# Strong Local Colorings of Coronas 

M. Murugan<br>School of Science, Tamil Nadu Open University, DOTE Campus, Guindy 600025 Chennai, India<br>e-mail: muruganganesan@yahoo.in


#### Abstract

In this paper, we study strong local colorings of some important families of coronas. A local coloring of a graph $G$ of order at least 2 is a function $c: V(G) \rightarrow N$ such that for every set $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, there exists two distinct vertices $u, v \in S$ such that $|c(u)-c(v)| \geq m_{s}$, where $m_{s}$ is the size of the induced subgraph $<S\rangle$. The value of a local coloring $c$ is the maximum color it assigns to a vertex of $G$. The local chromatic number of $G$ is the minimum value of any local coloring of $G$ and we denote it by $\chi_{\ell}(G)$. A local coloring of $G$ with value $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ is called a minimum local coloring of $G$. If a minimum local coloring of $G$ uses all the $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors then it is called a strong local coloring of $G$. If every minimum local coloring of $G$ uses all the $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors then $G$ is called strong local colorable and in this case, its local chromatic number is called strong local chromatic number and is denoted by $\chi_{s \ell}(G)$. In this paper, we have considered some important families of coronas and determined the strong local chromatic number, if it exists; otherwise, we have proved that they are not strong local colorable but local colorable and determined their local chromatic number.


Keywords Local coloring; strong local coloring; local chromatic number; strong local chromatic number; strong local colorable.

## 1 Introduction

Let $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ be two graphs. Let $V\left(G_{1}\right)=\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{k}\right\}$ and take $k$ copies of $G_{2}$. The corona $G_{1}{ }^{\circ} G_{2}$ is the graph obtained by joining each $v_{i}$ to every vertex of the $i^{\text {th }}$ copy of $G_{2}, 1 \leq i \leq k$.

A coloring of a graph $G$ is an assignment of colors to the vertices of $G$ such that no two distinct adjacent vertices have the same color. A k-coloring of a graph is a coloring which uses k-colors. Here, we impose no condition on colors that are assigned to non-adjacent vertices. The chromatic number of a graph is the minimum number of colors required to color the vertices of the graph. Many variations and generalizations have been studied by researchers. We may replace the local requirement that adjacent vertices in a coloring must be assigned distinct colors by a more global requirement. A coloring can be considered as a function $c: V(G) \rightarrow N$ such that $|c(u)-c(v)| \geq 1$ for any two adjacent vertices $u$ and $v$ and $|c(u)-c(v)| \geq 0$ for any two non-adjacent vertices $u$ and v. Precisely, a coloring can be considered as a function $c: V(G) \rightarrow N$ such that for every 2-element set $S=\{u, v\}$ of vertices of $G$,

$$
|c(u)-c(v)| \geq m_{S}
$$

where $\mathrm{m}_{S}$ is the size of the induced subgraph $\langle S\rangle$.
Gary Chartrand et al. has introduced [1] the study of local colorings of graphs. A $k$-local coloring of a graph $G$ with order $\geq 2$ is a function $c: V(G) \rightarrow N$ such that for each set $S$
$\subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq k$, there exists two distinct vertices $u, v \in \mathrm{~S}$ such that

$$
|c(u)-c(v)| \geq m_{S}
$$

where $2 \leq k \leq n$. The value of a $k$-local coloring $c$ is the maximum color it assigns to a vertex of $G$ and is denoted by $\ell_{c_{k}}(c)$. The $k$-local chromatic number of $G$ is the minimum value of any $k$-local coloring of the graph $G$. That is,

$$
\ell_{c_{k}}(G)=\min \left\{\ell_{c_{k}}(c)\right.
$$

where the minimum is taken over all $k$-local colorings of $G$. Clearly, for every integer $k$ with $2 \leq k \leq n, \chi(G) \leq \ell c_{k}(G)$ and $\ell_{c_{2}}(G)=\chi(G)$. So the study will be more interesting for $k \geq 3$. Gary Chartrand et al. [1] refer a 3-local coloring of a graph as simply local coloring and write $\ell_{c_{3}}(G)=\chi_{\ell}(G)$. We also follow this assumption.

We note that if $H$ is a subgraph of $G$ then $\chi_{\ell}(H) \leq \chi_{\ell}(G)$.
Coronas are obtained by a graph operation and here we show that how their structures admit strong local coloring.

## 2 Strong Local Colorings of Graphs

Murugan [4] has introduced strong local coloring, strong local colorable graphs and strong local chromatic number.

A minimum local coloring of a graph with $\chi_{\ell}(G)=\mathrm{k}$ colors need not use all the colors to produce a local coloring of the graph. However colors 1 and k must be used.


Figure 1: Minimum Local Coloring

We note that $\chi_{\ell}\left(\mathrm{C}_{3}\right)=4$ and in Figure $1(\mathrm{a})$, we have a minimum local coloring of $\mathrm{C}_{3}$ with 4 colors but the color 2 is not used. Also, $\chi_{\ell}\left(\mathrm{C}_{4}\right)=3$ and in Figure 1(b), we have a minimum local coloring of $\mathrm{C}_{4}$ with three colors, but color 2 is not used.

When we consider $C_{4}+\{e\}$, its local chromatic number is 4 . In Figure 2(a), we have a minimum coloring with all four colors but in Figure 2(b), we have a minimum coloring without color 3 .

We observe that the local chromatic number of $C_{5}$ is 3 and any minimum coloring of $\mathrm{C}_{5}$ must use all the 3 colors. This suggests the problem of studying minimum local colorings which uses all the $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors and the graphs all of whose minimum local colorings uses $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors.


Figure 2: Different Minimum Local Coloring


Figure 3: Strong Local Coloring

If a minimum local coloring of a graph $G$ uses all the $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors then it is called a strong local coloring of $G$. If every minimum local coloring of $G$ uses all the $\chi_{\ell}(G)$ colors then $G$ is called strong local colorable and in this case its local chromatic number is called strong local chromatic number and we denote it by $\chi_{s \ell}(G)$.

## 3 Coronas

Definition 1: Let $G_{1}$ and $G_{2}$ be two graphs. Let $V\left(G_{1}\right)=\left\{v_{1}, \ldots, v_{k}\right\}$ and take $k$ copies of $G_{2}$. The corona $G_{1}{ }^{\circ} G_{2}$ is the graph obtained by joining each $v_{i}$ to every vertex of the $i^{t h}$ copy of $G_{2}, 1 \leq i \leq k$.

Theorem 1 For $k$, $n \geq$ 2, the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} K_{1, n}$ is strong local colorable and its strong local chromatic number is 4 .

Proof: Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Color $v_{i}$, i odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$ with color 2 and $\mathrm{v}_{i}$, i even and $2 \leq i \leq k$ with color 4 . For each odd $i$ and $1 \leq i \leq k$, consider the vertices of $K_{1},{ }_{n}$ which are joined with $v_{i}$. Color the central vertex of these $K_{1, n}$ say $w_{i}$, with 1 and all other vertices with 4 . For each $i$, $i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, consider the vertices of $K_{1},{ }_{n}$ which are joined with $v_{i}$. Color the central vertex of these $K_{1},{ }_{n}$, say $w_{i}$, by 3 and all other vertices with 1 . Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 4 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 4$. Since $K_{3}$ is a subgraph of this graph, $\chi_{\ell} \geq 4$. Hence, $\chi_{\ell}=4$.

Now we show that all the four colors $1,2,3$ and 4 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph.

Since $v_{1}, w_{1}$ and each adjacent vertex of $w_{1}\left(\neq v_{1}\right)$ forms a $K_{3}$, the colors 1,4 should be used to the vertices of this $K_{3}$. Suppose one color, say 3, is not used in a minimum local coloring of this graph (A similar argument can be given if 2 is not used). We note that since the coloring is minimum local coloring, the same color has to be given to the vertices of $K_{1, n}$ which are adjacent to $w_{1}\left(\neq v_{1}\right)$ and no two consecutive colors can be given to $w_{1}$ and to any vertex of $K_{1, n}$ which are adjacent to $w_{1}\left(\neq v_{1}\right)$. Similarly no two consecutive colors can be given to $v_{1}$ and to any vertex of $K_{1, n}$ which are adjacent to $w_{1}\left(\neq v_{1}\right)$. So $v_{1}$ is colored with 1 or 2 . Suppose $v_{1}$ is colored with 2 , then $w_{1}$ will receive color 1 and vertices of $K_{1}, n$ which are adjacent to $w_{1}\left(\neq v_{1}\right)$, will receive color 4 . So $v_{2}$ should receive color 1 or 4 . The above argument holds for the $K_{3}$ with vertices $v_{2}, w_{2}$ and any vertex of $K_{1, n}$ which are adjacent to $w_{2}\left(\neq v_{2}\right)$. Therefore $v_{2}$ should receive color 1 and $w_{2}$ color 2 . This is a contradiction, since there is a path of length 2 namely $v_{1} v_{2} w_{2}$ whose vertex colors violates the definition of local coloring.

A similar argument can be given if $v_{1}$ receives color 1.Hence all the four colors $1,2,3$, and 4 must be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. Hence $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} K_{1, n}$ are strong local colorable and $\chi_{s \ell}=4$.

Theorem 2 The corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} P_{m}, m \geq 3, k \geq 2$ is strong local colorable and its strong local chromatic number is 4 .

Proof: Consider $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} P_{m}, m \geq 3$ and $k \geq 2$. Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, with color 4 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, with color 1. For each $i, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, consider the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are joined with $v_{i}$. Color these vertices alternatively with color 1 and 3 . For each $i, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, consider the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are joined with $v_{i}$. Color these vertices alternatively with color 4 and 2. Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 4 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 4$. Since $K_{3}$ is a subgraph of this graph, $\chi_{\ell} \geq$ 4. Hence $\chi_{\ell}=4$.

Now we show that all the four colors $1,2,3$ and 4 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph.

Suppose, one color, say 2, is not used in a minimum local coloring of this graph (a similar argument can be given if 3 is not used). We cannot color $v_{1}$ with 1 ; if we do so then we cannot color the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are adjacent with $v_{1}$ with 3 and 4 . So we have to color $v_{1}$ with 3 or 4 .

Suppose, we color $v_{1}$ with 4 (a similar argument can be given if we color $v_{1}$ with 3 ) then the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are adjacent with $v_{1}$ have to be colored with 1 and 3 alternatively. In this case, $v_{2}$ should be colored only with 1 . Now the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are adjacent with $v_{2}$ cannot be colored the remaining colors 3 and 4 .

Hence all the four colors $1,2,3$ and 4 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. Hence $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} P_{m}, m \geq 3, k \geq 2$ are strong local colorable and $\chi_{s \ell}=4$. $\square$

Corollary 1: In the Theorem 2, when $m=2$ the graph is not strong local colorable and its local chromatic number is 4 .

Now color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, with color 1 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$ with color 4. Assign colors 3 and 4 to the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are adjacent with $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i$ $\leq k$ and color 1 and 3 to the vertices of $P_{m}$ which are adjacent with $v_{i}$, i even and $2 \leq i \leq$ $k$. Clearly this is a minimum local coloring, which is not strong. Hence $\chi_{\ell}=4$.

Theorem 3 If nis odd and $n>3$ and $k>1$, the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}$ isstrong local colorable and its strong local chromatic number is 5 .

Proof: Consider $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ odd and $n>3$ and $k>1$. Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Color $v_{i}$, $i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, with color 1 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, with color 5 .

Let the vertices of the cycle which are adjacent with $v_{i}$ be $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}, \ldots, u_{i n}, 1 \leq i \leq k$. For each $i, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, color $u_{i j}, j$ odd and
$1 \leq j \leq n$-2, with color 5 and color $u_{i j}, j$ even and $2 \leq j \leq n$ - 1 , with color 3 and $u_{i n}$ with color 4 . For each $i, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, color $u_{i j}, j$ odd and
$1 \leq j \leq n$-2, with color 1 and color $u_{i j}, j$ even and $2 \leq j \leq n-1$, with color 3 and $u_{i n}$ with color 2. Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 5 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 5$. Since $K_{3}$ is a subgraph of this graph, $\chi_{\ell} \geq 4$.

Suppose there is a local coloring of this graph with four colors, then the color 4 may be given to $v_{i}$ or to the vertices of $u_{i j}, 1 \leq j \leq n$. Suppose the color 4 is given to $v_{i}$, for some $i$, the color 1 should be given to alternate vertices of $u_{i j}$ so that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. Then the remaining vertices of $u_{i j}, 1 \leq j \leq n$, cannot be colored with the remaining colors 2 and 3 so that the coloring is local.

Suppose color 4 is assigned to alternate vertices of $u_{i j}$ so that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color then color 1 may be assigned to $v_{i}$ or some vertices $u_{i j}, 1 \leq j \leq n$ . In both the cases, the remaining vertices cannot be colored with the remaining colors 2 and 3 so that the coloring is local. Thus, there is no local coloring with four colors. Hence $\chi_{\ell}=5$.

Now we show that all five colors $1,2,3,4$ and 5 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph.

Since 5 and 1 must be used in any local coloring of this graph $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ odd and $n>3$ , it is sufficient to show that colors 2,3 and 4 must be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. Several cases are to be considered.

Case 1: Suppose 4 is not used in a minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ odd and $n>3$. Then the colors used are $1,2,3$ and 5 .

Case 1(a): Color 5 is used to some $v_{i}$. Then we should alternate the colors 3 and 1 to the vertices of $u_{i 1}, \ldots, u_{i n-1}$ and the color 2 to $u_{i n}$. Now consider the adjacent vertex of $v_{i}$ on the path $P_{k}$, say $v_{j} . v_{j}$ cannot be colored with 5 and can be colored with any one of the colors 1,2 or 3 . In this case, the vertices $u_{j 1}, \ldots$, $u_{j n}$ cannot be colored so that the coloring is a local coloring.
Case 1(b): Color 5 is used to some of the vertices $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n$, which are adjacent with $v_{i}$. Then one of the colors 1,2 or 3 should be assigned to $v_{i}$. In this case, the remaining vertices of $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n$ cannot be colored with the remaining colors so that the coloring is a local coloring.

Case 2: Suppose 3 is not used in some minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ odd and $n>3$. Then the colors used are $1,2,4$ and 5 .

Case 2(a): Color 5 is used to some $v_{i}$. Then the vertices $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n$ cannot be colored with the remaining colors 1,2 and 4 so that the coloring is a local.

Case 2(b): Color 5 is used to some of the vertices $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n$ which are adjacent with $v_{i}$. Then we cannot use color 4 for the vertices in $u_{i j}, j \neq n$ or $v_{i}$. Now the remaining vertices cannot be colored with 1 and 2 as the coloring is local.

Case 3: Suppose 2 is not used in some minimum local coloring of
$P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ odd and $n>3$. Then the colors used are $1,3,4$ and 5 . The proof of this case is very similar to case 2 .
Hence the coronas $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}$, $n$ odd and $n>3$ and $k>1$ are strong local colorable and its strong local chromatic number is 5 .

Corollary 2 : The corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{3}$ is not strong local colorable and its local chromatic number is 5 .
Proof: Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$ and the vertices adjacent to $v_{i}$ be $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$. For each $i, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, color $v_{i}$ with color 5 and $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$ with color 1,2 and 4 respectively. For each $i, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, color $v_{i}$ with color 1 and $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$ with colors 2,4 and 5 respectively. Clearly this is a local coloring of this graph and so $\chi_{\ell} \leq 5$. Since $K_{3}$ is a subgraph of this graph, $\chi_{\ell} \geq 4$. But this graph cannot have a local coloring with 4 colors that is $1,2,3$ and 4 since $K_{4}$ is a subgraph of this graph and local chromatic number of $K_{4}$ is 5 . Hence $\chi_{\ell}=5$.

Since color 3 is not present in this minimum coloring, $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{3}$ is not strong local colorable.

Theorem 4 If $n$ is even, the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, k \geq 2$ is not strong local colorable and its local chromatic number is 5 .

Proof: Consider $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ even. Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$ with color 1 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, with color 5 . For each $i, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, the adjacent vertices of $v_{i}$ which are on the cycle be colored alternatively with 5 and 3 . For each $i, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, the adjacent vertices of $v_{i}$ which are on the cycle be colored alternatively with 1 and 3 . Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq$ $|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 5 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 5$. Since wheel is a subgraph of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}, n$ even, and its local chromatic number is $5, \chi_{\ell}\left(\mathrm{P}_{k}\right.$ $\left.{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{C}_{n}\right) \geq 5, n$ even. Hence $\chi_{\ell}\left(P_{k}{ }^{\circ} C_{n}\right)=5$ for even $n$.

Since the color 2 and 4 are not present in this minimum local coloring, this graph is not strong local colorable.

Theorem 5 If $n$ is even and $n \geq 6$, the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}$ is strong local colorable and its strong local chromatic number is 6 .

Proof: Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$, the central vertex of the wheel which is adjacent with $v_{i}$ be $w_{i}$ and the other vertices of the wheel which are adjacent with $v_{i}$ are $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}, \ldots, u_{i n-1}$. Color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$ with color 6 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$ with color 2 . For each odd $i$ and $1 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color 5 , color $u_{i j}, j$ odd and $1 \leq j \leq n-3$, with color 1, color $u_{i j, j}$ even and $2 \leq j \leq n-2$, with color 3 and color $u_{i n-1}$ by color 2 . For each even $i$ and $2 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color 1 , color $u_{i j}, j$ odd and $1 \leq j \leq n-3$ with color 4 , color $u_{i j}, j$ even and $2 \leq j \leq n-2$, with color 6 and color $u_{i n-1}$
by color 5 . Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 6 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 6$. Since wheel is a subgraph of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$ and its local chromatic number is $5, \chi_{\ell} \geq 5$. Suppose there is a coloring of this graph with 5 colors $1,2,3,4,5$ then all the 5 colors should be used, since $n$ is even and this cannot be a local coloring since $v_{i} s$ are adjacent to all vertices of $i^{t h}$ copy of the wheel. Hence $\chi_{\ell}=6$.

Now we show that all the six colors $1,2,3,4,5$ and 6 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. Since color 6 and 1 must be used in any local coloring of this graph $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$, it is sufficient if we show that the colors $2,3,4$, and 5 must be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. We note that since $v_{i}$ is adjacent to all the vertices of the $i^{\text {th }}$ copy of the wheel, we need at least five colors to give a coloring of this graph. Some cases arise as follows:

Case 1: Suppose color 5 is not used in a minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$. Then the colors used are $1,2,3,4$ and 6 . For each $i$, since $v_{i}$ is adjacent to all the vertices of the $i^{t h}$ copy of the wheel, $v_{i}$ can receive only the color 6 . In this case, we cannot color other $v_{i} \mathrm{~s}$ with the remaining colors. Hence color 5 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph.

Case 2: Suppose color 4 is not used in a minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$. Then the colors used are $1,2,3,5$ and 6 .

Case 2a: Suppose color 6 is used to $v_{i}$ for some $i$. Then $w_{i}$ should receive color 5 . The vertices $u_{i j}, 1 \leq j \leq n-1$, will receive the colors 1,2 or 3 . Now consider the adjacent vertex $v_{j}$ of $v_{i} . v_{j}$ cannot be colored with 6 or 5 . So $v_{j}$ may be colored with 1,2 or 3 . In any case, $w_{j}$ and $u_{j \alpha}, 1 \leq \alpha \leq n-1$ cannot be colored with the remaining colors so that the coloring is local.
Case 2b: Suppose color 6 is not used to $v_{i}$ then this color should be used to color $w_{i}$ only while color 5 should be used to color this $v_{i}$; otherwise the colors 1,2 and 3 will apply to the vertices of $K_{3}$. This contradicts the definition of local coloring. Now consider the adjacent vertex $v_{j}$ of $v_{i} . v_{j}$ which cannot be colored with 6 or 5. So $v_{j}$ may be colored with 1,2 or 3 . In any case, $w_{j}$ and $u_{j \alpha}, 1 \leq \alpha \leq n-1$ cannot be colored with the remaining colors so that the coloring is local.

Case 3 : Suppose color 3 is not used in a minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$. Then the colors used are $1,2,4,5$ and 6 . The colors 4,5 or 6 cannot be used to color any $v_{i}$ since colors 4,5 and 6 will color the vertices of $K_{3}$, which contradicts the definition of local coloring. So colors 1 or 2 must be used to color $v_{i} \mathrm{~s}$. Suppose for some $i, v_{i}$ is colored with 1 then $w_{i}$ must be colored with 2 . Now consider the adjacent vertex $v_{j}$ of $v_{i} . v_{j}$ cannot be colored with 1 or 2 . Thus, color 4,5 or 6 may be used to color $v_{j}$. Then colors 4,5 and 6 will color the vertices of a $K_{3}$, which contradicts the definition of local coloring.
A similar argument can be given if $v_{i}$ is colored with 2 .
Case 4: Suppose color 2 is not used in a minimum local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$. Then the colors used are $1,3,4,5$ and 6 . The colors $3,4,5$ and 6 cannot be used to color any $v_{i}$ since then 3 of the colors will color the vertices of a $K_{3}$, which contradicts
the definition of local coloring. So color 1 must be used to color $v_{i}$. Then the remaining vertices cannot be colored with the remaining colors so that the coloring is local.

Thus all six colors, $1,2,3,4,5$ and 6 should be used in any minimum local coloring of this graph. Hence, $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ even and $n \geq 6$ are strong local colorable and $\chi_{s \ell}=6$.

Corollary 3: The corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{4}$ are not strong local colorable and its local chromatic number is 7 .

Proof: Consider the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{4}$. Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Each $v_{i}$ is adjacent with every vertex of the $i^{t h}$ copy of $W_{4}$. Let $w_{i}$ be the central vertex of the $i^{t h}$ copy of the wheel and other vertices are $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$. Color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$ with color 7 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$ with color 1 . For each odd $i$ and $1 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color $5, u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$ with colors 1,2 and 4 respectively. For each even $i$ and $2 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color $7, u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}$ and $u_{i 3}$ with colors 2,4 and 6 respectively. Clearly this is a local coloring of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{4}$ and its value is 7 . That is, $\chi_{\ell}\left(\mathrm{P}_{k}{ }^{\circ} \mathrm{W}_{n}\right) \leq 7$. Since $\mathrm{K}_{5}$ is a subgraph of this graph and $\chi_{\ell}\left(K_{5}\right)=7$ [1], we have , $\chi_{\ell}\left(P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{4}\right) \geq 7$. Hence, $\chi_{\ell}\left(P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{4}\right)=7 . \square$

Theorem 6 If $n$ is odd and $n \geq 5$, the corona $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}$ is not strong local colorable and its local chromatic number is 6 .

Proof : Let the vertices of $P_{k}$ be $v_{1}, v_{2}, \ldots, v_{k}$. Let the central vertex of the wheel which is adjacent with $v_{i}$ be $w_{i}$ and the other vertices of the wheel which are adjacent with $v_{i}$ are $u_{i 1}, u_{i 2}, \ldots, u_{i n-1}$. Color $v_{i}, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$ with color 6 and $v_{i}, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$ with color 1 . For each $i, i$ odd and $1 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color 5 and alternate colors 1 and 3 to the vertices $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n-1$. For each $i, i$ even and $2 \leq i \leq k$, color $w_{i}$ with color 6 and alternate colors 5 and 3 to the vertices $u_{i j}, j=1,2, \ldots, n-1$. Since $m_{s} \leq 3$ for any $S \subseteq V(G)$ with $2 \leq|S| \leq 3$, this coloring is a local coloring and value of this coloring is 6 . Therefore $\chi_{\ell} \leq 6$. Since wheel is a subgraph of $P_{k}{ }^{\circ} W_{n}, n$ odd and $n \geq 5$ and its local chromatic number is $5, \chi_{\ell} \geq 5$. Suppose there is a local coloring of this graph with five colors then no two of the colors of the triangle $w_{i}$ with $u_{i j}$ and $u_{i j+1}, 1 \leq j \leq n-2$ be consecutive, denoting the vertex of a triangle with its color. Then $v_{i}$ cannot be colored with any one of the remaining two colors since $v_{i}$ forms a triangle with any two vertices of $w_{i}, u_{i j}$ and $u_{i j+1}$ so that the coloring is local. Hence $\chi_{\ell}=6$.
Since the colors 2 and 4 are not present in this minimum local coloring, this graph is not strong local colorable.
In this work, we have studied strong local colorability of some coronas and determined their strong local chromatic number. We believe that this paper will spark interest in the study of strong local colorable graphs.

## Acknowledgement

The author expresses sincere thanks to the referee for his valuable comments and suggestions towards the improvement of this paper.

## References

[1] Gary Chartrand, Farrokh Saba, Ebrahim Salehi \& Ping Zhang, Local Colorings of Graphs, Utilitas Mathematica 67(2005), 107- 20.
[2] F. Harary, Conditional Colorability in Graphs, Graphs and Applications, (F.Harary, J.Maybee, Eds.) Wiley, New York (1985), 127-136.
[3] F. Harary and K.F. Jones, Conditional Colorability II: Bipartite Variations, Congr. Numer. 50(1985), 205-218.
[4] M. Murugan, Local Colorings of Graphs with Special Properties, Acta Ciencia Indica, vol 34 M, No.1(2008), 285-289.
[5] M. Murugan, Graph Theory and Algorithms, Muthali Publishing House, Chennai, India, 2003.

