# EXTENDED CHROMATIC POLYNOMIALS 

ANDREW SOBCZYK AND JAMES O. GETTYS, JR.

1. Introduction. Let $G$ be a finite graph with non-empty vertex set $\mathscr{V}(G)$ and edge set $\mathscr{E}(G)$ (see [2]). Let $\lambda$ be a positive integer. Tutte [5] defines a $\lambda$-colouring of $G$ as a mapping of $\mathscr{V}(G)$ into the set $I_{\lambda}=\{1,2,3, \ldots, \lambda\}$ with the property that two ends of any edge are mapped onto distinct integers. The elements of $I_{\lambda}$ are commonly called "colours." If $P(G, \lambda)$ represents the number of $\lambda$-colourings of $G$, it is well known that $P(G, \lambda)$ can be expressed as a polynomial in $\lambda$. For this reason $P(G, \lambda)$ is usually referred to as the chromatic polynomial of $G$.

The chromatic polynomial $P(G, \lambda)$ was first suggested as an approach to the four-colour conjecture. To quote Tutte [5]: ". . . many people are specially interested in the value $\lambda=4$. There is a long-standing conjecture that $P(M, 4)$ is positive for every triangulation $M$." Although the four-colour conjecture remains, chromatic polynomials are of interest in themselves and occupy a prominent place in the literature.

Many well known combinatorial problems seem to suggest other chromatic polynomials in much the same way as the four-colour conjecture prompted the definition of $P(G, \lambda)$. For example, consider the class of Ramsey numbers $R\left(k_{1}, \ldots, k_{\lambda} ; 2\right)$. (See $\left[\mathbf{1} ; \mathbf{4} ; \mathbf{3}\right.$, Chapter IV].) For $k=\left(k_{1}, \ldots, k_{\lambda}\right)$, define $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$ to be the number of mappings $f$ of $\mathscr{E}(G)$ into $I_{\lambda}$, which have the property that for each $\nu=1, \ldots, \lambda, f^{-1}(\nu)$ does not contain all the edges of any complete subgraph on as many as $k_{\nu}$ vertices. For $G$ the complete graph $K_{n}$ on $n$ vertices, if $E_{k}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)>0$, then $n \leqq R\left(k_{1}, \ldots, k_{\lambda} ; 2\right)$. The determination of the largest integer $n$ for which $E_{k}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)>0$, for example in a case with $\lambda \geqq 4$ and $k_{1} \geqq 3, \ldots, k_{\lambda} \geqq 3$, would be a determination of one of the numbers $R\left(k_{1}, \ldots, k_{\lambda} ; 2\right)$ which have been unknown for a long time. (It is known that $R(4,4 ; 2)=17$, and that $R(3,3,3 ; 2)=16$.)

Of equal interest are the chromatic polynomials $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ and $T_{k}(G, \lambda)$. Hence $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is the number of mappings of $\mathscr{V}(G)$ into $I_{\lambda}$ which are not constant on the vertices of any complete $k$-subgraph of $G$; and $T_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is the number of mappings of the set of triangles of $G$ into $I_{\lambda}$ which are not constant on the triangles of any complete $k$-subgraph of $G$. In § 3 we specialize $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$ to the case $k_{1}=\ldots=k_{\lambda}=k$, where now we regard $k$ as a single positive integer (rather than as an ordered set of $\lambda$ positive integers). Of course $V_{k}$ and $T_{k}$ have analogous generalizations, which, like the general $E_{k}$, are not studied in the present paper. Also, for the main results of this paper, $G$ will be $K_{n}$.

Received June 1, 1971 and in revised form, January 13, 1972.
2. The chromatic polynomials $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$. By a ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring of a graph $G$ we mean a mapping of $\mathscr{V}(G)$ into $I_{\lambda}$ which is not constant on the vertices of any complete $k$-subgraph of $G$.

Our polynomial $V_{2}(G, \lambda)$, and the traditional chromatic polynomial $P(G, \lambda)$ as defined by Tutte [5], are similar but not identical. Under Tutte's definition, if $G$ has a loop, then $P(G, \lambda)$ is 0 . On the other hand, if $x$ denotes the loop of $G$, then $V_{2}(G, \lambda)=V_{2}(G \backslash x, \lambda)$. In fact we have the following lemma.

Lemma 1. If $G$ has a loop $x$, then $V_{k}(G, \lambda)=V_{k}(G \backslash x, \lambda)$.
The proof is immediate from the definition of a ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring.
Lemma 2. Let $G$ be the union of components $H_{1}, \ldots, H_{n}$. Then

$$
V_{k}(G, \lambda)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} V_{k}\left(H_{i}, \lambda\right)
$$

Proof. Since $H_{i} \cap H_{j}=\emptyset$ for $i \neq j$, each combination of ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colourings of the $H_{i}$ yields a ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring of $G$; and each ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring of $G$ is some combination of ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colourings of the $H_{i}$.

Theorem 1. If $G$ is any finite graph, then $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ can be expressed as a polynomial in $\lambda$ with the following properties:
(i) The coefficient $a_{i}$ of $\lambda^{i}$ is an integer for all $i$.
(ii) Coefficient $a_{i} \neq 0$ only if $c(G) \leqq i \leqq m$, where $c(G)$ is the number of components of $G$, and $m$ is the cardinality of $V(G)$.
(iii) Coefficient $a_{m}$ is 1 .

Proof. Let $a_{n, k}$ be the number of mappings of $V(G)$ onto $I_{n}$ which are not constant on any complete $k$-subgraph of $G$. Clearly, the $a_{n, k}$ are integers for all integers $k$ and $n$. Also, since necessarily $a_{n}=0$ for $n>m$, we have

$$
V_{k}(G, \lambda)=\sum_{n=1}^{m}\binom{\lambda}{n} a_{n, k}
$$

where $\binom{\lambda}{n}$ is taken to be 0 if $\lambda<0$ or $\lambda<n$. Clearly $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is a polynomial in $\lambda$ with integer coefficients. The term of highest degree, $\lambda^{m}$, of $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is obtained from the above expression when $n=m$. Since $\binom{\lambda}{n}$ contains a factor $\lambda$ for each value of $n$, we see that a non-zero constant term in $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is not possible. The lower bound of $c(G)$ for the exponent of $\lambda$ is now a consequence of Lemma 2. Note that $c(G)$ is by no means a strict lower bound on the exponents of $\lambda$ in $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$. For $k>2$ we can obtain an arbitrarily large connected graph $G$ which contains no complete $k$-subgraph. For such a graph $G, V_{k}(G, \lambda)=m$, although $c(G)=1$.

Clearly $V_{2}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)=P\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)$, and we obtain directly

Theorem 2. The polynomial $V_{3}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)$ is given by

$$
\frac{\lambda!}{(\lambda-n)!}+\sum_{i=1}^{(n-1) / 2} \frac{2 \lambda!n!}{[\lambda-(n+2 i+1) / 2]!2^{(n-2 i+1) / 2}(2 i-1)!(n-2 i+1)}
$$

if $n$ is odd; and by

$$
\frac{\lambda!}{(\lambda-n)!}+\sum_{i=0}^{(n-2) / 2} \frac{2 \lambda!n!}{[\lambda-(n+2 i) / 2]!2^{(n-2 i) / 2}(2 i)!(n-2 i)}
$$

if $n$ is even.
Proof. Let $n$ be an odd integer. Suppose first that $\lambda \geqq n$. Define a $t$-partition $\mathscr{F}$ of a graph $G$ to be a partition of the set $\mathscr{V}(G)$ such that each part of $\mathscr{P}$ contains at most $t$ elements. At most two vertices of $K_{n}$ can share the same colour in a ( $V, 3, \lambda$ )-colouring since any three vertices of $K_{n}$ are the vertices of a triangle. Hence each ( $V, 3, \lambda$ )-colouring of $K_{n}$ is a colouring of some 2 -partition $\mathscr{P}$ of $K_{n}$ in which distinct parts of $\mathscr{P}$ receive different colours. There can be $1,3,5, \ldots$, or $n$ one-element parts to a 2 -partition of $K_{n}$. If $\mathscr{P}$ has $k$ one-element parts, then it has $(n-k) / 2$ two-element parts and $(n+k) / 2$ parts in all. There are therefore

$$
\sum_{i=0}^{(n-k-2) / 2} \frac{(n-2 i)!}{(n-2 i-2)!(n-k)}=\frac{2 n!}{2^{(n-\bar{k}) / 2} k!(n-k)}
$$

2-partitions with $k$ one-element parts. Colouring each part of $\mathscr{P}$ differently requires $(n+k) / 2$ colours. There are $\binom{\lambda}{(n+k) / 2}$ ways of choosing $(n+k) / 2$ colours, and $[(n+k) / 2]$ ! ways to colour the $(n+k) / 2$ parts of $\mathscr{P}$. We see now that there are

$$
\sum_{\text {odd } k=1}^{n-2} \frac{2 \lambda!n!}{[\lambda-(n+k) / 2]!2^{(n-k) / 2} k!(n-k)}
$$

ways of colouring the 2 -partitions of $K_{n}$ with at least one two-element part. There are clearly $\lambda!/(\lambda-n)$ ! ways to colour the 2 -partition of $K_{n}$ with $n$ one-element parts. Hence for odd $n$,

$$
V_{3}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)=\lambda!/(\lambda-n)!+\sum_{\text {odd } k=1}^{n-2} \frac{2 \lambda!n!}{[\lambda-(n+k) / 2]!2^{(n-k) / 2} k!(n-k)} .
$$

We now replace $k$ by $2 i-1$, and let $i$ range from 1 to $(n-1) / 2$, to obtain a conventional summation. Thus the theorem is established for odd $n$. For even $n$ the proof is similar.

A more satisfactory formula is given by:
Theorem 3. Let $n, k$ be integers with $n \geqq k \geqq 3$, and let

$$
N=\left[\frac{n}{k-1}\right] .
$$

## Then

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V_{k}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right) \\
& \qquad=\sum_{n=0}^{N}\left\{\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n}\binom{n-(k-1)(i-1)}{k-1}\right] V_{2}(\lambda, m) V_{k-1}\left(K_{n-m k+m}, \lambda-m\right)\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Proof. First, any ( $V, k-1, \lambda$ )-colouring of $K_{n}$ is a ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring of $K_{n}$ so that $V_{k}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right) \geqq V_{k-1}\left(K_{n}, \lambda\right)$. Next any $(V, k, \lambda)$-colouring of $K_{n}$ which is not a ( $V, k-1, \lambda$ )-colouring must be constant on at least one complete $(k-1)$ subgraph of $K_{n}$. We shall call a ( $V, k, \lambda$ )-colouring of $K_{n}$ which is constant on exactly $n(k-1)$-subgraphs an $E_{V}(n, k-1, \lambda)$-colouring of $K_{n}$. There are

$$
\prod_{i=1}^{n}\binom{n-(k-1)(i-1)}{k-1}
$$

ways to choose $n$ pair-wise disjoint $(k-1)$-subgraphs of $K_{n}$. If each of these $n$ ( $k-1$ )-subgraphs is to be monochromatic, there are $V_{2}(\lambda, m)$ ways to colour them so as to avoid a monochromatic $k$-subgraph. For each such colouring of $m$ $K_{k-1}$-subgraphs there are $V_{k-1}\left(K_{n-m(k-1)}, \lambda-m\right)$ ways to colour the remaining vertices of $K_{n}$ to obtain an $E_{V}(m, k-1, \lambda)$-colouring of $K_{n}$. Hence there are

$$
\left[\prod_{i=1}^{m}\binom{n-(k-1)(i-1)}{k-1}\right] V_{2}(\lambda, m) V_{k-1}\left(K_{n-m(k-1)}, \lambda-m\right)
$$

$E_{V}(m, k-1, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{n}$. Since $m$ can range from 0 to $\left[\frac{n}{k-1}\right]$, the theorem follows if we understand that

$$
\prod_{i=1}^{0}\binom{n-(k-1)(i-1)}{k-1}=V_{2}(\lambda, 0)=1
$$

which is standard (see [5]).
Determination of $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ provides more information than is at first realized. We have, for example, the following relationships:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& V_{k}(G, 1)=a_{1, k} \\
& V_{k}(G, 2)=a_{2, k}+2 a_{1, k} \\
& V_{k}(G, 3)=a_{3, k}+3 a_{2, k}+3 a_{1, k} \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& V_{k}(G, m)=a_{m, k}+\sum_{i=0}^{m-1}\binom{m}{i} a_{n-i, k} \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& V_{k}(G, \lambda)=\frac{\lambda!}{m!(\lambda-m)!}+\sum_{i=0}^{m-1}\binom{\lambda}{m-i} a_{m-i, k} .
\end{aligned}
$$

Since $a_{m}=m!$ for all graphs $G$, this system of equations provides a nice check of the correctness of a calculated $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$. Also, knowledge of the $a_{i}$ is important in itself.

Theorem 4. For any graph $G$, if $V_{2}(G, \lambda)>0$, then

$$
V_{3}\left(G,\left[\frac{\lambda+1}{2}\right]\right)>0 .
$$

Proof. Suppose there exists a map $\Lambda: V(G) \rightarrow I_{\lambda}$ which is not constant on any 2 -subgraph of $G$. If $\lambda$ is even, define $\Lambda^{\prime}: V(G) \rightarrow I_{\lambda / 2}$ by

$$
\Lambda^{\prime}(v)=\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
\Lambda(v) & \text { if } & \Lambda(v) \leqq \frac{\lambda}{2} \\
\Lambda(v)-\frac{\lambda}{2} & \text { if } & \Lambda(v)>\frac{\lambda}{2}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Now suppose $\Lambda^{\prime}\left(v_{i}\right)=\alpha(i=1,2,3)$ where $v_{1}, v_{2}$, and $v_{3}$ are the vertices of a 3 -subgraph of $G$, and $1 \leqq \alpha \leqq \lambda / 2$. Then either $\Lambda\left(v_{i}\right)=\Lambda\left(v_{j}\right)=\alpha$, or $\Lambda\left(v_{i}\right)=\Lambda\left(v_{j}\right)=\alpha+\lambda / 2$, for some $i, j \in I_{3}$. In either case we reach a contradiction to the definition of $\Lambda$, since $v_{i}$ and $v_{j}$ are vertices of a 2 -subgraph of $G$ for all $i, j \in I_{3}$. Hence $\Lambda^{\prime}$ is a $(V, 3, \lambda / 2)$-colouring of $G$. If $\lambda$ is odd, define $\Lambda^{\prime \prime}: V(G) \rightarrow$ $I_{(\lambda+1) / 2}$ by

$$
\Lambda^{\prime \prime}=\left\{\begin{array}{lll}
\Lambda(v) & \text { if } & \Lambda(v) \leqq \frac{\lambda+1}{2} \\
\Lambda(v)-\frac{\lambda+1}{2} & \text { if } & \Lambda(v)>\frac{\lambda+1}{2}
\end{array}\right.
$$

Using an argument similar to the one employed above we see that $\Lambda^{\prime \prime}$ is a $(V, 3,(\lambda+1) / 2)$-colouring of $G$.

Hence the existence of a ( $V, 2, \lambda$ )-colouring of $G$ implies the existence of a ( $V, 2,[(\lambda+1) / 2])$-colouring of $G$, and the theorem follows.

Corollary 1. For any loopless planar graph $G, V_{3}(G, 3)>0$.
Proof. If $G$ is planar and loopless, then $V_{2}(G, 5)>0$.
Corollary 2. The truth of the four-colour conjecture implies $V_{3}(G, 2)>0$ for every planar graph $G$.
3. The chromatic polynomials $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$. By an $(E, k, \lambda)$-colouring of a graph $G$ we mean a mapping of $E(G)$ into $I_{\lambda}$ that is not constant on the edges of any $k$-subgraph of $G$.

Lemma 3. Let $G$ be the union of subgraphs $H_{1}, H_{2}, H_{3}, \ldots, H_{n}$ such that $H_{i} \cap H_{j}=\emptyset$ or a singleton vertex, for each $(i, j)$ with $i \neq j$. Then

$$
E_{k}(G, \lambda)=\prod_{i=1}^{n} E_{k}\left(H_{i}, \lambda\right)
$$

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Lemma 2.

Theorem 5. If $G$ is any finite graph with $|E(G)|>0$, then $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$ can be expressed as a polynomial in $\lambda$ with the following properties:
(i) The coefficient $a_{i}$ of $\lambda^{i}$ is an integer for all $i$.
(ii) $a_{i} \neq 0$ only if $C(G) \leqq i \leqq p$, where $C(G)$ is the number of non-trivial components of $G$, and $p=|E(G)|$.
(iii) $A_{p}=1$.

Proof. The proof is similar to that of Theorem 1, if we replace $a_{n, k}$ by $b_{n, k}$, where $b_{n, k}$ is the number of mappings of $E(G)$ onto $I_{n}$ which are non-constant on the edges of any $k$-subgraph of $G$.

Lemma 4. The edge-polynomial $E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)=\lambda^{3}-\lambda$.
Proof. There are $\lambda^{3}$ colourings of the edges of $K_{3}$ with $\lambda$ colours. However, $\lambda$ of these are not $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings. Hence $E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)=\lambda^{3}-\lambda$.

Rather than use the subtractive approach, as in the proof of Lemma 4, we can count the number of $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings directly. Label the edges of $K_{3}$ as $x_{1}, x_{2}$, and $x_{3}$. The number of $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings with $x_{1}$ and $x_{2}$ of the same colour is $\lambda(\lambda-1)$. The number of $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings with $x_{1}$ and $x_{2}$ of different colours is $\lambda^{2}(\lambda-1)$. Hence as before,

$$
E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)=\lambda(\lambda-1)+\lambda^{2}(\lambda-1)=\lambda^{3}-\lambda .
$$

Lemma 5. The edge-polynomial

$$
E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)=\lambda^{6}-4 \lambda^{4}+6 \lambda^{2}-3 \lambda
$$

Proof. There are $\lambda^{6}$ colourings of the edges of $K_{4}$ with $\lambda$ colours. Of the $\lambda^{6}$ colourings, $\lambda$ are constant on $K_{4}$. Also $4 \lambda\left[\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)+3(\lambda-1)^{2}+(\lambda-1)\right]$ colourings are constant on a single triangle of $K_{4}$. Here $4 \lambda$ corresponds to the four triangles of $K_{4}$ and the $\lambda$ ways in which one can have all of its edges coloured the same ; $\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2), 3(\lambda-1)^{2}$, and $(\lambda-1)$ indicate the number of ways of colouring the remaining three edges of $K_{4}$ all differently, two alike, and all alike, respectively. Finally, there are $6 \lambda(\lambda-1)$ colourings which are constant on exactly two triangles of $K_{4}$-there are six ways to leave out an edge, $\lambda$ ways to colour the two triangles, and $\lambda-1$ ways to colour the remaining edge. Hence

$$
\begin{aligned}
E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right) & =\lambda^{6}-\lambda-4 \lambda\left[\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)+3(\lambda-1)^{2}+(\lambda-1)\right]-6 \lambda(\lambda-1) \\
& =\lambda^{6}+4 \lambda^{4}+6 \lambda^{2}-3 \lambda .
\end{aligned}
$$

Again we offer an alternate method of counting. Choose a vertex $v$ of $K_{4}$.


There are $\lambda E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{4}$ with all three edges at $v$ coloured alike; $3 \lambda(\lambda-1)\left[\frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda} E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)\right](E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{4}$ with exactly two of the three edges at $v$ coloured alike; and $\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)$ $E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{4}$ with each of the three edges at $v$ coloured differently. Hence,

$$
\begin{aligned}
E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)=\lambda E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)+3 \lambda(\lambda-1)\left[\frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}\right. & \left.E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)\right] \\
& +\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
=\lambda^{6}-4 \lambda^{4}+6 \lambda^{2}-3 \lambda
$$

Lemma 6. The edge-polynomial

$$
E_{3}\left(K_{5}, \lambda\right)=\lambda^{10}-10 \lambda^{8}+45 \lambda^{6}-15 \lambda^{5}-100 \lambda^{4}+105 \lambda^{3}-20 \lambda^{2}-6 \lambda .
$$

Proof. Choose any vertex $v$ of $K_{5}$.


There are $\lambda E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda-1\right)(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{5}$ with all four edges at $v$ coloured alike. When exactly three of the four edges at $v$ are coloured alike, there are

$$
\begin{aligned}
4 \lambda(\lambda-1) & {\left[E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)+(\lambda-1) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-2\right)+3(\lambda-1) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)\right.} \\
& \left.+3(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)+\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

possible $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings. Here the term $4 \lambda(\lambda-1)$ includes the four choices of three edges at $v$, the $\lambda$ ways to colour them, and the $\lambda-1$ ways to colour the remaining edge at $v$.


For each choice of colour $c$ for the three like edges at $v$, the terms in brackets correspond respectively to the cases: (1) edges 1,2 , and 3 coloured $c$, (2) edges $1,2,3$ coloured alike with some colour other than $c$, (3) two of 1,2 , and 3 coloured $c$, (4) two of 1,2 , and 3 coloured alike with some colour other than $c$, and (5) each of 1,2 , and 3 coloured differently. There are

$$
6 \lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)\left[\frac{(\lambda-1)}{\lambda} E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)\right]
$$

( $E, 3, \lambda$ )-colourings of $K_{5}$ with exactly two edges at $v$ coloured alike. Suppose next that there are two edges of one colour and two edges of another colour, incident with $v$.


Pick a pair of non-adjacent edges $a$ and $b$ in $K_{4}$ as in the figure above. (There are three such pairs.) The number of ( $E, 3, \lambda$ )-colourings $A$ for which $a$ and $b$ are coloured alike is given by

$$
A=\lambda(\lambda-1)\left[\lambda^{3}+\lambda^{2}-3 \lambda+1\right] .
$$

The number of $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings $D$ for which $a$ and $b$ are coloured differently is given by

$$
D=\lambda(\lambda-1)\left[\lambda^{4}-4 \lambda^{2}+2\right]
$$

Hence the number of $(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings with two edges of one colour and two edges of another colour at $v$ is

$$
3 \lambda(\lambda-1)\left\{\left(1-\frac{2}{\lambda}\right) A+\left[1-\frac{2}{\lambda}+\frac{1}{\lambda(\lambda-1)}\right] D\right\} .
$$

Finally, there are $\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)(\lambda-3) E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)(E, 3, \lambda)$-colourings of $K_{5}$ with all of the edges at $v$ coloured differently.

Combining the terms derived above, we obtain

$$
\begin{aligned}
& E_{3}\left(K_{5}, \lambda\right)=\lambda E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda-1\right)+4 \lambda(\lambda-1)\left[E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)\right. \\
&+(\lambda-1) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-2\right)+3(\lambda-1) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right) \\
&+3(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right) \\
&\left.+\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{3}, \lambda-1\right)\right]+3 \lambda(\lambda-1)\left\{\left(1-\frac{2}{\lambda}\right) A\right. \\
&\left.+\left[1-\frac{2}{\lambda}+\frac{1}{\lambda(\lambda-1)}\right] D\right\}+6(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2) E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right) \\
&+\lambda(\lambda-1)(\lambda-2)(\lambda-3) E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right) \\
&= \lambda^{10}-10 \lambda^{8}+45 \lambda^{6}-15 \lambda^{5}-100 \lambda^{4}+105 \lambda^{3}-20 \lambda^{2}-6 \lambda .
\end{aligned}
$$

For $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$ we have the following system of equations, analogous to the system mentioned above for $V_{k}(G, \lambda)$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& E_{k}(G, 1)=b_{1, k} \\
& E_{k}(G, 2)=b_{2, k}+2 b_{1, k} \\
& E_{k}(G, 3)=b_{3, k}+3 b_{2, k}+3 b_{1, k} \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& E_{k}(G, p)=\sum_{i=0}^{p-1}\binom{p}{i} b_{p-i, k} \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& \cdot \\
& E_{k}(G, \lambda)=\sum_{i=0}^{p-1}\binom{\lambda}{p-i} b_{p-i, k}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $p=|E(G)|$, and where for small $\lambda$ it is understood that the factorial expressions in the denominators are evaluated as they were earlier.

Remark. Using the above system of equations, one can easily get the computer to calculate the $b_{i, k}, i=1,2,3, \ldots, p$, provided that $E_{k}(G, \lambda)$ is known. For the given $E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)$ we obtain $b_{6,3}=6$ !, and for the given $E_{3}\left(K_{5}, \lambda\right)$ we obtain $b_{10,3}-10$ !. Since for $K_{4}$ and $K_{5}$ we find, by direct counts, the values of $b_{2,3}$ and $b_{3,3}$ which also agree, this is strong presumptive evidence for the correctness of our polynomials $E_{3}\left(K_{4}, \lambda\right)$ and $E_{3}\left(K_{5}, \lambda\right)$. Direct counting and the computer yield the following values:

| $K_{4}$ |  | $K_{5}$ |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :---: |
| $b_{2,3}=$ | 8 | $b_{2,3}=$ |  |

## References

1. A. M. Gleason and R. E. Greenwood, Combinatorial relations and chromatic graphs, Can. J. Math. 7(1955), 1-7.
2. Frank Harary, Graph theory (Addison-Wesley, Reading, Mass., 1969).
3. H. J. Ryser, Carus Monograph No. 14, Combinatorial Mathematics (Wiley, New York, 1963).
4. Andrew Sobczyk, Graph-colouring and combinatorial numbers, Can. J. Math. 20 (1968), 520-534.
5. W. T. Tutte, Lectures on chromatic polynomials, Institute of Statistics Mimeo Series, No. 600.25 .

Clemson University,
Clemson, South Carolina;
Parker High School,
Greenville, South Carolina

