

Commuting Graphs on Dihedral Group

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Abstract

Let Γ be a non-abelian group and $\Omega \subseteq \Gamma$. The commuting graph $C(\Gamma, \Omega)$, has Ω as its vertex set with two distinct elements of Ω joined by an edge when they commute in Γ . In this paper we discuss certain properties of commuting graphs constructured on the dihedral group D_{2n} with respect to some specific subsets. More specifically we obtain the chromatic number and clique number of these commuting graphs.

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1 Introduction

The study of algebraic structures, using the properties of graphs, becomes an exciting research topic in the last twenty years, leading to many fascinating results and questions. For example, the study zero-divisor graphs, total graph of commutative rings and commuting graph of groups has attracted many researchers towards this dimension. One can refer [2, 3] for such studies. The concept of non-commuting graph has been studied in [1], where as the concept of commuting graph has been found in [4]. For basic definitions one can refer [5, 6]. For any integer $n \ge 3$, the Dihedral group 2n is given by $D_{2n} = \langle r, s : s^2 = r^n = 1, rs = sr^{-1} \rangle$. For any subset Ω of D_{2n} , the commuting graph $C(D_{2n}, \Omega)$ has Ω as its vertex set with two distinct vertices in Ω are adjacent if they commute with each other in D_{2n} .

The center of a group Γ is denoted by $Z(\Gamma)$. Let Ω be any nonempty subset of Γ . The centralizer of Ω in Γ is the set of elements of Γ which commutes with every element of Ω and it is denoted by $C_{\Omega}(\Gamma)$.

We consider simple graphs which are undirected, with no loops or multiple edges. For any graph G, we denote the sets of the vertices and edges of G

by V(G) and E(G), respectively. The degree $deg_G(v)$ of a vertex v in G is the number of edges incident to v. The order of G is defined |V(G)| and its maximum and minimum degrees will be denoted, respectively, by $\Delta(G)$ and $\delta(G)$. A graph G is regular if the degrees of all vertices of G are the same. A subset Ω of the vertices of G is called a clique if the induced subgraph of Ω is a complete graph. The maximum size of a clique in a graph G is called the clique number of G and denoted by $\omega(G)$. Let k > 0 be an integer. A k-vertex coloring of a graph G is an assignment of k colors to the vertices of G such that no two adjacent vertices have the same color. The chromatic number $\chi(G)$ of a graph G, is the minimum k for which G has a k-vertex coloring. If u and vare vertices in G, the d(u, v) denotes the length of the shortest path between u and v. The largest distance between all pairs of the vertices of G is called the diameter of G, and is denoted by diam(G). A graph G is defined to be split if there is a partition V = S + K of its vertex set into a independent set S and a complete set K.

2 Main Results

Throughout this section, $n \geq 3$ is an integer and $D_{2n} = \langle r, s : s^2 = r^n = 1$, $rs = sr^{-1} >$, $\Omega_1 = \{r^1, r^2, \ldots, r^n\}$ and $\Omega_2 = \{sr^1, sr^2, \ldots, sr^n\}$ are subsets of D_{2n} . In this section we obtain certain properties of the commuting graph constructed on the dihedral group D_{2n} . More specifically, we discuss properties about commuting graphs constructed on D_{2n} , with respect to Ω_1 and Ω_2 .

Lemma 2.1. Let Ω be any subset of D_{2n} and let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$ be a commuting graph. Then for any $a \in \Omega$, $deg_G(a) = |C_{\Omega}(a)| - 1$.

Proof. Let $a \in \Omega$. Then $a \in C_{\Omega}(a)$, $C_{\Omega}(a)$ is the set of elements in Ω which commutes with a and hence $deg(a) = |C_{\Omega}(a)| - 1$.

Lemma 2.2. Let $n \ge 3$ be an even integer. Let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$. Then (i). $deg_G(sr^i) = 3$ for all $i, 1 \le i \le n$ (ii). $deg_G(r^i) = \begin{cases} 2n-1 & \text{if } i=n, \frac{n}{2} \\ n-1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Proof. (i) Since $C_{D_{2n}}(sr^i) = \{e, r^{\frac{n}{2}}, sr^i, sr^{\frac{n}{2}+i}\}$ for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, we can see that $deg_G(sr^i) = 3$ for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$. (ii) Suppose $i = n, \frac{n}{2}$. Then $C_{D_{2n}}(r^i) = D_{2n}$ and so $deg_G(r^i) = 2n - 1$. If $i \neq n, \frac{n}{2}$, then $C_{D_{2n}}(r^i) = \{r^i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ and so $deg_G(r^i) = n - 1$. \Box Lemma 2.3. Let $n \geq 3$ be an odd integer. Let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$. Then

(i).
$$deg_G(sr^i) = 1$$
 for all $i, 1 \le i \le n$
(ii). $deg_G(r^i) = \begin{cases} 2n-1 & \text{if } i=n\\ n-1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Proof. (i) Since $C_{D_{2n}}(sr^i) = \{e, sr^i\}$ for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$, it follows that $deg_G(sr^i) = 1$ for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$.

(ii) Suppose i = n. Then $C_{D_{2n}}(r^i) = D_{2n}$ and so $deg_G(r^i) = 2n - 1$. If $i \neq n$, then $C_{D_{2n}}(r^i) = \{r^i : 1 \le i \le n\}$ and so $deg(r^i) = n - 1$. \Box

Theorem 2.4. Let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$ be a commuting graph, where Ω is a subset of D_{2n} and $n \geq 3$. Then the following are true:

(i) If Ω is an abelian subgroup of D_{2n} , then diam(G) = 1.

(ii) If Ω is a subgroup of D_{2n} , then diam(G) = 2.

(iii) If $\Omega = D_{2n} - Z(D_{2n})$, then $diam(G) = \infty$.

Proof. (i) If Ω is an abelian subgroup of D_{2n} , then G is a complete graph and so diam(G) = 1.

(ii) Let Ω be a subgroup of D_{2n} . Note that G is connected. Since Ω is not abelian, $xy \neq yx$ for some $x, y \in \Omega$ and so $diam(G) \geq 2$. Since $e \in \Omega, x-e-y$ is a path of length 2 and hence diam(G) = 2.

(iii) Let $\Omega = D_{2n} - Z(D_{2n})$. Then G is disconnected and so $diam(G) = \infty$. \Box

In view of Lemma 2.4, we have following corollary.

Corollary 2.5. Let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$, where Ω is a subset of D_{2n} . (i) If n is odd and $\Omega = \{r^i, sr^j : for any \ 1 \le i \le n-1 \text{ and } 1 \le j \le n\}$, then $diam(G) = \infty$.

(ii) If n is even and $\Omega = \{r^i, sr^j : for any \ 1 \le i \le n-1, i \ne \frac{n}{2} and \ 1 \le j \le n\}$, then $diam(G) = \infty$.

Theorem 2.6. Let $n \geq 3$ be an integer and $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$, where Ω is a subset of D_{2n} and $n \geq 3$. Then $G = K_n$ if and only if $\Omega = \Omega_1$.

Proof. Suppose $\Omega = \{r^i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Then Ω is a cyclic subgroup of D_{2n} and so G is a complete graph on n vertices. Conversely, suppose $G = K_n$. By Lemma 2.2 and Lemma 2.3, hence $\Omega = \{r^1, r^2, \ldots, r^n\}$.

By Lemmas 2.2 and 2.3, in any commuting graph $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$, the degree of vertices sr^i for $1 \leq i \leq n$ can be either 1 or 3. Hence from the above Lemma 2.6, we have following corollary.

Corollary 2.7. Let $n \geq 3$. Then there exists no subset Ω of D_{2n} such that $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$ is n regular.

Theorem 2.8. Let $n \geq 3$ be an integer and $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$, where Ω is any subset of D_{2n} . If n is odd, then $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega) = K_{1, n}$ if and only if $\Omega = \{e, sr^1, sr^2, \ldots, sr^n\}$.

Proof. Suppose $\Omega = \{e, sr^1, sr^2, \dots, sr^n\}$. Then $C_{\Omega}(sr^i) = \{e\}$ and $C_{\Omega}(e) = \Omega$ and so $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega) = K_{1, n}$. Conversely, suppose $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega) = K_{1, n}$. Then by Lemma 2.3, $\Omega = \{e, sr^1, sr^2, \dots, sr^n\}$. **Corollary 2.9.** Let $n \ge 3$ be an odd integer and $C(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$. Then G is split graph.

Proof. This proof follows from Theorem 2.6 and Theorem 2.8.

Theorem 2.10. For any integer $n \geq 2$, let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$. Then the number of edges in G, $\epsilon(G) = \begin{cases} \frac{n(n+1)}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ \frac{n(n+4)}{2} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Proof. Note that $\Omega_1 \cap \Omega_2 = \emptyset$ and $\Omega_1 \cup \Omega_2 = D_{2n}$.

Case 1. Suppose *n* is even. Clearly the subgraph induced by Ω_1 is complete and the subgraph induced by Ω_2 is $\frac{n}{2}K_2$. Therefore the number of edges in *G* is sum of the number of edges in $\langle \Omega_1 \rangle$, the number edges in $\langle \Omega_2 \rangle$ and the number of edges from $\{r^n, r^{\frac{n}{2}}\}$ to set of vertices in Ω_2 . Thus $\epsilon(G) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + \frac{n}{2} + 2n = \frac{n(n+4)}{2}$.

Case 2. Suppose *n* is odd. In this case, the subgraph induced by Ω_1 is complete and the subgraph induced by Ω_2 has no edges. Therefore the number of edges in *G* is sum of the number of edges in $< \Omega_1 >$ and the number of edges from r^n to set of vertices in Ω_2 . Thus $\epsilon(G) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} + n = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$. \Box

Theorem 2.11. Let $n \geq 3$ be any integer. Then there exists no subset Ω of D_{2n} such that $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega) = C_4$.

Proof. Suppose $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n},\Omega) = C_4$ for some subset Ω of D_{2n} . If n is odd, then by Lemma 2.3, $sr^i \notin \Omega$ for all $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ and so $\Omega \subset \Omega_1$. From this $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n},\Omega)$ is an induced subgraph of $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n},\Omega_1)$, Since $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n},\Omega_1)$ is complete graph, $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n},\Omega)$ is complete, a contradiction.

Assume that n is even. Then Ω contains at least two vertices from Ω_2 , otherwise it will contain at least three vertices from Ω_1 and those vertices will induce at least K_3 , a contradiction. Suppose $\Omega \subset \Omega_2$. Then every vertex in $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega)$ is of degree 1, a contradiction. Suppose Ω contains three vertices from Ω_2 . Then Ω contains one vertex from Ω_1 and it could be either $e \in \Omega$ or $r^{\frac{n}{2}} \in \Omega$ and not both. In both the cases the degree of that vertex is 3 and hence we get a contradiction. Thus Ω contains two vertices from Ω_2 and another two vertices from Ω_1 . From this we have $\Omega = \{e, r^{\frac{n}{2}}, sr^i, sr^j\}$ with $i \neq j$. From this we get that $deg_G(e) = deg_G(r^{\frac{n}{2}}) = 3$, a contradiction. \Box

As prove above, one can prove the following:

Lemma 2.12. Let $n \geq 3$ be any integer. Then there exists no subset Ω of D_{2n} such that $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega) = P_4$.

Theorem 2.13. Let $n \ge 2$ be any integer and let $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$. Then $\omega(G) = \chi(G) = n$.

Proof. Consider $\Omega_1 = \{r^1, r^2, \ldots, r^n\} \subset D_{2n}$. As observed earlier, $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, \Omega_1)$ is a maximal complete subgraph of G. Hence $\omega(G) = n$.

Case 1. If *n* is even, then one needs *n* colors to color $\langle \Omega_1 \rangle \subset G$ and so $\chi(G) \geq n$. Note that *e* and $r^{\frac{n}{2}}$ are adjacent to all vertices and so colors assigned to these vertices cannot be assigned to any other vertex. e given to any other vertices. The remaining n - 2 vertices in Ω_1 are not adjacent to any of the remaining vertices in $\mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n}) - \Omega_1$ and so these vertices can be colored one of the remaining n - 2 colors. Hence $\chi(\mathcal{C}(G, \Omega)) = n$.

Case 2. When *n* is odd, one can use the colors of r^i except $e = r^n$ to the vertices in Ω_2 and hence the proof follows.

Theorem 2.14. Let $n \ge 2$ be any even integer. Then $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$ has a perfect matching.

Proof. Since *n* is even as observed in the proof of Lemma 2.10, $\langle \Omega_1 \rangle$ is a complete subgraph of *G* and $\langle \Omega_2 \rangle = \frac{n}{2}K_2$, where $\Omega_1 = \{r^1, r^2, \ldots, r^n\}$ and $\Omega_2 = \{sr^1, sr^2, \ldots, sr^n\}$. Since *n* is even, $\langle \Omega_1 \rangle$ and $\langle \Omega_2 \rangle$ have perfect matchings. \Box

Corollary 2.15. Let $n \ge 2$ be any even integer and n = 2k. Then number of perfects matchings in $G = \mathcal{C}(D_{2n}, D_{2n})$ is $\frac{n!}{2^n k!} + 1$.

Proof. As in the proof of Lemma 2.14, the number of perfect matchings in $\langle \Omega \rangle$ is $\frac{n!}{2^n k!}$ and the number of perfect matchings in $\langle Y \rangle$ is 1. Hence the number of perfect matching in G is $\frac{n!}{2^n k!} + 1$.

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