

# On Distance-Two Domination of Composition of Graphs

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**Abstract**—For a graph  $G=(V,E)$ , let  $N_1(v)$  and  $N_2(v)$  denote the set of vertices that are at distance one and two from  $v$  respectively. A subset  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is said to be a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex  $v \in V$  satisfies  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  where  $w_D(v) = 3|\{v\} \cap D| + 2|N_1(v) \cap D| + |N_2(v) \cap D|$ . The minimum cardinality of a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G$ , denoted as  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(G)$ , is called the  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number of  $G$ . In this paper we obtained the  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number of the composition of two paths and a path with a cycle.

**Index Terms**—  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination, composition,  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number.

## I. INTRODUCTION

We consider only simple and connected graphs. A graph  $G=(V,E)$  contains a set  $V$  of vertices and a set  $E$  of edges. The distance  $d(x,y)$  of two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  is the length of the shortest  $x-y$  path. The distance- $k$ -neighborhood  $N_k(v)$  of vertex  $v$ , defined as  $N_k(v) = \{u \in V \mid d(u,v) = k\}$ , is the set of those vertices that are at distance  $k$  from  $v$ . Figure 1 shows an example of a graph  $G$  with  $V = \{a,b,c,d,e,f\}$  where  $N_1(a) = \{b,d\}$ ,  $N_2(a) = \{c,e,f\}$ . For a graph  $G=(V,E)$ , a dominating set  $D \subseteq V$  of  $G$  is a set of vertices such that for each  $u \in V - D$ ,  $N_1(u) \cap D \neq \emptyset$ . The distance- $k$ -dominating set of a graph  $G$  is defined as the subset  $D \subseteq V$  such that for each  $u \in V - D$ ,  $\bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq k} (N_i(u) \cap D) \neq \emptyset$ . The  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination problem proposed by [12] in 2006 is similar to distance-2-domination problem, which

may be used to solved the resource sharing problem that are modeled by graphs. For each vertex  $v$ , the weight of  $v$  is defined as  $w_D(v) = 3|\{v\} \cap D| + 2|N_1(v) \cap D| + |N_2(v) \cap D|$  for some  $D \subseteq V$ .  $D$  is called a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of graph  $G$  if and only if for each  $v \in V(G)$ ,  $w_D(v) \geq 3$ . The  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is then the minimum cardinality among all  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G$ .  $D$  is an optimal  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G$  if  $|D| = \gamma_{3,2,1}(G)$ . Due to the short history, unlike the related distance- $k$ -domination has many results (see [1,3-5,7-9,13,16] for  $k=1$ , and [2,6,10-11,14-15] for  $k > 1$ ),  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination problem has only been solved for a very limited class of graphs. The  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number is known for paths, cycles and a full binary tree  $B_n$  [12]. [17] discussed  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination problem of a double-loop network  $DL(n;a,b)$  according to different value of  $a,b$ . This paper established the  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number for the composition of two paths and a path with a cycle.

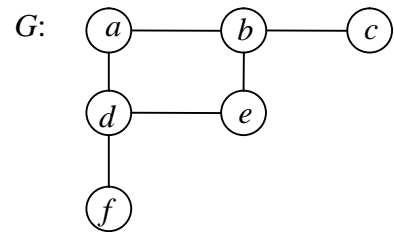


Figure 1  $N_1(a) = \{b,d\}$ ,  $N_2(a) = \{c,e,f\}$

## II. RESULTS

The *composition* (also called *lexicographic product*)  $G[H]$  of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  with vertex set  $V(G) = \{v_x | 1 \leq x \leq n\}$  and  $V(H) = \{u_x | 1 \leq x \leq m\}$  respectively, is the graph with vertex set  $V(G[H]) = V(H) \times V(G)$  and  $(u_1, v_1)$  is adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$ , if either  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$  in  $G$  or  $v_1 = v_2$  and  $u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_2$  in  $H$ . Figure 3 shows an example of a  $P_3[P_4]$ . In this paper, we will use  $c_i = \{(u_j, v_i) | 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  to denote the set of vertices from  $i$ -th column of  $G[H]$ .

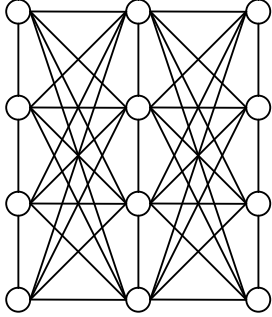


Figure 3: An example of graph  $P_3[P_4]$ .

Since  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination requires every vertex has weight at least 3, Fact 1 is trivial.

**Fact 1:** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(G) \geq 2$ .

**Lemma 1:** Let  $G = P_n[P_m]$  for  $n > 10, m > 6$  and  $D$  be an optimal  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G$ . Then in any four consecutive columns of  $G$ , there is at least one vertex in  $D$ .

**Proof:** Suppose to the contrary that there is no vertex in  $D$  in four consecutive columns  $c_i, c_{i+1}, c_{i+2}, c_{i+3}$ . In order to have all vertices  $v \in c_{i+1} \cup c_{i+2}$  satisfy  $w_D(v) \geq 3$ , there must be at least three vertices of  $D$  in  $c_{i-1}$  and  $c_{i+4}$ . In this case, the best possible is using six vertices to dominate ten columns (from  $c_{i-3}$  to  $c_{i+6}$ ).

If  $n=11$  or  $n=12$ , then we must have  $|D| \geq 7$ , but there exist a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D' = \{(u_1, v_2), (u_1, v_3), (u_1, v_6), (u_1, v_7), (u_1, v_{10}), (u_1, v_{11})\}$  such that  $|D'| = 6 < 7 \leq |D|$ , contradict to the fact that  $D$  is optimal. If  $n > 12$ , we discuss in following cases:

**Case 1:**  $|c_{i+7} \cap D| = n (n \neq 0)$ , there exist a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D' = \{(u_1, v_{i-2}), (u_1, v_{i-1}), (u_1, v_{i+3}), (u_2, v_{i+3}), (u_1, v_{i+5})\} \cup \{D - \bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+6} (D \cap c_k)\}$ . Since  $|\bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+6} (D \cap c_k)| = 6$ , we must have  $|D'| < |D|$ , which contradict to the fact that  $D$  is optimal.

**Case 2:**  $|c_{i+8} \cap D| = n (n \neq 0)$  and  $|c_{i+7} \cap D| = 0$ , there exist a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D' = \{(u_1, v_{i-2}), (u_1, v_{i-1}), (u_1, v_{i+3}), (u_2, v_{i+3}), (u_1, v_{i+5})\} \cup \{D - \bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+7} (D \cap c_k)\}$ . Since  $|\bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+7} (D \cap c_k)| = 6$ , we must have  $|D'| < |D|$ , which contradict to the fact that  $D$  is optimal.

**Case 3:**  $|\{c_{i+7}, c_{i+8}\} \cap D| = 0$ , in order to fulfill the condition  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in \{c_{i+7}, c_{i+8}\}$ , we must have  $|c_{i+9} \cap D| = 3$ , there exist a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D' = \{(u_1, v_{i-2}), (u_1, v_{i-1}), (u_1, v_{i+2}), (u_1, v_{i+3}), (u_1, v_{i+6}), (u_1, v_{i+7}), (u_1, v_{i+10}), (u_1, v_{i+11})\} \cup \{D - \bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+11} (D \cap c_k)\}$ . Since  $|\bigcup_{k=i-3}^{i+11} (D \cap c_k)| = 9$ , we must have  $|D'| < |D|$ , which contradict to the fact that  $D$  is optimal. ■

**Lemma 2:** Let  $D$  be an optimal  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $G = P_n[P_m]$  for  $m > 6$  and  $n$  is even. If  $c_1 \cap D \neq \emptyset$  or  $c_n \cap D \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|D| > n/2$ .

**Proof:** Without loss of generality, assume  $c_1 \cap D \neq \emptyset$ . Consider following cases:

**Case 1:**  $|c_1 \cap D| = 1$ . In order to fulfill the condition  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_1$ , we must have either  $|c_2 \cap D| \geq 1$  or  $c_2 \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_3 \cap D| \geq 2$ .

**Subcase 1.1:**  $|c_2 \cap D|=1$ . Assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_4$ , there are no more than two vertices in  $D$ . Since the vertices in  $c_4$  can not get enough weight from those two vertices, in order to fulfill the condition  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_4$ , we must have either  $|c_5 \cap D| \geq 1$  or  $|c_6 \cap D| \geq 2$ .

If  $|c_5 \cap D|=1$ , the sub graph from  $c_5$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case 1.

If  $|c_5 \cap D| \geq 2$ , then the case from  $c_5$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case 2.

If  $|c_6 \cap D|=2$ , since the vertices in  $c_6$  are distance 4 from  $c_2$ , hence the vertices in  $c_6$  can only get weight from  $c_6 \cap D$ . Since  $m > 6$ , there must be some vertices in  $c_6$  without enough weight from those two vertices in  $c_6$ . Hence it is impossible for those four vertices to  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominate  $c_1$  through  $c_8$ .

If  $|c_6 \cap D|=y > 2$ , assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_{2y+4}$ , there are no more than  $y+2$  vertices in  $D$ . Since the vertices in  $c_{2y+3}$  are at least distance  $2y-3$  from  $c_6$ , and  $y \geq 3$ , the vertices in  $c_{2y+3}$  can not get any weight from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_{2y+4}$ . Then we must have  $|c_{2y+5} \cap D| \geq 3$ , which again will bring us to case 2.

**Subcase 1.2:**  $|c_2 \cap D|=x > 1$ . Assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x+2}$ , there are no more than  $x+1$  vertices in  $D$ . Since the vertices in  $c_{2x+1}$  are at least distance  $2x-1$  from  $c_2$ , and  $x \geq 2$ , hence the vertices in  $c_{2x+1}$  can not get any weight from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x+2}$ , then we must have  $|c_{2x+3} \cap D| \geq 3$ , which again will bring us to case 2.

**Subcase 1.3:**  $c_2 \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_3 \cap D|=x \geq 2$ . Assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x+2}$ , there are no more than  $x+1$  vertices in  $D$ . The vertices in  $c_{2x+1}$  are at least distance  $2x-2$  from  $c_3$ . If

$x=2$ , the vertices in  $c_5$  are distance 2 from  $c_3$ , and  $|c_3 \cap D|=2$ , hence the weight of the vertices in  $c_5$  can only get two from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_6$ . Then we must have  $|c_7 \cap D| \geq 1$ . If  $|c_7 \cap D|=1$ , then the case from  $c_7$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case1. If  $|c_7 \cap D| \geq 2$ , then the case from  $c_7$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case 2. If  $x \geq 3$ , since the vertices in  $c_{2x+1}$  are at least distance  $2x-2$  from  $c_3$ , the vertices in  $c_{2x+1}$  can not get any weight from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x+2}$ , then we must have  $|c_{2x+3} \cap D| \geq 3$ , which again will bring us to case 2.

**Case 2:**  $|c_1 \cap D| \geq 2$ . Consider following subcases:

**Subcase 2.1:**  $|c_1 \cap D|=2$ . Assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_4$ , there are no more than two vertices in  $D$ . Since the vertices in  $c_3$  are distance 2 from  $c_1$ , the vertices in  $c_3$  can only get two weight from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_4$ , then we must have  $|c_5 \cap D| \geq 1$ . If  $|c_5 \cap D|=1$ , then the case from  $c_5$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case1. If  $|c_5 \cap D| \geq 2$ , then the case from  $c_5$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case2.

**Subcase 2.2:**  $|c_1 \cap D|=x > 2$ . Assume that from  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x}$ , there are no more than  $x$  vertices in  $D$ . Since the vertices in  $c_{2x-1}$  are at least distance  $2x-2$  from  $c_1$ , and  $x \geq 3$ , hence the vertices in  $c_{2x-1}$  can not get any weight from the vertices in  $c_1$  through  $c_{2x}$ . In order to fulfill the condition  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_{2x-1}$ , we must have  $|c_{2x+1} \cap D| \geq 3$ , then the case from  $c_{2x+1}$  to  $c_n$  is the same as  $G$  in case2.

By all the cases above, we know that if  $n$  is even, for any optimal  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D$  of  $P_n[P_m]$ , either  $(c_1 \cup c_n) \cap D = \emptyset$ , or  $|D| > n/2$ . ■

**Algorithm 1:** A way to “partition” the graph  $P_n[P_m]$  by the vertices in the  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set, which is used in the proof of Theorem 1.

**Input:** Integers  $n$ ,  $m$ , and a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D$  with  $|D| < n/2$  of  $P_n[P_m]$ .

**Task:** Find  $\max k$ ,  $\min k'$  ( $1 \leq k \leq k' \leq n$ ),  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  such that  $D_1 = \bigcup_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \cap D$ ,  $|D_1| = \frac{k-1}{2}$ ,  $D_2 = \bigcup_{i=k'+1}^n c_i \cap D$ ,  $|D_2| = \frac{n-k'}{2}$ . Notice that if such  $k$  exists, then for odd  $n$ ,  $k = k'$ ; and for even  $n$ ,  $k+1 = k'$ .

**Method:**

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1   $k \leftarrow 0; x \leftarrow 0; k' \leftarrow 0; y \leftarrow 0; z \leftarrow 0;$ 
2   $D_1 = \emptyset; D_2 = \emptyset;$ 
3  if ( $n \% 2 = 0$ )  $z \leftarrow 2;$ 
4  else  $z \leftarrow 1;$ 
5  for ( $i = 1; i < n; i++$ ) {
6    if ( $c_i \cap D = \emptyset$ )  $x \leftarrow x+1;$ 
7    else  $x \leftarrow x-1-2(|c_i \cap D|-1);$ 
8     $D_1 = D_1 \cup (c_i \cap D);$ 
9    if ( $x = z$ ) {
10      $k \leftarrow i-z+1;$ 
11    }
12  }
13  for ( $i = n; i > k; i--$ ) {
14    if ( $c_i \cap D = \emptyset$ )  $y \leftarrow y+1;$ 
15    else  $y \leftarrow y-1-2(|c_i \cap D|-1);$ 
16     $D_2 = D_2 \cup (c_i \cap D)$ 
17    if ( $y = z$ ) {
18      $k' \leftarrow i+z-1;$ 
19    }
20  }
21  Return  $k, D_1, D_2;$ 

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**Theorem 1:** Let  $G = P_n[P_m]$  for  $m > 6$ . Then

$$\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m]) = \begin{cases} 2, & 2 \leq n \leq 3; \\ \frac{n}{2} + 1, & n = 6 \text{ or } n = 10; \\ \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** For  $2 \leq n \leq 3$ , let  $D = \{(u_1, v_1), (u_1, v_2)\}$ .

Since  $d((u_i, v_1), (u_1, v_1)) \leq d((u_i, v_3), (u_1, v_1)) = 2$  and  $d((u_i, v_1), (u_1, v_2)) = d((u_i, v_3), (u_1, v_2)) = 1$  for  $2 \leq i \leq m$ , we have  $w_D((u_i, v_1)) \geq w_D((u_i, v_3)) = 1+2=3$  for  $2 \leq i \leq m$ . Similarly, for each  $2 \leq i \leq m$ , vertex  $(u_i, v_2)$  is at distance 1 from vertex  $(u_1, v_1)$  and at distance no more than 2 from  $(u_1, v_2)$ , so we have  $w_D((u_i, v_2)) \geq 2+1=3$  for  $2 \leq i \leq m$ . Hence  $D$  is a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $P_m[P_2]$ . By Fact 1,  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_m[P_2]) = 2$ . Next we show the upper bound of  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m])$  for the rest cases:

**Case 1:**  $n \geq 4$  and  $n \not\equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ . Consider

$$D = \{(u_1, v_{n-1}), (u_1, v_{n-2})\} \cup \{(u_1, v_j) \mid j = 4i+2 \text{ or } 4i+3, \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor - 1\}.$$

Since for all vertex  $(u_k, v_j) \in V - D$ ,  $N_1((u_k, v_j)) \cap D \geq 1$  and  $N_2((u_k, v_j)) \cap D \geq 1$ , we have  $w_D((u_k, v_j)) \geq 3$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , which implies  $D$  is a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $P_n[P_m]$ . Let  $n = k \pmod{4}$ , then  $|D| = 2 \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor + k = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ . Hence  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m]) \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ .

**Case 2:**  $n = 2 \pmod{4}$ . This case may be divided into two subcases:

**Subcase 2.1:**  $n = 6, 10$ . The same  $D$  in case 1 will work in this case and  $|D| = 2 \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor + 2 = 2 \lceil \frac{n}{4} \rceil = \frac{n}{2} + 1$ .

**Subcase 2.2:**  $n \geq 14$  and  $n = 2 \pmod{4}$ . Consider  $D = \{(u_1, v_j) \mid j = 4i+2 \text{ or } 4i+3 \text{ for } 0 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor - 3\} \cup \{(u_1, v_{n-1}), (u_1, v_{n-2}), (u_1, v_{n-5}), (u_1, v_{n-7}), (u_2, v_{n-7})\}$  as shown in figure 4. Then  $D$  is a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set of  $P_n[P_m]$  and  $|D| = 2 \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor + 1 = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ , which implies  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m]) \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ .

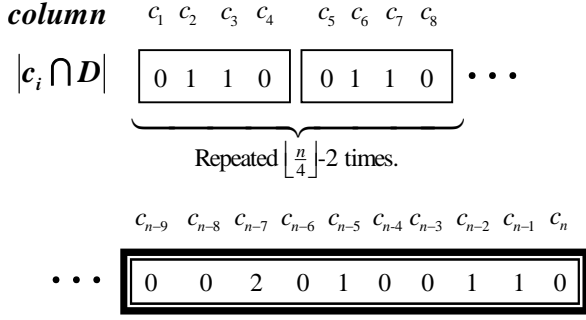


Figure 4: A pattern of  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set for  $P_n[P_m]$  where  $n = 2 \pmod{4}$  and  $n \geq 14$ .

Next we show the lower bound of  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m])$ . First we consider the case of  $n \geq 4$ , and  $n \neq 6, 10$ . Suppose to the contrary that  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[P_m]) \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor - 1$ . Then there exists a  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set  $D$  such that  $|D| = \frac{n}{2} - 1$  for even  $n$  and  $|D| = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  for odd  $n$ . Consider following two cases:

**Case 1:**  $n$  is even. By using algorithm 1 to “partition” the graph, we can get two consecutive columns  $c_k, c_{k+1}$  such that  $(c_k \cup c_{k+1}) \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $|\bigcup_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \cap D| = |D_1| = \frac{k-1}{2}$  and  $|\bigcup_{i=k+2}^n c_i \cap D| = |D_2| = \frac{n-k-1}{2}$ . Let  $D_1, D_2$  be two sets produced by algorithm 1, notice that  $|D_1| = \frac{k-1}{2}$  and  $|D_2| = \frac{n-k-1}{2}$ . Since  $D_1$  can  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominate the vertices from  $c_1$  to  $c_{k-1}$ , and  $D_2$  can  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominate the vertices from  $c_{k+2}$  to  $c_n$ , to ensure that the vertices in  $c_k$  and  $c_{k+1}$  can also be  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominated by  $D_1 \cup D_2$ , one of the following must be satisfied:

- (1)  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$  and  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 1$
- (2)  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$ ,  $c_{k+2} \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k+3} \cap D| = 2$
- (3)  $c_{k-1} \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| = 2$  and  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 1$
- (4)  $(c_{k-1} \cup c_{k+2}) \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| = |c_{k+3} \cap D| = 3$

The first three conditions have either  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$  or  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 1$ . Without loss of

generality, assume  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$ . By Lemma 2,  $|D_1| > (k-1)/2$  which contradict to the fact that  $|D_1| = (k-1)/2$ , so it is impossible.

For (4), since  $c_{k-1}$  to  $c_{k+2}$  are four consecutive columns without any vertex in  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination set, which contradict to Lemma 1, hence it is also impossible.

**Case 2:**  $n$  is odd. By using algorithm 1 to “partition” the graph, we can get one column  $c_k$ , such that  $c_k \cap D = \emptyset$ ,  $|\bigcup_{i=1}^{k-1} c_i \cap D| = |D_1| = \frac{k-1}{2}$  and  $|\bigcup_{i=k+1}^n c_i \cap D| = |D_2| = \frac{n-k}{2}$ . Since  $D_1$  can  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominate the vertices from  $c_1$  to  $c_{k-1}$ , and  $D_2$  can  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominate the vertices from  $c_{k+1}$  to  $c_n$ , to ensure that the vertices in  $c_k$  can also be  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominated by  $D_1 \cup D_2$ , one of the following must be satisfied:

- (1)  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1, c_{k+1} \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 1$
- (2)  $|c_{k+1} \cap D| = 1, c_{k-1} \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| = 1$
- (3)  $(c_{k-1} \cup c_{k+1}) \cap D = \emptyset, |c_{k-2} \cap D| = 2$  and  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 1$
- (4)  $(c_{k-1} \cup c_{k+1}) \cap D = \emptyset, |c_{k+2} \cap D| = 2$  and  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| = 1$
- (5)  $(c_{k-1} \cup c_{k+1}) \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| = 3$
- (6)  $(c_{k-1} \cup c_{k+1}) \cap D = \emptyset$  and  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 3$

Condition (1) and (2) have either  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$  or  $|c_{k+1} \cap D| = 1$ , without loss of generality, assume  $|c_{k-1} \cap D| = 1$ . By Lemma 2,  $|D_1| > (k-1)/2$  which contradict to the fact that  $|D_1| = (k-1)/2$ , so it is impossible.

Condition (3) to (6) have either  $|c_{k-2} \cap D| \geq 2$  or  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| \geq 2$ , without loss of generality, assume  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| \geq 2$ . Consider following subcases.

**Subcase 2.1:** If  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = 2$ , in order to fulfill the condition  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_{k+2}$ , we must have  $|(c_{k+3} \cup c_{k+4}) \cap D| = x \geq 1$ , assume that from

$c_{k+1}$  through  $c_{k+2x+4}$ , there are no more than  $x+2$  vertices in  $D$ . Since from  $c_{k+1}$  through  $c_{k+2x+4}$ ,  $|(N_1(v) \cup N_2(v)) \cap D_2| \leq 1$  for all  $v \in c_{k+2x+3}$ , we must have  $|c_{k+2x+5} \cap D| \geq 1$ . By lemma 2, the subgraph from  $c_{k+2x+5}$  to  $c_n$  must have more than  $\frac{n-(k+2x+5)+1}{2}$  vertices in  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set, hence  $|D_2| > \frac{n-(k+2x+5)+1}{2} + x + 2 = \frac{n-k}{2}$  which contradict to  $|D_2| = \frac{n-k}{2}$ , so it is impossible.

**Subcase 2.2:** If  $|c_{k+2} \cap D| = x \geq 3$ , assume that from  $c_{k+1}$  through  $c_{k+2x}$ , there are no more than  $x$  vertices in  $D$ . Since from  $c_{k+1}$  through  $c_{k+2x}$ ,  $(N_1(v) \cup N_2(v)) \cap D_2 = \emptyset$  for all  $v \in c_{k+2x}$ , we must have  $|c_{k+2x+1} \cap D| \geq 3$ . By lemma 2, the subgraph from  $c_{k+2x+1}$  to  $c_n$  must have more than  $\frac{n-(k+2x+1)+1}{2}$  vertices in  $D_{3,2,1}$ -dominating set, hence  $|D_2| > \frac{n-(k+2x+1)+1}{2} + x = \frac{n-k}{2}$  which contradict to the fact that  $|D_2| = \frac{n-k}{2}$ , hence it is also impossible.

Next we consider the case of  $n=6$ . According to the definition of  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination, if  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_1$ , then  $|\bigcup_{i=1}^3 c_i \cap D| \geq 2$ . Similarly, if  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_6$ , then  $|\bigcup_{i=4}^6 c_i \cap D| \geq 2$ . Hence  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_6[P_m]) \geq 4 = \frac{n}{2} + 1$ .

For the case of  $n=10$ , according to the definition of  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination, if  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_1$ , then  $|\bigcup_{i=1}^3 c_i \cap D| \geq 2$ . Similarly, if  $w_D(v) \geq 3$  for all  $v \in c_{10}$ , then  $|\bigcup_{i=8}^{10} c_i \cap D| \geq 2$ . Consider following three cases:

**Case 1:**  $|\{c_1, c_2, c_3\} \cap D| = 3$  and  $|\{c_8, c_9, c_{10}\} \cap D| = 2$ . In this case,  $\forall v \in c_6$   $3|\{v\} \cap D| + 2|N_1(v) \cap D| + |N_2(v) \cap D| < 3$ , therefore,  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_{10}[P_m]) \geq 6$ .

**Case 2:**  $|\{c_1, c_2, c_3\} \cap D| = 2$  and  $|\{c_8, c_9, c_{10}\} \cap D| = 3$ . In this case,  $\forall v \in c_5$   $3|\{v\} \cap D| + 2|N_1(v) \cap D| + |N_2(v) \cap D| < 3$ , therefore,

$$\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_{10}[P_m]) \geq 6.$$

**Case 3:**  $|\{c_1, c_2, c_3\} \cap D| = 2$  and  $|\{c_8, c_9, c_{10}\} \cap D| = 2$ . In this case, according to the definition of  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination, in order to have  $w_D(v) \geq 3 \forall v \in c_1$ , we must have  $|c_3 \cap D| \leq 1$ . Similarly, in order to have  $w_D(v) \geq 3 \forall v \in c_{10}$ , we must have  $|c_8 \cap D| \leq 1$ . Therefore,  $\forall v \in (c_5 \cup c_6)$   $3|\{v\} \cap D| + 2|N_1(v) \cap D| + |N_2(v) \cap D| \leq 1$ . Since  $\bigcap_{v \in c_5 \cup c_6} N_1(v) = \emptyset$ , for  $w_D(v) \geq 3 \forall v \in (c_5 \cup c_6)$ ,  $|\{c_4, c_5, c_6, c_7\} \cap D| \geq 2$ , therefore,  $\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_{10}[P_m]) \geq 6$ .

From all the cases above, we have the lower bound of  $P_n[P_m]$  for  $n \geq 4$  is the same as the upper bound. By sandwich theorem, we proved the theorem.  $\blacksquare$

$P_n[C_m]$  changes each column of  $P_n[P_m]$  from a path to a cycle, which does not changes the distance between columns. Hence Corollary can be obtained from Theory 1 directly.

**Corollary 1** Let  $G = P_n[C_m]$  for  $m > 6$ . Then

$$\gamma_{3,2,1}(P_n[C_m]) = \begin{cases} 2, & 2 \leq n \leq 3; \\ \frac{n}{2} + 1, & n = 6 \text{ or } n = 10; \\ \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

### III. Conclusion

The  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination is related to distance two-domination, which has many applications in resource allocations. This paper established the  $D_{3,2,1}$ -domination number of the composition of a path with a path and a path with a cycle by giving detail proofs for each case. The author expect to study on the same problem for the composition of a cycle with a path and a cycle with a cycle in the near future.

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