

## Study of Graph Partitions Approach satisfies Vizing's Conjecture

Jameel Mohammad\*

(Received 26 / 3 / 2017. Accepted 15 / 6 / 2017)

### □ ABSTRACT □

For a graph  $G(V,E)$ , a subset of vertices  $D$  is a dominating set if for each vertex  $x \in V$  either  $x \in D$ , or  $x$  is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $D$ . The domination number,  $\gamma(G)$ , is the order of smallest dominating set of  $G$ . In [7], Vizing conjectured that  $\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G) \times \gamma(H)$  for any two graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , where  $G \times H$  denotes their Cartesian product. This conjecture is still open.

In this paper, we investigate following relations, if a graph  $H$  has a  $D$ -partition then it also has a  $K$ -partition, and if  $H$  has a  $K$ -partition, then Vizing's conjecture is satisfied for any graph  $G$ , after that, every cycle  $C_n, n \geq 3$ , has a  $K$ -partition. Moreover, if  $H$  has a  $K$ -partition, then  $H$  satisfies the following relations  $\gamma(H) \leq 2$ ,  $P_2(H) = \gamma(H)$  and  $H$  is a perfect-dominated graph.

**Key Words** : Domination, Dominating Sets, Graph Products, Vizing's Conjecture.

---

\* Academic Assistant, Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Tishreen University, Lattakia, Syria.

## دراسة طريقة تجزيء للبيان تحقق تخمين فيزنج

د. جميل محمد\*

(تاريخ الإيداع 26 / 3 / 2017. قُبل للنشر في 15 / 6 / 2017)

### □ ملخص □

ليكن  $G(V,E)$  بيان ، ولتكن  $D$  مجموعة جزئية من مجموعة رؤوس البيان  $G$ ، يقال عن  $D$  إنها مجموعة سيطرة للبيان  $G$  إذا كان لأجل كل رأس  $x \in V$  إما  $x \in D$ ، أو  $x$  مجاور لرأس واحد على الأقل لـ  $D$ . ونسمي عدد عناصر أصغر مجموعة سيطرة للبيان  $G$  بعدد السيطرة ونرمز له بـ  $\gamma(G)$ .

لقد ضمن فيزنج في [7] إن المتراحة  $\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G) \times \gamma(H)$  محققة من أجل أي بيانين  $G$  و  $H$ ، يعني أن عدد السيطرة للجاء الديكارتية لأي بيانين  $H \times G$  أكبر أو يساوي حاصل جداء عدد السيطرة للبيان  $G$  بعدد السيطرة للبيان  $H$ . ومن الجدير بالذكر أن هذا التخمين ما يزال مفتوحاً حتى الآن.

تم في هذا العمل مناقشة وإثبات القضايا الآتية، إذا كان للبيان  $H$  -تجزئة يكون له  $K$ -تجزئة، وإذا كان له  $K$ -تجزئة، فإن تخمين فيزنج يتحقق من أجل أي بيان  $G$ ، كما تم إثبات أن كل حلقة  $C_n$ ،  $n \geq 3$ ، تملك  $K$ -تجزئة.

أخيراً تم إثبات أنه إذا كان للبيان  $H$  -تجزئة فإنه يحقق القضايا الآتية:  $\gamma(H) \leq 2$ ، و  $P_2(H) = \gamma(H)$  وأن البيان  $H$  يكون تام السيطرة.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** السيطرة، مجموعات السيطرة، جداء البيان، تخمين فيزنج.

\* مشرف على الأعمال - في قسم الرياضيات - كلية العلوم - جامعة تشرين - اللاذقية - سورية

## Introduction

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be finite, undirected, simple graph. A subset  $D$  of vertices of  $G$  is called dominating if every vertex  $y \in V - D$  is adjacent to some vertex  $x \in D$ . The domination number of  $G$  is  $\gamma(G) = \min\{|D| : D \text{ is dominating set of } G\}$ .

If  $G$  and  $H$  are graphs, then their Cartesian product, denoted by  $G \times H$ , is the graph with vertex set  $V(G \times H) = V(G) \times V(H)$  and edge set:

$$E(G \times H) = \{(x_1, y_1)(x_2, y_2) : x_1 = x_2 \text{ and } y_1 y_2 \in E(H) \text{ or } x_1 x_2 \in E(G) \text{ and } y_1 = y_2\}.$$

Let  $G$  be a graph, we denote by  $N(x)$  and  $N[x]$  the open and the closed neighborhoods of a vertex  $x$ , respectively. Also let  $N(A) = \bigcup_{x \in A} N(x)$  and  $N[x] = \bigcup_{x \in A} N[x]$  be the open and closed neighborhoods of a set  $A \subseteq V$ .

In 1963, Vizing presented the following conjecture:

Conjecturing Vizing in [7]: If  $G$  and  $H$  are two graphs then  $\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G) \gamma(H)$ .

Let the class of graphs  $VC$  be defined by

$G \in VC$  if and only if  $\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G) \times \gamma(H)$  for any graph  $H$ .

One way to prove that if a graph  $G \in VC$  then certain partition conditions of this graph are satisfied.

So, Baracalkin and German in [1] proved that  $G \in VC$  provided that  $G$  contains a  $C$ -partition, i.e. a partition of  $V(G)$  into  $\gamma(G)$  subsets each of which induces a complete subgraph.

The concept of a  $CC$ -partition was introduced by Faudree, Schelp, and Shreve [2]. A partition of  $V(G)$  into  $\gamma(G)$  subsets, is a  $CC$ -partition if for any set  $A \subseteq V$  such that  $|A| < \gamma(G)$  there is no partite set  $V_i$  with  $V_i \cap A = \emptyset$  and  $V_i \subseteq N(A)$ . Again  $G \in VC$  whenever it contains a  $CC$ -partition.

Chen, Piotrowski and Shreve in [4], introduced the concept of extracted partition. Let  $v = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$  be a partition of  $V = V(G)$ . Say, that the partite set  $V_i$  is covered by a set  $A \subseteq V$  if either  $V_i \cap A \neq \emptyset$  or  $V_i \subseteq N(A)$ . Let  $d_A = |\{V_i \in v : V_i \text{ is covered by } A\}|$ . A partition  $v = \{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k\}$  is called extracted if  $d_A \leq |A|$  for any set  $A \subseteq V$ . The extraction number  $\chi(G)$  is the largest order of an extracted partition of  $V(G)$ . The authors in [4] proved the following inequalities:

$$P_2(G) \leq \chi(G) \leq \gamma(G) \text{ and } \gamma(G \times H) \geq \chi(G) \times \gamma(H)$$

In particular, if  $\chi(G) = \gamma(G)$ , then  $G \in VC$ , also, they established the following results:

$$\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G)P_2(H) + P_2(G)(\gamma(H) - P_2(H)).$$

Also in [3], El-Zahar and Pareek proved that every  $G$ , with  $\gamma(G) = m$  has a partition  $V(G) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$ , where each  $V_i$  is a dominating set for  $\bar{G}$ , the complement of  $G$ . They employed this fact to show that if  $\gamma(G) = 2$  then  $G \in VC$ .

In [8], Maheswari et al. study direct product graphs of Cayley graphs with arithmetic graphs and present matching dominating set of these graphs.

In [9], Hedetniemi finds unique minimum dominating sets in Cartesian product graphs, after that, studies an external graph theory problem and determines the maximum number of edges in a graph having a unique minimum independent dominating set or a unique minimum maximal irredundant set of two cardinality.

The above results suggest that dealing with Vizing's conjecture through graph partitions are fruitful. We introduce the following definitions.

**Definition 1 :** Let  $H$  be a graph with  $\gamma(H) = m$  , a partition  $V(H) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  such that for each  $i=1,2,\dots,m$  there exists  $y_i \in V_i$  with  $d(y_i, V_j) \geq 2$  for  $j \neq i$  is called a two-distance partition or simply a D-partition.

**Definition 2 :** Let  $H$  a graph with  $\gamma(H) = m$ , a partition of the vertices set of  $H$  ,  $V(H) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  is called a K-partition whenever the graph  $H'$  , obtained from  $H$  by adding edges in such a way that each  $V_i$  becomes a complete subgraph , still satisfies  $\gamma(H') = m$  .

We investigate these graph partitions in the next section . In particular, we prove that a graph  $G$  satisfies  $G \in VC$  whenever it has a D-partition or has a K-partition. We also present classes of graphs which satisfy these partitions . Before presenting these results, we recall some results which will be needed later .

A set  $B$  is a 2-packing of graph  $G$  , if  $d(x, y) \geq 3$  for any  $x, y \in B$  two vertices, the 2-packing number,  $P_2(G)$ , is the order of a largest 2-packing set of  $G$ .

In [5], Theorem (A) is presented by Meir & Moon:

- (a) For any graph  $G$  ,  $P_2(G) \leq \gamma(G)$ .
- (b) For any tree  $T$  ,  $P_2(T) = \gamma(T)$ .

### Importance of Research and its objectives:

It is well known that the graph theorem is primarily due to their great usefulness in applications. Moreover, finding the dominating set and the domination number of graphs are very important in practical and scientific applications, the numerical solutions of purposed problems are very important. So, they contribute in solving several problems.

This paper aims to find the partition conditions which imply that a graph  $G$  satisfies Vizing's conjecture a dominating set, and the domination number of graph.

### Methodology

Research methods are directly depended on graph theorem techniques and computer algorithms. Moreover, some classical theorems in linear algebra are very useful for satisfying purposed techniques. Algorithms and programming languages can be used for obtaining numerical results. Finally, the various references cited at the end of this paper are observed .

### Results and Discussion

**Theorem 1 :** A graph  $H$  which has a D-partition it also has a K-partition.

**Proof :** Suppose that  $H$  has a D-partition ,  $V(H) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  , where  $m = \gamma(H)$  . Thus each  $V_i, i = 1, \dots, m$ , contains a vertex  $x_i$  such that  $d(x_i, V_j) \geq 2$  for each  $j \neq i$ . Consider now that the graph  $H'$  obtained from  $H$  by adding edges in such a way that each  $V_i$  becomes a complete subgraph, obviously  $\gamma(H') \leq \gamma(H)$ . Consider any dominating set  $D$  of  $H'$  , if for some  $i$  ,  $1 \leq i \leq m$  , we have  $D \cap V_i = \emptyset$  then  $x_i$  is not dominated, thus  $|D| \geq m$ , this implied that  $\gamma(H') = m$ . Therefore,  $V(H) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  is also a K-partition of  $H$ .

This completes the proof of the Theorem 1.

**Remark :** The converse of Theorem 1 is not true . A cycle  $C_n$  for  $n \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{3}$  has a K-partition but it does not have a D-partition .

**Theorem 2 :** If a graph  $H$  has a K-partition , then this graph  $H \in VC$  .

**Proof :** Let  $H$  have a  $K$ -partition  $V(H) = V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$ , where  $m = \gamma(H)$ . We denote by  $H'$  the graph obtained from  $H$  by adding edges to each  $V_i$  such that it becomes a complete subgraph. Thus,  $\gamma(H') = \gamma(H) = m$ . We have a partition  $V(H') = V'_1 \cup \dots \cup V'_m$  of  $H'$  where each  $V'_i$  induces a complete subgraph. By the result of Baracalkin and German [1], we have

$$\gamma(G \times H') \geq \gamma(G)\gamma(H')$$

The graph  $G \times H'$  contains  $G \times H$  as a spanning subgraph which implies that  $\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G \times H')$ . Thus, we deduce that

$$\gamma(G \times H) \geq \gamma(G \times H') \geq \gamma(G)\gamma(H') = \gamma(G)\gamma(H).$$

It yields that  $G \in VC$ . This completes the proof of the Theorem2.

**Theorem 3 :** Every cycle  $C_n, n \geq 3$ , has a  $K$ -partition.

**Proof :** Let  $C_n$  denote the cycle  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , then  $\gamma(C_n) = \lceil n/3 \rceil$ . Let  $n = 3k + r, 0 \leq r < 3$  and write  $\gamma(C_n) = m$  where  $m=k$  if  $r=0$  and  $m=k+1$  otherwise.

We define a partition  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  as follows

**Case 1,  $r=0$**

$$\text{Let } V_i = \{x_{3i-2}, x_{3i-1}, x_{3i}\}; i = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

**Case 2,  $r=1$**

$$\text{Let } V_i = \{x_{3i-1}, x_{3i}\}; i = 1, 2, \dots, k,$$

$$V_{k+1} = \{x_1, x_4, \dots, x_{n-3}, x_n\}$$

**Case 3,  $r=2$**

$$\text{Let } V_i = \{x_{3i-1}, x_{3i}\}; i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

$$V_{k+1} = \{x_1, x_4, \dots, x_{n-4}, x_{n-1}, x_n\}.$$

It is not difficult to check that, in each case  $V_1 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  is a  $K$ -partition of  $C_n$ . The proof of the Theorem 3 is completed.

Let us remark that if  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ , then the above the  $K$ -partition of  $C_n$  is also a  $D$ -partition. Note that, in a  $D$ -partition, a Partite set must contain some vertex and all its neighbors. Hence, a partite set in a  $D$ -partition of  $C_n$  must contain at least three vertices. Therefore, a cycle  $C_n, n \equiv 1 \text{ or } 2 \pmod{3}$ , is an example of a graph that has a  $K$ -partition but hasn't a  $D$ -partition.

According to [6], a set of vertices  $S$  of a graph  $H$  is called a perfect dominating set if every vertex of  $H$  is either in  $S$  or is adjacent to exactly one vertex of  $S$ .  $H$  is called a perfect-dominated graph if it has a perfect dominating set  $S$  with  $|S| = \gamma(H)$ .

**Theorem 4 :** If a graph  $H$  has a  $K$ -partition, then  $H$  satisfies each one of the following relations:

- 1)  $\gamma(H) \leq 2$
- 2)  $P_2(H) = \gamma(H)$
- 3)  $H$  is a perfect-dominated graph.

**Proof :** 1)  $\gamma(H) \leq 2$

1) The result is trivial when  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Let  $\gamma(H) = 2$ , according to [3], there is a partition of  $V(H) = V_1 \cup V_2$  such that each  $V_i$  is a dominating set for  $H, i=1,2$ . Let  $H'$  be obtained from  $H$  by adding edges to each  $V_i$  so that it becomes a complete subgraph.

Suppose that  $X \in V_i$  ( $i = 1$  or  $2$ ) . Then there is a vertex  $y \in V_{3-i}$  which dominates  $x$  in  $H$ . Thus,  $xy \in E(H)$  . This implies that  $\gamma(H) = 2$ . Therefore,  $V(H) = V_1 \cup V_2$ , is a K-partition of  $H$ .

$$2) \quad P_2(H) = \gamma(H)$$

Let  $H$  be a graph with  $P_2(H) = \gamma(H) = m$  , and suppose that  $B = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$  is a 2-packing of  $H$ . We define a partition  $V(H) = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  as follows. for each vertex  $x \in H$  , choose  $j$  such that  $d(x, y_j) = \min\{d(x, y_i) : 1 \leq i \leq m\}$  and let  $x \in V_j$  . This defines the required partition. Now, we have  $N[y_i] \subseteq V_i$  for each  $i=1,2,\dots,m$  . Consequently,  $V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  is indeed a D-partition of  $H$ .

$$3) \quad H \text{ is a perfect-dominated graph.}$$

Let  $S = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m\}$  be a perfect dominating set of  $H$  with  $|S| = \gamma(H)$  . Let  $V_i = N[y_i]$  ,  $i = 1,2,\dots,m$  , then  $V(H) = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_m$  is a D-partition of  $H$ . Consequently, the proof of the theorem 4 is completed.

### Conclusions

In this study, the graph partitions were successfully investigated, if a graph  $H$  has a D-partition then it has also a K-partition, either if  $H$  has a K-partition , then  $H \in VC$  , every cycle  $C_n, n \geq 3$  , has a K-partition, moreover, if  $H$  has a K-partition , then  $H$  satisfies the following relations:

- 1)  $\gamma(H) \leq 2$
- 2)  $P_2(H) = \gamma(H)$
- 3)  $H$  is a perfect-dominated graph .

### References

1. BARACALKIN , A.M., and GERMAN , L.F. *The external stability number of the Cartesian product of graphs* . Izv . Akad. Nauk moldav . SSR Ser . Fiz.-Tekhn. Mat.Nauk , 1 5-8, (1979) .
2. FAUDREE , R.J., SCHELP , R.H., and SHERVE , W.E. *The Domination Number for the Product of Graphs* . Congress . Numer , 79, pp. 29-33, (1990) .
3. EL-ZAHAR , M.H., and PAREEK , C.M. *Domination Number of Product of Graphs* , Ars. Combin. 31, pp. 223-227, (1991).
4. CHEN , G., PIOTROWSKI ,W., and SHREVE ,W. *A Partition Approach to Vizing's Conjecture* . *Journal of Graph Theory* . 21, pp.103-111, (1996) .
5. MEIR ,A., and MOON ,J.M. *Relations Between Packing and Covering Numbers of A Tree* , Pacific , Journal of Math . 61, pp. 225-233, (1975).
6. LIVINGSTON , M., and STOUT, Q. F. *Perfect Dominating Sets* . Congress. Numer , 79 pp. 187-203, (1990).
7. VIZING V.G., *The Cartesian Product of Graphs* . Vychisl . Sistemy 9, pp. 30-43, (1963).
8. MAHESWARI S. U., B. MAHESWARI, M. Manjur. *Matching Dominating Sets of Direct Product Graphs of Cayley Graphs with Arithmetic Graphs*, International Journal of Computer Applications (0975 – 8887), Vol. 60– No.11, 2012.
9. HEDETNIEMI J. T., *Problems in Domination and Graph Products*, Phd Thesis, Clemson University, 2016, pp. 114.