

Supereulerian and Trailable Digraph Products

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Abstract: A digraph D is **supereulerian** if D contains a spanning eulerian subdigraph, and is **trailable** if D contains a spanning ditrail. Sufficient conditions on D_1 and D_2 are obtained for the Cartesian product digraph and Lexicographic product digraph of D_1 and D_2 to be supereulerian or trailable.

Key words. Combinatorial problems, Supereulerian digraph, Cartesian product, Lexicographic product, Eulerian digraph

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I. Introduction

We consider finite graphs and digraphs. Undefined terms and notation will follow [6] for graphs and [3] for digraphs. We write $D_1 \cong D_2$ to

denote that the digraphs D_1 and D_2 are isomorphic. An arc $[u, v]$ represents an edge joining u and v . A digraph does not have **parallel arcs**, that is, pairs of arcs with the same tail and the same head, or **loops**. The underlying graph of a digraph D , denoted by $t(D)$, is obtained from D by erasing the orientations of all arcs of D . Throughout this paper, we use the notation (u, v) to denote an arc oriented from u to v in a digraph; and use $[u, v]$ to denote an arc which is either (u, v) or (v, u) . For an integer n , we define $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. A **walk** in D is an alternating sequence $W = x_1 a_1 x_2 a_2 x_3 \dots x_{k-1} a_{k-1} x_k$ of vertices x_i and arcs a_j from D such that $a_j = (x_j, x_{j+1})$ for every $i \in [k]$ and $j \in [k-1]$. A walk W is **closed** if $x_1 = x_k$, and **open** otherwise. We use $V(W) = \{x_i : i \in [k]\}$ and $A(W) = \{a_j : j \in [k-1]\}$. We say that W is a walk from x_1 to x_k or an (x_1, x_k) -walk. If $x_1 = x_k$, then

we say that the vertex x_1 is the **initial vertex** of W , the vertex x_k is the **terminal vertex** of W , and x_1 and x_k are end-vertices of W . The length of a walk is the number of its arcs. When the arcs of W are understood from the context, we will denote W by $x_1 x_2 \dots x_k$. A **ditrail** in D is a walk in which

all arcs are distinct. Always we use a ditrail to denote an open ditrail. If the vertices of W are distinct, then W is a **dipath**. If the vertices $x_1 x_2 \dots x_{k-1}$ are distinct, $k \geq 3$ and $x_1 = x_k$, then W is a **dicycle**. A digraph D is **strong** if, for every pair x, y of distinct vertices in D , there exist an (x, y) -walk and a (y, x) -walk. A digraph D is **weakly connected** if $t(D)$ is connected. If $X \subseteq V(D) \cup A(D)$, then $D(X)$ denotes the subdigraph induced by X . For a digraph D and a set $B \subseteq A(D)$, the digraph $D - B$ is the spanning subdigraph of D with arc set $A(D) - B$. If H is a subdigraph of D and $S \subseteq A(D) - A(H)$

with $V(D(S)) \subseteq V(H)$, the digraph $H + S$ is the subdigraph of D with arc set $A(H) + S$ and vertex set $V(H)$. We often write $D - a$ for $D - \{a\}$ and $D + a$ for $D + \{a\}$. Let D_1 and D_2 be two digraphs, the **union** $D_1 \cup D_2$ of D_1 and D_2 is a digraph with vertex set $V(D_1 \cup D_2) = V(D_1) \cup V(D_2)$ and arc set $A(D_1 \cup D_2) = A(D_1) \cup A(D_2)$.

Following [3], for $X, Y \subseteq V(D)$, define

$$(X, Y)_D = \{(x, y) \in A(D) : x \in X, y \in Y\}.$$

For a vertex v in D , we use the following notation:

$$N_D^+(v) = \{u \in V(D) - v : (v, u) \in A(D)\}, N_D^-(v) = \{w \in V(D) - v : (w, v) \in A(D)\}.$$

The sets $N_D^+(v)$, $N_D^-(v)$ and $N_D(v) = N_D^+(v) \cup N_D^-(v)$ are called the **out-neighbourhood**, **in-neighbourhood** and **neighbourhood** of v . We called the vertices in $N_D^+(v)$, $N_D^-(v)$ and $N_D(v)$ the **out-neighbours**, **in-neighbours** and **neighbours** of v .

For a set $X \subseteq V(D)$, $d_D^+(X) = |(X, V(D) - X)_D|$ is the **out-degree** of X and $d_D^-(X) = |(V(D) - X, X)_D|$ is the **in-degree** of X . The degree of X is the number $d_D(X) = d_D^+(X) + d_D^-(X)$. When the digraph D is understood from the context, we often omit the subscript D .

Next, we use the following definitions of Cartesian product and Lexicographic product of digraphs [3].

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Definition 1.1 Let $D_1 = (V_1, A_1)$ and $D_2 = (V_2, A_2)$ be two digraphs, $V_1 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. Then the Cartesian product and Lexicographic product of D_1 and D_2 are defined as following

- (i) **The Cartesian product** denoted by $D_1 \times D_2$ is the digraph with vertex set $V_1 \times V_2$ and $A(D_1 \times D_2) = \{(u_i, v_j), (u_s, v_t) : u_i = u_s \text{ and } (v_j, v_t) \in A_2, \text{ or } (u_i, u_s) \in A_1 \text{ and } v_j = v_t\}$.
- (ii) **The Lexicographic product** denoted by $D_1[D_2]$ is the digraph with vertex set $V_1 \times V_2$ and $A(D_1[D_2]) = \{(u_i, v_j), (u_s, v_t) : u_i = u_s \text{ and } (v_j, v_t) \in A_2, \text{ or } (u_i, u_s) \in A_1\}$.

Boesch, Suffel, and Tindell [5] in 1977 proposed the supereulerian problem, which seeks to characterize graphs that have spanning eulerian subgraphs; and they indicated that such this problem would be very difficult. Pulleyblank [14] in 1979 proved that determining whether a graph is supereulerian, even within planar graphs, is NP-complete. As of today, there have been lots of researches on it. See Catlin's survey [7] and the updates in [8] and [13] for a literature in the topic.

It is natural to study supereulerian digraphs. A digraph D is **eulerian** if $G(D)$ is connected and for every $v \in V(D)$, $d_D^+(v) = d_D^-(v)$; and is **supereulerian** if D contains a spanning eulerian subdigraph; and is **trailable** if D contains a spanning ditrail. Earlier studies were done by Gutin [10, 11]. Recent developments can be found in [2, 4, 12], among others.

In [9], an open problem (Problem 6 of [9]) was raised to find natural conditions for the product of graphs to be hamiltonian. Motivated by this problem, we propose to seek natural conditions on digraphs D_1 and D_2 such that the product of D_1 and D_2 is supereulerian. In this paper, sufficient conditions on D_1 and D_2 for $D_1 \times D_2$ and $D_1[D_2]$ to be supereulerian or trailable are investigated.

II. Main Results

2.1 Notations

The following notation will be used throughtout this section. Let $D_1 = (V_1, A_1)$ and $D_2 = (V_2, A_2)$ be two digraphs with $V_1 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$ and $V_2 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. For each fixed $v_j \in V_2$, define $D_1^{v_j}$ to be the digraph with vertex set $V_1^{v_j} = \{(u_i, v_j) : \text{for any } u_i \in V_1\}$, and arc set $A_1^{v_j} = \{(u_i, v_j), (u_s, v_j) : (u_i, u_s) \in A_1\}$. Similarly, for each fixed $u_i \in V_1$, define $D_2^{u_i}$ to be the digraph with vertex set $V_2^{u_i} = \{(u_i, v_j) : \text{for any } v_j \in V_2\}$, and arc set $A_2^{u_i} = \{(u_i, v_j), (u_i, v_t) : (v_j, v_t) \in A_2\}$. The following observations are immediate:

Observation 2.1 Each of the following holds.

- (i) $D_1^{v_j}, D_2^{u_i}$ are subdigraphs of $D_1 \times D_2$ and $D_1[D_2]$, and $D_1^{v_j} \cong D_1, D_2^{u_i} \cong D_2$ for any $i \in [n_2]$, and for any $j \in [n_1]$.
- (ii) $V(D_1 \times D_2) = V(D_1[D_2]) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_2} V(D_1^{v_j}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n_1} V(D_2^{u_i})$.
- (iii) $V(D_1^{v_j}) \cap V(D_1^{v_t}) = \emptyset$, if $v_j, v_t \in V_2$ and $v_j \neq v_t$; $V(D_2^{u_i}) \cap V(D_2^{u_s}) = \emptyset$, if $u_i, u_s \in V_1$ and $u_i \neq u_s$.
- (iv) $V(D_1^{v_j}) \cap V(D_2^{u_i}) = \{(u_i, v_j)\}$ and $A(D_1^{v_j}) \cap A(D_2^{u_i}) = \emptyset$ for $u_i \in V_1, v_j \in V_2$.

For any subdigraph $H_1 \subseteq D_1$ and $v \in V_2$, we use H_1^v to denote the subdigraphs of D_1^v with $V(H_1^v) = \{(u_i, v) : u_i \in V(H_1)\}$ and $A(H_1^v) = \{(u_i, v), (u_s, v) : (u_i, u_s) \in A(H_1)\}$. Similarly, for any subdigraph $H_2 \subseteq D_2$ and $u \in V_1$, we use H_2^u to denote the subdigraphs of D_2^u with $V(H_2^u) = \{(u, v_i) : v_i \in V(H_2)\}$ and $A(H_2^u) = \{(u, v_i), (u, v_s) : (v_i, v_s) \in A(H_2)\}$.

2.2 Cartesian product of digraphs

Sufficient conditions will be investigated in this section for the Cartesian product of D_1 and D_2 to be supereulerian or trailable. The results below are useful.

Theorem 2.1 (J.M. Xu [15]) Let D_1 and D_2 be eulerian digraphs. Then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is eulerian.

Lemma 2.1 (K.A. Alsatami et al, Lemma 2 of [1]) A digraph D is nonsupereulerian if for some integer $m > 0$, $V(D)$ has vertex-disjoint subsets B, B_1, \dots, B_m satisfying both of the following:

- (i) $N^-(B_i) \subseteq B$, for $i \in [m]$.

(ii) $|\partial^-(B)| \leq m - 1$.

Lemma 2.1 can be applied to find examples for digraph D to be nonsupereulerian. In the following, we present some tools needed in our arguments.

Definition 2.1 Let D be a digraph, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k be eulerian subdigraphs of D , and let $F = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k\}$.

(i) F is called an **eulerian vertex cover** of D , if $V(D) = \cup_{F_i \in F} V(F_i)$ and $F = \cup_{F_i \in F} F_i$ is weakly connected.

(ii) For any $u, v \in V(D)$, F is called an **eulerian chain** joining u and v , if $u \in V(F_1)$, $v \in V(F_k)$, and $V(F_i) \cap V(F_{i+1}) \neq \emptyset$ for every $i \in [k - 1]$.

In [3], a digraph D is called **cyclically connected** if for every pair x, y of distinct vertices of D there is a sequence of dicycles C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k such that x is in C_1 , y is in C_k , and C_i and C_{i+1} have at least one common vertex for every $i \in [k - 1]$. The following theorem are useful.

Theorem 2.2 [3] A digraph D is strong if and only if it is cyclically connected.

Proposition 2.1 Let D be a weakly connected digraph. Then the following are equivalent.

- (i) D is strong.
- (ii) D is cyclically connected.
- (iii) $\forall u, v \in V(D)$, D has an eulerian chain joining u and v .
- (iv) D has an eulerian vertex cover.

Proof. (i) \Leftrightarrow (ii). By Theorem 2.2, the result is hold.

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii). As dicycles are eulerian digraphs, every dicycle sequence is also joining u and v , and is also an eulerian chain.

(iii) \Rightarrow (iv). We may assume that $|V(D)| \geq 2$. By (iii), D has an eulerian subdigraph. By Definition 2.1, every eulerian subdigraph has an eulerian vertex cover. Let D' be a subdigraph of D such that D' has an eulerian vertex cover F' with $|V(D')|$ maximal. If $V(D') = V(D)$, then done. Assume that $|V(D')| < |V(D)|$. Then there exist $u \in V(D) - V(D')$ and $v \in V(D')$. By (iii), D has an eulerian chain $F_1 = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k\}$ joining u and v . By Definition 2.1, $D' \cup D[\cup_{i=1}^k A(F_i)]$ is also a subdigraph with an eulerian vertex cover $F' \cup F_1$, contrary to the maximality of D' . Hence (iv) must hold.

(iv) \Rightarrow (i) Let D' be a maximal strong component of D . If $V(D') = V(D)$, then (i) holds. Otherwise $\exists u \in V(D')$ and $v \in V(D) - V(D')$. By (iv), D has an eulerian vertex cover $F = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_k\}$. Since F is weakly connected, there exists an $F_i \in F$ with $V(F_i) \cap V(D) \neq \emptyset$ and $V(F_i) - V(D') \neq \emptyset$. It follows by definition that $D[A(D') \cup A(F_i)]$ is strong, contrary to the maximality of D' .

In the following, we will show some sufficient conditions on D_1 and D_2 to assure that the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is supereulerian or trailable.

Theorem 2.3 Let D_1 and D_2 be two strong digraphs with $\min\{|V(D_1)|, |V(D_2)|\} \geq 2$ such that D_1 is supereulerian and D_2 has an eulerian vertex cover with m eulerian subdigraphs such that $m \leq |V(D_1)|$. Then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is supereulerian.

Proof. Let $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_m, u_{m+1}, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$ and $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. Let $F = \{F_1, F_2, \dots, F_m\}$ be an eulerian vertex cover of D_2 . Since D_1 is a supereulerian digraph, D_1 has a spanning eulerian ditrail H_1 . By Observation 2.1, let

$$H = (\cup_{j=1}^{n_2} H_1^{v_j}) \cup (\cup_{i=1}^m F_i^{u_i}).$$

We want to prove that H is a spanning eulerian subdigraph of $D_1 \times D_2$. Since H_1 is a spanning eulerian ditrail of D_1 , so by Observation 2.1 (i), (ii) and (iii),

$$\cup_{j=1}^{n_2} V(H_1^{v_j}) = V(D_1 \times D_2), \text{ and for any } v_j, v_t \in V(D_2) \text{ if } v_j \neq v_t, \text{ then } V(H_1^{v_j}) \cap V(H_1^{v_t}) = \emptyset.$$

Hence H is a spanning subdigraph. In the following, we will show that $d_H^+(u_i, v_j) = d_H^-(u_i, v_j)$ for all $(u_i, v_j) \in V(H)$.

By Observation 2.1 (iii) and (iv),

$$(\cup_{j=1}^{n_2} A(H_1^{v_j})) \cap (\cup_{i=1}^m A(F_i^{u_i})) = \emptyset. \tag{1}$$

Since H_1 is a spanning eulerian ditrail of D_1 , it follows that $d_{H_1}^+(u_i) = d_{H_1}^-(u_i)$ for $u_i \in V(H_1)$. And by (1), we get that

$$d_{H_1}^+(u_i, v_j) = d_{H_1}^-(u_i, v_j) \text{ for all } (u_i, v_j) \in V(H_1^{v_j}). \tag{2}$$

Since F_i is an eulerian subdigraph in D_2 for $i \in [m]$, we get that $d_{F_i}^+(v_j) = d_{F_i}^-(v_j)$ for $v_j \in V(F_i)$. By

Observation 2.1 (iii),

$$V(F_s^{u_s}) \cap V(F_h^{u_h}) = \emptyset \text{ for } s, h \in [m] \text{ and } s \neq h. \quad (3)$$

By (1) and (3), we get that

$$d_{F_i^{u_i}}^+((u_i, v_j)) = d_{F_i^{u_i}}^-((u_i, v_j)) \text{ for all } (u_i, v_j) \in V(F_i^{u_i}) \quad (4)$$

Thus, by (2) and (4), we get that $d_H^+((u_i, v_j)) = d_H^-((u_i, v_j))$ for all $(u_i, v_j) \in V(H)$.

Now, we prove that for any two distinct vertices (u_i, v_s) and (u_j, v_t) in $V(H)$, there is a $((u_i, v_s), (u_j, v_t))$ -dipath in H . By Proposition 2.1, there exists an eulerian chain $F' = \{F_{i_1}, F_{i_2}, \dots, F_{i_h}\}$ joining v_s and v_t in D_2 such that $v_s \in V(F_{i_1})$ and $v_t \in V(F_{i_h})$. Let $F_{i_l}^{u_{i_l}} \cong F_{i_l}$ be the subdigraph of $D_2^{u_{i_l}}$ at the fixed vertex u_{i_l} , where $i_l \in [m]$ for $l \in [h]$. By the definition of an eulerian chain, $V(F_{i_{l-1}}) \cap V(F_{i_l}) \neq \emptyset$, pick a vertex $v_{(l-1,l)}$ in $V(F_{i_{l-1}}) \cap V(F_{i_l})$ for $l \in \{2, 3, \dots, h\}$. Let $u_{i_1} = u_i$, $u_{i_h} = u_j$, $v_{(0,1)} = v_s$ and $v_{(h,h+1)} = v_t$, and let $P_{F_{i_l}}$ be the $((u_{i_l}, v_{(l-1,l)}), (u_{i_l}, v_{(l,l+1)}))$ -dipath in $F_{i_l}^{u_{i_l}}$ and $P_{i_{(l-1,l)}}^{v_{(l-1,l)}}$ be the $((u_{i_{l-1}}, v_{(l-1,l)}), (u_{i_l}, v_{(l-1,l)}))$ -dipath in $H_1^{v_{(l-1,l)}}$.

Thus,

$$P = (\cup_{l=1}^h P_{F_{i_l}}) \cup (\cup_{l=2}^h P_{i_{(l-1,l)}}^{v_{(l-1,l)}})$$

is a dipath from (u_i, v_s) to (u_j, v_t) in $V(H)$. This proves the Theorem.

Example 2.1 below presents a supereulerian digraph D_1 and a strong digraph D_2 which has an eulerian vertex cover with $m > |V(D_1)|$ such that the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is nonsupereulerian.

Example 2.1 Let D_1 be a supereulerian digraph with $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2\}$ and $A(D_1) = \{(u_1, u_2), (u_2, u_1)\}$.

Let D_2 be a strong digraph with $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5\}$ and $A(D_2) = \{(v_2, v_1), (v_1, v_3), (v_3, v_2), (v_1, v_4), (v_4, v_2), (v_1, v_5), (v_5, v_2)\}$, which has an eulerian vertex cover with 3 eulerian subdigraphs. By definition 1.1, we can obtain the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ of D_1 and D_2 (See Figure 1). Let B, B_1, B_2 and B_3 be vertex-disjoint subsets of $V(D_1 \times D_2)$ with $B = \{(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_1)\}$, $B_1 = \{(u_1, v_3), (u_2, v_3)\}$, $B_2 = \{(u_1, v_4), (u_2, v_4)\}$ and $B_3 = \{(u_1, v_5), (u_2, v_5)\}$. We find that $N^-(B_i) \subseteq B$ for $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ and $|\partial^-(B)| = 2$. By Lemma 2.1, the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is nonsupereulerian.

u_1

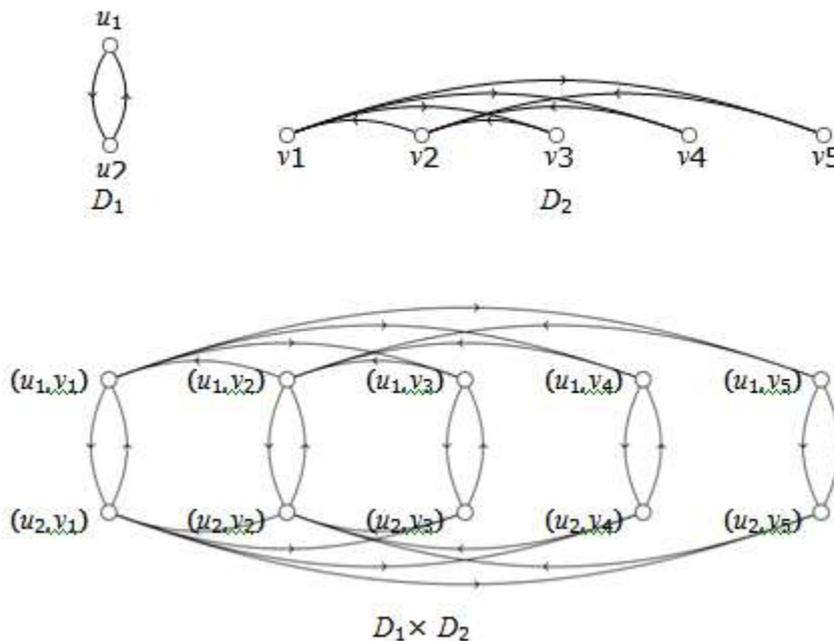


Figure 1. The digraphs D_1, D_2 and the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$

Example 2.1 indicates that if D_1 is a supereulerian digraph with $|V(D_1)| = 2$ and D_2 is a strong digraph which has an eulerian vertex cover with 3 eulerian subdigraphs, then $D_1 \times D_2$ is nonsupereulerian. In fact, for $n_1, n_2 \in \mathbb{N}$ and $n_2 \geq n_1 + 3$, the example can be extended to infinite case: Let D_1 be a dicycle with $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$, let D_2 be a strong digraph with $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$ and $A(D_2) = \{(v_2, v_1), (v_1, v_3), (v_3, v_2), (v_1, v_4), (v_4, v_2), \dots, (v_1, v_{n_2}), (v_{n_2}, v_2)\}$. D_2 has an eulerian vertex cover with

n_2-2 eulerian subdigraphs $\{D[\{v_1, v_2, v_{i+2}\}]; i \in [n_2-2]\}$. Let $B, B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{n_2-2}$ be vertex-disjoint subsets of $V(D_1 \times D_2)$ with $B = \{(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_1), \dots, (u_{n_1}, v_1)\}$ and $B_i = \{(u_1, v_{i+2}), (u_2, v_{i+2}), \dots, (u_{n_1}, v_{i+2})\}$ for $i \in [n_2-2]$. We find that $N^-(B_i) \subseteq B$ for $i \in [n_2-2]$ and $|\partial^-(B)| = n_1 \leq n_2 - 3 = (n_2) - 1$. By Lemma 2.1, the Cartesian product $D_1 D_2$ is nonsupereulerian. These examples indicate that Theorem 2.3 is best possible in some sense.

If D_2 has an eulerian vertex cover with one (for $m = 1$ in Theorem 2.3) eulerian subdigraph, then D_2 is supereulerian. The following corollary can be obtained.

Corollary 2.1 Let D_1 be a supereulerian digraph and D_2 be a digraph.

- (i) If D_2 is supereulerian, then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is supereulerian.
- (ii) If D_2 is trailable, then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is trailable.

Proof. Let $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$, $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$, and let $u_{i_1} = u_1, v_{j_1} = v_1$. First, we will show that (i) holds. If $|V(D_1)| = 1$, then $D_1 \times D_2 \cong D_2$ is supereulerian. If $|V(D_2)| = 1$, then $D_1 \times D_2 \cong D_1$ is supereulerian. Hence we assume that $|V(D_i)| \geq 2$ for $i = 1, 2$. Since D_2 is supereulerian, let $H_{21} = v_{j_1} v_{j_2} \dots v_{j_{h_1}} v_{j_1}$ be a spanning eulerian ditrail of D_2 , where $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{h_1} \in [n_2]$. Then H_{21} is an eulerian vertex cover with one eulerian subdigraph. Thus, (i) follows by Theorem 2.3, for $m = 1$.

Next, we will prove that (ii) holds. If $|V(D_1)| = 1$, then $D_1 \times D_2 \cong D_2$ is trailable. If $|V(D_2)| = 1$, then $D_1 \times D_2 \cong D_1$ is supereulerian, which is also trailable. Hence we assume that $|V(D_i)| \geq 2$ for $i = 1, 2$. Since D_1 is supereulerian, let $H_1 = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_{h_1}} u_{i_1}$ be a spanning eulerian ditrail of D_1 , where $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_{h_1} \in [n_1]$. Since D_2 has a spanning ditrail denoted by $H_{22} = v_{j_1} v_{j_2} \dots v_{j_{h_2}}$, where $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{h_2} \in [n_2]$. If $(v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1}) \in A(D_2)$, then $H_{22} + (v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1})$ is a spanning eulerian ditrail of D_2 , so D_2 is supereulerian. By (i), $D_1 \times D_2$ is supereulerian, thus, $D_1 \times D_2$ is trailable. If $(v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1}) \notin A(D_2)$, we obtain a new digraph $D_{2'}$ such that $V(D_{2'}) = V(D_2)$ and $A(D_{2'}) = A(D_2) \cup (v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1})$. Then $H_{22}' = H_{22} + (v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1})$ is a spanning closed ditrail in $D_{2'}$. Let

$$H' = (\bigcup_{j=1}^{n_2} H_1^{v_j}) \cup H_{22}^{u_1} = (\bigcup_{j=1}^{n_2} H_1^{v_j}) \cup (H_{22}^{u_1} + ((u_1, v_{j_{h_2}}), (u_1, v_{j_1}))).$$

By Theorem 2.3, H' is a spanning closed ditrail in $D_1 \times D_2$. Let

$$H = H' - ((u_1, v_{j_{h_2}}), (u_1, v_{j_1})) = (\bigcup_{j=1}^{n_2} H_1^{v_j}) \cup H_{22}^{u_1}.$$

Then H is a spanning ditrail in $D_1 \times D_2$.

A digraph D is **bi-trailable** if there exist two distinct vertices $x, y \in V(D)$, such that D has both spanning (x, y) -ditrail and spanning (y, x) -ditrail. In the study of supereulerian and trailable Cartesian product of digraphs, bi-trailable digraphs seem to play a useful role.

Theorem 2.4 Let D_1 be a bi-trailable digraph and D_2 be a digraph.

- (i) If D_2 is trailable, then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is trailable.
- (ii) If D_2 is supereulerian with $|V(D_2)| \geq 2$ and $|V(D_2)|$ is even, then the Cartesian product $D_1 \times D_2$ is supereulerian.

Proof. Let $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$ and $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. Since D_1 is bi-trailable, we assume that for a pair of distinct vertices $x, y \in V(D_1)$, D_1 contains a spanning (x, y) -ditrail $H_{11} = u_s u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_h} u_t$ and a spanning (y, x) -ditrail $H_{12} = u_t u_{l_1} u_{l_2} \dots u_{l_h} u_s$, where $x = u_s, y = u_t$ and $s, t, i_1, i_2, \dots, i_h, l_1, l_2, \dots, l_h \in [n_1]$. If L_i is a subdigraph of D_i for $i = 1, 2$, then for each $u_j \in V(D_1)$ and $v_k \in V(D_2)$, we use $L_1^{v_k}$ to denote the corresponding subdigraph in $D_1^{v_k}$ and $L_2^{u_j}$ to denote the corresponding subdigraph in $D_2^{u_j}$.

To prove (i), we present an algorithm (Algorithm A below) to find a spanning ditrail in $D_1 \times D_2$. By assumption, D_2 has a spanning ditrail H_2 . Denote $H_2 = v_{j_1} v_{j_2} \dots v_{j_{h_2}}$, with $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_{h_2} \in [n_2]$. The algorithm has a set A to record vertices $v_j \in V(D_2)$ that the ditrail has visited the copy $D_1^{v_j}$, and will start from a vertex (u_s, v_{j_1}) , travel along $H_{11}^{v_{j_1}}$ in $D_1^{v_{j_1}}$ to end at (u_t, v_{j_1}) , and place v_{j_1} in A . Then in $D_2^{u_t}$, move to (u_t, v_{j_2}) and travel along $H_{12}^{v_{j_2}}$ in $D_1^{v_{j_2}}$ to end at (u_s, v_{j_2}) , and place v_{j_2} in A . Inductively, at $(u_t, v_{j_{r-1}})$, if $v_{j_r} \in A$, that is, $D_1^{v_{j_r}}$ has been traversed, then in $D_2^{u_t}$, move to (u_t, v_{j_r}) ; if $v_{j_r} \notin A$, that is, $D_1^{v_{j_r}}$ has not been traversed, then in $D_2^{u_t}$, move to (u_t, v_{j_r}) and travel along $H_{12}^{v_{j_r}}$ in $D_1^{v_{j_r}}$ to end at (u_s, v_{j_r}) , and place v_{j_r} in A . A similar process will be done if at $(u_s, v_{j_{r-1}})$, until all vertices in $D_1 \times D_2$ are visited.

Algorithm A:

INPUT: A digraph D_1 with spanning ditrails H_{11} and H_{12} and a digraph D_2 with spanning ditrail H_2 , define $H_2' = \{v_{j_1}(1), v_{j_2}(2), \dots, v_{j_r}(p), \dots, v_{j_{h_2}}(q)\}$. Using the notation above.

OUTPUT: A spanning ditrail H in $D_1 \times D_2$ starting from (u_s, v_{j_1}) .

1. Let $H := H_{11}^{v_{j_1}}$; $A := \{v_{j_1}\}$ and $p := 2$.
2. If $p > q$, go to step 6.
3. Let H be current ditrail.
If $(u_t, v_{j_{r-1}})$ is the terminal vertex of H , go to step 4.
If $(u_s, v_{j_{r-1}})$ is the terminal vertex of H , go to step 5.
4. If $v_{j_r} \in A$ for $v_{j_r}(p) \in H_2'$, set $H := H + ((u_t, v_{j_{r-1}}), (u_t, v_{j_r}))$, $A := A \cup \{v_{j_r}\}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.
If $v_{j_r} \notin A$ for $v_{j_r}(p) \in H_2'$, set $H := (H + ((u_t, v_{j_{r-1}}), (u_t, v_{j_r}))) \cup H_{12}^{v_{j_r}}$, $A := A \cup \{v_{j_r}\}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.
5. If $v_{j_r} \in A$ for $v_{j_r}(p) \in H_2'$, set $H := H + ((u_s, v_{j_{r-1}}), (u_s, v_{j_r}))$, $A := A \cup \{v_{j_r}\}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.
If $v_{j_r} \notin A$ for $v_{j_r}(p) \in H_2'$, set $H := (H + ((u_s, v_{j_{r-1}}), (u_s, v_{j_r}))) \cup H_{11}^{v_{j_r}}$, $A := A \cup \{v_{j_r}\}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.
6. Return the ditrail H .

The finiteness of D_1 and D_2 indicates that the Algorithm will terminate. Let H be the output of Algorithm A. We are to show that H is a spanning ditrail. In fact, at each step of Algorithm A, the current H is always a ditrail. As $V(H_{11}) = V(H_{12}) = V(D_1)$, and as by Steps 1, 3, 4, 5 in Algorithm A, we note that $V(H) = \cup_{k=j_1}^{j_{h_2}} V(D_1^{v_k})$ and $\{v_{j_1}, v_{j_2}, \dots, v_{j_{h_2}}\} = V(D_2)$. By Observation 2.1 (i) and (ii), H is a spanning ditrail of $D_1 \times D_2$. This proves (i).

We will construct a spanning closed ditrail H' of $D_1 \times D_2$ to prove (ii). Recall that H_{11} and H_{12} are spanning ditrails of D_1 . Let $H_2 = v_{j_1} v_{j_2} \dots v_{j_{h_2}} v_{j_1}$ be a spanning closed ditrail in D_2 . Then $H_2' = v_{j_1} v_{j_2} \dots v_{j_{h_2}}$ is a spanning ditrail in D_2 . By Algorithm A, and since $|V(D_2)|$ is even, H is a spanning ditrail in $D_1 \times D_2$ starting from (u_s, v_{j_1}) and ending at $(u_s, v_{j_{h_2}})$. Since $(v_{j_{h_2}}, v_{j_1}) \in A(D_2)$, it follows by the definition of Cartesian product that $((u_s, v_{j_{h_2}}), (u_s, v_{j_1})) \in A(D_1 \times D_2)$. It follows that the subdigraph $H + ((u_s, v_{j_{h_2}}), (u_s, v_{j_1}))$ is a spanning closed ditrail in $D_1 \times D_2$. This proves (ii).

2.3 Lexicographic product of digraphs

Sufficient conditions on D_1 and D_2 for the Lexicographic product $D_1[D_2]$ to be supereulerian or trailable will be investigated in this section.

Theorem 2.5 Let D_1 and D_2 be two digraphs. If D_1 is supereulerian with $|V(D_1)| \geq 2$, then the Lexicographic product $D_1[D_2]$ is supereulerian.

Proof. Let $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$ and $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. If $V(D_2) = 1$, then $D_1[D_2] \cong D_1$

is supereulerian. Hence we assume that $|V(D_2)| \geq 2$. As D_1 is supereulerian, we assume that $H_1 = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_h} u_{i_1}$ is a spanning closed ditrail of D_1 .

(5) By (5), $(u_{i_h}, u_{i_1}) \in A(D_1)$, and so by the definition of Lexicographic product of digraphs,

for any vertices $v_s, v_t \in V(D_2)$, we have that $((u_{i_h}, v_s), (u_{i_1}, v_t)) \in A(D_1[D_2])$. (6)

To construct a spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$, we start with (u_{i_1}, v_1) in $D_1^{v_1}$, traveling along $H_1^{v_1}$ ending at (u_{i_h}, v_1) ; and then by (6), use the arc $((u_{i_h}, v_1), (u_{i_1}, v_2))$ to move to (u_{i_1}, v_2) . Inductively, for some $p < n_2$, the ditrail at (u_{i_1}, v_p) in $D_1^{v_p}$, will travel along $H_1^{v_p}$ to end at (u_{i_h}, v_p) . When $p = n_2$, the ditrail applies (6) again and takes the arc $((u_{i_h}, v_p), (u_{i_1}, v_1))$ to complete the ditrail, which is now a spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$. The construction of this spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$ can be illustrated in Algorithm B below.

Algorithm B:

INPUT: A digraph D_1 with a spanning closed ditrail $H_1 = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_h} u_{i_1}$ and a digraph D_2 with $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$.

OUTPUT: A spanning closed ditrail H in $D_1[D_2]$.

1. Let $H := H_1^{v_1} - ((u_{i_h}, v_1), (u_{i_1}, v_1))$; $p := 2$.
2. If $p > n_2$, let $H := H + ((u_{i_h}, v_{n_2}), (u_{i_1}, v_1))$, go to step 5.
3. Let H be current ditrail with the terminal vertex (u_{i_h}, v_{p-1}) .

4. Set $H := (H + ((u_{i_h}, v_{p-1}), (u_{i_1}, v_p))) \cup H_1^{v_p} - ((u_{i_h}, v_p), (u_{i_1}, v_p))$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.
5. Return the closed ditrail H .

As in each step of Algorithm B, the current H is a ditrail starting from (u_{i_1}, v_1) in $D_1^{v_1}$, the finiteness of the digraphs implies that Algorithm B must stop. When Step 2 is executed, H becomes a closed ditrail. Since H_1 is a spanning ditrail of D_1 , we have $V(H_1) = V(D_1)$. By steps 1, 3, 4, 5, $V(H) = \bigcup_{k=j_1}^{j_{h_2}} V(D_1^{v_k})$ and $\{v_{j_1}, v_{j_2}, \dots, v_{j_{h_2}}\} = V(D_2)$. Thus at the end of the algorithm, we have

$$H = ((\bigcup_{j=1}^{n_2} (H_1^{v_j} - ((u_{i_h}, v_j), (u_1, v_j)))) + (\bigcup_{t=1}^{n_2-1} ((u_{i_h}, v_t), (u_{i_1}, v_{t+1})))) + ((u_{i_h}, v_{n_2}), (u_{i_1}, v_1)).$$

Therefore, H is a spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$. This proves the theorem.

Theorem 2.6 Let D_1 and D_2 be two strong digraphs with $\min\{|V(D_1)|, |V(D_2)|\} \geq 2$ and D_1 is trailable. Then the Lexicographic product $D_1[D_2]$ is supereulerian.

Proof. Let $V(D_1) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n_1}\}$ and $V(D_2) = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\}$. Let H be a spanning ditrail of D_1 . If H is closed, then by Theorem 2.5, $D_1[D_2]$ is supereulerian. Hence we assume that

$H_1 = u_{i_1} u_{i_2} \dots u_{i_h}$ is a spanning ditrail of D_1 , where $u_{i_s} \in V(D_1)$ for $s \in [h]$ and $u_{i_1} = u_1 \neq u_{i_h}$. (7)

For each $p \in [n_2]$, define $L_1^{v_p} = H_1^{v_p} - ((u_{i_1}, v_p), (u_{i_2}, v_p))$. Since D_1 is strong, D_1 contains a shortest (u_{i_h}, u_{i_1}) -dipath $P = u_{i_{s_k}} u_{i_{s_{k-1}}} \dots u_{i_{s_2}} u_{i_{s_1}}$, where $u_{i_{s_k}} = u_{i_h}$ and $u_{i_{s_1}} = u_{i_1}$. By the definition Lexicographic product, we observe that

for any vertices $v, v' \in V(D_2)$, if $(u, u') \in A(D_1)$, then $((u, v), (u', v')) \in A(D_1[D_2])$. (8)

We will construct a spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$ depending on the parity of $k = |V(P)|$. Assume first that k is even, we start with (u_{i_1}, v_1) in $D_1^{v_1}$, travel along $H_1^{v_1}$ to end at (u_{i_h}, v_1) ; then by (8), take the dipath $P_2 = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_2)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_2) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_2)$ to reach $(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_2)$. Inductively, for some p with $2 \leq p \leq n_2$, the current ditrail will move from $(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_p)$, traversing along $H_1^{v_p}$ ending at $((u_{i_h}, v_p))$; then take the dipath

$$P_{p'} = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_p)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_p) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_p) \quad (9)$$

to reach $(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_p)$. At $(u_{i_{s_k}}, v_{n_2})$, it utilizes (8) to take

$$P_{1'} = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_{n_2})(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_{n_2})(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_1) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_{n_2})(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_1) \quad (10)$$

to return to $(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_1)$.

Assume next that k is odd, we start with (u_{i_1}, v_1) in $D_1^{v_1}$, travel along $H_1^{v_1}$ to end at (u_{i_h}, v_1) ; then by (8), take the dipath $P_2'' = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_2)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_2) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_2)(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_1)$ and then bypass $((u_{i_{s_1}}, v_1), (u_{i_2}, v_2))$ to reach (u_{i_2}, v_2) . Inductively, for some p with $2 \leq p \leq n_2$, the current ditrail will move from (u_{i_2}, v_p) , travel along $L_1^{v_p} = H_1^{v_p} - ((u_{i_1}, v_p), (u_{i_2}, v_p))$ to get to (u_{i_h}, v_p) ; then take the dipath

$$P_{p''} = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_p)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_p) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_p)(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_{p-1})(u_{i_2}, v_p) \quad (11)$$

to reach (u_{i_2}, v_p) . At (u_{i_2}, v_{n_2}) , the current ditrail will travel along $L_1^{v_{n_2}} = H_1^{v_{n_2}} - ((u_{i_1}, v_{n_2}), (u_{i_2}, v_{n_2}))$ to get to (u_{i_h}, v_{n_2}) , then following

$$P_{1''} = (u_{i_{s_k}}, v_{n_2})(u_{i_{s_{k-1}}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_{k-2}}}, v_{n_2})(u_{i_{s_{k-3}}}, v_1) \dots (u_{i_{s_2}}, v_1)(u_{i_{s_1}}, v_{n_2}) \quad (12)$$

to arrive at (u_{i_1}, v_{n_2}) . Since $D_2^{u_{i_1}} \cong D_2$ is strong, $D_2^{u_{i_1}}$ has a $((u_{i_1}, v_{n_2}), (u_{i_1}, v_1))$ -dipath $P_2^{u_{i_1}}$. Then, from (u_{i_1}, v_{n_2}) , it goes through $P_2^{u_{i_1}}$ to return to (u_{i_1}, v_1) .

With the definitions of the related dipaths in (9), (10), (11), (12), the construction of this spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$ can be illustrated in Algorithm C below.

Algorithm C:

INPUT: A strong digraph D_1 with a spanning ditrail and a strong digraph D_2 .

OUTPUT: A spanning closed ditrail H in $D_1[D_2]$.

1. Let $H := H_1^{v_1}$ and $p := 2$.
2. If $p > n_2$, and
if k is even, let $H := H \cup P_{1'}$, go to step 5;
if k is odd, let $H := H \cup P_{1''} \cup P_2^{u_{i_1}}$, go to step 5.

3. Let \mathcal{H} be current ditrail with the terminal vertex (u_{i_h}, v_{p-1}) .

4. If k is even, let $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{H} \cup P_{p'} \cup H_1^{V_p}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.

If k is odd, let $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{H} \cup P_{p''} \cup H_1^{V_p}$ and $p := p + 1$, go to step 2.

5. Return the closed ditrail H .

As in each step of Algorithm C, the current H is a ditrail starting from (u_{i_1}, v_1) in $D_1^{V_1}$, the finiteness of the digraphs implies that Algorithm C must stop. When Step 2 is executed, H becomes a closed ditrail. Since H_1 is a spanning ditrail of D_1 , we have $V(H_1) = V(D_1)$. By steps 1, 3, 4, 5, $V(H) = \bigcup_{k=j_1}^{j_{h_2}} V(D_1^{V_k})$ and $\{v_{j_1}, v_{j_2}, \dots, v_{j_{h_2}}\} = V(D_2)$, thus, by Observation 2.1 (i) and (ii), H is a spanning closed ditrail of $D_1[D_2]$.

Since a bi-trailable digraph is strong, by Theorem 2.6 the following corollary holds.

Corollary 2.2 Let D_1 and D_2 be two digraphs with $\min\{|V(D_1)|, |V(D_2)|\} \geq 2$.

- If D_1 is a bi-trailable digraph and D_2 is a strong digraph, then the Lexicographic product $D_1[D_2]$ is supereulerian.

- If D_1 is trailable and strong, then the Lexicographic product $D_1[D_2]$ is trailable.

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