



# Certified domination number in corona product of graphs

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## Abstract

A set  $S$  of vertices in  $G = (V, E)$  is called a dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex not in  $S$  has at least one neighbour in  $S$ . A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is said to be a certified dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $S$  has either zero or at least two neighbours in  $V \setminus S$ . The certified domination number,  $\gamma_{cer}(G)$  of  $G$  is defined as the minimum cardinality of certified dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, we study the certified domination number of Corona product of some standard graphs.

## Keywords

Dominating set, Certified Dominating set, Certified Domination Number, Corona product.

## AMS Subject Classification

05C05, 0505C.

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Article History: Received 18 February 2021; Accepted 26 March 2021

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## 1. Introduction

In this paper, graph  $G = (V, E)$  we mean a simple, finite, connected, undirected graph with neither loops nor multiple edges. The order  $|V(G)|$  is denoted by  $n$ . For graph theoretic terminology we refer to West [7]. The open neighborhood of any vertex  $v$  in  $G$  is  $N(v) = \{x : xv \in E(G)\}$  and closed neighborhood of a vertex  $v$  in  $G$  is  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . The degree of a vertex in the graph  $G$  is denoted by  $\deg(v)$  and the maximum degree (minimum degree) in the graph  $G$  is denoted by  $\Delta(G)$  ( $\delta(G)$ ). For a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  the open (closed) neighborhood  $N(S)$  ( $N[S]$ ) in  $G$  is defined as  $N(S) = \bigcup_{v \in S} N(v)$  ( $N[S] = \bigcup_{v \in S} N[v]$ ). We write  $K_n$ ,  $P_n$ , and  $C_n$  for a complete graph, a path graph, a cycle graph of order  $n$ , respectively. The complement of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\bar{G}$ , is a graph

with the vertex set  $V(G)$  such that for every two vertices  $v$  and  $w$ ,  $vw \in E(\bar{G})$  if and only if  $vw \notin E(G)$ .

The corona of two disjoint graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is defined to be the graph  $G = G_1 \circ G_2$  formed from one copy of  $G_1$  and  $|V(G_1)|$  copies of  $G_2$  where the  $i^{\text{th}}$  vertex of  $G_1$  is adjacent to every vertex in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $G_2$ . In particular, the corona  $G \circ K_1$  is the graph constructed from a copy of  $H$ , where for each vertex  $v \in V(G)$ , a new vertex  $v'$  and a pendant  $vv'$  are added. This is also denoted by  $G^+$ .

The concept of certified domination in graphs was introduced by Dettlaff, Lemanska, Topp, Ziemann and Zylinski [3] and further studied in [2]. It has many application in real life situations. This motivated we to study the certified domination number in corona and Cartesian product of graphs.

In [3], authors studied certified domination number in graphs which is defined as follows:

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be any graph of order  $n$ . A subset  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is called a Certified dominating set of  $G$  if  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$  and every vertex in  $S$  has either zero or at least two neighbours in  $V \setminus S$ . The certified domination number defined by  $\gamma_{cer}(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of certified dominating set in  $G$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

**Theorem 2.1** ([2]). For any graph  $G$  of order  $n \geq 2$ , every certified dominating set of  $G$  contains its extreme vertices.

**Theorem 2.2** ([2]). For any graph  $G$  of order  $n$ ,  $1 \leq \gamma_{cer}(G) \leq n$ .

**Theorem 2.3** ([2]). For any graph  $G$  of order  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\gamma_{cer}(G) = 1$  if and only if  $G$  has a vertex of degree  $n - 1$ .

**Theorem 2.4** ([3]). For any Path graph  $P_n$  of order  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\gamma_{cer}(G) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \text{ or } 3 \\ 2 & \text{if } n = 2 \\ 4 & \text{if } n = 4 \end{cases}$$

$$\gamma_{cer}(G) = \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil \text{ if } n \geq 5$$

## 3. Main Results

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . If  $S$  is a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ , then  $V - S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  and let  $S$  be a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ . To prove  $V - S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . Suppose  $V - S$  is not a dominating set of  $G$ . Then there exists a vertex  $v \in S$  such that  $v$  is not dominated by any vertex in  $V - S$ . This shows that  $S - \{v\}$  is a certified dominating set of  $G$ , which is a contradiction to the minimality of  $S$ . Hence,  $V - S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.2.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . If  $S$  is a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ , then  $V - S$  is a need not be a certified dominating set of  $G$ .

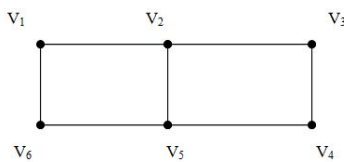


Figure 1

For the graph given in Figure 1, the set  $S = \{v_2, v_5\}$  is a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ . Also, here the set  $V - S = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_6\}$  is a dominating set of  $G$  but no vertex in  $V - S$  has greater than one neighbour in  $V - (V - S)$ . That is, in  $S$ . Therefore,  $V - S$  is not a certified dominating set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.3.** If  $G$  is a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  and If  $S$  is a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ , then  $|V - S| \geq |S|$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  and let  $S$  be a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ . To prove  $V - S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . Then by Theorem 3.1,  $V - S$  is a

dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore  $|V - S| \neq 0$  and  $N[V - S] = V(G)$ . This implies that  $S$  has a neighbour in  $V - S$ . But since  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  that  $S$  has at least two neighbours in  $V - S$ . Hence,  $|V - S| > |S|$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** If  $G$  is a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma_{cer}(G) \leq n/2$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . let  $S$  be a minimum certified dominating set of  $G$ . Suppose  $\gamma_{cer}(G) > n/2$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $V - S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . Also  $|V - S| = |V| - |S| < n - n/2$ . This implies that  $|V - S| < n/2$ . Therefore by Theorem 3.3,  $|S| < n/2$ , which is a contradiction. Hence  $\gamma_{cer}(G) \leq n/2$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph of even order  $n \geq 2$ . If  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma_{cer}(G) = n/2$  if and only if  $G \approx C_4$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph of even order  $n \geq 2$  with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . Suppose  $G \approx C_4$ . Then by Theorem 2.5,  $\gamma_{cer}(G) = 2 = n/2$ .

Conversely, assume  $\gamma_{cer}(G) = n/2$ . Then by Theorem 3.3.  $|V - S| > n/2$ . Since  $n$  is even that  $|V - S| = n/2$ . This shows that every vertex in  $S$  has exactly two neighbours in  $V - S$ . Let  $\{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n\}$  be the set of stars that covers all the vertices in  $G$ . Let  $S_i = \{u_i, v_i\}$ . Suppose  $n \geq 3$ . If there is a  $i$  such that  $\deg(u_i) \geq 2$  and  $\deg(v_i) \geq 2$ . Thus we can find a certified dominating set of  $G$  with cardinality less than  $n/2$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore for every  $i$ , either  $u_i$  or  $v_i$  must be of degree equal to 1. Since  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , which is not possible. Therefore  $n < 2$ . Hence  $G$  must be isomorphic to either  $K_2$  or  $K_{2m}$  or the cycle  $C_4$ . If  $K_2$  or  $K_{2m}$ , then  $\delta(G) = 1$  which is a contradiction. Hence,  $G \approx C_4$ .  $\square$

## 4. Corona of Graphs

For every  $v \in V(G)$  denote by  $H_v$  the copy of  $H$  whose vertices are adioint to the vertex  $v$ . Denote  $v + H_v$  be the subgraph of the corona  $G \circ H$  corresponding to the join  $\langle \{v\} + H_v \rangle$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and  $H$  be any graph of order  $m \geq 2$ . Then,  $S \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  is a certified dominating set of  $G \circ H$  if and only if  $S \cap V(v + H_v)$  is a certified dominating set of  $v + H_v$  for every  $v \in V(G)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and  $H$  be any graph of order  $m \geq 2$ . First assume that  $S \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  be a certified dominating set of  $G \circ H$ . Let  $v \in V(G)$ . Let  $S_v = S \cap V(v + H_v)$ . We show that  $S_v$  is a certified dominating set of  $v + H_v$ . If  $v \in S_v$ , then  $V(H_v) \subseteq N_{H_v+v}[v] \subseteq N_{v+H_v}[v]$ . Then  $S_v$  is a certified dominating set in  $G \circ H$ . Suppose  $v \notin S_v$ . Then clearly  $v \in N_{v+H_v}[S_v]$ . Let  $u \in V(H_v) - S_v$ . Then there exists  $w \in S$  such that  $u \in N_{G \circ H}[w]$ . Also,  $ux \notin E(G \circ H)$  for all  $x \in V(G) - \{v\}$ . This means that  $S_v$  is a dominating set of  $v + H_v$ . Now we prove that  $S_v$  is a certified dominating set of  $v + H_v$ . Since  $n \geq 2$ , it is clear that  $|N_{v+H_v}[y] \cap V(v + H_v) - S_v| \geq 2$  for every  $y \in S_v$ . Therefore,  $S_v$  is a certified dominating set of  $v + H_v$ .



Conversely, assume  $S_v = S \cap V(v + H_v)$  is a certified dominating set of  $v + H_v$  for every  $v \in V(G)$ . To prove that  $S \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  is a certified dominating set of  $G \circ H$ . Let  $u \in V(G \circ H) - S$ . Since  $N_{v+H_v}[x] = N_{G \circ H}[x]$  for every  $x \in S_v$ , that the certified dominating set  $S_v$  in  $v + H_v$  implies the existence of  $x \in S_v$  such that  $u \in N_{v+H_v}[x]$ . Hence,  $S$  is a certified dominating set of  $G \circ H$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and  $H$  be any graph of order  $m \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma_{cer}(G \circ H) = n$ .*

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and  $H$  be any trivial graph. Then  $\gamma_{cer}(G \circ H) = 2n$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n$  and  $H$  be any trivial graph. Since  $H \approx K_1$ , that  $G \circ H = G^+$ . Also, that  $G^+$  is a connected graph of order  $2n$ . By definition, every vertex in  $G^+$  is either a support vertex or a pendant vertex. Let  $S$  be a minimum certified dominating set of  $G^+$ . By Theorem 2.1, every support vertices must in  $S$ . Also, every support vertex is adjacent to exactly one pendant vertex implies every pendent vertices are in  $S$ . Then  $S = V(G^+)$ . Hence, we conclude  $\gamma_{cer}(G \circ H) = 2n$ .  $\square$

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 ISSN(P):2319 – 3786  
 Malaya Journal of Matematik  
 ISSN(O):2321 – 5666  
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