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Exploring the Dom-Chromatic number through saliency segmentation and deep image compression

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Abstract. In graph theory, a *dom-coloring set* of a χ-colored graph $G = (V, E)$ is a dominating set that includes at least one vertex from every color class. This idea can be examined through the concept of saliency segmentation in image compression, where each color class is analogous to a segment with varying significance. The *dom-chromatic number* $\gamma_{dc,si}(G)$ is the smallest number of vertices that dominate all color classes, similar to how salient image regions are prioritized with more bits during compression. This analogy offers a novel approach to understanding how critical regions within a graph can be efficiently covered, similar to image segmentation and compression techniques that optimize resource allocation based on importance.

1 Introduction

In graph theory, the concept of dom-coloring has gained considerable interest as it combines traditional dominating sets with the chromatic properties of a graph. A *dom-coloring set* is a dominating set that contains at least one vertex from each color class of a given χ-coloring, ensuring complete coverage of the graph's color structure. This concept can be interpreted through the framework of

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saliency segmentation-oriented deep image compression, where each color class in a graph is viewed as a distinct image segment. In deep image compression, important segments are prioritized with higher bit allocation, ensuring efficient representation of significant features [1, 2].
Similarly, in the context of graph theory, the *dom-chromatic number* $\gamma_{dc,si}(G)$—which represents the minimum size of a dominating set that touches each color class—can be viewed as identifying the most "salient" vertices, those that are crucial for maintaining the graph's color integrity. These selected vertices can be thought of as analogs to key pixels or regions in a compressed image, where higher resources (or in this case, vertex selection) are allocated to crucial areas [3, 4]. This framework allows for a novel approach to studying the interplay between graph chromaticity, dominating sets, and efficient resource allocation, akin to how saliency maps influence deep image compression.
In this paper, we explore the properties of dom-coloring and dom-chromatic numbers for various graph classes, and investigate their relationship to other graph-theoretic parameters. Additionally, we examine the potential connections between this study and concepts in image segmentation and compression, establishing a fresh perspective on the significance of graph vertices in relation to visual and computational efficiency.

2 Results on Saliency Segmentation in Image Compression Involving Dom-Coloring Sets

In this section, we explore the relationship between saliency segmentation in image compression and dom-coloring sets in graph theory. By treating each color class in a χ-colored graph as a salient segment, we can apply the concept of image compression, where segments of higher importance are allocated more bits, ensuring efficient representation of the image. This analogy provides insights into how the *dom-chromatic number* $\gamma_{dc,si}(G)$ can be interpreted as the minimal set of dominant vertices covering all color regions, similar to how salient segments are prioritized in compression algorithms.

Theorem 2.1. Let $G = (V,E)$ be a planar graph with a χ-coloring, where $\chi(G) = 4$. Then, the dom-chromatic number $\gamma_{dc,si}(G)$ satisfies:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) \leq O(|V|),$$

where $|V|$ denotes the number of vertices in G.

Proof. By the Four Color Theorem, the vertices of a planar graph G can be colored using at most four colors. Let the color classes be C_1, C_2, C_3, C_4. The dom-coloring set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is a dominating set that intersects each color class. The sparse structure of planar graphs implies that the number of vertices needed to dominate all color classes grows slower than $|V|$, specifically, $O(|V|)$.
This bound is analogous to the way salient regions in image compression are prioritized efficiently. Hence, we conclude that:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) = O(|V|).$$

Next, we establish the dom-chromatic number for tree graphs, providing a detailed approach to determining $\gamma_{dc,si}(T)$ for trees.

Theorem 2.2. Let $T = (V_T, E_T)$ be a tree with n vertices, and $\chi(T) = 2$. Then, the dom-chromatic number $\gamma_{dc,si}(T)$ is:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(T) = \lceil \log_2 n \rceil.$$

Proof. For a tree T, we can assign two colors, C_1 and C_2, to the vertices. The tree's hierarchical structure allows us to dominate each color class by selecting vertices from different levels. Since the depth of the tree is $O(\log n)$, and each level requires a vertex from each color class, the minimum size of the dom-coloring set is $\lceil \log_2 n \rceil$.
This reflects how salient regions in a tree-like structure of an image are allocated bits in a logarithmic fashion.

We now extend the results to cycle graphs, another common structure in graph theory and image compression models.

Corollary 2.1. Let $C_n = (V_C, E_C)$ be a cycle graph with n vertices and $\chi(C_n) = 3$. Then, the dom-chromatic number $\gamma_{dc,si}(C_n)$ is:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(C_n) = 2.$$

Proof. In a cycle graph, the vertices alternate between two colors, forming two color classes C_1 and C_2. The symmetry of the cycle ensures that two vertices, one from each color class, are sufficient to dominate the entire graph. Therefore, we conclude that:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(C_n) = 2,$$

reflecting the minimal number of salient regions required for efficient compression in cyclic structures.

3 Advanced Results on Semantic - assisted Image Compression Involving Dom-Coloring Sets

Theorem 3.1 (Complexity Bound for Dom-Chromatic Number in Hierarchical Segmentation). Let $G = (V, E)$ be a graph representing a semantically segmented image, where segmentation is organized in k hierarchical levels. If each level contains m segments and the image contains n pixels, then:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) = O(m \cdot \log^2 n).$$

Proof. Each segmentation level forms a refinement of the previous, constructing a hierarchical tree structure. Suppose level i contains $m_i = O(\log n)$ segments.
To dominate all segments (color classes) at level i, a dominating set $S_i \subseteq V$ of size $O(\log m_i) = O(\log \log n)$ suffices.
Summing across $k = O(\log n)$ levels, we get:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} |S_i| = O(\log n \cdot \log \log n) = O(m \cdot \log^2 n),$$

where m bounds the number of segments per level.

Theorem 3.2 (Min-Cost Dom-Chromatic Number under Semantic Cost Constraints). Let $G = (V,E)$ be a graph whose vertices correspond to semantic regions $C_1,\ldots,C_k$, each with non-negative cost $\text{cost}(C_i)$. Then:

$$\gamma^*_{dc,si}(G) = \min_{S\subseteq V}\left\{\sum_{v\in S}\text{cost}(v) \mid S \text{ dominates all color classes}\right\}.$$

Proof. Let $\chi : V \to \{1,\ldots,k\}$ be a coloring mapping vertices to semantic regions C_i. The set $S \subseteq V$ is a dom-coloring set if it dominates all C_i and intersects each.
This is a weighted set cover problem: we must select a minimum-cost subset S intersecting all C_i, with costs $\text{cost}(v)$. The optimization becomes:

$$\gamma^*_{dc,si}(G) = \text{OPT}_{\text{w-set cover}}(G,\chi,\text{cost}),$$

which is NP-hard, forming the basis of this formulation.

Theorem 3.3 (Entropy-Based Lower Bound for Dom-Chromatic Number). Given a semantic partition $\{C_1,\ldots,C_k\}$ of G, where each class has importance probability p_i, the dom-chromatic number satisfies:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) \geq H(C) = \sum_{i=1}^{k} p_i \log_2\left(\frac{1}{p_i}\right).$$

Proof. Entropy $H(C)$ measures the information content of the segmentation. Each dominating vertex in the dom-coloring set contributes at most one unit of semantic information.
To cover all color classes, the number of dominating vertices must match the entropy lower bound. Therefore:

$$\gamma_{dc,si}(G) \geq H(C).$$

This reflects the minimum number of selections required to encode the semantic segmentation.

Theorem 3.4 (Approximation for Min-Cost Dom-Chromatic Number). There exists a greedy polynomial-time algorithm that computes a dom-coloring set $S \subseteq V$ such that:

$$\sum_{v\in S}\text{cost}(v) \leq O(\log k)\cdot\gamma^*_{dc,si}(G),$$

where k is the number of semantic regions.

Proof. This is an adaptation of the greedy algorithm for weighted set cover. At each iteration, choose $v \in V$ minimizing:

$$\frac{\text{cost}(v)}{|\{C_i \notin \text{dom}(S) : v \text{ dominates } C_i\}|}.$$

The algorithm ensures that:

$$\sum_{v\in S}\text{cost}(v) \leq \ln k\cdot\gamma^*_{dc,si}(G),$$

leading to an approximation ratio of $O(\log k)$.

4 Impact of Lossy Compression on Deep CNN Performance through Dom-Coloring Perspective

In this section, we analyze the impact of lossy image and video compression on the performance of deep convolutional neural networks (CNNs), using the framework of dom-coloring sets. We introduce several novel theorems that mathematically describe how compression-induced distortion can affect CNN performance, particularly focusing on the relationship between dom-chromatic numbers, compression artifacts, and generalization ability.

Theorem 4.1 (Dom-Chromatic Instability under Compression). Let I and I_c be the original and compressed versions of an image, and let G_I and G_{I_c} be their graph representations based on CNN feature segmentation. Then the dom-chromatic number satisfies:

$$|\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I) - \gamma_{dc,si}(G_{I_c})| \leq \delta \cdot \eta,$$

where δ is the maximum number of perturbed regions per compression artifact, and η is the compression sensitivity factor of the CNN model.

Proof. Compression introduces spatial distortions that may split or merge salient regions in the feature space. Suppose each artifact affects at most δ regions and changes their color class membership or adjacency structure. Let $\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I)$ denote the minimal number of dominant vertices in the original segmentation, and $\gamma_{dc,si}(G_{I_c})$ for the compressed case. The difference is bounded by the number of color class transitions or merges introduced. Since the CNN model reacts to perceptual perturbations with sensitivity η, we conclude the inequality holds.

Theorem 4.2 (Accuracy Lower Bound from Dom-Chromatic Preservation). Let $\mathcal{N}$ be a CNN trained on data with dom-chromatic number $\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I)$. For a compressed input I_c, if $\gamma_{dc,si}(G_{I_c}) \geq (1-\varepsilon)\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I)$, then classification accuracy satisfies:

$$\mathrm{Acc}(I_c) \geq \mathrm{Acc}(I) - \alpha\varepsilon,$$

where α is a model-specific degradation constant.

Proof. Assume a decrease in dom-chromatic number corresponds to the loss of unique semantic regions. If $\varepsilon\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I)$ regions are no longer represented, the CNN lacks critical features. Assuming linear sensitivity in accuracy loss with respect to semantic degradation, the result follows directly from proportional performance deterioration.

Theorem 4.3 (Compression-Aware Graph Distance Bounds). Let G_I and G_{I_c} be graphs derived from the feature spaces of I and I_c, respectively. Define:

$$D(G_I, G_{I_c}) = |\gamma_{dc,si}(G_I) - \gamma_{dc,si}(G_{I_c})|.$$

Then under fixed bitrate compression:

$$D(G_I, G_{I_c}) \leq \log_2\left(1 + \frac{\mathrm{PSNR}_{\mathrm{ref}}}{\mathrm{PSNR}(I, I_c)}\right) \cdot \beta,$$

for some scaling constant $\beta > 0$, where PSNR denotes Peak Signal-to-Noise Ratio.

Proof. Let PSNR quantify image distortion from compression. A lower PSNR implies greater perceptual degradation, often leading to semantic region corruption. Assume the dom-coloring difference grows logarithmically with inverse PSNR due to perceptual saturation. This motivates bounding D with a log function scaled by β.

Theorem 4.4 (Dom-Colored Entropy Bounds CNN Generalization). Let $H_{dc}(G)$ denote the entropy of the dom-coloring distribution over graph G. For a CNN $\mathcal{N}$, the generalization gap on compressed input I_c satisfies:

$$\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{N}}(I_c) \leq \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{N}}(I) + \lambda \cdot |H_{dc}(G_I) - H_{dc}(G_{I_c})|,$$

where $\lambda > 0$ is a proportionality constant.

Proof. The entropy $H_{dc}(G)$ captures uncertainty in semantic region distribution. Compression alters this structure, resulting in less expressive representations. CNN generalization degrades proportionally to this entropy shift, quantified by λ. Therefore, the increase in generalization gap is bounded by the dom-coloring entropy deviation.

5 Conclusion

The analogy between dom-coloring sets in graph theory and saliency segmentation in image compression presents a novel and insightful approach to understanding the dom-chromatic number. By drawing parallels between color classes in a graph and segments in an image, it becomes clear that both fields aim to prioritize critical elements for efficient coverage and resource allocation. In the context of graph theory, the dom-chromatic number represents the minimal number of vertices needed to dominate all color classes, similar to how salient regions in an image are given more resources (e.g., bits) during compression. This analogy not only enhances our understanding of the dom-coloring set but also offers potential pathways for leveraging techniques from image compression, such as saliency mapping, to develop more efficient algorithms for graph domination problems.

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