

# GENERALIZED RAMSEY THEORY FOR GRAPHS XII: BIPARTITE RAMSEY SETS

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Dedicated to Gerhard Ringel on his 60th birthday

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**0. Introduction.** Following the notation in Faudree and Schelp [3], we write  $G \rightarrow (F, H)$  to mean that every 2-coloring of  $E(G)$ , the edge set of  $G$ , contains a green (the first color)  $F$  or a red (the second color)  $H$ . Then the *Ramsey number*  $r(F, H)$  of two graphs  $F$  and  $H$  with no isolated vertices has been defined as the minimum  $p$  such that  $K_p \rightarrow (F, H)$ .

For bipartite graphs  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  without isolated vertices we define the *bipartite Ramsey set*  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  as the set of pairs  $(m, n)$ ,  $m \leq n$ , such that  $K_{m,n} \rightarrow (B_1, B_2)$  and neither  $K_{m-1,n}$  nor  $K_{m,n-1}$  have this property. Thus the set  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  can be interpreted as a variation of the Ramsey number  $r(B_1, B_2)$ . Instead of 2-colorings of the complete graph we now consider 2-colorings of the complete bipartite graph.

The two bipartite Ramsey numbers  $b(B_1, B_2)$  (the minimum  $p$  with  $K_{p,p} \rightarrow (B_1, B_2)$ ), and  $b'(B_1, B_2)$  (the minimum  $p = m + n$  such that  $K_{m,n} \rightarrow (B_1, B_2)$ ) were defined already in [5]. They are easily expressed in terms of the bipartite Ramsey set  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  which we now write in the convenient form:

$$\beta(B_1, B_2) = \{(m_h, n_h); m_h < m_{h+1}, m_h \leq n_h\} \quad \text{for } 1 \leq h \leq k. \quad (1)$$

Then  $b(B_1, B_2) = n_k$ , the smallest  $n_h$ , and  $b'(B_1, B_2) = \min(m_h + n_h)$ . Similar bipartite Ramsey problems are considered in Beineke and Schwenk [1], Faudree and Schelp [3], and Irving [7] while general results on Ramsey theory are given in the book by Bollobás [2].

It is trivial that  $\beta(B_1, B_2) = \beta(B_2, B_1)$ . From our Algorithmic Lemma it is easily deduced that  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  is a non-empty, finite set for all possible pairs of bipartite graphs  $B_1, B_2$ . Faudree and Schelp [3] have already determined  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  for paths:

$$\beta(P_s, P_t) = \{(\lfloor \frac{1}{2}s \rfloor + \lfloor \frac{1}{2}t \rfloor - 1, \lfloor \frac{1}{2}(s+t) \rfloor - \epsilon)\}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\epsilon = 0$  for  $s$  odd,  $s \geq t - 1$ ,  
for  $s$  even,  $t$  odd,  $s \leq t + 1$ ,  
and for  $s = t$  odd,

and  $\epsilon = 1$  otherwise.

Our purposes include the determination of the bipartite Ramsey sets  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  for all pairs of bipartite graphs of order at most five, for all pairs of stars, and for the path-star pairs  $(P_s, K_{1,t})$  with  $s \leq 5$ . Notation and terminology not specifically mentioned will follow that in [4].

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**1. Algorithmic Lemma.** If the bipartite graph  $B$  has  $p = p(B)$  vertices, let  $Z(B)$  be the set of natural numbers  $z$  such that  $B$  is a subgraph of  $K_{z,p-z}$  and  $z \leq \frac{1}{2}p$ . We use the notation

$$Z(B) = \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_L\} \text{ with } z_1 < z_2 < \dots < z_L. \tag{3}$$

Then for connected  $B$  we have  $L = 1$ . By  $\beta' = \beta'(B_1, B_2)$  we denote the set of all pairs  $(a, b)$ ,  $a \leq b$ , such that  $K_{a,b} \rightarrow (B_1, B_2)$ . Thus of course  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$  is a subset of  $\beta'$ . The independent sets of  $a$  and  $b$  vertices of  $K_{a,b}$  are denoted by  $V_1$  and  $V_2$ . If these vertices are labelled by  $i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq a$ , and  $j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq b$ , then we describe edges of  $K_{a,b}$  only by  $(i, j)$  with  $i \in V_1$  and  $j \in V_2$ .

From the definitions we deduce

$$(a, b) \in \beta' \Rightarrow (a + i, b + j) \in \beta' \text{ for } i, j \geq 0, \tag{4}$$

$$(a, b) \notin \beta' \Rightarrow (a - i, b - j) \notin \beta' \text{ for } i, j \geq 0, \tag{5}$$

$$(a, b) \in \beta \Leftrightarrow (a, b) \in \beta', (a - 1, b) \notin \beta', \text{ and } (a, b - 1) \notin \beta'. \tag{6}$$

For  $1 \leq i \leq k - 1$  we have by definition  $(m_{i+1} - 1, n_{i+1}) \notin \beta'$ . This together with (1)  $(m_{i+1} - 1 \geq m_i)$  and (5) yields  $(m_i, n_{i+1}) \notin \beta'$ . Using (5) again and assuming  $n_{i+1} \geq n_i$ , we conclude that  $(m_i, n_i) \notin \beta'$ , and this contradiction to the definition proves that

$$n_1 > n_2 > \dots > n_k. \tag{7}$$

It is easy to see that

$$\beta(K_2, B) = \{(z, p(B) - z); z \in Z(B)\}. \tag{8}$$

We now derive the bipartite Ramsey set of two copies of  $K_2$  with any bipartite graph  $B$ .

**THEOREM 1.** *If  $B$  is a bipartite graph with  $p$  vertices, and  $Z^*(B) = \{z; z \in Z(B), z \neq \frac{1}{2}(p - 1), z - 1 \notin Z(B), z + 1 \notin Z(B)\}$ , then*

$$\beta(2K_2, B) = \{(z_{i+1}, p - z_i); 1 \leq i \leq L - 1\} \cup \{(p - z_L, p - z_L); z_L \leq \frac{1}{2}(p - 1)\} \cup \{(z + 1, p - z + 1); z \in Z^*(B)\}. \tag{9}$$

*Proof.* We write  $\beta(2K_2, B) = \beta$  and  $\beta'(2K_2, B) = \beta'$  during this proof, and first show that

$$(x, y) \in \beta' \Leftrightarrow B \subset K_{x-1,y} \text{ and } B \subset K_{x,y-1}. \tag{10}$$

$(\Rightarrow)$  In the special 2-colorings of  $K_{x,y}$ , where all edges of a  $K_{x,1}$  (respectively, of a  $K_{1,y}$ ) are colored green, and all others red, there is no green  $2K_2$ , and thus a red  $B$  exists with  $B \subset K_{x-1,y}$  (respectively,  $B \subset K_{x,y-1}$ ).

$(\Leftarrow)$  In every 2-coloring of  $K_{x,y}$  either a green  $2K_2$  exists, or the green edges form a star. In the last case  $K_{x-1,y}$  or  $K_{x,y-1}$  exist with red edges only, so that a red  $B$  is guaranteed.

Now  $(x, y) \in \beta$  with  $x \leq y$  implies  $B \subset K_{x-1,y}$  by (6) and (10). Then a number  $z \in Z(B)$

exists with  $z \leq x - 1$ ,  $p - z \leq y$ , that is,  $x = z + 1 + f$ ,  $y = p - z + g$ ,  $f, g \geq 0$ . From (10) we find  $(z + 1, p - z + 1) \in \beta'$ , and this together with (6) shows  $g \geq 2$ , so as  $g = 1$ ,  $f \geq 1$  must be impossible. Thus the two following conditions are necessary for  $(x, y) \in \beta$ :

$$x = z + 1, \quad y = p - z + 1, \tag{11}$$

$$x = z + 1 + f, \quad y = p - z, \quad 0 \leq f \leq p - 2z - 1. \tag{12}$$

For (11) we observe that  $(z + 1, p - z + 1) \in \beta'$  as above, and use (6) and (10) to get

$$(z + 1, p - z + 1) \in \beta \Leftrightarrow (z, p - z + 1) \notin \beta',$$

and the equivalences

$$(z + 1, p - z) \notin \beta' \Leftrightarrow B \not\subset K_{z-1, p-z+1}$$

and

$$B \not\subset K_{z+1, p-z+1} \Leftrightarrow z - 1 \notin Z(B), z + 1 \notin Z(B), z \neq \frac{1}{2}(p - 1) \Leftrightarrow z \in Z^*(B).$$

The latter follows since  $z = \frac{1}{2}(p - 1)$  would give  $B \subset K_{z+1, p-z+1}$ .

If in (12)  $z \neq z_L$ , we use  $B \subset K_{z_{i+1}-1, p-z_i}$ ,  $B \subset K_{z_{i+1}, p-z_i-1}$ , and (10) to get  $(z_{i+1}, p - z_i) \in \beta'$ . From  $B \not\subset K_{z_{i+1}-1, p-z_i-1}$  and (10), it follows that  $(z_{i+1} - 1, p - z_i) \notin \beta'$  and  $(z_{i+1}, p - z_i - 1) \notin \beta'$ . We then note that (6) enables us to conclude  $(z_{i+1}, p - z_i) \in \beta$ , and  $(x, y) \notin \beta$  for  $f \neq z_{i+1} - z_i - 1$  in (12). It remains to consider  $z = z_L$  in (12). Here we use  $B \subset K_{p-z_L-1, p-z_L}$  (as  $z \leq \frac{1}{2}(p - 1)$  in (12)), and  $B \not\subset K_{p-z_L-1, p-z_L-1}$  to deduce, as before, from (10) and (6) that  $(x, y) \in \beta$  holds only for  $x = y = p - z_L$ ,  $z_L \leq \frac{1}{2}(p - 1)$ .  $\square$

In the following we denote by  $b_i(B) = b_i$  the maximum of all line independence numbers of the complements of  $B$  with regard to  $K_{z_i, p-z_i}$ . We now find the bipartite Ramsey set of the 3-point path with any bipartite graph.

**THEOREM 2.** *If  $B$  is a bipartite graph with  $p$  vertices, and  $\bar{Z}(B) = \{z_i \in Z(B); b_i(B) < b_i(B) \text{ for } 1 \leq j \leq i - 1\}$ , then*

$$\beta(P_3, B) = \{(z_i, p - b_i(B)); z_i \in \bar{Z}(B)\}. \tag{13}$$

*Proof.* Again it is convenient to write  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  for  $\beta(P_3, B)$  and  $\beta'(P_3, B)$ . We first determine the set  $\beta'$  by showing that

$$(x, y) \in \beta' \Leftrightarrow z_i \in Z(B) \text{ exists with } x \geq z_i, y \geq p - b_i(B). \tag{14}$$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) If the edges  $(1, 1), (2, 2), \dots, (x, x)$  of  $K_{x,y}$  are colored green and all others red, then no green  $P_3$  and thus a red  $B$  exists in  $K_{x,y}$ . The subgraph  $K_{z_i, p-z_i}$  of  $K_{x,y}$  with the vertices of this red  $B$  contains at most  $b_i$  of the  $x$  independent green edges. Then  $z_i$  vertices either belong to  $V_1$  (or to  $V_2$ ) and at least  $p - z_i - b_i$  (or  $z_i - b_i$ ) of the vertices in  $V_2$  are among the vertices  $x + 1, x + 2, \dots, y$ , that is,  $y - x \geq p - z_i - b_i$  (or  $y - x \geq z_i - b_i$ ). These inequalities yield  $y \geq p - b_i$  if  $x \geq z_i$  (or  $x \geq p - z_i \geq z_i$ ).

( $\Leftarrow$ ) Because of (4) it suffices to show  $(z_i, p - b_i) \in \beta'$  for  $z_i \in Z(B)$ . In any 2-coloring of  $K_{z_i, p-b_i}$  we either find a green  $P_3$ , or at least  $p - b_i - z_i$  vertices in  $V_2$  are incident only with red edges. A subgraph  $K_{z_i, p-z_i}$  of  $K_{z_i, p-b_i}$ , in which these  $p - b_i - z_i$  vertices are among

the  $p - z_i$  vertices, contains at most  $b_i$  green edges, which are independent. Thus the complement of these green edges with regard to  $K_{z_i, p-z_i}$  contains a red  $B$ , and (14) is proved.

Now (14) always guarantees  $(z_i, p - b_i) \in \beta'$ . Also from (14) we deduce  $(z_i - 1, p - b_i) \notin \beta'$  and  $(z_i, p - b_i - 1) \notin \beta' \Leftrightarrow b_j < b_i$  for  $1 \leq j < i$ . Then (6) completes the proof of Theorem 2.  $\square$

The following lemma describes algorithmic steps for the general determination of  $\beta(B_1, B_2)$ . We start with  $m_1$  from (a). For  $h \geq 1$ , we then may use (b), (c), and (d) cyclically to find for  $m_h$  the corresponding  $n_h$  by (b), to ask whether we have finished using (c), and, otherwise, to find the next value  $m_{h+1}$  by means of (d).

- ALGORITHMIC LEMMA. (a)  $m_1 = z_1(B_1) + z_1(B_2) - 1$ ;  
 (b)  $(m_h, y) \in \beta'(B_1, B_2)$ , and  $x \geq m_h$  exists with  $(x, y - 1) \notin \beta'(B_1, B_2) \Rightarrow y = n_h$ ;  
 (c)  $(n_h - 1, n_h - 1) \notin \beta' \Leftrightarrow h = k$ ;  
 (d)  $(x, n_h - 1) \notin \beta'(B_1, B_2)$ , and  $y \leq n_h - 1$  exists with  $(x + 1, y) \in \beta'(B_1, B_2) \Rightarrow x + 1 = m_{h+1}$ , if  $h < k$ .

*Proof.* (a) If in  $K_{x,y}$  all edges which are incident with  $z_1(B_1) - 1$  vertices of  $V_1$  (and all edges in case of  $x < z_1(B_1) - 1$ ) are colored green and all others red, then for  $x - (z_1(B_1) - 1) \leq z_1(B_2) - 1$  neither a green  $B_1$  nor a red  $B_2$  can occur, and hence  $m_1 \geq z_1(B_1) + z_1(B_2) - 1$ .

For any 2-coloring of  $K_{x,y}$  with  $x = z_1(B_1) + z_1(B_2) - 1$ , and  $y = 1 + 2^x \max_{i=1,2} \{p(B_i) - z_1(B_i) - 1\}$  we consider the  $(x, y)$ -matrix  $M$  with elements  $a_{i,j} = 1$  if the edge  $(i, j)$  is green, and  $a_{i,j} = 0$  otherwise. Then in  $M$  at least one of the  $2^x$  different columns occurs at least  $\max_{i=1,2} \{p(B_i) - z_1(B_i)\}$  times. This column contains  $z_1(B_1)$  entries 1, or  $z_1(B_2)$  entries 0. Hence  $M$  must contain a  $(z_1(B_1), p(B_1) - z_1(B_1))$ -submatrix only with entries 1, or a  $(z_1(B_2), p(B_2) - z_1(B_2))$ -submatrix only with entries 0. Thus  $K_{x,y}$  contains a green  $B_1$  or a red  $B_2$ , and  $m_1 \leq z_1(B_1) + z_1(B_2) - 1$  is proved.

(b) If  $y > n_h$  then  $(m_h, y - 1) \in \beta'$ , while if  $y < n_h$  then  $(m_h, y) \notin \beta'$ , and either case yields a contradiction.

(c) For  $h < k$  we deduce from  $(m_{h+1}, n_{h+1}) \in \beta'$  and (4) that  $(n_h - 1, n_h - 1) \in \beta'$ , as (1) and (7) yield  $m_{h+1} \leq n_{h+1} \leq n_h - 1$ . The assumption  $(n_k - 1, n_k - 1) \in \beta'$  then implies the existence of  $n_h$  with  $n_h \leq n_k - 1$  which contradicts (7).

(d) For  $x + 1 > m_{h+1}$ , from  $(m_{h+1}, n_{h+1}) \in \beta'$  by (4) and (7) we get  $(m_{h+1}, n_h - 1) \in \beta'$ , and then (4) gives the contradiction  $(x, n_h - 1) \in \beta'$ . If now  $(m_{h+1}, n_h - 1) \in \beta'$  is assumed, then by (4), there exist  $m_i, n_i$  with  $m_i \leq m_{h+1} - 1$  and  $n_i \leq n_h - 1$ , that is, by (1) and (7) the contradiction  $i \leq h$  and  $i \geq h + 1$ , respectively, follows. Hence  $(m_{h+1} - 1, n_h - 1) \notin \beta'$  which yields for  $x + 1 < m_{h+1}$  by (5) the contradiction  $(x + 1, y) \notin \beta'$ . Thus only  $x + 1 = m_{h+1}$  is possible.  $\square$

We are now able to utilize the Algorithmic Lemma to verify easily that the bipartite Ramsey set of a pair of stars is a singleton ordered couple.

THEOREM 3.  $\beta(K_{1,s}, K_{1,t}) = \{(1, s + t - 1)\}$ . (15)

*Proof.* At first  $m_1 = 1$  follows from (a) of the Lemma. In any 2-coloring of  $K_{1,s+t-1}$  the one vertex of  $V_1$  is incident either with  $s$  green or  $t$  red edges, and hence  $(1, s+t-1) \in \beta'(K_{1,s}, K_{1,t})$ . If in  $K_{s+t-2, s+t-2}$  the edges  $(i, i+j)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s+t-2$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq s-2$ ,  $i+j \pmod{s+t-2}$ , are colored green and all others red, then no green  $K_{1,s}$  and no red  $K_{1,t}$  can exist, that is,  $(s+t-2, s+t-2) \notin \beta'(K_{1,s}, K_{1,t})$ . For  $s+t \geq 3$ , this together with (b) and (c) of the Lemma proves Theorem 3, and for  $s=t=1$  we use (8).  $\square$

We now apply the Algorithmic Lemma further in order to determine the bipartite Ramsey set of a small path  $P_s$ ,  $s \leq 5$ , and any star  $K_{1,t}$ . This result will be useful in the next section on bipartite Ramsey sets for small graphs.

**THEOREM 4.** *Let  $t \geq 3$ ,  $f_1 = 2$ , and let  $f_{h+1}$  be the smallest integer with*

$$[(t-1)/(f_{h+1}-1)] < [(t-1)/(f_h-1)], \text{ and } f_{d(t)} = \lceil \frac{1}{2}(t+3) \rceil. \tag{16}$$

*For  $s=4$  and  $s=5$  then  $k(4, t) = d(t)$ ;  $k(5, t) = d(t)$  if  $t$  is even and  $t > 4$ ;  $k(5, 4) = 3$ ;  $k(5, t) = d(t) - 1$  if  $t$  is odd; and*

$$\beta(P_s, K_{1,t}) = \{(m_h, n_h); 1 \leq h \leq k(s, t), m_{k(s,t)} = t \text{ if } t \text{ is even, } \\ m_h = f_h \text{ otherwise, } n_{k(5,4)-1} = 6, \quad n_h = t + [(t-1)/(m_h-1)] \text{ otherwise}\}. \tag{17}$$

*Proof.* We use  $c = [(t-1)/(a-1)]$ ,  $2 \leq a \leq t$ . In  $K_{a,t+c-1}$  the edges  $(i, (i-1)c+j)$  with  $1 \leq i \leq a-1$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq c$ , and  $i = a$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq t-1-(a-2)c$  are colored green, and all others red. Then every vertex is incident with at most  $t-1$  red edges, and neither a red  $K_{1,t}$  nor a green  $P_4$  can occur, that is,

$$(a, t + [(t-1)/(a-1)] - 1) \notin \beta'(P_s, K_{1,t}), \quad 2 \leq a \leq t, \quad 4 \leq s. \tag{18}$$

In any 2-coloring of  $K_{a,t+c}$  either we find a red  $K_{1,t}$ , or every vertex in  $V_1$  is incident with at least  $c+1$  green edges. Because of  $a(c+1) > c+t$  at least one vertex in  $V_2$  is incident with two green edges. As  $c+1 \geq 2$ , and  $c+1 \geq 3$  for  $a \leq \lceil \frac{1}{2}(t+1) \rceil$ , there exist a green  $P_4$ , and a green  $P_5$ , respectively, and hence

$$(a, t + [(t-1)/(a-1)]) \in \beta'(P_s, K_{1,t}), \quad 2 \leq a \leq \begin{cases} t, & s=4 \\ \lceil \frac{1}{2}(t+1) \rceil & s=5. \end{cases} \tag{19}$$

In a similar way we get

$$(3, 6) \in \beta'(P_5, K_{1,4}). \tag{20}$$

Any 2-coloring of  $K_{3,6}$  either contains a red  $K_{1,4}$ , or every vertex of  $V_1$  is incident with at least 3 green edges, and at least one vertex of  $V_2$  with 2 green edges, and thus a green  $P_5$  occurs.

We now consider  $K_{t+1,t+1}$ ,  $t$  odd, and  $K_{t-1,t+1}$ ,  $t$  even. For  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(t+1)$ , and  $1 \leq i \leq \frac{1}{2}(t-2)$ , respectively, the edges  $(2i-1, 2i-1)$ ,  $(2i-1, 2i)$ ,  $(2i, 2i-1)$ ,  $(2i, 2i)$ , and for  $K_{t-1,t+1}$  in addition  $(t-1, t-j)$ ,  $0 \leq j \leq 2$ , are colored green and all others red. Thus

there is no green  $P_5$  and no red  $K_{1,t}$ , and therefore

$$(t+1, t+1) \notin \beta'(P_5, K_{1,t}), \quad t \text{ odd} \tag{21}$$

$$(t-1, t+1) \notin \beta'(P_5, K_{1,t}), \quad t \text{ even.} \tag{22}$$

Next we suppose for a 2-coloring of  $K_{t,t+1}$ ,  $t$  even, that there exist neither a green  $P_5$  nor a red  $K_{1,t}$ . Then every vertex in  $V_1$  is incident with at least two green edges, and every vertex in  $V_2$  with at least one green edge, and as maximal connected subgraphs the only possibilities are  $K_{2,2}$  or  $K_{1,r}$  with  $r \geq 2$  vertices in  $V_2$ . If there are  $g$  copies of green  $K_{2,2}$ , and  $K_{1,r_1}, K_{1,r_2}, \dots, K_{1,r_h}$  denote the green stars, then we have  $t = b + 2g$  and  $t + 1 = 2g + \sum_{i \leq h} r_i$  vertices. Together with  $r_i \geq 2$  we obtain  $b \leq 1$ . Since  $b = 2g - t$  is even we get  $b = 0$ , and this implies  $t = 2g - 1$ , which contradicts  $t$  even; hence

$$(t, t+1) \in \beta'(P_5, K_{1,t}), \quad t \text{ even.} \tag{23}$$

We now apply the Algorithmic Lemma to deduce  $\beta(P_s, K_{1,t})$  for  $s = 4, 5$ . From (a) we see that  $m_1 = 2 = f_1$ . Then from (b) we obtain  $n_h = t + [(t-1)/(m_h - 1)]$  if for  $m_{k(s,t)} = t$  we use (23) and (21), and if for  $m_h = f_h$  with  $h \neq k(s, 4) - 1$  we use  $h = m_h$  in (19) and (18). For  $m_{k(s,4)-1} = f_2 = 3$  we use (20), (22) with  $a = 3$ , and (b) to get  $n_{k(s,4)-1} = 6$ .

For  $s = 4$ , or  $s = 5$ ,  $t$  even,  $t > 4$ , we get  $n_d = t + 1$ , and for  $s = 5$ ,  $t = 4$ , we find  $n_{d+1} = n_3 = t + 1 = 5$ . By substituting  $a = t$  in (18) and using (c), it follows that  $k(4, t) = d(t)$ ,  $k(5, t) = d(t)$ ,  $t$  even,  $t > 4$ , and  $k(5, 4) = d + 1 = 3$ . If  $s = 5$ ,  $t$  odd, then  $n_{d-1} = t + 2$ , and we obtain  $k(5, t) = d(t) - 1$ ,  $t$  odd, from (21) and (c).

In the cases  $s = 4$ ,  $h < d(t)$ , and  $s = 5$ ,  $h < d(t) - 1$ , we consider  $a = f_{h+1} - 1$  in (18) together with  $[(t-1)/(f_{h+1} - 2)] = [(t-1)/(f_h - 1)]$  from (16), so as  $a = f_{h+1}$  in (19) together with (16), to conclude  $m_{h+1} = f_{h+1}$  using part (d) of the Lemma. For  $s = 5$ ,  $t$  even,  $t > 4$ , the case  $h = d(t) - 1$  yields  $n_{d-1} = t + 2$ , and from (22), (23), and (d) we obtain  $m_{h+1} = m_d = m_{k(s,t)} = t$ . For  $s = 5$ ,  $t = 4$ , there remain two cases. If  $h = 1$ , then  $n_1 = 7$ , and  $a = 2$  in (18), (20), and (d) show  $m_2 = f_2 = 3$ . If  $h = 2$ , then  $n_2 = 6$ , and (22), (23), and (d) imply  $m_3 = t = 4$ .  $\square$

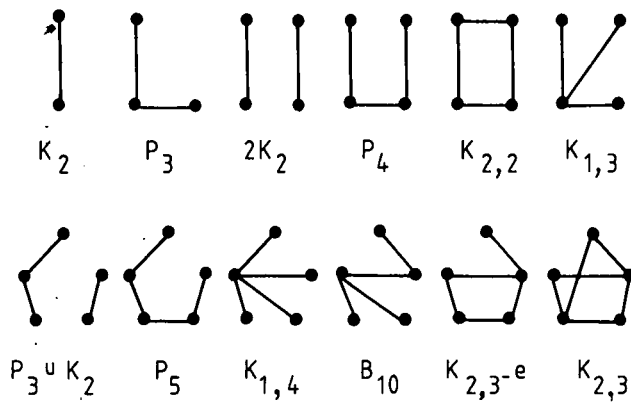


Figure 1. The small bipartite graphs.

**2. Bipartite Ramsey sets for small graphs.** From the list of all graphs of order  $p \leq 6$  in [4], we show in Fig. 1 those bipartite graphs which have  $p \leq 5$  vertices and no isolates. We call these twelve graphs the *small bipartite graphs* and list symbolic names for all but the tenth one which is then denoted by  $B_{10}$ . (It can also be written as  $K_1 + K_1 + K_1 + \bar{K}_2$  but that is too long a symbol.)

**THEOREM 5.** For all pairs  $(B_i, B_j)$  of small bipartite graphs  $B_i$  and  $B_j$  from Fig. 1 the bipartite Ramsey sets  $\beta(B_i, B_j)$  are gathered in Table 1.

TABLE 1.  $\beta(B_i, B_j)$  FOR ALL SMALL BIPARTITE GRAPHS.

	$K_2$	$P_3$	$2K_2$	$P_4$	$K_{2,2}$	$K_{1,3}$	$P_3 \cup K_2$	$P_5$	$K_{1,4}$	$B_{10}$	$K_{2,3} - e$	$K_{2,3}$
$K_2$	(1, 1)	(1, 2)	(2, 2)	(2, 2)	(2, 2)	(1, 3)	(2, 3)	(2, 3)	(1, 4)	(2, 3)	(2, 3)	(2, 3)
$P_3$		(1, 3)	(2, 2)	(2, 3)	(2, 4)	(1, 4)	(2, 3)	(2, 3)	(1, 5)	(2, 4)	(2, 4)	(2, 5)
$2K_2$			(3, 3)	(3, 3)	(3, 3)	(2, 4) (3, 3)	(3, 3)	(3, 3)	(2, 5) (4, 4)	(3, 3)	(3, 3)	(3, 3)
$P_4$				(3, 3)	(3, 4)	(2, 5) (3, 4)	(3, 3)	(3, 4)	(2, 7) (3, 5)	(3, 4)	(3, 4)	(3, 7) (4, 5)
$K_{2,2}$					(3, 7) (5, 5)	(2, 6) (3, 5)	(3, 4)	(3, 4)	(2, 8) (3, 7) (5, 6)	(3, 5)	(3, 7) (5, 5)	(3, 10) (4, 8)
$K_{1,3}$						(1, 5)	(2, 5) (3, 4)	(2, 5)	(1, 6)	(2, 5)	(2, 6) (3, 5)	(2, 7) (4, 6)
$P_3 \cup K_2$							(3, 3)	(3, 4)	(2, 6) (3, 5)	(3, 4)	(3, 4)	(3, 5)
$P_5$								(3, 5)	(2, 7) (3, 6) (4, 5)	(3, 5)	(3, 5)	(3, 7) (4, 5)
$K_{1,4}$									(1, 7)	(2, 7) (3, 6)	(2, 8) (3, 7) (5, 6)	(2, 9) (3, 8)
$B_{10}$										(3, 5)	(3, 5)	(3, 7) (4, 6)
$K_{2,3} - e$											(3, 7) (5, 5)	(3, 10) (4, 8)
$K_{2,3}$												(3, 13) (5, 11) (7, 9)

*Proof.* The first three rows of Table 1 are immediate consequences of (8), (13), and (9). Then  $\beta(P_s, P_t)$ ,  $4 \leq s, t \leq 5$ ,  $\beta(K_{1,s}, K_{1,t})$ ,  $3 \leq s, t \leq 4$ , and  $\beta(P_s, K_{1,t})$ ,  $4 \leq s \leq 5$ ,  $3 \leq t \leq 4$ , can be derived from (2), (15), and (17), respectively. For the remaining pairs  $(B_i, B_j)$  (excluding  $(K_{2,3}, K_{2,3})$  for the moment) we first prove the validity of  $(x, y) \in \beta'(B_i, B_j)$  for all pairs of Table 1. By the *g-degree* and *r-degree* of a vertex  $v$  we will mean the number of green and red edges incident with  $v$  in a 2-coloring of  $K_{x,y}$ .

For  $B = P_3 \cup K_2$  we prove  $(3, 3) \in \beta'(B, P_4)$ ,  $(3, 3) \in \beta'(B, B)$ ,  $(3, 4) \in \beta'(B, K_{2,3} - e)$ ,  $(3, 5) \in \beta'(B, K_{2,3})$ ,  $(2, 6)$  and  $(3, 5) \in \beta'(B, K_{1,4})$ : All green edges in  $K_{x,y}$  without a green  $P_3 \cup K_2$  are either part of one star, or of one  $K_{2,2}$ , or they all are independent, and in any case a red  $B_j$  occurs.

For  $t = 3, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 4, 4, 3, 3, 3, 4, 3, 5$  in this sequence we obtain  $(2, 5) \in \beta'(K_{1,3}, B_{10})$ ,  $(2, 7)$  and  $(3, 6) \in \beta'(K_{1,4}, B_{10})$ ,  $(3, 4) \in \beta'(K_{2,3} - e, P_4)$ ,  $(2, 6) \in \beta'(K_{1,3}, K_{2,3} - e)$ ,  $(2, 7) \in \beta'(K_{1,3}, K_{2,3})$ ,  $(2, 8)$ ,  $(3, 7)$ , and  $(5, 6) \in \beta'(K_{1,4}, K_{2,3} - e)$ ,  $(2, 9)$  and  $(3, 8) \in \beta'(K_{1,4}, K_{2,3})$ ,  $(3, 5) \in \beta'(B_{10}, K_{2,3} - e)$ ,  $(3, 7)$  and  $(4, 6) \in \beta'(B_{10}, K_{2,3})$ ,  $(3, 7)$  and  $(5, 5) \in \beta'(K_{2,3} - e, K_{2,3} - e)$ ,  $(3, 10) \in \beta'(K_{2,3} - e, K_{2,3})$ , if we check for  $\beta'(B_i, B_j)$  that  $K_{x,t}$  ( $t \leq y$ ) with a green star  $K_{1,t}$  contains either a green  $B_i$  (if one vertex of  $V_1$  has *g-degree*  $\geq 2$  for  $B_i \neq K_{1,t}$ ), or a red  $B_i$ , and that  $K_{x,y}$  with *r-degree*  $\geq y - t + 1$  for all vertices of  $V_1$  contains a red  $B_j$ .

$(3, 4) \in \beta'(K_{2,2}, P_5)$ : In  $K_{3,4}$  two vertices of  $V_1$  with sum of *g-degrees*  $\geq 6$  guarantee a green  $K_{2,2}$ . If otherwise the sum of *r-degrees* for all pairs of vertices in  $V_1$  is  $\geq 3$ , then either one vertex of  $V_1$  has *r-degree*  $\geq 3$ , and another *r-degree*  $\geq 2$ , so that a red  $P_5$  exists, or two vertices of  $V_1$  have *r-degree* 2, and the third has *r-degree* 1 or 2, and always a green  $K_{2,2}$  or a red  $P_5$  must exist.

$(3, 5) \in \beta'(P_5, K_{2,3} - e)$ : If in  $K_{3,5}$  two vertices of  $V_1$  have *g-degree*  $\geq 3$ , then a green  $P_5$  exists. Otherwise two vertices in  $V_1$  have *r-degree*  $\geq 3$ . If all vertices in  $V_1$  have *r-degree*  $\geq 3$ , or two vertices have the sum of their *r-degrees*  $\geq 7$ , then a red  $K_{2,3} - e$  exists. If otherwise two vertices of  $V_1$  have *r-degree* 3, and the third  $\leq 2$ , then either a green  $P_5$  or a red  $K_{2,3} - e$  exists.

$(3, 7)$  and  $(4, 5) \in \beta'(P_5, K_{2,3})$ : If all vertices of  $V_2$  in  $K_{3,7}$  or  $K_{4,5}$  have *g-degree*  $\leq 1$ , then there are at least 14 or 15 red edges, and two vertices of  $V_1$  have the sum of their *r-degrees*  $\geq 10$  or  $\geq 8$ , respectively, and thus a red  $K_{2,3}$  exists. Otherwise  $V_2$  contains a vertex  $v$  with *g-degree*  $\geq 2$ . If *g-degree*  $\geq 2$  for two vertices  $w_1, w_2$  of green edges  $(w_i, v)$ , then either a green  $P_5$  exists, or both have *g-degree* 2, and are adjacent by green edges to the same vertex of  $V_2$  ( $\neq v$ ), and thus a red  $K_{2,3}$  exists. Otherwise  $w_1$ , for instance, has *g-degree* 1, and either a red  $K_{2,3}$  exists, or  $w_2$  has *g-degree*  $\geq 5$  or  $\geq 3$ , respectively. If no green  $P_5$  exists; then at least 4 or 2 vertices  $j \neq v$  of  $V_2$  with green edges  $(w_2, j)$  have *r-degree* 2 or 3, respectively, and a red  $K_{2,3}$  occurs.

$(4, 8) \in \beta'(K_{2,3} - e, K_{2,3})$ : If in  $K_{4,8}$  three vertices of  $V_1$  have *r-degree*  $\geq 5$ , then a red  $K_{2,3}$  exists. Otherwise, there are two vertices in  $V_1$  with *g-degree*  $\geq 4$ . If no green  $K_{2,3} - e$  exists, then the remaining two vertices of  $V_1$  have *r-degree*  $\geq 6$ , and we get a red  $K_{2,3}$ .

For the pairs still missing in Table 1 (excluding  $(K_{2,3}, K_{2,3})$ ) we use the fact that  $(x, y) \in \beta'(B_i, B_j)$  implies  $(x, y) \in \beta'(B_a, B_b)$  if  $B_a \subset B_i$  and  $B_b \subset B_j$ .

In a second step we collect in Table 2 certain pairs  $(x, y)$  with  $(x, y) \notin \beta'(B_i, B_j)$ . From



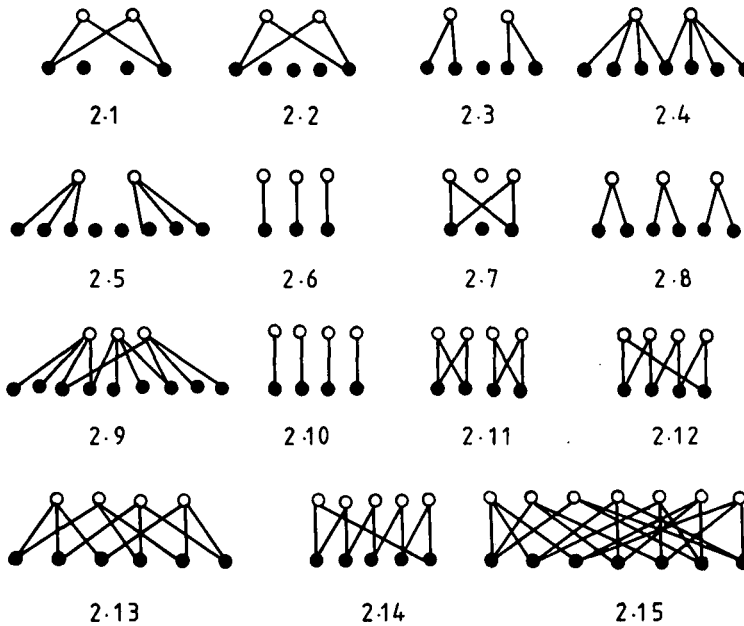


Figure 2. Bipartite graphs with green edges used for Table 2.

Figures 2.N,  $1 \leq N \leq 15$ , (where only green edges are reproduced) we can deduce the pairs  $(x, y)_N$  of Table 2. From Table 1 follow  $(3, 3) \notin \beta'(P_4, K_{1,3})$  and  $(2, 6) \notin \beta'(P_4, K_{1,4})$ . As  $(x, y) \notin \beta'(B_i, B_j)$  implies  $(x, y) \notin \beta'(B_a, B_b)$  if  $B_i \subset B_a$  and  $B_j \subset B_b$ , all other pairs of Table 2 are checked easily.

By use of the Algorithmic Lemma we now can determine the sets  $\beta(B_i, B_j)$  of Table 1.

The only remaining case,  $\beta(K_{2,3}, K_{2,3})$ , is a consequence of a result in Irving [7]. Here sets  $C_{s,t}$ ,  $s \leq t$ , are considered, which contain all pairs  $(a, b)$ , such that every 2-colored  $K_{a,b}$  has a monochromatic  $K_{s,t}$  with the  $s$  and  $t$  vertices chosen from the  $a$  and  $b$  vertices, respectively, and such that 2-colorings of  $K_{a-1,b}$  and  $K_{a,b-1}$  exist without a monochromatic  $K_{s,t}$ . From this we deduce

$$\beta(K_{s,t}, K_{s,t}) = \{(a, b); a \leq b, (a, b) \text{ or } (b, a) \in C_{s,t}, (a-i, b-j) \text{ and } (b-i, a-j) \notin C_{s,t} \text{ for } i, j \geq 0, i+j \geq 1\}.$$

Now  $C_{2,3} = \{(3, 13), (5, 11), (7, 9), (15, 7), (21, 5)\}$  is proved in [7], and we obtain  $\beta(K_{2,3}, K_{2,3}) = \{(3, 13), (5, 11), (7, 9)\}$ , which completes the proof of Theorem 5.  $\square$

As the conjecture in [7] that  $K_{13,17} \rightarrow (K_{3,3}, K_{3,3})$  was recently proved in [6], we obtain from [7] and [6] the set

$$C_{3,3} = \{(5, 41), (7, 29), (9, 23), (13, 17), (17, 13), (23, 9), (29, 7), (41, 5)\},$$

TABLE 2. PAIRS  $(x, y) \notin \beta'(B_i, B_j)$ .

	$K_{2,2}$	$K_{1,3}$	$P_3 \cup K_2$	$P_5$	$K_{1,4}$	$B_{10}$	$K_{2,3} - e$	$K_{2,3}$
$P_4$	$(3, 3)_6$	$(3, 3)$			$(2, 6)$	$(3, 3)$	$(3, 3)$	$(3, 6)_8$ $(4, 4)_{10}$
$K_{2,2}$	$(4, 6)_{13}$	$(2, 5)$ $(4, 4)$	$(3, 3)$	$(3, 3)$	$(2, 7)_4$ $(4, 6)_{13}$ $(5, 5)_{14}$	$(4, 4)$	$(4, 6)$	$(3, 9)_9$ $(7, 7)_{15}$
$K_{1,3}$	$(2, 5)_3$ $(4, 4)_{12}$		$(2, 4)$ $(3, 3)$			$(2, 4)$ $(4, 4)_{12}$	$(2, 5)$ $(4, 4)$	$(3, 6)_8$ $(5, 5)_{14}$
$P_3 \cup K_2$	$(3, 3)_6$	$(2, 4)_1$ $(3, 3)_6$		$(3, 3)_7$	$(2, 5)_2$ $(4, 4)_{10}$	$(3, 3)$	$(3, 3)$	$(4, 4)_{10}$
$P_5$						$(4, 4)_{11}$	$(4, 4)$	$(3, 6)$ $(4, 4)$
$K_{1,4}$						$(2, 6)$ $(5, 5)$	$(2, 7)$ $(4, 6)$ $(5, 5)$	$(2, 8)_5$ $(7, 7)_{15}$
$B_{10}$					$(5, 5)_{14}$	$(4, 4)$	$(4, 4)$	$(3, 6)$ $(5, 5)$
$K_{2,3} - e$							$(4, 6)$	$(3, 9)$ $(7, 7)$

and in addition to Table 1 we conclude with the bipartite Ramsey set of the most famous nonplanar bipartite graph.

THEOREM 6.  $\beta(K_{3,3}, K_{3,3}) = \{(5, 41), (7, 29), (9, 23), (13, 17)\}$ .  $\square$

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