

Geodetic Connected Domination Number of a Graph

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Abstract: A pair x, y of vertices in a nontrivial connected graph is said to geodominates a vertex v of G if either $v \in \{x, y\}$ or v lies on an $x - y$ geodesic of G . A set S of vertices of G is a geodetic set if every vertex of G is geodominated by some pair of vertices of S . A subset S of vertices in a graph G is called a geodetic connected dominating set if S is both a geodetic set and a connected dominating set. We study geodetic connected domination on graphs.

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1. Introduction

We consider finite graphs without loops and multiple edges. For any graph G the set of vertices is denoted by $V(G)$ and edge set by $E(G)$. We define the order of G by $n = n(G) = |V(G)|$ and the size by $m = m(G) = |E(G)|$. The open neighborhood $N(v)$ is the set of all vertices adjacent to v , and $N[v] = N(v) \cup v$ is the closed neighborhood of v . The degree $d(v)$ of a vertex v is defined by $d(v) = |N(v)|$. The minimum and maximum degree of a graph G are denoted by $\delta = \delta(G)$ and $\Delta = \Delta(G)$, respectively. For $X \subseteq V(G)$ let $G[X]$ be the subgraph of G induced by X , $N(X) = \bigcup_{x \in X} N(x)$ and $N[X] = \bigcup_{x \in X} N[x]$. If G is a connected graph, then the distance $d(x, y)$ is the length of a shortest x - y path in G . The diameter $diam(G)$ of a connected graph is defined by $diam(G) = \max_{x, y \in V(G)} d(x, y)$. An x - y path of length $d(x, y)$ is called an x - y geodesic. A vertex v is an internal vertex of an x - y path P if v is a vertex of P and $v \neq x, y$. A vertex v is said to lie on an x - y geodesic P if v is an internal vertex of P . The closed interval $I[x, y]$ consists of x, y and all vertices lying on some x - y geodesic of G , while for $S \subseteq V(G)$, $I[S] = \bigcup_{x, y \in S} I[x, y]$.

If G is a connected graph, then a set S of vertices is a geodetic set if $I[S] = V(G)$. The minimum cardinality of a geodetic set is the geodetic number of G and is denoted by $g(G)$. The geodetic number of a disconnected graph is the sum of the geodetic numbers of its components. A geodetic set of cardinality $g(G)$ is called a $g(G)$ -set. A vertex of G is an extreme vertex if the subgraph induced by its neighborhood is complete. It is easily seen that every extreme vertex belongs to every geodetic set. For references on geodetic sets see [1, 2, 3].

A vertex in a graph G dominates itself and its neighbors. A set of vertices S in a graph G is a dominating set if each vertex of G is dominated by some vertex of S . The domination number $\gamma(G)$ of G is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set of G . Further S is a connected dominating set if S is dominating and the subgraph $\langle S \rangle$ induced by S , is connected.

If $e = \{x, y\}$ is an edge of a graph G with $d(v) > 1$, then we call e a pendent edge, u a leaf and v a support vertex. Let $L(G)$ be the set of all leaves of a graph G . We denote by P_n, C_n and $K_{r,s}$ the path on n vertices, the cycle on n vertices, and the complete bipartite graph in which one partite set has r vertices and the other partite set has s vertices, respectively. The corona $cor(G)$ of a graph G is constructed from G , where for each vertex $v \in V(G)$, a new vertex v' and a pendent edge vv' are added.

It is easily seen that a connected dominating set is not in general a geodetic set in a graph G . Also the converse is not valid in general. This has motivated us to study the new conception of geodetic connected dominating set. We investigate those subsets of vertices of a graph that are both a geodetic set and a connected dominating set. We call these sets geodetic connected dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a geodetic connected dominating set of G is called the geodetic connected domination number of G .

In a communication network, let D denote the set of transmitting stations so that every station v not belonging to D has a direct link with at least one station v_1 in D and v lies in a shortest path connecting two stations of D (one of them may be v_1). If the direct link fails, even then this particular station v in $\langle V - D \rangle$ continues to get the communication from another station in D through this shortest path. This concept led us to study those subsets of $V(G)$ which are both connected dominating and geodetic.

2. Geodetic Connected domination

We call a set of vertices S in a graph G , a geodetic connected dominating set if S is both a geodetic set and connected dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a geodetic connected dominating set of G is its geodetic connected domination number and is denoted by $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$. Since $V(G)$ is geodetic connected dominating set for any graph G , the geodetic connected domination number of a graph is always defined. A geodetic connected dominating set of size $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$ is said to be a $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$ -set.

The following bound is immediate by the definitions.

Proposition 1. If G is a connected graph of order $n \geq 2$, then $2 \leq \max\{g(G), \gamma(G)\} \leq g_{\gamma_c}(G) \leq n$

Theorem 2.1. For any complete graph with $n \geq 2$ vertices then $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n$.



Proof: The result holds for $n = 2$. We now consider the case where $n \geq 3$. Assume first that $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n$ and suppose to the contrary that there are two non adjacent vertices x, y in G . Let P be an $x - y$ geodetic connected dominating set of G . Clearly it contains at most $(n - 1)$ vertices. This is a contradiction to fact that $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n$. Hence G is a complete graph.

By the above theorem we have following proposition.

Proposition 2. If G is a tree with n vertices or a path P_n then $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n$.

Theorem 2.2. If G is cycle then $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n - 2$.

Proof. It is clear that $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = n - 2$. Consider $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-2}\}$ be the $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$ - set. We know that for the cycle, $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = 2$ when n is even and $g(C_n) = 3$ when n is odd. Clearly the

path $v_1 - v_{\frac{n}{2}}$ contains all the vertices of (C_n) , n is even and are the internal vertices. Also the

path $v_1 - v_{\frac{n+1}{2}}$ contains all the vertices of (C_n) , n is odd. For the connected dominating set we consider the vertices $v_{\frac{n+1}{2}}, v_{\frac{n+2}{2}}, \dots, v_{n-2}$. Hence the result follows.

Further for a vertex v of a graph G , the eccentricity $e(v)$ is the distance between v and a vertex farthest from v . The maximum eccentricity is its diameter $diam(G)$. Now we have the following.

Theorem 2.3. If G is a connected graph of order $n \leq 2$ then $g_{\gamma_c}(G) \leq n - \left\lfloor \frac{diam(G)}{3} \right\rfloor$ and _____

the bound is sharp if G is a path of order n .

Proof. Define $diam(G) = d = 3k + r$ with integers k, r such that $0 \leq r \leq 2$ and select two vertices v_0 and v_d in G such that $d(v_0, v_d) = d$. Let $p = (v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_d)$ be a shortest path from v_0 to v_d and let $A = v_0, v_3, \dots, v_{3k}, v_{3k+r}$. It is easy to verify that $D = V(G) \setminus (V(P) \setminus A)$ is a geodetic connected dominating set of G . If we note that $|A| = k + 1$ when $r = 0$ and $|A| = k + 2$ when $1 \leq r \leq 2$, then we find that

$$(V(P) \setminus A) = \left\lfloor \frac{6k + 2r}{3} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{diam(G)}{3} \right\rfloor. \text{ Further if } P_n \text{ is a path of order } n, \text{ then}$$

$$g_{\gamma_c}(P_n) = \left\lfloor \frac{n + 2}{3} \right\rfloor = n - \left\lfloor \frac{2(n - 1)}{3} \right\rfloor = n - \left\lfloor \frac{2diam(P_n)}{3} \right\rfloor. \text{ Consequently the bound is sharp.}$$

For two vertices x and y of a graph G , the distance between x and y is denoted by $d(x, y)$.

Proposition 3. Let S be a $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$ - set and $a, b \in S$, then $|S| \geq 1 + d(a, b)$.

Theorem 2.4. For any connected graph G , $g_{\gamma_c}(G) \geq 1 + diam(G)$.

Proof. Let S be a $g_{\gamma_c}(G)$ - set. For any two vertices $a, b \in S$, there is a path in S whose end vertices are a and b . Let x, y be two vertices of G with $d(x, y) = diam(G)$. and P be a geodesic with vertices $x, a_2, a_3, \dots, a_{n-1}, y$. If $x, y \subseteq S$ then by the proposition 3, $|S| \geq 1 + diam(G)$. Otherwise we have the following cases.



Case 1. Let $x, y \in S$. The vertex x lies on a $u - v$ geodesic L with $u, v \in S$ and clearly u, v not in P .

a). If $v \in P$, then the number of vertices in the path of S from u to v is greater than the number of vertex in P from x to v and is also a connected dominating set. Also by proposition 3, for v and y implies $|S| \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G)$.

b). If $v \in P$, and $u \in P$, let Q be a path in S between y and v and $u \in Q$. Then the number of vertices of Q is greater than or equal to the number of vertices in P from u to y , because otherwise we move on Q from y to v and continued to L from v to x to obtain a $x - y$ path with length less than $d(x, y)$ which is a contradiction. Also the number of vertices in the path of S between u and v is greater than or equal to the number of vertices of P from x to u . Clearly S is dominating set and $|S| \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G)$.

Case 2. Let $x \in S, y \in S$, the vertex x lies on a $u - v$ geodesic L with u, v in S and the vertex y lies on a $u' - v'$ geodesic L' with u', v' in S .

a). If $[u, v, u', v'] \cap P = \emptyset$, let Q be a path in S between v and u' , q with $[u, v'] \cap P = \emptyset$. Since $d(x, y) \leq d(x, v) + d(v, u') + d(u', y) \leq d(u, v) + d(v, u') + d(u', v')$, we have $|S| \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G)$.

b). If $v \in P$, then the number of vertices in the path of S from u to v is greater than the number of vertices of P from u to v . Now use the case 1. Hence $|S| \geq 1 + \text{diam}(G)$.

Theorem 2.5. If G is connected and $g(G) = 2$, then $g_{\gamma_c}(G) = 1 + \text{diam}(G)$.

Proof. Since any g -set contains two antipodal vertices. So by contrary a g -set $[a, b]$ and any vertex in a $a - b$ geodesic we have $g_{\gamma_c}(G) \leq 1 + \text{diam}(G) \leq g_{\gamma_c}(G)$.

Theorem 2.6. If G is a complete bipartite graph then 1). *i*) $g_{\gamma_c}(K_{m,n}) = 4, m, n \geq 3$, and *ii*) $g_{\gamma_c}(K_{2,n}) = 3$.

Proof. In the complete bipartite graph any two vertices of a partite set geodominates all the vertices of the other partite set. So, $g_{\gamma_c}(K_{2,n}) = 3$. and $g_{\gamma_c}(K_{m,n}) = 4, m, n \geq 3$. On the other hand consider $V = v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m$ and $W = w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ be the partite sets. Two vertices from each partite set of $K_{m,n}$ say $S = v_i, v_{i+1}, w_j, w_{j+1}$. Each path v_i, v_{i+1} contains all vertices of W as internal vertices and the path w_j, w_{j+1} contains all the vertices of V as an internal vertices. Also $v_i, v_{i+1}, w_j, w_{j+1}$ is connected. Clearly the set S is connected dominating set. Hence it is geodetic connected dominating set. Since $|S| = 4$. Further for $(K_{2,n})$, two vertices from one partite set and one vertex from the other partite set for the geodetic connected dominating set. Hence the result follows.

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