

# Balanced Domination Number of Union of Graphs

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## Abstract

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A Subset  $D$  of  $V$  is called a dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V-D$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $D$ . The Domination number  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  is the cardinality of the minimum dominating set of  $G$ . Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $f$  be a function that assigns to each vertex of  $V$  to a set of values from the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  that is,  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that for each  $u, v \in V(G)$ ,  $f(u) \neq f(v)$ , if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ . Then the dominating set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is called a balanced dominating set if  $\sum_{u \in D} f(u) = \sum_{v \in V-D} f(v)$ . In this paper, we determine the balanced domination number for union of graphs.

**Keywords:** balanced domination number, union, pendant

**Mathematics subject classification:** 05C69

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with vertex set  $V$  and edge set  $E$ . The degree of  $v$  denoted by  $\deg_G(v)$  is the number of vertices adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ . A leaf vertex (also pendant vertex) is a vertex with degree one. An edge of a graph is said to be pendant if one of its vertices is a pendant vertex.

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $f$  be a function that assigns to each vertex of  $V$  to a set of values from the set  $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  that is,  $f: V(G) \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that for each  $u, v \in V(G)$ ,  $f(u) \neq f(v)$ , if  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ . Then the set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is called a balanced dominating set if  $\sum_{u \in D} f(u) = \sum_{v \in V-D} f(v)$

The balanced domination number  $\gamma_{bd}(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of the balanced dominating set.

The set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is called strong balanced dominating set if  $\sum_{u \in D} f(u) \geq \sum_{v \in V-D} f(v)$ . Also the set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is called weak balanced dominating set if  $\sum_{u \in D} f(u) \leq \sum_{v \in V-D} f(v)$

The sum of the values assigned to each vertex of  $G$  is called the total value of  $G$ . that is, Total value =  $f(V) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$ .

**Theorem 1.1**

Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  vertices. Then  $G$  has a balanced dominating set iff  $f(V) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$  is even.

Proved in [6].

**Theorem 1.2**

Let  $G$  be a graph with  $n$  vertices. Then  $G$  has no balanced dominating set iff  $f(V) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$  is odd.

Proved in [6].

## 2. UNION OF GRAPHS

**Lemma 2.1**

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ , then the number of vertices of value 1 is equal to the number of vertices of value 2.

That is, if  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2 in the  $\gamma_{bd}$  set of  $G$  then  $n_1 = n_2$ . Also  $n_1 = n_2 = 2n$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ .

The cycle  $C_{4n}$  has  $4n$  vertices.

Attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ , we get  $8n$  vertices.

These  $8n$  vertices divided into  $4n$  vertices of value 1 and  $4n$  vertices of value 2.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } 4n \text{ 1's} + 4n \text{ 2's} &= 4n + 2(4n) \\ &= 4n + 8n \\ &= 12n. \end{aligned}$$

that is,  $f(V) = 12n$ .

Hence  $\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 6n$ .

if  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2 in the  $\gamma_{bd}$  set of  $G$ , then  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 6n$ .

In this graph  $G$ , we have  $4n$  pendant vertices in which  $2n$  vertices of value 1 and  $2n$  vertices of value 2.

To cover these  $2n$  pendant vertices of value 2, we have to take either the pendant vertex of value 2 or vertex adjacent to that pendant vertex which is of value 1.

Therefore, if  $m_1$  vertices of value 2 are from pendant vertices then we have to take  $2n - m_1$  vertices of value 1 other than pendant vertex.

Similarly, To cover these  $2n$  pendant vertices of value 1, we have to take either the pendant vertex of value 1 or vertex adjacent to that pendant vertex which is of value 2.

Therefore, if  $m_2$  vertices of value 1 are from pendant vertices then we have to take  $2n - m_2$  vertices of value 2 other than pendant vertex.

Hence  $n_1 = 2n - m_1 + m_2$  and

$$n_2 = 2n - m_2 + m_1.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{we have, } n_1 + 2n_2 &= 6n \\ 2n - m_1 + m_2 + 2(2n - m_2 + m_1) &= 6n \\ 2n - m_1 + m_2 + 4n - 2m_2 + 2m_1 &= 6n \\ 6n + m_1 - m_2 &= 6n \\ m_1 - m_2 &= 0 \\ m_1 &= m_2. \end{aligned}$$

since  $m_1 = m_2$ , we get  $n_1 = n_2$  and  $n_1 = n_2 = 2n$ .

**Theorem 2.2**

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ , then  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = 4n$ .

*Proof:*

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ .

The cycle  $C_{4n}$  has  $4n$  vertices.

Attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n}$ , we get  $8n$  vertices.

These  $8n$  vertices divided into  $4n$  vertices of value 1 and  $4n$  vertices of value 2.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } 4n \text{ 1's} + 4n \text{ 2's} &= 4n + 2(4n) \\ &= 4n + 8n \\ &= 12n. \end{aligned}$$

that is,  $f(V) = 12n$ .

Hence  $\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 6n$ .

suppose  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 6n$  where  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2.

then  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2$ .

we have to prove  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2 = 4n$ .

we prove this by induction on  $n$ .

Let  $n = 1$ .

we get  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 6$

since  $2n_2$  is even,  $n_1$  must be even.

therefore,  $n_1 = 2$  and  $n_2 = 2$ .

Hence  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2 = 4 = 4n$ .

Assume that the result is true for  $n-1$ .

Let  $G'$  be the graph obtained by attaching a pendant vertex to each of vertices of  $C_{4n-4}$ .

then  $G'$  has  $8n-8$  vertices and  $\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 6n-1 = 6n-6$ .

Let  $m_1$  denote the number of vertices of value 1 and  $m_2$  denote the number of vertices of value 2 of the graph  $G'$ .

then  $\gamma_{bd}(G') = m_1 + m_2 = 4(n-1) = 4n-4$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{we have, } m_1 + 2m_2 &= 6n-6 \\ m_1 + 2m_2 + 6 &= 6n-6+6 \\ (m_1 + 2) + 2(m_2 + 2) &= 6n \text{ (by Lemma 2.1) } \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{bd}(G) &= m_1 + 2 + m_2 + 2 \\ &= m_1 + m_2 + 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4n-4+4$$

$$=4n.$$

Example 2.1:

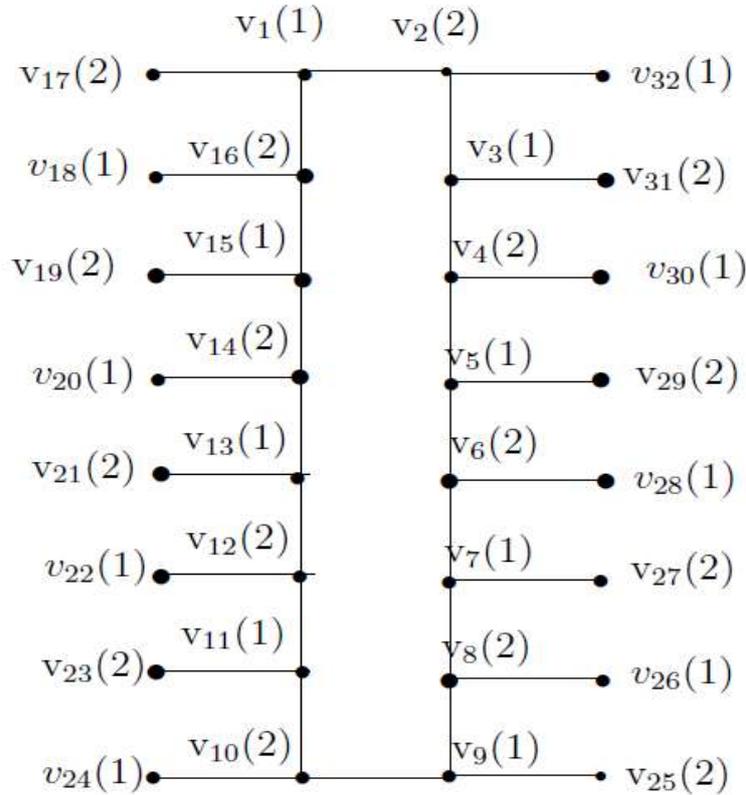


Figure 1

In this graph,  $f(V)=48$

$D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6, v_7, v_8, v_9, v_{10}, v_{11}, v_{12}, v_{13}, v_{14}, v_{15}, v_{16}\}$  is a balanced dominating set.

$$\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 2+2+2+2+2+2+2+2+1+1+1+1+1+1+1 = 24$$

$$\gamma_{bd} = 16$$

Lemma 2.3

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of Path  $P_n$  then the number of vertices of value 1 is equal to the number of vertices of value 2 in the  $\gamma_{bd}$  set of  $G$ .

that is, if  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2 in the  $\gamma_{bd}$  set of  $G$  then  $n_1 = n_2$ . Also  $n_1 = n_2 = n/2$ .

Proof:

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of  $P_n$ .

The Path  $P_n$  has  $n$  vertices.

Attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of  $P_n$ , we get  $2n$  vertices.

These  $2n$  vertices divided into  $n$  vertices of value 1 and  $n$  vertices of value 2.

Therefore,  $n \cdot 1's + n \cdot 2's = n + 2(n)$

$$= 3n.$$

that is,  $f(V) = 3n$ .

Hence  $\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 3n/2$ .

if  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2 in the  $\gamma_{bd}$  set of  $G$ , then  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 3n/2$ .

In this graph  $G$ , we have  $n$  pendant vertices in which  $n/2$  vertices of value 1 and  $n/2$  vertices of value 2.

To cover these  $n/2$  pendant vertices of value 2, we have to take either the pendant vertex of value 2 or vertex adjacent to that pendant vertex which is of value 1.

Therefore, if  $m_1$  vertices of value 2 are from pendant vertices then we have to take  $n/2 - m_1$  vertices of value 1 other than pendant vertex.

Similarly, To cover these  $n/2$  pendant vertices of value 1, we have to take either the pendant vertex of value 1 or vertex adjacent to that pendant vertex which is of value 2.

Therefore, if  $m_2$  vertices of value 1 are from pendant vertices then we have to take  $n/2 - m_2$  vertices of value 2 other than pendant vertex.

Hence  $n_1 = n/2 - m_1 + m_2$  and

$$n_2 = n/2 - m_2 + m_1.$$

we have,

$$n_1 + 2n_2 = 3n/2$$

$$n/2 - m_1 + m_2 + 2(n/2 - m_2 + m_1) = 3n/2$$

$$n/2 - m_1 + m_2 + n - 2m_2 + 2m_1 = 3n/2$$

$$3n/2 + m_1 - m_2 = 3n/2$$

$$m_1 - m_2 = 0$$

$$m_1 = m_2.$$

since  $m_1 = m_2$ , we get  $n_1 = n_2$  and  $n_1 = n_2 = n/2$ .

**Theorem 2.4**

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of Path  $P_n$ . then

$$\gamma_{bd}(G) = \begin{cases} n & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

*Proof:*

Let  $G$  be a graph obtained by attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of Path  $P_n$ .

The Path  $P_n$  has  $n$  vertices.

Attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of  $P_n$ , we get  $2n$  vertices.

These  $2n$  vertices divided into  $n$  vertices of value 1 and  $n$  vertices of value 2.

Therefore,  $n \cdot 1's + n \cdot 2's = n + 2(n) = 3n$ .

that is,  $f(V) = 3n$ .

$$\text{Hence } \sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 3n/2.$$

If  $n$  is odd,  $\frac{3n}{2}$  is odd.

$$\text{Then } \gamma_{bd}(G) = 0.$$

If  $n$  is even, suppose  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 3n/2$  where  $n_1$  is the number of vertices of value 1 and  $n_2$  is the number of vertices of value 2.

then  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2$ .

we have to prove  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2 = n$ .

we prove this by induction on  $n$ .

Let  $n = 2$ .

we get  $n_1 + 2n_2 = 3$

therefore,  $n_1 = 1$  and  $n_2 = 1$ .

Hence  $\gamma_{bd}(G) = n_1 + n_2 = 2 = n$ .

Assume that the result is true for  $n-2$ .

Let  $G'$  be the graph obtained by attaching a pendant edge to each vertices of  $P_{n-2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{then } G' \text{ has } n-4 \text{ vertices and } \sum_{v \in D} f(v) &= \frac{3(n-2)}{2} = \frac{3n-6}{2} \\ &= \frac{3n}{2} - 3 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $m_1$  denote the number of vertices of value 1 and  $m_2$  denote the number of vertices of value 2 of the graph  $G'$ .

then  $\gamma_{bd}(G') = m_1 + m_2 = n-2$ .

$$\text{we have, } m_1 + 2m_2 = \frac{3n}{2} - 3$$

$$m_1 + 2m_2 + 3 = \frac{3n}{2} - 3 + 3$$

$$(m_1 + 1) + 2(m_2 + 1) = \frac{3n}{2} \text{ (by Lemma 2.3)}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{bd}(G) &= m_1 + 1 + m_2 + 1 \\ &= m_1 + m_2 + 2 \\ &= n - 2 + 2 \\ &= n. \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.2:**

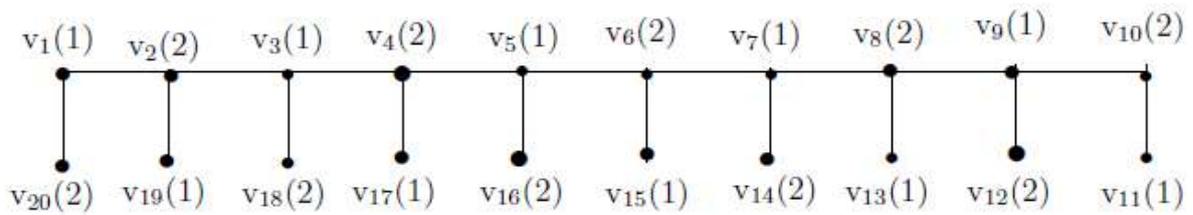


Figure 2  
 In this graph  $P_{10}$  ( $n$  is even) with pendant edge at each vertex,  $f(V) = 30$   
 $D = \{v_2, v_5, v_8, v_9, v_{11}, v_{14}, v_{15}, v_{17}, v_{18}, v_{20}\}$  is a balanced dominating set.  
 $\sum_{v \in D} f(v) = 2+2+2+2+2+1+1+1+1+1 = 15$   
 $\gamma_{bd} = 10$

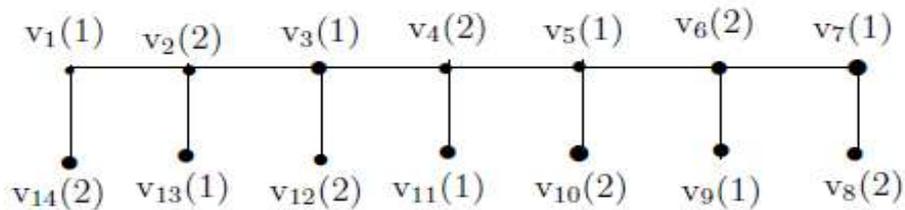


Figure 3  
 In this graph  $P_7$  ( $n$  is odd) with pendant edge at each vertex,  $f(V) = 21, \gamma_{bd} = 0$

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