C-Perfect K-Uniform Hypergraphs

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Abstract

In this paper the concept of clique number of uniform hypergraph is defined and its relationship with circular chromatic number and clique number is studied. For every positive integer k,p and $q, 2q \leq p$ we construct a k-uniform hypergraph with small clique number whose circular chromatic number is equal to $\frac{p}{q}$. We define the concept and study the properties of c-perfect k-uniform hypergraphs .

 ${\bf Keywords}:$ Hypergraph, Circular Coloring, C-Perfect Hypergraph

1 Introduction

For the necessary definitions and notations, we refer the reader to standard texts of graph theory such as [6]. In this paper p, q, r, k, m, n, and l are positive integers such that $(2q \leq p)$ and k > 2. Also, we consider only finite hyperhgraphs. The hypergraph H = (V, E) is called k-uniform whenever every edge e of H is of size k. The hypergraph H' = (V', E') is a subhypergraph of H = (V, E) whenever $V' \subset V$, and $E' \subset E$ and it is an induced subhypergraph of H if for every edge e of H, $e \subset V'$ implies that $e \in E'$. The complement of a k-uniform hypergraph H denoted by \overline{H} , is a k-uniform hypergraph with vertex set V(H) and a k-subset of V(H) is an edge of \overline{H} if and only if it is not an edge of H. A subset of the vertices of H is independent if it does not contain any edges of H and the independent

number of H, denoted by $\alpha(H)$, is the largest size of independent sets of H. Now for the sake of references, we state some definition and result from [2].

A k-uniform hypergraph H is called complete if every k-subset of the vertices is an edge of H. A mapping $f:V(H)\longrightarrow V(K)$ is a homomorphism from hypergraph H to hypergraph K if for every edge e of H, there exists an edge e' of K such that $e'\subseteq f(e)$. The hypergraph H is called vertex transitive if for every vertices x and y in H there is an bijection homomorphism $f:V(H)\longrightarrow V(H)$ such that f(x)=y.

A (p,q)-coloring of H is a mapping $c:V\longrightarrow \{0,1,..,p-1\}$ such that for every edge $e\in E$, there exist vertices x and y in e satisfying $q\leq |c(x)-c(y)|\leq p-q$.

The circular chromatic number of H, $\chi_c(H)$, is defined as

$$\chi_c(H) = \inf\{\frac{p}{q} \mid \text{ there exists a } (p,q) - \text{coloring of } H\}$$

We have shown that [2] the infimum in the definition of circular chromatic number can be replaced by minimum.

It is obvious that if H' is an induced subhypergraph of H then $\chi_c(H') \leq \chi_c(H)$.

Let $H_q^p(k)$ denote the k-uniform hypergraph with vertex set $\{0, 1, ..., p-1\}$ and a k-subset $\{x_1, x_2, ..., x_k\}$ of V(H) is an edge of $H_q^p(k)$ if and only if there exist $1 \le i, j \le k$ such that $q \le |x_i - x_j| \le p - q$.

If k=2 then $H_q^p(k)$ is the graph G_q^p defined by Zhu [7]. It was shown in [2] that $\chi_c(H_q^p(k)) = \frac{p}{q}$, and it is vertex transitive.

let S be the collection of independent sets of a hypergraph H. The mapping c from S to the interval [0,1] is a fractional-coloring of H if for every vertex x of H we have $\sum_{s \in S, x \in s} c(s) = 1$. The value of fractional-coloring c is $\sum_{s \in S} c(s)$. The fractional coloring number of H, denoted by $\chi_f(H)$, is the infimum values of the fractional-colorings of H. The authors [2] have shown that $\alpha(H_q^p(k)) = q$, $H_q^p(k)$ is vertex transitive, and $\chi_f(H_q^p(k)) = \frac{p}{q}$.

Theorem 1 Let H and K be two hypergraphs then

1) $\chi_c(H) = min\{\frac{p}{q} | \text{ there exists a homomorphism } f : H \longrightarrow G_q^p\}.$

- 2) Let there exists a homomorphism from H to K then,
 - a) $\chi(H) \leq \chi(K)$,
 - b) $\chi_c(H) \leq \chi_c(K)$.
- 3) Let H be a k-uniform hypergraph and $\chi_c(H) = \frac{p}{a}$ then,
 - a) $\chi(H) 1 < \chi_c(H) \le \chi(H)$.
 - b) If $c: V(H) \longrightarrow \{0, 1, ..., p-1\}$ be a (p, q)-coloring of H, then c is onto, and $|V(H)| \ge p$.
 - c) If $\frac{p}{q} \leq \frac{p'}{q'}$ then H has a (p', q')-coloring.
 - d) $\frac{|V(H)|}{\alpha(H)} \leq \chi_f(H) \leq \chi_c(H)$,
 - e) If H is vertex transitive then $\chi_f(H) = \frac{|V(H)|}{\alpha(H)}$.

2 Circular Coloring And Clique Number

In this section we only consider k-uniform hypergraphs.

Definition 1 Let H be a k-uniform hypergraph. A subset A of V(H) is called a clique of H if every k-subset of A is an edge of H. The clique number of H, denoted by $\omega(H)$, is defined as

$$\omega(H) = \frac{max\{|A| \mid A \text{ is a clique}\}}{k-1}.$$

The above definition is a generalization of the concept of clique number of graphs.

Theorem 2 For every k-uniform hypergraph H, we have $\omega(H) \leq \chi_c(H)$.

Proof: Let $\omega(H) = \frac{p}{k-1}$ and $A = \{0, 1, ..., p-1\}$ be a clique of H. Let $V(H_{k-1}^p(k)) = A$. Define mapping $f: H_{k-1}^p(k) \longrightarrow H$ by f(x) = x. It is obvious that f is a homomorphism; therefore, by Theorem 1, $\chi_c(H_{k-1}^p(k)) = \omega(H) \le \chi_c(H)$.

Theorem 3 For every $\frac{p}{q} > 2$ and $k \ge 4$ there exists a k-uniform hypergraph H with $\chi_c(H) = \frac{p}{q}$ and $\omega(H) \le \frac{k+1}{k-1}$.

Proof: Let r be an integer such that $qr > \lceil \frac{p}{q} \rceil (2k-4)$. Consider the graph G_{qr}^{pr} and construct a k-uniform hypergraph H as follows:

 $V(H) = V(G_{qr}^{pr})$ and a k-subset e of V(H) is an edge if either e is a 1-edge or e is a (k-1)-edge (when a set e is called an l-edge if the induced subgraph of G_{qr}^{pr} generated by V(e) has exactly l edges).

First we establish that $\omega(H) \leq \frac{k+1}{k-1}$. Assume to the contrary that $\omega(H) > \frac{k+1}{k-1}$ and $A = \{a_0, a_1, ..., a_{k+1}\}$ is a clique of H.

Now we show that every k-subset of A is (k-1)-edge. Suppose it does not hold and a k-subset of A is an 1-edge. Without loss of generality assume that $\{a_0, a_1, a_2, ..., a_{k-1}\}$ is 1-edge and a_0a_1 is the only edge of G_{qr}^{pr} in this set. If $\{a_0, a_2, ..., a_{k-1}, a_k\}$ is a (k-1)-edge, then a_k is adjacent to all vertices $\{a_0, a_2, ..., a_{k-1}\}$ in G_{qr}^{pr} . Now since k>3 the set $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, ..., a_k\}$ is a (k-1)-edge too. Therefore a_1a_k is also an edge of G_{qr}^{pr} and $\{a_0, a_1, a_3, ..., a_{k-1}, a_k\}$ is a k-edge, which is a contradiction. Therefore $\{a_0, a_2, a_3, ..., a_{k-1}, a_k\}$ is an 1-edge. By the same way we can show that $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, ..., a_{k-1}, a_k\}$ is an 1-edge. Hence there exists $j \in \{2, 3, ..., k-1\}$ such that a_ja_k is not an edge of G_{qr}^{pr} . Now $\{a_0, a_1, ..., a_k\} - \{a_j\}$ is 2-edge which is a contradiction $(k \ge 4)$.

Then every k-subsets of A are (k-1)-edge. Let $T = G_{qr}^{pr}[A]$. First of all we show that $\Delta(T) \leq 2$. Let $deg_T(a_0) \geq 3$ and a_1, a_2 , and a_3 are adjacent to a_0 . Since $\{a_1, a_2, a_3, ..., a_k\}$ is a (k-1)-edge, there exists $i, 1 \leq i \leq k$ such that a_i is of degree 0 or 1 in the induced subgraph of G_{qr}^{pr} generated by $\{a_1, ..., a_k\}$. Now the set $\{a_0, a_1, ..., a_k\} - \{a_i\}$ is a l-edge with $l \geq k$, a contradiction. Thus we have $\Delta(T) \leq 2$ and so every component of T is a path or cycle. Let a_i and a_j be two nonadjacent vertices of degree 2 in T (it is obvious that there exist such vertices). Now the induced subgraph of G_{qr}^{pr} generated by $A - \{a_i, a_j\}$ has at most (k-2) edges, a contradiction. Then A is

not a clique of H and $\omega(H) \leq \frac{k+1}{k-1}$.

It is remain to show that $\alpha(H) = qr$, because if it holds then by Theorem 1 we have $\frac{pr}{qr} = \frac{|V(H)|}{\alpha(H)} \leq \chi_f(H) \leq \chi_c(H)$. On the other hand since the map $f: V(H) \longrightarrow G_{qr}^{pr}$ define by f(x) = x is a homomorphism then Theorem 1 implies that $\chi_c(H) \leq \chi(G_{qr}^{pr}) = \frac{p}{q}$, therefore $\chi_c(H) = \frac{p}{q}$ and theorem is proved.

Suppose B is an independent set and $0 \in B$. Let $C_0 = \{0, 1, ..., qr-1\}$, $C_0' = \{pr-qr+1, pr-qr+2, ..., 0\}$, $C = \{qr, qr+1, ..., pr-qr\}$, and $C_t' = \{t, t+1, ..., t+qr\}$, $qr \le t \le pr-2qr$. For all $t, qr \le t \le pr-2qr$, B has at most k-2 vertices of C_t' . Otherwise $(B \cap C_t') \cup \{0\}$ is not independent. Therefore $|B \cap C| \le \lceil \frac{p-2q+1}{q} \rceil (k-2)$. Let $B \cap C_0 = \{a_1 < a_2 < ... < a_{l_1}\}$ and $B \cap C_0' = \{b_1 < b_2 < ... < b_{l_2}\}$. Hence $a_1 = b_1 = 0$.

Case 1) Let there exists vertex c in $B \cap C$. Let a_i be the last element of C_0 and b_j be the first element of C_1 such that ca_i and cb_j are edges in G_{qr}^{pr} . In this case each of the sets $\{a_{i+1},...,a_{l_1}\}, \{b_{j+1},...,b_{l_2}\}, \{a_1,...,a_{i-1}\},$ and $\{b_1,...,b_{j-1}\}$ has at most k-3 elements. Otherwise, if for example $|\{a_{i+1},...,a_{l_1}\}| > k-3$, then the set $\{c,a_i,...,a_{i+k-2}\}$ which is an edge of H is a subset of B, a contradiction. Therefore $|C_0 \cap B| \leq 2k-5$, $|C_0' \cap B| \leq 2k-5$, and hence |B| < qr.

Case 2) Let $B \cap C$ is an empty set. If there is no edge $a_i b_j$ in G_{qr}^{pr} then $\{a_1, a_2, \ldots a_{l_1}\}$ and $\{b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_{l_2}\}$ are subset of an independent set of G_{qr}^{pr} , and since independence number of G_{qr}^{pr} is qr we have $|B| \leq qr$. Assume that $a_i b_j$ is an edge of G_{qr}^{pr} such that $b_j - a_i = max\{b_t - a_s \mid b_t a_s \text{ is an edge of } G_{qr}^{pr}\}$. Therefore each of the sets $\{a_{i+1}, \ldots, a_{l_1}\}$ and $\{a_1, \ldots, a_{i-1}\}$ has at most k-3 elements. Therefore, $|C_0 \cap B| \leq 2k-5$. By the same way $|C_0' \cap B| \leq 2k-5$ and therefore, $|B| \leq qr$. But since the set $\{0, 1, \ldots, qr-1\}$ is an independent set, then $\alpha(H) = qr$.

By a similar proof one can show that Theorem 3 follows for k=3 and $\omega(H) \leq \frac{5}{2}$.

Definition 2 A k-uniform hypergraph H is called c-perfect if for every induced subhypergraph H_1 of H provided $\chi_c(H_1) > 2$, we have $\chi_c(H_1) = \omega(H_1)$.

In the above definition the condition $\chi_c(H) > 2$ is necessary, because if H_1 has only one edge then $\chi_c(H_1) = \chi(H_1) = 2$ but $\omega(H_1) = \frac{k}{k-1}$ and therefore we never have a c-perfect hypergraph.

An example of a c-perfect hypergraph is the complete k-uniform hypergraph H because, $\omega(H) = \chi_c(H) = \frac{|V(H)|}{k-1}$ and since every induced subhypergraph of H is complete, H is c-perfect.

Now from every perfect graph we construct a k-uniform c-perfect hypergraph.

Theorem 4 Let G be a perfect graph, and H = (V(H), E(H)) be a hypergraph such that V(H) = V(G) and $e \subset V(H)$ is an edge of H if and only if |e| = k and e is contained in a clique of G. Then H is c-perfect.

Proof: Let H_1 be an induced subhypergraph of H, and G_1 be the induced subgraph of G generated by $V(H_1)$. It is easy to see that $\omega(H_1) = \frac{\omega(G_1)}{k-1}$ and since G is perfect, $\chi(G_1) = \omega(G_1)$. Let c be a $\omega(G_1)$ -coloring of G_1 .

Case 1) Let $\omega(G_1) \geq 2(k-1)$. Consider the coloring c' of H_1 define by c'(x) = c(x). Since every edge e of H_1 is a subset of a clique of G_1 , there exists two vertices $x, y \in e$ such that $k-1 \leq |c(x)-c(y)| \leq \omega(G_1) - k + 1$ thus c' is an $(\omega(G_1), k-1)$ -coloring of H_1 . Therefore $\chi_c(H_1) \leq \frac{\omega(G_1)}{k-1}$. Now by Theorem 2 we have $\chi_c(H_1) = \omega(H_1)$.

Case 2) $\omega(G_1) < 2(k-1)$. We will show that $\chi_c(H_1) = 2$. Consider the mapping $c': V(H_1) \longrightarrow \{0,1\}$ by $c'(x) = \lfloor \frac{c(x)}{k} \rfloor$ and let e be an edge of H_1 . Since e is a k-subset of a clique of G_1 then there exist at least two vertices $x, y \in e$ such that c(x) < k and $c(y) \ge k$. Therefore c'(x) = 0 and c'(y) = 1, and c' is a 2-coloring of H_1 . \square

We know that the complement of every perfect graph is perfect but it is not true for c-perfect hypergraphs. In the following we construct a hypergraph H which is c-perfect, but \overline{H} is not c-perfect.

Let $V(H) = \{0, 1, 2, ..., 3m - 1\}$, m > 2k, and $e \in E(H)$ if e is a k-subset of one of the sets $\{0, 1, 2, ..., m-1\}$, $\{m, m+1, m+2, ..., 2m-1\}$

or $\{2m, 2m+1, 2m+2, ..., 3m-1\}$. Since H is union of three copy of disjoint complete hypergraphs then H is c-perfect. Let H' be the induced subhypergraph of \overline{H} generated by the set $\{0, m, m + 1\}$ 1, ..., m+k-2, 2m, 2m+1, ..., 3m-1. By definition of H, the union of $\{0, m, ..., m + k - 2\}$ and every (k - 1)-subset of $D = \{2m, 2m + 1\}$ 1,...,3m-1 is a clique of \overline{H} . Therefore $\omega(H')=\frac{2k-1}{k-1}$ implies from this fact that every clique of H' has at most 2k-1 vertices. Now we show that H' has no any (2k-1,k-1)-coloring. Let c be a (2k-1,k-1)-coloring of H'. Since the vertices of a clique of H' of size at least k have different colors then, $|c^{-1}(\{0, m, m+1, ..., m+$ |k-2| = k. On the other hand since every (k-1)-subset of D with $\{0, m, ..., m+k-2\}$ make a clique then $|c^{-1}(D)|=k-1$. Therefore there exist vertices $x, y \in D$ such that c(x) = c(y). But x and y appear in a clique of size 2k-1 and they must have different colors, a contradiction. Thus $\chi_c(H') > \omega(H')$. Now since $\chi_c(H') > 2$, then \overline{H} is not c-perfect.

By the above discussion it is natural to look for k-uniform c-perfect hypergraph H such that \overline{H} is also c-perfect. Also we look for k-uniform c-perfect hypergraph H, such that \overline{H} is c-perfect, and $\omega(H)$ and $\omega(\overline{H})$ are arbitrary large. First we prove that for every m and n there exists a 3-uniform c-perfect hypergraph H such that \overline{H} is c-perfect, and $\omega(H) = \frac{m+1}{2}$, $\omega(\overline{H}) = \frac{n+1}{2}$.

Let $V(H)=\{1,2,..,m+n\}$ and $e\in E(H)$ either $e\subset\{1,2,..,m\}$ or $|e\cap\{m+1,..,m+n\}|=1$. By the construction of H we have, $\omega(H)=\frac{m+1}{2}$ and $\omega(\overline{H})=\frac{n+1}{2}$ and $\{1,2,..,m,m+1\}$ is a maximum clique, and $\{m,m+1,..,m+n\}$ is a maximum independent set of H. On the other hand every induced subhypergraph of H and \overline{H} has the same structure and therefore it is enough to prove that $\chi_c(H)=\omega(H)$. Assume $\omega(H)\leq 2$. Let $P=\{1,\ldots,m\}$. Clearly $|P|\leq 3$. Color one vertex of P by 1 and the others vertices of P by 2, and color vertices of V(H)-P by 1. It is a 2-coloring for H. Let $\omega(H)>2$. Define the map c by:

$$\begin{aligned} c: V(H) &\longrightarrow \{0,1,..,m\} \\ c(i) &= \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} i-1 & 1 \leq i \leq m \\ m & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right. \end{aligned}$$

Reader can check that c is a (m+1,2)-coloring. Therefore $\omega(H)=$

 $\chi_c(H)$, and proof is complete.

Theorem 5 For every k > 3 there exists a k-uniform hypergraphs H, such that H and \overline{H} are c-perfect, $\omega(H)$ is arbitrary large and $\omega(\overline{H}) > 2$.

At first we prove the following lemma:

Lemma 6 Suppose G' be a graph with vertex set $V(G') = \{m, m + 1, \ldots, m + 2k - 1\}$, and ij is an edge of G' if one of the following occurs:

- 1) $1 \le |i-j| \le k-2$.
- 2) $m+2 \le i, j \le m+2k-2$ and |i-j| > k.

Then G' is perfect.

Proof: We prove that $\overline{G'}$ is perfect. By the construction of G', the sets $\{m+1,..,m+k-1\}$ and $\{m+k+1,..,m+2k-1\}$ are independent in $\overline{G'}$, the vertices of the set $\{m+1,m+k,m+2k-1\}$ are adjacent in $\overline{G'}$, and $deg_{\bar{G'}}$ (m+k)=2. On the other hand every odd cycle of $\overline{G'}$ has vertices m+1,m+k,m+2k-1. Consider the mapping $c:V(\overline{G'})\longrightarrow \{1,2,3\}$ defined by:

$$c(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & m+1 \le x \le m+k-1 \\ 2 & m+k+1 \le x \le m+2k-1 \\ 3 & x=m+k \end{cases}$$

c is a 3-coloring of $\overline{G'}$ and since $\omega(G')=3$ we have $\omega(G')=\chi(G')$. Let G_1 be an induced subgraph of $\overline{G'}$. If one of the vertices m+1, m+k and m+2k-1 is not in $V(G_1)$ then G_1 is bipartite graph and $\omega(G_1)=\chi(G_1)$, otherwise $\omega(G_1)=\chi(G_1)=3$. Therefore $\overline{G'}$ is perfect.

Now since join of a complete graph to a perfect graph is perfect we have the following lemma.

Lemma 7 Suppose G' is the graph in Lemma 6 and $G = K_m * G'$ then G is perfect.

Proof of Theorem 5 Let $G=K_m*G'$ be the perfect graph constructed in Lemma 6 and Lemma 7, with vertex set $\{1,\ldots,m+2k-1\}$, where $1,\ldots,m$ are the vertices of K_m . Let H be the k-uniform c-perfect hypergraph constructed from the graph G by using Theorem 4. We show that \overline{H} is c-perfect too. First we prove that $A=\{m+1,m+2,\ldots,m+2k-1\}$ is a clique of \overline{H} and therefore $\omega(\overline{H})\geq \frac{2k-1}{k-1}$. Let $e=\{m+i_1,m+i_2,\ldots,m+i_k\},\ 1\leq i_j\leq 2k-1$, is a subset of A. If $i_1=1$ then since m+1 is adjacent to only k-2 vertices in G' then e is not subset of a clique in G' and therefore it is an edge of \overline{H} . Similarly if $i_k=2k-1$ since m+2k-1 adjacent to k-2 vertices then e is an edge of \overline{H} . So suppose for every $2\leq j\leq k$, we have $2\leq i_j\leq 2k-2$. Since k>2 there exist at least two integer i_{j_1} and i_{j_2} such that $|i_{j_1}-i_{j_2}|=k$ therefore e is not a subset of a clique of G' and e is an edge of \overline{H} . Now consider the mapping

$$c:V(\overline{H})\longrightarrow \{0,1,\ldots,2k-1\}$$

$$c(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} k-1 & x \leq m \\ x-m-1 & x > m \end{array} \right.$$

If we show that c is a (2k-1,k-1)- coloring of \overline{H} then $\chi(\overline{H}) \leq \frac{2k-1}{k-1}$ and since $\chi_c(\overline{H}) \geq \omega(\overline{H})$ we have $\chi_c(\overline{H}) = \omega(\overline{H}) = \frac{2k-1}{k-1}$. Let e be an edge of \overline{H} .

Case 1) Let e be a subset of A. Since A has 2k-1 elements then e has at least two vertices x and y such that |x-y|=k and therefore |c(x)-c(y)|=k.

Case 2) Let $e \cap \{1, 2, \dots, m\} \neq \emptyset$ and $x \in e \cap \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$. If m+1 or m+2k-1 is in e then c(x)-c(m+1)=k-1 or c(m+2k-1)-c(x)=k-1. Let m+1 and m+2k-1 are not in e. Since e is not an edge of H, there exist at least two vertices a and b, $m+2 \leq a$, $b \leq m+2k-1$ such that $k-1 \leq |a-b| \leq k$ and therefore $k-1 \leq |c(a)-c(b)| \leq k$. Thus for every edge of \overline{H} we find at least two vertices that satisfy the (2k-1,k-1)-coloring conditions. Hence c is a (2k-1,k-1)-coloring of \overline{H} .

Now suppose H' be an induced subhypergraph of \overline{H} . If $A \subset V(H')$ there is nothing to prove. Let there exists $i, 0 \le i \le k-1$ such that $m+k+i \notin V(H')$. Define mapping

$$c: V(H') \longrightarrow \{0, 1\}$$

$$c(i) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & 1 \leq i \leq m+k-1 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right.$$

One can check that c is a 2- coloring of H' and hence \overline{H} is c-perfect. Now since $\omega(H) \geq \frac{m}{k-1}$ and $\omega(\overline{H}) = \frac{2k-1}{k-1}$, proof is complete.

Conjecture 1 For every k,n and m there exists a k-uniform c-perfect hypergraph H such that $\omega(H) \geq m$, $\omega(\overline{H}) \geq n$ and \overline{H} is c-perfect.

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