

2- Tensor Product of Graphs

U. P. Acharya and H. S. Mehta

Abstract—The tensor product $G_1 \otimes G_2$ and cartesian product $G_1 \times G_2$ of two graphs G_1 and G_2 are very well-known product and studied in detail in the literature. The concept of $G_1 \times G_2$ has been generalized by introducing 2- cartesian product $G_1 \times_2 G_2$ in our recent paper in 2014. In this paper, we extend the concept of tensor product $G_1 \otimes G_2$ by defining 2-tensor product $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ and obtain it for special graphs as P_n and C_n . We also discuss connectedness for this product.

Index Terms—Tensor product of graphs, 2-tensor product of graphs, component.

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I. INTRODUCTION

THE tensor product $G_1 \otimes G_2$ is one of the most important graph product, and can be viewed as the category of graphs. This product has been extended by introducing 2 - tensor product $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ of two graphs G_1 and G_2 with the help of distance $d(u, v)$ between two vertices u and v . In this paper, we obtain $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$, for special graphs as P_n and C_n .

II. PRELIMINARIES

Let $G = (V, E)$ be a finite, simple graph (without loops and multiple edges), where $V = V(G)$ is the vertex set and $E = E(G)$ is the edge set. If edge set is empty then G is a null graph.

A graph G is connected, if there is at least one path between every pair of vertices in G . Otherwise G is disconnected graph. A maximal connected subgraph of G is called a component of G . We say that it is nontrivial component of G , if it is not a single vertex. If G is a connected graph then G has only one component, G itself.

Also $d_G(u, u')$ is the length of the shortest path between u and u' in the connected graph G . The diameter of G is defined as $\max\{d_G(u, u') : u, u' \in V\}$ and is denoted by $D(G)$.

If the graph G is a disjoint union of r similar components H , then we shall denote it by,

$$G = \bigcup_{i=1}^r H^{(i)}$$

Throughout the paper, we fix G to be finite, connected and simple graph. We denote the path graph, cycle graph and complete graph with n vertices by P_n , C_n and K_n respectively.

For the basic terminology, concepts and results of graph theory, we refer to ([3], [4], [6]).

U. P. Acharya is a associate professor in the Department of Applied Sciences and Humanities, A.D. Patel Institute of technology, New Vallabh Vidyanagar-388121, Gujarat, India. (E-mail: urvaship04@yahoo.co.in)

H. S. Mehta is a Reader in the Department of Mathematics, S. P. University, Vallabh Vidyanagar-388120, Gujarat, India. (E-mail: himalimehta63@gmail.com).

III. $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$

In this section, we discuss $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ for two path graphs. First we recall the definition of usual tensor product of graphs.

Definition 3.1 [6] Let $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ be two graphs. The tensor product of G_1 and G_2 , denoted by $G = G_1 \otimes G_2$ is the graph with vertex set $V = V_1 \times V_2$ and two vertices (u, v) and (u', v') in V are adjacent in the tensor product $G_1 \otimes G_2$ if $uu' \in E_1$ and $vv' \in E_2$. Equivalently, $d_{G_1}(u, u') = 1$ and $d_{G_2}(v, v') = 1$.

We extend this concept and define 2- tensor product of graphs.

Definition 3.2 Let $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$ be two connected graphs. The 2 - tensor product of G_1 and G_2 , denoted by $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ is the graph with vertex set $V_1 \times V_2$ and two vertices (u, v) and (u', v') are adjacent in the 2 - tensor product $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ if $d_{G_1}(u, u') = 2$ and $d_{G_2}(v, v') = 2$.

Remarks 3.3

- (i) If $|V_1| = m$ and $|V_2| = n$ then $|V| = m \cdot n$.
- (ii) The graph $G = G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ is a null graph if $D(G_1) < 2$ or $D(G_2) < 2$.

We fix the following notations. Let P_m and P_n be two path graphs with, $V(P_m) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$ and $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ respectively. It is clear that $P_2 \otimes_2 P_n$ is a null graph. So, we consider the case when both $m, n \geq 3$.

Proposition 3.4 The graph $P_3 \otimes_2 P_n$ has four non trivial components, each of which is a path graph.

Proof: Let $G = P_3$ and $H = P_n$ be two path graphs. Then $d_G(u_1, u_3) = 2$ and there is no vertex in G at distance two from u_2 . Therefore (u_2, v_j) are isolated vertices in $G \otimes_2 H$, for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Also $d_H(v_j, v_{j+2}) = 2$, for $j = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2$. Therefore (u_1, v_j) will be adjacent to (u_3, v_j) ; $j = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2$ in $G \otimes_2 H$. These give four vertex disjoint path graphs, which are in the following form:

For $i = 1$, starting with $j = 1$ we get,
 $(u_i, v_j) \rightarrow (u_{i+2}, v_{j+2}) \rightarrow (u_i, v_{j+4}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P$ and
 $(u_{i+2}, v_j) \rightarrow (u_i, v_{j+2}) \rightarrow (u_{i+2}, v_{j+4}) \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow P_0$.

where $P = \begin{cases} (u_1, v_{4k+1}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 1 \text{ or } 4k + 2; \\ (u_3, v_{4k+3}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 3 \\ (u_3, v_{4k-1}), & \text{if } n = 4k \end{cases}$ and

$P_0 = \begin{cases} (u_3, v_{4k+1}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 1 \text{ or } 4k + 2; \\ (u_1, v_{4k+3}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 3 \\ (u_1, v_{4k-1}), & \text{if } n = 4k \end{cases}$

In this case, length of the path will be $\frac{n-1}{2}$ or $\frac{n}{2} - 1$ as n is odd or even, i.e., we get path graph $P_{\frac{n+1}{2}}$ or $P_{\frac{n}{2}}$ as n is odd or n is even respectively.

Now starting with $j = 2$, in above two paths, the vertices P and P_0 will be as follows:

$$P = \begin{cases} (u_1, v_{4k+2}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 2 \text{ or } 4k + 3; \\ (u_3, v_{4k}), & \text{if } n = 4k \text{ or } 4k + 1. \end{cases}$$

$$P_0 = \begin{cases} (u_3, v_{4k+2}), & \text{if } n = 4k + 2 \text{ or } 4k + 3; \\ (u_1, v_{4k}), & \text{if } n = 4k \text{ or } 4k + 1. \end{cases}$$

In this case, we get two path graphs $P_{\frac{n-1}{2}}$ or $P_{\frac{n}{2}}$ as n is odd or even respectively in $G \otimes_2 H$.

Finally, the following types of four components we obtain in the resultant product graph $G \otimes_2 H$:

If n is odd, then

$$P_3 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^2 (P_{(\frac{n+1}{2})}^{(i)}) \right] \cup \left[\bigcup_{j=1}^2 (P_{(\frac{n-1}{2})}^{(j)}) \right] \cup \left[\bigcup_{t=1}^n (P_1)^{(t)} \right]$$

If n is even, then

$$P_3 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^4 (P_{(\frac{n}{2})}^{(i)}) \right] \cup \left[\bigcup_{t=1}^n (P_1)^{(t)} \right]$$

Note that $P_3 \otimes_2 P_3$ has only two nontrivial components.

Proposition 3.5

(a) If n is odd, then

$$P_4 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^4 (P_{(\frac{n+1}{2})}^{(i)}) \right] \cup \left[\bigcup_{j=1}^4 (P_{(\frac{n-1}{2})}^{(j)}) \right]$$

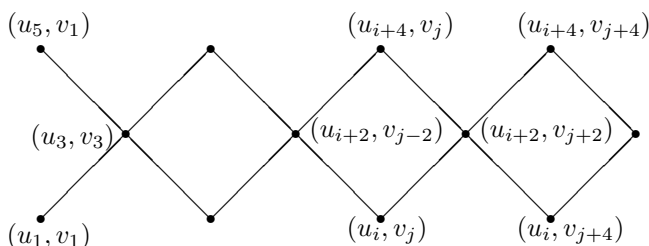
(b) If n is even, then $P_4 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^8 (P_{(\frac{n}{2})}^{(i)}) \right]$

Proof: Let $G = P_4$ with $V(P_4) = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4\}$. So, $d_G(u_1, u_3) = 2$ and $d_G(u_2, u_4) = 2$. As in Proposition 3.4 we have four components with respect to u_1 and u_3 and another four similar components with respect to u_2 and u_4 . So, here we have eight components in $G \otimes_2 H$.

It is known that the usual tensor product $P_m \otimes P_n$ ($m, n \geq 2$) is a disconnected graph with exactly two components [6]. Next we prove that $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ ($m, n \geq 4$) is also a disconnected graph but with exactly eight components.

Proposition 3.6 Let P_m and P_n be two path graphs with $m, n \geq 4$. Then $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ has eight bipartite components.

Proof As in Proposition 3.5, we have eight vertex disjoint path graphs in $P_4 \otimes_2 P_n$. We fixed second graph P_n and extend the graph P_4 . If we add one edge ($u_4 \longleftrightarrow u_5$) in P_4 , the following way, one of the component enlarge in upward direction. Here $i = 1$ with $j = 1, 5, \dots, 4k - 3$.



Similarly, in other components, the graph will also enlarge in upward direction. Thus the number of components remain

same, i.e. eight in the graph $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$.

Fix any one component, say H , with vertex set $V(H) = W_1 \cup W_2$ in $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$, where $W_1 = \{(u_i, v_j)/i = 1, 5, 9, \dots \text{ with } j = 1, 5, 9, \dots\}$ and $W_2 = \{(u_i, v_j)/i = 3, 7, 11, \dots \text{ with } j = 3, 7, 11, \dots\}$. Then, it is clear that H is a bipartite graph with partite sets W_1 and W_2 .

Corollary 3.7

(1) The degree of each vertex in $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ is as follows:

For $(u_i, v_j) \in V(P_m \otimes_2 P_n)$, $\text{deg}(u_i, v_j)$ is equal to

$$\begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i = 1, 2, m-1, \text{ or } m \\ & \text{with } j = 1, 2, n-1 \text{ or } n; \\ 2, & \text{if } i = 1, 2, m-1, \text{ or } m \text{ with } 3 \leq j \leq n-2 \\ & \text{or } 3 \leq i \leq m-2 \text{ with } j = 1, 2, n-1 \text{ or } n; \\ 4, & \text{if } 3 \leq i \leq m-2 \text{ with } 1 \leq j \leq n \end{cases}$$

(2) $|E(P_m \otimes_2 P_n)| = 2[(m-2)(n-2)]$

Proof: (1) Consider $(u_i, v_j) \in V(P_m \otimes_2 P_n)$ with $i \in \{1, 2, m-1, m\}$ and $j \in \{1, 2, n-1, n\}$. Then (u_i, v_j) is adjacent with only one vertex, (u_{i+2}, v_{j+2}) or (u_{i+2}, v_{j-2}) .

Also if $i \in \{1, 2\}$ and $3 \leq j \leq n-2$. Then (u_i, v_j) is adjacent with (u_{i+2}, v_{j-2}) and (u_{i+2}, v_{j+2}) . So degree of (u_i, v_j) is 2.

Similarly if $i \in \{3, 4, \dots, m-2\}$ with $j \in \{3, 4, \dots, n-2\}$, then (u_i, v_j) is adjacent with $(u_{i\pm 2}, v_{j\pm 2})$. So degree of (u_i, v_j) is 4.

(2) The result follows from (1) and by degree sum formula. □

Remark 3.8 Each component of $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ contain a vertex of degree one. So, it is clear that any component of $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ is not regular, not Eulerian as well as not Hamiltonian.

IV. $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ AND $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$

In this section, we discuss 2- tensor product of path graph P_m and cycle graph C_n , when both $m, n \geq 4$. Note that if $n = 4$ then $P_m \otimes_2 C_4$ is isomorphic to $P_m \otimes_2 P_4$.

First we consider the case when $m = 4$ and $n \geq 5$.

Proposition 4.1

(a) Suppose n is even. Then,

$$(1) P_4 \otimes_2 C_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^8 (C_{\frac{n}{2}})^{(i)} \right]; \text{ if } n = 4k, k \geq 1$$

$$(2) P_4 \otimes_2 C_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^4 (C_n)^{(i)} \right]; \text{ if } n = 4k + 2, k \geq 1$$

(b) Suppose n is odd. Then $P_4 \otimes_2 C_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^2 (C_{2n})^{(i)} \right]$

Proof: (a) Suppose n is even. As we have seen in Proposition 3.5,

$$P_4 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^8 (P_{\frac{n}{2}})^{(i)} \right]$$

Now, in graph P_n , we add one edge between v_1 to v_n , then it becomes a cycle graph C_n .

Then $d(v_1, v_{n-1}) = 2 = d(v_2, v_n)$ in C_n . So, the edges

$$\begin{aligned} e_i &: (u_i, v_1) \longleftrightarrow (u_{i+2}, v_{n-1}); i = 1, 2, \\ e_k &: (u_k, v_1) \longleftrightarrow (u_{k-2}, v_{n-1}); k = 3, 4, \\ e'_t &: (u_t, v_2) \longleftrightarrow (u_{t+2}, v_n); t = 1, 2, \\ e'_h &: (u_h, v_2) \longleftrightarrow (u_{h-2}, v_n); h = 3, 4. \end{aligned}$$

will be added in the resultant respective components.

(1) Suppose $n = 4k, k \geq 1$. Then the end vertices (u_1, v_1) and (u_3, v_{n-1}) of edge e_1 are in the same component, in fact these are the pendant vertices in the component $P_{\frac{n}{2}}$. So, by adding the edge e_1 , it give a cycle graph $C_{\frac{n}{2}}$.

Similarly, for other seven edges also, the end vertices are the pendant vertices of respective components. So, after adding these edges (e_i, e_k, e'_t, e'_h) , all eight components become cycle graphs $C_{\frac{n}{2}}$.

(2) Suppose $n = 4k + 2, k \geq 1$. In this case, end vertices of edge $e_1 [(u_1, v_1) \longleftrightarrow (u_3, v_{n-1})]$ lie in two different components of $P_4 \otimes_2 P_n$. So, when we add the edge e_1 in the product graph $P_4 \otimes_2 P_n$, two components will be joined, and give path graph P_n , whose end vertices are (u_1, v_{n-1}) and (u_3, v_1) . But, these are the end vertices of e_3 . So, after adding edge e_3 , this component become a cycle graph C_n .

Thus by adding other edges, two components of type $P_{\frac{n}{2}}$ will be joined and will give a cycle graph C_n .

(b) Suppose n is odd. Then by Proposition 3.5, we have

$$P_4 \otimes_2 P_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^4 \left(P_{\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)} \right)^{(i)} \right] \cup \left[\bigcup_{j=1}^4 \left(P_{\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)} \right)^{(j)} \right]$$

The end vertices of e_1 lie in two different components of the type $P_{\frac{n+1}{2}}$ and $P_{\frac{n-1}{2}}$. By adding edge e_1 we get path graph P_n . Similarly by adding edge e_3 , another $P_{\frac{n+1}{2}}$ and $P_{\frac{n-1}{2}}$ will be joined and gives P_n . Then by adding e'_1 , first we get P_{2n} and then by adding e'_3 we get the cycle graph C_{2n} . Thus four components $P_{\frac{n+1}{2}}, P_{\frac{n+1}{2}}, P_{\frac{n-1}{2}}$ and $P_{\frac{n-1}{2}}$ will be combined and give only one component C_{2n} .

By similar arguments, by adding the four edges (e_2, e_4, e'_2, e'_4) we get another cycle graph C_{2n} .

Note that, in above all cases we get components are cycle graphs with even order. So, the graph $P_4 \otimes_2 C_n$ has all bipartite components.

Now, we consider the general case with $m > 4$ and $n \geq 5$.

Proposition 4.2: Let P_m and C_n be path graph and cycle graph with m and n vertices respectively. Then

- (a) $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has eight components if $n = 4k, k \geq 1$.
- (b) $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has four components if $n = 4k + 2, k \geq 1$.
- (c) $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has two components if $n = 4k + 1$ or $(4k + 3), k \geq 1$.

Proof:

(a) Let $n = 4k, k \geq 1$. Then by Proposition 4.1,

$$P_4 \otimes_2 C_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^8 \left(C_{\frac{n}{2}} \right)^{(i)} \right]$$

If we add $u_4 \longleftrightarrow u_5$ in P_4 , then in the resultant respective cycle, $(u_3, v_j) \longleftrightarrow (u_5, v'_j)$ edges will be added,

as $d_{C_n}(v_j, v'_j) = 2$. So, respective components enlarge by additional edges. Also note that the end point of each edge, e.g., the vertices (u_3, v_j) and (u_5, v'_j) , lie in different partite sets. So, the component remains bipartite.

Similarly if we increase first graph P_4 up to P_m , then respective bipartite components will be enlarge. However the number of components remain same but the nature of components will depend on m , as we have seen in Proposition 3.5.

(b) Suppose $n = 4k + 2, k \geq 1$. Then by Proposition 4.1(a)

$$P_4 \otimes_2 C_n = \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^4 \left(C_n \right)^{(i)} \right]$$

If we increase first graph P_4 up to P_m , then resultant bipartite components will be enlarge as per case (a).

(c) By similar arguments, for $n = 4k + 1, n = 4k + 3, k \geq 1$, the graph $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has two bipartite components.

As in Corollary 3.7, we get the following result:

Corollary 4.3 Let $(u_i, v_j) \in V(P_m \otimes_2 C_n)$.

(1) $\deg(u_i, v_j)$ is equal to

$$\begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } i = 1, 2, m-1, \text{ or } m \text{ with } 1 \leq j \leq n \\ 4, & \text{if } 3 \leq i \leq m-2 \text{ with } 1 \leq j \leq n \end{cases}$$

(2) $|E(P_m \otimes_2 C_n)| = 2[n(m-2)]$

Remark 4.4 Since each component of the graph $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ contain vertices with degree 2 as well as 4, it can not be regular. However each component will be Eulerian graph.

Note that each component of $P_4 \otimes_2 C_n$ will be Hamiltonian graph. Further in case of $P_5 \otimes_2 C_n$, only some components will be Hamiltonian, whereas for $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ with $m > 5$, no component will be Hamiltonian.

Next, we discuss 2 - tensor product of cycle graphs. It is clear that $C_3 \otimes_2 C_n$ is a null graph. So, we consider the case when both $m, n \geq 4$. As usual, we consider cycle graphs C_m and C_n with $V(C_m) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m\}$ and $V(C_n) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ respectively.

It can be checked that $C_4 \otimes_2 C_n$ is isomorphic to $P_4 \otimes_2 C_n$ and we have discuss $P_4 \otimes_2 C_n$ in Proposition 4.1. So, we consider $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ for $m, n \geq 5$.

Proposition 4.5

- (a) Suppose m and n both are even. Then $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has eight components if $m = 4k$ and $n = 4l, k, l \geq 1$, otherwise it has four components.
- (b) If one of m and n is even and other is odd, then $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has two components.
- (c) If m and n both are odd, then $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ is a connected graph.

The number of components in $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ will be as follows:

m / n	4l	4l+2	4l+1/4l+3
4k	8	4	2
4k+2	4	4	2
4k+1/ 4k+3	2	2	1

Proof: We have seen in Proposition 3.6 that $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$ has eight components. By adding edge $(u, v_1) \longleftrightarrow (u', v_{n-1})$ and $(u, v_2) \longleftrightarrow (u', v_n)$ with $d_{P_m}(u, u') = 2$ in $P_m \otimes_2 P_n$, we have the resultant product $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$. Again, as we known

in Proposition 4.2, $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has eight components, four components or two components for $n = 4l, 4l + 2$ or $4l + 1 / 4l + 3, l \geq 1$ respectively.

Now, we add two edges $e_1 : (u_1, v) \longleftrightarrow (u_{m-1}, v')$ and $e_2 : (u_2, v) \longleftrightarrow (u_m, v')$ with $d_{C_m}(v, v') = 2$ in $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$, we have the resultant product $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$.

Fixed $n = 4l, l \geq 1$. By similar arguments of Proposition 4.2 we have eight, four or two components for $m = 4k, 4k + 2$ or $4k + 1/4k + 3, k \geq 1$ in the resultant product graph $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$.

For $n = 4l + 2, l \geq 1$, we know that $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has four components.

If $m = 4k, 4k + 2, k \geq 1$, then end vertices of additional edge e_1 lies in same component and end vertices of edge e_2 also lies in other same component. So, number of components in the resultant product graph will remain same. If $m = 4k + 1/4k + 3, k \geq 1$, i.e. m is odd and $m - 1$ is even, then end vertices $(u_1, v)[(u_2, v)]$ and $(u_{m-1}, v')[u_m, v']$ lie in two different components of $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$. So, two components joined by edges $e_1(e_2)$. Therefore $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ will have two components.

Lastly, if $n = 4l + 1/4l + 3, l \geq 1$, then $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has two components. By similar arguments, for $m = 4k, 4k + 2, k \geq 1, C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ has two components.

For $m = 4k + 1/4k + 3, k \geq 1$, end vertices of additional edges lie in two different components of $P_m \otimes_2 C_n$. So, these two components joined by these edges and it give one component, i.e. $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ is a connected graph.

As in Corollary 3.7, we get the following result:

Corollary 4.6

- (1) The degree of each vertex in the graph $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ is 4. Consequently, each components of $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ is a regular, Euler graph and hence Hamiltonian.
- (2) $|E(C_m \otimes_2 C_n)| = 2mn$.

In case of usual tensor product, it is known that $C_m \otimes C_n$ is connected graph if m or n is odd, otherwise the usual tensor product gives two components [8]. But in case of 2 - tensor product, it follows from the above result that $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ is connected if and only if m and n both are odd, otherwise it is disconnected graph and the number of components in $C_m \otimes_2 C_n$ will depend on both m and n .

The derived graph G^1 of G is defined in terms of $d(u, v) = 2$ in [2]. Also, the graph G^2 is obtained by considering $d(u, v) \leq 2$. The 2 - tensor product can be obtained with the help of G^1 and G^2 or combination of G and G^2 using usual tensor product. But here we consider 2 - tensor product separately as we have obtained $G_1 \otimes_2 G_2$ and their results directly in terms of the factor graphs G_1 and G_2 , without computing the graphs G^1 or G^2 .

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