

# Complementary Tree Domination in Splitting Graphs of Graphs

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**Abstract-** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph. A dominating set  $D$  is called a complementary tree dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a complementary tree dominating set is called the complementary tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ctd}(G)$ . For a graph  $G$ , let  $V'(G) = \{v' : v \in V(G)\}$  be a copy of  $V(G)$ . The splitting graph  $Sp(G)$  of  $G$  is the graph with the vertex set  $V(G) \cup V'(G)$  and edge set  $\{uv, u'v, uv' : uv \in E(G)\}$ . In this paper, complementary tree domination number of splitting graphs of graphs are determined.

**Keywords-** Dominating set, complementary tree dominating set.

## I. INTRODUCTION

E. Sampathkumar and H.B. Walikar [4] introduced the concept of splitting graphs. V. Swaminathan and A. Subramanian [6] have obtained the domination number of splitting graphs. T.N. Janakiraman, S. Muthammai and M. Bhanumathi [3] have characterized self-centered, bi-eccentric splitting graphs and obtained bounds for global domination number and neighbourhood number.

Given a graph  $G$ , let  $V'(G) = \{v' : v \in V(G)\}$  be a copy of  $V(G)$ . The splitting graph  $Sp(G)$  of  $G$  is the graph with the vertex set  $V(G) \cup V'(G)$  and edge set  $\{uv, u'v, uv' : uv \in E(G)\}$ . For each vertex  $v \in V(G)$ , there is a corresponding vertex  $v' \in V'(G)$  and each edge  $uv$  of a graph  $G$  produces three edges,  $uv, u'v$  and  $uv'$  in  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore  $G$  is an induced subgraph of  $Sp(G)$ .

In this paper, bounds and exact values of complementary tree domination number of splitting graphs of standard graphs are determined. Also relationship between complementary tree domination number of a graph and its splitting graph is established.

**Example 1.1.** A graph  $G$  and its splitting graph are given in the following figure.

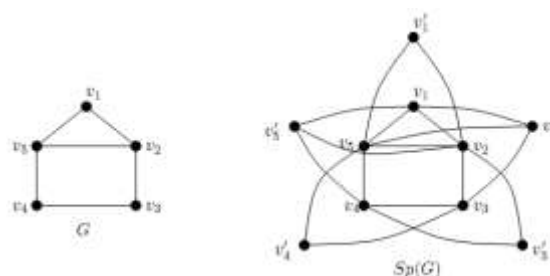


Figure 1.

In the following, a necessary and sufficient condition for a ctd-set of a graph  $G$  to be a ctd-set of its splitting graph  $Sp(G)$  is found.

**Theorem 1.1.** A ctd-set  $D$  of a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is also a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$  if and only if

- (i)  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertices
- (ii) For each  $v \in D, N(v) \cap (V-D) \neq \emptyset$  and
- (iii)  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_2$  and if  $v_1, v_2 \in V-D$ , then  $(N(v_1) \cap D) \cap (N(v_2) \cap D) \neq \emptyset$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be a ctd-set of both  $G$  and  $Sp(G)$ .

- (i) Let  $v \in D$  be an isolated vertex in  $\langle D \rangle$ . Then, its duplicate vertex  $v'$  in  $Sp(G)$  is not adjacent to any of the vertices in  $D$ . Hence,  $D$  is not a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore,  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertices.
- (ii) Let there exists a vertex  $v \in D$  such that  $N(v) \cap (V-D) = \emptyset$ . Then, its duplicate vertex  $v'$  of  $v$  is isolated in  $\langle V-D \rangle$ .
- (iii) If  $P_3$  (a path on 3 vertices) is an induced subgraph of  $\langle V-D \rangle$ , then  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D \rangle$  contains  $C_4$ . Therefore,  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_2$ . Let  $v_1, v_2 \in V-D$  and  $(N(v_1) \cap D) \cap (N(v_2) \cap D) = \emptyset$ . Then, there exists a vertex  $u \in D$  such that  $uv_1, uv_2 \in E(G)$  and  $\langle u', v_1, v_2 \rangle \cong C_3$  in  $Sp(G)$ . Hence,  $(N(v_1) \cap D) \cap (N(v_2) \cap D) \neq \emptyset$ .

Conversely, if (i) is true, then  $D$  is dominating set of  $Sp(G)$ . If (ii) holds, then  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D \rangle$  is connected and if (iii) holds, then  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D \rangle$  is acyclic. Therefore,  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D \rangle$  is a tree. Hence,  $D$  is also a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .  $\square$

**Observation 1.1.**

- (i) For the cycle  $C_n, \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(C_n)) = n-2$ , where  $n \geq 6$ . For, if  $V(C_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ , then

- $\{v_1, v_2, v'_4, \dots, v'_{n-1}\}$  is a minimum ctd-set of  $Sp(C_n)$ .
- (ii)  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(C_3)) = 2 = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(C_4))$ ,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(C_5)) = 4$ .
  - (iii) For a wheel  $W_n$ ,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(W_n)) = n-1$ ,  $n \geq 7$ .  
 $W_n = C_{n-1} + K_1$ . For  $n \geq 7$ , let  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}$  be the vertices of degree 3 and  $v$  be the vertex of degree  $n-1$  in  $W_n$ . Then,  $\{v_1, v_2, v'_4, \dots, v'_{n-1}, v, v'\}$  is a minimum  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(W_n)$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(W_n)) = n-1$ ,  $n \geq 7$ .
  - (iv)  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(K_n)) = n$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . If  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  are the vertices of  $K_n$ , then,  $\{v'_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $p(K_n)$ .
  - (v)  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(K_{m,n})) = 2m$  where  $m \leq n$  and  $m, n \geq 2$ . Let  $A = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$  and  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the bipartition of  $V(K_{m,n})$ . Then,  $\{v_1, u_2, \dots, u_m, u'_1, \dots, u'_m\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(K_{m,n})$ .
  - (vi)  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(K_1 + P_n)) = n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .  
 Let  $V(K_1) = \{v\}$  and  $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ .  
 Then,  $\{v'_2, \dots, v'_{n-1}, v, v'\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(K_1 + P_n)$ .

**II. BOUNDS FOR COMPLEMENTARY TREE DOMINATION NUMBER OF SPLITTING GRAPHS OF GRAPHS**

**Theorem 2.1.** For any connected graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 2$ ,  $2 \leq \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-2$ .

**Proof.**  $Sp(G)$  has  $2p$  vertices and radius of  $Sp(G)$  is atleast 2. Hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \geq 2$ . Also, there is no vertex of degree  $2p-1$  in  $Sp(G)$ ,  $|D| \leq 2p-2$ . Therefore,  $2 \leq \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-2$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.**  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2$  if and only if  $G \cong C_4, C_3$  (or)  $K_2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(G)$  such that  $|D| = 2$ . Let  $D = \{u, v\}$ , where  $u, v \in V(Sp(G))$ .

**Case 1.**  $u$  and  $v$  are vertices of  $G$ .

Then,  $D$  is also a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $G$ . By Theorem 1.1, it can be seen that  $G \cong C_4$ .

**Case 2.** Let  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V'(G)$ .

**Subcase 2.1.**  $v = u'$ .

That is,  $D = \{u, u'\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(G)$  and  $G \cong C_3$ .

**Subcase 2.2.**  $v \neq u'$ .

Let  $v = w'$ , for some  $w \in V(G)$  and  $w' \neq u'$ . Then,  $D = \{u, w'\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(G)$ .  $w' \neq u'$  implies that  $u'$  is not adjacent to both  $u$  and  $w'$ , which is not true.

Therefore,  $v = u'$ .

**Case 3.**  $u = w'$  and  $v = x'$  where  $w, x \in V(G)$ .

If  $p \geq 3$ , then any vertex of  $V'(G) - \{w', x'\}$  is not adjacent to both  $w', x'$ .

Therefore,  $p = 2$  and hence  $G \cong K_2$ .

Conversely, if  $G \cong C_4, C_3$  (or)  $K_2$ , then

$\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2$ .  $\square$

In the following,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2p-2$  is found for the graph  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.3.**  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2p-2$  if and only if  $G \cong K_2$ .

**Proof.** Assume,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2p-2$ . Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $Sp(G)$  having  $2p-2$  vertices.

Let  $V(Sp(G))-D = \{u, v\}$ . Since  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D \rangle \cong K_2$  and  $v, u \notin V'(G)$ , either

(i)  $u, v \in V(G)$  or

(ii)  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v = w'$ , for some  $w \in V(G)$ ,  $w \neq u$ .

**Case 1.**  $u, v \in V(G)$ .

Let  $w \in D$  then  $w' \in D$ . If both  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent to  $w$ , then  $w'$  is adjacent to both  $u$  and  $v$  and  $w$  is adjacent to both  $u'$  and  $v'$ . Then,  $D - \{u'\}$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ , which is a contradiction.

Let exactly one of  $u$  and  $v$  (say  $u$ ) is adjacent to  $w$ . Then, also  $D - \{u'\}$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore, no vertex of  $V(G)$  is an element of  $D$  and hence,  $u', v' \in D$ . Hence,  $G \cong K_2$ .

**Case 2.**  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v = w'$ , for some  $w \in V(G)$ ,  $w \neq u$ .

Since  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D \rangle \cong K_2$ ,  $w'$  is adjacent to  $u$  in  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D \rangle$ . That is,  $w$  is adjacent to  $u$  in  $G$ . Since  $D$  is a ctd-set,  $w'$  is adjacent to some vertex, say  $x$  in  $D$ ,  $x \in V(G)$ . Then,  $x'$  is adjacent to  $w$  in  $D$ .  $w'$  is adjacent to  $x$  implies that  $w$  is adjacent to  $x$  in  $V(G)$  and hence in  $Sp(G)$ .

(i) If  $u$  is also adjacent to  $x$ , then  $D - \{w\}$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .

(ii) If  $u$  is adjacent to some vertex, say  $y$  in  $D$ , then  $D - \{x\}$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .

(iii) If  $w'$  is adjacent to some vertex, say  $z$  in  $D$ , then also  $D - \{x\}$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .

Therefore,  $u$  is adjacent to  $w$  and  $w'$  is adjacent to  $x$  only. In this case  $G \cong \langle u, w, x \rangle \cong P_3$ , a path on three vertices and  $\{u', v', w'\}$  is a  $\gamma_{ctd}$ -set of  $P_3$  and hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 3 \neq 2p-2$ .

Hence, Case 2 is not possible.

From Case 1, it is concluded that  $G \cong K_2$ .

Conversely, if  $G \cong K_2$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2p-2$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.1.** If  $p \geq 3$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-3$ . Equality holds, if  $G \cong P_3$ .

**Observation 2.1.**  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) \leq \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$ .

Equality holds, if  $G \cong K_4 - e$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** If  $G$  is a connected graph such that  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-4$ .

**Proof.** Let  $e = (u, v) \in E(G)$ , where  $u, v \in V(G)$ .

Let  $D = \{u, v, u', v'\} \subseteq V(Sp(G))$  and let  $D' = V(Sp(G))-D$ .

Since  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , each vertex in  $V(Sp(G))-D'$  ( $= D$ ) is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $D'$  and  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D' \rangle \cong P_4$  in  $Sp(G)$  and hence,  $D'$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .

Therefore,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq |D'| = |V-D| = 2p-4$ .

Equality holds, if  $G \cong K_4$ , the complete graph on 4 vertices.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.1.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph such that  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . If  $G$  contains a  $P_3$  as an induced subgraph such that central vertex of  $P_3$  is of degree atleast 3 and other two vertices in  $P_3$  is degree atleast 2, then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-5$ .

**Proof.** Let  $V(P_3) = \{u, v, w\}$ . Let  $D = \{u, v, w, u', w'\}$  and then  $D' = V(Sp(G)) - D$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-5$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $G$  be a connected, non complete graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 3$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-5$ .

**Proof.** Since  $G$  is not complete,  $G$  contains a  $P_3$  as an induced subgraph. Let the vertices of  $P_3$  be  $u, v$  and  $w$  where  $v$  is the central vertex of  $P_3$ . Let  $D = \{u, v, w, u', w'\}$  and let  $D' = V(Sp(G)) - D$ . Since  $\delta(G) \geq 3$ , each vertex in  $V(Sp(G)) - D'$  ( $= D$ ) is adjacent to some vertex in  $D'$  and  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D' \rangle \cong K_{1,4}$  with  $v$  as the central vertex of  $K_{1,4}$  in  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore,  $D'$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$  and hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p-5$ . Equality holds, if  $G \cong K_5 - e$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph such that  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2p - \delta(G) - 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $v$  be a vertex of maximum degree in  $G$ . Let  $S = \{u' \in V(Sp(G)) : u \in N(v)\}$  and  $D' = V(Sp(G)) - S - \{v\}$ . Then,  $V(Sp(G)) - D' = S \cup \{v\}$ . Let  $u \in N(v)$ . Since  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ ,  $\deg(u) \geq 2$  and hence,  $u$  is adjacent to a vertex of  $G$  other than  $v$ . Let  $u$  be adjacent to  $w$  such that  $w \neq v$ . Then,  $u' \in S$  is adjacent to  $w$ , where  $w$  is a vertex in  $D'$ . That is,  $u' \in S$  is adjacent to a vertex in  $D'$ . Also,  $v$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $G$  and hence in  $S$ . Therefore,  $D'$  is a dominating set of  $V(Sp(G))$ . Moreover,  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D' \rangle \cong K_{1, \Delta(G)}$  and hence,  $D'$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) &\leq |V(Sp(G)) - S - \{v\}| \\ &= 2p - \Delta(G) - 1. \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds, if  $G \cong K_p$ ,  $p \geq 4$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.7.** For any connected graph  $G$  with  $p$  vertices,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq p + \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be a minimum ctd-set of  $G$  and hence,  $|D| = \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .

Therefore,  $\langle V(G) - D \rangle$  is a tree.

Now, the set  $D' = D \cup V'(G)$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ .

Hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq |D'| = \gamma_{ctd}(G) + p$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** If  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 1$  then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq t+1$ , where  $t$  is the number of vertices of  $G$  of degree atleast 2.

**Proof.** Assume  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 1$ .

Then  $G \cong T + K_1$ , where  $T$  is a tree with atleast two vertices.

Let  $V(K_1) = \{v\}$  and let  $D' = \{v'_i : \deg(v_i) \geq 2\}$ .

Then,  $D' \subseteq V(Sp(G))$  and  $|D'| = t-1$ , where  $t$  is the number of vertices in  $G$  of degree atleast 2. Let  $D = \{v, v'\} \cup D'$ , then,  $D \subseteq V(Sp(G))$  and all the vertices in  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D \rangle$  are adjacent to  $v$  and  $\langle V(Sp(G)) - D \rangle$  is the tree obtained from the tree  $T$  by attaching  $m$  pendant edges at each of the supports  $u$  of  $T$ , where  $\deg_T(u) = m$ ,  $m \geq 1$ .

Therefore,  $D$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$  and hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) \leq |D| = t+1$ .

Equality holds, if  $G \cong P_n + K_1$  and

$G \cong K_{1,n} + K_1$ ,  $n \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** Let  $D$  be a minimum ctd-set of a connected graph  $G$  with least number of edges. Let  $\{S_1, S_2, \dots, S_r\}$  ( $r \geq 1$ ) be the star decomposition of  $\langle V - D \rangle_G$  such that  $|V(S_i)| \geq 2$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ . Then,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2\gamma_{ctd}(G) + r$ .

**Proof.** Let  $T' = \{u' : u \in D\}$  and  $T'' = \{x'_i : x_i \text{ is the centre of } S_i\}$ . For each star  $S_i$  with claws  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{i-1}$ , the corresponding vertices  $y'_1, y'_2, \dots, y'_{i-1}$ , are dominated by those vertices in  $D$  dominating  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{i-1}$  in  $\langle V - D \rangle_G$ .

Then, the set  $D' = D \cup T' \cup T''$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) &\leq |D| + |T'| + |T''| \\ &= \gamma_{ctd}(G) + \gamma_{ctd}(G) + r \\ &= 2\gamma_{ctd}(G) + r \end{aligned}$$

That is,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq 2\gamma_{ctd}(G) + r$ .

The above bound is attained, if  $G \cong K_4 - e$ .

Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  be the vertices of  $K_4 - e$ , where  $v_1$  and  $v_3$  have degree 3 and  $v_2$  and  $v_4$  have degree 2.

The set  $D = \{v_1\}$  is a minimum ctd-set of  $K_4 - e$ , and hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 1$ .

Also,  $\langle V - D \rangle \cong P_3$ , with  $v_3$  as the central vertex.

Then,  $D' = \{v_1, v'_1, v'_3\}$  is a minimum ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 3 = 2\gamma_{ctd}(G) + 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.10.** Let  $G$  be a unicyclic graph. Then,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$  if and only if  $G \cong C_n$ ,  $n \neq 3, 5$  and  $G$  is the graph obtained by attaching pendant edges at exactly one vertex of  $C_4$ .

**Proof.** Assume  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$ .

**Case 1.** The cycle in  $G$  is  $C_3$ .

If  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 1$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2$ . Hence,  $G \neq C_3$ .

Let the vertices of  $C_3$  be  $v_1, v_2, v_3$ . Let a pendant edge be attached at exactly one vertex of  $C_3$ , say at  $v_1$ . Let the pendant edge be  $(v_1, v_4)$ . Then,

$\{v_1, v'_1, v_4, v'_4\}$  is a minimum ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$  and hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 4$ , whereas  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 2$ . Hence,

$\gamma_{ctd}(G) > \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$ . Similarly, if either two or more edges are attached at exactly one vertex of  $C_3$  (or) pendant edges are attached at vertices of  $C_3$ , then also  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) > \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .

**Case 2.** The cycle in  $G$  is  $C_4$ .

If  $G \cong C_4$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 2$ .

Let the vertices of  $C_4$  be  $v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4$  in order.

(i) Let  $m$  ( $m \geq 1$ ) pendant edges be attached at exactly one vertex of  $C_4$ , say at  $v_1$ , then the set consisting of  $v_1, v_4$  and the pendant vertices forms a minimum ctd-set of  $G$ , whereas the set consisting of  $v_1, v_4$  together with the duplicate vertices corresponding to pendant vertices in  $G$  forms a minimum ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = m+2 = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$ .

(ii) If exactly one pendant edge is attached at each of two or more vertices of  $C_4$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) > \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ , since if  $G$  contains  $P_3$  as an induced subgraph,  $Sp(G)$  contains  $C_4$  as an induced subgraph. Therefore, for each  $P_3$  in  $G$ , a vertex is to be added in the ctd-set  $D'$  of  $Sp(G)$ , for  $\langle V(Sp(G))-D' \rangle$  to be a tree.

**Case 3.** The cycle in  $G$  is  $C_5$ .

If  $G \cong C_5$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = 3$  and  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = 4$ . Also, if one or more pendant edges are attached at the vertices of  $C_5$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) > \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .

**Case 4.**  $G$  contains  $C_n$  ( $n \geq 6$ ) as the unique cycle.

If  $G \cong C_n$  ( $n \geq 6$ ) then  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) = n-2$ .

As in Case 2, if one or more pendant edges are attached at atleast one of the vertices of  $C_5$ , then  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) > \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .

The same result holds, if paths of length atleast 2 are attached at the vertices of  $C_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

From the above cases, it is concluded that,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) = \gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G))$  if  $G \cong C_n$  ( $n \neq 3, 5$ ) and  $G$  is the graph obtained by attaching pendant edges at exactly one vertex of  $C_4$ .

Converse follows easily.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.11.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $p$  vertices ( $p \geq 3$ )  $V(Sp(G)) = V(G) \cup V'(G)$ . Then,  $V'(G)$  is a ctd-set of  $G$  if and only if  $G$  is a tree.

**Proof.** Assume  $V'(G)$  is a ctd-set of  $Sp(G)$ . Then, each vertex in  $V(Sp(G))-V(G)$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $V'(G)$  and  $\langle V(Sp(G))-V'(G) \rangle$  is a tree. That is,  $\langle V(G) \rangle$  is a tree.

Conversely, assume  $G$  is a tree. Let  $D = V'(G)$ . That is,  $D$  contains all the duplicate vertices of  $G$ . Since  $G$  is connected, each vertex  $v$  in  $V(Sp(G))-D = V(G)$  is adjacent to  $\deg_G(v)$  vertices in  $D$  and  $V(Sp(G))-D = V(G)$  is a tree. Hence,  $D$  is a ctd-set of  $G$ .  $\square$

**Remark 2.2.** For a tree  $T$  with  $p$  vertices,  $\gamma_{ctd}(Sp(G)) \leq p$ . This bound is attained, if  $G \cong K_{1,n}$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

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