

# Outer-Connected Inverse Domination in Graphs

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## Abstract

Let  $G$  be a connected simple graph. A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is a dominating set of  $G$  if for every  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $xv \in E(G)$ . A set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is said to be an outer-connected dominating set in  $G$  if  $D$  is dominating and either  $D = V(G)$  or  $\langle V(G) \setminus D \rangle$  is connected. Let  $D$  be a minimum dominating set of  $G$ . A nonempty subset  $S \subseteq V(G) \setminus D$  is an outer connected inverse dominating set of  $G$ , if  $S$  is an inverse dominating set with respect to  $D$  and the subgraph  $\langle V(G) \setminus S \rangle$  induced by  $V(G) \setminus S$  is connected. The outer connected inverse domination number of  $G$ , is denoted by  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G)$ , that is, the minimum cardinality of an outer connected inverse dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, we initiate the study of the concept and give the outer-connected inverse domination number of some special graphs. Further, we give the characterization of the outer-connected inverse dominating set in the join of two nontrivial connected graphs.

**Keywords:** dominating set, outer-connected dominating set, inverse dominating set, outer-connected inverse dominating set

## 1. Introduction

Domination in graph was introduced by Claude Berge in 1958 and Oystein Ore in 1962 [1]. Following an article [2] by Ernie Cockayne and Stephen Hedetniemi in 1977, the domination in graphs became an area of study by many researchers. A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is a dominating set of  $G$  if for every  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , there exists  $x \in S$  such that  $xv \in E(G)$ , i.e.,  $N[S] = V(G)$ . The domination number  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  is the smallest cardinality of a dominating set of  $G$ . Some studies on domination in graphs were found in the papers [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13].

A set  $S$  of vertices of a graph  $G$  is an outer-connected dominating set if every vertex not in  $S$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S$  and the sub-graph induced by  $V(G) \setminus S$  is connected. The outer-connected domination number  $\tilde{\gamma}_c(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of the outer-connected dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$ . The concept of outer-connected domination in graphs was introduced by Cyman [14]. Some related studies of outer-connected domination in graphs are found in [15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21].

Let  $D$  be a minimum dominating set in  $G$ . The dominating set  $S \subseteq V(G) \setminus D$  is called an inverse dominating set with respect to  $D$ . The minimum cardinality of an inverse dominating set is called an inverse

domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma^{-1}(G)$ . An inverse dominating set of cardinalities  $\gamma^{-1}(G)$  is called  $\gamma^{-1}$  - set of  $G$ . The inverse domination in a graph was first found in the paper of Kulli [22] and can be read in the papers [23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32].

Motivated by the introduction of the outer-connected dominating sets and the inverse dominating sets, a new variant of domination in graphs is introduced in this paper. Let  $D$  be a minimum dominating set of  $G$ . A nonempty subset  $S \subseteq V(G) \setminus D$  is an outer connected inverse dominating set of  $G$ , if  $S$  is an inverse dominating set with respect to  $D$  and the subgraph  $\langle V(G) \setminus S \rangle$  induced by  $V(G) \setminus S$  is connected. The outer connected inverse domination number of  $G$ , is denoted by  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G)$ , that is the minimum cardinality of an outer connected inverse dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, we initiate the study of the concept and give the outer-connected inverse domination number of some special graphs. Further, we show the characterization of the outer-connected inverse dominating set in the join of two nontrivial connected graphs.

For the general terminology in graph theory, readers may refer to [33]. A graph  $G$  is a pair  $(V(G), E(G))$ , where  $V(G)$  is a finite nonempty set called the vertex-set of  $G$  and  $E(G)$  is a set of unordered pairs  $\{u, v\}$  (or simply  $uv$ ) of distinct elements from  $V(G)$  called the edge-set of  $G$ . The elements of  $V(G)$  are called vertices and the cardinality  $|V(G)|$  of  $V(G)$  is the order of  $G$ . The elements of  $E(G)$  are called edges and the cardinality  $|E(G)|$  of  $E(G)$  is the size of  $G$ . If  $|V(G)| = 1$ , then  $G$  is called a trivial graph. If  $E(G) = \emptyset$ , then  $G$  is called an empty graph. The open neighborhood of a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  is the set  $N_G(v) = \{u \in V(G) : uv \in E(G)\}$ . The elements of  $N_G(v)$  are called neighbors of  $v$ . The closed neighborhood of  $v \in V(G)$  is the set  $N_G[v] = N_G(v) \cup \{v\}$ . If  $X \subseteq V(G)$ , the open neighborhood of  $X$  in  $G$  is the set  $N_G(X) = \bigcup_{v \in X} N_G(v)$ . The closed neighborhood of  $X$  in  $G$  is the set  $N_G[X] = \bigcup_{v \in X} N_G[v] = N_G(X) \cup X$ . When no confusion arises,  $N_G[x]$  [res.  $N_G(x)$ ] will be denoted by  $N[x]$  [resp.  $N(x)$ ].

## 2. Results

**Definition 2.1** A simple graph  $G$  is an undirected graph with no loop edges or multiple edges.

**Definition 2.2** The path  $P_n = \{a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots a_n\}$  is the graph with  $V(P_n) = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$  and  $E(P_n) = \{a_1 a_2, a_2 a_3, \dots, a_{n-1} a_n\}$ .

**Definition 2.3** The cycle  $C_n = \{a_1 a_2 a_3 \dots a_n a_1\}$  is the graph with  $V(C_n) = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_n\}$  and  $E(C_n) = \{a_1 a_2, a_2 a_3, \dots, a_n a_1\}$ .

**Definition 2.4** A graph  $K_n = (V(K_n), E(K_n))$  is called a complete graph of order  $n$  when  $xy$  is an edge in  $K_n$  for every distinct pair  $x, y \in V(K_n)$ .

**Definition 2.5** A complete bipartite graph is a graph whose vertex set can be partitioned into  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that every edge joins a vertex in  $V_1$  with a vertex in  $V_2$ , and every vertex in  $V_1$  is adjacent with every vertex in  $V_2$ .

**Remark 2.6** Let  $G$  be a special graph.

(i) if  $G = C_n$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G) = 2, n = 4$

(ii) if  $G = P_n$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G) = \begin{cases} n - 1, & \text{if } n = 2 \text{ or } n = 3 \\ 2, & \text{if } n = 4 \\ \text{none}, & \text{if } n \geq 5 \end{cases}$

(iii) if  $G = K_n$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G) = 1, \forall n \geq 2$

(iv) if  $G = S_n$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G) = n, \forall n \geq 1$

(v) if  $G = K_{m,n}$ , then  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G) = 2, \forall m, n \geq 2$

**Definition 2.7** The join  $G + H$  of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is the graph with vertex-set  $V(G + H) = V(G) \cup V(H)$  and edge-set  $E(G + H) = E(G) \cup E(H) \cup \{uv: u \in V(G), v \in V(H)\}$ .

The following results are needed for our theorem.

**Lemma 2.8** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = V(G) \setminus D_G$ , where  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = V(G) \setminus D_G$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_G$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S = D_G$ , then  $vy \in E(G + H)$  for all  $y \in V(H)$ . If  $v \in V(H)$ , then  $vx \in E(G + H)$  for all  $x \in D_G$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Lemma 2.9** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = V(H) \setminus D_H$ , where  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = V(H) \setminus D_H$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_H$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S = D_H$ , then  $vx \in E(G + H)$  for all  $x \in V(G)$ . If  $v \in V(G)$ , then  $vy \in E(G + H)$  for all  $y \in D_H$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Lemma 2.10** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup (V(H) \setminus \{y\})$ ,  $y \in V(H)$ , where  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup (V(H) \setminus \{y\})$ ,  $y \in V(H)$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_G \subset V(G)$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S = D_G$ , then  $vy \in E(G + H)$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S$ , then  $v = y$  and  $xy \in E(G + H)$  for all  $x \in D_G$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Lemma 2.11** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$ ,  $x \in V(G)$ , where  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$ ,  $x \in V(G)$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_H \subset V(H)$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S = D_H$ , then  $vx \in E(G + H)$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , then  $v = x$  and  $xy \in E(G + H)$  for all  $y \in D_H$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Lemma 2.12** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup A, A \subset (V(H) \setminus \{y\}), y \in V(H), A \neq \emptyset$ , and  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup A, A \subset (V(H) \setminus \{y\}), y \in V(H), A \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_G \subset V(G)$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S = D_G$ , then  $vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H) \setminus A$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus A$ , then  $xv \in E(G + H)$  for all  $x \in D_G$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Lemma 2.13** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. If  $S = (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup B, B \subset (V(G) \setminus \{x\}), x \in V(G), B \neq \emptyset$ , and  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , then  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that  $S = (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup B, B \subset (V(G) \setminus \{x\}), x \in V(G), B \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $D_H \subset V(H)$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S = D_H$ , then  $vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(G) \setminus B$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus B$ , then  $yv \in E(G + H)$  for all  $y \in D_H$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

**Theorem 2.14** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. The subset  $S \subset V(G + H)$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ , if one of the following conditions is satisfied.

1.  $S \subseteq (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup (V(H) \setminus \{y\})$ , where  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $y \in V(H)$ .
2.  $S \subseteq (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$ , where  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $x \in V(G)$ .
3.  $S \subseteq (V(G + H) \setminus \{x, y\})$ ,  $x \in V(G), y \in V(H)$  and  $\{x, y\}$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Proof: Suppose that statement (i) is satisfied. Then  $S \subseteq (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup (V(H) \setminus \{y\})$ , where  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $y \in V(H)$ . Consider the following cases.

- Case 1. If  $S = V(G) \setminus D_G$ , then by Lemma 2.8,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .
- Case 2. If  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup (V(H) \setminus \{y\}), y \in V(H)$ , then by Lemma 2.10,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .
- Case 3. If  $S = (V(G) \setminus D_G) \cup A, A \subset (V(H) \setminus \{y\}), A \neq \emptyset$ , and  $y \in V(H)$ , then by Lemma 2.12,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Suppose that statement (ii) is satisfied. Then  $S \subseteq (V(H) \setminus D_H) \cup (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$ , where  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $x \in V(G)$ . Consider the following cases.

- Case 1. If  $S = V(H) \setminus D_H$ , then by Lemma 2.9,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .
- Case 2. If  $S = (V(H) \setminus S_H) \cup (V(G) \setminus \{x\}), x \in V(G)$ , then by Lemma 2.11,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .
- Case 3. If  $S = (V(H) \setminus S_H) \cup B$ , where  $B \in (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$  and  $x \in V(G)$ , then by Lemma 2.13,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Suppose that statement (iii) is satisfied. Then  $S \subseteq (V(G + H) \setminus \{x, y\}), x \in V(G), y \in V(H)$  and  $\{x, y\}$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ . Consider the following cases.

Case 1. If  $S = (V(G + H) \setminus \{x, y\})$ , then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , then  $v = x$  and  $xy \in E(G + H)$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S$ , then  $v = y$  and  $xy \in E(G + H)$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Case 2. If  $S \neq (V(G + H) \setminus \{x, y\})$ , then consider the following subcases.

Subcase 1. If  $S = (V(G) \setminus \{x\})$ , then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , then  $v = x$  and  $xu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H)$ . If  $v \in V(H)$ , then  $xv \in E(G + H)$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Subcase 2. If  $S = (V(H) \setminus \{y\})$ , then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G)$ , then  $vy \in E(G + H)$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S$ , then  $v = y$  and  $uv \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(G)$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Subcase 3. If  $S = S_G \cup S_H, S_G \subset (V(G) \setminus \{x\}), S_H \subset (V(H) \setminus \{y\}) (S_G \neq \emptyset \text{ and } S_H \neq \emptyset)$ , then  $S$  is an inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S_G$ , then  $vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H) \setminus S_H$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S_H, vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(G) \setminus S_G$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Subcase 4. If  $S = S_G, S_G \subset (V(G) \setminus \{x\}), (S_G \neq \emptyset)$  and  $S_G$  is a dominating set of  $G$ , then  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $S$  is an inverse dominating set with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(G) \setminus S_G$ , then  $vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H)$ . If  $v \in V(H), vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(G) \setminus S_G$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Subcase 5. If  $S = S_H, S_H \subset (V(H) \setminus \{y\}), (S_H \neq \emptyset)$  and  $S_H$  is a dominating set of  $H$ , then  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G + H$  and  $S$  is an inverse dominating set with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$ . Let  $v \in V(G + H) \setminus S$ . If  $v \in V(H) \setminus S_H$ , then  $vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(G)$ . If  $v \in V(G), vu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H) \setminus S_H$ . This implies that the subgraph induced by  $V(G + H) \setminus S$  is connected. Hence,  $S$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . ■

The following result is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.14.

**Corollary 2.15** Let  $G$  and  $H$  be connected non-complete graphs. Then

$$\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } A = \{x\} \text{ is a dominating set of } G \text{ (or } H) \\ & \text{and } B = \{y\} \text{ is a dominating set of } G \text{ (or } H) \\ 2, & \text{if otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Proof: Suppose that  $S = V(G) \setminus D_G$ , where  $D_G \subset V(G)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ . Then by Lemma 2.8,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . This implies that,  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) \leq |S|$ .



Consider that  $D_G = A = \{x\}$  and  $B = \{y\} \subset V(G)$ . Then  $B$  is also a dominating set of  $G$ , that is,  $B$  is an inverse dominating set of  $A$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $w \in V(G + H) \setminus B$ . If  $w \in V(G) \setminus B$ , then  $wu \in E(G + H)$  for all  $u \in V(H)$ . If  $w \in V(H)$ , then  $wv \in E(G + H)$ , for all  $v \in V(G) \setminus B$ . Thus,  $B$  is an outer-connected dominating set of  $G + H$ , that is,  $B$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . Similarly, if  $B$  is a dominating set of  $H$ , then  $B$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . Let  $S = B$ . Then  $1 \leq \tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) \leq |S| = |B| = 1$ . Hence,  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) = 1$ .

Suppose that  $S = V(H) \setminus D_H$ , where  $D_H \subset V(H)$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ . Then by Lemma 2.9,  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$ . Consider that  $D_H = A = \{x\}$  and  $B = \{y\} \subset V(H)$  (or  $V(G)$ ). By following similar arguments above,  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) = 1$ .

Suppose that  $S \subseteq (V(G + H) \setminus \{x, y\})$ ,  $x \in V(G)$ ,  $y \in V(H)$ , and  $\{x, y\}$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ . By Theorem 2.14 (iii),  $S$  is an outer-connected inverse dominating set of  $G + H$  with respect to a minimum dominating set  $\{x, y\}$  of  $G + H$ . Let  $S = \{v, u\}$  such that  $x \neq v \in V(G)$  and  $y \neq u \in V(H)$ . Since  $\{x, y\}$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G + H$ , it follows that  $2 = |\{x, y\}| = \gamma(G + H) \leq \tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) \leq |S| = |\{v, u\}| = 2$ , that is,  $\tilde{\gamma}_c^{(-1)}(G + H) = 2$ . ■

### Conclusion and Recommendations

In this work, we introduced a new parameter of domination in graphs - the outer-connected inverse domination in graphs. The outer-connected inverse domination in the join of two graphs were characterized. The exact outer-connected inverse domination number resulting from this binary operation of two graphs were computed. This study will pave a way to new research such bounds and other binary operations of two graphs. Other parameters involving outer-connected inverse domination in graphs may also be explored. Finally, the characterization of an outer-connected inverse domination in graphs and its bounds is a promising extension of this study.

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