

## Decomposition of Product Path Graphs Into Graceful Graphs

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**Abstract:** A decomposition of  $G$  is a collection  $\psi_g = \{H_1, H_2, \dots, H_r\}$  such that  $H_i$  are edge disjoint and every edge in  $H_i$  belongs to  $G$ . If each  $H_i$  is a graceful graph, then  $\psi_g$  is called a graceful decomposition of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a graceful decomposition of  $G$  is called the graceful decomposition number of  $G$  and it is denoted by  $\pi_g(G)$ . In this paper, we define graceful decomposition and graceful decomposition number  $\pi_g(G)$  of a graphs. Also, some bounds of  $\pi_g(G)$  in product graphs like Cartesian product, composition etc. are investigated.

**Keyword:** Decomposition, Graceful graphs, Graceful decomposition and Graceful decomposition number.

### 1. Introduction

A graph is a well-ordered pair  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $V$  is a non-empty finite set, called the set of vertices or nodes of  $G$ , and  $E$  is a set of unordered pairs (2-element subsets) of  $V$ , called the edges of  $G$ . If  $xy \in E$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  are called adjacent and they are incident with the edge  $xy$ .

The complete graph on  $n$  vertices, denoted by  $K_n$ , is a graph on  $n$  vertices such that every pair of vertices is connected by an edge. The empty graph on  $n$  vertices, denoted by  $E_n$ , is a graph on  $n$  vertices with no edges. A graph  $G' = (V', E')$  is a sub graph of  $G = (V, E)$  if and only if  $V' \subseteq V$  and  $E' \subseteq E$ . The order of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is  $|V|$ , the number of its vertices. The size of  $G$  is  $|E|$ , the quantity of its edges. The degree of a node  $x \in V$ , represented by  $d(x)$ , is the quantity of edges incident with it.

A subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  is a graph such that  $V(H) \subseteq V(G)$  and  $E(H) \subseteq E(G)$ . For a graph  $G(V, E)$  and a subset  $W \subseteq V$ , the subgraph of  $G$  induced by  $W$ , denoted as  $G[W]$ , is the graph  $H(W, F)$  such that, for all  $u, v \in W$ , if  $uv \in E$ , then  $uv \in F$ . We say  $H$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ .

A graph  $G(V, E)$  is said to be connected if every pair of vertices is connected by a path. If there is exactly one path connecting each pair of vertices, we say  $G$  is a tree. Equivalently, a tree is a connected graph with  $n - 1$  edges. A pathgraph  $P_n$  is a connected graph on  $n$  vertices such that each vertex has degree at most 2. A cycle graph  $C_n$  is a connected graph on  $n$  vertices such that every vertex has degree 2.

A complete graph  $P_n$  is a graph with  $n$  vertices such that every vertex is adjacent to all the others. On the other hand, an independent set is a set of vertices of a graph in which no two vertices are adjacent. We denote  $In$  for an independent set with  $n$  vertices.

A bipartite graph  $G(V, E)$  is a graph such that there exists a partition  $P(A, B)$  of  $V$  such that every edge of  $G$  connects a vertex in  $A$  to one in  $B$ . Equivalently,  $G$  is said to be bipartite if  $A$  and  $B$  are independent sets. The bipartite graph is also denoted as  $G(A, B, E)$ .

A graceful labelling of a graph  $G$  is a vertex labelling  $f : V \rightarrow [0, 1]$  such that  $f$  is injective and the edge labelling  $f^* : E \rightarrow [1, m]$  defined by  $f^*(uv) = |f(u) - f(v)|$  is also injective. If a graph  $G$  admits a graceful labelling, we say  $G$  is a graceful graph.

In this paper we define graceful decomposition and graceful decomposition number  $\pi_g(G)$  of a graph  $G$ . Also investigate some bounds of  $\pi_g(G)$  in product graphs like Cartesian product, composition etc.

**2. Graceful Decomposition**

In this section we define graceful decomposition of a graph  $G(V, E)$  some and investigate some bounds of graceful decomposition number in  $G(V, E)$ .

**Definition 2.1:** Let  $\psi_g = \{H_1, H_2, \dots, H_r\}$  be a decomposition of a graph  $G$ . If each  $H_i$  is a graceful graph, then  $\psi_g$  is called a graceful decomposition of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a graceful decomposition of  $G$  is called the graceful decomposition number of  $G$  and it is denoted by  $\pi_g(G)$ .

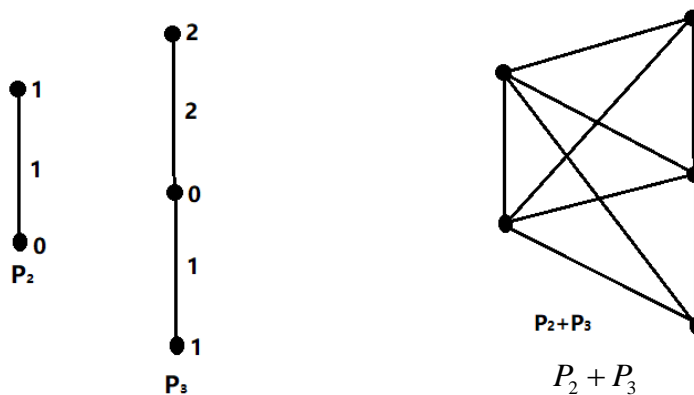
**Definition 2.2:** Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be two simple graphs. The join  $G_1 + G_2$  of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  with disjoint vertex set  $V_1 \& V_2$  and the edge set  $E$  of  $G_1 + G_2$  is defined by the two vertices  $(u_i, v_j)$  if one of the following conditions are satisfied

- i)  $u_i v_j \in E_1$ .
- ii)  $u_i v_j \in E_2$ .
- iii)  $u_i \in V_1 \& v_j \in V_2, u_i v_j \in E$

**Theorem 2.1:** A graph  $P_n + P_m$  is a join of two path graceful graphs with  $(m > n)$  can be decomposed in to at least 'm' number of  $P_m$  graceful graphs. Then the graceful decomposition number  $\pi_g(P_n + P_m) \geq 3$ .

**Proof:** Let  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  be two path graceful graphs of order  $m$  and  $n$  ( $m > n$ ) respectively and  $P_n + P_m$  is a join of  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  with edge set  $E$ . Therefore  $E = E_1 \cap E_2 \cap S(K_{m,n})$ , here  $S(K_{m,n})$  is a size of a bipartite complete graph  $K_{m,n}$ . Note that  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  be two graceful graphs and complete bipartite graphs  $K_{m,n}$  also graceful graph. The complete bipartite graphs  $K_{m,n}$  can be decomposed in to  $m$  number of  $P_m$ . This implies  $\psi_g \supseteq \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^m P_{mi} \right\}$  and  $|\psi_g| \geq \left| \left\{ \bigcup_{i=1}^m P_{mi} \right\} \right|$ . Therefore we get  $\pi_g(P_n + P_m) \geq m$ . Note that  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  are graceful graph also decomposed in to  $P_n$  and  $P_m$  paths, hence we get  $\pi_g(P_n + P_m) \geq m$ .

**Illustration 2.1:** The Join of two graceful graphs  $P_2 \& P_3$  is given in figure.2.1



The graph  $P_2 + P_3$  is decomposed in to isomorphic graphs of  $P_2, P_3$  and  $K_{3,2}$ . Therefore the set  $\psi_g = \{P_1, P_2, K_{3,2}\}$

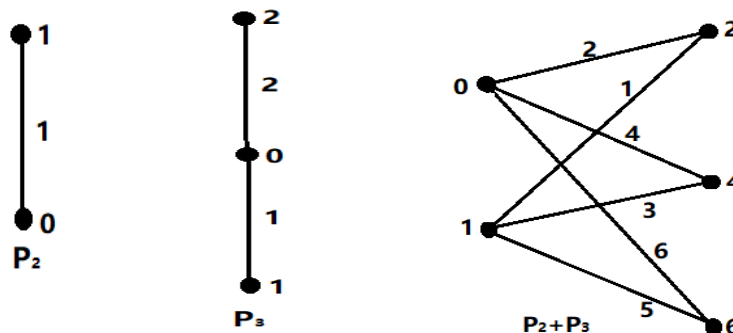


Figure.2.1: Graceful decomposition of  $P_2 + P_3$

**Definition 2.3:** Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be two simple graphs. The Cartesian product  $G_1 \times G_2$  of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , is a graph with vertex set  $V = V_1 \times V_2$  and the edge set of  $G_1 \times G_2$  is defined by the two vertices  $(u_i, v_j)$  &  $(u_k, v_l)$  if one of the following conditions are satisfied

- i)  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ .
- ii)  $u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

**Theorem 2.2:** A graph  $P_m \times P_n$  is a Cartesian product of two graceful graphs  $P_m$  &  $P_n$  with order m and n can be decomposed in to at least  $(m + n)$  graceful graphs (i.e.  $\pi_g(G_1 \times G_2) \geq (m + n)$ ).

**Proof:** Let  $P_m$  and  $P_n$  be two path graceful graphs of order m and n ( $m > n$ ) respectively and  $P_n \times P_m$  and is a Cartesian product of  $P_n$  &  $P_m$  with edge set E the one of the following conditions are satisfied

- i)  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ .
- ii)  $u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

**Case (i):** If  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$

If  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ . Let the sub graph  $H_i$  is isomorphic to the graph  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ . The graph  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be a graceful graph this implies  $H_i$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_i \subset \psi$

**Case (ii):** If  $u_2 = v_2$   $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$

If  $u_2 = v_2$   $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . Let the sub graph  $H_j$  is isomorphic to the graph  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . The graph  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  is a graceful graph this implies  $H_j$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_j \subset \psi$ .

From case (i) and (ii), we get  $\psi = \left\{ \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m H_i \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^n H_j \right) \right\}$  this implies  $|\psi| = \sum_{i=1}^m H_i + \sum_{j=1}^n H_j = m + n$

. Hence we get  $\pi_g(G_1 \times G_2) = (m + n)$ .

**Illustration 2.2:** The Cartesian product of two graceful graphs  $P_2$  &  $P_3$  is given in Figure.2.2

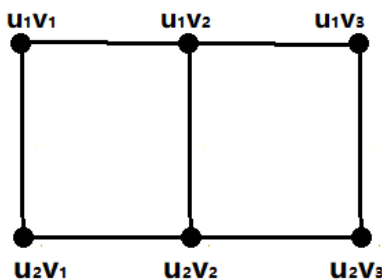
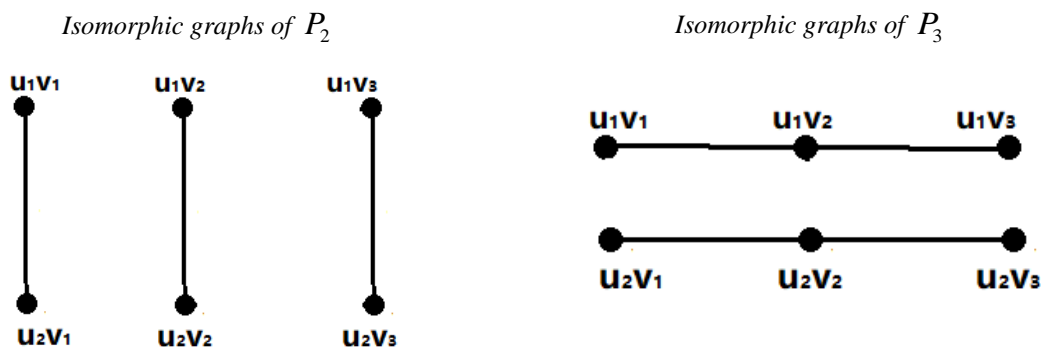


Figure.2.2:  $P_2 \times P_3$

The graph  $P_2 \times P_3$  is decomposed in to isomorphic graphs of  $P_2$  and  $P_3$ , the set  $\psi$  contains n times  $P_2$  and m times  $P_3$  as follows.



The graph  $P_2 \times P_3$  is decomposed in to  $O(G_2)$  number of  $G_1$  graphs,  $O(G_1)$  number of  $G_2$  Graphs.

**Definition 2.4:** Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be two simple graphs. The Composition  $G_1 \circ G_2$  of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , is a graph with vertex set  $V = V_1 \times V_2$  and the edges in  $G_1 \circ G_2$  is defined by the two vertices  $(u_1, u_2)$  &  $(v_1, v_2)$  if one of the following conditions are satisfied

- i)  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ .
- ii)  $u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .
- iii)  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

**Theorem 2.3:** A graph  $G_1 \circ G_2$  is a Composition of two graceful graphs  $G_1$  &  $G_2$  with order m and n, can be decomposed in to at least  $(mn + m + n)$  graceful graphs (i.e.  $\pi_g(G_1 \circ G_2) \geq (mn + m + n)$ ).

**Proof:** Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be two graceful graphs of order m and n respectively and  $G_1 \circ G_2$  is a Composition of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  with edge set E the one of the following conditions are satisfied

- i)  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ .
- ii)  $u_2 = v_2$  and  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .
- iii)  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

**Case (i):** If  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$

If  $u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2, v_2$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ . Let the sub graph  $H_i$  is isomorphic to the graph  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ . The graph  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  is a graceful graph this implies  $H_i$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_i \subset \psi$

**Case (ii):** If  $u_2 = v_2$   $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$

If  $u_2 = v_2$   $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . Let the sub graph  $H_j$  is isomorphic to the graph  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . The graph  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  be a graceful graph this implies  $H_j$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_j \subset \psi$ .

**Case (iii):** If  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

If  $u_1, v_1$  are adjacent vertices in  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . The graph  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  be a graceful graph therefore we get mn number graceful graph isomorphic to  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ . Hence we get mn times of  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ .

From case (i) and (ii), we get  $\psi = \left\{ \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m H_i \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^n H_j \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^n (H_{1j}, H_{2j}, \dots, H_{mj}) \right) \right\}$  this

implies  $|\psi| = \sum_{i=1}^m H_i + \sum_{j=1}^n H_j + \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m H_{ij} = m + n + mn$ . Hence we get

$$\pi_g(G_1 \circ G_2) \geq (m + n + mn).$$

**Illustration 2.3:** The Cartesian product of two graceful graphs  $P_2$  &  $P_3$  is given in Figure.2.3

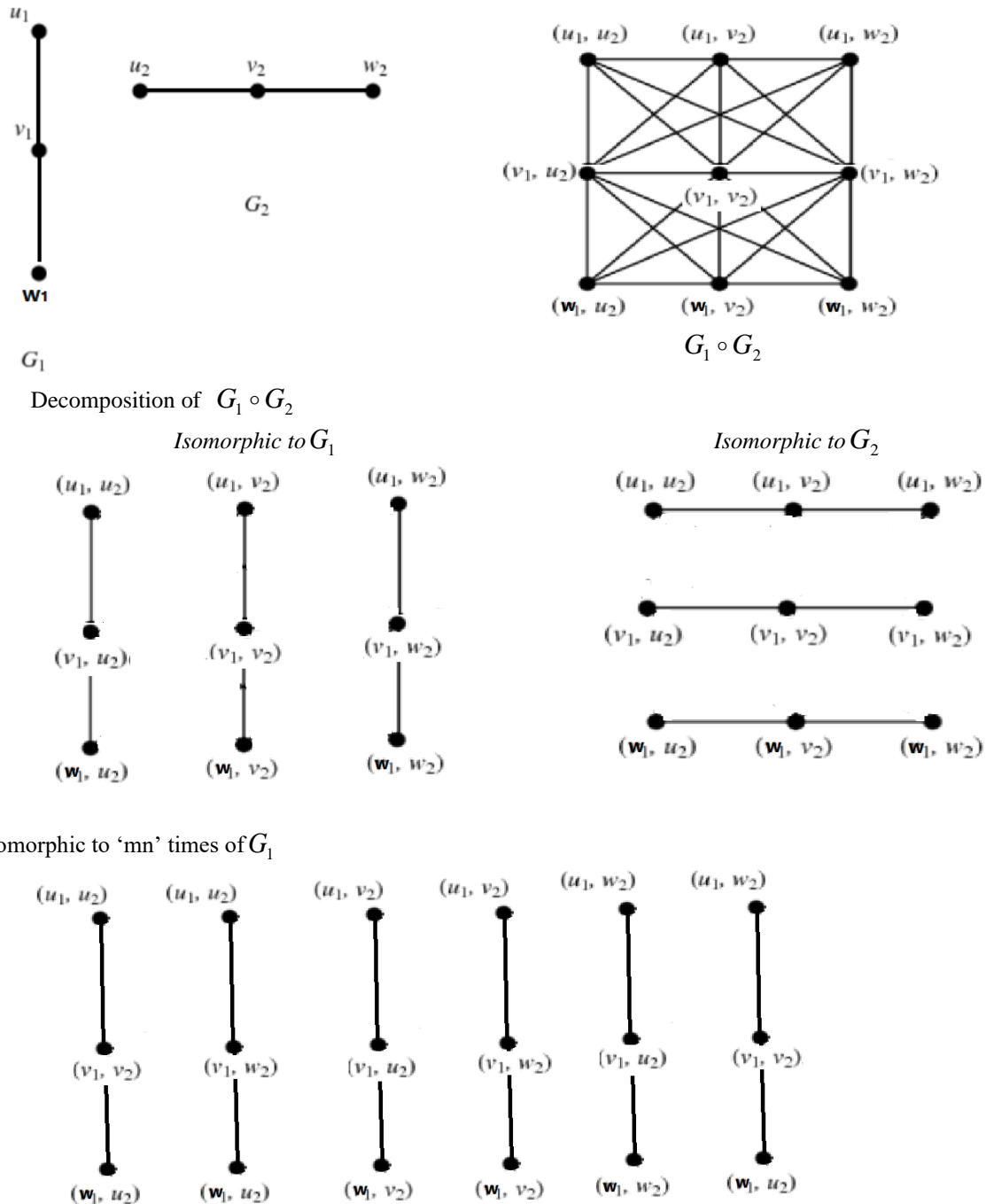


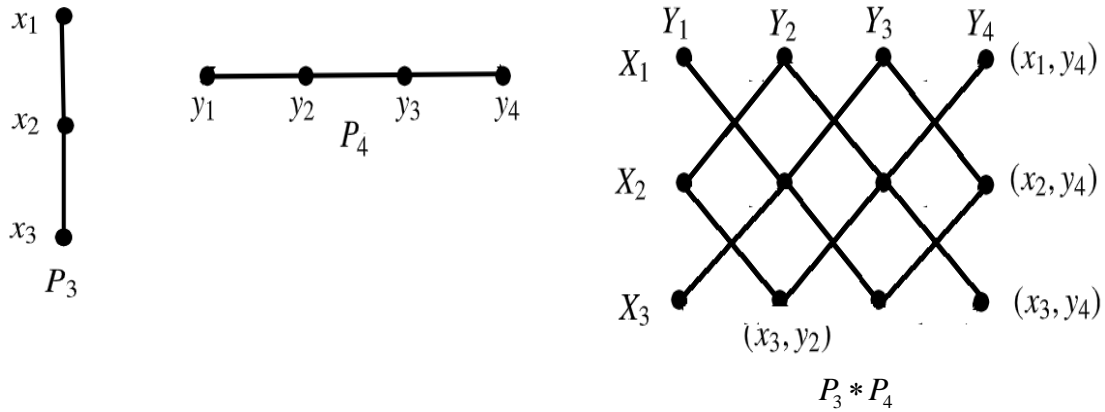
Figure.2.3

**Definition 2.5:** For two simple graphs  $G$  and  $H$  their tensor product is denoted by  $G * H$ , has vertex set  $V = V_1 \times V_2$  in which  $(g_1, h_1)$  and  $(g_2, h_2)$  are adjacent whenever  $g_1 g_2$  is an edge in  $G$  and  $h_1 h_2$  is an edge in  $H$

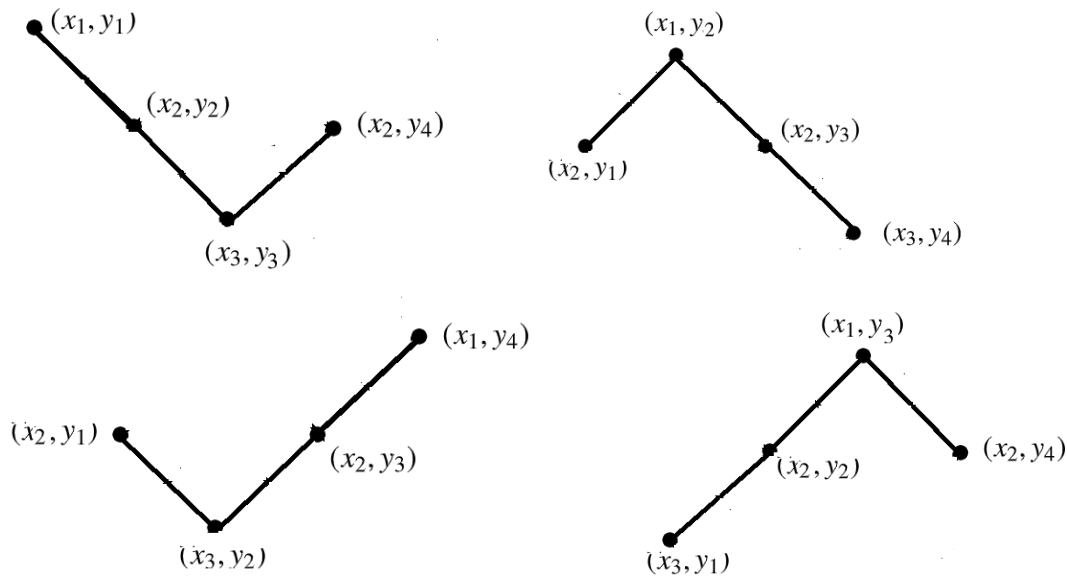
**Theorem 2.4:** A graph  $P_m$  is a tensor product of two graceful graphs with order  $(m > n)$ , can be decomposed in to  $(m)$  number of  $P_m$  graceful graphs (i.e.  $\pi_g(P_m * P_n) = (m)$ ).

**Proof:** A graph  $P_m * P_n$  is a tensor product of two graceful graphs with  $(m > n)$ . Let the vertex  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  are adjacent whenever  $u_1 u_2$  is an edge in  $P_m$  and  $v_1 v_2$  is an edge in  $P_n$ . By the definition we identify ‘m’ number of  $P_m$  in tensor product  $P_m$ . Hence we get  $\pi_g(P_m * P_n) = (m)$ .

**Illustration 2.4:** The tensor product of two graceful graphs  $P_2$  &  $P_3$  is given in Figure.2.4



$P_4$  Decomposition of  $P_3 * P_4$



**Figure.2.4**

**Definition 2.6:** The Strong product  $G \otimes H$  of graphs G and H has the vertex set  $V(G \otimes H) = V(G) \times V(H)$  and  $(a, x)(b, y)$  is an edge of  $G \otimes H$  if satisfied one of the following condition.

- i)  $a = b$  and  $xy \in E(H)$ .
- ii)  $ab \in E(G)$  and  $x = y$ .
- iii)  $ab \in E(G)$  and  $xy \in E(H)$ .

**Theorem 2.5:** A graph  $P_m \otimes P_n$  is a Strong product of two graceful graphs with  $m > n$ , can be decomposed in to at least  $(2m + n)$  graceful graphs (i.e.  $\pi_g(P_m \otimes P_n) \geq (2m + n)$ ).

**Proof:** Let  $P_m = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $P_n = (V_2, E_2)$  be two graceful graphs of order  $m$  and  $n$  respectively and  $P_m \otimes P_n$  is a Strong product of  $P_m$  and  $P_n$  with edges  $(a, x)(b, y) \in E$  and the set is satisfied the one of the following conditions.

- i)  $a = b$  and  $xy \in P_m$ .
- ii)  $ab \in P_n$  and  $x = y$ .
- iii)  $ab \in P_n$  and  $xy \in P_m$ .

**Case (i):** If  $a = b$  and  $xy \in P_m$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_m$ .

If  $a = b$  and  $xy \in P_m$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_m$ . Let the sub graph formed by these set of edges is  $H_i$  isomorphic to the graph  $P_m$ . The graph  $P_m$  is a graceful graph this implies  $H_i$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_i \subset \psi$

**Case (ii):** If  $ab \in P_n$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_n$  and  $x = y$ .

If  $ab \in P_n$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_n$  and  $x = y$ . Let the sub graph formed by these set of edges is  $H_j$  isomorphic to the graph  $P_n$ . The graph  $P_n$  is a graceful graph this implies  $H_j$  is also a graceful graph. This implies  $H_j \subset \psi$ .

**Case (iii):** If  $ab \in P_n$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_n$  and  $xy \in P_m$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_m$ .

If  $ab \in P_n$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_n$  and  $xy \in P_m$  are adjacent vertices in  $P_m$ . The graph  $P_m$  is a graceful graph therefore we get  $m$  number graceful graph isomorphic to  $P_m$ . Hence we get  $m$  times of  $P_m$ .

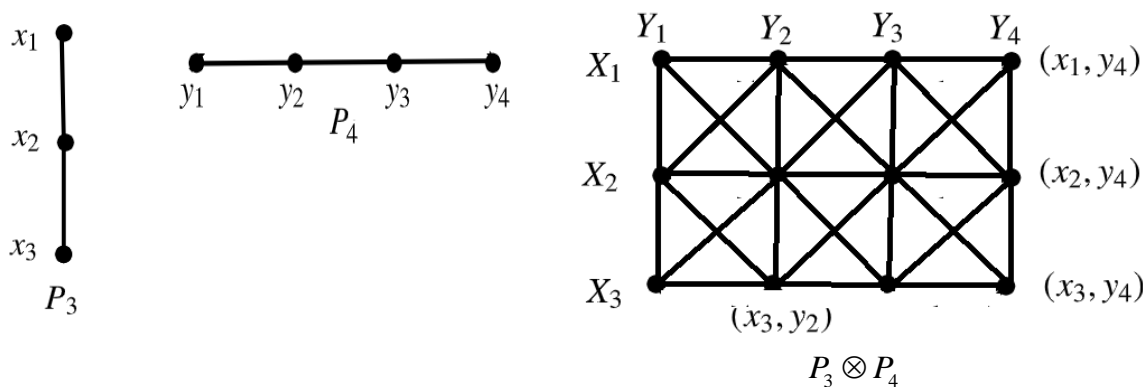
From case (i) and (ii), we get  $\psi = \left\{ \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m P_{ni} \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{j=1}^n P_{mj} \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^m P_{mi} \right) \right\}$  this implies

$$|\psi| = \sum_{i=1}^m P_{ni} + \sum_{j=1}^n P_{mj} + \sum_{i=1}^m P_{mi}$$

$$|\psi| = m + n + m = 2m + n$$

Paths  $P_m$  &  $P_n$  are also decomposed in to graceful graphs. Hence we get  $\pi_g(P_m \otimes P_n) \geq (2m + n)$ .

**Illustration 2.5:** The strong product of two graceful graphs  $P_2$  &  $P_3$  and its possible decomposition are given in Figure.2.5



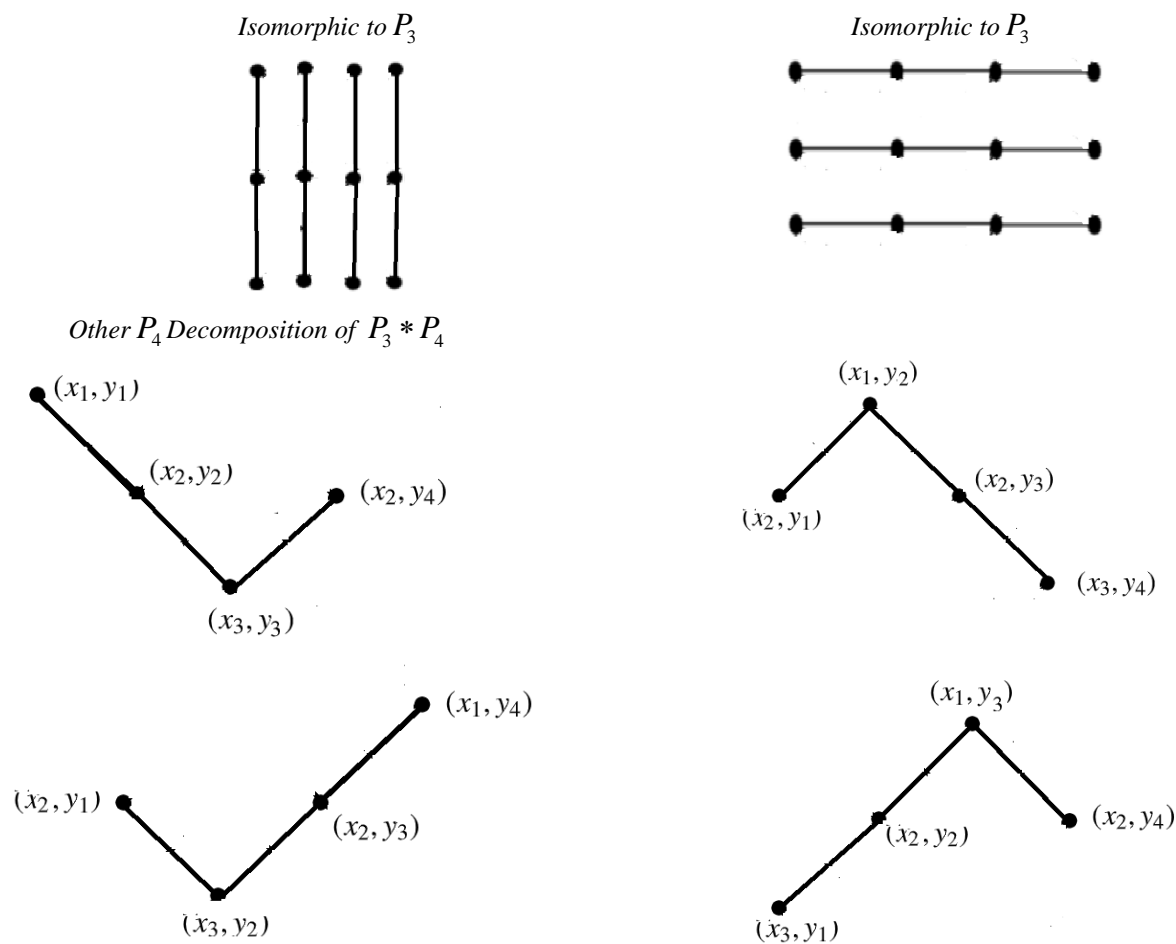


Figure.2.5

**Conclusion:**

In this paper, we define graceful decomposition and graceful decomposition number  $\pi_g(G)$  of a graph  $G$ . Also, some bounds of  $\pi_g(G)$  in product graphs like Cartesian product, composition etc. are discussed. In future, we will define different types of decomposition on labelling.

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