

## ON RAMSEY $(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ -MINIMAL GRAPHS

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### Abstract

Let  $F$  be a graph and let  $\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  denote nonempty families of graphs. We write  $F \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  if in any 2-coloring of edges of  $F$  with red and blue, there is a red subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{G}$  or a blue subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{H}$ . The graph  $F$  without isolated vertices is said to be a  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal graph if  $F \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  and  $F - e \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  for every  $e \in E(F)$ .

We present a technique which allows to generate infinite family of  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal graphs if we know some special graphs. In particular, we show how to receive infinite family of  $(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ -minimal graphs, for every  $n \geq 3$ .

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

We consider only finite undirected graphs without loops or multiple edges. Let  $G$  be a graph with the vertex set  $V(G)$  and the edge set  $E(G)$ . By  $\deg_G(v_1)$ ,  $d_G(v_1, v_2)$  we denote the degree of the vertex  $v_1$  in  $G$  and the distance between two vertices  $v_1, v_2$ , respectively. If  $G$  is known we can shortly write  $\deg(v_1)$ ,  $d(v_1, v_2)$ . We use the notation and terminology of [8].

Let  $F$  be a graph and let  $\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  be nonempty families of graphs. We write  $F \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  if in any 2-coloring of edges of  $F$  with red and blue, there is a red subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{G}$  or a blue subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{H}$ . Otherwise, if there exists a 2-coloring of edges such that neither a red subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{G}$  nor a blue subgraph isomorphic to some graph from  $\mathcal{H}$  occur, then we write  $F \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ . The graph

$F$  without isolated vertices is said to be a  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal graph if  $F \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  and  $F - e \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  for any  $e \in E(F)$ . The Ramsey set  $\mathfrak{R}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  is defined to be the set of all  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal graphs (up to isomorphism). For the simplicity of the notation, instead of  $\mathfrak{R}(\{G\}, \{H\})$  we write  $\mathfrak{R}(G, H)$ .

Many papers study the problem of determining the family  $\mathfrak{R}(G, H)$ . One can easily observe that the set  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_{1,2})$  is infinite and consists of star with three rays and all cycles of odd length. Burr *et al.* [6] proved that  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2k+1}, K_{1,2l+1}) = \{K_{1,2(k+l)+1}\}$  and  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2k}, K_{1,2l})$  is infinite, for every  $k, l \geq 1$ . Next Borowiecki *et al.* [3] characterized graphs belonging to  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_{1,m})$  for  $m \geq 3$ .

The graphs belonging to  $\mathfrak{R}(2K_2, K_{1,n})$  were characterized in [10]. Moreover, Łuczak [9] showed that  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2m}, G)$  is finite if and only if  $G$  is a matching. It means that, for  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$  has infinite number of graphs.

Borowiecki, *et al.* described in [4] the whole set  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ . In [1, 2] the authors presented how we can generate an infinite family of  $(K_{1,2}, C_4)$ -minimal graphs. In this paper we describe a method which can be applied to the construction of infinitely many graphs belonging to  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ , for any  $n \geq 3$ .

## 2. THE MAIN RESULTS

First we extend, in the same way as in [2], the already given standard definitions by adding some restriction on a chosen set of vertices. This allows us to construct the infinite family  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for any given family  $\mathcal{G}$  of 2-connected graphs.

**Definition 1.** Let  $F$  be a graph with  $U \subseteq V(F)$  and let  $\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}$  be families of graphs. If for any red-blue coloring of edges of  $F$ , such that all vertices in  $U$  are not incident with red edges, there exists a red copy of some graph from  $\mathcal{G}$  or a blue copy of some graph from  $\mathcal{H}$ , then we write  $F(U) \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ . Otherwise, there exists a  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -coloring of edges of  $F(U)$  and we write  $F(U) \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ .

**Definition 2.** Let  $F$  be a graph and  $U \subseteq V(F)$ . Let  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, |U|\}$ . We say that  $F(U)_i$  is  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal if

1.  $F(U_i) \rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ , for every  $U_i \in \binom{U}{i}$ ,
2.  $(F - e)(U_i) \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ , for every  $e \in E(F)$  and every  $U_i \in \binom{U}{i}$ ,
3.  $F(U_{i-1}) \not\rightarrow (\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ , for every  $U_{i-1} \in \binom{U}{i-1}$ .

We write  $F(U)_i \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  if  $F(U)_i$  is  $(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ -minimal. If  $U = \emptyset$  or  $i = 0$ , then we assume that  $F(U)_i \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H}) \Leftrightarrow F \in \mathfrak{R}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ .

For the simplicity of the notation we write  $F(v_1, \dots, v_p)_i$  instead of  $F(\{v_1, \dots, v_p\})_i$  and  $F(v_1, \dots, v_p)$  instead of  $F(v_1, \dots, v_p)_p$ .

**Remark 1.**  $F(r_1, r_2)_1 \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$  if and only if  $F(r_i) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(\mathcal{G}, \mathcal{H})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ .

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs. Let  $M_1, M_2$  be disjoint graphs and  $U_i \subset V(M_i)$ ,  $|U_i| \in \{1, 2\}$  and  $r_i \in U_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , and let  $M$  be a graph obtained from disjoint graphs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  by identifying the vertices  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . If  $M_1(U_1), M_2(U_2) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , then  $M(U_1 \cup U_2 \setminus \{r_1, r_2\}) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $U = U_1 \cup U_2 \setminus \{r_1, r_2\}$ . First we prove that  $M(U) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . If we assume that  $M(U) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , then there exists a coloring of edges of  $M$  such that there is at most one red edge  $e$  incident with  $r_1$ . It means that  $M_1(U_1) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  or  $M_2(U_2) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Hence, we obtain a contradiction.

Now we show that  $(M - e)(U) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Without loss of generality we can consider only the situation when  $e \in E(M_1)$ . We know that  $(M_1 - e)(U_1) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $M_2(U_2 \setminus \{r_2\}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Thus, there exist a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(M_1 - e)(U_1)$ , let us denote it by  $\phi_1$ , and a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $M_2(U_2 \setminus \{r_2\})$ , let us denote it by  $\phi_2$ . Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges of  $(M - e)$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_1(f)$  for  $f \in E(M_1)$  and  $\phi(f) = \phi_2(f)$  for  $f \in E(M_2)$ . Since  $M_2(U_2 \setminus \{r_2\}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , it is easy to notice that the vertex  $r_1$  is incident with exactly one red edge which belongs to  $E(M_2)$ . We can notice that there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(M_1)| > 1$  and  $|V(G) \cap V(M_2)| > 1$ , because  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only 2-connected graphs. Hence,  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(M - e)(U)$ .

Finally, we prove that  $M(U_i - r_i) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $i = 1$ . We know that  $M_1(U_1 - \{r_1\}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $M_2(r_2) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Hence, there exist  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -colorings  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  of edges of  $M_1(U_1 - \{r_1\})$  and  $M_2(r_2)$ , respectively. Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges of  $M$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_1(f)$ , if  $f \in E(M_1)$  and  $\phi(f) = \phi_2(f)$ , otherwise. It is easy to observe that the vertex  $r_1$  is incident with exactly one red edge belonging to  $E(M_1)$  in  $M$ . For the same reason as previously we can notice that there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(M_1)| > 1$  and  $|V(G) \cap V(M_2)| > 1$ . Hence,  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $M(U_1 - \{r_1\})$ . This observation finishes the proof. ■

**Lemma 3.** *Let  $c \geq 3$  be an integer,  $M_1, M_2$  be disjoint graphs,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs without induced cycles of the length greater than  $c$ . Let  $r_{i,1}, r_{i,2}$  be vertices of  $M_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , such that  $d_{M_1}(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_{M_2}(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ , and let  $L$  be a graph obtained from graphs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  by identifying the vertices  $r_{1,1}$  and  $r_{2,1}$ , and the vertices  $r_{1,2}$  and  $r_{2,2}$ . If  $M_i(r_{i,1}, r_{i,2}) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , then  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .*

**Proof.** First we prove that  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Conversely, suppose that  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $L(r_{1,1}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Then there exists a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $L$  such that every edge

$e$  incident with  $r_{1,1}$  in  $L$  is blue and at most one edge incident with  $r_{2,2}$  is red. Without loss of generality we can assume that the red edge belongs to  $E(M_1)$ . Hence, we obtain a contradiction with the fact that  $M_2(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

Now we show that  $(L - e)(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $e \in E(M_1)$ . We know that  $(M_1 - e)(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $M_2(r_{2,1}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Thus, there exist a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(M_1 - e)(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})$  and a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $M_2(r_{2,1})$ . We denote these colorings by  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , respectively. Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges  $(L - e)$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_1(f)$ , if  $f \in E(M_1)$  and  $\phi(f) = \phi_2(f)$ , otherwise. It is easy to notice that the vertex  $r_{1,2}$  is incident with exactly one red edge belonging to  $E(M_2)$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only 2-connected graphs and  $d_{M_1}(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_{M_2}(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ , there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(M_i - r_{i,1} - r_{i,2})| > 0$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Hence,  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(L - e)(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})$ .

Finally, we prove that  $L \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . From our assumption, it follows that  $M_1(r_{1,1}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $M_2(r_{2,2}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Thus once again, we can indicate two colorings  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  such that  $\phi_i$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $M_i(r_{i,i})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges of  $L$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_i(f)$  for  $f \in E(M_i)$  and  $i = 1, 2$ . We can observe that the vertex  $r_{1,1}$  is incident with exactly one red edge belonging to  $E(M_2)$  and the vertex  $r_{1,2}$  is incident with exactly one red edge belonging to  $E(M_1)$ . We can notice that there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(M_i - r_{i,1} - r_{i,2})| > 0$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , because  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only 2-connected graphs and  $d_{M_1}(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_{M_2}(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ . Therefore  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring edges of  $L$ . ■

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $c \geq 3$  be an integer,  $M_1, M_2$  be disjoint graphs,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs without induced cycles of the length greater than  $c$ . Let  $r_{i,1}, r_{i,2}$  be vertices of  $M_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , such that  $d_{M_1}(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_{M_2}(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ , and let  $B$  be a graph obtained from graphs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  by identifying the vertices  $r_{1,1}$  and  $r_{2,1}$ , and the vertices  $r_{1,2}$  and  $r_{2,2}$ . If  $M_i(r_{i,1}, r_{i,2}) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ , then  $B(r_{1,1}) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .*

**Proof.** From Lemma 3 and Remark 1. ■

The next theorems give us a method of the construction of infinitely many graphs that belong to  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , where  $\mathcal{G}$  is any given family of graphs. In this construction we use graphs with adding some restriction on a chosen set of vertices, i.e., graphs that belong to the family  $\tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $c \geq 3$  be an integer,  $L, M$  be disjoint graphs,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs without induced cycles of the length greater than  $c$ . Let  $\{r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}\} \subset V(L)$  and  $\{r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}\} \subset V(M)$  such that  $d_L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_M(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ , and let  $F$  be a graph obtained from graphs  $L$  and  $M$  by identifying the vertices  $r_{1,1}$*

and  $r_{2,1}$  and the vertices  $r_{1,2}$ , and  $r_{2,2}$ . If  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}), M(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , then  $F \in \mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** We start with proving that  $F \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Suppose, on the contrary, that there exists a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $F$ . From the fact that  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  it follows that in this coloring one edge incident with  $r_{1,1}$  and one edge incident with  $r_{1,2}$  in  $L$  is red. Hence, every edge incident with  $r_{2,1}$  and  $r_{2,2}$  in  $M$  is blue. We obtain a contradiction with the assumption that  $M(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

It remains to prove that  $F - e \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for every  $e \in E(F)$ .

*Case 1.* Let  $e \in E(L)$ . We know that  $(L - e)(r_{1,i}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $M(r_{2,3-i}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$ . Without loss of generality we can assume that  $i = 1$ . Thus, there exists a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(L - e)(r_{1,1})$  and a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $M(r_{2,2})$ . Let us denote these colorings by  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$ , respectively. Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges of  $(F - e)$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_1(f)$ , if  $f \in E(L)$  and  $\phi(f) = \phi_2(f)$ , otherwise. Let us notice that the vertices  $r_{1,1}$  and  $r_{1,2}$  must be incident with at most one red edge in the graph  $F - e$ . We also know that there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(L - r_{1,1} - r_{1,2})| > 0$  and  $|V(G) \cap V(M - r_{2,1} - r_{2,2})| > 0$ . This observation follows from the fact that  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only 2-connected graphs and  $d_L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2}) + d_M(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) > c$ . Hence,  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $F - e$ .

*Case 2.* Let  $e \in E(M)$ . From the fact that  $L \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  and  $(M - e)(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  it follows that there exist a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring  $\phi_1$  of edges of  $L$  and a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring  $\phi_2$  of edges of  $(M - e)(r_{2,1}, r_{2,2})$ . Let  $\phi$  be a coloring of edges of  $(F - e)$  such that  $\phi(f) = \phi_1(f)$ , if  $f \in E(L)$  and  $\phi(f) = \phi_2(f)$ , otherwise. Since  $L(r_{1,i}) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for  $i = 1, 2$  and  $L \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , the vertices  $r_{1,1}$  and  $r_{1,2}$  are incident with exactly one red edge in  $F - e$ . For the same reason as in Case 1 we know that there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $|V(G) \cap V(L - r_{1,1} - r_{1,2})| > 0$  and  $|V(G) \cap V(M - r_{2,1} - r_{2,2})| > 0$ . Hence, we can conclude that  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $F - e$ . ■

**Corollary 6.** Let  $B_1, B_2$  be disjoint graphs,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs. Let  $r_1, r_2$  be vertices of  $B_1$  and  $B_2$ , respectively, and let  $F$  be a graph obtained from graphs  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  by identifying the vertices  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . If  $B_1(r_1), B_2(r_2) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , then  $F \in \mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** From Lemma 2. ■

**Theorem 7.** Let  $c \geq 3$  be an integer,  $L$  be a graph,  $\mathcal{G}$  be a family of 2-connected graphs without induced cycles of the length greater than  $c$ . Let  $r_1, r_2$  be vertices of  $L$  such that  $d_L(r_1, r_2) > c$ , and let  $F$  be a graph obtained from the graph  $L$  by identifying the vertices  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ . If  $L(r_{1,1}, r_{1,2})_1 \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , then  $F \in \mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** First we show that  $F \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Suppose, on the contrary, that there exists a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $F$  such that there is at most one red edge incident with  $r_1$ . Since  $d_L(r_1, r_2) > c$ , it follows that  $r_1 r_2 \notin E(L)$ , so  $L(r_1) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$  or  $L(r_2) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , what leads us to a contradiction.

To finish the proof we show that  $F - e \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ , for  $e \in E(F)$ . We know that  $(L - e)(r_1) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ . Hence, there exists a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $(L - e)(r_1)$ . It is easy to notice that the vertex  $r_2$  is incident with at most one red edge in the graph  $F - e$ . Since  $\mathcal{G}$  contains only 2-connected graphs and  $d_L(r_1, r_2) > c$ , there does not exist a blue copy of a graph  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ . Hence,  $\phi$  is a  $(K_{1,2}, \mathcal{G})$ -coloring of edges of  $F - e$ . ■

### 3. THE FAMILIES $\tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ AND $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$

On the basis of results of Borowiecki *et al.* [4] we can observe the following facts:

**Observation 1.**

- (i)  $K_3(r_1, r_2) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ .
- (ii) Let  $r$  be a vertex of degree 3 of  $K_4 - e$ . Then  $(K_4 - e)(r) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ .
- (iii) Let  $TC_n = K_3$ -cycle, which we obtain from  $n \geq 4$  copies of  $K_3$  by identifying the second vertex of the  $i$ -th copy of  $K_3$  with the first vertex of the  $((i \bmod n) + 1)$ -th copy of  $K_3$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Then  $TC_n(r) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ , where  $r \in V(TC_n)$ .
- (iv) Let  $r_1, r_2$  be vertices of degree 3 of  $K_4 - e$ . Then  $(K_4 - e)(r_1, r_2)_1 \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ .
- (v) Graphs  $L_i(r_1, r_2)_1$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, 6$ , in Figure 1 belong to  $\tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ .

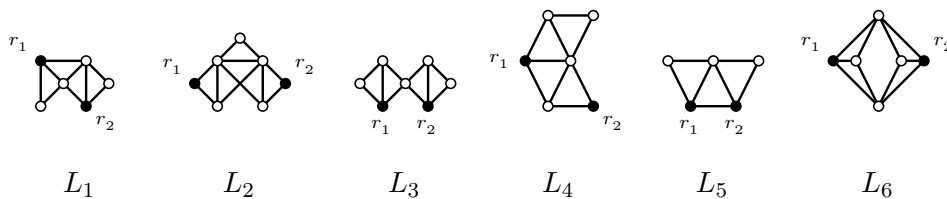


Figure 1. All presented graphs  $L_i(r_1, r_2)_1$  belong to  $\tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$ .

In the next three theorems we indicate some special graphs. These graphs together with our previous results allow us to construct infinitely many  $(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ -minimal graphs, i.e. graphs that belong to the Ramsey set  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$  for every  $n \geq 3$ .

**Theorem 8.** *Let  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $M = K_{2n-3} - (n-3)K_2$  and  $r_1, r_2$  be vertices of degree  $2n-4$  of  $M$ . Then  $M(r_1, r_2) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ .*

**Proof.** Note that for  $n = 3$  the graph  $M(r_1, r_2) = K_3(r_1, r_2) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$  from Observation 1(i). Hence, we can consider only  $n \geq 4$ .

In the first step of the proof we show that  $M(r_1, r_2) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Provided that the vertices  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are not incident with red edges, we consider every red-blue coloring  $\phi$  of edges of  $M$ , such that there is no red copy of the graph  $K_{1,2}$ . Let  $E_1 = E(\overline{M})$  and  $E_2 = \{e \in E(M) : \phi(e) = \text{red}\}$ . We can notice that the graph  $H = (V(M) \setminus \{r_1, r_2\}, E_1 \cup E_2)$  is bipartite and  $\Delta(H) \leq 2$ . Hence, we can divide the set  $V(H)$  into  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that  $H[V_1]$  and  $H[V_2]$  are edgeless. Without loss of generality we can assume that  $|V_1| > |V_2|$ . This implies that  $|V_1| \geq n-2$ . One can see that the subgraph of  $M$  induced by  $V_1 \cup \{r_1, r_2\}$  contains only blue edges and is isomorphic to  $K_n$ .

Now we show that  $(M-e)(r_1, r_2) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Let  $E(\overline{M}) = \{v_{i,1}v_{i,2} : i = 1, 2, \dots, n-3\}$  and  $v \in V(M) \setminus \{r_1, r_2\}$ , where  $\text{deg}(v) = 2n-4$ . Without loss of generality we can consider only the case when  $e \in \{v_{1,1}r_1, v_{1,1}v, v_{1,1}v_{2,1}\}$ . If  $n \geq 5$ , then for any choice of  $e$  we color red edges  $vv_{1,2}, v_{i,1}v_{i+1,2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-4$ . If  $n = 4$ , then we color red edges  $vv_{1,2}$  and  $v_{1,1}r_1$ . We color the remaining edges blue. These colorings of  $(M-e)(r_1, r_2)$  contain neither a red copy of  $K_{1,2}$  nor a blue copy of  $K_n$ .

To finish the proof we show that  $M(r_1) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Let us consider the following coloring of edges of  $M$ . If  $n \geq 5$ , then we color red edges  $r_2v_{n-3,1}, vv_{1,2}, v_{i,1}v_{i+1,2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-4$ . If  $n = 4$ , then we color red edges  $r_2v_{1,1}$  and  $vv_{1,2}$ . The remaining edges we color blue. One can see that this coloring of  $M$  contains neither a red copy of  $K_{1,2}$  nor a blue copy of  $K_n$ . Similarly, we can prove that  $M(r_2) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . ■

**Theorem 9.** *Let  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $B = K_{2n-2} - (n-2)K_2$  and  $r$  be a vertex of degree  $2n-3$  of  $B$ . Then  $B(r) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ .*

**Proof.** Notice that for  $n = 3$  the graph  $B(r) = (K_4 - e)(r) \in \tilde{\mathfrak{R}}(K_{1,2}, K_3)$  from Observation 1(ii). Hence, we can consider only  $n \geq 4$ .

First we prove that  $B(r) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Consider a red-blue coloring  $\phi$  of edges of  $B$ . Suppose that in this coloring there is no red copy of  $K_{1,2}$ . Let  $E_1 = E(\overline{B})$  and  $E_2 = \{e \in E(B) : \phi(e) = \text{red}\}$ . If we consider the graph  $H = (V(B) \setminus \{r\}, E_1 \cup E_2)$ , then we can notice that  $H$  is bipartite and  $\Delta(H) \leq 2$ . Therefore we can divide the set  $V(H)$  into  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that  $H[V_1]$  and  $H[V_2]$  are edgeless. Without loss of generality we can assume that  $|V_1| > |V_2|$ . Hence  $|V_1| \geq n-1$ . Now, we can notice that the subgraph of  $B$  induced by  $V_1 \cup \{r\}$  contains only blue edges and is isomorphic to  $K_n$ .

Let  $E(\overline{B}) = \{v_{i,1}v_{i,2} : i = 1, 2, \dots, n-2\}$  and  $v \in V(B) \setminus \{r\}$ , where  $\text{deg}(v) = 2n-3$ . In the next step of the proof we show that  $(B-e)(r) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Without

loss of generality we can consider only the case when  $e \in \{v_{1,1}r, v_{1,1}v, v_{1,1}v_{2,1}\}$ . Regardless of the choice of  $e$  we color red edges  $vv_{1,2}, v_{i,1}v_{i+1,2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-3$ . The remaining uncolored edges we color blue. Clearly, such a coloring of  $(B - e)(r)$  contains neither a red copy of  $K_{1,2}$  nor a blue copy of  $K_n$ .

Finally, we show that  $B \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . One can see that a coloring of  $B$  such that edges  $rv_{n-2,1}, vv_{1,2}, v_{i,1}v_{i+1,2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-3$ , are red and the other edges are blue contains neither a red copy of  $K_{1,2}$  nor a blue copy  $K_n$ . This observation finishes the proof. ■

**Theorem 10.** *Let  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $L = K_{2n-2} - (n-2)K_2$  and  $r_1, r_2$  be vertices of degree  $2n-3$  of  $L$ . Then  $L(r_1, r_2)_1 \in \mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ .*

**Proof.** From Remark 1 and Theorem 9. ■

In the next theorem we indicate one more graph belonging to  $\mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ , for every  $n \geq 3$ . Moreover, from [7] this graph is minimal with respect to the number of vertices.

**Theorem 11.** *Let  $F = K_{2n-1} - (n-1)K_2$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . Then  $F \in \mathfrak{R}(K_{1,2}, K_n)$ .*

**Proof.** From Theorem 9 we have  $B(r) = (K_{2n} - (n-1)K_2)(r) \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_{n+1})$ , where  $\deg(r) = 2n-1$ . It is easy to see that  $B - r = F$  and  $F \rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ .

Let  $E(\overline{F}) = \{v_{i,1}v_{i,2} : i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $v \in V(B) \setminus \{r\}$ , where  $\deg(v) = 2n-2$ . We show that  $(F - e) \not\rightarrow (K_{1,2}, K_n)$ . Without loss of generality we can consider only the case when  $e \in \{v_{1,1}v, v_{1,1}v_{2,1}\}$ . Regardless of the choice of  $e$  we color red edges  $vv_{1,2}, v_{i,1}v_{i+1,2}$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-2$ . We color the remaining uncolored edges blue. Clearly, such a coloring of  $F$  contains neither a red copy of  $K_{1,2}$  nor a blue copy of  $K_n$ . ■

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