# Maximal Domination and Maximal Total Domination in Digraphs

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## ABSTRACT

Let D=(V, A) be a digraph. A dominating set S of a digraph D is a maximal dominating set if V-S is not a dominating set of D. The maximal domination number  $\gamma_m(D)$  of D is minimum cardinality of a maximal dominating set of D. A total dominating set S of a digraph D is a *maximal* total dominating set if V-S is not a total dominating set of D. The maximal total domination number  $\gamma_{mt}(D)$  of D is the minimum cardinality of a maximal total domination number  $\gamma_{mt}(D)$  of D is the minimum cardinality of a maximal total dominating set of D. In this paper, we initiate a study of maximal domination and maximal total domination in digraphs and obtain some results on these two parameters.

## Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C.

**Keywords:** digraph, domination, maximal domination, total domination, maximal total domination.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

In this paper, D=(V, A) is a finite, directed graph without loops and multiple arcs (but of opposite arcs are allowed) and G=(V,E) is a finite, undirected graph without loops and multiple edges. For basic terminology, we refer to Chartand and Lesniak<sup>2</sup> and Kulli<sup>4</sup>.

A set S of vertices in a graph G=(V, E) is a dominating set if every vertex in V-S is adjacent to at least one vertex in S. The

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minimum cardinality of a dominating set of *G* is called the domination number of *G* and is denoted by  $\gamma(D)$ . Recently many new domination parameters are given in the books by Kulli<sup>4,5,6</sup>.

Kulli and Janakiram<sup>8</sup> introduced the concept of maximal domination in graphs as follows:

A set *S* of vertices of a graph *G* is a maximal dominating set if *S* is a dominating set and V - S is not a dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a maximal dominating set of *G* is called the maximal domination number of *G* and is denoted by  $\gamma_m(G)$ . This concept is studied in<sup>7, 9, 10, 11</sup>.

Let G = (V, E) be a graph without isolated vertices. A dominating set S of V is a total dominating set of G if the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  has no isolated vertices. The minimum cardinality of a total dominating set of G is called the total domination number of G and is denoted by  $\gamma_t(D)$ , (see<sup>3</sup>).

A total dominating set *S* of a graph *G* is a maximal total dominating set if V-S is not a total dominating set of *G*. The minimum cardinality of a maximal total dominating set of *G* is called the maximal total domination number of *G* and is denoted by  $\gamma_{mt}(G)$  (see<sup>11</sup>).

Let D = (V, A) be a digraph. For any vertex  $u \in V$ , the sets  $I(u) = \{v/(v,u) \in A\}$  and  $O(u) = \{v/(u,v) \in A\}$  are called the inset and outset of u. The indegree and outdegree of u are defined by id(u) = |I(u)| and od(u) = |O(u)|.

A set *S* of vertices in a digraph D=(V, A) is a dominating set if for every vertex *u* in *V* – *S*, there exists a vertex *v* in *S* such that  $(v, u) \in A$ . The domination number  $\gamma(D)$  of *D* is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set of *D*.

Let D=(V, A) be a digraph in which id(v)+od(v) > 0 for all  $v \in V$ . A subset *S* of *V* is called a *total* dominating set of *D* if *S* is a dominating set of *D* and the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  has no isolated vertices. The total domination number  $\gamma_t(D)$  of *D* is the minimum cardinality of a total dominating set of D,<sup>1</sup>.

In this paper, we introduce the analog of maximal domination number and maximal total domination number in digraphs and establish some results on these parameters.

## 2. MAXIMAL DOMINATION IN DIGRAPHS

The concept of maximal domination can be extended to digraphs.

**Definition 2.1.** A dominating set *S* of a digraph D=(V, A) is a maximal dominating set if V - S is not a dominating set of *D*. The maximal domination number  $\gamma_m(D)$  of a digraph *D* is the minimum cardinality of a maximal dominating set.

**Definition 2.2.** A dominating set *S* of a digraph *D* is minimal if for each vertex  $v \in S$ , S - v is not a dominating set of *D*.

**Example 2.3.** For the digraph  $C_3$  shown in Figure 1,  $S=\{1, 2\}$  is a minimal dominating set and  $V - S = \{3\}$  is not a dominating set. Thus *S* is a maximal dominating set. Hence  $\gamma(C_3) = \gamma_m(C_3) = 2$ .



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**Theorem 2.4.** If a digraph D contains an isolated vertex, then a minimal dominating set S of D is a maximal dominating set.

**Proof:** Let v be an isolated vertex of D. Then v is in every dominating set S of D. Thus V - S is not a dominating set of D. This proves the result.

The converse of Theorem 2.4 is not true always. For example, the directed cycle  $C_3$  (example 2.3) has a maximal dominating set, but it has no an isolated vertex.

**Proposition 2.5.** For any digraph *D*,

$$\gamma(\mathbf{D}) \le \gamma_m(D) \tag{1}$$

**Proof:** Clearly, every maximal dominating set of a digraph D is a dominating set of D. Hence (1) holds.

Exact values of  $\gamma_m(D)$  for some standard digraphs are given below.

**Proposition 2.6.** For a directed path  $P_p$  with  $p \ge 2$  vertices,

$$\gamma_m(P_p) = \frac{p}{2}$$
, if p is even  
=  $\left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil$ , if p is odd.

**Remark 2.7.** For any directed path  $P_p$  with  $p \ge 2$  vertices,  $\gamma(P_p) = \gamma_m(P_p)$ .

**Proposition 2.8.** For a directed cycle  $C_p$  with  $p \ge 3$  vertices,

$$\gamma_m(C_p) = \frac{p}{2} + 1$$
, if p is even,  
=  $\left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil$ , if p is odd.

**Remark 2.9.** For a directed cycle  $C_{2n+1}$  with  $n \ge 1$  vertices,  $\gamma(C_{2n+1}) = \gamma_m(C_{2n+1})$ .

## 3. MAXIMAL TOTAL DOMINATION IN DIGRAPHS

The concept of maximal total domination can be extended to digraphs.

**Definition 3.1.** A total dominating set *S* of a digraph D=(V, A) is a maximal total dominating set, if V - S is not a total dominating set of *D*. The maximal total domination number  $\gamma_{mt}(D)$  of *D* is the minimum cardinality of a maximal total dominating set of *D*.

**Definition 3.2.** A total dominating set *S* of a digraph *D* is minimal if for each vertex  $v \in S$ , S - v is not a total dominating set of *D*.

**Definition 3.3.** For the directed cycle  $C_4$  as shown in Figure 2,  $S=\{1, 2, 3\}$  is a minimal total dominating set and  $V - S = \{4\}$  is not a total dominating set. Thus *S* is a maximal total dominating set. Clearly  $\gamma_t(C_4) = \gamma_{mt}(C_4) = 3$ .



**Proposition 3.4.** For any digraph *D* without isolated vertices,

 $\gamma_t(D) \le \gamma_{mt}(D). \tag{2}$ 

**Proof:** Every maximal total dominating set of a digraph D is a total dominating set of D. Thus (2) holds.

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A  $\gamma_t$  - set is a minimum total dominating set.

**Proposition 3.5.** For a directed path  $P_p$  with  $p \le 2$  vertices,

$$\gamma_{mt}(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{2p}{3} \right\rceil.$$

**Proof:** Let *S* be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $P_p$ . Then  $\gamma_t(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{2p}{3} \right\rceil$ . Clearly V - S does not contain a total

dominating set. Thus

$$\gamma_{mt}(P_p) = \gamma_t(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{2p}{3} \right\rceil.$$

**Proposition 3.6.** For a directed cycle  $C_p$  with  $p \ge 3$  vertices,

 $\gamma_{mt}\left(C_{p}\right)=\left\lceil\frac{2p}{3}\right\rceil.$ 

**Proof:** Let *S* be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $C_p$ . Then  $\gamma_t(C_p) = \left\lceil \frac{2p}{3} \right\rceil$ . Clearly V - S does not contain a total

dominating set. Hence

$$\gamma_{mt}(C_p) = \gamma_t(C_p) = \left| \frac{2p}{3} \right|.$$

**Theorem 3.7.** For any digraph *D* with  $\gamma_t$ -set and with an endvertex *v* such that id(v) = 1,

$$\gamma_t(D) = \gamma_{mt}(D). \tag{3}$$

**Proof:** Let *v* be an endvertex of a digraph *D* such that id(v)=1 and *S* be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of *D*. Then  $v \notin S$  and is a successor of some vertex in *S*. Thus *v* is an isolated vertex in  $\langle V-S \rangle$ . Hence *S* is a  $\gamma_{mt}$ -set of *D*. Thus (3) holds.

**Corollary 3.8.** For any directed tree *T* with  $\gamma_t$ -set and with an endvertex *v* such that id(v)=1,  $\gamma_t(T) = \gamma_{mt}(T)$ .

**Proof:** This follows from Theorem 3.7.

**Theorem A<sup>1</sup>.** Let D=(V, A) be a weakly connected digraph with  $p \ge 3$  vertices. Then  $\gamma_t(D)=p$  if and only if there exists a subdigraph  $D_1=(V_1, A_1)$  such that all vertices of  $V - V_1$  have indegree zero and for each vertex u in  $V_1$ , there exists at least one vertex v in  $V - V_1$  such that  $(v, u) \in A$  and od(v) = 1.

**Theorem 3.9.** Let D=(V, A) be a weakly connected digraph with  $p \ge 3$  vertices. Then  $\gamma_{mt}(D) = p$ 

if and only if there exists a subdigraph  $D_1=(V_1, A_1)$  such that all vertices of  $V - V_1$  have indegree zero and for each vertex  $u \in V_1$ , there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V - V_1$  such that  $(v, u) \in A$  and od(v)=1.

**Proof:** This follows from Theorem 3.4 and Theorem A.

**Theorem B<sup>1</sup>.** If *D* is a digraph of order  $p \ge 2$  without isolated vertices and maximum outdegree  $\Delta^+(D) \ge 1$ , then

$$\frac{2p}{2\Delta^+(D)+1} \le \gamma_t(D).$$

We obtain a lower bound for  $\gamma_{mt}(D)$ .

**Theorem 3.10.** If *D* is a digraph of order  $p \ge 2$  without isolated vertices and maximum degree  $\Delta^+(D) \ge 1$ , then

$$\frac{2p}{2\Delta^+(D)+1} \le \gamma_{mt}(D). \tag{4}$$

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**Proof:** Suppose D satisfies the condition given in the statement. Then by Theorem B,

 $\frac{2p}{2\Delta^+(D)+1} \le \gamma_t(D).$  By Theorem 3.4,

 $\gamma_t(D) \leq \gamma_{mt}(D)$ . Thus (4) holds.

## **4. OPEN PROBLEMS**

In this paper, we have introduced maximal domination and maximal total domination in digraphs. Many questions are suggested by this research, among them are the following.

**Problem 1.** Characterize digraphs *D* without isolated vertices for which  $\gamma(D) = \gamma_m(D)$ .

**Problem 2.** Characterize digraphs *D* without isolated vertices for which  $\gamma_t(D) = \gamma_{mt}(D)$ .

**Problem 3.** Characterize digraphs *D* for which  $\gamma_{ml}(D) = \frac{2p}{2\Delta^+(D)+1}$ .

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