

# Coloring of Field

Akshaya .G, Sudha Lakshmi .G

II M.Sc., Mathematics

Department of Mathematics, Thassim Beevi Abdul Kadher College for Women, Kilakarai, Tamilnadu, India

**Abstract:** *The purpose of this article is to present the idea of coloring of a field. This idea establishes a connection between graph theory and field theory which hopefully will turn out to be mutually beneficial for these two branches of mathematics. In this introductory paper we shall mainly be interested in characterizing and discussing the field which are finitely colorable, leaving aside, for the moment, possible applications to graph theory.*

**Keywords:** Field, coloring, finite coloring, graph theory, field theory

## 1. Introduction

Let  $F$  be a field. We consider  $F$  as a simple graph whose vertices are the elements of  $F$ , such that two different element  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $yx = 0$ . We let  $\chi(F)$  denote the chromatic number of the graph, i.e., the minimal number of colors which can be assigned to the elements of  $F$  in such a way that every two adjacent elements have different colors.

A subset  $T = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$  is called clique provided  $y_i y_j = 0$  for all  $i \neq j$ . If  $F$  contains a clique with  $n$  elements, and every clique has at most  $n$  element, We say that the clique number of  $F$  is  $n$  and write  $\text{clique } F = n$ . If the size of the cliques in  $F$  are not bounded we define  $\text{clique } F = \infty$ . We shall show that  $\text{clique } F = \infty$  actually entails the existence of an infinite clique.

Obviously  $\chi(F) \geq \text{clique } F$  and for general graph  $G$  we certainly may have  $\chi(G) > \text{clique } G$ . However, in the case of commutative rings we have not found any example where  $\chi(F) > \text{clique } F$ . The lack of such counter example together with the fact that we have been able to establish the equality  $\chi(F) = \text{clique } F$  for certain (rather wide) classes of field like reduced and principal ideal field motivates the following conjecture.

## 2. Preliminaries

### 2.1 Definition

A field is a set with two operation called addition & multiplication which satisfy the following axioms

Axiom for addition

- If  $x \in F, y \in F$  then  $x+y \in F$
- $x+y = y+x$
- Addition is associative
- $F$  contains an element zero such that  $0+x = x$  for every  $x \in F$
- To every  $x \in F$  corresponds an element  $-x \in F$  such that  $x+(-x) = 0$

### 2.2 Definition

If an element  $x$  of a ring  $R$  is called *nilpotent* if there exist some positive integer  $n$  such that  $x^n = 0$

### 2.3 Definition

The *nil radical* of a commutative ring is the ideal consisting of the nilpotent element of the ring

### 2.4 Definition

A subset  $I$  is called the ideal of the ring if it satisfy the following condition

- $(I, +)$  is a subgroup of  $(R, +)$
- for every  $r \in R$  and  $x \in I$  then  $rx \in I$ .

### 2.5 Definition

A *clique* which is a subset of vertices of an undirected graph such that every two distinct vertices are adjacent, its induced subgraph is complete.

### 2.6 Definition

A graph *coloring* is an assignment of label called colors to the vertices of the graph such that no two vertices (adjacent) share the same color.

### 2.7 Definition

The *chromatic number*  $\chi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimal number of colors for which such an assignment it possible.

### 2.8 Annihilator

Let  $R$  be a ring & let  $M$  be a left  $R$ -module choose a non-empty subset  $S$  of  $M$ , it is set of all elements  $r$  in  $R$  such that for all  $s$  in  $S, rs = 0$

$$\text{Ann}_R(S) = \{r \in R \mid \text{for all } s \in S: rs = 0\}$$

**Presumption 1.**  $\chi(R) = \text{Clique } R$ .

**Presumption 2.**  $\chi(R) = 2$  if and only if  $R$  is an integral domain,  $R \cong Z_4$ , or  $R \cong Z_2[X]/(X^2)$ .

**Presumption 3.** If  $p_1, \dots, p_k, q_1, \dots, q_r$  be different prime numbers and  $N = p_1^{2n_1}, \dots, p_k^{2n_k}, q_1^{2m_1+1}, \dots, q_r^{2m_r+1}$ . Then  $\chi(Z_N) = \text{clique}(Z_N) = p_1^{n_1}, \dots, p_k^{n_k}, q_1^{m_1}, \dots, q_r^{m_r} + r$ .

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**Presumption 4.** Suppose that R has an infinite number of finite elements then R contains an infinite clique.

**Presumption 5.** If I be a finite ideal in R. The ring R contains an infinite clique if and only if  $R/I$  has an infinite clique.

**Presumption 6.** If the nilradical of R is infinite then R has an infinite clique.

### 3. Main Result

#### 3.1 Definition

A field F is called a coloring provide that  $\chi(F)$  is finite.

#### 3.2 Definition

The *nilradical* of the field is the ideal consist of nilpotent element of the field.

#### 3.3 Theorem

Let x and y be element in F such that Ann x and Ann y are different prime ideals. Then  $xy=0$ .

Proof:

Assume that  $xy \neq 0$ . Then  $x \notin \text{Ann } y$  and  $y \notin \text{Ann } x$ . Since Ann x and Ann y are prime ideals, we derive  $\text{Ann } x : y = \text{Ann } y : x = \text{Ann}(xy)$ . Thus,  $\text{Ann } x = \text{Ann } y$ . Hence proved.

#### 3.4 Theorem

For a reduced field F the following are equivalent

- (1)  $\chi(F)$  is finite
- (2) Clique F is finite
- (3) The zero ideal in F is a finite intersection of prime ideal
- (4) F does not contain an infinite clique

Proof:

The implication (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2), (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (4), (2)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) are evident. To see (3)  $\Rightarrow$  (4) let  $(0) = P_1 \cap \dots \cap P_k$  where  $P_1, \dots, P_k$  are prime ideals. Define a coloring g on F by putting  $f(0) = 0$  and  $f(x) = \min \{i/x \notin P_i\}$  for  $x \neq 0$ . We note that  $\chi(F) \leq k+1$ . It suffices now to show that (4)  $\Rightarrow$  (3). We assume that F is reduced and does not contain an infinite clique.

Then F satisfies a.c.c on ideals of the form Ann a (since, if F be a reduced field which does not contain an infinite clique. Then F has a.c.c on ideals of the form Ann x).

Let  $\text{Ann } x_i$ ,  $i \in I$  be the different maximal member of the family  $\{\text{Ann } a/a \neq 0\}$ .

It is easily shown that each  $\text{Ann } x_i$  is a prime ideal. (Since x and y be element in F such that Ann x and Ann y are different prime ideal. Then  $xy = 0$ ). The index set I is finite.

Pick  $x \in F, x \neq 0$ . The  $\text{Ann } x \subset \text{Ann } x_i$  for some  $i \in I$ . If  $xx_i = 0$  then  $x_i \in \text{Ann } x \subset \text{Ann } x_i$  and we drive that  $x_i^2 = 0$ , which entails that  $x_i = 0$ .

We conclude that  $xx_i \neq 0$ . And thus  $x \notin \text{Ann } x_i$ . Hence  $\bigcap_i \text{Ann } x_i = (0)$ . This completes the proof.

#### 3.5 Theorem

A coloring has an ideal of the form Ann a.

Proof:

Let F be the coloring and let us assume that  $\text{Ann } x_1 \subset \text{Ann } x_2 \subset \dots$ . We have to prove that F has an ideal of the form Ann a. Let us consider the nilradical T is finite since for the reduced field the zero ideal in F is a finite intersection of prime ideal than  $\chi(F)$  is finite

Let us consider  $T = P_1 \cap P_2 \cap \dots$ , where  $P_i$  are the prime ideals for  $x \in F$  we get  $T : x = (P_1 : x) \cap (P_2 : x) \cap \dots \cap (P_n : x)$

This shows that the family  $\{T : x/x \in F\}$  is finite. Consequently, there exist a subsequence  $\{y_j\}$  of  $\{x_i\}$  for which  $T : y_1 = T : y_2 = \dots$  implies that,  $\text{Ann } y_1 \subset \text{Ann } y_2 \subset \dots$ . Which contains in  $T : y_1$  which contradicting the fact that  $T : y_i / \text{Ann } y_i$  is finite. This complete the proof.

#### 3.6 Definition

In algebra a subfield of algebra over a field F is an F-subalgebra that is also a field.

#### 3.7 Definition

Maximal subfield that is not contained in strictly larger subfield of A

#### 3.8 Note

A sub field of a coloring is itself a coloring.

#### 3.9 Theorem

Let I be a finitely generated ideal in a coloring. The  $\text{kn}F/\text{Ann } I$  is a coloring.

Proof:

Let  $I = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$ . Then  $\text{Ann } I = \text{Ann } T_1 \cap \dots \cap \text{Ann } T_n$ . We have an injection  $F/\text{Ann } I \rightarrow R/\text{Ann } T_1 \times \dots \times R/\text{Ann } T_n$ . Each of the rings  $R/\text{Ann } T_i$  is a coloring since the subfield of a coloring is itself a coloring. and the finite product of colorings is a coloring. So that the proof is complete.

### 4. Detached Elements

**4.1 Definition:** An element y in F is detached provided that  $y \neq 0$  and  $ba = 0$  implies  $yb = 0$  or  $ya = 0$ .

**4.2 Definition:** If  $I$  be an ideal. An element  $x \in I$  is  $I$ -detached provided  $yI \neq (0)$  and whenever  $ba = 0$  for some elements  $b, a \in I$  hence  $cyb = 0$  or then  $ya = 0$ .

**4.3 Theorem:** Let  $I$  be a principal ideal in a coloring. If  $I^2 \neq (0)$  then  $I$  contains an  $I$ -detached elements.

Proof.

Let  $I = Fy$  and suppose  $y^2 \neq 0$ . Since  $F$  has a.c.c on annihilators

It is easily shown that  $0:y^2t$  is a prime ideal for some  $t \in F$ .

We claim that  $yt$  is  $I$ -detached.

Let  $b, a \in I$  and assume  $ba = 0$ . Write  $b = dy$  and  $a = cy$ .

Then  $dcy^2 = 0$ .

Hence  $dc$  is contained in the prime ideal  $0 : y^2t$ . If for instance  $d \in 0:y^2$  we derive that  $(dy)(yt) = 0$ , i.e.,  $b(yt) = 0$ .

Furthermore,  $(ty)y = ty^2 \neq 0$  prove that  $(ty)I \neq 0$ . This complete the proof.

**Note 1:** Given a coloring  $F$ , then  $\chi(F) = \text{clique } F$  provided  $\text{clique } F \leq 2$  or  $\chi(F) \leq 2$ .

**Note 2:** Let  $F$  be a coloring. Then  $\text{clique } F = 3$  if and only if  $\chi(F) = 3$ .

**4.4 Theorem:** Let  $F$  be a coloring and  $T$  an integer  $\leq 4$ . Then  $\chi(F) = T$  if and only if  $\text{clique } F = T$ . Moreover,  $\chi(F) = 5$  implies  $\text{clique } F = 5$ .

**Proof**

According to note 2 it suffices to show that  $\chi(F) > 4$  implies that  $F > 4$ .

If  $F$  is a reduced field  $\chi(F)$  equals  $\text{clique } F$ . We assume therefore that the nil radical  $I$  is non-zero.

Since, let  $q_1, \dots, q_k$  be the minimal prime ideals in a coloring  $F$ , and  $\varepsilon(F) = \#\{k \setminus F_{q_j} \text{ is a field}\}$ , then  $\text{clique } F = \text{clique } L + \varepsilon(F)$  and  $\chi(F) = \chi(L) + \chi(F) + \varepsilon(F)$ .

It suffices to show that in our case  $\text{clique } L = \chi(L)$ .

Let  $k = L \cap \text{Ann } L$ . since  $L$  is nilpotent and non-zero  $|k| \geq 2$ , note that  $k$  is a clique in  $K$ . If  $k=L$ ,  $L$  is a clique and trivially  $\chi(L) = \text{clique } L$ . Also if  $|k| > 4$  there is nothing to prove.

If  $|k|=4$  let  $y \in L-K$ . Then  $k \cup \{y\}$  is a clique with 5 elements. If  $|k|=3$  and  $\chi(L) > 4$  at least two different elements. The only case which offers some difficulties is that in which  $|k|=2$  and  $\chi(L) \geq 5$ .

Let  $K = (0, D)$ . since  $k$  is an ideal  $D+D = 0$ . Since  $\chi(L) \geq 5$  the set  $L-k$  requires at least three distinct colors. Hence we can pick a minimal odd cycle  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  in  $L-k$  and assume  $n \geq 5$ . If  $B_1B_i = 0$  for some  $i \neq 1, 2, \dots, n$  the cyclic will decompose in two smaller cycles of which one is odd. Hence  $B_kB_l = 0$  only if  $B_k$  and  $B_l$  are neighbours. As in the proof of Note 2 we conclude that  $B_kB_l$  does not belongs to the cycle since  $B_kB_l$  is adjacent to at least three of the member of the cycle.

Let  $k \neq 1, 2, \dots, n$ . If  $k$  is even  $B_1B_k, B_2, \dots, B_{k-1}$  is an odd cycle of length  $k-1 < n$  and if  $k$  is odd  $B_1B_k, B_{k+1}, \dots, B_n$  is an odd cycle of length  $n-k+1 < n$ .

Since the odd cycle  $B_1, \dots, B_n$  is minimal in  $L-k$  we conclude that  $B_kB_l = 0$  only if  $B_k$  and  $B_l$  are neighbor and  $B_kB_l = D$  if  $k \neq l$  and  $B_k$  and  $B_l$  are not neighbours.

We claim that  $B_1^2 \neq 0$ . If  $B_1^2 = 0$  and  $B_2 \neq B_1 + D$  then,  $B_1, B_2, B_1+D$  is a cycle in  $L-K$ . This implies that  $B_1 + D = B_2$ , but then  $0 = B_2B_3 = B_1B_3 + DB_3 = B_1B_3$ . This contradiction the fact that  $B_1$  and  $B_3$  are not neighbour. Hence  $B_k^2 \neq 0$  for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . consider now  $C = B_1 + \dots + B_{n-2}$ . We have  $CB_{n-1} = B_1B_{n-1} + \dots + B_{n-3}B_{n-1} + B_{n-2}B_{n-1} = (n-3)D = 0$  since  $D+D = 0$  and  $n-3$  is even.

Similarly we see that  $CB_n = 0$ .

Since  $B_n^2 \neq 0$  and  $B_{n-1}^2 \neq 0$  we conclude that  $C \neq B_n$  and  $C \neq B_n$ .

Write  $n=2I+1$  and consider

$$CB_i = B_1B_i + \dots + B_{i-2}B_i + B_{i-1}B_i + B_i^2 + B_{i+1} + B_i + \dots + B_{2i-1}B_i = B_i^2 + 2(I-2)D = B_i^2 \neq 0.$$

This proves that  $C \notin k$ .

Hence  $\{0, B_{n-1}, B_n, C, D\}$  is a clique in  $L$ .

This completes the proof.

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