



Restricted connectivity and good-neighbor diagnosability of split-star networks

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ABSTRACT

The restricted connectivity and the g -good-neighbor diagnosability are two important indicators of the robustness for a multi-processor system in presence of failing processors. The g -good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph guarantees that the number of fault-free neighbors of every fault-free vertex is greater or equal to g in the graph. We first establish the 3-restricted connectivity of an n -dimensional split-star network S_n^2 . Then we propose the upper bound of the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM* model. Moreover, we show that when deleting two indistinguishable good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets from S_n^2 , the remaining connected subgraph has no isolated vertex. Furthermore, we give a complete proof for the lower bound of the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 , and prove that the lower and upper bounds of the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 are accurate.

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1. Introduction

Failure of processor is inevitable in a multiprocessor system with a great quantity of processors. A novel diagnostic model, the *comparison model* (*MM model*), was established by Malek and Maeng [26]. Under the MM model, a test contains a vertex u and two of its neighbors v, w . The vertex u sends the same input to v, w and then compares their feedbacks. If u is faulty, then the test result is not reliable. When u is fault-free, the test result is 0 if v, w are both fault-free and 1 otherwise. In 1992, Sengupta and Dahbura [28] proposed the MM* model, which is a special MM model. Under the MM* model, every vertex must compare every pair of its neighbors. Fan [11,12] proposed the diagnosability of the Möbius cubes and crossed cubes under the MM* model. Moreover, Chen and Hsieh [3] gave the (t, k) -diagnosis for component-composition graphs under the MM* model. To better reflect a network's true self fault-diagnosing capability, Chang and Hsieh [2] studied the conditional diagnosability of augmented cubes.

In 2012, Peng et al. [27] proposed the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph, which assumes that the number of fault-free neighbors of every fault-free vertex is greater or equal to g in the graph under the PMC model. Since this conception was raised, a lot of works have been done on it. Yuan et al. [34] gave the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of k -ary n -cubes. In 2016, Wang et al. [29] proposed the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of n -hypercubes under the MM* model. We [25] established the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of arrangement graphs by exploring the known g -restricted connectivity and the size of K_{g+1} . Xu et al. [33] also proposed the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of (n, k) -star graphs by combining

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the known g -restricted connectivity with the size of the $(g + 1)$ -dimensional complete graph (K_{g+1}) for $0 \leq g \leq n - k$. In 2017, Wei and Xu [31] extended the result for (n, k) -star networks to $0 \leq g \leq n - 1$. Gu et al. [13] gave a short note on the $\{1, 2\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of balanced hypercubes. Guo et al. [15] studied the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of crossed cubes. Li and Lu [21] proposed g -good-neighbor conditional diagnosability of star graphs. In 2019, we studied the g -good-neighbor diagnosability for exchanged hypercubes [35] and alternating group graphs [18].

Moreover, there exist some general works about the g -good-neighbor diagnosability. Gu et al. [14] studied the 1-good-neighbor diagnosability of some regular graphs. Then, Wei and Xu [32] explored the $\{1, 2\}$ -good-neighbor conditional diagnosability of some special regular graphs, including BC graphs, folded hypercubes and four classes of Cayley graphs. Hu et al. [17] established the equal relationship between g -good-neighbor diagnosability under the PMC model and MM* model. Furthermore, in 2018, we [22] established the relationship between g -restricted connectivity and g -good-neighbor fault diagnosability of general triangle-free regular networks. Then, Cheng [4], Wang et al. [30] and Cheng et al. [10] also provided a relationship between g -good-neighbor diagnosability and g -restricted connectivity in regular graphs with different conditions.

These related works do not involve the study of the g -good-neighbor diagnosability for the split-star networks. In this paper, we aim to solve the problem for the structure called an n -dimensional *split-star network* S_n^2 , which was proposed by Cheng et al. [7] as an alternative to the popular n -dimensional star graph S_n [1]. The construction of the split-star network is rather different from the hypercubes, k -ary n -cubes, star graphs, arrangement graph, (n, k) -star graphs, balanced hypercubes, crossed cubes, exchanged hypercube and alternating group graphs, and it has many advantages compared with these above networks. Moreover, the split-star network has many 3-cycles in it, which is different from our reference [22]. The 3-good-neighbor diagnosability and 3-restricted connectivity also have not been presented. Hence, the above general related works for g -good-neighbor diagnosability are not applicable to the work of this paper. We will give a complete method for 3-restricted connectivity. Moreover, we will propose the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability by considering a unified approach.

To highlight our contributions, we summarize them as follows:

- We establish the 3-restricted connectivity of an n -dimensional split-star network S_n^2 .
- We propose the upper bound of the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 by construction under the MM* model.
- When deleting two indistinguishable good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets from S_n^2 , the remaining connected subgraph has no isolated vertex.
- We prove that the upper and lower bounds of the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 are accurate.

This paper is divided into four parts. Section 2–Section 5 establish the preliminaries used throughout the paper, the 3-restricted connectivity of S_n^2 , the $\{1, 2, 3\}$ -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM* model, and the conclusion, respectively.

2. Preliminaries

We give some preparing works to establish the 3-restricted connectivity and the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM* model.

2.1. Terminology

In this subsection, we give some basic terminologies, which were included in our previous works [18],[22],[23],[24],[25] and [35].

- $G = (V(G), E(G))$: a graph with the vertex-set $V(G)$ and the edge-set $E(G)$.
- $u \in V(G)$: a vertex u from the vertex-set $V(G)$.
- $uv \in E(G)$: an edge uv from the edge-set $E(G)$.
- $|A|$: the size of a set A .
- $M \subseteq G$: M is a subgraph of G , in which $V(M) \subseteq V(G)$ and $E(M) \subseteq E(G)$.
- $G[B]$: an induced subgraph of G by the vertex-set B with $V(G[B]) = B$ and $E(G[B]) = \{xy \mid xy \in E(G), x, y \in B\}$.
- $\bigcup_{i=1}^m G_i = G[\bigcup_{i=1}^m V(G_i)]$ and $\bigcap_{i=1}^m G_i = G[\bigcap_{i=1}^m V(G_i)]$.
- $G - B$: a subgraph of G by deleting all vertices of the vertex-set B from a graph G and all edges connecting at least one vertex in the vertex-set B .
- $A - B$: a set of vertices who are in the vertex-set A and not in the vertex-set B .
- $E[V(G_1), V(G_2)] = \{xy \mid x \in V(G_1) \text{ and } y \in V(G_2)\}$.
- $N_G(x) = \{y \in V(G) \mid xy \in E(G)\}$.
- $N_G(B) = (\bigcup_{u \in B} N_G(x)) - B$.
- $\delta(G)$: the minimum value of degrees of all vertices in a graph G .
- P_k (or C_k): a path (or cycle) with length k , called a k -path (or k -cycle).

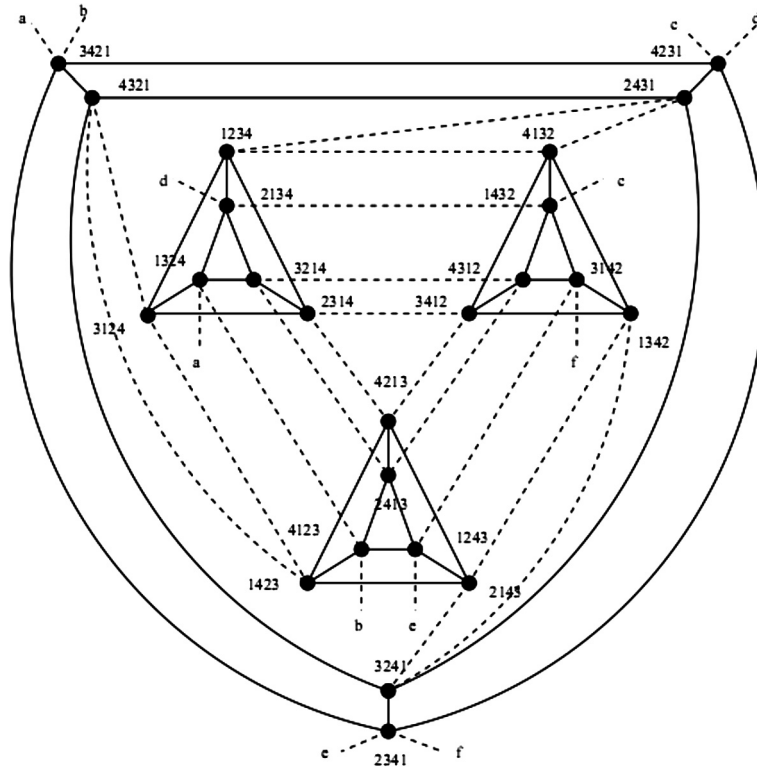


Fig. 1. The 4-dimensional split-star network S_4^2 .

2.2. Split-star network

In subsection 2.2, we give the definition of the n -dimensional split-star network S_n^2 (Definition 1) and some basic properties of S_n^2 (Remark 1, Remark 2 and Lemma 1).

Definition 1. [7,8] Given two positive integers n and k with $n > k$, let $\langle n \rangle = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, and let \mathbb{P}_n be a set of $n!$ permutations on $\langle n \rangle$. The n -dimensional split-star network, denoted by S_n^2 , such that

- $V(S_n^2) = \mathbb{P}_n$;
- $E(S_n^2) = \{pq \mid p \text{ (resp. } q\text{) can be obtained from } q \text{ (resp. } p\text{) by either a 2-exchange or a 3-rotation}\}$.
 - (1) A 2-exchange interchanges the symbols in 1st position and 2nd position.
 - (2) A 3-rotation rotates the symbols in 1st, 2nd and k th for some $k \in \{3, 4, \dots, n\}$.

Remark 1. For any vertex u and a fixed $k \in \{3, 4, \dots, n\}$, there are two 3-rotations $\binom{123\dots k\dots n}{2k3\dots 1\dots n}$ and $\binom{123\dots k\dots n}{k13\dots 2\dots n}$, so the vertex u has two neighbors by the 3-rotations for this k . Hence, S_n^2 is a $(1 + 2(n - 2))$ -regular graph with $n!$ vertices. We use $x = x_1x_2 \dots x_i \dots x_n$ to denote a permutation where x_i is in i th position. Fig. 1 gives the structure of S_4^2 .

Remark 2. For any $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2, n - 1, n\}$, let $S_n^{2:i} = S_n^2[V(S_n^{2:i})]$ where the set $V(S_n^{2:i}) = \{x_1x_2 \dots x_{n-2}x_{n-1}i \mid x_{j_1} \neq x_{j_2} \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2, n - 1, n\} - \{i\} \text{ where } 1 \leq j_1 \neq j_2 \leq n - 1\}$. Every vertex v in $S_n^{2:i}$ has exactly two neighbors not in $S_n^{2:i}$, who are called as the *external-neighbors* of v . A pair of elements x_i and x_j is called an inversion of x if $x_i < x_j$ whenever $i > j$.

The n -dimensional split-star network can be decomposed to two different networks by *even permutation* and the *odd permutation*, in which the former and the latter contain an even and an odd number of inversions, respectively. Let $S_{n,E}^2$ be an induced subgraph $S_n^2[V(S_{n,E}^2)]$ with $V(S_{n,E}^2) = \{u \mid u \text{ is an even permutation in } V(S_n^2)\}$. It can be found that $S_{n,E}^2$ is an n -dimensional alternating group graph AG_n [19]. Let $S_{n,O}^2$ be an induced subgraph $S_n^2[V(S_{n,O}^2)]$ with $V(S_{n,O}^2) = \{u \mid u \text{ is an odd permutation in } V(S_n^2)\}$. Hence, $S_{n,O}^2$ is isomorphic to $S_{n,E}^2$ by a 2-exchange and there are $n!/2$ disjointed edges between the subgraphs $S_{n,E}^2$ and $S_{n,O}^2$. Fig. 2 gives the subgraphs $S_{4,E}^2$ and $S_{4,O}^2$.

Lemma 1. [5,6,23] (1) The n -dimensional split-star network S_n^2 is $(2n - 3)$ -regular and the connectivity of S_n^2 is $2n - 3$ for $n \geq 2$.
 (2) Every vertex in $S_n^{2:i}$ has two external-neighbors, which are in distinct subgraphs and adjacent.

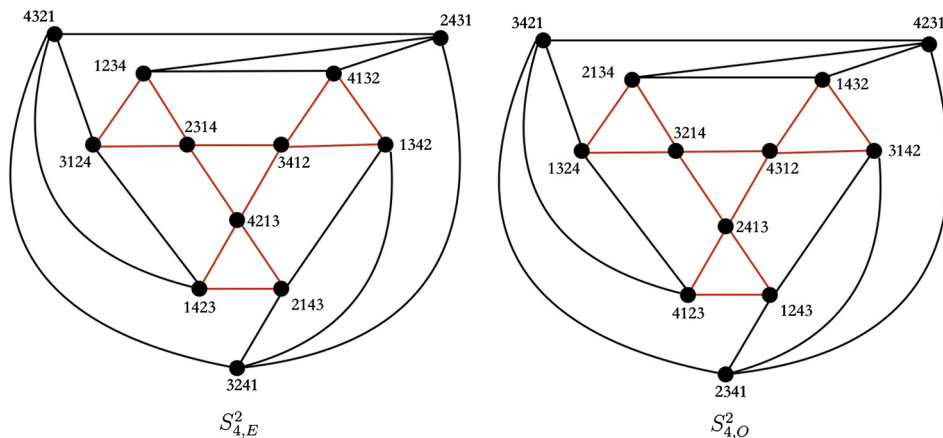


Fig. 2. The subgraphs $S_{4,E}^2$ and $S_{4,O}^2$.

- (3) Any two vertices in $S_n^{2:i}$ have different external-neighbors.
- (4) Let $\zeta, \eta \in V(S_n^2)$. If $\zeta\eta \notin E(S_n^2)$, then $|N_{S_n^2}(\zeta) \cap N_{S_n^2}(\eta)| \leq 2$. If $\zeta\eta \in E(S_n^2)$, then $|N_{S_n^2}(\zeta) \cap N_{S_n^2}(\eta)| = 1$.
- (5) There is one to one correspondence between the subgraph $S_{n,O}^2$ and the subgraph $S_{n,E}^2$.

3. The 3-restricted connectivity of S_n^2

In this section, we will establish the sufficient conditions to determine the 3-restricted connectivity of S_n^2 .

Definition 2. [20] Given a graph G , a subset D in $V(G)$ and an nonnegative integer g .

- (1) If $G - D$ is disconnected, then D is called a vertex-cut of G . The maximal connected subgraph in $G - D$ is called a component.
- (2) If D is a vertex-cut and $\delta(G - D) \geq g$, then D is called a g -restricted vertex-cut of G .
- (3) The g -restricted connectivity of G , denoted by $\kappa^g(G)$, is the minimum cardinality over all g -restricted vertex-cuts of G . A g -restricted vertex-cut is called to be the minimum if the cardinality of the g -restricted vertex-cut is $\kappa^g(G)$.

We [24] have obtained the $\{1, 2\}$ -restricted connectivity of S_n^2 .

Lemma 2. [24] Let S_n^2 be an n -dimensional split-star network, then the following properties hold.

- (1) $\kappa^1(S_n^2) = 4n - 9$ ($n \geq 4$). Furthermore, let S be a 1-path in $S_{n,E}^2$, then $N_{S_n^2}(V(S))$ is a minimum 1-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 .
- (2) $\kappa^2(S_n^2) = 6n - 15$ ($n \geq 5$). Furthermore, let C_3 be a 3-cycle in $S_{n,E}^2$, then $N_{S_n^2}(V(C_3))$ is a minimum 2-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 .

Because the n -dimensional split-star network can be viewed as “companion graphs” of the n -dimensional alternating group graphs AG_n . We introduce the following some basic properties, which can be used to study the 3-restricted connectivity of S_n^2 .

Lemma 3. [9] Let D be a vertex-cut of AG_n ($n \geq 5$) such that $|D| \leq 6n - 20$. Then, $AG_n - D$ satisfies one of the following conditions.

- (1) $AG_n - D$ has two components, one of which is a singleton, or an edge;
- (2) $AG_n - D$ has three components, two of which are singletons.

Lemma 4. [16] Let D be a subset of $V(AG_n)$ ($n \geq 5$) such that $|D| \leq 6n - 19$. Then, $AG_n - D$ satisfies one of the following conditions.

- (1) $AG_n - D$ is connected;
- (2) $AG_n - D$ has two components, one of which is a singleton, an edge or a 2-path;
- (3) $AG_n - D$ has three components, two of which are both singletons, respectively.

Lemma 5. [18] Let AG_n ($n \geq 5$) be an n -dimensional alternating group graph. Then, the 2-restricted connectivity is $\kappa^2(AG_n) = 6n - 18$. Furthermore, let $C_3 = \{u, v, w\}$ be a 3-cycle in AG_n ($n \geq 5$) such that $u = 1234 \cdots i \cdots n$, $v = 2431 \cdots i \cdots n$ and $w = 4132 \cdots i \cdots n$. It can be deduced that $N_{AG_n}(V(C_3))$ is a minimum 2-restricted vertex-cut of AG_n .

Theorem 1. Let S_n^2 be an n -dimensional split-star network. Let S_3^2 be a 3-dimensional split-star subnetwork in S_n^2 for $n \geq 5$. Then the 3-restricted connectivity $\kappa^3(S_n^2) = 12n - 36$ and $N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2))$ is a minimum 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 for $n \geq 5$.

Proof. First, we prove that $\kappa^3(S_n^2) \leq 12n - 36$.

Let S_3^2 be a 3-dimensional split-star subnetwork in S_n^2 ($n \geq 5$). Without loss of generality, assume that $V(S_{3,E}^2) = \{u, v, w\}$ such that $u = 1234 \dots i \dots n$, $v = 2431 \dots i \dots n$ and $w = 4132 \dots i \dots n$ and $V(S_{3,O}^2) = \{u', v', w'\}$ such that $u' = 2134 \dots i \dots n$, $v' = 4231 \dots i \dots n$ and $w' = 1432 \dots i \dots n$. Obviously, $S_{3,E}$ is a minimum 2-restricted vertex-cut of $S_{n,E}^2$ by Lemma 5 and the fact that $S_{n,E}^2$ is an n -dimensional alternating group graph AG_n . Hence, $|N_{S_{n,E}^2}(V(S_{3,E}^2))| = 6n - 18$ by Lemma 5. Moreover, every vertex of $S_{n,E}^2 - N_{S_{n,E}^2}(V(S_{3,E}^2)) - V(S_{3,E}^2)$ has at least two neighbors in $S_{n,E}^2 - N_{S_{n,E}^2}(V(S_{3,E}^2)) - V(S_{3,E}^2)$ and every vertex of $V(S_{3,E}^2)$ has exactly two neighbors in $V(S_{3,E}^2)$. Because $S_{n,E}^2$ is isomorphic to $S_{n,O}^2$, $S_{3,O}^2$ is a minimum 2-restricted vertex-cut of $S_{n,O}^2$ by Lemma 5. Hence, $|N_{S_{n,O}^2}(V(S_{3,O}^2))| = 6n - 18$ by Lemma 5. Moreover, every vertex of $S_{n,O}^2 - N_{S_{n,O}^2}(V(S_{3,O}^2)) - V(S_{3,O}^2)$ has at least two neighbors in $S_{n,O}^2 - N_{S_{n,O}^2}(V(S_{3,O}^2)) - V(S_{3,O}^2)$ and every vertex of $V(S_{3,O}^2)$ has exactly two neighbors in $V(S_{3,O}^2)$.

By Lemma 1 (5), there is one to one correspondence between the subgraph $S_{3,O}^2$ (resp. $S_{n,O}^2 - N_{S_{n,O}^2}(V(S_{3,O}^2)) - V(S_{3,O}^2)$) and the subgraph $S_{3,E}^2$ (resp. $S_{n,E}^2 - N_{S_{n,E}^2}(V(S_{3,E}^2)) - V(S_{3,E}^2)$). Thus, every vertex of $S_n^2 - N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2)) - V(S_3^2)$ has at least three neighbors in $S_n^2 - N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2)) - V(S_3^2)$ and every vertex of $V(S_3^2)$ has exactly three neighbors in $V(S_3^2)$. Therefore, $N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2))$ is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . By Definition 2 (3),

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa^3(S_n^2) &\leq |N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2))| \\ &= |N_{S_{n,O}^2}(V(S_{3,O}^2))| + |N_{S_{n,E}^2}(V(S_{3,E}^2))| \\ &= 2 \times (6n - 18) \\ &= 12n - 36. \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

Next, we prove that $\kappa^3(S_n^2) \geq 12n - 36$.

Suppose that $\kappa^3(S_n^2) \leq 12n - 37$. Let D be a minimum 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 , $|D| = \kappa^3(S_n^2) \leq 12n - 37$. Let $D_O = D \cap V(S_{n,O}^2)$ and $D_E = D \cap V(S_{n,E}^2)$. Hence, $|D_O| + |D_E| = |D| \leq 12n - 37$. Hence, there exists at least one of $|D_O|$ and $|D_E|$ with that the size is less than $6n - 18$. Without loss of generality, assume that $|D_E| \leq 6n - 19$. By Lemma 4, $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is connected; or has two components, one of which is a singleton, an edge or a 2-path; has three components, two of which are both singletons, respectively.

When $|D_O| \leq 6n - 19$, by Lemma 4, $S_{n,O}^2 - D_O$ is connected; or has two components, one of which is a singleton, an edge or a 2-path; has three components, two of which are both singletons, respectively. When $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is connected and $S_{n,O}^2 - D_O$ is connected, by Lemma 1 (5), there exactly $n!/2$ disjoint edges between $S_{n,O}^2$ and $S_{n,E}^2$. Because $n!/2 > 12n - 37$ for $n \geq 5$. Hence, there exists at least one edge between $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ and $S_{n,O}^2 - D_O$. It can be implied that $S_n^2 - D$ is connected, which contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 .

Without loss of generality, assume that $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is disconnected, there exists one vertex u such that its degree in $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is less than two. By Lemma 1 (5), u has exactly one neighbor in $S_{n,O}^2$. Hence, u has at most two neighbors in $S_n^2 - D$. It contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 .

When $|D_O| \geq 6n - 18$, we will deduce a contradiction. If $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is disconnected, there exists one vertex u such that its degree in $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is less than two. By Lemma 1 (5), u has exactly one neighbor in $S_{n,O}^2$. Hence, u has at most two neighbors in $S_n^2 - D$. It contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . If $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$ is connected, let D'_E be a subset in $S_{n,O}^2$ such that there is one to one correspondence between D'_E and D_E . Let $D'_E \cap D_O = D'_O$. Hence, $|D'_O| \leq |D'_E| = |D_E| \leq 6n - 19$. If $|D'_O| = |D'_E|$, by Lemma 1 (5), $S_n^2 - D$ is connected. It contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . If $|D'_O| < |D'_E| \leq 6n - 19$. By Lemma 3, $S_{n,O}^2 - D'_O$ is connected; or has two components, one of which is a singleton, or an edge; or has three components, two of which are singletons. By Lemma 1 (5), every vertex of $S_{n,O}^2 - (D'_E \cup D_O)$ connects to $S_{n,E}^2 - D_E$.

If there exists one vertex v in $D'_E - D'_O$ such that v can not be connected to $S_{n,O}^2 - D'_O$, then this vertex v must be the union of small components in $S_{n,O}^2 - D'_O$. Hence, v has at most one neighbor in $S_n^2 - D$. It contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . Hence, every vertex in $D'_E - D'_O$ can be connected to $S_{n,O}^2 - D'_O$. If every vertex in $D'_E - D'_O$ can be connected to $S_{n,O}^2 - D'_O - D_O$, then $S_n^2 - D$ is connected. It contradicts that D is a 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . Thus, there exists some vertices, say X , in $D'_E - D'_O$ such that X connects to $D_O - D'_O$. Therefore, $N_{S_{n,O}^2}(X) \subseteq D_O$ and the minimum degree of X is three. According to the structure of AG_n , $|X| \geq 9$ and $|D_E| \geq 9$. By the proof of Lemma 5, $|D_O| \geq |N_{S_{n,O}^2}(X)| \geq 8n - 28 + 6n - 18 - 5 = 14n - 51$. Hence, $|D| = |D_O| + |D_E| \geq 14n - 51 + 9 = 14n - 42 > 12n - 37 \geq |D|$, which is a contradiction.

Therefore, the 3-restricted connectivity $\kappa^3(S_n^2) = 12n - 36$ for $n \geq 5$. By Equation (3.1), $|N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2))| = 12n - 36 = \kappa^3(S_n^2)$. By Definition 2 (3), $N_{S_n^2}(V(S_3^2))$ is a minimum 3-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 . \square

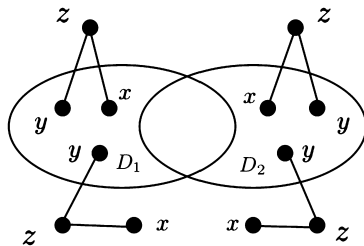


Fig. 3. Two subsets D_1 and D_2 in the graph G are distinguishable under the MM^* model.

4. The {1, 2, 3}-good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM^* model

We first introduce the concept of the faulty vertex-set of a graph (Remark 3), the development of the good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph (Remark 4), the definition of the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph (see Definition 3), the distinguishable faulty vertex-sets (Remark 5 and Lemma 6), which were included in our previous works [22],[25],[35].

Remark 3. The faulty vertex-set of a graph G is the set of all faulty vertices of G . A vertex could test another vertex if and only if there is an edge between them.

Remark 4. In 2012, Peng et al. [27] proposed the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph by assuming that the number of fault-free neighbors of every fault-free vertex is greater or equal to g in the graph.

Definition 3. [27] Let G be a graph.

- (1) A faulty vertex-set D is called a g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-set of G if $|N_G(x) \cap (V(G - D))| \geq g$ for $x \in V(G - D)$.
- (2) A system G is g -good-neighbor t -diagnosable if D_1 and D_2 are distinguishable for any two g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 with $|D_1| \leq t, |D_2| \leq t$.
- (3) The g -good-neighbor diagnosability of a graph G under the MM^* model, denoted by $t_g^m(G)$, is the maximum value of t such that G is g -good-neighbor t -diagnosable.

Remark 5. Sengupta and Dahbura [28] proposed an equivalent condition for that two subsets D_1 and D_2 in a graph G are distinguishable under the MM^* model.

Lemma 6. [28] Let G be a graph. Two subsets D_1 and D_2 in the graph G are distinguishable under the MM^* model iff one of the following conditions holds (see Fig. 3):

- (1) There exist $yz \in E(G)$ and $xz \in E(G)$ with $x, z \in V(G - D_1 - D_2)$ and $y \in (D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$;
- (2) There exist $yz \in E(G)$ and $xz \in E(G)$ with $x, y \in D_1 - D_2$ and $z \in V(G - (D_1 \cup D_2))$;
- (3) There exist $yz \in E(G)$ and $xz \in E(G)$ with $x, y \in D_2 - D_1$ and $z \in V(G - (D_1 \cup D_2))$.

Let the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM^* model be $t_g^m(S_n^2)$. We then show that the upper bound of $t_g^m(S_n^2)$ by construction.

Theorem 2. Let S_n^2 ($n \geq 5$) be an n -dimensional split-star network. The upper bound of $t_g^m(S_n^2)$ is $2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$.

Proof. For $1 \leq g \leq 3$, let M_g be a subgraph of S_n^2 such that M_1 is a 1-path P_1 in $S_{n,E}^2$, M_2 is a 3-cycle C_3 in $S_{n,E}^2$, and M_3 is a 3-dimensional split-star subnetwork S_3^2 in S_n^2 for $n \geq 5$. Let $D_1 = N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g))$ and $D_2 = N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g)) \cup V(M_g)$ be two faulty vertex-sets of S_n^2 (see Fig. 4). By Lemma 2, $|N_{S_n^2}(V(M_1))| = 4n - 9$ and $|N_{S_n^2}(V(M_2))| = 6n - 15$. By Theorem 1, $|N_{S_n^2}(V(M_3))| = 12n - 36$. Hence, we use the uniform expression to represent $|N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g))|$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$ as follows:

$$|D_1| = |N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g))| = 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 15/2 \times g^2 + 33/2 \times g - 18.$$

Since $N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g)) \cap V(M_g) = \emptyset$, hence

$$\begin{aligned} |D_2| &= |N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g)) \cup V(M_g)| \\ &= |N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g))| + |V(M_g)| - |N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g)) \cap V(M_g)| \\ &= |N_{S_n^2}(V(M_g))| + |V(M_g)| \\ &= 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 15/2 \times g^2 + 33/2 \times g - 18 + (g^2 - 2 \times g + 3) \\ &= 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 15, \end{aligned}$$

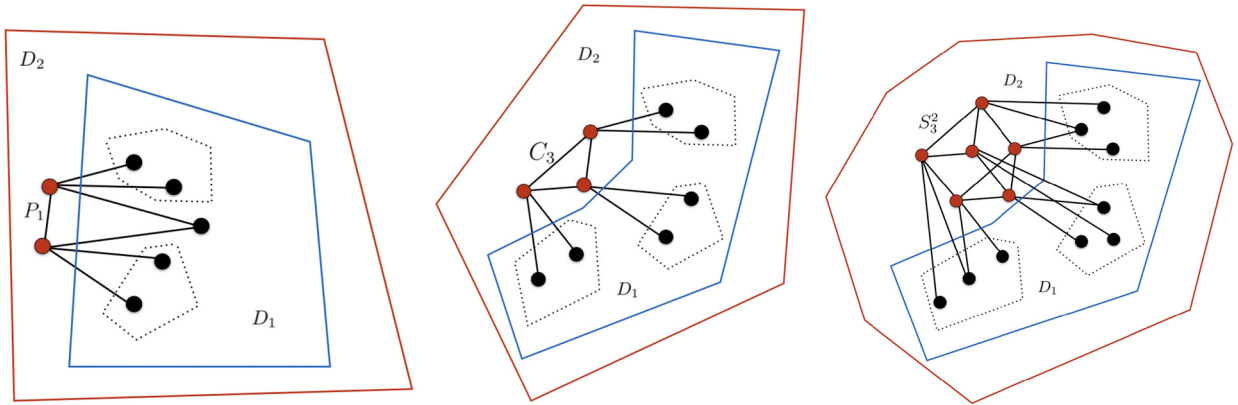


Fig. 4. The illustrations of $D_1 = N_{S_n^2}(V(\mathbb{M}_g))$ and $D_2 = N_{S_n^2}[V(\mathbb{M}_g)]$.

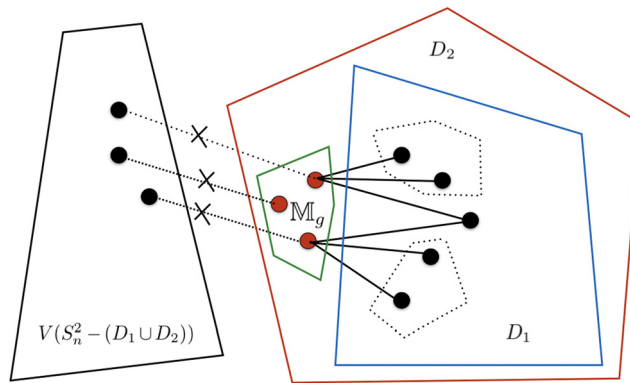


Fig. 5. An illustration of $E[V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)), (D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)] = \emptyset$.

and the minimum degree of $S_n^2 - D_2$ is $\delta(S_n^2 - D_2) \geq g$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$.

By Definition 3 (1), D_1 and D_2 are two g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets of S_n^2 with

$$|D_1| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 15, |D_2| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 15.$$

Moreover, since $V(\mathbb{M}_g) = D_2 - D_1$, $N_{S_n^2}(V(\mathbb{M}_g)) = D_1$ and $D_1 \subset D_2$, there is no edge between $V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$ and $(D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$ (see Fig. 5). By Lemma 6, D_1 and D_2 are two indistinguishable faulty vertex-sets of S_n^2 under the MM* model. By Definition 3 (2), the split-star network S_n^2 is not g -good-neighbor $(2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 15)$ -diagnosable under the MM* model. By Definition 3 (3), the upper bound of the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 under the MM* model is

$$t_g^m(S_n^2) \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$$

for $n \geq 5$ and $1 \leq g \leq 3$. Hence, the theorem holds. \square

Lemma 7. [23] Let D be a faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 with $|D| \leq 6n - 17$. Then, $S_n^2 - D$ ($n \geq 4$) has a large component C and $|V(S_n^2 - D - C)| \leq 2$.

Lemma 8. [23] Let D be a faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 with $|D| \leq 8n - 25$. Then, $S_n^2 - D$ ($n \geq 4$) has a large component C and $|V(S_n^2 - D - C)| \leq 3$.

Theorem 3. Let S_n^2 ($n \geq 5$) be an n -dimensional split-star network. Let D_1 and D_2 be two indistinguishable g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets of S_n^2 under the MM* model with $|D_1| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$, $|D_2| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$, and $1 \leq g \leq 3$. If $V(S_n^2) \neq D_1 \cup D_2$, then $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)$ has no isolated vertex.

Proof. If $2 \leq g \leq 3$, then D_1 is a g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 . Hence, $|N_{S_n^2 - D_1}(x)| \geq g \geq 2$ for any $x \in V(S_n^2 - D_1)$. The faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 do not satisfy any condition in Lemma 6. Hence, $|N_{S_n^2[D_2 - D_1]}(w)| \leq 1$ for any

$w \in V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$. Thus, for any $w \in V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$, the number of all neighbors of w in the subgraph $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)$ is equal to the number of all neighbors of w in the subgraph $S_n^2 - D_1$ minus the number of all neighbors of w in the subgraph $S_n^2[D_2 - D_1]$. Hence,

$$|N_{S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)}(w)| = |N_{S_n^2 - D_1}(w)| - |N_{S_n^2[D_2 - D_1]}(w)| \geq g - 1 \geq 1 \text{ for } 2 \leq g \leq 3.$$

By the arbitrariness of $w \in V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$, every vertex of $V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$ is not isolated. Hence, the theorem holds.

If $g = 1$ and $D_1 \subset D_2$, then $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2) = S_n^2 - D_2$. Because D_2 is a 1-good-neighbor faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 , $S_n^2 - D_2$ has no isolated vertices. When $D_1 \not\subseteq D_2$, suppose that there exists one isolated vertex in $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)$. Let $W \subseteq V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$ consist of isolated vertices and let $H = V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2) - W)$. Let $w \in W$. Since D_1 is a 1-good-neighbor faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 , thus there exists a vertex u in $D_2 - D_1$ with $uw \in E(S_n^2)$. Moreover, the faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 do not satisfy Lemma 6, hence there exists just one vertex $u \in D_2 - D_1$ with $uw \in E(S_n^2)$. In the same way, there exists just one vertex $v \in D_1 - D_2$ with $vw \in E(S_n^2)$. Hence, $|N_{S_n^2[D_1 \cap D_2]}(w)| = 2n - 5$ for $w \in W$ by Lemma 1 (4). Since $|D_2| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ and $g = 1$, we have $|D_2| \leq 4n - 8$.

Therefore, the number of all neighbors of any vertex w in the vertex-set W in the subgraph $S_n^2[D_1 \cap D_2]$ is equal to the size of W multiply by $2n - 5$. Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{w \in W} |N_{S_n^2[D_1 \cap D_2]}(w)| \\ &= \sum_{w \in W} [|N_{S_n^2}(w)| - |N_{S_n^2[D_1 - D_2]}(w)| - |N_{S_n^2[D_2 - D_1]}(w)|] \\ &= |W|(|N_{S_n^2}(w)| - 2) \\ &= |W|(2n - 5). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, the number of all neighbors of any vertex w in the vertex-set W in the subgraph $S_n^2[D_1 \cap D_2]$ is no more than the number of all neighbors of any vertex v in the vertex-set $D_1 \cap D_2$ in the subgraph S_n^2 . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{w \in W} |N_{S_n^2[D_1 \cap D_2]}(w)| &\leq \sum_{v \in D_1 \cap D_2} |N_{S_n^2}(v)| \\ &\leq |D_1 \cap D_2|(2n - 3) \\ &\leq (|D_2| - |D_1|)(2n - 3) \\ &\leq (|D_2| - 1)(2n - 3) \\ &\leq (4n - 9)(2n - 3). \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $|W|(2n - 5) \leq (4n - 9)(2n - 3)$. It follows that $|W| \leq 4n - 4$ for $n \geq 5$.

Assume that $H = \emptyset$, then $V(S_n^2) = (D_1 \cup D_2) \cup W$. Since $(D_1 \cup D_2) \cap W = \emptyset$, for $n \geq 5$ and $g = 1$, the proof that the size of S_n^2 is less than $n!$ is listed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} n! &= |V(S_n^2)| \\ &= |(D_1 \cup D_2) \cup W| \\ &= |(D_1 \cup D_2)| + |W| - |(D_1 \cup D_2) \cap W| \\ &\leq |D_1| + |D_2| - |D_1 \cap D_2| + |W| \\ &\leq 2 \times (4n - 8) - (2n - 5) + (4n - 4) \\ &< n!, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts to $|V(S_n^2)| = n!$. Hence, $H \neq \emptyset$. Since the faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 do not satisfy the condition (1) of Lemma 6 and $V(H)$ has no isolated vertex, there is no edge between H and $(D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$. Therefore, $D_1 \cap D_2$ is a 1-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 (see Fig. 6).

By Lemma 2 (1), $|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 4n - 9$. Note that $|D_1| \leq 4n - 8$, $|D_2| \leq 4n - 8$ and $D_1 - D_2 \neq \emptyset$, $D_2 - D_1 \neq \emptyset$. Thus, $|D_1 - D_2| = |D_2 - D_1| = 1$. Let $D_1 - D_2 = \{v_1\}$ and $D_2 - D_1 = \{v_2\}$. Hence, $wv_1 \in E(S_n^2)$ and $wv_2 \in E(S_n^2)$ for any $w \in W$. By Lemma 1 (4), $|N_{S_n^2}(v_1) \cap N_{S_n^2}(v_2)| \leq 2$. Hence, $1 \leq |W| \leq 2$.

When $|W| = 1$, by Lemma 7, we have $|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 6n - 16$ (see Fig. 7). Hence, for $n \geq 5$, $|D_2| = |D_2 - D_1| + |D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 6n - 15 > 4n - 8 \geq |D_2|$, which is a contradiction.

If $|W| = 2$, by Lemma 8, $|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 8n - 24$ (see Fig. 8). Hence, for $n \geq 5$, $|D_2| = |D_2 - D_1| + |D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 8n - 23 > 4n - 8 \geq |D_2|$, which is a contradiction.

Therefore, the theorem holds. \square

Next, we will prove that the lower bound of $t_g^m(S_n^2)$ is $2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$ by the above theorems.

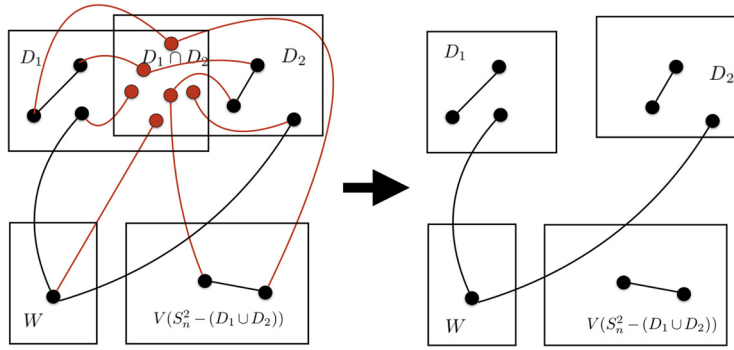


Fig. 6. An illustration that $D_1 \cap D_2$ is a 1-restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 when $W \neq \emptyset$.

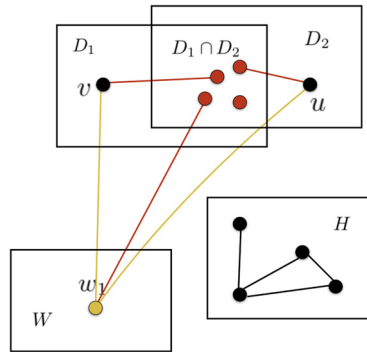


Fig. 7. An illustration of $|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 6n - 16$.

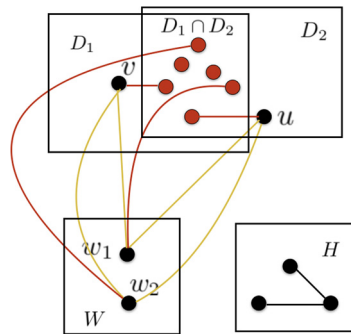


Fig. 8. An illustration of $|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 8n - 24$.

Theorem 4. Let S_n^2 ($n \geq 5$) be an n -dimensional split-star network. The lower bound of $t_g^m(S_n^2)$ is $2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$.

Proof. Suppose that $t_g^m(S_n^2) < 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $n \geq 5$ and $1 \leq g \leq 3$ under the MM* model. By Definitions 3 (2)–(3), there exist two indistinguishable g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 with

$$|D_1| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16,$$

$$|D_2| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16.$$

By Lemma 6, the faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 do not satisfy Lemma 6. Assume that $D_2 - D_1 \neq \emptyset$. If $V(S_n^2) = D_1 \cup D_2$, then

$$n! = |V(S_n^2)| \leq |D_1| + |D_2| \leq 2[2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16] < n!$$

for $n \geq 5$ and $1 \leq g \leq 3$, which is a contradiction.

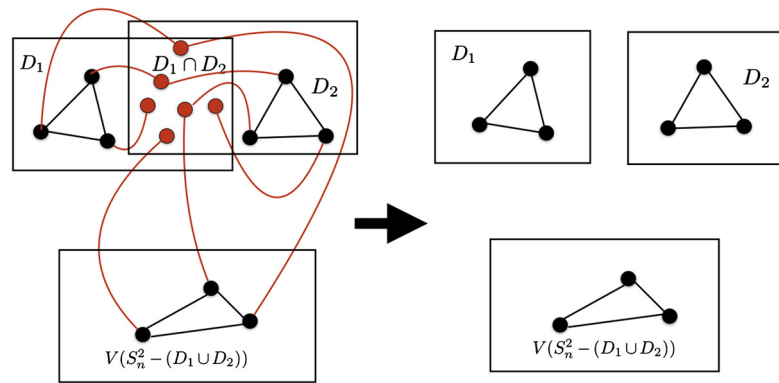


Fig. 9. An illustration that $D_1 \cap D_2$ is also a g -restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 .

Hence, $V(S_n^2) \neq D_1 \cup D_2$. Let u be a vertex in $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)$. By Theorem 3, there exists at least one vertex v in $S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2)$ such that $uv \in E(S_n^2)$. Since the faulty vertex-sets D_1 and D_2 of S_n^2 do not satisfy Lemma 6, u and v have no neighbor in $(D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$. By the arbitrariness of $u \in V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$, there is no edge between $V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$ and $(D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$.

Since D_1 is a g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-set of S_n^2 and $D_2 - D_1 \neq \emptyset$, $\delta(S_n^2[D_2 - D_1]) \geq g^2 - 2g + 3$. Hence, $|D_2 - D_1| \geq g + 1$. Since D_1 and D_2 are two g -good-neighbor faulty vertex-sets of S_n^2 and there is no edge between $V(S_n^2 - (D_1 \cup D_2))$ and $(D_1 - D_2) \cup (D_2 - D_1)$, $D_1 \cap D_2$ is also a g -restricted vertex-cut of S_n^2 for $1 \leq g \leq 3$ (see Fig. 9). By Lemma 2 and Theorem 1,

$$|D_1 \cap D_2| \geq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 15/2 \times g^2 + 33/2 \times g - 18.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |D_2| &= |D_2 - D_1| + |D_1 \cap D_2| \\ &\geq (g^2 - 2g + 3) + (2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 15/2 \times g^2 + 33/2 \times g - 18) \\ &= 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 15, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts to $|D_2| \leq 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$.

In conclusion, the lower bound of $t_g^m(S_n^2)$ is $2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$. Hence, the theorem holds. \square

According to Theorems 2 and 4, the following theorem holds.

Theorem 5. Let S_n^2 ($n \geq 5$) be an n -dimensional split-star network. Then $t_g^m(S_n^2) = 2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$.

5. Conclusion

In this paper, we propose a simple and complete proof to show that, under the MM* model, the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 is $2 \times (2^g - g + 1) \times n - 13/2 \times g^2 + 29/2 \times g - 16$ for $1 \leq g \leq 3$, which is several times higher than the original diagnosability. In the future, we will establish a universal method for the general g -restricted connectivity and the g -good-neighbor diagnosability of S_n^2 where $g \geq 4$.

Declaration of competing interest

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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