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**Xing Peng\*** (pengx@mailbox.sc.edu), 1523 Greene St, Columbia, SC 29208, and **Linyuan Lu** (lu@math.sc.edu), 1523 Greene St, Columbia, SC 29208. *A fractional analogue of Brook's theorem.*

Let  $\Delta(G)$  be the maximum degree of a graph  $G$ . Brooks' theorem states that the only connected graphs with chromatic number  $\chi(G) = \Delta(G) + 1$  are complete graphs and odd cycles. We prove a fractional analogue of Brooks' theorem in this paper. Namely, we classify all connected graphs  $G$  such that the fractional chromatic number  $\chi_f(G)$  is at least  $\Delta(G)$ . These graphs are complete graphs, odd cycles,  $C_8^2$ ,  $C_5 \boxtimes K_2$ , and graphs whose clique number  $\omega(G)$  equals the maximum degree  $\Delta(G)$ . Among the two sporadic graphs, the graph  $C_8^2$  is the square graph of cycle  $C_8$  while the other graph  $C_5 \boxtimes K_2$  is the strong product of  $C_5$  and  $K_2$ . (Received September 08, 2011)