



## On $k$ -Cost Effective Domination Number in the Join of Graphs

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**Abstract.** In this paper, we characterized the  $k$ -cost effective domination in the join of graphs. Further, we investigate the  $k$ -cost effective domination, cost effective domination index, maximal cost effective domination in the join of graphs.

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### 1. Introduction

Let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  be a connected simple graph and  $v \in V(G)$ . The neighborhood of  $v$  in the set  $N_G(v) = N(v) = \{u \in V(G) : uv \in E(G)\}$ . The degree of a vertex  $v$  in a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $deg_G(v)$ , is  $|N(v)|$ . A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is a dominating set of  $G$  if for every  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , there exists  $u \in S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$ . The *domination number*  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set of  $G$ . A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is an independent set of  $G$  if  $uv \notin E(G)$  for distinct pairs of vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $S$ . An *independent dominating set* in  $G$  is an independent set in  $G$  which is dominating in  $G$ . The minimum cardinality  $\gamma_i(G)$  of an independent dominating set in  $G$  is called *independence domination number*.

Let  $k \geq 0$  be an integer. Consider a vertex  $v$ , its neighborhood set,  $N(v)$  and the vertex-set of  $G$ ,  $V(G)$ . A vertex  $v \in S \subseteq V(G)$  is said to be  $k$ -cost effective if  $|N(v) \cap (V(G) \setminus S)| \geq |N(v) \cap S| + k$ . A dominating set  $S$  is  $k$ -cost effective, if every vertex in  $S$  is  $k$ -cost effective. The minimum cardinality of a  $k$ -cost effective dominating

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set of  $G$  is the  $k$ -cost effective domination number  $\gamma_{ce}^k(G)$  of  $G$ . In cases where there is no  $k$ -cost effective dominating set for  $G$ , the  $k$ -cost effective domination number of  $G$  is infinity. The  $k$ -cost effective domination index of  $G$ , denoted by  $\eta(G)$ , is the maximum value of  $k$  such that  $k$ -cost effective domination number is finite. That is,

$$\eta(G) = \max\{k : \gamma_{ce}^k(G) \text{ is finite.}\}$$

The maximal cost effective domination number of  $G$  is equal to  $\gamma_{ce}^{\eta(G)}(G)$ .

## 2. Results

**Theorem 1.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs,  $k \geq \max\{|V(G)|, |V(H)|\}$ , and  $S \subseteq V(G + H)$ . Then  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$  if and only if one of the following holds:

- (i)  $S$  is  $(k - |V(H)|)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G$ ;
- (ii)  $S$  is  $(k - |V(G)|)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $H$ ;
- (iii)  $V(G) \cap S$  is  $(k - k_1)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G$ , where  $k_1 = |V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S|$  and  $V(H) \cap S$  is  $(k - k_2)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $H$ , where  $k_2 = |V(G)| - 2|V(G) \cap S|$ .

*Proof:* Let  $k \geq \max\{|V(G)|, |V(H)|\}$ , and  $S \subseteq V(G + H)$ . Suppose  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$  and let  $x \in S$ . Then

$$|N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| \geq k.$$

Suppose  $S \subseteq V(G)$ . Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| &= |V(H)| + |N_G(x) \setminus S| \\ &\quad - |N_G(x) \cap S| \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

This implies that,

$$|N_G(x) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| \geq k - |V(H)|.$$

Hence,  $S$  is  $(k - |V(H)|)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G$ . Similarly, if  $S \subseteq V(H)$ , then  $S$  is  $(k - |V(G)|)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $H$ .

Suppose that  $S_1 = V(G) \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $S_2 = V(H) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ ,

$$|N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| \geq k.$$

Let  $x \in S_1 \subseteq S$ . Then

$$|N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| = |N_G(x) \setminus S_1| + |V(H) \setminus S_2| - |N_G(x) \cap S_1| - |S_2|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= |N_G(x) \setminus S_1| + |V(H)| - |S_2| - |N_G(x) \cap S_1| - |S_2| \\
 &= |N_G(x) \setminus S_1| - |N_G(x) \cap S_1| + |V(H)| - 2|S_2|.
 \end{aligned}$$

This implies that,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_G(x) \setminus S_1| - |N_G(x) \cap S_1| &\geq k - |V(H)| + 2|V(H) \cap S| \\
 &= k - (|V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S|) \\
 &= k - k_1,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $k_1 = |V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S|$ . Thus,  $S_1 = V(G) \cap S$  is  $(k - k_1)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G$ . Similarly,  $S_2 = V(H) \cap S$  is  $(k - k_2)$ -cost effective dominating set in  $H$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (i). Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$  and

$$|N_G(x) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| \geq k - |V(H)|, \forall x \in S.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| &= |V(H)| + |N_G(x) \setminus S| \\
 &\quad - |N_G(x) \cap S| \\
 &\geq |V(H)| + k - |V(H)| \\
 &= k,
 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $x \in S$ . Since  $x$  is arbitrary,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Similarly, if  $S$  satisfies Property (ii), then  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Suppose  $S$  satisfies Property (iii) and  $x \in V(G) \cap S$ . Then

$$|N_G(x) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| \geq k - k_1,$$

where  $k_1 = |V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S|$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| &= |N_G(x) \setminus S| + |V(H) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| + |V(H) \cap S| \\
 &= |N_G(x) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| + |V(H) \setminus S| - |V(H) \cap S| \\
 &= |N_G(x) \setminus S| - |N_G(x) \cap S| + |V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S| \\
 &\geq k - k_1 + k_1 \\
 &= k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, for each  $x \in V(H) \cap S$ ,  $|N_{G+H}(x) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(x) \cap S| \geq k$ . Therefore,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . □

**Corollary 1.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs,  $k \geq \max\{|V(G)|, |V(H)|\}$ . If  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ , then one of the following holds:

- (i)  $S \subseteq V(G)$  and  $k \leq \eta(G) + |V(H)|$  ;
- (ii)  $S \subseteq V(H)$  and  $k \leq \eta(H) + |V(G)|$ ;

(iii)  $k \leq \min\{\eta(G) + |V(H)| - 2|V(H) \cap S|, \eta(H) + |V(G)| - 2|V(G) \cap S|\}$ .

**Theorem 2.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$  and  $0 \leq k \leq |V(H)| + |V(G)| - 1$ . Then  $S \subseteq V(G + H)$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$  if and only if  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$  or  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $H$ .

**Corollary 2.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Then

$$\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } 0 \leq k \leq |V(H)| + |V(G)| - 1 \\ \infty, & \text{if } k > |V(H)| + |V(G)| - 1. \end{cases}$$

**Corollary 3.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ . Then  $\eta(G + H) = |V(H)| + |V(G)| - 1$  and  $\gamma_{ce}^{\eta(G+H)}(G + H) = 1$ .

In the succeeding theorems,  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and assume that  $\Delta(G) + |V(H)| \leq \Delta(H) + |V(G)|$ .

**Theorem 3.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$  and  $0 \leq k \leq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 2$ . Then  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$  if and only if  $|S| = 2$  and one of the following holds:

- (i)  $|V(G) \cap S| = 1$  and  $|V(H) \cap S| = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$  such that  $k - |V(H)| + 2 \leq \delta(S : G)$ ;
- (iii)  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $H$  such that  $k - |V(G)| + 2 \leq \delta(S : H)$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $A = \{a, b\}$  such that  $deg_G(a) = \Delta(G)$  and  $deg_H(b) = \Delta(H)$ . Clearly,  $A$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus A| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap A| &= deg_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ &> \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 2 \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(b) \setminus A| - |N_{G+H}(b) \cap A| &= deg_H(b) + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(H) + |V(G)| \\ &\geq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ &> \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 2 \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $A$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Accordingly,  $\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = |S| \leq 2$ . Suppose that  $|S| = 1$ . Then  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ , which is

a contradiction to that fact that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = 2$ . Since  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$ ,  $|S| = 2$ .

Clearly,  $|V(G) \cap S| = 1$  and  $|V(H) \cap S| = 1$ . Thus, Property (i) holds.

Suppose that  $S \subseteq V(G)$ . Since  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ ,  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G$ . Now,  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$ , so  $S$  is a minimum dominating set in  $G$ , that is,  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G$ . Let  $S = \{a_1, a_2\} \subseteq V(G)$ . Suppose  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are adjacent in  $S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a_i) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a_i) \cap S| &= (|V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) - 1) - 1 \\ &= |V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) - 2 \\ &\geq |V(H)| + \delta(S : G) - 2 \\ &\geq k, \quad i = 1, 2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $k - |V(H)| + 2 \leq \delta(S : G)$ . Suppose  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are not adjacent in  $S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a_i) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a_i) \cap S| &= |V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) \\ &> |V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) - 2 \\ &\geq |V(H)| + \delta(S : G) - 2 \\ &= k, \quad i = 1, 2. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $k - |V(H)| + 2 \leq \delta(S : G)$ . Similarly,  $k - |V(G)| + 2 \leq \delta(S : H)$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (i). Then  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G+H$ . Moreover,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= |V(H)| - 1 + \deg_G(a) - 1 \\ &= |V(H)| + \Delta(G) - 2 \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(b) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(b) \cap S| &= |V(G)| - 1 + \deg_H(b) - 1 \\ &= |V(G)| + \Delta(H) - 2 \\ &= |V(H)| + \Delta(G) - 2 \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Hence,  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$ . Suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (ii). Then  $S$  is a  $\gamma$ -set in  $G + H$ . Suppose  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are adjacent in  $S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a_i) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a_i) \cap S| &= (|V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) - 1) - 1 \\ &= |V(H)| + \deg_G(a_i) - 2 \\ &\geq |V(H)| + \delta(S : G) - 2 \\ &\geq k. \end{aligned}$$

Suppose  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  are not adjacent in  $S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a_i) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a_i) \cap S| &= |V(H)| + \text{deg}_G(a_i) \\ &> |V(H)| + \text{deg}_G(a_i) - 2 \\ &\geq |V(H)| + \delta(S : G) - 2 \\ &= k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Suppose that a singleton set is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Then  $\gamma(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma(H) = 1$ , which a contradiction to the fact that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$ . Hence,  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$ . Similarly, if  $S$  satisfies Property (iii), then  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$ .

Therefore,  $S$  is a  $\gamma_{ce}^k$ -set in  $G + H$ . □

**Theorem 4.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$  and  $k = \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1$ . Then  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$  if and only if one of the following holds:

- (i)  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$  such that  $\delta(S : G) \geq \Delta(G) - 1$ ;
- (ii)  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$  such that  $0 \leq r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t \leq 1$ , where  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - \text{deg}_H(a)$  and  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ , and  $\text{deg}_H(a) + |V(G)| - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| = \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $V(G) \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $V(H) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $a \in V(G) \cap S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &= k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, this case is not possible.

Case 2:  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .

Suppose  $S$  is not an independent dominating set  $G$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then there exists  $a' \in S$  such that  $d_G(a, a') = 1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &= k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$ . Let  $r_G(a) = \Delta(H) - \text{deg}_G(a)$ . Now,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ , so

$$|N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| = \text{deg}_G(a) + |V(H)|$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \Delta(G) - r_G(a) + |V(H)| \\
 &\geq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1.
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $r_G(a) \leq 1$  and  $deg_G(a) \geq \Delta(G) - 1$  for all  $a \in S$ . Hence,  $\delta(S : G) \geq \Delta(G) - 1$ .

Case 3:  $S \subseteq V(H)$ .

Since  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ ,  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$ . Let  $a \in S$  and  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - deg_H(a)$ , and  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t).
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $0 \leq r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t \leq 1$ . Hence,  $deg_H(a) + |V(G)| - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| = \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (i). Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_G(a) + |V(H)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| \\
 &= k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ .

Suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (ii). Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t).
 \end{aligned}$$

If  $r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t = 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t) \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\
 &> \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1 \\
 &= k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . If

$$r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t = 1$$

then

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \text{deg}_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t) \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - 1 \\
 &= k.
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ .

Therefore,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . □

**Theorem 5.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$  and  $k = \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$ . Then  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$  if and only if one of the following holds:

- (i)  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$  such that  $\delta(S : G) = \Delta(G)$ ;
- (ii)  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$  such that  $\text{deg}_H(a) + |V(G)| = 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$  and  $r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t = 0$ , where  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - \text{deg}_H(a)$ ,  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $V(G) \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $V(H) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $a \in V(G) \cap S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\
 &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\
 &= k,
 \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, this case is not possible.

Case 2:  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .

Suppose  $S$  is not an independent dominating set  $G$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then there exists  $a' \in S$  such that  $d_G(a, a') = 1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\
 &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\
 &= k,
 \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \text{deg}_G(a) + |V(H)| \\
 &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)|
 \end{aligned}$$



$$= k,$$

Thus,  $deg_G(a) = \Delta(G) \forall a \in S$ . Hence,  $\delta(S : G) = \Delta(G)$ .

Case 3:  $S \subseteq V(H)$ .

Since  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ ,  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$ . Let  $a \in S$  and  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - deg_H(a)$ , and  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t = 0$ . Hence,  $deg_H(a) + |V(G)| = 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (i). Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &= \delta(S : G) + |V(H)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ &= k. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ .

Suppose that  $S$  satisfies Property (ii). Then  $S$  is a dominating set in  $G + H$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) \\ &\quad - |V(H)| - \Delta(H) + deg_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= |V(G)| + deg_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ &= k. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ .

Therefore,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . □

**Theorem 6.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$  and  $\Delta(G) + |V(H)| + 1 \leq k \leq \Delta(H) + |V(G)|$ . Then  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$  if and only if  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$  such that  $t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \geq p$ , where  $1 \leq p \leq t$  and  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ , and  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - deg_H(a)$  and  $deg_H(a) + |V(G)| \geq p + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$ .

*Proof:* Suppose that  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . Consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $V(G) \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $V(H) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $a \in V(G) \cap S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + 1 \\ &\leq k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case is not possible.

Case 2:  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .

Suppose  $S$  is not an independent dominating set  $G$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then there exists  $a' \in S$  such that  $d_G(a, a') = 1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + 1 \\ &\leq k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \deg_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &= \Delta(G) - r_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &\leq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + 1 \\ &\geq k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case is not possible.

Case 3:  $S \subseteq V(H)$ .

Since  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ ,  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$ . Let  $a \in S$ ,  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - \deg_H(a)$  and  $1 \leq p \leq t$ , where  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \geq p$ . Hence,  $\deg_H(a) + |V(G)| \geq p + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$ .

Conversely, suppose that  $S$  is a dominating set in  $H$  such that  $t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \geq p$ , where  $1 \leq p \leq t$  and  $t = \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - \Delta(G) - |V(H)|$ , and  $r_H(a) = \Delta(H) - \deg_H(a)$  and  $\deg_H(a) + |V(G)| \geq p + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + \Delta(G) + |V(H)|$ . Then

$$|N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| = \deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S|$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ &= k. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $S$  is a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set in  $G + H$ . □

**Theorem 7.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\min\{\gamma(G), \gamma(H)\} \geq 2$  and  $k \geq \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1$ . Then  $\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = \infty$ .

*Proof:* Let  $k \geq \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1$ . Suppose that there exists a  $k$ -cost effective dominating set  $S$  in  $G + H$ . Consider the following cases:

Case 1:  $V(G) \cap S \neq \emptyset$  and  $V(H) \cap S \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $a \in V(H) \cap S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(H) - 1 + |V(G)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1 \\ &= k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction.

Case 2:  $S \subseteq V(G)$ .

Suppose  $S$  is not an independent dominating set  $G$ . Let  $a \in S$ . Then there exists  $a' \in S$  such that  $d_G(a, a') = 1$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &\leq \Delta(G) - 1 + |V(H)| - 1 \\ &\leq \Delta(H) - 1 + |V(G)| - 1 \\ &< \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1 \\ &= k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Thus, in this case  $S$  is an independent dominating set in  $G$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \deg_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &= \Delta(G) - r_G(a) + |V(H)| \\ &= \Delta(H) - r_G(a) + |V(G)| \\ &< \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1 \\ &= k, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction.

Case 3:  $S \subseteq V(H)$ . . Let  $a \in S$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |N_{G+H}(a) \setminus S| - |N_{G+H}(a) \cap S| &= \deg_H(a) - |N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| - |N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(H) - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| + |V(G)| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| + t - r_H(a) - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \\ &= \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \Delta(H) + |V(G)| - (r_H(a) + 2|N_H(a) \cap S| - t) \\
&< \Delta(H) + |V(G)| + 1 \\
&= k,
\end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Hence,  $\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = \infty$ .  $\square$

The next result follows from Theorem 3, Theorem 4, Theorem 5, Theorem 6 and Theorem 7.

**Corollary 4.** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $|V(H)| + \Delta(G) \leq |V(G)| + \Delta(H)$ . Then*

$$\gamma_{ce}^k(G + H) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } 0 \leq k \leq |V(G)| + \Delta(H) - 2 \\ \min\{\gamma_i^*(G), \gamma^*(H)\}, & \text{if } |V(G)| + \Delta(H) - 1 \leq k \leq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| \\ \gamma(H), & \text{if } |V(H)| + \Delta(G) + 1 \leq k \leq |V(G)| + \Delta(H) \\ \infty & \text{if } k \geq |V(G)| + \Delta(H) + 1 \end{cases},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\gamma_i^*(G) &= \min\{|S| : S \text{ is a } \gamma_i\text{-set in } G \text{ and } \delta(S : G) \geq \Delta(G) - 1\}, \\
\gamma^*(H) &= \min\{|S| : S \text{ is a } \gamma\text{-set in } G \text{ and } 0 \leq \Delta(G) + |V(H)| - |V(G)| - \deg_H(a) + \\
&2|N_H(a) \cap S| \leq 1\}, \text{ and} \\
\gamma(H) &= \min\{|S| : S \text{ is a } \gamma\text{-set in } G \text{ and } \deg_H(a) + |V(G)| - |V(H)| - 2|N_H(a) \cap S| \geq p\}
\end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 5.** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $\gamma(G) \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma(H) \geq 2$  and  $|V(H)| + \Delta(G) \leq |V(G)| + \Delta(H)$ . Then  $\eta(G + H) = |V(G)| + \Delta(H)$  and  $\gamma_{ce}^{\eta(G+H)}(G + H) = \gamma(H)$ .*

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