

# Domination number and identifying code number of the subdivision graphs

S. Ahmadi, E. Vatandoost and A. Behtoei $^{\ast}$ 

**To cite this article:** S. Ahmadi, E. Vatandoost and A. Behtoei<sup>\*</sup> (15 October 2024): Domination number and identifying code number of the subdivision graphs, Journal of Algebraic Systems, DOI: 10.22044/jas.2023.12257.1649

To link to this article: https://doi.org/10.22044/jas.2023.12257. 1649



# Journal of Algebraic Systems, vol. xx, no. xx, (202x), pp xx-xx https://doi.org/10.22044/jas.2023.12257.1649

## DOMINATION NUMBER AND IDENTIFYING CODE NUMBER OF THE SUBDIVISION GRAPHS

### S. AHMADI, E. VATANDOOST AND A. BEHTOEI\*

ABSTRACT. Let G = (V, E) be a simple graph. A set C of vertices of G is an identifying code of G if for every two vertices x and y the sets  $N_G[x] \cap C$  and  $N_G[y] \cap C$  are non-empty and different. Given a graph G, the smallest size of an identifying code of G is called the identifying code number of G and is denoted by  $\gamma^{ID}(G)$ . In this paper, we prove that the identifying code number of the subdivision of a graph G of order n is at most n. Also, we prove that the identifying code number of the subdivision of the subdivision of graphs  $K_n$ ,  $K_{r,s}$  and  $C_P(s)$  are n, r + s and 2s, respectively. Finally, we conjecture that for every graph G of order n the identifying code number of the subdivision of G is n.

## 1. Introduction

In this paper, all graphs are assumed to be finite, simple and undirected. We will often use the notation G = (V, E) to denote the graph with a nonempty vertex set V = V(G) and edge set E = E(G). The order of a graph is the number of vertices in graph and the *size* of a graph is the number of edges in graph. An edge of G with endpoints u and v is denoted by  $\{u, v\}$  (which sometimes and for convenient we write it as uv), and we write  $u \sim v$  to indicate that two vertices u and v are adjacent in G. For every vertex  $x \in V(G)$ , the open neighborhood of vertex x is denoted by  $N_G(x)$  and defined as  $N_G(x) = \{y \in V(G) : x \sim y\}$ . Also the close neighborhood of vertex  $x \in V(G)$ , is  $N_G[x] = N_G(x) \cup \{x\}$ . The *degree* of a vertex  $x \in V(G)$ is  $\deg_G(x) = |N_G(x)|$ . The maximum degree and minimum degree of G are denoted by  $\Delta(G)$  and  $\delta(G)$ , respectively. A complete bipartite graph is a special kind of bipartite graph in which every vertex of the first part is adjacent to each vertex of the second part. The complete bipartite graph of order r+s is denoted by  $K_{r,s}$ . For any  $X \subseteq V(G)$ , the *induced subgraph* on X, is denoted by G[X]. The Cocktail party graph of order 2s denoted by  $C_P(s)$ is obtained by removing s disjoint edges from the complete graph  $K_{2s}$ . The subdivision graph of G is the graph obtained by inserting an additional vertex

Published online: 15 October 2024

MSC(2010): Primary: 05C69; Secondary: 05C75.

Keywords: Identifying code; Identifying code number; Subdivision; Domination.

Received: 7 September 2022, Accepted: 30 July 2023.

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author.

into each edge of G, denoted by S(G). Sometimes the new vertex inserted into the edge  $\{v_i, v_j\}$  is denoted by  $v_{ij}$ . A subset D of the vertices of G is a dominating set of G if every vertex in  $V(G) \setminus D$  is adjacent to at least one vertex in D. The domination number of G, which is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ , is the minimum size of a dominating set of G. A set C is called a *separating set* of G, if for each pair u, v of vertices of  $G, N_G[u] \cap C \neq N_G[v] \cap C$  (equivalently,  $(N_G[u] \triangle N_G[v]) \cap C \neq \emptyset)$ . If a dominating set C in G is a separating set of G, then we say that C is an *identifying code* of G and if G has an identifying code, then we say that G is an *identifiable graph*. Given a graph G, the smallest size of an identifying code of G is called the *identifying code number* of Gand denoted by  $\gamma^{ID}(G)$ . If for two distinct vertices x and y,  $N_G[x] = N_G[y]$ , then they are called *twins*. It is noteworthy that a graph G is identifiable if and only if G is twin-free. In recent years much attention drawn to the domination theory which is a very interesting branch of graph theory. The concept of domination expanded to other parameters of domination such as 2-rainbow domination, signed domination, Roman domination, total Roman domination, and identifying code. For more details, we refer the reader to [1, 4, 6, 15, 16, 17, 18, 21].

The identifying code concept was introduced by Karpovsky et al. [14] in 1998. Later, several various families of graphs have been studied such as cycles and paths [5, 10], trees [3], triangular and square grids [13] and, triangle-free graphs [8]. Also identifying codes have found applications in various fields. These applications include sensor network monitoring [7], identifying codes in random networks [9], communication networks [20] and, the structural analysis of RNA proteins [11].

This paper deals with the study of the subdivision of some graphs. In Section 2, we show that  $\gamma(S(G)) \leq |V(G)| - 1$ . Specially, we prove that  $\gamma(S(K_n)) = n - 1, \gamma(S(C_P(s))) = 2s - 1$ , and  $\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = r + s - 1$ . In Section 3, we show that the identifying code number of the subdivision of a graph G of order n is at most n. Also, we prove that the identifying code number of the subdivision graphs  $S(K_n), S(K_{1,n}), S(K_{r,s})$  and  $S(C_P(s))$  are n, n+1, r+s and 2s, respectively. According to this facts, we conjecture that for every graph G of order n the identifying code number of the subdivision of G is n.

## 2. Domination number of S(G)

In this section, the domination number of S(G) for some graphs is investigated.

**Lemma 2.1.** Let G be a graph of order  $n \ge 2$  which contains the path  $P_{\ell}$  as an induced subgraph. Then  $\gamma(S(G)) \le n - \lceil \frac{\ell-1}{3} \rceil$ .

*Proof.* Let

$$V(P_{\ell}) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{\ell}\}, \ E(P_{\ell}) = \{e_i = \{v_i, v_{i+1}\} : 1 \le i \le \ell - 1\}$$

and  $N_{S(G)}(v_{ii+1}) = \{v_i, v_{i+1}\}$  for  $1 \le i \le \ell - 1$  where  $v_{ii+1} \in V(S(G))$  is the new vertex of degree two inserted on the edge  $e_i$ . If  $\ell = 3k$ , then

$$D = (V(G) \setminus V(P_{\ell})) \cup \left\{ v_i \in V(P_{\ell}) : i = 3t, \ 1 \le t \le \left\lceil \frac{\ell - 1}{3} \right\rceil \right\}$$
$$\cup \left\{ v_{ii+1} : i = 3t+1, \ 0 \le t \le \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - 1}{3} \right\rfloor \right\}$$

is a dominating set for S(G). Thus  $\gamma(S(G)) \leq |D| = n - \frac{\ell}{3}$ . If  $\ell = 3k + 1$ , then

$$D = (V(G) \setminus V(P_{\ell})) \cup \left\{ v_i \in V(P_{\ell}) : i = 3t, \ 1 \le t \le \left\lceil \frac{\ell - 1}{3} \right\rceil \right\}$$
$$\cup \left\{ v_{ii+1} : i = 3t+1, \ 0 \le t \le \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - 4}{3} \right\rfloor \right\} \cup \{v_{\ell}\}$$

is a dominating set for S(G). Thus  $\gamma(S(G)) \leq |D| = n - \frac{\ell - 1}{3}$ . If  $\ell = 3k + 2$ , then

$$D = (V(G) \setminus V(P_{\ell})) \cup \left\{ v_i \in V(P_{\ell}) : i = 3t, \ 1 \le t \le \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - 1}{3} \right\rfloor \right\}$$
$$\cup \left\{ v_{ii+1} : i = 3t + 1, \ 0 \le t \le \left\lfloor \frac{\ell - 1}{3} \right\rfloor \right\}$$

is a dominating set for S(G). Thus  $\gamma(S(G)) \leq |D| = n - \frac{\ell+1}{3}$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** If  $n \ge 2$  is a positive integer, then  $\gamma(S(K_n)) = n - 1$ .

Proof. Suppose  $n \in \{2,3\}$ . It is easy to see that  $\gamma(S(K_2)) = 1$  and  $\gamma(S(K_3)) = 2$ . Let  $n \ge 4$  and  $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  and  $V(S(K_n)) = V(K_n) \cup \{v_{ij} : v_i v_j \in E(K_n)\}.$ 

Note that  $N_{S(K_n)}(v_i) = \{v_{ij} : v_j \in N_{K_n}(v_i)\}$  and  $N_{S(K_n)}(v_{ij}) = \{v_i, v_j\}$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $\gamma(S(K_n)) \leq n - 1$ . Now let D be a dominating set of  $S(K_n)$  with minimum cardinality. Without loss of generality, we assume that  $v_1 \notin D$ . Since D is a dominating set for  $S(K_n)$ , so  $v_1$  is dominated by a vertex in D. Hence, there is  $2 \leq j \leq n$  such that  $v_{1j} \in D$ . Without loss of generality, Suppose that  $v_{12} \in D$ . Since D is a dominating set of S(G), for every  $3 \leq j \leq n$  we have  $v_{1j} \in D$  or  $v_j \in D$ . So,  $|D| \geq n - 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma(S(K_n)) = n - 1$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $s \ge 3$  be a positive integer. Then  $\gamma(S(C_P(s))) = 2s - 1$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $V(C_P(s)) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_{2s}\}$  in which

$$\{v_1v_{s+1}, v_2v_{s+2}, ..., v_sv_{2s}\} \cap E(C_P(s)) = \emptyset$$

and

$$V(S(C_P(s))) = V(C_P(s)) \cup \{v_{ij} : v_i v_j \in E(C_P(s))\}.$$

Note that  $N_{S(C_P(s))}(v_i) = \{v_{ij} : v_j \in N_{C_P(s)}(v_i)\}$  and  $N_{S(C_P(s))}(v_{ij}) = \{v_i, v_j\}$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $\gamma(S(C_P(s)) \leq 2s - 1$ .

Now let D be a dominating set of  $S(C_P(s))$  with minimum cardinality. Since

$$|D| = \gamma(S(C_P(s))) \le 2s - 1,$$

without loss of generality, we can assume that  $v_1 \notin D$ . Since D is a dominating set for  $S(C_P(s))$ ,  $v_1$  must be dominated by a vertex in D. Thus, there exists  $j \in \{2, 3, ..., 2s\} \setminus \{s + 1\}$  such that  $v_{1j} \in D$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $v_{12} \in D$ . Simlarly, for each  $j \in \{3, ..., 2s\} \setminus \{s + 1\}$  the vertex  $v_{1j}$  must be dominated by D and hence,  $v_{1j} \in D$  or  $v_j \in D$ . Therefore,  $|D| \ge 2s - 2$ .

If  $v_{s+1} \in D$ , then  $|D| \geq 2s - 1$  and the proof is complete. Otherwise, and in order to dominate  $v_{s+1}$ , there exist  $j \in \{1, 2, ..., 2s\} \setminus \{1, s + 1\}$ such that  $v_{s+1j} \in D$ . However,  $\gamma(S(C_P(s))) \geq 2s - 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma(S(C_P(s))) = 2s - 1$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** If r, s are two integers such that  $r \ge 2$  and  $s \ge 2$ , then  $\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = r + s - 1$ .

*Proof.* Assume that 
$$V(K_{r,s}) = \{x_1, \dots, x_r\} \cup \{y_1, \dots, y_s\}$$
 and  
 $V(S(K_{r,s})) = V(K_{r,s}) \cup \{z_{ij} : 1 \le i \le r, 1 \le j \le s\}$ 

in which  $z_{ij}$  is the new vertex inserted on the edge  $x_i y_j$  to obtain the subdivision graph  $S(K_{r,s})$  from  $K_{r,s}$ . By Lemma 2.1,

$$\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) \le r+s-1.$$

Now let T be a dominating set of minimum cardinality in  $S(K_{r,s})$ . If  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_s\} \subseteq T$ , then  $\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = |T| \ge r + s$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore, there exists at least one vertex in  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_r, y_1, \ldots, y_s\}$  which is not in T. Without loss of generality, (and by renaming the vertices if it is necessary) assume that

$${x_1,\ldots,x_r,y_1,\ldots,y_s} \setminus T = {x_1,x_2,\ldots,x_{t_1},y_1,y_2,\ldots,y_{t_2}}.$$

Thus,  $\{x_{t_1+1}, \ldots, x_r, y_{t_2+1}, \ldots, y_s\} \subseteq T$  and hence  $|T| \ge (r - t_1) + (s - t_2)$ . Since T is a dominating set, each vertex in  $\{x_1, \ldots, x_{t_1}, y_1, \ldots, y_{t_2}\}$  should be dominated by a vertex in T, and by considering the structure of  $S(K_{r,s})$ , these dominating vertices must be in the set  $\{z_{ij} : 1 \le i \le r, 1 \le j \le s\}$ . Also, since  $t_1t_2$  vertices in  $\{z_{ij} \mid 1 \le i \le t_1, 1 \le j \le t_2\}$  must be dominated by T, we should have  $\{z_{ij} : 1 \le i \le t_1, 1 \le j \le t_2\} \subseteq T$ . Therefore,  $|T| \ge (r - t_1) + (s - t_2) + t_1t_2$ . Note that

$$|T| \ge (r - t_1) + (s - t_2) + t_1 t_2$$
  
= (r + s) + (t\_1 - 1)(t\_2 - 1) - 1

If we have  $t_2 = 0$ , then  $\{y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_s\} \subseteq T$  and  $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{t_1}\} \cap T = \emptyset$ . Since T is a dominating set, there exist vertices

$$\{z_{1j_1}, z_{2j_2}, \ldots, z_{t_1j_{t_1}}\} \subseteq T$$

which dominate vertices in  $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{t_1}\}$ . This implies that

$$|T| \ge (r - t_1) + s + t_1 = r + s_1$$

which is a contradiction, because we show that  $\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) \leq r+s-1$ . Thus,  $t_2 \geq 1$  and similarly we can show that  $t_1 \geq 1$ . Therefore,

$$\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = |T| \ge (r+s) + (t_1 - 1)(t_2 - 1) - 1$$

in which  $t_1 \geq 1$  and  $t_2 \geq 1$ . The minimum value of the statement  $(r+s) + (t_1-1)(t_2-1) - 1$  with the conditions  $t_1 \geq 1$ ,  $t_2 \geq 1$  occurs just when  $t_1 = 1$  or  $t_2 = 1$  and this leads to the value r + s - 1. Without loss of generality, assume that  $t_2 = 1$  (the case  $t_1 = 1$  will be similarly done). Since vertices  $x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{t_1}$  are dominated by T, and by considering the structure of  $S(K_{r,s})$ , there exist  $t_1$  vertices of the from  $z_{ij}$  in T. If none of these vertices is adjacent to  $y_1$ , then for dominating  $y_1$  an extra vertex in  $\{z_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq r, 1 \leq j \leq s\}$  is required which implies that  $|T| \geq r + s$ , a contradiction. Hence, we can assume that  $\{x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_{t_1}\}$  are dominated by  $\{z_{1j_1}, \ldots, z_{t_1j_{t_1}}\}$  and  $z_{1j_1} = z_{11}$  (i.e.  $y_1$  is dominated by  $z_{11}$ ). Since the set  $\{x_{t_1+1}, \ldots, x_r, y_2, \ldots, y_s, z_{1j_1}, z_{t_1j_{t_1}}\}$  is a subset of T and it is a

dominating set of cardinality r + s - 1, and by the minimality of T, we have  $\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = |T| = r + s - 1$ .

# 3. Identifying code number of S(G)

In this section, we determine the identifying code number of the subdivision graphs  $S(K_n)$ ,  $S(C_P(s))$ ,  $S(K_{1,n})$  and,  $S(K_{r,s})$  with  $r \ge 2$  and  $s \ge 2$ . At first, consider the following results.

**Theorem 3.1.** [12] Let  $n \ge 2$  be a positive integer. Then  $\gamma^{ID}(P_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n+1}{2} \right\rceil$ . **Theorem 3.2.** ([5], [10]) Let  $n \ge 4$  be a positive integer. Then

$$\gamma^{ID}(C_n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n = 4, 5\\ \frac{n}{2} & \text{if } n \ge 6 \text{ is even}\\ \frac{n+3}{2} & \text{if } n \ge 7 \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

It is clear that for each  $n \geq 3$ ,  $S(P_n) \cong P_{2n-1}$  and  $S(C_n) \cong C_{2n}$ . Thus, by Theorems 3.1 and 3.2,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(P_n)) = n$  and  $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_n)) = n$ . In the following two results, we show that |V(G)| is generally an upper bound for  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G))$ .

**Proposition 3.3.** Let G be a graph of order  $n \ge 2$ . Then S(G) is an identifiable graph.

Proof. Let a and b be two arbitrary and distinct vertices in S(G). If a is not adjacent to b in S(G), then  $N_{S(G)}[a] \neq N_{S(G)}[b]$ . Let a be adjacent to b in S(G). Since S(G) is a bipartite graph and V(G) is a partite set in it, without loss of generality, we can assume that  $a \in V(G)$  and hence, there exists  $c \in V(G) \setminus \{a\}$  such that  $N_{S(G)}(b) = \{a, c\}$ . Since  $c \notin N_{S(G)}[a]$ , we have  $N_{S(G)}[a] \neq N_{S(G)}[b]$ . Therefore S(G) is twin-free and hence, an identifiable graph.

**Theorem 3.4.** If G is a graph of order  $n \ge 2$ , then  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) \le n$ .

*Proof.* Let C = V(G). It is clear that C is a dominating set for S(G). We claim that C is an identifying code for S(G). For this purpose, let x and y be two distince vertices in V(S(G)). We consider the following cases:

**Case 1)**  $\{x, y\} \subseteq V(G)$ : Since S(G) is a bipartite graph with V(G) as a partite set, x is not adjacent to y in S(G). Thus  $x \in N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C$  and  $x \notin N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$ . Hence,  $N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C \neq N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$ .

**Case 2)**  $\{x, y\} \cap V(G) = \emptyset$ : In this case, there exists a vertex  $a \in V(G)$  such that  $x \sim a$  and  $a \nsim y$ . Thus  $a \in N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C$  and  $a \notin N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$  which implies that  $N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C \neq N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$ .

**Case 3)**  $x \notin V(G)$  and  $y \in V(G)$ : Assume that  $N_{S(G)}(x) = \{a, b\}$  in which  $ab \in E(G)$ . If  $y \notin \{a, b\}$ , then  $a \in N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C$  and  $a \notin N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$ . If y = a, then  $b \in N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C$  and  $b \notin N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C$ . However

$$N_{S(G)}[x] \cap C \neq N_{S(G)}[y] \cap C.$$

These facts show that C is an identifying code for S(G) and hence,

$$\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) \le |C| = n.$$

Now we use the following result to show that  $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_P(s))) = 2s$  and  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) = n$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** [19] If G is a graph of order n and maximum degree  $\Delta$ , then  $\gamma^{ID}(G) \geq \frac{2n}{\Delta+2}$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** For each  $n \ge 2$ ,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) = n$ .

Proof. By Theorem 3.4, we have  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) \leq n$ . Since  $|V(S(K_n))| = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ , Theorem 3.5 implies that  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) \geq n$ . Thus,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) = n$ .  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 3.7.** Let  $s \ge 2$  be a positive integer. Then  $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_P(s))) = 2s$ .

 $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_P(s))) < 2s.$ 

*Proof.* It is clear that  $S(C_P(s))$  is of order  $2s^2$ . By Theorem 3.4,

By Theorem 3.5,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_P(s))) \ge \frac{2(2s^2)}{(2s-2)+2} = 2s$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(C_P(s))) = 2s$ .

In the following, among some other useful results, we show that for  $n \ge 4$ ,  $V(K_n)$  is the unique optimum identifying code in  $S(K_n)$ .

**Theorem 3.8.** Let G be an identifiable graph of order n and C be an identifying code of S(G). Then we have

$$|C| \ge \max\left\{ \deg_G(x) + \left\lceil \frac{\deg_G(x)}{2} \right\rceil \ : \ x \in V(G) \setminus C \right\}.$$
  
Specially, if  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) < n$ , then  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) \ge \delta(G) + \left\lceil \frac{\delta(G)}{2} \right\rceil.$ 

Proof. Let x be a vertex in  $V(G) \setminus C$  and assume that  $\deg_G(x) = d$ ,  $N_G(x) = \{y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_d\}$  and  $N_{S(G)}(x) = \{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_d\}$ . Since C is a dominating set of S(G) and  $x \notin C$ , there exists  $1 \leq i \leq d$  such that  $e_i \in C$ . Also, each vertex in  $\{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_d\} \setminus \{e_i\}$  must be dominated by C and hence, for each  $j \in \{1, 2, \ldots, d\} \setminus \{i\}$  we have  $C \cap \{e_i, y_i\} \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $|C \cap \{y_1, \ldots, y_d, e_1, \ldots, e_d\}| \geq d$ . Note that for each  $1 \leq i \leq d$ , two vertices  $e_i$  and  $y_i$  are adjacent in S(G) and hence,  $e_i \in N_{S(G)}[y_i]$  and  $y_i \in N_{S(G)}[e_i]$ . Now since C is an identifying code of S(G), for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, d\}$  we should have  $N_{S(G)}[e_i] \cap C \neq N_{S(G)}[y_i] \cap C$ . Therefore, for each  $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, d\}$  there exists a vertex  $z_i \notin \{e_1, e_2, \ldots, e_d\}$  such that  $z_i \in C \cap N_{S(G)}(y_i)$ . Note that when  $y_i y_j$  is an edge in G and z is the (new) vertex of degree two in S(G) with  $N_{S(G)}(z) = \{y_i, y_j\}$ , then z can play both of the roles of  $z_i$  and  $z_j$  in our above statement and hence, we may have  $z_i = z_j$ . Thus, by pairing  $z_i$ 's in the worst case, we have  $|\{z_1, z_2, \ldots, z_d\}| \geq \left\lceil \frac{\deg_G(x)}{2} \right\rceil$ .

$$|C| \ge |C \cap \{y_1, \dots, y_d, e_1, \dots, e_d\}| + |C \cap \{z_1, z_2, \dots, z_d\}|$$
  
$$\ge d + \left\lceil \frac{d}{2} \right\rceil,$$

which completes the proof. Note that when  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) < n$ , there exists at least one vertex  $x \in V(G) \setminus C$  and we know that  $\deg_G(x) \ge \delta(G)$ .  $\Box$ 

**Corollary 3.9.** Let G be a triangle-free identifiable graph of order n and C be an identifying code of S(G). Then,

$$|C| \ge 2 \max \left\{ \deg_G(x) : x \in V(G) \setminus C \right\}.$$

Specially, if  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) < n$ , then  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) \ge 2\,\delta(G)$ .

*Proof.* The proof is a direct consequence of the proof of Theorem 3.8 by considering the fact  $y_i y_j \notin E(G)$  when G is triangle-free, which itself implies that  $z_i \neq z_j$  for each  $i \neq j$ .

**Corollary 3.10.** Let  $n \ge 2$  be an integer and C be an identifying code of  $S(K_n)$ . If  $V(K_n) \notin C$ , then  $|C| \ge (n-1) + \left\lceil \frac{(n-1)}{2} \right\rceil$ .

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.8, the proof is straightforward.

Note that  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_2)) = \gamma^{ID}(P_3) = 2$  and  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_3)) = \gamma^{ID}(C_6) = 3$ . In addition,  $P_3$  has a unique identifying code of size two, but  $C_6$  has at least two different identifying codes of size three.

**Corollary 3.11.** Let  $n \ge 4$  be an integer and C be an identifying code of  $S(K_n)$  with minimum size (i.e.,  $|C| = \gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)))$ . Then,  $C = V(K_n)$ .

Proof. By Theorem 3.4, we have  $|C| = \gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) \leq n$ . This fact and Corollary 3.10 implies that  $V(K_n) \setminus C = \emptyset$ . Thus,  $V(K_n) \subseteq C$  and hence,  $|C| \geq n$ . This facts imply that  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_n)) = |C| = n$  and C = V(G).  $\Box$ 

Finally, we determine the identifying code number of complete bipartite graphs and according to obtained results, we propose a conjecture.

**Theorem 3.12.** [2] Let G be a graph of order n. Then  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma^{ID}(G)$ .

**Theorem 3.13.** Let  $n \geq 2$  be an integer. Then  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{1,n-1})) = n$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G = K_{1,n-1}$  and assume that

$$V(G) = \{v_1, v_2, \ldots, v_n\},\$$

 $\deg_G(v_n) = n - 1$ , and  $V(S(G)) = V(G) \cup \{v_{in} : 1 \le i \le n - 1\}$ . Specially, we have  $N_{S(G)}(v_{in}) = \{v_i, v_n\}$ . Let D be a dominating set for S(G). Then,  $|D \cap \{v_i, v_{in}\}| \ge 1$  for each  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., n - 1\}$  which implies that  $\gamma(S(G)) \ge n - 1$ . It is easy to see that  $\{v_{in} : 1 \le i \le n - 1\}$  is a dominating set for S(G) and hence,  $\gamma(S(G)) \le n - 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma(S(G)) = n - 1$ .

Now Also, let C be an identifying code of S(G) with the minimum cardinality. By Theorem 3.4,  $|C| \leq n$ . By Theorem 3.12,  $|C| \geq n - 1$ . Suppose on the contrary that |C| = n - 1. Since C is a dominating set of S(G), we have  $|C \cap \{v_i, v_{in}\}| = 1$  for each  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., n - 1\}$  and since |C| = n - 1 we must have  $v_n \notin C$ . In this case, for every  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , we have  $N_{S(G)}[v_i] \cap C = N_{S(G)}[v_{in}] \cap C$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(G)) = n$ .

**Theorem 3.14.** For each pair of integers  $r, s \ge 1$ , we have  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{r,s})) = r + s.$ 

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.13, we have  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{1,s})) = 1 + s$  and it can be easily seen that  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{1,1})) = 2$ .

Hence, hereafter assume that  $r \ge 2$  and  $s \ge 2$ . By Theorem 2.4,

$$\gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = r + s - 1$$

and hence,  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{r,s})) \geq \gamma(S(K_{r,s})) = r + s - 1$ . Also, by Theorem 3.4, we have  $\gamma^{ID}(S(K_{r,s})) \leq r + s$ . Let T be a dominating set of cardinality r + s - 1 in  $S(K_{r,s})$ . By using the proof of Theorem 2.4 and its notations, we should have  $t_2 = 1$  (or  $t_1 = 1$ , similarly). Since  $y_1$  and  $x_1$  are dominated by  $z_{11}$  and

 $N_{S(G)}[x_1] \cap T = \{z_{11}\} = N_{S(G)}[z_{11}] \cap T$ , two vertices  $x_1$  and  $z_{11}$  can not be identified by T and hence T is not an identifying code. Since each dominating set of minimum cardinality in  $S(K_{r,s})$  has a structure like T, each identifying code in  $S(K_{r,s})$  must be of cardinality at least r + s, and this completes the proof.

Conjecture 3.15. Let G be a simple graph of ordr n. Then the identifying code number of S(G) is equal to n.

# Acknowledgments

The authors warmly thank the anonymous referees for reading this manuscript very carefully and providing numerous valuable corrections and suggestions which improve the quality of this paper.

## References

- J. Amjadi, S. Nazari-Moghaddam, S. M. Sheikholeslami and L. Volkmann, Total Roman domination number of trees, Australas. J. Combin., 69 (2017), 271–285.
- D. Auger, I. Charon, O. Hudry and A. Lobstein, Watching systems in graphs: an extension of identifying codes, *Discret. Appl. Math.*, 161 (2013), 1674–1685.
- D. Auger, Minimal identifying codes in trees and planar graphs with large girth, European J. Combin., 31 (2010), 1372–1384.
- A. Behtoei, E. Vatandoost and F. Azizi Rajol Abad, Signed Roman domination number and join of graphs, J. Algebr. Syst., 4 (2016), 65–77.
- C. Chen, C. Lu and Z. Miao, Identifying codes and locating–dominating sets on paths and cycles, *Discret. Appl. Math.*, 159 (2011), 1540–1547.
- 6. M. Dettlaff, M. Lemańska, M. Miotk, J. Topp, R. Ziemann and P. Żyliński, Graphs with equal domination and certified domination numbers, *Opuscula Math.*, **39** (2019), 815–827.
- N. Fazlollahi, D. Starobinski and A. Trachtenberg, Connected identifying codes for sensor network monitoring, *IEEE Wireless Communications and Networking Conference*, (2011), 1026–1031.
- F. Foucaud, R. Klasing, A. Kosowski and A. Raspaud, On the size of identifying codes in triangle-free graphs, *Discret. Appl. Math.*, 160 (2012), 1532–1546.
- A. Frieze, R. Martin, J. Moncel, M. Ruszinkó and C. Smyth, Codes identifying sets of vertices in random networks, *Discrete Math.*, 307 (2007), 1094–1107.
- S. Gravier, J. Moncel and A. Semri, Identifying codes of cycles, *European J. Combin.*, 27 (2006), 767–776.
- T. Haynes, D. Knisley, E. Seier and Y. Zou, A quantitative analysis of secondary RNA structure using domination-based parameters on trees, *BMC bioinform.*, 7 (2006), 108– 115.
- M. D. Hernando Martin, M. Mora Giné and I. M. Pelayo Melero, Watching systems in complete bipartite graphs, *Jor. de Mat. Disc. Alg.*, **11** (2012), 53–60.
- I. Honkala and T. Laihonen, On identifying codes in the triangular and square grids, SIAM J. Comput., 33 (2004), 304–312.

- I B Lovitin On a new class of codes for id
- M. G. Karpovsky, K. Chakrabarty and L. B. Levitin, On a new class of codes for identifying vertices in graphs, *IEEE Trans. Inf.*, 44 (1998), 599–611.
- 15. Z. Mansouri and D. A. Mojdeh, Outer independent rainbow dominating functions in graphs, *Opuscula Math.*, **40** (2020), 599–615.
- F. Ramezani, E. D. Rodriguez-Bazan and J. A. Rodriguez-Velazquez, On the Roman domination number of generalized Sierpinski graphs, *Filomat*, **31** (2017), 6515–6528.
- 17. A. Shaminejad and E. Vatandoost, The identifying code number and functigraphs, J. Algebr. Syst., 10 (2022), 155–166.
- 18. A. Shaminezhad and E. Vatandoost, On 2-rainbow domination number of functigraph and its complement, *Opuscula Math.*, **40** (2020), 617–627.
- 19. B. Stanton, On vertex identifying codes for infinite lattices, PhD Thesis, Iowa State University, 2011, arXiv: 1102.2643.
- 20. K. Thulasiraman, M. Xu, Y. Xiao and X. D. Hu, Vertex identifying codes for fault isolation in communication networks, *In Proceedings of the International Conference on Discrete Mathematics and Applications*, Bangalore, 2006.
- 21. E. Vatandoost and F. Ramezani, On the domination and signed domination numbers of a zero-divisor graph, *Electron. J. Graph Theory Appl. (EJGTA)*, 4 (2016), 148–156.

#### Somayeh Ahmadi

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Imam Khomeini International University, P.O. Box 3414896818, Qazvin, Iran.

Email: somaiya.ahmadi@edu.ikiu.ac.ir

#### Ebrahim Vatandoost

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Imam Khomeini International University, P.O. Box 3414896818, Qazvin, Iran.

Email: vatandoost@sci.ikiu.ac.ir

#### Ali Behtoei

Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Science, Imam Khomeini International University, P.O. Box 3414896818, Qazvin, Iran. Email: a.behtoei@sci.ikiu.ac.ir