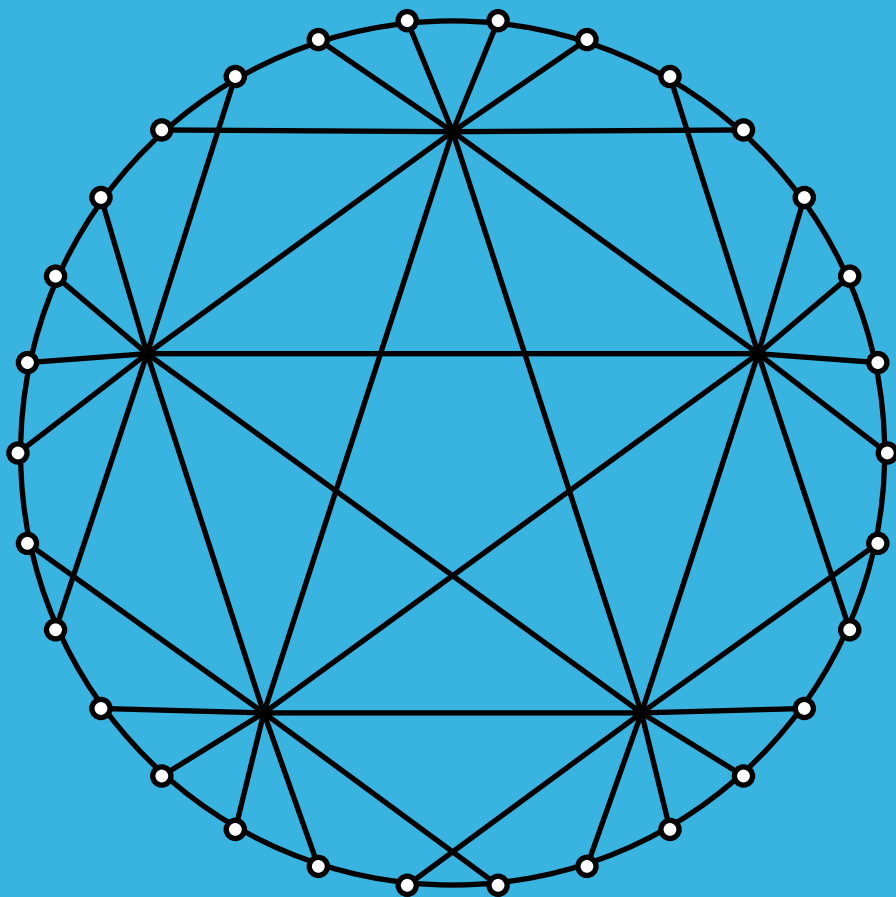


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# There is but one PDS in $\mathbb{Z}^3$ inducing just square components

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**Abstract:** It is known that in the unit distance graph of the lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  there exists a dominating set  $S$  with 4-cycles as sole induced components and each vertex of  $\mathbb{Z}^3 \setminus S$  having a unique neighbor in  $S$ . We show  $S$  is unique.

*Keywords:* perfect dominating sets; unit distance graph; integer lattice

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## 1 Perfect dominating sets, (PDS s)

Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $S \subset V$ . The closed neighborhood of a vertex  $\theta \in V$  in  $\Gamma$  is denoted  $N[\theta]$ . Let  $[S]$  be the subgraph of  $\Gamma$  induced by  $S$ . The induced components of  $S$ , namely the connected components of  $[S]$  in  $\Gamma$ , are said to be the *components* of  $S$ . Several definitions of perfect dominating sets in graphs are considered in the literature [18, 20]. We work

with the following one [23] denoted with the short acronym PDS, to make a distinctive difference:

$S$  is a PDS of  $\Gamma \Leftrightarrow$  each vertex of  $V \setminus S$  has a unique neighbor in  $S$ .

This definition (of PDS) differs from that of a ‘perfect dominating set’ as in [15, 17, 22] (that for us is a stable PDS coinciding with the perfect code of [4] or with the efficient dominating set of [3, 18]). With our not necessarily stable definition of perfect dominating set, denoted PDS, our main result, stated below as Theorem 1, has a narrowing spirit as that of Theorem 2.6 of just cited [22].

Let  $0 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The following graphs are considered. The unit distance graph  $\Lambda_n$  of the  $n$ -dimensional integer lattice  $\mathbb{Z}^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  has vertex set  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  and exactly one edge between each two vertices if and only if their Euclidean distance is 1. An  $n$ -cube is the cartesian graph product  $Q_n = K_2 \square K_2 \square \cdots \square K_2$  of precisely  $n$  copies of the complete graph  $K_2$ . In particular, a 2-cube  $Q_2$  is a square, that is a 4-cycle. A *grid graph* is the cartesian graph product of two path graphs.

Our definition of a PDS  $S$  allows components of  $S$  in  $\Gamma$  which are not isolated vertices. For example: **(a)** tilings with generalized Lee  $r$ -spheres, for fixed  $r$  with  $1 < r \leq n$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (e.g., crosses with arms of length one if  $r = n$ ), furnish  $\Lambda_n$  with PDSs whose components are  $r$ -cubes [14], including that of our Theorem 1, below; (It is most remarkable that  $r = n \Leftrightarrow n \in \{2^r - 1, 3^r - 1; 0 < r \in \mathbb{Z}\}$  [6]); **(b)** *total perfect codes* [1, 21], that is PDSs whose components are copies of  $K_2 = P_2$  in the  $\Lambda_n$ s and grid graphs; (these appear as *diameter perfect Lee codes* [13, 19]); **(c)** PDSs in  $n$ -cubes [5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 23], where  $0 < n \in \mathbb{Z}$ , including the perfect codes of [12]; **(d)** PDSs in grid graphs [8, 21].

**Theorem 1.** *There is only one PDS in  $\Lambda_3$  whose components are 4-cycles.*

This is proved as Theorem 4 once some auxiliary notions are presented.

## 2 Induced components

The *distance*  $d(u, v)$  between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  of  $\Lambda_n$  is defined as the minimum length of any path connecting  $u$  and  $v$ . The following is an elementary extension of a result of [23] for  $n$ -cubes.

**Theorem 2.** *Let  $S$  be a PDS in  $\Lambda_n$ . Let  $J_S$  be a set of indices  $j$  for the corresponding components  $S^j$  of  $S$ . Each  $S^j$  is a cartesian graph product of connected subgraphs of  $\Lambda_1$ . Thus, if such  $S^j$  is a finite subgraph  $\Theta$  of  $\Lambda_n$ , then  $S^j$  is of the form  $P_{i_1^j} \square P_{i_2^j} \square \cdots \square P_{i_n^j}$ , where  $P_{i_k^j}$  is a path of length  $i_k^j - 1 \geq 0$ , for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ .*

A PDS in  $\Lambda_n$  whose components are all isomorphic to a fixed finite graph  $\Theta$  (as in Theorem 2) is called a PDS $[\Theta]$ . If no confusion arises,  $n$ -tuples representing elements of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  are written with neither commas nor external parentheses. We denote  $00\dots 0 = O$ ,  $10\dots 0 = e_1$ ,  $010\dots 0 = e_2$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $00\dots 1 = e_n$ .

At the end of Section 6 of [14] (in the original setting of item (a) above in Section 1), all the indices  $i_k^j$  of our Theorem 2 are shown to be less than 2.

### 3 Lattice-like dominating sets

Let  $\Theta = (V, E)$  be a finite subgraph of  $\Lambda_n$  and let  $z \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ . Then  $\Theta + z$  denotes the graph  $\Theta' = (V', E')$ , where  $V' = V + z = \{w; \text{there exists } v \in V, w = v + z\}$  and  $uv \in E \Leftrightarrow (u + z)(v + z) \in E'$ . Let  $S$  be a PDS $[\Theta]$  and let a copy  $D$  of  $\Theta$  be a component of  $S$ . Then  $S$  is said to be *lattice-like* if there exists a lattice  $L$  (that is, a subgroup  $L$  of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$ ) such that  $D'$  is a component of  $S$  if and only if there is  $z \in L$  with  $D' = D + z$ . Examples above ([14, 6, 13, 19]) are lattice-like.

If  $S$  is a PDS $[\Theta]$  with  $\Theta = (V, E)$ , then  $S$  can be seen as a tiling of  $\mathbb{Z}^n$  by the induced subgraph  $\Theta^*$  of  $\Lambda_n$  on the set  $V^* = \{v \in \mathbb{Z}^n; d(v, V) \leq 1\}$ . Thus, a lattice-like tiling will be understood in the same way as a lattice-like PDS. We need the following form of Theorem 6 [19] for the proof of Theorem 4. Recall that given a graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(v, H)$  between a vertex  $v$  of  $G$  and a subgraph  $H$  of  $G$  is the shortest distance between  $v$  and the vertices of  $H$ .

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $\Theta$  be a subgraph of  $\Lambda_n$ . Let  $\Theta^*$  be an induced supergraph of  $\Theta$  in  $\Lambda_n$  such that a vertex  $v$  is in  $\Theta^*$  if and only if  $d(v, \Theta) \leq 1$ . Let  $D = (V, E)$  be a copy of  $\Theta^*$  that contains vertices  $O, e_1, \dots, e_n$ . Then, there is a lattice-like PDS $[\Theta]$  if and only if there exists an abelian group  $G$  of order  $|V|$  and a group epimorphism  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}^n \rightarrow G$  such that the restriction of  $\Phi$  to  $V$  is a bijection.*

## 4 The proof

**Theorem 4.** *There do not exist non-lattice-like PDS[ $Q_2$ ]s in  $\Lambda_3$ . In addition, there exists exactly one lattice-like PDS[ $Q_2$ ] in  $\Lambda_3$ .*

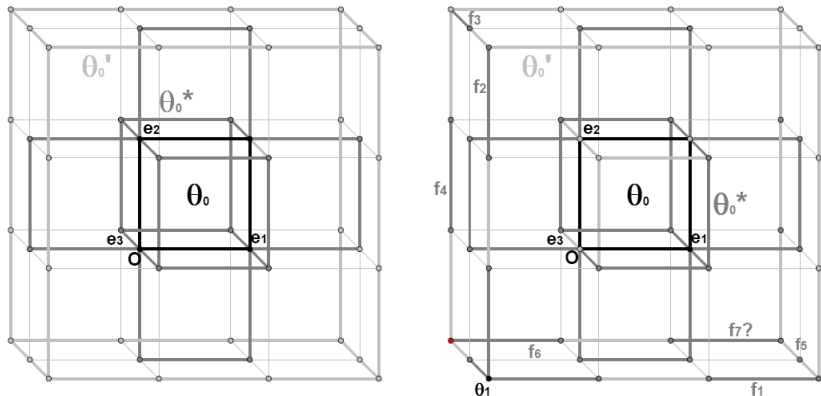


Figure 1:  $\Theta_0 \subset \Theta_0^* \subset \Theta'_0$ , and the case of one corner of  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  in  $S$

*Proof.* Theorem 8 [14] insures the existence of a PDS[ $Q_2$ ] in  $\Lambda_3$ . In fact, the connected components of such PDS[ $Q_2$ ] are the generalized Lee spheres  $S_{3,2,0}$  inside the corresponding generalized Lee spheres  $S_{3,2,1}$  (in their inductive construction in Section 1 [14]) that form the lattice tiling  $\Lambda_{3,2}$  (in the notation of [14]) insured by that Theorem 8. According to the theorem, this  $\Lambda_{3,2}$  has generator matrix (as defined in Section 3 [14]):

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

In terms of Theorem 3, the generator matrix (1) corresponds to the group epimorphism  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}^3 \rightarrow G = \mathbb{Z}_{20}$  given by  $\Phi(e_1) = 2$ ;  $\Phi(e_2) = 5$  and  $\Phi(e_3) = 6$  where  $\Phi$  is obtained first by multiplying the matrix (1) by an unknown vector and then solving the corresponding system of equations mod 20. To see that this is the only PDS[ $Q_2$ ] in  $\Lambda_3$ , we note that there are only two possible abelian groups  $G$  for the epimorphism  $\Phi$ , namely:  $G = \mathbb{Z}_{20}$  and  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_5$ . It can be easily checked [16] that **(a)** there are just 32 epimorphism from  $\mathbb{Z}^3$  onto  $G = \mathbb{Z}_{20}$  and none from  $\mathbb{Z}^3$  onto  $G = \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_2 \times \mathbb{Z}_5$ ; **(b)** every possible assignment for  $\Phi(e_1)$ ,  $\Phi(e_2)$

and  $\Phi(e_3)$  has order 10, 10 and 4, respectively, in  $\mathbb{Z}_{20}$ . As a result, all 4-cycles induced by each lattice-like PDS[ $Q_2$ ] associated (via Theorem 3) to a corresponding of these 32 epimorphisms are placed in the same way in  $\Lambda_3$ . Each such lattice-like PDS[ $Q_2$ ] in  $\Lambda_3$  is equivalent to the one obtained via matrix (1).

Assume there is a non-lattice-like PDS[ $Q_2$ ]  $S$  in  $\Lambda_3$  so that the components of  $[S]$  are 4-cycles  $Q_2$ ; let  $\Theta = \Theta_0$  be such a component. We may assume that  $\Theta_0$  has vertices  $O, e_1, e_2, e_1 + e_2$ . The graph  $\Theta^* = \Theta_0^*$  is contained in a graph  $\Theta'_0$  isomorphic to  $P_4 \square P_4 \square P_3$  as on the left of Figure 1, where  $\Theta_0$  has its edges thick black, the rest of  $\Theta'_0$  has them dark-gray and the rest of  $\Theta_0$  has them light-gray, thick for the paths between the eight corners (vertices of degree 3 in  $\Theta'_0$ :  $-e_1 - e_2 \pm e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 \pm e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 \pm e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 \pm e_3$ ) and thin for the rest. The realization of  $\Theta'_0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  has convex hull containing tightly  $\Theta_0$ . Different colors (black, green, red, etc.) and traces are used in the representations of Figures 1-14 in a larger exposition of this work in [9].

We recall that a 1-factor of a graph is a spanning 1-regular subgraph of it. Assume no vertex of  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  is in  $S$ . By symmetry there is a 1-factor  $F$  in  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  each of whose edges has an endvertex  $\notin V(\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*)$  dominated by a vertex in a 4-cycle induced by  $S$ . In each case we will reach a contradiction:  $F$  is either as in case (a) or (b) below, depending on the feasible dispositions of four edges of  $F$  over the four maximal paths of length 2 between the eight corners of  $\Theta'_0$ , namely either with their eight endvertices having convex hull tightly containing a copy of  $P_4 \square P_4 \square P_2$  (say convex hull  $[-1, 2] \times [-1, 2] \times [-1, 0]$ ) or not (in which case partial convex hulls  $\{-1\} \times [-1, 2] \times [-1, 0]$  and  $\{2\} \times [-1, 2] \times [0, 1]$  appear, not leading to a total convex hull as above), that we have respectively either as the four edges  $f_1, f_5, f_{12}, f_{13}$ , for (a), or as the four edges  $f_1, f_4, f_8, f_{12}$  for (b). These instances are: (with (a) further subdivided into subcases (a<sub>1</sub>) and (a<sub>2</sub>), below)

(a) The edges of  $F$  are:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 f_1 = (-e_1 - e_2, -e_1 - e_2 - e_3) & f_2 = (-e_1 + e_3, -e_1 + e_2 + e_3) \\
 f_3 = (-e_1 - e_3, -e_1 + e_2 - e_3) & f_4 = (-e_2 - e_3, e_1 - e_2 - e_3) \\
 f_5 = (2e_1 - e_2, 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3) & f_6 = (2e_1 + e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 + e_3) \\
 f_7 = (2e_1 - e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 - e_3) & f_8 = (2e_2 + e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3) \\
 f_9 = (e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3) & f_{10} = (e_1 - e_2 + e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3) \\
 f_{11} = (-e_2 + e_3, -e_1 - e_2 + e_3) & f_{12} = (-e_1 + 2e_2, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3) \\
 f_{13} = (2e_1 + 2e_2, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3) & f_{14} = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3).
 \end{array}$$

We may take step by step either option (a<sub>1</sub>) or option (a<sub>2</sub>) below (where, instead of saying that a vertex  $v$  is dominated by an endvertex of an edge  $f$ , we simply say that  $v$  is dominated by  $f$ , denoted by  $v \in (f)$ , with  $(f)$  representing the set of vertices dominated by the endvertices of  $f$ ):

(a<sub>1</sub>) The first eight edges in (a) have each an endvertex dominated by a vertex in a 4-cycle. The involved 4-cycles contain the following edges:

- $f_1 - e_1$  (the translation of  $f_1$  via the vector  $-e_1$ ),
- $f_2 + e_3$  (forced, since  $f_2 - e_1$  dominates  $-2e_1 \in (f_1 - e_1)$ ),
- $f_3 - e_3$  (forced, since  $f_3 - e_1$  contains  $-2e_1 - e_3 \in (f_1 - e_1)$ ),
- $f_4 - e_2$  (forced, since  $f_4 - e_3$  dominates  $-e_1 - e_2 - 2e_3 \in (f_3 - e_3)$ ),
- $f_5 + e_1$  (forced, since  $f_4 - e_2$  contains  $2e_1 - 2e_2 - e_3 \in (f_4 - e_2)$ ),
- $f_6 + e_3$  (forced, since  $f_6 + e_1$  dominates  $3e_1 \in (f_5 + e_1)$ ),
- $f_7 - e_3$  (forced, since  $f_7 + e_1$  contains  $3e_1 - e_3 \in (f_5 + e_1)$ ) and
- $f_8 + e_2$  (forced, since  $f_8 + e_3$  dominates  $-e_1 + 2e_2 + 2e_3 \in (f_2 + e_3)$ ).

Now, there is no way for the edge  $f_9$  to be dominated by a copy of  $K_2$  external to  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  (since  $f_9 + e_2$  contains  $e_1 + 3e_2 + e_1 \in (f_8 + e_2)$  while  $f_9 + e_3$  contains  $2e_1 + 2e_2 + 2e_3 \in (f_6 + e_3)$ ), a contradiction.

(a<sub>2</sub>) The edges  $f_1$ ,  $f_5$  and  $f_4$  have each one endvertex dominated by a vertex in a 4-cycle containing the respective edges  $f_1 - e_2$ ,  $f_5 - e_2$  (edge pair not contemplated in case (a<sub>1</sub>)) and  $f_4 - e_3$  (forced, since  $f_4 - e_2$  containing vertex  $-2e_2 \in (f_1 - e_2)$ ). But then only one of  $f_{11}$  and  $f_{10}$  must be dominated by  $f_{11} - e_2$  or  $f_{10} - e_2$ , while the remaining one must be dominated by  $f_{11} - e_3$  or  $f_{10} - e_3$ , which produces a contradiction since  $f_{11} - e_2 \in (f_1 - e_2)$ , and  $f_{10} - e_2 \in (f_5 - e_2)$ .

(b) The edges of  $F$  are:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
f_1 = (-e_1 - e_2, -e_1 - e_2 - e_3) & f_2 = (-e_1 + e_3, -e_1 - e_2 + e_3) \\
f_3 = (-e_1 + e_2 + e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3) & f_4 = (-e_1 + 2e_2, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3) \\
f_5 = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3) & f_6 = (2e_2 + e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3) \\
f_7 = (2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 - e_3) & f_8 = (2e_1 + 2e_2, 2e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3) \\
f_9 = (2e_1 - e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3) & f_{10} = (-e_2 - e_3, e_1 - e_2 - e_3) \\
f_{11} = (-e_2 + e_3, e_1 - e_2 + e_3) & f_{12} = (2e_1 - e_2, 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3) \\
f_{13} = (-e_1 - e_3, -e_1 + e_2 - e_3) & f_{14} = (2e_1 + e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 + e_3).
\end{array}$$

We may assume step by step that the first ten edges of  $F$  have each an endvertex dominated by the copy of  $K_2$  containing respectively:

- $f_1 - e_1$ ,
- $f_2 + e_3$  (forced, since  $f_2 - e_1$  contains  $e_3 - 2e_1 \in (f_1 - e_1)$ ),
- $f_3 - e_1$  (forced, since  $f_3 + e_3$  contains  $e_2 + 2e_3 - e_1 \in (f_2 + e_3)$ ),
- $f_4 + e_2$  (forced, since  $f_4 - e_1$  contains  $2e_2 - 2e_1 \in (f_3 + e_1)$ ),
- $f_5 - e_3$  (forced, since  $f_5 + e_2$  contains  $3e_2 - e_3 \in (f_4 + e_2)$ ),
- $f_6 + e_3$  (forced, since  $f_6 + e_2$  contains  $3e_2 + e_3 \in (f_4 + e_2)$ ),
- $f_7 + e_1$  (forced, since  $f_7 - e_3$  contains  $2e_1 + 2e_2 - 2e_3 \in (f_5 - e_3)$ ),
- $f_8 + e_2$  (forced, since  $f_8 + e_1$  contains  $3e_1 + 2e_2 \in (f_7 + e_1)$ ),
- $f_9 - e_3$  (forced, since  $f_9 + e_1$  contains  $3e_1 - e_3 \in (f_7 + e_1)$ ) and
- $f_{10} - e_2$  (forced, since  $f_{10} - e_3$  contains  $e_1 - e_2 - 2e_3 \in (f_9 - e_3)$ ).

Now,  $f_{11}$  does not have an endvertex dominated by any copy of  $K_2$  in the presence of the previous forced dominations of copies of  $K_2$  (since  $f_{11} - e_2$  dominates  $\{-2e_2, -2e_2\} \subset \Theta(f_{10} - e_2)$  while  $f_{11} + e_3$  contains  $2e_3 - e_2 \in (f_2 + e_3)$ ).

If just one or three corners of  $\Theta'_0$  (in this second case, for corner distance triple either  $(3, 3, 6)$  or  $(3, 5, 8)$ ) were in  $S$ , the remaining vertices of  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta^*_0$  forms no 1-factor  $F$ , contradicting the existence of  $S$ . In the case of one corner, let this corner be  $\theta_1 = -e_1 - e_2 - e_3$ , which dominates  $\theta_1 + e_1, \theta_1 + e_2$



and  $\theta_1 + e_3$ . Then  $F$  must contain:

$$\begin{aligned} f_1 &= (e_1 - e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3) & f_2 &= (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_2 + 2e_2 - e_3) \\ f_3 &= (-e_2 + 2e_2, -e_2 + 2e_2 + e_3) & f_4 &= (-e_1 + e_3, -e_1 + e_2 + e_3) \\ f_5 &= (2e_1 - e_2, 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3) & f_6 &= (-e_1 - e_2 + e_3, -e_2 + e_3). \end{aligned}$$

Now,  $F$  should also contain  $f_7 = (e_1 - e_2 + e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3)$ , with its terminal vertex already present in  $f_5$ , a contradiction. With three corners and distance triple  $(3, 3, 6)$ , let these corners be  $\theta_1, \theta_2 = 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3$  and  $\theta_3 = 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3$ . Then  $F$  must contain  $f_1 = (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$  and  $f_2 = (-e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3, 2e_2 - e_3)$  that have a vertex in common, a contradiction. With distance triple  $(3, 5, 8)$ , let the three corners be  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  and  $\theta'_3 = \theta_3 + 2e_3$ . Then  $F$  must contain  $f_1$  as above and  $f'_2 = f_2 + 2e_3$ , leaving vertex  $-e_1 + 2e_2$  not in  $F$ , another contradiction.

We will rule out the cases of only two corners of  $\Theta'_0$  being in  $S$ . If the two are at distance 3, they may be taken, up to symmetry as  $\theta_1 = -e_1 - e_2 - e_3$  and  $\theta_2 = 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3$ . In  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta^*_0 - N[\theta_1] - N[\theta_2]$ , we note a unique 1-factor  $F$ , formed by edges  $f_1 = (-e_1 - e_2 + e_3, -e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_2 = (e_1 - e_2 + e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_3 = (2e_1 + e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_4 = (2e_1 + 2e_2, 2e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_5 = (2e_2 + e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_6 = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_7 = (-e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + e_2 - e_3)$ , etc. The copies of  $K_2$  containing  $f_1, \dots, f_6$  can be taken dominated, by symmetry and forcedly, by the copies of  $K_2$  containing  $f_1 - e_2, f_2 + e_3, f_3 + e_1, f_4 + e_2, f_5 + e_3$  and  $f_6 - e_3$  respectively. The 4-cycle induced in  $S$  that contains  $\theta_1$ , also contains forcedly the vertices  $\theta_1 - e_1, \theta_1 - e_1 - e_3$  and  $\theta_1 - e_3$ . But then,  $f_7$  cannot be dominated in  $S$ , a contradiction.

Now, assume that the two corners are at distance 5. They may be taken up to symmetry as  $\theta_1 = -e_1 - e_2 - e_3$  and  $\theta_2 = 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3$ . In  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta^*_0 - N[\theta_1] - N[\theta_2]$  we observe a unique 1-factor  $F$ , formed by edges  $f_1 = (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_2 = (e_1 - e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_3 = (2e_2 + e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_4 = (2e_1 + 2e_2, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_5 = (2e_1 - e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_6 = (-e_1 + e_3, -e_1 + e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_7 = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ , etc. If the edge  $(\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_3)$  is in  $S$ , then  $f_1 - e_1, f_6 - e_3, f_3 + e_2, f_4 + e_1$  and  $f_7 - e_3$  dominate respectively  $f_1, f_6, f_3, f_4$  and  $f_7$ . But then  $f_5$  cannot be dominated in  $S$ , a contradiction. So,  $F$  forces the 4-cycle with vertices  $\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_1, \theta_1 - e_1 - e_2$  and  $\theta_1 - e_2$  to be in  $S$ . In this case, the copies of  $K_2$  associated to  $f_1, f_2, f_7$  and  $f_4$  are dominated respectively by the copies of  $K_2$  containing  $f_1 - e_3, f_2 - e_3, f_7 + e_2$  and  $f_4 + e_1$ . It follows that  $f_5$  cannot be dominated by an edge at distance 1 from it in  $\Lambda_3 - \Theta'_0$ , a contradiction.

It is easy to see that two corners at distance 6 or 8 do not allow even

the definition of a 1-factor  $F$  in  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  minus the two corners and their neighbors.

We pass to consider the different cases of four corners of  $S$  in  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$ . The case of  $S$  having three corners on the affine plane  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle - e_3$  and one corner in the affine plane  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle + e_3$ , or viceversa, is readily seen to lead to no 1-factor  $F$  in  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  minus these corners and their neighbors. Else, either:

**Instance (A):** If the four corners in  $S$  are  $\theta_1 = -e_1 - e_2 - e_3$ ,  $\theta_2 = 2e_1 - e_2 - e_3$ ,  $\theta_3 = -e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3$  and  $\theta_4 = 2e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3$ , then a 1-factor  $F$  of  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^* - \cup_{i=1}^4 N[\theta_i]$  is formed by the edges  $f_1 = (-e_1 - e_2 + e_3, -e_1 + e_3)$ ,  $f_2 = (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_3 = (-e_2 + e_3, e_1 - e_2 + e_3)$ ,  $f_4 = (2e_1 - e_2 + e_3, 2e_1 + e_3)$ ,  $f_5 = (2e_1 + e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_6 = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ . We first rule out the case of the edges  $(\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_1)$  and  $(\theta_3, \theta_3 + e_3)$  being in  $S$  (or any other pair of edges in the same relative geometrical positions as these two, with respect to  $\Theta'_0$ ). In this case,  $f_1$  cannot be dominated by any copy of  $K_2$ : the two candidates,  $f_1 - e_1$  and  $f_1 + e_3$  cannot be in  $S$ . Because of this, three cases can be distinguished here up to symmetry, for the 4-cycles corresponding respectively to the four corners above, namely:

(a)  $\Theta_1 = (\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_1, \theta_1 - e_1 - e_2, \theta_1 - e_2)$ ,  $\Theta_2 = (\theta_2, \theta_2 + e_1, \theta_2 + e_1 - e_2, \theta_2 - e_2)$ ,  $\Theta_3 = (\theta_3, \theta_3 - e_1, \theta_3 - e_1 - e_2, \theta_3 - e_2)$ ,  $\Theta_4 = (\theta_4, \theta_4 + e_1, \theta_4 + e_1 - e_2, \theta_4 - e_2)$ . Then the following edges must be in  $S$ , dominating forcedly the edges of  $F$ :  $f_1 + e_3$ ,  $f_2 - e_3$ ,  $f_3 - e_2$ ,  $f_4 + e_3$ ,  $f_5 - e_3$ ,  $f_6 + e_2$ . The following 4-cycles are induced by  $S$ :  $\Theta_5 = (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - 2e_3, -e_1 + e_2 - 2e_3)$  and  $\Theta_6 = (2e_1 + e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - 2e_3, 2e_1 + e_2 - 2e_3)$ . The graphs  $\Theta'_5 - \Theta_5^*$  and  $\Theta'_6 - \Theta_6^*$  have the respective vertices  $x = -3e_3$  and  $y = e_1 - 3e_3$  as non-corner vertices, so they cannot dominate  $z = -2e_3$  and  $w = e_1 - 2e_3$ , yielding a contradiction.

(b)  $\Theta_1 = (\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_2, \theta_1 - e_2 - e_3, \theta_1 - e_3)$ ,  $\Theta_2 = (\theta_2, \theta_2 - e_2, \theta_2 - e_2 - e_3, \theta_2 - e_3)$ ,  $\Theta_3 = (\theta_3, \theta_3 + e_2, \theta_3 + e_2 + e_3, \theta_3 + e_3)$ ,  $\Theta_4 = (\theta_4, \theta_4 + e_2, \theta_4 + e_2 + e_3, \theta_4 + e_3)$ . Then the following edges must be in  $S$ , dominating forcedly the edges of  $F$ :  $f_1 - e_1$ ,  $f_2 - e_1$ ,  $f_4 + e_1$ ,  $f_5 + e_1$  and possibly:

(b<sub>1</sub>)  $f_6 + e_2$ , in which case: (b<sub>11</sub>) either  $\Theta_5 = \Theta_0 - 3e_3$  is in  $S$  and dominates  $\Theta_0 - 2e_3$ , so that  $x = -e_1 + e_2 - 2e_3$  cannot be dominated by any of its neighbors; (b<sub>12</sub>) or  $\Theta_5 = (-3e_3, e_1 - 3e_3, e_1 - 4e_3, -4e_3)$  is in  $S$ , so the end-vertices of the edge  $g = (e_2 - 2e_3, e_1 + e_2 - 2e_3)$  cannot be dominated by  $S$ ;

(b<sub>2</sub>)  $f_6 - e_3$ , in which case the end vertices of the edge  $g = (e_2 - 2e_3, e_1 + e_2 - 2e_3)$  cannot be in  $S$  or dominated by  $S$ , since  $h = (e_2 - 3e_3, e_1 + e_2 - 3e_3)$  cannot be in  $S$ .

(c)  $\Theta_1 = (\theta_1, \theta_1 - e_1, \theta_1 - e_1 - e_2, \theta_1 - e_2)$ ,  $\Theta_2 = (\theta_2, \theta_2 - e_2, \theta_2 - e_2 - e_3, \theta_2 - e_3)$ ,  $\Theta_3 = (\theta_3, \theta_1 - e_1, \theta_3 - e_1 - e_2, \theta_3 - e_2)$ ,  $\Theta_4 = (\theta_4, \theta_4 + e_2, \theta_4 + e_2 + e_3, \theta_4 + e_3)$ . Then the following edges must be in  $S$ , dominating forcedly the edges of  $F$ :  $f_1 + e_3$ ,  $f_2 - e_3$ ,  $f_3 - e - 2$ ,  $f_4 + e_1$ ,  $f_5 + e_1$ ,  $f_6 + e_2$ . It follows that  $x = -2e_3$  cannot be dominated by  $S$ .

Or **Instance (B)**: For the rest, we need by symmetry only to consider the case in which the four corners of  $S$  in  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$  are  $\theta_1 = -e_1 - e_2 + e_3$ ,  $\theta_2 = 2e_1 - e_2 + e_3$ ,  $\theta_3 = -e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3$  and  $\theta_4 = 2e_1 + 2e_2 + e_3$ . In the intersection of the affine plane  $\langle e_1, e_2 \rangle - e_3$  and  $\Theta'_0 - \Theta_0^*$ , a 1-factor  $F$  is formed by the edges of the copies of  $K_2$  that should be dominated externally (off  $\Theta'_0$ ) by induced copies of  $K_2$  in  $S$  (parts themselves of 4-cycles induced by  $S$ ). We may assume that this 1-factor is formed by the edges  $f_1 = (-e_2 - e_3, e_1 - e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_2 = (2e_2 - e_3, e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_3 = (-e_1 - e_2 - e_3, -e_1 - e_3)$ ,  $f_4 = (-e_1 + e_2 - e_3, -e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ ,  $f_5 = (2e_1 - e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 - e_3)$  and  $f_6 = (2e_1 + e_2 - e_3, 2e_1 + 2e_2 - e_3)$ . It is enough to consider by symmetry three cases of how  $F$  could be dominated externally, as just mentioned, These cases have in common that  $f_1$  is dominated by  $f_1 - e_2$ ,  $f_3$  by  $f_3 - e_3$ ,  $f_4$  by  $f_4 - e_1$ , and differ in that:

(a)  $f_2$  is dominated by  $f_2 + e_2$ ,  $f_5$  by  $f_5 + e_1$ ,  $f_6$  by  $f_6 - e_3$ ;

(b)  $f_2$  is dominated by  $f_2 - e_3$ ,  $f_5$  by  $f_5 - e_3$ ,  $f_6$  by  $f_6 + e_1$ ;

(c)  $f_2$  is dominated by  $f_2 + e_2$ ,  $f_5$  by  $f_5 - e_3$ ,  $f_6$  by  $f_6 + e_1$ .

In either case, by considering the dominating 4-cycle  $\Theta_1 = (-e_1 - e_2 - 2e_3, -e_1 - 2e_3, -e_1 - 3e_3, -e_1 - e_2 - 3e_3)$ , the corresponding  $\Theta'_1 - \Theta_1^*$  contains two corners at distance 5, namely  $x = -2e_2 - e_3$  and  $y = -2e_1 + e_2 - e_3$ , which was ruled out above.

We just finished showing that there do not exist non-lattice like PDS[ $Q_2$ ]s in  $\Lambda_3$ . Thus, the only standing case of a PDS[ $Q_2$ ] in  $\Lambda_3$  is the lattice-like one that remained by means of the commented programming code at the beginning of the present proof that leads to the generator matrix (1) or its associated group epimorphism  $\Phi : \mathbb{Z}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_{20}$ . This establishes the statement of the theorem.  $\square$

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