# MATEMATYKA DYSKRETNA 

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Vertex-distinguishing<br>edge-colorings of sums of paths

Preprint Nr MD 027
(otrzymany dnia 4 kwietnia 2007)

Kraków 2007

Redaktorami serii preprintów Matematyka Dyskretna są: Wit FORYŚ,
prowadzący seminarium Stowa, stowa, stowa...
w Instytucie Informatyki UJ
oraz
Mariusz WOŹNIAK, prowadzący seminarium Matematyka Dyskretna - Teoria Grafów na Wydziale Matematyki Stosowanej AGH.

# Vertex-distinguishing edge-colorings of sums of paths 

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April 4, 2007


#### Abstract

In the PhD thesis by Burris (Memphis (1993)), a conjecture was made concerning the number of colors $c(G)$ required to edge-color a simple graph $G$ so that each vertex has a distinct multiset of colors incident to it. We find the exact value of $c(G)$ - the irregular coloring number, and hence verify the conjecture when $G$ is a vertex-disjoint union of paths. We also investigate the point-distinguishing chromatic index, $\chi_{0}(G)$, where sets, instead of multisets, are required to be distinct, and determine its value for the same family of graphs.


