

## On Powers of Some Graph Operations

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### Abstract

Let  $G * H$  be the product  $*$  of  $G$  and  $H$ . In this paper we determine the  $r^{th}$  power of the graph  $G * H$  in terms of  $G^r$ ,  $H^r$  and  $G^r * H^r$ , when  $*$  is the join, Cartesian, symmetric difference, disjunctive, composition, skew and corona product. Then we solve the equation  $(G * H)^r = G^r * H^r$ . We also compute the Wiener index and Wiener polarity index of the skew product.

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## 1. Introduction

The  $r^{th}$  power of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $G^r$ , is the graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  where two vertices are adjacent if they are within distance  $r$  in  $G$ , i.e., the length of the shortest path joining them is at most  $r$ . The maximum distance between any pair of vertices in a graph  $G$  is called the diameter of  $G$  and denoted by  $diam(G)$ . Let  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  and  $H = (V(H), E(H))$  be two graphs. The join (sum)  $G + H$  has  $V(G) \cup V(H)$  as its vertex set and its edge set consists of  $E(G) \cup E(H)$  and all edges joining  $V(G)$  with  $V(H)$ . The cartesian product  $G \times H$  has its vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $[x_1 = x_2 \text{ and } y_1y_2 \in E(H)]$  or  $[y_1 = y_2 \text{ and } x_1x_2 \in E(G)]$ . The symmetric difference  $G \oplus H$  has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1x_2 \in E(G)$  or  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)$  but not both. The disjunctive product  $G \vee H$  has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1x_2 \in E(G)$  or  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)$  or both. The corona product  $G \circ H$  is the graph obtained by taking one copy of  $G$  (which has  $n_1$

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vertices) and  $n_1$  copies of  $H$ , and then joining the  $i^{th}$  vertex of  $G$  to every vertex in the  $i^{th}$  copy of  $H$ . The composition  $G[H]$  has its vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $[x_1x_2 \in E(G)]$  or  $[x_1 = x_2$  and  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)]$ . The conjunction product  $G \wedge H$  has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $x_1x_2 \in E(G)$  and  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)$ . The strong product  $G \otimes H$  has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and its edge set  $E(G \otimes H) = E(G \times H) \cup E(G \wedge H)$ . The skew product  $G \triangle H$ , defined in [10], has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $[x_1 = x_2$  and  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)]$  or  $[x_1x_2 \in E(G)$  and  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)]$ . The converse skew product  $G \nabla H$  has  $V(G) \times V(H)$  as its vertex set and  $u = (x_1, y_1)$  is adjacent to  $v = (x_2, y_2)$  whenever  $[y_1 = y_2$  and  $x_1x_2 \in E(G)]$  or  $[x_1x_2 \in E(G)$  and  $y_1y_2 \in E(H)]$ . The complete graph with  $n$  vertices is denoted by  $K_n$ . For the graphs  $G(V(G), E(G))$  and  $H(V(H), E(H))$ , we denote the graph with vertex set  $V(G) \cup V(H)$  and edge set  $E(G) \cup E(H)$  by  $G \cup H$ . For a graph  $G(V(G), E(G))$  and any set of edges  $F \subset E(G)$ , we assume  $G - F$  to be the graph obtained from  $G$  by deleting the edges in  $F$ . We denote the distance between  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$  by  $d_G(u, v)$ . By  $G = H$  we mean that  $G$  is isomorphic to  $H$ , sometimes written  $G \cong H$ . A graph is null if it has no edges. Denote the degree of a vertex  $u$  in a graph  $G$  by  $deg_G(u)$ . For more details see [1–3]. In [7–9], Seoud proved necessity and sufficiency conditions for:

1.  $G^2 + H^2 = (G + H)^2$ ;
2.  $G^2 \times H^2 = (G \times H)^2$ ;
3.  $G^2 \circ H^2 = (G \circ H)^2$ ;
4.  $G^2[H^2] = (G[H])^2$ ;
5.  $G^2 \vee H^2 = (G \vee H)^2$ ;
6.  $G^2 \oplus H^2 = (G \oplus H)^2$ .

Here, we determine the graph  $(G * H)^r$  in terms of  $G^r$ ,  $H^r$  and  $G^r * H^r$  for  $r \geq 2$ , where the operation  $G * H$  represents a product of  $G$  and  $H$ . According to the definitions of graph products one can prove the following lemma, for more details say [1, 12].

**Lemma 1.1.** *Let  $G, H$  be two graphs and  $(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)$  be two distinct vertices in  $V(G) \times V(H)$ , where  $u_1, u_2 \in V(G)$  and  $v_1, v_2 \in V(H)$ , then:*

1.  $d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = d_G(u_1, u_2) + d_H(v_1, v_2)$ .
2.  $d_{G+H}(u, v) = \begin{cases} 0 & u = v \\ 1 & uv \in E(G) \text{ or } uv \in E(H) \text{ or } (u \in V(G) \text{ and } v \in V(H)) \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

3.  $d_{G[H]}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \begin{cases} d_G(u_1, u_2) & u_1 \neq u_2 \\ d_H(v_1, v_2) & u_1 = u_2, \deg_G(u_1) = 0, \\ 1 & u_1 = u_2, \deg_G(u_1) \neq 0 \text{ and } v_1 v_2 \in E(H) \\ 2 & u_1 = u_2, \deg_G(u_1) \neq 0 \text{ and } v_1 v_2 \notin E(H). \end{cases}$
4.  $d_{G \vee H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \begin{cases} 0 & u_1 = u_2 \quad v_1 = v_2 \\ 1 & u_1 u_2 \in E(G) \quad \text{and} \quad v_1 v_2 \in E(H) \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
5.  $d_{G \oplus H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \begin{cases} 0 & u_1 = u_2 \quad v_1 = v_2 \\ 1 & u_1 u_2 \in E(G) \text{ and } v_1 v_2 \in E(H) \text{ but not both} \\ 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$
6.  $d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \text{Max}\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}.$

## 2. Main Results

**Lemma 2.1.** *For any two graphs  $G$  and  $H$*

1.  $G^r[H^r] \subset (G[H])^r$  ( $\subset$  means spanning subgraph of).
2.  $G^r + H^r \subset (G + H)^r.$
3.  $G^r \times H^r \subset (G \times H)^r.$
4.  $G^r \circ H^r \subset (G \circ H)^r.$
5.  $G^r \vee H^r \subset (G \vee H)^r.$
6.  $G^r \oplus H^r \subset (G \oplus H)^r.$

*Proof.* 1.  $G^r[H^r]$  and  $(G[H])^r$  have the same set of vertices, which is  $V(G) \times V(H)$  and  $(u_1, u_2), (v_1, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $G^r[H^r]$  means that  $[u_1 = u_2$  and  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$  in  $H^r]$  or  $[u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_2$  in  $G^r]$ . That is equivalent to  $[u_1 = u_2$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) \leq r]$  or  $[d_G(u_1, u_2) \leq r]$ .

First, if  $u_1 = u_2$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) \leq r$ , then there exists in  $H$  the path  $v_1 x_1 x_2 \dots x_{r-1} v_2$  between  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  of length at most  $r$ . In  $G[H]$  we have the path  $(u_1, v_1) (u_2, x_1) (u_2, x_2) \dots (u_2, x_{r-1}) (u_2, v_2)$  of length at most  $r$ . Then  $(u_1, u_2)$  and  $(v_1, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $(G[H])^r$ .

Second, if  $d_G(u_1, u_2) \leq r$ , then there exists in  $G$  the path  $u_1 y_1 y_2 \dots y_{r-1} u_2$  between  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  of length at most  $r$ . In  $G[H]$  we have the path  $(u_1, v_1) (y_1, v_2) (y_2, v_2) \dots (y_{r-1}, v_2) (u_2, v_2)$  of length at most  $r$ . Then  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $(G[H])^r$ .

2. Let  $u, v$  be adjacent in  $G^r + H^r$ . Note that possible cases for  $u, v$  are either  $[u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H)]$  or  $[v \in V(G)$  and  $u \in V(H)]$  or  $[u, v \in V(G)]$  or  $[u, v \in V(H)]$ . Now we discuss the possible cases as follows:

Case 1: If  $[u \in V(G) \text{ and } v \in V(H)]$ , then the result follows trivially.

Case 2: If  $[u, v \in V(G)]$ , then there exists a vertex  $w$  in  $V(H)$  such that  $uw, vw \in E(G + H)$ . It follows that  $uv \in E((G + H)^2)$  and  $(G + H)^2 \subset (G + H)^r$  implies that  $uv \in E((G + H)^r)$ .

Case 3:  $u, v \in V(H)$  analogous to case 2.

3, 4 and 5 are not difficult to be proved.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.**  $(G + H)^r = K_{|V(G)|+|V(H)|}$ .

*Proof.* According to Lemma 1.1, we have  $\text{diam}(G + H) = 2$ . Hence  $(G + H)^r$ , for any  $r \geq 2$ , is complete. It is clear now that both sides in the above equation represent a complete graph on  $|V(G)| + |V(H)|$  vertices.  $\square$

Now, we are ready to discuss the equation  $(G + H)^r = G^r + H^r$ .

**Corollary 2.3.**

$$(G + H)^r = G^r + H^r \quad (1)$$

if and only if  $G$  and  $H$  are connected and  $\text{diam}(G) \leq r$  and  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ .

*Proof.* If  $G$  is not connected, then there are two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  that are not adjacent in  $G$  and so in  $G^r$ . Hence there are two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  not adjacent in  $G^r + H^r$  contradicts that  $G^r + H^r = (G + H)^r = K_{|V(G)|+|V(H)|}$ . Therefore  $G$  and  $H$  must be connected. Again, if  $G$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(G) > r$ , then there exist two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  which are not adjacent in  $G^r$ , and hence non-adjacent in  $G^r + H^r$  a contradiction to  $G^r + H^r = (G + H)^r$ . So we must have  $\text{diam}(G) \leq r$  and  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ . Conversely, if  $G$  and  $H$  are connected and  $\text{diam}(G) \leq r$  and  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ , then  $G^r + H^r = K_{|V(G)|} + K_{|V(H)|} = K_{|V(G)|+|V(H)|} = (G + H)^r$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.**  $(G \times H)^r = G^r \times H^r \cup_{i=1}^{r-1} G^i \wedge H^{r-1-i} - \cup_{i=1}^{r-2} E(G^i \wedge H^{r-2-i})$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(u_1, v_1)$  be adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $(G \times H)^r$ , then  $d((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  in  $G \times H$ . Therefore we must have one of the following cases:

- (1)  $u_1 = u_2$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$ , or
- (2)  $v_1 = v_2$  and  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$ , or
- (3)  $u_1 u_2 \in E(G)$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) - 1 \leq r - 1$ , or
- (5)  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = 2$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) - 2 \leq r - 2$ , or
- $\vdots$

$$(r+1) \quad d_G(u_1, u_2) = \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor \text{ and } d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \times H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) - \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor \leq \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor.$$

In other words,  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E(G^r \times H^r) \cup_{i=1}^{r-1} E(G^i \wedge H^{r-1-i})$ . Since  $E(G \wedge H^{r-3})$  is computed one time in  $E(G \wedge H^{r-2})$  and another time in  $E(G^2 \wedge H^{r-3})$  in the union  $\cup_{i=1}^{r-1} E(G^i \wedge H^{r-1-i})$ , we must subtract it once. In general any term in the union  $\cup_{i=1}^{r-2} E(G^i \wedge H^{r-2-i})$  is computed twice in  $\cup_{i=1}^{r-1} E(G^i \wedge H^{r-1-i})$ , so we must subtract it once.  $\square$

The following result is a consequence of Theorem 2.4.

**Corollary 2.5.**  $(G \times H)^r = G^r \times H^r$  if and only if  $G$  is null or  $H$  is null.

*Proof.* Let  $(G \times H)^r = G^r \times H^r$  and  $G$  and  $H$  be non-null, then there exist  $u_1, u_2$  adjacent in  $G$  and  $v_1, v_2$  adjacent in  $H$ . Hence  $(u_1, v_1)$  is adjacent to  $(u_2, v_1)$  in  $G \times H$  and  $(u_2, v_1)$  is adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $G \times H$ , consequently  $(u_1, v_1)$  is adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $(G \times H)^r$ , but they are not adjacent in  $G^r \times H^r$ , a contradiction to  $(G \times H)^r = G^r \times H^r$ . Hence  $E(G)$  or  $E(H)$  must be empty. Conversely, we note that  $E(G^i \wedge H^{r-1-i})$  is empty if  $G$  is null or  $H$  is null and therefore  $(G \times H)^r = G^r \times H^r$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.**  $(G \otimes H)^r = G^r \otimes H^r$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(u_1, v_1)$  be adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $(G \otimes H)^r$ . Therefore  $d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  and one of the following must happen:

1.  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  and  $v_1 = v_2$ , or
2.  $d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  and  $u_1 = u_2$ , or
3.  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$ , or
4.  $1 \leq d_G(u_1, u_2) < d_H(v_1, v_2) = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$ , or
5.  $1 \leq d_H(v_1, v_2) < d_G(u_1, u_2) = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$ .

Which would imply that  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2)$  belongs to  $G^r \otimes H^r$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.7.** If  $G$  and  $H$  don't contain isolated vertices, then  $(G \oplus H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ .

*Proof.* For any two vertices  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $(G \oplus H)$ ,  $d_{G \oplus H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq 2$ , by Lemma 1.1, and  $(G \oplus H)^r$  is complete graph on  $|V(G)| \times |V(H)|$  vertices.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.8.**  $(G \oplus H)^r = G^r \oplus H^r$  has the only solutions:

- (i)  $G = K_1$ ,  $H$  is any graph;
- (ii)  $H = K_1$ ,  $G$  is any graph;
- (iii) Trivial solution,  $G = nK_1$ ,  $H = nK_1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(G \oplus H)^r = G^r \oplus H^r$  and  $G$  and  $H$  be non-null, then there exist  $u_1, u_2 \in V(G)$  and  $v_1, v_2 \in V(H)$  such that  $u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_2$  in  $G$  and  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$  in  $H$ . It follows that  $(u_1, v_1)$  is not adjacent to  $(u_2, v_2)$  in  $G^r \oplus H^r$ , a contradiction to  $G^r \oplus H^r = (G \oplus H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ . Hence  $E(G)$  or  $E(H)$  must be empty. Similarly: if  $G$  is null with more than one vertex and  $H$  is connected, then there exist  $u_1, u_2 \in V(G)$  and  $v_1, v_2 \in V(H)$  such that  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$

in  $H$ . It follows that  $(u_1, v_1)$  is not adjacent to  $(u_2, v_1)$  in  $G^r \oplus H^r$ , a contradiction again. Conversely, if  $G = K_1$  or  $H = K_1$ , then  $(G \oplus H)^r = G^r[K_1] \cong G^r \cong G^r \oplus H^r$  or  $(G \oplus H)^r = K_1[K_{|V(H)|}] \cong K_{|V(H)|} = G^r \oplus H^r$ , respectively.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** *If  $G$  and  $H$  don't contain isolated vertices, then  $(G \vee H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ .*

*Proof.* By Lemma 1.1  $d_{G \vee H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq 2$  and the result follows immediately.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.10.**  *$(G \vee H)^r = G^r \vee H^r$  has the only solutions:*

- (i)  $G$  and  $H$  are connected with  $\text{diam}(G) \leq r$  &  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ ;
- (ii)  $G = K_1$ ,  $H$  is any graph;
- (iii)  $H = K_1$ ,  $G$  is any graph;
- (iv) Trivial solution,  $G = nK_1$ ,  $H = nK_1$ .

*Proof.* Firstly, assume that  $G^r \vee H^r = (G \vee H)^r$ .

- (a) If  $H$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(H) > r$ , and  $G$  is any graph. Let  $G$  (without any loss of generality) be connected. It follows that there exist paths  $u_1 u_2 u_3 \dots u_r u_{r+1}$  in  $H$  :  $d_H(u_i, u_{i+1}) = 1, 1 \leq i \leq r+1$ , and  $v_1 v_2$  in  $G$ . Now  $(v_1, u_1)$  is not adjacent to  $(v_1, u_{r+1})$  in  $G^r \vee H^r$  by definition, a contradiction to  $G^r \vee H^r = (G \vee H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ .
- (b) If  $G$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(G) > r$ , and  $H$  is any graph, the proof proceeds as case (a).
- (c) If  $G$  is disconnected with more than one component and  $H$  is any graph, then  $H$  or  $G$  must have at least two vertices that are adjacent (since otherwise one gets case iv). Let  $u_1, v_1$  be any two vertices in  $V(G)$  that lie in distinct components of  $G$  and the vertices  $u_2, v_2$  in  $V(H)$  that are adjacent (such vertices must exist in either  $H$  or  $G$ ). Then  $(u_1, u_2)$  is not adjacent to  $(v_1, u_2)$  in  $G^r \vee H^r$ . A contradiction again to  $G^r \vee H^r = (G \vee H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ .

Conversely,

- (i) If  $G$  and  $H$  are connected with  $\text{diam}(G) \leq r$  &  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ , then  $G^r \vee H^r = (G \vee H)^r = K_{|V(G) \times V(H)|}$ .
- (ii) If  $G = K_1$  and  $H$  is any graph, then  $G \vee H \cong H$ ,  $(G \vee H)^r \cong H^r \cong G^r \vee H^r$ .

Case (iii) is similar to (ii).  $\square$

**Theorem 2.11.** *If  $G$  is connected, then  $(G[H])^r = G^r[K_{|V(H)|}]$ .*

*Proof.* According to Lemma 1.1,  $d_{G[H]}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  is equivalent to:  $[d_G(u_1, u_2) \leq r$  when  $u_1 \neq u_2$ ] or  $[u_1 = u_2$  and  $d_H(v_1, v_2) \leq 2]$ . Which implies that  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in G^r[K_{|V(H)|}]$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.12.**  $(G[H])^r = G^r[H^r]$  has the only solutions:

- (i)  $G = nK_1$ ,  $H$  is any graph;
- (ii)  $H$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$  and  $G$  is any graph.

*Proof.* Assume that  $(G[H])^r = G^r[H^r]$  and  $G$  is not null, we prove that  $H$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ , indeed: if  $H$  is disconnected or connected with diameter  $\geq r + 1$ , then there exist two vertices  $v_1, v_2$  in  $H$  which are not adjacent in  $H^r$ . Since  $G$  is not null, then there exist  $u_1, u_2$  in  $G : d_G(u_1, u_2) = 1$ . The vertices  $(u_1, v_2)$  and  $(u_1, v_1)$  are not adjacent in  $G^r[H^r]$ , but  $(u_1, v_2)$  and  $(u_1, v_1)$  are adjacent in  $(G[H])^r$ , and this is a contradiction. Assume that  $(G[H])^r = G^r[H^r]$  and  $G$  is null, we prove that  $H$  may be any graph, indeed: for any graph  $H$ , we have  $(G[H])^r \cong |V(G)|H^r \cong G^r[H^r]$ . Conversely, assume  $G, H$  be two graphs satisfying the conditions in the theorem, then we have:

- (i) If  $G = nK_1$  and  $H$  is any graph, then  $G[H] \cong H$  and  $(G[H])^r \cong nH^r \cong G^r[H^r]$ .
- (ii)  $H$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$  and  $G$  is any graph. It is sufficient to prove that  $(G[H])^r \subseteq G^r[H^r]$ . For this, if  $G$  is connected, then  $(G[H])^r = G^r[K_{|V(H)|}] = G^r[H^r]$ . Note that  $H^r = K_{|V(H)|}$  because  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$ . Now, let  $u = (u_1, v_1)$  be adjacent to  $v = (u_2, v_2)$  in  $(G[H])^r$ , it follows that  $d(u, v) \leq r$  in  $(G[H])^r$ . Then there exists the path  $P = (u_1, v_1)(u_3, v_3) \cdots (u_m, v_m)(u_2, v_2)$  of length at most  $r$  in  $G[H]$ . We have the following cases:  
 Case 1: if  $u_1 = u_3 = u_4 = \cdots = u_m = u_2$ , then we have  $d(v_1, v_2) \leq r$  in  $H$ . Since  $H$  is connected with diameter  $\leq r$ , it follows that  $u_1 = u_2$  and  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$  in  $H^r$ . Then  $u, v$  are adjacent in  $G^r[H^r]$ .  
 Case 2: if for some  $i = 3, 4, \dots, m - 1, u_i \neq u_{i+1}$ , then the existence of the path  $P$  implies that  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+1}$  must be adjacent in  $G$ , of course this is the case for  $u_1, u_3$  and  $u_m, u_2$ . Hence if  $u_1 \neq u_3 \neq \cdots \neq u_m \neq u_2$ , then  $u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_3$ ,  $u_3$  is adjacent to  $u_4, \dots$ , and  $u_m$  is adjacent to  $u_2$ , i.e.  $d(u_1, u_2) \leq r$  in  $G$ , it follows that  $u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_2$  in  $G^r$ . Hence  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $G^r[H^r]$ .

$\square$

**Theorem 2.13.**  $(G \circ H)^r = G^r \circ H^{\text{diam}(H)} \cup_{u \in V(G)} E(N(u) + H_u)$ , where  $N(u) = \{v \in V(G) : d_G(u, v) \leq r - 1\} \cup \{v \in V(H_x) : d_G(u, x) \leq r - 2\}$  and  $H_u$  is the copy of  $H$  corresponding to the vertex  $u$ .

*Proof.* The copy of  $H$  corresponding to vertex  $x \in V(G)$  is denoted by  $H_x$ . Let  $u, v$  be adjacent in  $E(G \circ H)^r$ . We must have either  $u, v \in V(G)$  or  $u, v \in V(H_x)$

or  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H_x)$  or  $u \in V(H_x)$  and  $v \in V(H_y)$ , where  $x \neq y$ . One of the following cases must happen:

- (1) If  $u, v \in V(G)$ , then  $d_G(u, v) \leq r$ .
- (2) For any two vertices  $u, v \in V(H_x)$ ,  $d_{G \circ H}(u, v) = 2$ .
- (3) If  $u \in V(G)$  and  $v \in V(H_x)$ ,  $x \neq u$ , then  $d_{G \circ H}(u, v) \leq r - 1$ .
- (4) If  $u \in V(H_x)$  and  $v \in V(H_y)$ , where  $x \neq y$ , then  $d_{G \circ H}(u, v) \leq r - 2$ .

In all cases, we get  $uv \in E(G^r \circ H^{\text{diam}(H)}) \cup_{u \in V(G)} E(N(u) + H_u)$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.14.**  $(G \circ H)^r = G^r \circ H^r$  if and only if  $G$  is null and each component of  $H$  has diameter  $\leq r$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(G \circ H)^r = G^r \circ H^r$ , then  $\text{diam}(H) \leq r$  and  $\cup_{u \in V(G)} E(N(u) + H_u)$  is empty, where  $N(u) = \{v \in V(G) : d_G(u, v) \leq r - 1\} \cup \{v \in V(H_x) : d_G(u, x) \leq r - 2\}$  and  $H_u$  is the copy of  $H$  corresponding to the vertex  $u$ . Note that  $\cup_{u \in V(G)} E(N(u) + H_u)$  is empty if and only if  $E(G)$  is empty.  $\square$

### 3. Conjunction and Skew Product

We follow notions in [5]. Recall a walk between two vertices  $u, v$  is a sequence of vertices  $ux_1x_2x_3\dots x_nv$  in which any two consecutive vertices are adjacent. While a path is a walk in which all vertices are distinct and not repeated. The length of a walk is the number of edges in it. Let  $d_G(u, v)$  be the distance between  $u, v$  in  $G$ , define  $d'_G(u, v)$  to be the length of the shortest  $u - v$  walk satisfying  $d_G(u, v) + d'_G(u, v)$  is odd and  $\infty$  otherwise. We call  $(u_1, v_1) \sim (u_2, v_2)$  whenever  $d_G(u_1, u_2) + d_H(v_1, v_2)$  is even, otherwise we call  $(u_1, v_1) \approx (u_2, v_2)$ . Distance between  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$ , in the conjunction product  $G \wedge H$ , is defined in [5] as follows:

**Lemma 3.1.** [5]

- (a) If  $(u_1, v_1) \sim (u_2, v_2)$ , then  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \text{Max}\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$ .
- (b) If  $(u_1, v_1) \approx (u_2, v_2)$ , then  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \text{Min}\{\text{Max}\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d'_H(v_1, v_2)\}, \text{Max}\{d_H(v_1, v_2), d'_G(u_1, u_2)\}\}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** If each edge in  $E(G)$  is contained in a triangle and each edge in  $E(H)$  is contained in a triangle, then  $(G \wedge H)^r = G^r \otimes H^r$ .

*Proof.* Since each edge belongs to a triangle in  $G$ , then  $d'_G(u_1, u_2) = d_G(u_1, u_2) + 1$  except for  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = 0$ , where  $d'_G(u_1, u_2) = 3$ , the same for  $H$ . If  $(u_1, v_1) \sim (u_2, v_2)$ , then  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \text{Max}\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\} = d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2))$ . If  $(u_1, v_1) \approx (u_2, v_2)$ , then  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = \text{Min}\{\text{Max}\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d'_H(v_1, v_2)\}, \text{Max}\{d_H(v_1, v_2), d'_G(u_1, u_2)\}\}$ .



$v_1, v_2)+1\}$ ,  $Max\{d_H(v_1, v_2), d_G(u_1, u_2)+1\}$ . Assume without any loss of generality that  $d_G(u_1, u_2) > d_H(v_1, v_2)$  such that  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) \neq (1, 0)$ . Then  $d_G(u_1, u_2) \geq d_H(v_1, v_2) + 1$  and  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = d_G(u_1, u_2) = Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$ . If  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (1, 0)$ , then  $d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = 2$  and  $(u_1, u_2), (v_1, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $(G \wedge H)^r$  for all  $r \geq 2$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.**  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$  when  $(u_1, u_2) \sim (v_1, v_2)$  or  $(u_1, u_2) \approx (v_1, v_2)$  and  $d_G(u_1, u_2) < d_H(v_1, v_2)$ , otherwise  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = 1 + Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\} = 1 + d_G(u_1, u_2)$ .

*Proof.* Assume that  $(u_1, u_2) \sim (v_1, v_2)$ . Since  $G \wedge H \subset G \Delta H$ , then  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq d_{G \wedge H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$ . But  $G \Delta H \subset G \otimes H$ , hence  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \geq d_{G \otimes H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$ . If  $(u_1, u_2) \approx (v_1, v_2)$  and  $d_G(u_1, u_2) < d_H(v_1, v_2)$ , then there exists a vertex  $(u_2, x)$  such that  $(u_2, x) \sim (u_1, v_1)$ , where  $x \in V(H)$  satisfying  $d_H(v_1, x) = Min\{d_H(v_1, y) : y \in V(H) \text{ and } (u_2, y) \sim (u_1, v_1)\}$ . Hence  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, x)) = d_H(v_1, x)$  and  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = d_H(v_1, x) + d_H(x, v_2) = d_H(v_1, v_2) = Max\{d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)\}$ . By the same technique, it is not difficult to prove the other case.  $\square$

Let  $G^{[r]}$  be the graph with the same vertex set as  $G$  and two vertices  $u, v \in V(G^{[r]})$  are adjacent whenever  $d_G(u, v) = r$ .

**Lemma 3.4.**  $(G \Delta H)^r = G^{r-1} \wedge H^r \cup G^{[r]} \wedge H^{[k]} \cup G^{2\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \times H^r$ , where  $k \leq r$  and  $k+r$  is even.

*Proof.* For any edge  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E(G^{r-1} \wedge H^r) \cup E(G^{[r]} \wedge H^{[k]}) \cup E(G^{2\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \times H^r)$ , where  $k \leq r$  and  $k+r$  is even, by Lemma 3.3  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  and  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E((G \Delta H)^r)$ . Conversely, let  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E((G \Delta H)^r)$ , then  $d_{G \Delta H}((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) \leq r$  and we have the following cases:

- (1) When  $u_1 = u_2$ , then  $1 \leq d_H(v_1, v_2) \leq r$ .
- (2) When  $v_1 = v_2$ , then  $1 \leq d_G(u_1, u_2) \leq r-1$ .
- (3) When  $1 \leq d_G(u_1, u_2) \leq 2\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$ , then  $1 \leq d_H(v_1, v_2) \leq r$ .
- (4) When  $d_G(u_1, u_2) = r$ , then  $d_H(v_1, v_2) = k$ , where  $r \geq k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  and  $r+k$  is even.

In other words  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E(G^{2\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \times H^r)$  or  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E(G^{r-1} \wedge H^r)$  or  $(u_1, v_1)(u_2, v_2) \in E(G^{[r]} \wedge H^{[k]})$ , where  $k \leq r$  and  $k+r$  is even.  $\square$

Following the same technique in Corollary 2.5, it is not difficult to prove the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.5.**  $(G \Delta H)^r = G^r \Delta H^r$  iff  $G$  is null or  $H$  is null.

From the definitions of skew product and converse skew product, we conclude that:

**Theorem 3.6.**  $(G \nabla H)^r = H^{r-1} \wedge G^r \cup H^{[r]} \wedge G^{[k]} \cup H^{2\lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor} \times G^r$ , where  $k \leq r$  and  $k + r$  is even.

**Corollary 3.7.**  $(G \nabla H)^r = G^r \nabla H^r$  iff  $G$  is null or  $H$  is null.

## 4. Wiener Index and Wiener Polarity Index of the Skew Product of Graphs

In this section, we compute the Wiener index and the Wiener polarity index of  $G \triangle H$  and  $G \nabla H$ . The Wiener index [11] defined as the sum of distances between all vertex pairs in a connected graph. While the Wiener polarity index [11] is defined to be the number of unordered pairs of vertices  $\{u, v\}$  of  $V(G)$  such that  $d_G(u, v) = 3$ . Let  $W_k(G)$  be the number of unordered pairs of vertices  $\{u, v\}$  of  $V(G)$  such that  $d_G(u, v) = k$ . Then the Wiener polarity index of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $W_P(G) = W_3(G)$  and the Wiener index  $W(G) = \sum_{k \geq 1} kW_k(G)$ . The Wiener index of cartesian product, join, composition and corona is computed in [12]. In [6], the Wiener index of strong product is computed. The Wiener polarity index of cartesian product, composition, strong product is computed in [4].

**Lemma 4.1.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two connected graphs, then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = W_p(H)[|V(G)| + 2|E(G)| + 2W_2(G) + 2W_p(G)] + 2|E(H)|[W_p(G) + W_2(G)]$ .

*Proof.* According to Lemma 3.3, two vertices  $(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)$  are at distance 3 in  $G \triangle H$  whenever:  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (0, 3), (1, 3), (2, 3), (3, 3), (3, 1), (2, 1)$ . We distinguish between the following cases:

Case 1: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (0, 3)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = W_p(H)|V(G)|$ .  
Case 2: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (1, 3)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = 2W_p(H)|E(G)|$ .  
Case 3: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (2, 3)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = 2W_p(H)W_2(G)$ .  
Case 4: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (3, 3)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = 2W_p(H)W_p(G)$ .  
Case 5: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (3, 1)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = 2W_p(G)|E(H)|$ .  
Case 6: when  $(d_G(u_1, u_2), d_H(v_1, v_2)) = (2, 1)$ , then  $W_P(G \triangle H) = 2W_2(G)|E(H)|$ .  
Therefore  $W_P(G \triangle H) = W_p(H)[|V(G)| + 2|E(G)| + 2W_2(G) + 2W_p(G)] + 2|E(H)|[W_p(G) + W_2(G)]$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be two connected graphs, then  $W_P(G \nabla H) = W_p(G)[|V(H)| + 2|E(H)| + 2W_2(H) + 2W_p(H)] + 2|E(G)|[W_p(H) + W_2(H)]$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs, then  $W(G \triangle H) = n_1^2 W(H) + n_2[W(G) + \sum_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{D}{2} \rfloor} W_{2i-1}(G)] + 2 \sum_{i=2}^{i=D} W_i(G)[\sum_{j=2}^{j=i} [iW_{j-1}(H) + (i-1)W_{j-2}(H)]]$ , where  $|V(G)| = n_1, |V(H)| = n_2$  and  $D = \text{diam}(G \triangle H) = \text{Max}\{\text{diam}(G) + 1, \text{diam}(H)\}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs with  $|V(G)| = n_1, |V(H)| = n_2$ , then  $G \triangle H$  is connected. We note that when  $k$  is even, then

$$W_k(G \triangle H) = W_k(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} W_i(G) \right] + (W_k(G) + W_{k-1}(G)) \left[ n_2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=\frac{k-2}{2}} W_{2i}(H) \right],$$

for  $k > 2$  and  $W_2(G \triangle H) = W_2(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=2} W_i(G) \right] + n_2 \left[ W_2(G) + W_1(G) \right]$ . When  $k$  is odd,  $W_k(G \triangle H) = W_k(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=k} W_i(G) \right] + 2 \left[ W_k(G) + W_{k-1}(G) \right] \sum_{i=1}^{i=\frac{k-1}{2}} W_{2i-1}(H)$ , for  $k \geq 3$  and  $W_1(G \triangle H) = W_1(H) \left[ n_1 + 2W_1(G) \right]$ . Let  $D = \text{Max}\{\text{diam}(G) + 1, \text{diam}(H)\}$ . Assume without loss of generality that  $D$  is even, then

$$\begin{aligned} W &= W_1(H) \left[ n_1 + 2W_1(G) \right] + \\ & 2 \left[ W_2(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=2} W_i(G) \right] + n_2 \left[ W_2(G) + W_1(G) \right] \right] + \\ & 3 \left[ W_3(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=3} W_i(G) \right] + 2 \left[ W_3(G) + W_2(G) \right] W_1(H) \right] + \\ & 4 \left[ W_4(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=4} W_i(G) \right] + (W_4(G) + W_3(G)) \left[ n_2 + 2W_2(H) \right] \right] + \\ & \vdots \\ & D \left[ W_D(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=D} W_i(G) \right] + (W_D(G) + \right. \\ & \left. W_{D-1}(G)) \left[ n_2 + 2 \sum_{i=3}^{i=\frac{D-2}{2}} W_{2i}(H) \right] \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Which would imply that

$$\begin{aligned} W &= W(H) \left[ n_1 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{i=D} W_i(G) \right] + 2n_2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{i=D} \left\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \right\rfloor W_i(G) \right] + \\ & 2 \sum_{i=2}^{i=D} W_i(G) \left[ \sum_{j=2}^{j=i} \left[ iW_{j-1}(H) + (i-1)W_{j-2}(H) \right] \right]. \\ & = n_1^2 W(H) + 2n_2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{i=D} \left\lfloor \frac{i}{2} \right\rfloor W_i(G) \right] + \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& 2 \sum_{i=2}^{i=D} W_i(G) \left[ \sum_{j=2}^{j=i} [iW_{j-1}(H) + (i-1)W_{j-2}(H)] \right]. \\
& = n_1^2 W(H) + n_2 \left[ W(G) + \sum_{i=1}^{i=\lfloor \frac{D}{2} \rfloor} W_{2i-1}(G) \right] + \\
& 2 \sum_{i=2}^{i=D} W_i(G) \left[ \sum_{j=2}^{j=i} [iW_{j-1}(H) + (i-1)W_{j-2}(H)] \right].
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected graphs, then*

$$\begin{aligned}
W(G \nabla H) &= n_2^2 W(G) + n_1 \left[ W(H) + \sum_{i=1}^{i=\lfloor \frac{D}{2} \rfloor} W_{2i-1}(H) \right] + \\
& 2 \sum_{i=2}^{i=D} W_i(H) \left[ \sum_{j=2}^{j=i} [iW_{j-1}(G) + (i-1)W_{j-2}(G)] \right],
\end{aligned}$$

where  $|V(G)| = n_1$ ,  $|V(H)| = n_2$  and  $D = \text{diam}(G \nabla H) = \text{Max}\{\text{diam}(G)(H)+1\}$ .

**Conflicts of Interest.** The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

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