

# Efficient Domination in Cayley Graphs

Yunping Deng

Department of Mathematics, Shanghai University of Electric Power, Shanghai, 200090, China  
dyp612@hotmail.com

**Abstract:** An E-chain is a countable family of nested graphs, each of which has an efficient dominating set. In this paper, we construct two E-chains of circulant graphs, which are Cayley graphs on finite cyclic groups. In addition, we give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of efficient dominating sets in any Cayley graphs.

**Keywords:** Circulant graph; Cayley graph; Efficient dominating set

## 1. Introduction

For a simple graph  $\Gamma$ , we denote its vertex set and edge set respectively by  $V(\Gamma)$  and  $E(\Gamma)$ . Let  $G$  be a finite group with  $e$  as the identity and  $S$  be a subset of  $G$  not containing  $e$  such that  $s = s^{-1}$ . The Cayley graph  $Cay(G, S)$  on  $G$  with respect to  $S$  is defined as the graph with vertex set  $V(Cay(G, S)) = G$  and edge set  $E(Cay(G, S)) = \{\{g, sg\} : g \in G, s \in S\}$ . Clearly,  $Cay(G, S)$  is a  $|S|$ -regular graph, and  $Cay(G, S)$  is connected if and only if  $G$  is generated by  $S$ . A Cayley graph on finite cyclic group  $\mathbf{Z}_n := \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$  with addition modulo  $n$  is called a circulant graph.

A subset  $I$  of vertices in a graph  $\Gamma$  is called an independent set if no two vertices in  $I$  are adjacent. A maximum independent set of  $\Gamma$  is an independent set of largest possible size, and this size, denoted by  $\alpha(\Gamma)$ , is called the independence number of  $\Gamma$ . A subset  $D$  of vertices in a graph  $\Gamma$  is called a dominating set if each vertex not in  $D$  is adjacent to at least one vertex in  $D$ . The domination number of a graph  $\Gamma$  is the minimum size of a dominating set of  $\Gamma$ , and denoted by  $g(\Gamma)$ . A subset  $D$  of vertices in a graph  $\Gamma$  is called an efficient dominating set (also called a perfect code) if  $D$  is an independent set and each vertex not in  $D$  is adjacent to exactly one vertex in  $D$ . A countable family of graphs  $\mathbf{F} = \{\Gamma_1 \subset \Gamma_2 \subset \dots \subset \Gamma_i \subset \Gamma_{i+1} \subset \dots\}$  is called an E-chain if every  $\Gamma_i$  is an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma_{i+1}$  and each  $\Gamma_i$  admits an efficient dominating set.

In the past few years efficient dominating sets in Cayley graphs, especially in circulant graphs, have attracted received much attention. For example, Lee [1] proved that a Cayley graph on an abelian group admits an efficient dominating set if and only if it is a covering graph of a complete graph. Dejter and Serra [2] gave a constructing tool to produce infinite families of E-chains of Cayley graphs on symmetric groups. Huang and Xu [3] deter-

mined the existence of efficient dominating sets in several classes of circulant graphs. Tamizh Chelvam and Mutharasu [4] constructed an E-chain of circulant graphs. In addition, Tamizh Chelvam and Mutharasu [5] also gave a necessary and sufficient condition for a subgroup to be an efficient dominating set in circulant graphs. Kumar and MacGillivray [6] characterized the efficient dominating sets in circulant graphs with domination number 2 and 3, and Deng [7] further investigated the existence and construction of efficient dominating sets in circulant graphs with domination number prime. Obradović et al. [8] gave necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of efficient dominating sets in connected circulant graphs of degree 3 and 4. Feng et al. [9] and Deng et al. [10] independently generalized the results in [8] by considering the case of more general degree.

In this paper, we construct two E-chains of circulant graphs, and give a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of efficient dominating sets in any Cayley graphs.

## 2. E-chains in Circulant Graphs

### 2.1. Preliminary lemmas

Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group with additive notation. We define the sum of two subsets  $M, N$  of  $G$  by  $M + N = \{m + n : m \in M, n \in N\}$ . If each  $x \in M + N$  has a unique representation in the form  $x = m + n$  with  $m \in M$  and  $n \in N$ , then the sum  $M + N$  is called direct, and denoted by  $M \oplus N$ .

Lemma 2.1 [11] Let  $G$  be a finite abelian group and let  $M, N$  be subsets of  $G$ . Then  $G = M \oplus N$  is equivalent to the conjunction of any two of the following conditions:

- (i)  $G = M + N$ ;
- (ii)  $(M - M) \cap (N - N) = \{0\}$ ;
- (iii)  $|G| = |M| |N|$ .

By the definitions of Cayley graph and efficient dominating set, one can obtain the following lemma.

Lemma 2.2 [7] Let  $S$  be a subset of a finite abelian group  $G$  not containing 0 such that  $S = -S$ , and let  $S_0 = S \cup \{0\}$ . Then  $Cay(G, S)$  admits an efficient dominating set  $D$  if and only if  $G = S_0 \oplus D$ .

### 2.2. Constructing one E-chain

Lemma 2.3 Let  $n, m$  be positive integers and let  $M, N$  be subsets of  $\mathbf{Z}_n$ . If  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M \oplus N$ , then  $\mathbf{Z}_{nm} = (M + n\mathbf{Z}_m) \oplus N$ .

Proof. Since  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M \oplus N$ , it follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M + N$  and  $n = |M| |N|$ . Therefore, we have  $(M + n\mathbf{Z}_m) + N = (M + N) + n\mathbf{Z}_m = \mathbf{Z}_n + n\mathbf{Z}_m = \mathbf{Z}_{nm}$ , and  $M + n\mathbf{Z}_m \parallel N \parallel = (|M| |m|) |N| = (|M| |N|) m = nm$ , which together with Lemma 2.1 implies that  $\mathbf{Z}_{nm} = (M + n\mathbf{Z}_m) \oplus N$ . The assertion holds.

Theorem 2.4 Let  $\Gamma_i$  be the circulant graphs  $Cay(\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_i}, S_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$  and  $D$  be an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_1$ , where  $S_1$  is a subset of  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $S_1 = -S_1$ , and  $S_{i+1} = ((S_i \cup \{0\}) + n_i \mathbf{Z}_{n_{i+1}}) \setminus \{0\}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$ . Then the family  $\mathbf{F} = \{\Gamma_i : i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}\}$  is an E-chain and  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of each  $\Gamma_i \in \mathbf{F}$ .

Proof. First it is easy to see that each  $\Gamma_i$  is an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma_{i+1}$ . Therefore, it suffices to show that  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of each  $\Gamma_i \in \mathbf{F}$ .

Since  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_1$ , it follows from Lemma 2.2 that  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1} = (S_1 \cup \{0\}) \oplus D$ . By Lemma 2.3,  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2} = ((S_1 \cup \{0\}) + n_1 \mathbf{Z}_{n_2}) \oplus D = (S_2 \cup \{0\}) \oplus D$ , which together with Lemma 2.2 implies that  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_2$ . Similarly, we can deduce by analogy that  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_i} = (S_i \cup \{0\}) \oplus D$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$ , and thus  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of each  $\Gamma_i \in \mathbf{F}$ . The assertion holds.

### 2.3. Constructing another E-chain

Lemma 2.5 Let  $n, m$  be positive integers and let  $M, N$  be subsets of  $\mathbf{Z}_n$ . If  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M \oplus N$ , then  $\mathbf{Z}_{nm} = (mM + \mathbf{Z}_m) \oplus mN$ .

Proof. Since  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M \oplus N$ , it follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $\mathbf{Z}_n = M + N$  and  $n = |M| |N|$ . Therefore, we have  $(mM + \mathbf{Z}_m) + mN = m(M + N) + \mathbf{Z}_m = m\mathbf{Z}_n + \mathbf{Z}_m = \mathbf{Z}_{nm}$ , and  $|mM + \mathbf{Z}_m \parallel mN \parallel = (|M| |m|) |N| = (|M| |N|) m = nm$ , which together with Lemma 2.1 implies that  $\mathbf{Z}_{nm} = (mM + \mathbf{Z}_m) \oplus mN$ . The assertion holds.

Theorem 2.6 Let  $\Gamma_i$  be the circulant graphs  $Cay(\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_i}, S_i)$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$  and  $D$  be an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_1$ , where  $S_1$  is a subset of  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1} \setminus \{0\}$  such that  $S_1 = -S_1$ , and  $S_{i+1} = (n_{i+1} (S_i \cup \{0\}) + \mathbf{Z}_{n_{i+1}}) \setminus \{0\}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$ . Then the family  $\mathbf{F} = \{\Gamma_i : i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}\}$  is an E-chain and  $n_i n_{i-1} \mathbf{L} n_2 D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_i$  for  $i = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}$ .

Proof. For  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$ , defining a mapping  $f_i$  as follows:  $f_i : \mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_i} \rightarrow \mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_{i+1}}, g \mapsto n_{i+1} g$ . Then it is easy to see that  $f_i$  is a one-to-one graph homomorphism from  $\Gamma_i$  to  $\Gamma_{i+1}$ , and thus  $\Gamma_i$  is an induced subgraph of  $\Gamma_{i+1}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \mathbf{L}$ . Therefore, it suffices to show that  $n_i n_{i-1} \mathbf{L} n_2 D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_i$  for  $i = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}$ .

Since  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_1$ , it follows from Lemma 2.2 that  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1} = (S_1 \cup \{0\}) \oplus D$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2} = (n_2 (S_1 \cup \{0\}) + \mathbf{Z}_{n_2}) \oplus n_2 D = (S_2 \cup \{0\}) \oplus n_2 D$ , which together with Lemma 2.2 implies that  $n_2 D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_2$ . Similarly, we can deduce by analogy that  $\mathbf{Z}_{n_1 n_2 \mathbf{L} n_i} = (S_i \cup \{0\}) \oplus n_i n_{i-1} \mathbf{L} n_2 D$  for  $i = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}$ , and thus  $n_i n_{i-1} \mathbf{L} n_2 D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $\Gamma_i$  for  $i = 2, 3, \mathbf{L}$ . The assertion holds.

## 3. Efficient Domination in Cayley Graphs

### 3.1. Preliminary lemmas

In this section, we assume that  $G$  is a finite group with multiplicative notation. The product of two subsets  $M, N$  of finite group  $G$  is defined as  $MN = \{mn : m \in M, n \in N\}$ . If each  $x \in MN$  has a unique representation in the form  $x = mn$  with  $m \in M$  and  $n \in N$ , then the product  $MN$  is called direct, and denoted by  $M \times N$ .

Similar to Lemmas 2.1 and 2.2, we have the following two lemmas.

Lemma 3.1 Let  $G$  be a finite group with identity element  $e$  and let  $M, N$  be subsets of  $G$ . Then  $G = M \times N$  is equivalent to the conjunction of any two of the following conditions:

- (i)  $G = MN$ ;
- (ii)  $M^{-1} M \cap N N^{-1} = \{e\}$ ;
- (iii)  $|G| = |M| |N|$ .

Lemma 3.2 Let  $S$  be a subset of a finite group  $G$  not containing the identity  $e$  such that  $S = S^{-1}$ , and let  $S_e = S \cup \{e\}$ . Then  $Cay(G, S)$  admits an efficient dominating set  $D$  if and only if  $G = S_e \times D$ .

**3.2. Independence number and efficient domination**

Theorem 3.3 Let  $S$  be a subset of a finite group  $G$  not containing the identity  $e$  such that  $S = S^{-1}$ , and let  $S_e = S \cup \{e\}$ . Then  $\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) \leq \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ .

Proof. We suppose on the contrary that  $\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \setminus \{e\})) > \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ . Thus, there exist an independent set  $I$  of  $Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \setminus \{e\})$  such that  $|I| > \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ . By the definitions of independent set and Cayley graph, it is easy to see that  $(S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\}) \cap I I^{-1} = \emptyset$ , that is,  $S_e^{-1}S_e \cap I I^{-1} = \{e\}$ , which implies that the product of  $S_e I$  is direct. Since the direct product  $S_e \times I \subseteq G$ , it follows that  $|S_e \cap I| \leq |G|$ , and thus  $|I| \leq \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ , which contradicts with  $|I| > \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ .

Hence the assertion holds.

Theorem 3.4 Let  $S$  be a subset of a finite group  $G$  not containing the identity  $e$  such that  $S = S^{-1}$ , and let  $S_e = S \cup \{e\}$ . Then  $g(Cay(G, S)) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$  if and only if

$$\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}.$$

Proof. If  $g(Cay(G, S)) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ , then there exists a dominating set  $D$  such that  $|D| = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ . Note that  $Cay(G, S)$

is an  $|S|$ -regular graph. It is easy to see that  $D$  is an efficient dominating set of  $Cay(G, S)$ . By Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2,  $S_e^{-1}S_e \cap D D^{-1} = \{e\}$ , and thus  $(S_e^{-1}S_e \setminus \{e\}) \cap D D^{-1} = \emptyset$ , which implies that  $D$  is an independent set of  $Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \setminus \{e\})$ . Therefore,

$$\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) \geq \frac{|G|}{|S|+1},$$

which together with Theorem 3.3 implies that  $\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ .

If  $\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ , then there exist an independent set  $I$  of  $Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})$  such that  $|I| = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ , which implies that  $S_e^{-1}S_e \cap I I^{-1} = \{e\}$ . By

Lemma 3.1,  $G = S_e \times I$ . By Lemma 3.2,  $I$  is an efficient dominating set of  $Cay(G, S)$ , which implies that  $g(Cay(G, S)) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ . The assertion holds.

Lemma 3.5 [3] Let  $\Gamma$  be a  $k$ -regular graph of order  $n$ . Then  $\Gamma$  admits an efficient dominating set if and only if  $g(\Gamma) = \frac{n}{k+1}$ .

Combining Theorem 3.4 and Lemma 3.5, one can easily obtain the following result.

Theorem 3.6 Let  $S$  be a subset of a finite group  $G$  not containing the identity  $e$  such that  $S = S^{-1}$ , and let  $S_e = S \cup \{e\}$ . Then  $Cay(G, S)$  admits an efficient dominating set if and only if  $\alpha(Cay(G, S_e^{-1}S_e \bullet \{e\})) = \frac{|G|}{|S|+1}$ .

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