

# Inverse Domination Numbers and Disjoint Domination Numbers of Graphs under Some Binary Operations

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## Abstract

In this note, we investigate the inverse domination numbers and the disjoint pair domination numbers of graphs resulting from the join, corona and composition of graphs

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## 1 Introduction

Throughout this study,  $G$  denotes a graph which is simple and undirected. The symbols  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  denote the vertex set and edge set of  $G$ , respectively. We write  $uv$  to denote the edge joining the vertices  $u$  and  $v$ . The *order* (resp. *size*) of  $G$  refers to the cardinality of  $V(G)$  (resp.  $E(G)$ ). In symbols,  $|V(G)|$  denotes the order, while  $|E(G)|$  denotes the size of  $G$ . If  $E(G) = \emptyset$ ,  $G$  is called an *empty graph*. If  $V(G)$  is a singleton,  $G$  is called a *trivial graph*.

Any graph  $H$  is a *subgraph* of  $G$  if  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and  $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$ . For a non-empty  $S \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $\langle S \rangle$  denotes the subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  for which  $|E(H)|$  is the maximum size of a subgraph of  $G$  with vertex set  $S$ .

An edge  $e$  of  $G$  is said to be *incident* to vertex  $v$  whenever  $e = uv$  for some  $u \in V(G)$ . We write  $G - v$  to denote the resulting subgraph of  $G$  after removing from  $G$  the vertex  $v$  and all edges of  $G$  incident to  $v$ . In general, for  $S \subseteq V(G)$ , the symbol  $G - S$  denotes the resulting subgraph of  $G$  after removing all vertices  $v \in S$  from  $G$  and all edges in  $G$  incident to  $v$ . If  $u, v \in V(G)$ , the symbol  $G + uv$  denotes the graph obtained from  $G$  by adding to  $G$  the edge  $uv$ .

Let  $G$  and  $H$  be any graphs. The *join* of  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph  $G + H$  with vertex set  $V(G) \cup V(H)$  and edge set  $E(G) \cup E(H) \cup \{uv : u \in V(G), v \in V(H)\}$ . The *corona*  $G \circ H$  of  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph obtained by taking one copy of  $G$  and  $|V(G)|$  copies of  $H$ , and then joining the  $i^{\text{th}}$  vertex of  $G$  to every vertex in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  copy of  $H$ . We denote by  $H^v$  that copy of  $H$  whose vertices are adjoined with the vertex  $v$  of  $G$ . In effect,  $G \circ H$  is composed of the subgraphs  $H^v + v = H^v + \langle \{v\} \rangle$  joined together by the edges of  $G$ . The *composition*  $G[H]$  of  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph with  $V(G[H]) = V(G) \times V(H)$  and  $(u, v)(u', v') \in E(G[H])$  if and only either  $uu' \in E(G)$  or  $u = u'$  and  $vv' \in E(H)$ .

Two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$  are *neighbors* in  $G$  if  $uv \in E(G)$ . The *closed neighborhood*  $N_G[v]$  of a vertex  $v$  of  $G$  is the set consisting of  $v$  and every neighbor of  $v$  in  $G$ . Any  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a *dominating set* in  $G$  if  $\cup_{v \in S} N_G[v] = V(G)$ . The minimum cardinality  $\gamma(G)$  of a dominating set in  $G$  is the *domination number* of  $G$ . Any dominating set in  $G$  of cardinality  $\gamma(G)$  is referred to as a  $\gamma$ -*set* in  $G$ . A dominating set  $S$  in  $G$  is a *total dominating set* if for every  $x \in S$  there exists  $y \in S$  such that  $xy \in E(G)$ . The minimum cardinality of a total dominating set in  $G$  is the *total domination number* of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $\gamma_t(G)$ . The reader may refer to [3, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15] for the fundamental concepts and recent developments of the domination theory, including its various applications.

A classical result in domination theory due to Ore[3] in 1962 motivated the introduction of the concept of an inverse dominating set. It can be stated as follows:

**Theorem 1.1** [3] *Let  $G$  be a graph with no isolated vertex. If  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ , then  $V(G) \setminus S$  is also a dominating set in  $G$ .*

Let  $G$  be a graph without isolated vertices. An *inverse dominating set* in  $G$  is any dominating set  $S$  in  $G$  such that  $S \subseteq V(G) \setminus D$ , where  $D$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of an inverse dominating set is called the *inverse domination number*, and is denoted by  $\gamma'(G)$ . Such definition was first introduced by V.R. Kulli and S.C. Sigarkanti [1] in 1991, and studied further in [2, 7, 8]. It may be noted that P.G. Bhat and S.R. Bhat in [2] made mention of its application in an Information Retrieval System. It can be readily verified that  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma'(G)$ . T. Tamizh Chelvam, T. Asir and G.S. Grace Prema in [7] studied graphs  $G$  where  $\gamma(G) = \gamma'(G)$ .

For our purposes in this paper, any inverse dominating set  $S$  in  $G$  with  $|S| = \gamma'(G)$  is called a  *$\gamma'$ -set* in  $G$ .

Theorem 1.1 also guarantees that any graph  $G$  with no isolated vertices contains two disjoint subsets of  $V(G)$  which are both dominating sets in  $G$ . This is the motivation of the concept of disjoint domination introduced by S.M. Hedetniemi et al. in [10]. Any pair of subsets  $S$  and  $D$  of  $V(G)$  is called *dd-pair* if  $S$  and  $D$  are disjoint dominating sets in  $G$ . We define

$$\gamma\gamma(G) = \min\{|S| + |D| : S, D \text{ are } dd\text{-pairs in } G\}.$$

Any *dd-pair*  $(S, D)$  in  $G$  satisfying  $|S| + |D| = \gamma\gamma(G)$  is called  *$\gamma\gamma$ -pair* in  $G$ . It is easy to verify that

$$2\gamma(G) \leq \gamma\gamma(G) \leq \gamma'(G) + \gamma(G). \quad (1)$$

For graphs where  $\gamma'(G) = \gamma(G)$ ,  $\gamma\gamma(G) = 2\gamma(G)$ .

## 2 Realization Problems

**Proposition 2.1** *For every pair  $(a, b)$  of positive integers with  $a \leq b$ , there exists a graph  $G$  such that  $\gamma(G) = a$ ,  $\gamma'(G) = b$  and  $\gamma\gamma(G) = a + b$ .*

*Proof:* If  $a = 1$ , then we take  $G = K_{1,b}$ . Suppose that  $a \geq 2$ . Let  $n = 3a - 2$  and let the path  $P_n$  be given by  $P_n = [v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n]$ . Form  $G$  by adding to  $P_n$ ,  $c = b - \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor$  pendant edges  $u_j v_n, j = 1, 2, \dots, c$ . If  $c = 1$ , then  $\gamma(G) = \gamma(P_{n+1}) = \lceil \frac{n+1}{3} \rceil = a$ , while  $\gamma'(G) = \gamma'(P_{n+1}) = b$  [1]. Suppose that  $c \geq 2$ . Since  $D = \{v_1, v_4, \dots, v_n\}$  is a dominating set in  $G$ ,

$$\gamma(G) \leq \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil = \lceil \frac{3a - 2}{3} \rceil = a.$$

On the other hand, since  $\gamma(P_{n+1}) = \lceil \frac{n+1}{3} \rceil \geq \lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil = a$ ,  $\gamma(G) \geq \gamma(P_{n+1}) \geq a$ . Therefore,  $\gamma(G) = a$ . Consequently,  $D$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . Note further that,

in particular, the set  $S = \{v_{n-2}, v_{n-5}, \dots, v_2\} \cup \{u_i : i = 1, 2, \dots, c\}$  is a dominating in  $G$  and  $S \subseteq V(G) \setminus D$  so that  $\gamma'(G) \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{3} \rfloor + c = b$ . Now, let  $T \subseteq V(G)$  be a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . Since  $\gamma(P_n) = a$  and  $c \geq 2$ ,  $u_i \notin T$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, c$ . Consequently,  $v_n \in T$ . Let  $D_0 \subseteq V(G) \setminus T$  be an inverse dominating set in  $G$ . Since  $v_n \notin D_0$ ,  $u_i \in D_0$  for all  $i$ . Similarly, since  $v_1 \notin D_0$ ,  $v_2 \in D_0$ . Apparently, the definition of  $D_0$  implies that  $D_0 = S$ . Therefore,  $\gamma'(G) = b$ . Finally, let  $(S, D')$  be a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $G$ . Either each  $u_j \in D'$  for each  $j$  or  $u_j \in S$  for each  $j$ . If  $u_j \in D'$  for all  $j$ , then  $D' = D$ , and the conclusion follows. ■

**Theorem 2.2** *For each integer  $n \geq 1$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $\gamma'(G) - \gamma(G) = n$  and  $|V(G)| = \gamma'(G) + \gamma(G)$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $n \geq 1$ , and consider the star graph  $K_{1,n+2} = K_1 + \overline{K_{n+2}}$ . Let  $\{v\} = V(K_1)$  and let  $u \in V(\overline{K_{n+2}})$ . Obtain the graph  $G$  by adding to  $K_{1,n+2}$  a pendant  $uz$ . Then  $\gamma(G) = 2$ , which is determined by the dominating set  $\{v, z\}$  in  $G$ . Since  $S = V(G) \setminus \{v, z\}$  is a dominating set in  $G$ ,  $S$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G$  and  $\gamma'(G) \leq |S| = n + 2$ . But since  $N_G[D] \neq V(G)$  for all proper subsets  $D$  of  $S$ ,  $\gamma'(G) = |S| = n + 2$ . Thus,  $\gamma'(G) - \gamma(G) = n$ . ■

**Corollary 2.3** *The difference  $\gamma'(G) - \gamma(G)$  can be made arbitrarily large.*

**Theorem 2.4** *For each integer  $n \geq 1$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $\gamma(G) + \gamma'(G) - \gamma\gamma(G) = n$ .*

*Proof:* Consider the graph  $G$  as in Figure 1 obtained by adding to the corona

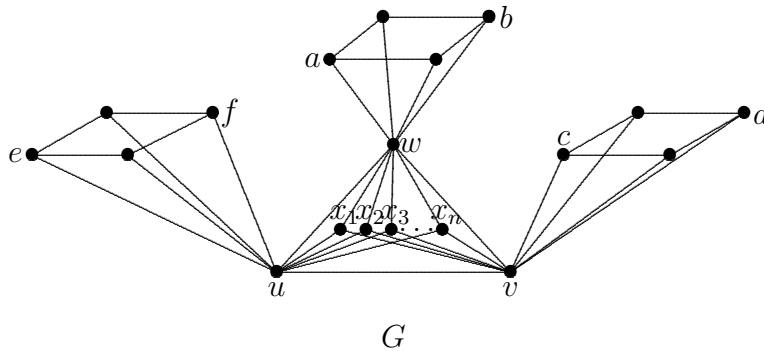


Figure 1: Graph  $G$  with  $\gamma\gamma(G) < \gamma(G) + \gamma'(G)$ .

$K_3 \circ C_4$   $n$  vertices  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and the edges  $x_jw, x_ju$  and  $x_jv$  ( $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). The set  $\{u, v, w\}$  is the unique minimum dominating set in  $G$ ,

and  $\{a, b, c, d, e, f\} \cup \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set in  $G$ . Thus  $\gamma(G) = 3$  and  $\gamma'(G) = 6 + n$ . On the other hand, the sets  $S = \{u, w, c, d\}$  and  $D = \{a, b, e, f, v\}$  constitute a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $G$ . Thus  $\gamma\gamma(G) = |S| + |D| = 9$ . Therefore,  $\gamma(G) + \gamma'(G) - \gamma\gamma(G) = n$ . ■

**Corollary 2.5** *The difference  $(\gamma(G) + \gamma'(G)) - \gamma\gamma(G)$  can be made arbitrarily large.*

### 3 Join of graphs

Clearly,  $\gamma'(G + K_1) = \gamma(G)$ . In what follows, we consider  $G + H$  with nontrivial graphs  $G$  and  $H$ . For any  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H)$ , the set  $\{u, v\}$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Thus,  $\gamma(G + H) \leq 2$ .

**Lemma 3.1** *For nontrivial graphs  $G$  and  $H$ ,  $\gamma'(G + H) \leq 2$ .*

*Proof:* Either  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$  or  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ . Suppose that  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$ , and let  $D = \{v\}$  be a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Assume  $v \in V(G)$ . Take  $u \in V(G) \setminus \{v\}$  and  $w \in V(H)$ . Then  $S = \{u, w\} \subseteq V(G + H) \setminus D$  and  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Thus  $\gamma'(G + H) \leq |S| = 2$ . Suppose that  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ . Pick any  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H)$ . Then  $D = \{u, v\}$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G + H$ . For any  $x \in V(G) \setminus D$  and  $y \in V(H) \setminus D$ , the set  $S = \{x, y\}$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set in  $G + H$ . Thus  $\gamma'(G + H) = |S| = 2$ . ■

**Theorem 3.2** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial graphs. Then  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$  if and only if one of the following is true:*

- (i)  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ ;
- (ii)  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $G$  has a (unique) vertex that dominates  $V(G)$ ;
- (iii)  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $H$  has a (unique) vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$ . Again, either  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$  or  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ . If  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ , then  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ . Suppose that  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$ . Then  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Assume that  $\gamma(G) = 1$ . Then  $G = \{v\} + \bigcup_j G_j$  for some  $v \in V(G)$  and components  $G_j$  of  $G$ . Thus,

$$\gamma'(G + H) = \gamma(H + \bigcup_j G_j) = 2.$$

Necessarily,  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(\bigcup_j G_j) \geq 2$ . This means that  $v$  is a unique vertex of  $G$  that dominates  $V(G)$ . Similarly, if  $\gamma(H) = 1$ , then  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ .

To prove the converse, first, consider the case where  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ . Now pick  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H)$ , and choose  $x \in V(G) \setminus \{u\}$  and  $y \in V(H) \setminus \{v\}$ . Then  $D = \{u, v\}$  and  $S = \{x, y\}$  are disjoint  $\gamma$ -sets in  $G + H$ . Accordingly,  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$ . Next, suppose that (ii) holds. Let  $D = \{u\} \subseteq V(G)$  be a dominating set in  $G$ . Then  $D$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Consider

$$(G + H) - u = (G - u) + H.$$

Since  $u$  is a unique vertex that dominates  $V(G)$ ,  $\gamma(G - u) \geq 2$ . If  $\gamma(G - u) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma'(G + H) = \gamma((G - u) + H) = 2$ . Similarly, if (iii) holds, then  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$ . ■

**Corollary 3.3** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial graphs. Then  $\gamma'(G + H) = 1$  if and only if one of the following is true:*

- (i)  $\gamma(G) = 1$  and  $\gamma(H) = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $G$  has two distinct vertices each of which dominates  $V(G)$ ;
- (iii)  $H$  has two distinct vertices each of which dominates  $V(H)$ .

Corollary 3.3 asserts that for nontrivial graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , if  $\gamma'(G + H) = 1$ , then  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . The converse, however, is not necessarily true. To see this, consider the graph  $K_{1,4} + P_5$ . Note that  $\gamma(K_{1,4}) = 1$  but  $\gamma'(K_{1,4} + P_5) = 2$  by Theorem 3.2.

**Corollary 3.4** *Let  $G$  be any graph with no isolated vertex. Then  $\gamma'(G) = 1$  if and only if  $G = K_p$  ( $p \geq 2$ ) or  $G = K_2 + H$  for some noncomplete graph  $H$ .*

*Proof:* First, note that  $\gamma'(K_p) = 1$  for all  $p \geq 2$ . Thus, we proceed with a noncomplete  $G$ . Suppose that  $\gamma'(G) = 1$ . There exist two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$  such that  $\{u\}$  and  $\{v\}$  are  $\gamma$ -sets in  $G$ . Then  $\langle \{u, v\} \rangle = K_2$  and  $G = K_2 + H$ , where  $H = G - \{u, v\}$ . The converse follows immediately from Corollary 3.3. ■

Now we consider pair of disjoint dominating sets in the join of graphs. Clearly,  $\gamma\gamma(G + K_1) = 1 + \gamma(G) = 1 + \gamma'(G + K_1)$  for any graphs  $G$ . In particular,  $\gamma\gamma(K_{1,n}) = n + 1$  for all positive integers  $n$ .

**Proposition 3.5** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial graphs. Then*

$$2 \leq \gamma\gamma(G + H) \leq 4. \tag{2}$$

*More precisely,*

- (i)  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) = 2$  if and only if  $\gamma'(G + H) = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) = 3$  if and only if either  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$  or  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $G$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(G)$ ;

*Proof:* From previous discussion,

$$2 \leq \gamma(G + H) + \gamma(G + H) \leq \gamma\gamma(G + H) \leq \gamma(G + H) + \gamma'(G + H) \leq 4.$$

Statement (i) is clear. Suppose that  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) = 3$ . Then  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$  and  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$ . By Theorem 3.2, either  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$  or  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $G$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(G)$ . Conversely, by Theorem 3.2, the hypothesis implies that  $\gamma'(G + H) = 2$  so that  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) \geq 3$  by Statement (i). The same also implies that  $\gamma(G + H) = 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) \leq 3$ . This proves Statement (ii). ■

**Corollary 3.6** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial graphs. Then  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) = 4$  if and only if  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$*

*Proof:* Suppose that  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma(G + H) = 2$ . Thus, for any  $dd$ -pair  $S$  and  $D$  in  $G + H$ ,  $|S| + |D| \geq 4$ . This means that  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) \geq 4$ . Invoking Inequality 2,  $\gamma\gamma(G + H) = 4$ . The converse follows from Proposition 3.5 and Theorem 3.2. ■

## 4 Corona of graphs

It is worth noting that for any connected graph  $G$  and for all graphs  $H$ ,  $V(G)$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G \circ H$ . The following theorem is found in [5].

**Theorem 4.1** [5] *Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $m$  and  $H$  any graph of order  $n$ . Then  $C \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  is a dominating set in  $G \circ H$  if and only if  $C \cap V(H^v + v)$  is a dominating set in  $H^v + v$  for every  $v \in V(G)$ .*

**Proposition 4.2** *For any connected graph  $G$  and for any graph  $H$ ,  $\gamma'(G \circ H) = |V(G)|\gamma(H)$ .*

*Proof:* Suppose that  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . For each  $v \in V(G)$ , let  $u^v \in V(H^v)$  such that  $N_{H^v}[u^v] = V(H^v)$ . Let  $S \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  be a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G \circ H$ . Define

$$D = \{v \in V(G) : v \notin S\} \cup \{u^v : v \in S \cap V(G)\}.$$

Then  $D$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G \circ H$ . Since  $S \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $S$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set in  $G \circ H$ . Therefore,  $\gamma'(G \circ H) = \gamma(G \circ H) = |V(G)|$ .

Suppose that  $\gamma(H) > 1$ . Let  $S \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  be an inverse dominating set in  $G \circ H$ . For each  $v \in V(G)$ , let  $S_v = S \cap V(H^v + v)$ . Since  $V(G)$  is the unique  $\gamma$ -set in  $G \circ H$ ,  $S \cap V(G) = \emptyset$ . Consequently,  $S_v \subseteq V(H^v)$  for all  $v \in V(G)$ . Moreover,  $S_v$  dominates  $V(H^v)$ . Thus,

$$\gamma'(G \circ H) = |S| = \sum_{v \in V(G)} |S_v| \geq |V(G)|\gamma(H).$$

To get the desired equality, for each  $v \in V(G)$ , let  $S_v \subseteq V(H^v)$  be a  $\gamma$ -set in  $V(H^v)$ . Clearly,  $S = \cup_{v \in V(G)} S_v$  is a dominating set in  $G \circ H$ . Since  $S \cap V(G) = \emptyset$ ,  $S$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G \circ H$ . Therefore,  $\gamma'(G \circ H) \leq |S| = |V(G)|\gamma(H)$ . ■

**Corollary 4.3** *For any connected graphs  $G$  and for any graph  $H$ ,*

$$\gamma\gamma(G \circ H) = |V(G)|(1 + \gamma(H)).$$

*Proof:* Let  $S, T \subseteq V(G \circ H)$  and, for each  $v \in V(G)$ , let  $S_v = S \cap V(H^v + v)$  and  $T_v = T \cap V(H^v + v)$ . By Theorem 4.1,  $S$  and  $T$  are disjoint dominating sets in  $G \circ H$  if and only if  $S_v$  and  $T_v$  are disjoint dominating sets in  $H^v + v$ . Moreover,  $|S| + |T| = \gamma\gamma(G \circ H)$  if and only if  $|S_v| + |T_v| = \gamma\gamma(H^v + v)$  for every  $v \in V(G)$ . Thus,  $\gamma\gamma(G \circ H) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} \gamma\gamma(H^v + v) = |V(G)|(1 + \gamma(H))$ . ■

## 5 Composition of graphs

**Theorem 5.1** [6] *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs. Then  $C = \cup_{x \in S} (\{x\} \times T_x) \subseteq V(G[H])$ , where  $S \subseteq V(G)$  and  $T_x \subseteq V(H)$  for every  $x \in S$ , is a dominating set in  $G[H]$  if and only if either*

- (i)  $S$  is a total dominating set in  $G$  or
- (ii)  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G$  and  $T_x$  is a dominating set in  $H$  for every  $x \in S \setminus N_G(S)$ .

**Theorem 5.2** [6] *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs with  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma(G[H]) = \gamma_t(G)$ .*

**Proposition 5.3** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs with  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma'(G[H]) = \gamma_t(G)$ . Consequently,  $\gamma\gamma(G[H]) = 2\gamma_t(G)$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $A \subseteq V(G)$  be a minimum total dominating set in  $G$ , and let  $u, v \in V(H)$ ,  $u \neq v$ . By Theorem 5.1, both  $S = A \times \{u\}$  and  $D = A \times \{v\}$  are (disjoint) dominating sets in  $G[H]$ . Moreover,  $|S| = |D| = |A| = \gamma_t(G) = \gamma(G[H])$ , by Theorem 5.2. Thus,  $S$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G[H]$  so that

$$\gamma_t(G) = \gamma(G[H]) \leq \gamma'(G[H]) \leq |S| = \gamma_t(G).$$

This proves the proposition. ■



**Lemma 5.4** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs such that  $V(H)$  is dominated by a vertex  $v \in V(H)$ . If  $A \subseteq V(G)$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G$ , then  $A \times \{v\}$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G[H]$ .*

*Proof:* Let  $A, B \subseteq V(G)$  be dominating sets in  $G$  such that  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  and  $|B| = \gamma(G)$ . By Theorem 5.1,  $A \times \{v\}$  and  $B \times \{v\}$  are dominating sets in  $G[H]$ . Now,  $\gamma(G[H]) \leq |B \times \{v\}| = |B| = \gamma(G) \leq \gamma(G[H])$  so that  $B \times \{v\}$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G[H]$ . Since  $(A \times \{v\}) \cap (B \times \{v\}) = \emptyset$ ,  $A \times \{v\}$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G[H]$ . ■

For convenience, we write  $S^\circ = S \setminus N_G(S)$  for any  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .

**Theorem 5.5** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs with  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Then*

$$\gamma(G) \leq \gamma'(G[H]) \leq \gamma'(G). \quad (3)$$

*More precisely,*

- (i) *if  $H$  has (at least) two distinct vertices each of which dominates  $V(H)$ , then  $\gamma'(G[H]) = \gamma(G)$ ; and*
- (ii) *if  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ , then*

$$\gamma'(G[H]) = \min\{(|A| + |A^\circ \cap B|)(\gamma'(H) - 1) : A, B \in \Gamma(G)$$

$$\text{with } |B| = \gamma(G)\},$$

*where  $\Gamma(G)$  is the family of all dominating sets in  $G$ .*

*Proof:* Inequality 3 follows immediately from Lemma 5.4. Suppose that  $H$  has two distinct vertices  $u$  and  $v$  such that  $N_H[u] = V(H) = N_H[v]$ . Let  $A \subseteq V(G)$  be  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . By Theorem 5.1,  $S = A \times \{u\}$  and  $D = A \times \{v\}$  are  $\gamma$ -sets in  $G[H]$ . Since  $S \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $S$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set in  $G[H]$ . Hence,  $\gamma'(G[H]) = |S| = |A| = \gamma(G)$ .

Suppose that  $H$  has a unique vertex  $v$  that dominates  $V(H)$ . Let  $\Gamma = \Gamma(G)$  denote the family of all dominating sets in  $G$ , and let

$$\alpha = \min\{(|A| + |A^\circ \cap B|)(\gamma'(H) - 1) : A, B \in \Gamma \text{ with } |B| = \gamma(G)\}.$$

Let  $A, B \in \Gamma(G)$  with  $|B| = \gamma(G)$ , and let  $v \in V(H)$  such that  $N_H[v] = V(H)$ . Choose  $w \in V(H) \setminus \{v\}$  and a  $\gamma'$ -set  $C \subseteq V(H)$  in  $H$ . It is worth noting that  $v \notin C$ . Define  $D = B \times \{v\}$  and

$$S = (\cup_{u \in A \setminus B} \{(u, v)\}) \cup (\cup_{u \in A \setminus A^\circ} \cap B \{(u, w)\}) \cup (\cup_{u \in A^\circ \cap B} (\{u\} \times C).$$

By Theorem 5.1 and the fact that  $|D| = |B| = \gamma(G)$ ,  $D$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G[H]$ . Let  $u \in A^\circ$ . Then  $T_u = \{x \in V(H) : (u, x) \in S\}$  is either  $C$  or  $\{v\}$ . In any case,  $T_u$  is a dominating set in  $H$ . By Theorem 5.1,  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G[H]$ . Since  $S \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $S$  is an inverse dominating set in  $G[H]$ . Thus,

$$\gamma'(G[H]) \leq |S| = |A| + |A^\circ \cap B|(\gamma'(H) - 1).$$

Since  $A$  and  $B$  are arbitrary,  $\gamma'(G[H]) \leq \alpha$ .

Let  $(S, D)$  be a  $dd$ -pair in  $G[H]$  such that  $|D| = \gamma(G[H])$  and  $|S| = \gamma'(G[H])$ . By Theorem 5.1,  $S = \cup_{u \in A}(\{u\} \times T_u)$  and  $D = \cup_{u \in B}(\{u\} \times T_u)$  for some dominating sets  $A$  and  $B$  in  $G$ . Since  $\gamma(H) = 1$ , Theorem 5.1 implies that  $|B| = |D| = \gamma(G)$  and  $|T_u| = 1$  for all  $u \in B$ . Since  $S$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set,  $|T_u| = 1$  for all  $u \in A \setminus B$ , in which case, we may assume that  $T_u = \{v\} \subseteq V(H)$  where  $N_H[v] = V(H)$ . Since  $S \cap D = \emptyset$ , for all  $u \in A^\circ \cap B$ , if  $(u, w) \in D$ , then  $(u, w) \notin S$ . Moreover, in view of Theorem 5.1(ii), for each such  $u$ ,  $T_u = \{x \in V(H) : (u, x) \in S\}$  is a  $\gamma'$ -set in  $H$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |S| &= |\cup_{u \in A \setminus B}(\{u\} \times T_u)| + |\cup_{u \in (A \setminus A_0) \cap B}(\{u\} \times T_u)| + \\ &\quad |\cup_{u \in A^\circ \cap B}(\{u\} \times T_u)| \\ &\geq |A \setminus (A^\circ \cap B)| + |A^\circ \cap B|\gamma'(H) \\ &= |A| + |A^\circ \cap B|(\gamma'(H) - 1) \end{aligned}$$

so that  $\gamma'(G[H]) \geq \alpha$ . ■

**Corollary 5.6** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs. If  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ , then  $\gamma'(G[H]) = \gamma'(G)$  if and only if  $G$  has an inverse dominating set  $A_0$  such that  $|A_0| \leq |A| + |A^\circ \cap B|(\gamma'(H) - 1)$  for all  $dd$ -pairs  $A$  and  $B$  in  $G$  with  $|B| = \gamma(G)$ .*

The inequalities in Inequality 3 can be both strict. Consider, for example, the composition  $G[P_3]$ , where  $G$  is the graph in Figure 2. Verify that  $\gamma(G) = 2$ ,

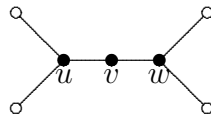


Figure 2: Graph  $G$  where  $\gamma(G) < \gamma'(G[P_3]) < \gamma'(G)$

$\gamma'(G[P_3]) = 3$  and  $\gamma'(G) = 5$ . The set  $B = \{u, w\}$  is the unique  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . Consider  $A = \{u, v, w\}$ , which is a total dominating set in  $G$  so that  $A^\circ = \emptyset$ . Applying Theorem 5.5(ii),  $\gamma'(G[P_3]) = |A|$ .

Inequality 3 implies that for connected graphs  $G$  and  $H$  with  $\gamma(H) = 1$ ,

$$\gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq \gamma(G) + \gamma'(G). \tag{4}$$

The next result is an improvement of inequality 4.

**Theorem 5.7** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs with  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Then*

$$2\gamma(G) \leq \gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq \gamma\gamma(G).$$

*More precisely,*

- (i) *if  $H$  has (at least) two distinct vertices each of which dominates  $V(H)$ , then  $\gamma\gamma(G[H]) = 2\gamma(G)$ ; and*
- (ii) *if  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ , then*

$$\gamma\gamma(G[H]) = \min\{|A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma'(H) - 1) : A, B \in \Gamma(G)\},$$

*where  $\Gamma(G)$  is the family of all dominating sets in  $G$ .*

*Proof:* There exists  $v \in V(H)$  such that  $N_H[v] = V(H)$ . Let  $(A, B)$  be a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $G$ . Then  $(A \times \{v\}, B \times \{v\})$  is a  $dd$ -pair in  $G[H]$ . Thus,  $\gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq |A \times \{v\}| + |B \times \{v\}| = |A| + |B| = \gamma\gamma(G)$ .

If  $H$  has two distinct vertices that both dominate  $V(H)$ , then Theorem 5.5(i) implies

$$2\gamma(G) \leq \gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq \gamma(G[H]) + \gamma'(G[H]) = 2\gamma(G).$$

Suppose that  $H$  has a unique vertex  $v$  that dominates  $V(H)$ . Let

$$\alpha = \min\{|A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma'(H) - 1) : A, B \in \Gamma(G)\}.$$

Let  $w \in V(H) \setminus \{v\}$ , let  $A, B \in \Gamma(G)$  and  $(X, Y)$  a  $dd$ -pair in  $H$ . Define

$$S = (\cup_{u \in (A \setminus A^\circ) \cap B^\circ} \{(u, w)\}) \cup (\cup_{u \in A \setminus B^\circ} \{(u, v)\}) \cup (\cup_{u \in A^\circ \cap B^\circ} (\{u\} \times X),$$

and  $D = \cup_{u \in B} (\{u\} \times T_u)$  such that

- (a) for each  $u \in A^\circ \cap B^\circ$ ,  $T_u = Y$ ;
- (b) for each  $u \in (B \setminus A) \cup ((A \setminus A^\circ) \cap B^\circ)$ ,  $T_u = \{v\}$ ; and
- (c) for each  $u \in [(B \setminus B^\circ) \cap A^\circ] \cup [(A \setminus A^\circ) \cap (B \setminus B^\circ)]$ ,  $T_u = \{w\}$ .

By Theorem 5.1,  $S$  and  $D$  are dominating sets in  $G[H]$ . Moreover,  $S \cap D = \emptyset$ . Thus,

$$\gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq |S| + |T| = |A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(|X| + |Y| - 2).$$

Since  $X$  and  $Y$  are arbitrary,

$$\gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq |A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma\gamma(H) - 2) = |A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma'(H) - 1).$$

Since  $A$  and  $B$  are arbitrary,  $\gamma\gamma(G[H]) \leq \alpha$ .

To prove the converse, let  $(S, D)$  be a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $G[H]$ . There exist dominating sets  $A$  and  $B$  in  $G$  such that  $S = \cup_{u \in A} (\{u\} \times T_u)$  and  $D = \cup_{u \in B} (\{u\} \times T_u)$ . Further, if  $A$  (resp.  $B$ ) is not a total dominating set in  $G$ , then for each  $u \in A^\circ$  (resp.  $B^\circ$ ),  $T_u$  is a dominating set in  $H$ . In view of Theorem 5.1, since  $(S, D)$  is a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $G[H]$ , we have for each  $u \in A^\circ \cap B^\circ$ ,  $\{y \in V(H) : (u, y) \in S\}$  and  $\{y \in V(H) : (u, y) \in D\}$  constitute a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair in  $H$ . Thus,

$$\gamma\gamma(G[H]) = |S| + |D| \geq |A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma\gamma(H) - 2) \geq \alpha.$$

This proves Statement (ii). ■

**Corollary 5.8** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be nontrivial connected graphs. If  $H$  has a unique vertex that dominates  $V(H)$ , then  $\gamma\gamma(G[H]) = \gamma\gamma(G)$  if and only if  $G$  has a  $\gamma\gamma$ -pair  $(A_0, B_0)$  such that  $|A_0| + |B_0| \leq |A| + |B| + |A^\circ \cap B^\circ|(\gamma'(H) - 1)$  for all dominating sets  $A$  and  $B$  in  $G$ .*

**Example 5.9** (1) For all integers  $n, m \geq 3$ ,

$$\gamma'(K_{1,n}[K_{1,m}]) = 2 \text{ and } \gamma\gamma(K_{1,n}[K_{1,m}]) = 3.$$

(2) For noncomplete connected graphs  $G$  and integers  $p \geq 2$ ,

$$\gamma'(G[K_p]) = \gamma(G) \text{ and } \gamma\gamma(G[K_p]) = 2\gamma(G).$$

(3) For noncomplete graphs  $G$  and integers  $p \geq 2$ ,

$$\gamma'(K_p[G]) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \gamma(G) = 1, \\ 2, & \text{if } \gamma(G) \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

and

$$\gamma\gamma(K_p[G]) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } \gamma(G) = 1, \\ 4, & \text{if } \gamma(G) \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

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