

THE CHROMATIC DETOUR NUMBER OF A GRAPH

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Abstract: A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called a chromatic detour set of G if S is both a chromatic set and a detour set of G . The minimum cardinality of a chromatic detour set of G is called a chromatic detour number of G and is denoted by $\chi_{dn}(G)$. Some of its general properties are studied. Connected graphs of order $n \geq 2$ with chromatic detour number n or $n - 1$ are characterized. It is shown that for every positive integer a and b with $2 \leq a < b$, there exists a connected graph G such that $dn(G) = a$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = b$. It is also shown that for every positive integers a and b with $2 \leq a \leq b$, there exists a connected graph G such that $\chi(G) = a$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = b$.

Keywords and Phrases: Chromatic detour number, chromatic number, detour number.

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1. Introduction

Throughout this paper all graphs are simple. Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph with $V(G)$ is the vertex set of G and $E(G)$ is the edge set of G . For basic graph theoretic terminology, we refer to [2]. In a connected graph G , for any two vertices $u, v \in V(G)$, let $d_G(u, v)$ denote the length of the shortest path between u and v in G . The *diameter* of graph is the maximum distance between the pair of vertices of G . The *subgraph induced* by a set S of vertices of a graph G is denoted by $G[S]$ with $V(G[S]) = S$ and $E(G[S]) = \{uv \in E(G) : u, v \in S\}$. A set $S \subset V$ is called

a *clique* if $\langle S \rangle$ is complete. The *clique number* of G is the number of vertices in a maximum clique and is denoted by $\omega(G)$. A *split graph* is a graph in which the vertices can be partitioned into a clique and an independent set. A *semi split graph* is a graph in which the vertices can be partitioned into a clique and a set of end vertices. The *Helm* H_n is the graph obtained from a wheel by attaching a pendant edge at each vertex of the n -cycle. A *flower* is the graph obtained from a helm by joining each pendant vertex to the central vertex of the helm. A *Fan graph* F_n can be constructed by joined n copies of the cycle graph C_3 with a common vertex. F_n is a planar undirected graph with $2n + 1$ vertices and $3n$ edges.

A k -coloring of G is a function $c : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ such that $c(u) \neq c(v)$ for every adjacent vertices $u, v \in V(G)$. The *chromatic number* of G denoted by $\chi(G)$, is the smallest k for which G has a k -coloring. For simplicity we denote a $\chi(G)$ -coloring of G by χ -coloring. A graph having chromatic number k is called a k -chromatic graph. Let G be a k -chromatic graph. A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called *chromatic set* if S contains all k vertices of different colors in G . The chromatic number of a graph was studied in [1, 6, 7].

The *detour distance* $D(u, v)$ between two vertices u and v in a connected graph G from u to v is defined as the length of a longest $u - v$ path in G . A $u - v$ path of length $D(u, v)$ is called a $u - v$ *detour*. The detour eccentricity $e_D(v)$ of a vertex v in G is the maximum detour distance from v to a vertex of G . The detour radius, $rad_D G$ of G , is the minimum detour eccentricity among the vertices of G , while the detour diameter, $diam_D G$ of G , is the maximum detour eccentricity among the vertices of G . Denote the detour radius and detour diameter by R and D respectively. A vertex x is said to lie on a $u - v$ detour P if x is a vertex of P including the vertices u and v . For two vertices u and v , the closed interval $I_D[u, v]$ consists of all vertices lying in a $u-v$ detour. For a set S of vertices, let $I_D[S] = \cup_{u, v \in S} I_D[u, v]$. Then certainly $S \subseteq I_D[S]$. A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called a *detour set* of G if $I_D[S] = V(G)$. The detour number $dn(G)$ of G is the minimum order of its detour sets and any detour set of order $dn(G)$ is called a $dn - set$ of G . The detour number of a graph was studied in [3, 4, 8-12]. The geochromatic number of a graph was studied in [1]. The monophonic chromatic number of a graph was studied in [6]. This motivated us to define a new parameter chromatic detour number of a graph.

The chromatic number has application in Time Table Scheduling, Map coloring, channel assignment problem in radio technology, town planning, GSM mobile phone networks etc [5]. When we apply detour concept, there is a effective in Scheduling. Throughout the following G denotes a connected graph with at least two vertices. The following theorems are used in sequel.

Theorem 1.1. [4] *Each end vertex of a connected graph G belongs to every detour set of G .*

Theorem 1.2. [7] *For the complete graph $G = K_n$ ($n \geq 2$), $\chi(G) = n$.*

2. The Chromatic Detour Number of a Graph

It is easily seen that a chromatic set of G need not be a detour set of G . Also the converse is not valid in general. This has motivated us to define a new chromatic conception of chromatic detour number. We investigate those subset of vertices of a graph that are both chromatic set and a detour set. We call these sets as chromatic detour sets. Although the chromatic detour number is greater than or equal to the chromatic number for an arbitrary graph, the properties of the chromatic detour number are quite different from that of chromatic concept.

Definition 2.1. *A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called a chromatic detour set of G if S is both a chromatic set and a detour set of G . The minimum cardinality of a chromatic detour set of G is called a chromatic detour number of G and is denoted by $\chi_{dn}(G)$. Any chromatic detour set of cardinality of $\chi_{dn}(G)$ is called a χ_{dn} -set of G .*

Example 2.2. For the graph G given in Figure 2.1, $S_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ is a χ -set of G so that $\chi(G) = 3$ and $S_2 = \{v_1, v_8\}$ is a dn -set of G so that $dn(G) = 2$. Also $S_3 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_8\}$ is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = 4$. For the star $G = K_{1,n-1}$ ($n \geq 4$), $\chi(G) = 2$, $dn(G) = n - 1$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$.

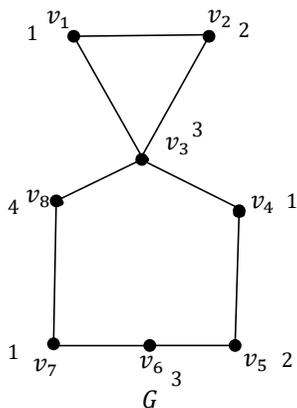


Figure 2.1

Observation 2.3. *If v is either an end vertex or a universe vertex of G , then v belongs every chromatic detour set of G .*

In the following, we determine the chromatic detour number of some standard graphs.

Theorem 2.4. For the complete graph $G = K_n$ ($n \geq 2$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$.

Proof. This follows from Observation 2.3.

Theorem 2.5. For the star $G = K_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 3$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$.

Proof. This follows from Observation 2.3.

Theorem 2.6. For the complete bipartite $G = K_{r,s}$ ($1 \leq r \leq s$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2$.

Proof. If $r = s = 1$, then the result follows from Theorem 2.4. If $r = 1, s \geq 2$, then the result follows from Theorem 2.5. So let $2 \leq r \leq s$, $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_r\}$ and $Y = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s\}$ be the bipartite sets of G . Then $S_{ij} = \{x_i, y_j\}$ ($2 \leq i, j \leq r \leq s$) is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2$.

Theorem 2.7. For the path $G = P_n$ ($n \geq 3$),

$$\chi_{dn}(G) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let P_n be v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n .

Case(i) n is odd.

It can be easily seen that no two element subsets of G is a chromatic detour set of G and so $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq 3$. Let $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_n\}$. Then S is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = 3$.

Case(ii) n is even.

Let $S = \{v_1, v_n\}$. Then S is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2$.

Theorem 2.8. For the wheel graph $G = K_1 + C_{n-1}$ ($n \geq 4$),

$$\chi_{dn}(G) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n - 1 \text{ is even} \\ 4 & \text{if } n - 1 \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let x be the central vertex of G and $V(C_{n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}, v_1\}$. We consider the following two cases.

Case(i): $n - 1$ is even.

Let $S_i = \{x, v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ ($1 \leq i \leq n-2$). We assign three different colours for x, v_i, v_{i+1} ($1 \leq i \leq n-2$) and so $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq 3$. It is clear that $S_1 = \{x, v_1, v_2\}$ is a detour chromatic set and so $\chi_{dn}(G) = 3$.

Case(ii): $n - 1$ is odd.

Let $S_j = \{x, v_j, v_{j+1}\}$ ($1 \leq j \leq n-3$). We assign three different colours for x, v_j, v_{j+1} ($1 \leq j \leq n-3$). Since $n - 1$ is odd, the vertex v_{n-1} is not included in S_j for any j ($1 \leq j \leq n-3$). There we assign a colour 4 to v_{n-1} and so $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq 4$. Now $\{x, v_j, v_{j+1}, v_{n-1}\}$ is a chromatic detour set of G . Hence $\chi_{dn}(G) = 4$.

Theorem 2.9. For the fan graph $G = K_1 + P_{n-1}$ ($n \geq 3$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = 3$.

Proof. Let x be the central vertex of G and $V(P_{n-1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$. Since

$S_i = \{x, v_i, v_{i+1}\}$ is a clique for $1 \leq i \leq n - 2$. We assign three different colours for x, v_i, v_{i+1} ($1 \leq i \leq n - 2$) and so $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq 3$. Since S_i ($1 \leq i \leq n - 2$) is a chromatic detour set of G , $\chi_{dn}(G) = 3$.

Theorem 2.10. *For the graph $G = K_n - \{e\}$ ($n \geq 4$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$.*

Proof. Let $e = uv$. Since $G[V - \{u\}]$ is a clique, the vertex set of $G[V - \{u\}]$ is assigned by distinct colours c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{n-1} . Therefore $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq n - 1$. Let $c_1 = c(u)$. Since $uv \notin E(G)$, we assign $c(v) = c_1$. Therefore $V - \{u\}$ is a chromatic set of G as well as detour set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$.

Theorem 2.11. *For the graph $G = K_n - \{e_1, e_2\}$ ($n \geq 5$), $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$, where e_1 and e_2 are adjacent edges of K_n .*

Proof. Let $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$. Without loss of generality, let $e_1 = v_2v_n$ and $e_2 = v_3v_n$. Since $n \geq 5$ $G[v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}] = K_{n-1}$, $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq n - 1$. Let $c(v_i) = c_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq n - 1$) and $c(v_n) = c_2$. Then $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}\}$ is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$.

Theorem 2.12. *Let G be a semi split graph of order n . Then $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$.*

Proof. For a semi split graph G , $S = V(G)$ is the unique chromatic detour set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$.

3. Some Results on the Chromatic Detour Number of a Graph

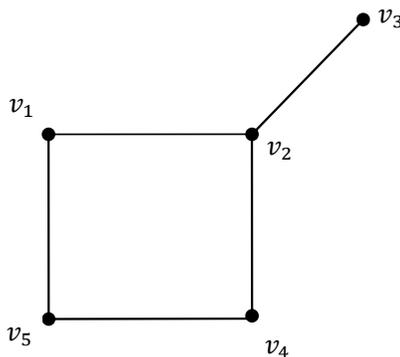
In this section, we look at some relationships between the chromatic detour number and other parameters. Further some improved upper bounds for the chromatic detour number of a graph are given. Also we characterized connected graphs of order $n \geq 2$ with chromatic detour number n or $n - 1$.

Observation 3.1. *Let G be a connected graph of order $n \geq 2$. Then $2 \leq \max\{\chi(G), dn(G)\} \leq n$.*

Theorem 3.2. *Let G be a connected non-complete of order $n \geq 4$ with detour diameter $D \geq 2$. Let P_D be a detour diametral path in G such that $G[P_D]$ is neither P_3 nor K_{D+1} nor $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ nor $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ nor a semi split graph nor the graphs given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4, Then $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 2$.*

Proof. Let $P_D : u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_D$ be a detour diametral path of G . Since $G[P_D]$ is neither P_3 nor K_{D+1} nor $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ nor $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ where e_1 and e_2 are adjacent edges of K_{D+1} nor a semi split graph nor the graphs given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 there exists at least one chordless subpath of P_D , say Q such that $|Q| \geq 2$. Let $Q : x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k$, where $k \geq 2$. Let us assign $c(x_0) = c_1$, $c(x_1) = c_2$, $c(x_2) = c_1$. Then $S = V(G) - \{x_1, x_2\}$ is a detour chromatic set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 2$.

Remark 3.3. The bound in Theorem 3.2 can be sharp. For the graph $G = P_4$, $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2 = n - 2$. Also the bound in Theorem 3.2 can be strict. For the graph given in Figure 3.1, $S = \{v_3, v_5\}$ is a χ_{dn} -set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2 < n - 2$.



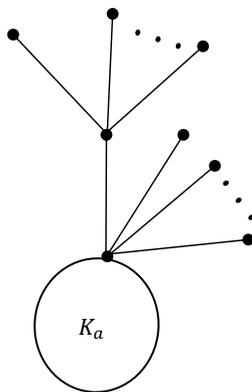
G
Figure 3.1

Theorem 3.4. Let G be a connected graph of order $n \geq 2$. Then $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$ if and only if G is either K_n or $K_{1,n-1}$ or G is a semi split graph.

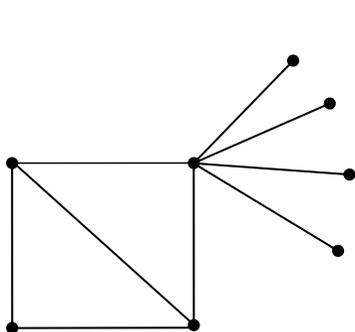
Proof. Let $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$. If $n = 2$, then $G = K_2$, which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If $n = 3$, then G is either K_3 or P_3 , which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. So, let $n \geq 4$. Let $P_D : u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_D$ be a detour diametral path of G . If $G[P_D]$ is neither P_3 nor K_{D+1} nor $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ nor $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ where e_1 and e_2 are adjacent edges of K_{D+1} nor a semi split graph nor the graphs given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4, then by Theorem 3.2, $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 2$, which is a contradiction. Therefore $G[P_D]$ is either P_3 or K_{D+1} or $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ or $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ or the graphs given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. If $G[P_D]$ is P_3 , then $G = K_{1,n-1}$, which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If $G[P_D]$ is K_{D+1} then G is K_n . which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If $G[P_D]$ is $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ then let $e = xy$. Let us assign $c(x) = c(y) = c$. Then $S = V(G) - \{x\}$ is a chromatic detour set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 1$, which is a contradiction. If $G[P_D]$ is $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$, then by the similar way we can prove that $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 1$, which is a contradiction. If G is a semi split graph, then by Theorem 2.12, $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$, which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If G is the graph given in Figures 3.3, 3.4. It can be easily verified that $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$, which is a contradiction. The converse is clear.

Theorem 3.5. Let G be a connected graph of order $n \geq 3$. Then $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$ if and only if $G \neq K_n - \{e\}$ or $G \neq K_n - \{e_1, e_2\}$, where e_1 and e_2 are adjacent edges of K_n or the graph given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4.

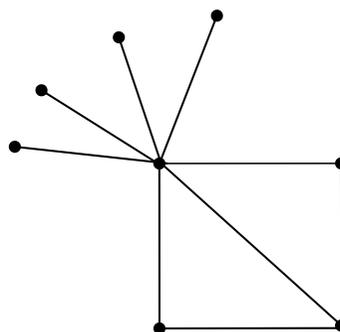
Proof. Let $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$. Let $P_D : u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_D$ be a detour diametral path of G .



G
Figure 3.2



G
Figure 3.3



G
Figure 3.4

If $G[P_D]$ is neither P_3 nor K_{D+1} nor $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ nor $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ where e_1 and e_2 are adjacent edges of K_{D+1} nor a semi split graph nor the graphs given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. Then $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 2$, which is a contradiction. Therefore $G[P_D]$ is either P_3 or K_{D+1} or $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ or $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ or a semi split graph or the graph given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4. If $G[P_D]$ is either P_3 or $G = K_{D+1}$, then by Theorem 3.4, $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$, which is a contradiction. If G is a semi split graph, then by Theorem 2.12, $\chi_{dn}(G) = n$, which is a contradiction. If G is the graph given in Figures 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4, then $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1$, which satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If $G[P_D]$ is $K_{D+1} - \{e\}$ then G is $K_n - \{e\}$, which

satisfies the requirements of this theorem. If $G[P_D]$ is $K_{D+1} - \{e_1, e_2\}$ then G is $K_n - \{e_1, e_2\}$, which satisfies the requirements of this theorem.

Theorem 3.6. *For every pair of integers a and n with $2 \leq a \leq n$, there exists a connected graph G of order n such that $\chi_{dn}(G) = a$.*

Proof. For $a = n$, let $G = K_a$. Then by Theorem 2.4, $\chi_{dn}(G) = a$. So, let $2 \leq a \leq n - 1$. Let $V(\overline{K}_2) = \{x, y\}$ and $V(\overline{K}_{n-a}) = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n-a}\}$. Let H be the graph obtained from \overline{K}_2 and \overline{K}_{n-a} by joining x and y with each x_i ($1 \leq i \leq n - a$). Let G be the graph obtained from H by adding new vertices z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{a-2} and joining y with each z_i ($1 \leq i \leq a - 2$). The graph G is given in Figure 3.5. We prove that $\chi_{dn}(G) = a$. Let $Z = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{a-2}\}$ be a set of end vertices of G . Then by Observation 2.3, Z is a subset of every chromatic detour set of G . Therefore we assign different colours for z_i for each i ($1 \leq i \leq a - 2$) and y . Let $c(z_i) = c_i$ ($1 \leq i \leq a - 2$). Since $yz_i \in E(G)$ for all i ($1 \leq i \leq a - 2$), we assign different colour for y . Let $c(y) = c_{a-1}$. Therefore $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq a - 1$. Let $Z_1 = Z \cup \{y\}$. Since $I_D[Z_1] \neq V(G)$, Z_1 is not a chromatic detour set of G and so $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq a$. Let us assign the vertex x with new colour and assign each vertex x_i ($1 \leq i \leq n - a$) with same colours. Let $c(x) = c_a$ and $c(x_i) = c_1$ ($1 \leq i \leq n - a$). Then $S_1 = S \cup \{x\}$ is a detour chromatic set of G so that $\chi_{dn}(G) = a$.

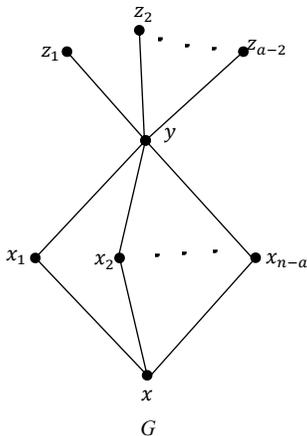


Figure 3.5

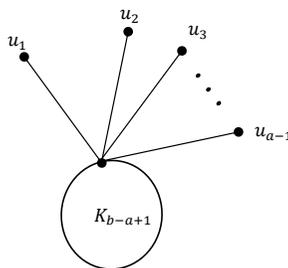
In view of Observation 3.1, we have the following realization result.

Theorem 3.7. *For every positive integers a and b with $2 \leq a \leq b$, there exists a connected graph G such that $dn(G) = a$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = b$.*

Proof. Let $V(K_{b-a+1}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{b-a+1}\}$. Let G be the graph obtained from K_{b-a+1} by adding new vertices u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-1} and the edges v_1u_i ($1 \leq i \leq a - 1$). The graph G is shown in Figure 3.6.

First we show that $dn(G) = a$. Let $Z = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{a-1}\}$ be the set of end vertices of graph G . By Theorem 1.1, Z is a subset of every detour set of G . Since $I_D[Z] \neq V(G)$, Z is not a detour set of G and so $dn(G) \geq a$. Let $S = Z \cup \{v_2\}$. Then S is a detour set of G so that $dn(G) = a$.

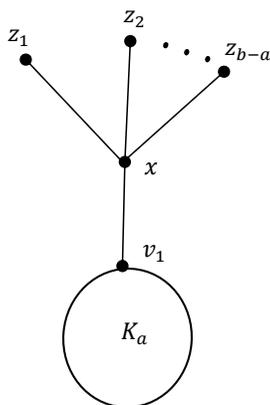
Next we show that $\chi_{dn}(G) = b$. Since G is a semi split graph, by Theorem 3.4, $\chi_{dn}(G) = n = b - a + 1 + 1 = b$.



G
Figure 3.6

Theorem 3.8. For every positive integers a and b with $2 \leq a \leq b$, there exists a connected graph G such that $\chi(G) = a$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = b$.

Proof. For $a = b$, let $G = K_a$. Then by Theorems 1.2 and 2.4, $\chi(G) = a$ and $\chi_{dn}(G) = a$. So, let $2 \leq a < b$. Let $V(K_a) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_a\}$. Let G be the graph obtained from K_a by adding new vertices $x, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{b-a}$ and join each z_i ($1 \leq i \leq b - a$) with x and join x with v_1 . The graph G is shown in Figure 3.7. It is easily seen that $V(K_a)$ is a χ -set of G so that $\chi(G) = a$. By Theorem 3.5, $\chi_{dn}(G) = n - 1 = b - a + a + 1 - 1 = b$.



G
Figure 3.7

In the following, we present the Nordhaus-Gaddum type relations for the chromatic detour number of a graph.

Theorem 3.9. *Let G and \overline{G} be connected graphs of order $n \geq 4$. Then $4 \leq \chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) \leq 2n - 3$. Moreover the upper bound is sharp if and only if G is the graph given in Figure 3.3.*

Proof. Since G and \overline{G} are connected graphs $\chi_{dn}(G) \geq 2$ and $\chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) \geq 2$. Therefore $\chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) \geq 4$. Since \overline{G} is connected, by Theorems 3.4 and 3.5, $\chi_{dn}(G) \leq n - 1$ and $\chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) \leq n - 2$. Hence $\chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) \leq 2n - 3$. Next we prove that $\chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) = 2n - 3$ if and only if G is the graph given in the Figure 3.3. From Theorem 3.5, the only graph satisfying $\chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) = 2n - 3$ is the graph given in the Figure 3.3.

Remark 3.10. *The lower bound in Theorem 3.9 is sharp. For the graph $G = P_4$, $\chi_{dn}(G) = 2$. Since $\overline{G} = P_4$, $\chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) = 2$. Therefore $\chi_{dn}(G) + \chi_{dn}(\overline{G}) = 4$.*

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