

# Monophonic Polynomial of the cartesian product of some graphs

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## Abstract

Let  $M(G, i)$  be the family of monophonic sets of a graph  $G$  with cardinality  $i$  and let  $m(G, i) = |M(G, i)|$ . Then the monophonic polynomial  $M(G, x)$  of  $G$  is defined as  $M(G, x) = \sum_{i=m(G)}^n m(G, i)x^i$ , where  $m(G)$  is the monophonic number of  $G$ . In this paper we have determined the sufficient condition for the monophonic set of  $G \square K_n$ . Also, we have calculated the monophonic polynomial of the cartesian product of some specific graphs by generating function method.

**Keywords:** Monophonic set, Cartesian product, Monophonic number.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 05C12.

## I. Introduction

The graph  $G$  considered in this paper is finite, simple, undirected and connected with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$  respectively. The order and size of  $G$  is denoted by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively. [1, 2] is referred for basic graph theoretic definitions. The distance  $d(u, v)$  between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is the length of a shortest  $u - v$  path in  $G$ . The neighborhood  $N(v)$  of a vertex  $v$  is the set of all vertices adjacent to  $v$ . For any subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$ , the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  is the maximal subgraph of  $G$  with the vertex set  $S$ . A clique of  $G$  is a complete subgraph of  $G$ . A clique of  $G$  is said to be maximal if it is not properly contained in another clique of  $G$ . The order of a maximum clique of  $G$  is the clique number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\omega(G)$ . A vertex  $v$  is said to be an extreme vertex if the subgraph  $\langle N(v) \rangle$  is complete. Two vertices  $(x_1, y_1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2)$  in the cartesian product  $G \square H$  are adjacent if and only if either  $x_1 = x_2$  and  $y_1$  is adjacent to  $y_2$  or  $y_1 = y_2$  and  $x_1$  is adjacent to  $x_2$ . The study of monophonic number of a graph was initiated by Pelayo et al. in [3]. Any chordless path connecting the vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is called a  $u - v$  monophonic path. The monophonic closure of a subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is defined by  $J_G[S] = \bigcup_{u,v \in S} J_G[u, v]$ , where  $J_G[u, v]$  is the set containing the vertices  $u, v$  and all vertices lying on some  $u - v$  monophonic path. If  $J_G[S] = V(G)$ , then  $S$  is said to be a monophonic set in  $G$ . A monophonic set in  $G$  of least order is called a minimum monophonic set of  $G$ . The order of the minimum monophonic set of  $G$  is the monophonic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $m(G)$ . The domination polynomial of a graph was introduced by Arocha and Llano in [4] and was later studied by S. Alikhani and Y. H. Peng in [5]. Domination polynomial of graph products are studied by Kotek et al. in [6]. We developed an idea to work on the monophonic polynomial of graph products after reading this paper. The study of monophonic polynomial of a graph was initiated by Arul Paul Sudhahar et al. in [7].

## II. Preliminary Results

**Theorem 2.1.** [8] Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs such that  $G$  is non complete and  $m(G) = 2$ . Then  $m(G \square H) = 2$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** [8] Let  $G$  and  $H$  be non complete connected graphs. Then  $m(G \square H) = 2$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** [8] If the graph  $G$  is a tree, then  $m(G \square K_n) = m(G)$ .

### III. Characterisation of monophonic set of cartesian product

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $G$  be a graph. If  $L = (u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2), \dots, (u_k, v_k)$  is a monophonic path in  $G \square K_n$ , then the following holds

1. If all  $u_i$ 's are distinct and  $v_i$ 's are equal, then  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  is a monophonic path in  $G$ .
2. If all  $u_i$ 's are equal and  $v_i$ 's are distinct, then  $k = 2$ .

**Proof.** 1. Since all the  $u_i$ 's are distinct and  $v_i$ 's are equal,  $d_{G \square K_n}((u_i, v_i), (u_{i+1}, v_{i+1})) = 1$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ . Therefore,  $d_G(u_i, u_{i+1}) = 1$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ . Also,  $d_{G \square K_n}((u_i, v_i), (u_j, v_j)) \geq 2$  for all  $j \neq i+1$  and  $1 \leq i < j \leq k$ , it follows that  $d_G(u_i, u_j) \geq 2$  for all  $j \neq i+1$  and  $1 \leq i < j \leq k$ . Hence  $(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k)$  is a monophonic path in  $G$ .

2. Since all  $u_i$ 's are equal, all the vertices in the monophonic path  $L$  is from the same copy of  $K_n$ . Suppose  $k \geq 3$ . Then the subgraph  $\{(u_i, v_i), (u_j, v_j), (u_l, v_l)\}, i, j, l \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $i \neq j \neq l$  form a complete graph  $K_3$ , a contradiction. Hence  $k \leq 2$ . Since any monophonic path contains at least two vertices, it can be easily verified that  $k = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.2.**  $S \subseteq V(K_p \square K_q)$  is a monophonic set of  $K_p \square K_q$  if and only if there exist at least one vertex from at least two distinct copies of  $K_p$  or  $K_q$ .

**Proof.** Let  $S \subseteq V(K_p \square K_q)$  be a monophonic set of  $K_p \square K_q$ . Suppose  $S$  contains vertices from a single copy of  $K_q$  or  $K_p$ . Then  $J_{K_p \square K_q}[S] = S \neq V(K_p \square K_q)$ . This implies that  $S$  is not a monophonic set of  $K_p \square K_q$ , contradiction to our assumption. Hence  $S$  contains at least one vertex from at least two distinct copies of  $K_p$  or  $K_q$ .

Conversely, assume that there exists at least one vertex from at least two distinct copies of  $K_p$ . Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_q$  be the  $q$  distinct copies of  $K_p$  in  $K_p \square K_q$ . Let  $(x, y_i) \in S \cap S_i$  and  $(z, y_j) \in S \cap S_j$ , where  $i \neq j$  and  $xz \notin E(K_p)$ ,  $y_i y_j \notin E(K_q)$ . Let  $(a, b) \in V(K_p \square K_q)$ . If  $a = x$ , then  $(x, y_i), (a, b), (z, b), (z, y_j)$  will be a monophonic path joining  $(x, y_i)$  and  $(z, y_j)$ . If  $b = y_i$ , then  $(x, y_i), (a, b), (a, y_j), (z, y_j)$  will be a monophonic path joining  $(x, y_i)$  and  $(z, y_j)$ . Similarly, as above we can able to find a monophonic path joining  $(x, y_i)$  and  $(z, y_j)$  for the cases  $a = z$  and  $b = y_j$ . If  $a \neq x, z$  and  $b \neq y_i, y_j$ , then  $(x, y_i), (a, y_i), (a, b), (z, b), (z, y_j)$  will be the monophonic path joining  $(x, y_i)$  and  $(z, y_j)$ . Thus  $(a, b) \in J_{K_p \square K_q}[(x, y_i), (z, y_j)]$ . Hence  $S$  forms a monophonic set of  $K_p \square K_q$ .

**Corollary 3.3.** For the complete graphs  $K_p$  and  $K_q$ ,  $m(K_p \square K_q) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $S_1, S_2, \dots, S_q$  be the  $q$  distinct copies of  $K_p$  in  $K_p \square K_q$ . By Theorem 3.2, it follows that the monophonic path connecting two non adjacent vertices from two distinct  $S_i$ 's form a monophonic set of  $K_p \square K_q$ . Therefore,  $m(K_p \square K_q) \leq 2$ . Since  $m(G) \geq 2$  for any connected graph  $G$ , we get  $m(K_p \square K_q) = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** Let  $G$  be a non complete connected graph of order  $n$ . If  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a minimum monophonic set of  $G$  then  $S \times \{v_i\}, 1 \leq i \leq p$  is a monophonic set of  $G \square K_p$  for each  $i$ .

**Proof.** Let  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_p$  be the  $p$  copies of  $G$  and  $V(K_p) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$ . Let  $S \subseteq V(G)$  be a minimum monophonic set of  $G$  and  $(x, y) \in V(G \square K_p)$ . Suppose  $x \in V(G) \setminus S$ . Since  $S$  is monophonic in  $G$ , there exists a monophonic path  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  such that  $u_1, u_k \in S, x = u_j$  for some  $1 < j < k$ .

Therefore,  $(u_1, v_i), (u_2, v_i), \dots, (u_k, v_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$  will be a monophonic path in  $G \square K_p$ . If  $y \in G_i$ , then it will be covered by the monophonic path connecting  $(u_1, v_i)$  and  $(u_k, v_i)$ . Now, let us consider the case when  $y \notin G_i$ . Let  $y \in G_l$  and  $i \neq l$ ,  $1 \leq l \leq p$ .  $(u_1, v_i), (u_1, v_l), (u_2, v_l), \dots, (u_k, v_l), (u_k, v_i)$  will be a monophonic path in  $G \square K_p$ . Hence  $(x, y) \in J_{G \square H}[(u_1, v_i), (u_k, v_i)]$ . Since  $u_1, u_k \in S$  is arbitrary, it can be shown that  $(x, y) \in J_{G \square K_p}[S \times \{v_i\}]$  for  $1 \leq i \leq p$ . Hence  $S \times \{v_i\}$  is a monophonic set of  $G \square K_p$  for every  $1 \leq i \leq p$ .

**Corollary 3.5.** For the connected graph  $G$  with  $n \geq 2$ ,  $m(G \square K_p) \leq m(G)$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 3.4 we have,  $m(G \square K_p) \leq |S| \leq m(G)$ .

**Remark 3.6.** The converse of Theorem 3.4 is not true. For the graph  $G$  given in Figure 3.3,  $F = \{(u_4, v_1), (u_5, v_1), (u_6, v_1)\}$  forms the monophonic set of  $G \square K_2$ . But  $\{u_4, u_5, u_6\}$  is not a monophonic set of the graph  $G$  given in Figure 3.1.

**Remark 3.7.** The converse of Theorem 3.4 may not be true even for the cartesian product of two non complete graphs  $G$  and  $H$ . For the graph  $G \square H$  given in Figure 3.6,  $K = \{(u_1, v_1), (u_4, v_1)\}$  forms the monophonic set of  $G \square H$ . But  $L = \{u_1, u_4\}$  is not a monophonic set of the graph  $G$  given in Figure 3.4.

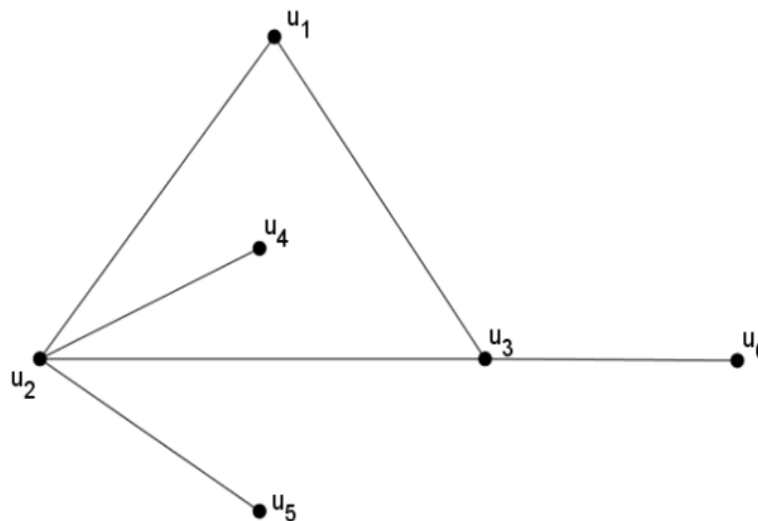


Figure 3.1 Graph  $G$



Figure 3.2 Complete graph  $K_2$

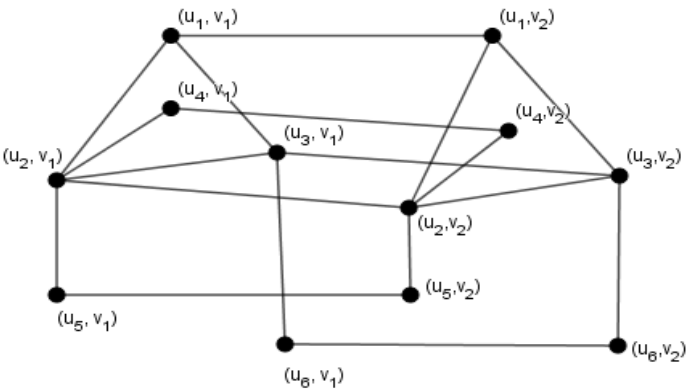


Figure 3.3  $G \square H$

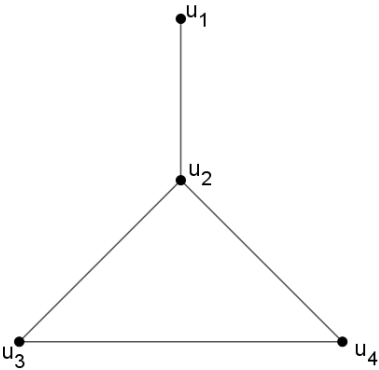


Figure 3.4 Graph G

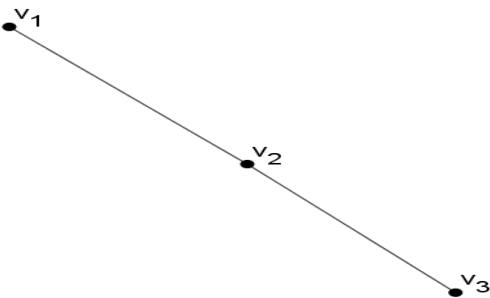
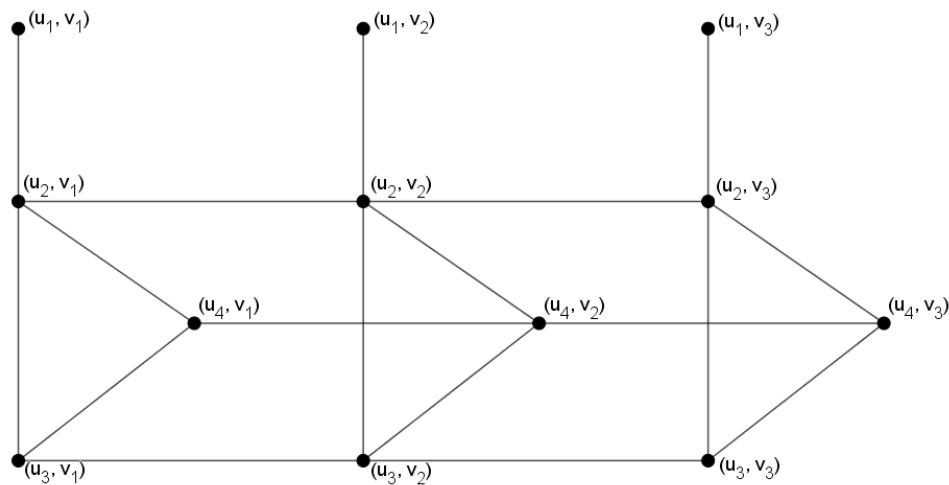


Figure 3.5: Path  $P_3$

Figure 3.6  $G \square H$ 

#### IV. Monophonic polynomial of the cartesian product of some graphs

**Theorem 4.1.** For two complete graphs  $K_n$  and  $K_m$ ,  $M(K_n \square K_m, x) = [(1+x)^{nm} - (1-nmx)] - n[(1+x)^m - 1] - m[(1+x)^n - 1]$ .

**Proof.** By Corollary 3.3, we have  $m(K_n \square K_m) = 2$ . Any two non adjacent vertices of  $K_n \square K_m$  forms the monophonic set of cardinality 2. The generating function to choose at least two vertices of  $K_n \square K_m$  is  $[(1+x)^{nm} - (1-nmx)]$ . From this generating function we have to neglect the case in which all the vertices are from same copy of  $K_n$  or  $K_m$ . The generating function to choose at least two vertices from a copy of  $K_n$  is  $(1+x)^n - (1+nx)$ . Since we have  $m$  copies of  $K_n$ , the generating function to choose vertices from the  $m$  copy of  $K_n$  is given by  $m[(1+x)^n - (1+nx)]$ . Similarly, the generating function for selecting vertices from the  $n$  copies of  $K_m$  is  $n[(1+x)^m - (1+mx)]$ . Hence the monophonic polynomial of  $K_n \square K_m$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M(K_n \square K_m, x) &= [(1+x)^{nm} - (1-nmx)] - n[(1+x)^m - (1+mx)] \\ &\quad - m[(1+x)^n - (1+nx)] \\ &= [(1+x)^{nm} - (1-nmx)] - n[(1+x)^m - 1] - m[(1+x)^n - 1]. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.2.** For the complete graph  $K_m$  and path graph  $P_n$ ,  $M(K_m \square P_n, x) = [(1+x)^m - 1]^2 [1+x]^{nm-2m}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_n$  be the  $n$  copies of  $K_m$ . By Theorem 2.3, we have  $m(K_m \square P_n) = 2$ . Any monophonic set of  $K_m \square P_n$  should contain at least one vertex from both  $D_1$  and  $D_n$  and the generating function for choosing at least one vertex from both  $D_1$  and  $D_n$  is  $[(1+x)^m - 1]^2$ . The generating function to choose vertices from  $D_i$ ,  $2 \leq i \leq n-1$  is  $[1+x]^{nm-2m}$ . Thus, the monophonic polynomial of  $P_n \square P_m$  is given by  $[(1+x)^m - 1]^2 [1+x]^{nm-2m}$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** For the complete graph  $K_m$  and cycle  $C_n$ ,  $M(K_m \square C_n, x) = (1+x)^{nm} - [1 + n(mx^2 + (1+x)^m - 1)]$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.1, we have  $m(K_m \square C_n) = 2$ . Any two non adjacent vertices form the monophonic set of cardinality 2. The generating function for selecting at least two vertices of  $K_m \square C_n$  is  $(1+x)^{nm} - (1-nmx)$ . From this generating function we have to subtract the case in which the vertices adjacent to each other is chosen. Any collection of vertices from a copy of  $K_m$  is adjacent to each other. The generating function for choosing at least two vertices from a copy of  $K_m$  is  $(1+x)^m - (1+mx)$ . Since there exist  $n$  copy of  $K_m$ , the generating

function for selecting vertices which are adjacent to each other is  $n[(1+x)^m - (1+mx)]$ . Also, there are  $n$  ways to choose two adjacent vertices from a copy of  $C_n$ . Thus, we get  $nm$  ways to select two adjacent vertices from  $m$  copies of  $C_n$ . Since  $\omega(C_n) = 2$ , it is not possible to get  $k > 2$  vertices which are adjacent to each other from a copy of  $C_n$ . Hence the function which generates monophonic polynomial of  $K_m \square C_n$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M(K_m \square P_n, x) &= (1+x)^{nm} - (1+nm x) - nm x^2 - n[(1+x)^m - (1+mx)] \\ &= (1+x)^{nm} - [1 + n(mx^2 + (1+x)^m - 1)]. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 4.4.** For two path graphs  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  with  $n \leq m$ ,  $M(P_n \square P_m, x) = [(1+x)^n - 1]^2 [1+x]^{nm-2n} + [(1+x)^m - 1]^2 (1+x)^{nm-(2n+2m-4)}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_m$  be the  $m$  copies of  $P_n$  in  $P_n \square P_m$  respectively. Let  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n$  be the  $n$  copies of  $P_m$  in  $P_n \square P_m$ . By Theorem 2.2, we have  $m(P_n \square P_m) = 2$ . Any monophonic set of  $P_n \square P_m$  should contain at least one vertex from both  $A_1$  and  $A_m$ . Hence the generating function for choosing at least one vertex from both  $A_1$  and  $A_m$  is  $[(1+x)^n - 1]^2$ . The generating function to choose at least one vertex from both  $B_1$  and  $B_n$  is  $[(1+x)^m - 1]^2$ . Thus, the monophonic polynomial of  $P_n \square P_m$  is  $[(1+x)^n - 1]^2 [1+x]^{nm-2n} + [(1+x)^m - 1]^2 (1+x)^{nm-(2n+2m-4)}$ .

**Theorem 4.5.** For the Cycles  $C_n$  and  $C_m$ ,  $M(C_n \square C_m, x) = (1+x)^{nm} - (1+nm x + 2nm x^2)$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.2 we have  $m(C_n \square C_m) = 2$ . Any two non adjacent vertices form the monophonic set of cardinality 2. Now we have to find the number of possible ways to select two non adjacent vertices of cardinality 2. There exists  $m$  ways for a copy of  $C_m$  to choose adjacent vertices and  $n$  ways for a copy of  $C_n$  to choose adjacent vertices. Hence, we have  $2nm$  ways to choose two adjacent vertices in  $C_n \square C_m$ . These  $2nm$  vertices have to be subtracted from the generating function to get the number of monophonic sets of cardinality 2. Since  $\omega(C_n \square C_m) = 2$ , for the monophonic set of cardinality  $k > 2$  we have  $\binom{nm}{k}$  choices. Hence the monophonic polynomial  $M(C_n \square C_m, x)$  is given by  $(1+x)^{nm} - (1+nm x + 2nm x^2)$ .

**Theorem 4.6.** For the path graph  $P_n$  and cycle  $C_m$ ,  $M(P_n \square C_m, x) = (1+x)^{nm} - [1+nm x + (2nm-m)x^2]$ .

**Proof.** By Theorem 2.2, we have  $m(P_n \square C_m) = 2$ . Any two non adjacent vertices may form a monophonic set of cardinality 2. There are  $m$  ways to choose two adjacent vertices from a copy of  $C_m$  and  $n-1$  ways to choose adjacent vertices from a copy of  $P_n$ . Hence we have  $2nm-m$  ways to choose two vertices which are adjacent in  $P_n \square C_m$ . Thus, there are  $\binom{nm}{k} - (2nm-m)$  ways to choose the monophonic set of cardinality 2. Since the induced subgraph of order  $k > 2$  is non complete, the number of monophonic sets of cardinality  $k > 2$  is  $\binom{nm}{k}$ . Hence the monophonic polynomial  $M(P_n \square C_m, x)$  is  $(1+x)^{nm} - [1+nm x + (2nm-m)x^2]$ .

**Theorem 4.7.** For the star graph  $K_{1,n}$  and complete graph  $K_m$ ,  $M(K_{1,n} \square K_m, x) = [(1+x)^m - 1]^n (1+x)^m$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v_{n+1}\}$  and  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$  be the vertices of  $K_{1,n}$  and  $K_m$  respectively and  $\deg(v_1) = n$ . Let  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n, A_{n+1}$  be the  $n+1$  copies of  $K_m$  in  $K_{1,n} \square K_m$  and let  $A_1$  be the copy of  $K_m$  formed by the vertex  $v_1$ . The monophonic set of  $K_{1,n} \square K_m$  should contain at least one vertex from each  $A_i$ ,  $2 \leq i \leq n+1$  and it is generated by  $[(1+x)^m - 1]^n$ . This generating function together with the generating function to choose vertices of  $A_1$  forms the monophonic polynomial of  $K_{1,n} \square K_m$  and is given by  $[(1+x)^m - 1]^n (1+x)^m$ .

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