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Nonseparating independent sets of Cartesian product graphs. (English) Zbl 1434.05106
Taiwanese J. Math. 24, No. 1, 1-17 (2020).

Summary: A set of vertices S of a connected graph G is a nonseparating independent set if S is independent and $G - S$ is connected. The nsis number $\mathcal{Z}(G)$ is the maximum cardinality of a nonseparating independent set of G . It is well known that computing the nsis number of graphs is NP-hard even when restricted to 4-regular graphs. In this paper, we first present a new sufficient and necessary condition to describe the nsis number. Then, we completely solve the problem of counting the nsis number of hypercubes Q_n and Cartesian product of two cycles $C_m \square C_n$, respectively. We show that $\mathcal{Z}(Q_n) = 2^{n-2}$ for $n \geq 2$, and $\mathcal{Z}(C_m \square C_n) = n + \lfloor (n+2)/4 \rfloor$ if $m = 4$, $m + \lfloor (m+2)/4 \rfloor$ if $n = 4$ and $\lfloor mn/3 \rfloor$ otherwise. Moreover, we find a maximum nonseparating independent set of Q_n and $C_m \square C_n$, respectively.

MSC:

- 05C69 Vertex subsets with special properties (dominating sets, independent sets, cliques, etc.)
- 05C70 Edge subsets with special properties (factorization, matching, partitioning, covering and packing, etc.)
- 05C76 Graph operations (line graphs, products, etc.)
- 05C05 Trees
- 05C40 Connectivity

Keywords:

nonseparating independent set; connected vertex cover; hypercube; Cartesian product of two cycles; spanning tree; Xuong-tree

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0403.05035

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