



# STRONGLY EDGE DISTANCE-BALANCED GRAPH PRODUCTS

Zohreh Aliannejadi<sup>1</sup>

Islamic Azad University of Tehran, South Branch, Tehran, Iran

Mehdi Alaeiyan

Islamic Azad University of Tehran, South Branch, Tehran, Iran

Alireza Gilani

Islamic Azad University of Tehran, South Branch, Tehran, Iran

## Abstract

In a graph  $A$  for every arbitrary edge  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$  and every two integers  $i, j$  we consider  $\hat{D}_j^i(f) = \{\hat{f} \in E(A) | d_A(\hat{f}, \alpha) = i, d_A(\hat{f}, \beta) = j\}$ . In this article, we define  $A$  strongly edge distance-balanced ( $SEDB$ ), whenever for each edge  $f = \alpha\beta$  and each integer  $i \geq 1$ ,  $\hat{D}_{i-1}^i(f) = \hat{D}_i^{i-1}(f)$  and then verify some its properties. Moreover, we investigate cartesian and lexicographic products for such graphs.

**Keywords:** edge distance-balanced graphs, strongly edge distance-balanced graphs, graph products, cartesian and lexicographic products

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## 1 Introduction

The notion of graph is an essential tool to make use of the modeling of the phenomena and it is taken into consideration in many studies in a recent decades. One of the optimal uses of graphs theory is to classify graphs based on discriminating quality. This phenomenon can be best observed in distance-balanced graphs has been determined by [7]. Also, it is investigated in some papers, we refer the reader to ([2],[3],[4],[7]-[11]) and references therein. We consider  $A$  is a connected, finite and undirected graph throughout of this paper, in which its vertex set is  $V(A)$  and its edge set is  $E(A)$ . In graph  $A$ , the distance among vertices  $\alpha, \beta \in V(A)$  is introduced the number of edges in the least distance joining them and it is indicated by  $d_A(\alpha, \beta)$  (see [11]). For every two desired vertices  $\alpha, \beta$  of  $V(A)$  we indicate  $n_\alpha^A(f) = |W_{\alpha,\beta}^A| = |\{a \in V(A) | d_A(a, \alpha) < d_A(a, \beta)\}|$  (see [1, 5]). In the same way, we would define  $n_\beta^A(f) = |W_{\beta,\alpha}^A|$ . We name  $A$  distance-balanced ( $DB$ ) while for adjacent vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of  $A$ , we have  $|W_{\alpha,\beta}^A| = |W_{\beta,\alpha}^A|$ .

For each two desired edges  $f = \alpha\beta, \hat{f} = \hat{\alpha}\hat{\beta}$ , the distance between  $f$  and  $\hat{f}$  is introduced via:

$$d_A(f, \hat{f}) = \min\{d_A(\alpha, \hat{\alpha}), d_A(\beta, \hat{\beta})\} = \min\{d_A(\alpha, \hat{\alpha}), d_A(\alpha, \hat{\beta}), d_A(\beta, \hat{\alpha}), d_A(\beta, \hat{\beta})\}.$$

<sup>1</sup>speaker

Set  $M_\alpha^A(f) = \{f \in E(A) | d_A(\alpha, f) < d_A(\beta, f)\}$  and  $m_\alpha^A(f) = |M_\alpha^A(f)|$ ,  
 $M_\beta^A(f) = \{f \in E(A) | d_A(\beta, f) < d_A(\alpha, f)\}$  and  $m_\beta^A(f) = |M_\beta^A(f)|$ ,  
 and  $M_0^A(f) = \{f \in E(A) | d_A(\alpha, f) = d_A(\beta, f)\}$  and  $m_0^A(f) = |M_0^A(f)|$ .

Persume that  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$ . For every two integers  $i, j$  we consider:

$$\dot{D}_j^i(f) = \{f \in E(A) | d_A(f, \alpha) = i, d_A(f, \beta) = j\}.$$

A "distance partition" of  $E(A)$  is concluded by sets  $\dot{D}_j^i(f)$  duo to the edge  $f = \alpha\beta$ . Only the sets  $\dot{D}_i^{i-1}(f)$ ,  $\dot{D}_i^i(f)$  and,  $\dot{D}_{i-1}^i(f)$ , for each  $(1 \leq i \leq d)$  might be nonempty according to the triangle inequality (The diameter of the graph  $A$  is  $d$ ), as well as  $\dot{D}_0^0(f) = \phi$ .

A graph  $A$  is called *edge distance-balanced* (briefly *EDB*), while we have  $m_g^A(f) = m_h^A(f)$ . Also We call  $A$  *strongly edge distance-balanced* (*SEDB*), whenever for each edge  $f = \alpha\beta$  and  $i \geq 1$  it holds:

$$\dot{D}_{i-1}^i(f) = \dot{D}_i^{i-1}(f)$$

## 2 SEDB property

In this segment, we present a characterization of *SEDB* graphs and demonstrate that every edge-transitive graph is *SEDB*. Bring to mind, a graph  $A$  is said to be edge-transitive, if automorphism  $A$  acts on  $E(A)$  transitively. In a graph  $A$  for an edge  $f = \alpha\beta$  and each integer  $i \geq 0$ , consider  $\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)$  and  $\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)$  denote all the edges at distance  $i$  to  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , respectively, that is  $\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha) = \{f = \acute{\alpha}\acute{\beta} \in E(A) | d(f, \alpha) = i\}$  and  $\acute{S}_i(f_\beta) = \{f = \acute{\alpha}\acute{\beta} \in E(A) | d(f, \beta) = i\}$ .

**Proposition 2.1.** *Suppose that  $A$  is a graph with diameter  $d$ . Then for each edge  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$  and each  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, d\}$ ,  $A$  is *SEDB* if and only if  $|\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)| = |\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)|$ .*

*Proof.* Persume first that  $A$  is *SEDB* and  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$ . By definititon, we have  $|\dot{D}_{i+1}^i(f)| = |\dot{D}_i^{i+1}(f)|$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, d-1\}$ . Observe that  $\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)$  is a disjoin union of the sets  $\dot{D}_{i-1}^i(f)$ ,  $\dot{D}_i^i(f)$  and  $\dot{D}_i^{i+1}(f)$ . Analogously,  $\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)$  is a disjoint union of the sets  $\dot{D}_{i-1}^i(f)$ ,  $\dot{D}_i^i(f)$  and  $\dot{D}_i^{i+1}(f)$ . Since  $\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha) = \dot{D}_{i-1}^i(f) \cup \dot{D}_i^i(f) \cup \dot{D}_{i+1}^i(f)$  and  $\acute{S}_i(f_\beta) = \dot{D}_{i-1}^{i-1}(f) \cup \dot{D}_i^i(f) \cup \dot{D}_i^{i+1}(f)$ , we obtain  $|\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)| = |\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)|$ .

For converse, consider that  $|\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)| = |\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)|$ , for each edge  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$  and for some  $0 \leq i \leq d-1$ . By induction we have  $|\dot{D}_{i+1}^i(f)| = |\dot{D}_i^{i+1}(f)|$ , for each edge  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$  and for some  $0 \leq i \leq d-1$ . Assume now that  $|\dot{D}_j^{j-1}(f)| = |\dot{D}_{j-1}^j(f)|$  holds for each  $j \in \{1, \dots, d-1\}$ . We attain that

$$|\dot{D}_{j+1}^j(f)| = |\acute{S}_j(f_\alpha)| - |\dot{D}_j^j(f)| - |\dot{D}_{j-1}^j(f)|$$

and

$$|\dot{D}_j^{j+1}(f)| = |\acute{S}_j(f_\beta)| - |\dot{D}_j^j(f)| - |\dot{D}_j^{j-1}(f)|.$$

Since  $|\acute{S}_j(f_\alpha)| = |\acute{S}_j(f_\beta)|$  and according to the induction hypthothesis  $|\dot{D}_j^{j-1}(f)| = |\dot{D}_{j-1}^j(f)|$ , we have  $|\dot{D}_{j+1}^j(f)| = |\dot{D}_j^{j+1}(f)|$ . The proof is completed.  $\square$

Assume that  $A$  is a *SEDB* graph with diameter  $d$ . By Proposition 2.1 for every edge  $f = \alpha\beta \in E(A)$  and for some  $0 \leq i \leq d-1$ ,  $|\acute{S}_i(f_\alpha)| = |\acute{S}_i(f_\beta)|$  holds. If automorphisms preserve distance, then the following corollary follows.

**Corollary 2.2.** *Let  $A$  be an edge-transitive graph. Then  $A$  is *SEDB*.*

### 3 *SEDB* property in graph products

We would now investigate situations in which the *Cartesian product* leads to a *SNEDB* graph. We mention that such product graphs, formed by graphs  $A$  and  $B$ , its vertex set is  $V(A \square B) = V(A) \times V(B)$ . Consider that  $(a_1, b_1)$  and  $(a_2, b_2)$  are detached vertices in  $V(A \square B)$ . In the Cartesian product  $A \square B$ , if vertices  $(a_1, b_1)$  and  $(a_2, b_2)$  are coincident in one coordinate and adjacent in the another coordinate, then they are adjacent, that is,  $a_1 = a_2$  and  $b_1 b_2 \in E(B)$ , or  $b_1 = b_2$  and  $a_1 a_2 \in E(A)$ . Obviously, for vertices we have:

$$d_{A \square B}((a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)) = d_A(a_1, a_2) + d_B(b_1, b_2).$$

For edges we have:

$$\begin{aligned} & d_{A \square B}((a, b)(a_1, b_1), (\acute{a}, \acute{b})(\acute{a}_1, \acute{b}_1)) = \\ & \min\{d_{A \square B}((a, b), (\acute{a}, \acute{b})), d_{A \square B}((a, b), (\acute{a}_1, \acute{b}_1)), d_{A \square B}((a_1, b_1), (\acute{a}, \acute{b})), \\ & \quad d_{A \square B}((a_1, b_1), (\acute{a}_1, \acute{b}_1))\} = \\ & \min\{d_A(a, \acute{a}) + d_B(b, \acute{b}), d_A(a, \acute{a}_1) + d_B(b, \acute{b}_1), d_A(a_1, \acute{a}) + d_B(b_1, \acute{b}), d_A(a_1, \acute{a}_1) + d_B(b_1, \acute{b}_1)\}. \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be connected graphs. Then  $A \square B$  is *SEDB* if and only if both  $A$  and  $B$  are *SEDB*.*

*Proof.* Consider that  $F = (a, b)(\acute{a}, \acute{b}) \in E(A \square B)$  and  $f = a\acute{a} \in E(A)$  and  $\acute{f} = \acute{b}\acute{b} \in E(B)$  and let  $i \geq 0$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \acute{S}_i(F_{(a,b)}) &= \bigcup_{j=0}^i \acute{S}_j(f_a) \times \acute{S}_{i-j}(\acute{f}_b) \\ \acute{S}_i(F_{(\acute{a},\acute{b})}) &= \bigcup_{j=0}^i \acute{S}_j(\acute{f}_a) \times \acute{S}_{i-j}(\acute{f}_b) \end{aligned}$$

and therefore, respectively

$$|\acute{S}_i(F_{(a,b)})| = \sum_{j=0}^i |\acute{S}_j(f_a)| |\acute{S}_{i-j}(\acute{f}_b)| \quad (1)$$

$$|\acute{S}_i(F_{(\acute{a},\acute{b})})| = \sum_{j=0}^i |\acute{S}_j(\acute{f}_a)| |\acute{S}_{i-j}(\acute{f}_b)|. \quad (2)$$

Persume first that  $A$  and  $B$  are *SEDB*. Then, by Proposition 2.1 the number of edges of graph  $A$  and graph  $B$  at distance  $j$  from  $f_a$  and  $\acute{f}_b$ , respectively depend only on  $j$ . Hence by (1), (2) the number of edges of  $A \square B$  at distance  $i$  from  $F = (a, b)(\acute{a}, \acute{b})$  depends on  $i$ , yielding that  $A \square B$  is *SEDB*.

For converse, suppose that  $A$  or  $B$  is not *SEDB*. We introduce  $r_C$  to be  $\infty$  for a graph  $C$  if  $C$  is *SEDB* and otherwise

$$\min\{i \in \mathbb{Z} \mid \text{there exist } C_1 = x_1 y_1, C_2 = x_2 y_2 \in E(C) \text{ such that } |\acute{S}_i(C_{1x_1})| \neq |\acute{S}_i(C_{2x_2})| \text{ and } |\acute{S}_i(C_{1y_1})| \neq |\acute{S}_i(C_{2y_2})|\}.$$

Assume that  $i = \min\{r_A, r_B\}$  and it is clear that  $i \leq \infty$ . Now let  $i = r_A$ . Let  $f_1 = a_1 a_2$ ,  $\acute{f}_1 = \acute{a}_1 \acute{a}_2 \in E(A)$  such that  $|\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_1})| > |\acute{S}_i(\acute{f}_{1\acute{a}_1})|$  and  $|\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_2})| > |\acute{S}_i(\acute{f}_{1\acute{a}_2})|$  and let  $f_2 = b_1 b_2 \in E(B)$ . By (1), (2) and the assumption  $A$  is not *SEDB*. For  $(a_1, b_1)(a_2 b_2) = F_1 \in E(A \square B)$  and  $(\acute{a}_1, b_1)(\acute{a}_2 b_2) = \acute{F}_1 \in E(A \square B)$  we attain

$$\{|\acute{S}_i(F_{1(a_1, b_1)})|, |\acute{S}_i(F_{1(a_2, b_2)})|\} - \min\{|\acute{S}_i(\acute{F}_{1(\acute{a}_1, b_1)})|, |\acute{S}_i(\acute{F}_{1(\acute{a}_2, b_2)})|\} =$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \min\{|\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_1})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_1})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_2})|, \\ & |\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_2})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_2})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_2})|\}- \\ & \min\{|\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_1})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_1})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_2})|, \\ & |\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_2})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_2})||\acute{S}_0(f_{2b_2})|\} = \\ & \min\{|\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f_{1a_2})|\} - \min\{|\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_1})|, |\acute{S}_i(f'_{1\acute{a}_2})|\} > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $A \square B$  is not *SEDB*. □

We would define the lexicographic product graphs. Product graph  $A[B]$  of the graphs  $A$  and  $B$ , where its vertex set is  $V(A[B]) = V(A) \times V(B)$ , and two its adjacent vertices are  $(a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)$  is defined the *lexicographic product* if  $a_1 a_2 \in E(A)$  or if  $a_1 = a_2$  and also  $b_1 b_2 \in E(B)$  (for more information see [7, p. 22]). Since  $A$  is a graph, thus it is easily seen for vertices that

$$d_{A[B]}((a_1, b_1), (a_2, b_2)) = \begin{cases} d_A(a_1, a_2) & \text{if } a_1 \neq a_2 \\ \min\{2, d_B(b_1, b_2)\} & \text{if } a_1 = a_2. \end{cases}$$

And for edges we have:

$$d_{A[B]}((a, b)(a_1, b_1), (\acute{a}, \acute{b})(\acute{a}_1, \acute{b}_1)) = \min \left\{ \begin{array}{llll} d_A(a, \acute{a}) & \text{if } a \neq \acute{a}, & \min\{2, d_B(b, \acute{b})\} & \text{if } a = \acute{a} \\ d_A(a, \acute{a}_1) & \text{if } a \neq \acute{a}_1, & \min\{2, d_B(b, \acute{b}_1)\} & \text{if } a = \acute{a}_1 \\ d_A(a_1, \acute{a}) & \text{if } a_1 \neq \acute{a}, & \min\{2, d_B(b_1, \acute{b})\} & \text{if } a_1 = \acute{a} \\ d_A(a_1, \acute{a}_1) & \text{if } a_1 \neq \acute{a}_1, & \min\{2, d_B(b_1, \acute{b}_1)\} & \text{if } a_1 = \acute{a}_1 \end{array} \right\}.$$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Persume that  $A$  and  $B$  are graphs and  $A[B]$  is connected. Then,  $A[B]$  is *SEDB* if and only if  $A$  is *SEDB* and also  $B$  is regular.*

*Proof.* Let  $F = (a, b)(\acute{a}, \acute{b}) \in E(A[B])$  and  $d$  be the diameter of  $A[B]$ . It is clearly seen that since  $A[B]$  is connected also  $A$  is connected and for  $f = a\acute{a} \in E(A)$  and  $\acute{f} = b\acute{b} \in E(B)$  we have

$$\acute{S}_0(F_{(a,b)}) = \acute{S}_0(f_a) \times E(B) \cup \{(a, b_1)(\acute{a}, b_2) | (b_1, b_2) \in \acute{S}_0(\acute{f}_b)\}$$

and also

$$\acute{S}_0(F_{(\acute{a}, \acute{b})}) = \acute{S}_0(\acute{f}_a) \times E(B) \cup \{(a, b_1)(\acute{a}, b_2) | (b_1, b_2) \in \acute{S}_0(\acute{f}_b)\}.$$

Therefore

$$\acute{S}_1(F_{(a,b)}) = \acute{S}_1(f_a) \times E(B) \cup \{(a, b_1)(\acute{a}, b_2) | (b_1, b_2) \notin \acute{S}_1(\acute{f}_b)\}$$

$$\acute{S}_1(F_{(\acute{a}, \acute{b})}) = \acute{S}_1(\acute{f}_a) \times E(B) \cup \{(a, b_1)(\acute{a}, b_2) | (b_1, b_2) \notin \acute{S}_1(\acute{f}_b)\},$$

$$\acute{S}_i(F_{(a,b)}) = \acute{S}_i(f_a) \times E(B) \quad i \in \{2, 3, \dots, d\} \tag{3}$$

$$\acute{S}_i(F_{(\acute{a}, \acute{b})}) = \acute{S}_i(\acute{f}_a) \times E(B) \quad i \in \{2, 3, \dots, d\}. \tag{4}$$

Consider first that  $A$  is *SEDB* and  $B$  is regular. By (3), (4)

$$\min\{|\acute{S}_i(a_1, \acute{b}_1)(a_2, \acute{b}_2)_{(a_1, \acute{b}_1)}|, |\acute{S}_i(a_1, \acute{b}_1)(a_2, \acute{b}_2)_{(a_2, \acute{b}_2)}|\} =$$

$$\min\{|\dot{S}_i(a_1, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}_2, \dot{b}_2)_{(\dot{a}_1, \dot{b}_1)}|, |\dot{S}_i(a_1, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}_2, \dot{b}_2)_{(\dot{a}_2, \dot{b}_2)}|\},$$

for every two edges  $(a_1, \dot{b}_1)$  and  $(\dot{a}_1, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}_2, \dot{b}_2)$  of  $A[B]$  and for every integer  $i$ . Consequently, by Proposition 2.1  $A[B]$  is *SEDB*. Suppose next that  $A[B]$  is *SEDB*. Let  $aa \in E(A)$  and  $\dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2, \dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2 \in E(B)$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & \min\{|\dot{S}_0(a, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)_{(a, \dot{b}_1)}|, |\dot{S}_0(a, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)_{(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)}|\} = \\ & \min\{|\dot{S}_0(a, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)_{(a, \dot{b}_1)}|, |\dot{S}_0(a, \dot{b}_1)(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)_{(\dot{a}, \dot{b}_2)}|\}, \end{aligned}$$

and (1), (2) imply that

$$\min\{|\dot{S}_0(\dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2)_{\dot{b}_1}|, |\dot{S}_0(\dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2)_{\dot{b}_2}|\} = \min\{|\dot{S}_0(\dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2)_{\dot{b}_1}|, |\dot{S}_0(\dot{b}_1\dot{b}_2)_{\dot{b}_2}|\}.$$

Thus,  $B$  is regular. Considering this and by (2), (3),  $|\dot{S}_i(aa)_a|$  and  $|\dot{S}_i(aa)_a|$  depend only on  $i$ , yielding that  $A$  is *SEDB*.  $\square$

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e-mail: [alian.zohreh64@gmail.com](mailto:alian.zohreh64@gmail.com)

e-mail: [malaeiyan@gmail.com](mailto:malaeiyan@gmail.com)

e-mail: [a\\_gilani@azad.ac.ir](mailto:a_gilani@azad.ac.ir)