

## ON CRITICAL RAMSEY DECOMPOSITION\*

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**Abstract** After inducing the definitions of decomposition, Ramsey decomposition and critical Ramsey decomposition, we deduce some propositions of these kinds of decompositions and a lower bound formula for Ramsey numbers.

**Keywords** decomposition, Ramsey decomposition

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Let  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k$  be graphs or hypergraphs,  $K_r^k$  be a complete  $r$ -uniform graph or hypergraph. The Ramsey number  $R(H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k)$  is the smallest integer  $p$  such that for any  $k$ -edge coloring  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  of  $K_r^k$ , it contains some  $i$ ,  $H_i$  as a subgraph in  $K_r^k[E_i]$ . Let  $R(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k) := R_2(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k)$ . A  $k$ -edge coloring  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  of  $K_r^k$  is called a  $(r; H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k; p) ((r; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k; p)$ , resp.)-decomposition if for all  $i$ ,  $H_i (K_r^k$ , resp.) is not contained in  $K_r^k[E_i]$ . It is clear that  $R(H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k) = p_0 + 1$  iff  $p_0 = \max\{p_i$  there exists a  $(r; H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k, p)$ -decomposition $\}$ . The  $(r; H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k; p) ((r; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k; p)$ , resp.)-decomposition is called a  $(r; H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k; p) ((r; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k; p)$ , resp.)-Ramsey decomposition if  $p = R(H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k) - 1 (R(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k) - 1$ , resp.). Let  $(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -(Ramsey) decomposition :=  $(2; G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -(Ramsey) decomposition. The  $(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -Ramsey decomposition is called a  $(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition if for any edge  $e$  not in  $K_r^k[E_1], K_r^k[E_1] + e$  contains  $G_1$ . Note that this kind of decomposition must exist, for given a  $(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -Ramsey decomposition, if for any  $e$  in  $K_r^k[E_1]$ ,  $i \neq 1$  and  $K_r^k[E_i] + e$  does not contain  $G_i$ , then let  $E_1 := E_1 + e, E_i := E_i - e$ , along this way we finally obtain a  $(G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition. All terminology not defined here can be found in [1, 3].

It is well-known that finding Ramsey numbers is very hard. However if we get the order

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of some Ramsey decomposition, then the corresponding Ramsey number follows. In fact, such as the critical connected graph and coloring etc., we only need to research a special kind of decomposition with rich properties i. e. Ramsey decompositions. So, to find the properties of critical Ramsey decomposition is interesting.

**Lemma** In each  $(K_n, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$ , there are at least  $n-2$  vertices incident to  $u$  and  $v$  in  $K_p[E_1]$ , where  $uv \in E_1$ .

**Proof** It follows by the definition of critical Ramsey decomposition.

**Theorem 1** Let  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  be a  $(r; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k; p)$ -Ramsey decomposition. For any vertex  $v$  in  $K_p$  and  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ , there exists a  $K'_{n_i-1}$  in  $K'_p[E_i]$  such that  $v$  is in  $K'_{n_i-1}$ .

**Proof** If for some  $i, v$  is not in any  $K'_{n_i-1}$  contained in  $K'_p[E_i]$ , then we can give a  $k$ -edge coloring of  $K'_{p+1}$  as follows,

$$E'_i = E_i \cup \{uv_1v_2 \dots v_{r-1} \mid uv_1v_2 \dots v_{r-1} \in E_i, \forall v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1} \in V(K'_p)\} \\ \cup \{uvv_1v_2 \dots v_{r-2} \mid \forall v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-2} \in V(K'_p) - v\},$$

$$E'_j = E_j \cup \{uv_1v_2 \dots v_{r-1} \mid uv_1v_2 \dots v_{r-1} \in E_j, \forall v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1} \in V(K'_p) - v\}, \text{ for } j \neq i.$$

It is clear that  $K'_i$  is not contained in  $K'_{p+1}[E'_i]$  as a subgraph for any  $i$ . This contradicts that  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  is a  $(r; n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k; p)$ -Ramsey decomposition. Thus the theorem holds.

**Theorem 2**

$$R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i + n_i - 1, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) \geq R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) \\ + R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) - 1 \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k. \quad (1)$$

**Proof** Let  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  and  $(F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k)$  be  $(r; n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k; p_1)$  and  $(r; n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k; p_2)$ -Ramsey decomposition respectively. Then we give a  $k$ -edge coloring of  $K'_{p_1+p_2}$  as follows,

$$E'_i = E_i \cup F_i \cup \{E \in K'_{p_2-p_2} \mid E \cap V(K'_{p_1}) \neq \emptyset \text{ and } E \cap V(K'_{p_2}) \neq \emptyset\},$$

$$E'_j = E_j \cup F_j, \text{ for } j \neq i.$$

It is clear that there are no  $K'_{n_i+n_i-1}$  in  $K'_{p_1+p_2}[E'_i]$  and no  $K_{n_i}$  in  $K'_{p_1+p_2}[E'_j]$  for  $j \neq i$ . Hence,

$$R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i + n_i - 1, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) - 1 \geq p_1 + p_2.$$

Since  $p_1 = R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) - 1$  and  $p_2 = R_r(n_1, \dots, n_{i-1}, n_i, n_{i+1}, \dots, n_k) - 1$ , (1) holds.

**Theorem 3** Let  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  be a  $(3, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition and  $p$  be odd. Then for any  $v \in V(K_p)$ , there exists a 5-cycle  $C_5$  containing  $v$  in  $K_p[E_1]$ . Furthermore, it is also true for each edge in  $K_p[E_1]$ .

**Proof** For each vertex  $v$  in  $V(K_p)$ , there exists an edge  $uv$  in  $E_1$  by Lemma. If  $N_{K_p[E_1]}(u) \cup N_{K_p[E_1]}(v) = V(K_p)$  then  $p = |N_{K_p[E_1]}(u) \cup N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)| = |N_{K_p[E_1]}(u)| + |N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)| \leq 2R(n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k) - 2$ . Noting that  $p = R(3, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k) - 1$  and  $p$  is an odd integer, we have  $R(3, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k) < 2R(n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k) - 1$  which contradicts Theorem 2. So there exists a vertex  $z$  in  $v(K_p) - N_{K_p[E_1]}(u) \cup N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)$ , a vertex  $x$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1]}(u)$  and a vertex  $y$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)$ .

(v) such that  $xz$  and  $yz$  in  $K_p[E_1]$ . Thus we obtain a  $C_5; uxyzv$ .

**Theorem 4** In each  $(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$ ,  $\delta(K_p[E_1]) \geq [R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 2] / [R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 1]$ .

**Proof** Assume  $d_{K_p[E_1]}(v) = \delta(K_p[E_1])$ . If vertex  $u$  is not in  $N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)$  then, by Lemma, there exists a vertex  $w$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1]}(v)$ ,  $uw \in E_1$ . Thus  $p - 1 - d_{K_p[E_1]}(v) \leq d_{K_p[E_1]}(v) [R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 2]$ . Since  $p = R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 1$ , the theorem holds.

**Theorem 5** If there exists a 5-cycle  $C_5$  in  $K_p[E_1]$  for a  $(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$ , then there are at least  $\lceil [R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k)] / 5 \rceil + 1$  separate  $C_5$  in  $K_p[E_1]$ .

**Proof** Assume  $K_p[E_1]$  contains  $n$  ( $\leq \lceil [R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k)] / 5 \rceil$ ) separate  $C_5$ . Let  $V = V(G) - V(nC_5)$ . If for each vertex  $v$  in  $V$ ,  $d_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) < 2$  or  $d_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) > 1$  and for each vertex  $u$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v)$ ,  $d_{K_p[E_1][V]}(u) < 2$ , then  $K_p[E_1][V]$  is a bipartite graph without cycles. Noting that  $E_1 \cap E(K_p[V])$  is also in a  $(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k; |V|)$ -decomposition, we have  $|V| < 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 1$ . Thus  $R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) < 5n + 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) \leq 5 \lceil [R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) - 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k)] / 5 \rceil + 2R(G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k) \leq R(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k)$  which is absurd. So  $U = \{v \in V \mid d_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) > 1 \text{ and } \exists u \in N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) \text{ s. t. } d_{K_p[E_1][V]}(u) > 1\} \neq \emptyset$ .

If for each vertex  $v$  in  $U$ , each vertex  $u$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v)$  and each vertex  $w$  in  $N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(u)$ ,  $N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) \subset N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(w)$ , then  $K_p[E_1][V]$  only contains even cycles, i. e.  $K_p[E_1][V]$  is a bipartite graph which is impossible. So  $P = \{wx \in E_1 \cap E(K_p[V]) \mid \exists v \in V \text{ s. t. } u, x \in N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(v) \text{ and } w \in N_{K_p[E_1][V]}(u)\} \neq \emptyset$ .

By Lemma, for each  $wx$  in  $P$ , there exists a vertex  $y$  in  $V(K_p)$  such that  $wy$  and  $xy$  are in  $E_1$ . If all these kinds of  $y$  are not in  $V$  then  $E_1 \cap E(K_p[V]) \cup P$  is also in a  $(K_3, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_k; |V|)$ -decomposition and only contains even cycles which is impossible. So there exists some vertex  $y$  in  $V$  such that  $wy$  and  $xy$  in  $E_1 \cap E(K_p[V])$  and  $uvxyw$  is a 5-cycle. The proof is complete.

**Corollary** There are at least  $\lceil [R(3, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k) - 2R(n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k)] / 5 \rceil + 1$  separate 5-cycles in  $K_p[E_1]$  for a  $(3, n_2, n_3, \dots, n_k; p)$ -critical Ramsey decomposition  $(E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k)$  as  $p$  is odd.

**Proof** It follows by Theorem 3 and 5.

All lemma and theorems (partly) generalize the corresponding results in [2].

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# 关于临界 Ramsey 分解

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**摘要** 本文在给出分解, Ramsey 分解和临界 Ramsey 分解定义后, 导出有关上述分解的某些性质和 Ramsey 数的下界公式.

**关键词** 分解, Ramsey 分解

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