can easily see that $R(G) = R(H)$. □

Theorem 3.1. *Let K_4 -homeomorphs $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ and $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ be chromatically equivalent, then we have*

$$\begin{aligned} K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 6, i + 1) & \sim K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i, i + 5), \\ K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 1, i + 4) & \sim K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i + 3, i). \end{aligned}$$

where $i \geq 1$.

Proof. Assume that $G \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$ and $H \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$. We now solve for the equation $R(G) = R(H)$ to find G and H which are not isomorphic. From Lemma 3.1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R(G) & = -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+e+f}, \\ R(H) & = -s^{d'} - s^{e'} - s^{f'} - s^{e'+1} - s^{f'+1} + s^{f'+3} + s^{e'+4} + s^{e'+5} + s^{f'+6} + s^{d'+8} + s^{d'+e'+f'}. \end{aligned}$$

Let the lowest remaining power and the highest remaining power be denoted by l.r.p. and h.r.p., respectively. From Lemma 2.1 (1), $d + e + f = d + e + f$. We obtain the following after simplification. Note that our assumption in the following steps of the proof is $R_j(G) = R_j(H)$, where $1 \leq j \leq 19$.

$$\begin{aligned} R_1(G) & = -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_1(H) & = -s^{d'} - s^{e'} - s^{f'} - s^{e'+1} - s^{f'+1} + s^{f'+3} + s^{e'+4} + s^{e'+5} + s^{f'+6} + s^{d'+8}. \end{aligned}$$

Let us consider the h.r.p. in $R_1(G)$ and the h.r.p. in $R_1(H)$. We have $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = \max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\}$. Without loss of generality, we will consider only the following six cases.

Case 1. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$, then $e = e$. Thus, we can cancel the following pairs of terms in the equations : $-s^e$ with $-s^{e'}$, $-s^{e+1}$ with $-s^{e'+1}$, s^{e+4} with $s^{e'+4}$ and s^{e+5} with $s^{e'+5}$. Therefore, the l.r.p. in $R_1(G)$ is d or f and the l.r.p. in $R_1(H)$ is d or f . So, $d = f$ or $d = d$ or $f = f$ or $f = d$. We have $e = e$ and $d + e + f = d + e + f$. So, we know that $\{d, e, f\} = \{d, e, f\}$ as multisets. From Lemma 2.1 (4(ii)), $G \cong H$.

Case 2. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 5$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 5$, then $f = f$. We can deal with this case in the same way as Case 1, thus, $G \cong H$.

Case 3. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = d + 7$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = d + 7$, then we can deal with this case in the same way as Case 1. So, we have $G \cong H$.

Case 4. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 6$, then $e + 5 = f + 6$, that is

$$f = e - 1 \tag{1}$$

from $d + e + f = d + e + f$, we have

$$d + f = d + e - 1. \tag{2}$$

Consider the l.r.p. in $R_1(G)$ and the l.r.p. in $R_1(H)$. From Lemma 2.1(4(i)), $\min \{d, e, f\} = \min \{d, e, f\}$. Without loss of generality, let $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$. The following subcases need to be considered.

Subcase 4.1. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$, then $d = d$. Thus, we can consider this case the same way as Case 1. So, $G \cong H$.

Subcase 4.2. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = e$, then $d = e$. From Equation (2), we have $d = f + 1$. Note that $f = e - 1$ by Equation (1). We can write $R_1(G)$ and $R_1(H)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_2(G) &= -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_2(H) &= -s^{f+1} - s^d - s^{e-1} - s^{d+1} - s^e + s^{e+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+9}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying $R_2(G)$ and $R_2(H)$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} R_3(G) &= -s^f - s^{e+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_3(H) &= -s^{e-1} - s^{d+1} + s^{e+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+9}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the term $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_3(H)$. Since the $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$, $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_3(H)$ cannot be cancelled by any of the positive terms in $R_3(H)$. Thus, $-s^{d+1}$ must be equal to $-s^f$ or $-s^{e+1}$ in $R_3(G)$. Note that $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$, so $e + 5 \geq d + 8$, that is, $e + 1 \geq d + 4 > d + 1$. Thus, $-s^{e+1} \neq -s^{d+1}$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^f$, then $d + 1 = f$. Thus, $R_3(G)$ and $R_3(H)$ can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_4(G) &= -s^{d+1} - s^{e+1} + s^{d+4} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_4(H) &= -s^{e-1} - s^{d+1} + s^{e+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+10}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying $R_4(G)$ and $R_4(H)$, we have

$$-s^{e+1} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+8} = -s^{e-1} + s^{e+2} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+10}.$$

Therefore, we have $e = d + 6$. At this point, we acquire the following equations : $e = d + 6, f = e - 1 = d + 5, f = d + 1, d = f + 1 = d + 2$ and $e = d$. Let $d = i$. Therefore, we obtain the solution where G is isomorphic to $K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 6, i + 1)$ and H is isomorphic to $K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i, i + 5)$.

Subcase 4.3. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = f$, then $d = f$. Note that $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 6$. So, $f + 6 \geq d + 8$, that is, $f \geq d + 2 > d$. This contradicts with the fact that $\min \{d, e, f\} = f$.

Case 5. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 6$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = d + 8$, then $f + 6 = d + 8$, that is,

$$d = f - 2 \tag{3}$$

from $d + e + f = d + e + f$, we have

$$d + e = e + f - 2. \tag{4}$$

Consider the l.r.p. in $R_1(G)$ and the l.r.p. in $R_1(H)$, where $\min \{d, e, f\} = \min \{d, e, f\}$ by Lemma 2.1(4(i)). Without loss of generality, let $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$. The following subcases need to be considered.

Subcase 5.1. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$, then we deal with this case the same way with Case 1. So, we get $G \cong H$.

Subcase 5.2. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = e$, then $d = e$. From Equation (4), we have $f = e + 2$. Note that $d = f - 2$ by Equation (3). Thus, we can write $R_1(G)$ and $R_1(H)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_5(G) &= -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_5(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^d - s^{e+2} - s^{d+1} - s^{e+3} + s^{e+5} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{e+8} + s^{f+6}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the term $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_6(H)$. Since $\min (d, e, f) = d$, then $-s^{d+1}$ cannot be cancelled by any positive terms in $R_5(H)$. Note that $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = f + 6$, so $f + 6 \geq d + 8$, that is $f + 1 \geq d + 3 > d + 1$, thus $f + 1 \neq d + 1$, i.e, $-s^{d+1} \neq -s^{f+1}$. Moreover $f \geq d + 2 > d + 1$, thus $f \neq d + 1$, i.e, $-s^{d+1} \neq -s^f$. Therefore the term $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_5(H)$ must be cancelled by the term $-s^e$ or $-s^{e+1}$ in $R_5(G)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^e$, then $e = d + 1$. Thus, $R_5(G)$ and $R_5(H)$ can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_6(G) &= -s^{d+1} - s^f - s^{d+2} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+6} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_6(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+1} - s^{d+4} + s^{d+6} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+9} + s^{f+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we obtain

$$-s^f - s^{d+2} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+8} = -s^{f-2} - s^{d+3} + s^{d+9} + s^{f+6}.$$

The resulting equations contradict $R_6(G) = R_6(H)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^{e+1}$, then $e = d$. Thus, $R_5(G)$ and $R_5(H)$ can be written as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_7(G) &= -s^d - s^f - s^{d+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_7(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{d+2} - s^{d+1} - s^{d+3} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+8} + s^{f+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we obtain

$$-s^d - s^f - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} = -s^{f-2} - s^{d+2} - s^{d+3} + s^{d+5}.$$

Therefore, we have $f - 2 = d$. But $e = d$, so $e = f - 2$. From Equa. (3), $d = d = e$. Since $d = e$, we have $d = d = e = e$. From $d + e + f = d + e + f$, we have $f = f$. Therefore, $G \cong H$.

Subcase 5.3. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = f$, then $d = f$. From Equation (4), $e = e + 2$. Note that from Equation (3), we have $d = f - 2$. We can write $R_1(G)$ and $R_1(H)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_8(G) &= -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_8(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{e+2} - s^d - s^{e+3} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{e+6} + s^{e+7} + s^{d+6} + s^{f+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying $R_8(G)$ and $R_8(H)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_9(G) &= -s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_9(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{e+2} - s^{e+3} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{e+6} + s^{e+7} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

For the same reason stated by Subcase 5.2, $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_9(H)$ must be equal to $-s^e$ or $-s^{e+1}$ in $R_9(G)$. If $-s^{d+1} = -s^e$, then $e = d + 1$. We can write $R_9(G)$ and $R_9(H)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{10}(G) &= -s^{d+1} - s^f - s^{d+2} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{10}(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+4} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$-s^f - s^{d+2} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+5} = -s^{f-2} - s^{d+4} + s^{d+7}.$$

So, we get $f = d + 4$. We also have $e = d + 1$, $d = f - 2 = d + 2$, $f = d$ and $e = e + 2 = d + 3$. Let $d = i$. Therefore, we obtain the solution where $G \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 1, i + 4)$ and $H \cong K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i + 3, i)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^{e+1}$, we have $e = d$. Thus, we have the following:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{11}(G) &= -s^d - s^f - s^{d+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{11}(H) &= -s^{f-2} - s^{d+2} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{d+6} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} -s^d - s^f - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+8} &= -s^{f-2} - s^{d+2} + s^{d+6} + \\ & s^{d+7} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

The resulting equation contradicts $R_{11}(G) = R_{11}(H)$.

Case 6. If $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$ and $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = d + 8$, then $e + 5 = d + 8$, that is,

$$d = e - 3 \tag{5}$$

from $d + e + f = d + e + f$, we have

$$d + f = e + f - 3. \tag{6}$$

Consider the l.r.p. in $R_1(G)$ and the l.r.p. in $R_1(H)$. We have $\min \{d, e, f\} = \min \{d, e, f\}$ by Lemma 2.1(4(i)). Without loss of generality, let $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$. The following subcases need to be considered.

Subcase 6.1. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$, then we deal with this case the same way with Case 1. So, we get $G \cong H$.

Subcase 6.2. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = e$, then $d = e$. From Equation (6), we have $f = f + 3$. Note that $d = e - 3$ by Equation (5). Thus, we can write $R_1(G)$ and $R_1(H)$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{12}(G) &= -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{12}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^d - s^{f+3} - s^{d+1} - s^{f+4} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+9} + s^{e+5}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{13}(G) &= -s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{13}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{f+3} - s^{d+1} - s^{f+4} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+9}. \end{aligned}$$

Consider the term $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_{13}(H)$. Since $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$, $-s^{d+1}$ cannot be cancelled by any positive term in $R_{13}(H)$. From $\max \{e + 5, f + 6, d + 8\} = e + 5$, we have $e + 5 \geq d + 8$, i.e., $e + 1 \geq d + 4 > d + 1$. So, $-s^{d+1} \neq -s^{e+1}$. Moreover, $e \geq d + 3 > d + 1$, thus, $e \neq d + 1$, i.e., $-s^e \neq -s^{d+1}$. So, $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_{13}(H)$ must be equal to $-s^f$ or $-s^{f+1}$ in $R_{13}(G)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^{f+1}$, then $d = f$. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{14}(G) &= -s^e - s^d - s^{e+1} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{14}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+1} - s^{d+4} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+9}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$-s^e - s^d - s^{e+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+8} = -s^{e-3} - s^{d+3} + s^{d+5} + s^{f+9}.$$

The resulting equation contradicts $R_{14}(G) = R_{14}(H)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^f$, then $d + 1 = f$. Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{15}(G) &= -s^e - s^{d+1} - s^{e+1} - s^{d+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{15}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{d+4} - s^{d+1} - s^{d+5} + s^{d+4} + s^{d+5} + s^{d+10}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$-s^e - s^{e+1} - s^{d+2} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+8} = -s^{e-3} - s^{d+4} + s^{d+10}.$$

The resulting equation contradicts $R_{15}(G) = R_{15}(H)$.

Subcase 6.3. If $\min \{d, e, f\} = d$ and $\min \{d, e, f\} = f$, then $d = f$. From Equation (6), we have $e = f + 3$. Note that $d = e - 3$ by Equation (5). Thus, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{16}(G) &= -s^d - s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{e+5} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{16}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{f+3} - s^d - s^{f+4} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{f+7} + s^{f+8} + s^{d+6} + s^{e+5}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{17}(G) &= -s^e - s^f - s^{e+1} - s^{f+1} + s^{f+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{f+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{17}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{f+3} - s^{f+4} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{f+7} + s^{f+8} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

For the same reason stated in Subcase 6.2, $-s^{d+1}$ in $R_{17}(H)$ can only be equal to $-s^f$ or $-s^{f+1}$ in $R_{16}(G)$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^{f+1}$, then $d = f$. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{18}(G) &= -s^e - s^d - s^{e+1} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+6} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{18}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+4} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we have

$$-s^e - s^d - s^{e+1} + s^{e+4} = -s^{e-3} - s^{d+3} - s^{d+4} + s^{d+7}.$$

Then, we know that the term s^{e-3} must be equal to s^d . So, we have $d = e - 3$. Also we obtain $d = f = f$ and $e = f + 3 = f + 3 = d + 3 = e$. From $d + e + f = d + e + f$, we have $d = d$. Therefore $G \cong H$.

If $-s^{d+1} = -s^f$, then $d + 1 = f$. So, we have

$$\begin{aligned} R_{19}(G) &= -s^e - s^{d+1} - s^{e+1} - s^{d+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+7} + s^{d+8}, \\ R_{19}(H) &= -s^{e-3} - s^{d+4} - s^{d+5} - s^{d+1} + s^{d+3} + s^{d+8} + s^{d+9} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

After simplifying, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} -s^e - s^{e+1} - s^{d+2} + s^{d+4} + s^{e+4} + s^{d+7} &= -s^{e-3} - s^{d+4} - s^{d+5} + s^{d+3} + \\ & s^{d+9} + s^{d+6}. \end{aligned}$$

The resulting equation contradicts $R_{19}(G) = R_{19}(H)$.

At this point, we have solved the equation $R(G) = R(H)$ and the solution is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 6, i + 1) &\sim K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i, i + 5), \\ K_4(1, 3, 5, i, i + 1, i + 4) &\sim K_4(1, 3, 5, i + 2, i + 3, i), \end{aligned}$$

where $i \geq 1$. The proof is now completed. □

We close the paper with the following problem.

Problem. Study the chromatic uniqueness of the graph $K_4(1, 3, 5, d, e, f)$, where $d + e \geq 6$, $d + f \geq 4$ and $e + f \geq 8$.

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