

# Bounds on Co-Secure Domination in Graphs

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**Abstract:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $S \subseteq V$ . The set  $S$  is a co-secure dominating set (CSDS) of a graph  $G$  if  $S$  is a dominating set, and for each  $u \in S$  there exists a vertex  $v \in V \setminus S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $(S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{v\}$  is a dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a co-secure dominating set in  $G$  is the co-secure domination number  $\gamma_{cs}(G)$ . We determine the cosecuredomination number of some families of standard graphs and obtain sharp bounds. A set  $S \subseteq V$  is a secure dominating set of a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , if for each  $u \in V \setminus S$  there exists a vertex  $v \in S$  such that  $uv \in E$  and  $(S \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{u\}$  is a dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a securedominating set in  $G$  is the secure domination number  $\gamma_s(G)$ . We present few bounds on these parameter and certain graphs for which equality of both parameter holds.

**Keywords-**Co-secure domination, Securedomination, Jahangir graphs, Friendship graphs, Helm graph.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a finite, connected undirected graph with neither loops nor multiple edges. The degree of a vertex  $v$ ,  $deg(v)$  is the number of edges incident to it. The open neighborhood of a vertex  $v \in V$  is denoted by  $N(v) = \{u \in V : uv \in E(G)\}$  and its closed neighborhood is  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . For a set  $S \subseteq V$ ,  $N(S) = \cup_{v \in S} N(v)$  and  $N[S] = N(S) \cup S$ . Given  $S \subseteq V$  and  $v \in S$ , a vertex  $u \in V \setminus S$  is an  $S$ -external private neighbor (abbreviated as  $S$ -epn) of  $v$  if  $N(u) \cap S = \{v\}$ . The set of all  $S$ -epns of  $v$  is denoted by  $EPN(v, S)$ . The join of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is denoted by  $G + H$  and it consists of  $G \cup H$  and all edges joining every vertex of  $G$  with every vertex of  $H$ . The Friendship graph  $F_k$ , is a graph on  $2k + 1$  vertices consisting of  $k$  copies of  $K_3$  with a common central vertex of degree  $2k$  and all the other vertices of degree two. The Jahangir graphs  $J_{n,m}$  [2] for  $m \geq 3$ , is a graph on  $nm + 1$  vertices consisting of a cycle  $C_{nm}$  with one additional vertex which is adjacent to  $m$  vertices of  $C_{nm}$ , at distance  $n$  to each other on  $C_{nm}$ . The helm graph,  $H_n$  is a graph obtained from wheel graph  $W_n$  by attaching a pendant edge to each rim vertex. It contains three types of vertices, the vertex of degree  $n$  called apex,  $n$  pendant vertices and  $n$  vertices of degree four.

Let  $D$  be a subset of  $V$ . If each vertex of  $V \setminus D$  is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $D$ , then  $D$  is called a dominating set in  $G$ . The domination number of a graph  $G$  denoted as  $\gamma(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set in  $G$ . A minimal dominating set is a dominating set from which no vertex can be removed without destroying its dominance property. This paper deals with the secure and co-secure version of the problem in which the configuration of guards induces a dominating set before and after the attack has been defended. The concept of secure domination is motivated by the following situation. Given a graph  $G = (V, E)$  we wish to place one guard at each vertex of a subset  $S$  of  $V$  in such a way that  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$  and if a guard at  $v$  moves along an edge to protect an unguarded vertex  $u$ , then the new configuration of guards also forms a dominating set. In other words, for each  $u \in V \setminus S$  there exists a vertex  $v \in S$  such that  $v$  is adjacent to  $u$  and  $(S \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{u\}$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . In this case we say that  $u$  is  $S$ -defended by  $v$  or  $v$   $S$ -defends  $u$ . A dominating set  $S$  in which every vertex in  $V \setminus S$  is  $S$ -defended by a vertex in  $S$  is called a secure dominating set (SDS) of  $G$ . The secure domination number  $\gamma_s(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a secure dominating set of  $G$ .

This concept was introduced and the secure domination numbers of a path and a cycle are determined by Cockayne et.al in [3]. The upper bound for secure domination of a connected graph other than  $C_5$  with minimum degree at least two was determined by Burger et.al in [1]. Co-secure domination numbers of path and a cycle are determined by Cockayne et.al in [4]. Zepeng et.al in [5] have found upper and lower bounds of secure domination number for any tree of order greater than three and have also characterized trees with secure domination number equal to  $\frac{n+2}{3}$ .

## II. PRELIMINARY RESULTS AND OBSERVATIONS

In domination, we study the problem of using guards to defend the vertices of  $G$  against an attacker. At most one guard is located at each vertex. A guard can protect the vertex at which it's located and can move to a neighboring vertex to defend an attack there. At most one guard is allowed to move in order to defend an attack (other papers have studied the model in which multiple guards can move simultaneously when an attack occurs). Several variations of this graph protection problem considering various other parameters have been studied, including Roman domination, weak Roman domination,  $k$ -secure sets, etc. The term Roman domination stems from the problem's ancient origins in Emperor Constantine's efforts to defend the Roman Empire from attackers. A set  $S \subseteq V$  is a co-secure dominating set (CSDS) of a graph  $G$  if  $S$  is a dominating set, and for each  $u \in S$  there exists a vertex  $v \in V \setminus S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $(S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{v\}$  is a dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a co-secure dominating set in  $G$  is the co-secure domination number  $\gamma_{cs}(G)$ . A set  $S \subseteq V$  is a secure dominating set (SDS) of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  if for each  $u \in V \setminus S$  there exists a vertex  $v \in S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $(S \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{u\}$  is a dominating set. The minimum cardinality of a secure dominating set in  $G$  is the secure domination number  $\gamma_s(G)$  of  $G$ . The secure domination number represents the minimum number of guards required to protect the entire location complex in a bid to save on the total guard remuneration or deployment cost and is often realised in the context of surveillance applications, military strategy analysis or the deployment of security guards by private security firms, etc.

Notice that if  $G$  has isolated vertices, then no such CSDS exists. Also given an isolate-free graph  $G$  with components  $G_i, i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ ,  $\gamma_{cs}(G) = \sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_{cs}(G_i)$ . Therefore, the study of co-secure domination may be restricted to connected, non-trivial graphs. Observe that the entire vertex set,  $V$  can never be a CSDS.

The following theorems given in [4] will be useful to prove many results in this paper.

**Proposition 2.1.** For a complete graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_s(G) = \gamma_{cs}(G) = 1$ .

**Proposition 2.2.** For a star  $G$  with  $n$  vertices,  $\gamma_s(G) = \gamma_{cs}(G) = n-1$ .

**Proposition 2.3.** For any graph  $G$  with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma_{cs}(G) \leq \gamma_s(G)$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** For any complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  with  $m, n \geq 4$ ,  $\gamma_s(K_{m,n}) = \gamma_{cs}(K_{m,n}) = 4$  and  $\gamma_s(\overline{K_{m,n}}) = \gamma_{cs}(\overline{K_{m,n}}) = 2$ .

### III. BOUNDS ON CO-SECURE DOMINATION

In this paper we will be discussing on the bounds of cosecure domination number of certain classes of graphssay, Friendship graph  $F_k$ , Jahangir graph  $J_{2,m}$  and Helm graph  $H_n$ . We also discuss on family of trees  $T$  for which  $\gamma_s = \gamma_{cs}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** If  $G$  and  $H$  are two connected, non complete graphs, then  $\gamma_{cs}(G+H) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Given that  $G$  and  $H$  are two non-complete connected graphs. In  $G + H$  every vertex of  $G$  is adjacent to every vertex of  $H$  and vice-versa.

Let  $S = \{u, v : u \in V(G), v \in V(H)\}$  be a dominating set of  $G$ . Since  $G$  is connected, we can find atleast one vertex say,  $p$  adjacent to  $u$  in  $G$  such that  $(S - \{u\}) \cup \{p\}$  is a dominating set.

Similarly, since  $H$  is connected we have, a vertex  $q$  adjacent to  $v$  in  $H$  such that  $(S - \{v\}) \cup \{q\}$  is also a dominating sets. Thus  $S$  forms a cosecure dominating set of  $G + H$ .

Thus,  $\gamma_{cs}(G+H) = |S| = 2$ .

**Theorem 3.2.** If  $G$  is a graph with atleast two vertices of degree  $n-2$ , then  $\gamma_{cs}(G) = 2$ .

**Proof.** Let  $S = \{u, v\}$  be a cosecure dominating set (CSDS) where  $deg(u) = deg(v) = n-2$ .

**Case (i):**  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent.

Since  $d(u) = d(v) = n-2$  and  $u$  is not adjacent to  $v$ , both  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent to every vertex in  $V - S$ . Thus,  $u$  and  $v$  dominates every vertex in  $V - S$ . (Fig.1)

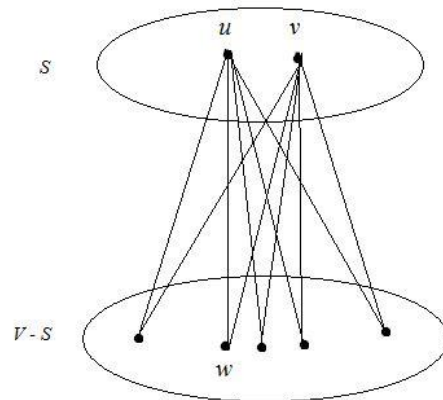


Fig 1: Vertices in  $S$  are not adjacent.

Moreover, there is a vertex,  $w \in V - S$  such that  $(S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{w\}$  and  $(S \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{w\}$  are both dominating sets. Thus  $S$  forms a CSD set and hence  $\gamma_{cs}(G) = 2$ .

**Case 2:**  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent.

Since  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$  and  $d(u) = d(v) = n - 2$ , both  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent to some vertex in  $V \setminus S$ . Now we have two cases i.e, either  $u$  and  $v$  are not adjacent to a common vertex in  $V \setminus S$  or  $u$  is not adjacent to a vertex that  $v$  is adjacent to and vice versa.

**Subcase 2.1:** There exists atleast one vertex in  $V \setminus S$ , say  $x$  which is not adjacent to both  $u$  and  $v$  as given in Fig 2. But since  $G$  is a connected graph we have a vertex say,  $w$  such that,  $w$  is adjacent to  $x$ . Then  $S' = \{v, x\}$  or  $\{u, x\}$  forms a CSDS since  $(S' \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{u\}$  and  $(S' \setminus \{x\}) \cup \{w\}$  are both dominating sets.

Thus,  $\gamma_{cs}(G) = |S'| = 2$ .

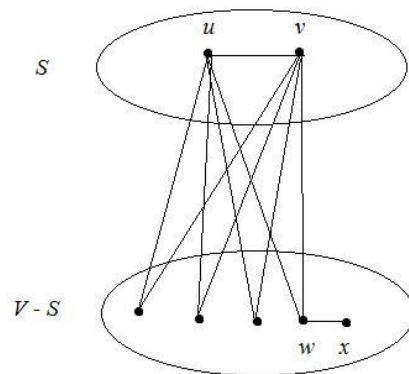


Fig 2: Vertices in  $S$  are adjacent such that  $u \leftrightarrow x$  and  $v \leftrightarrow x$

**Subcase 2.2:** There exists at most two vertex in  $V \setminus S$  say  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $u$  is not adjacent to  $a$  and  $v$  is not adjacent to  $b$ . (Fig 3)

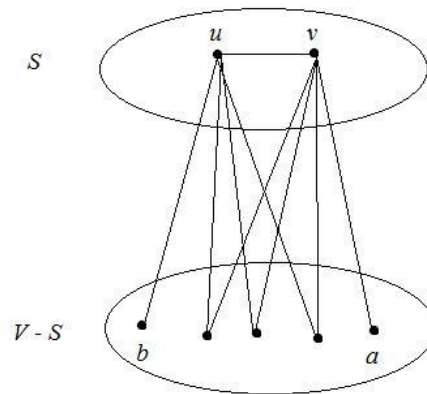


Fig 3: Vertices in  $S$  are adjacent such that  $u \leftrightarrow a$  and  $v \leftrightarrow b$

Clearly,  $a$  is an  $S$ -external private neighbour of  $v$  and  $b$  is an  $S$ -external private neighbour of  $u$ . Also  $(S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{b\}$  and  $(S \setminus \{v\}) \cup \{a\}$  are both dominating sets.

Hence from above cases (1) and (2) we get,

$$\gamma_{cs}(G) = |S| = 2.$$

**Theorem 3.3.** If  $F_k$  is a friendship graph with  $2k+1$  vertices then  $\gamma_{cs}(F_k) = \frac{n-1}{2}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $F_k$  be a friendship graph with  $n = 2k + 1$  vertices such that each  $F_k$  consists of  $k$  number of  $K_3$ . Let  $v$  be the label of the center vertex and  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2k}$  be the label of the vertices in the clockwise direction with  $deg(u_i) = 2$ .

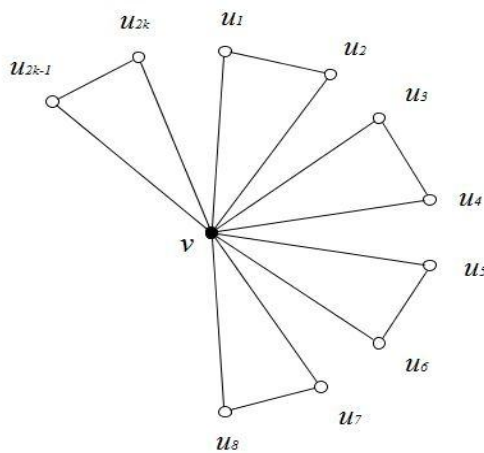


Fig 4: Friendship graph,  $F_k$

Select one vertex from each  $K_3$ , other than the central vertex forming a CSDS with  $k$  vertices. i.e, let  $D = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{2k-1}\}$  or  $D' = \{u_2, u_4, \dots, u_{2k}\}$  be a dominating set of  $F_k$ . Also,  $(D \setminus \{u_i\}) \cup \{u_{i+1}\}$  forms a dominating set for all  $i \in \{1, 3, \dots, 2k-1\}$  and  $(D' \setminus \{u_i\}) \cup \{u_{i-1}\}$  forms a dominating set for all  $i \in \{2, 4, \dots, 2k\}$ .

$$\text{Thus, } \gamma_{cs}(F_k) \leq k = \frac{n-1}{2}.$$

Now we need to show that  $D$  forms the minimum cosecure dominating set. i.e, there exist no cosecure dominating set with less than  $n$  vertices.

Let us assume that  $\gamma_{cs}(F_k) < k$ . But atleast one vertex from each  $K_3$  must be there in the CSDS, which is a contradiction. Let  $v$  be the central vertex and if possible,  $S' = \{v, u_1, u_3, \dots, u_{2k-5}\}$  be a CSDS. But there exist no vertex in  $v \setminus S'$  whose replacement with  $v$  results in a dominating set. Thus there exist atleast one  $K_3$  which is not defended by  $S'$ . Thus  $D$  forms the minimum co-secure dominating set.

Hence,  $\gamma_{cs}(F_k) = \frac{n-1}{2}$ .

**Remark:** Since  $K_3$  is a complete graph both secure and co-secure domination number remains the same. Also, each  $F_k$  consists of  $k$  number of  $K_3$ .

Thus we have,  $\gamma_s(F_k) = \gamma_{cs}(F_k) = \frac{n-1}{2}$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** For a Jahangir graph  $J_{2,m}, \gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) = m$ .

**Proof.** Suppose that  $m$  is even  $m = 2k$ , for some positive integer  $k$ . Let  $v_{2m+1}$  be the label of the center vertex and  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2m}$  be the label of the vertices that incident clockwise on cycle  $C_{2m}$  so that  $\deg(v_1) = 3$ . It is easy to verify that the set of vertices  $S_0 = \{v_1, v_3, \dots, v_{2m-1}\}$  forms a co-secure dominating set for  $J_{2,m}$ .

Therefore  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) \leq |S_0| = m$ .

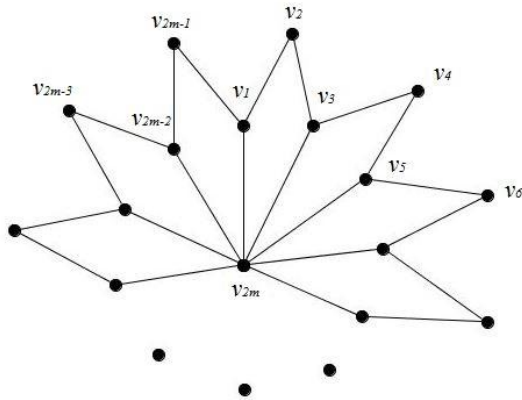


Fig 5: Jahangir graph,  $J_{2,m}$

It suffices to prove that  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) \not< m$ . On the contrary assume that  $D \subseteq V(J_{2,m})$  be a co-secure dominating set of  $J_{2,m}$  with  $|D| < m$ .

We consider three cases:

**Case 1.** Suppose if  $D = \{v_{2m+1}, v_2, v_4, \dots, v_{2m-4}\}$ . It is clear that vertex  $v_{2m+1}$  dominates all odd index vertices, i.e.  $v_1, v_3, \dots, v_{2m-1}$  (Fig.5).

Therefore  $D - \{v_{2m+1}\}$  must dominate all  $m$  even index vertices, i.e.  $v_2, v_4, \dots, v_{2m}$ . Since there is at least two even index vertices on  $V(J_{2,m})$  (say,  $v_{2m-1}, v_{2m}$ ) that any vertices of  $D$  can not dominate, we have a contradiction.

**Case 2.** Suppose if  $D = \{v_{2m+1}, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{2m-5}\}$ . Clearly  $v_{2m+1}$  dominates all odd indexed vertices (see Fig.5) but there exist exactly one even index vertex say,  $v_{2m}$  which is not dominated by  $D$  which is a contradiction. Thus,  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) > m - 1$ .

**Case 3.** Let  $v_{2m+1} \notin D$  and all  $m - 1$  vertices of cycle  $C_{2m}$  are in  $D$ . Without loss of generality, let  $v_1 \in D$ . Then  $D$  contains  $\{v_1, v_3, \dots, v_{2m-3}\}$  vertices. But  $v_{2m-1}$  is not dominated by  $D$  which is a contradiction. Thus,  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) > m - 1$ .

From the above three cases we have,  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) > m - 1$ . But  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) \leq |S_0| = m$ .

Hence we have,  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) = m$ .

Similarly we can prove the result when  $m$  is odd.

Thus,  $\gamma_{cs}(J_{2,m}) = m$  for all  $m$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** For helm graph  $H_n$ ,  $\gamma_{cs}(H_n) = n$

**Proof.**  $H_n$  be a helm graph and let  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  be the pendant vertices,  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  be the rim vertices and  $v$  be the apex vertex as given in Figure 6. So,  $V(H_n) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n, v\}$ . Since  $u_i$ 's are pendant vertices, either  $u_i$  or  $N(u_i)$  must belong to the cosecure dominating set (CSDS).

Suppose  $u_i$ 's belongs to the CSDS, say  $S_0 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$  such that  $|S_0| = n$ . But the apex vertex  $v$  is not dominated by  $S_0$ . Thus,  $v$  must also be included in  $S_0$  and hence  $|S_0| = n + 1$ .

If not suppose that  $v_i$ 's belongs to the CSDS, say  $S$  such that  $|S| = |v_i| = n$ . Clearly  $S$  dominates every vertex in  $H_n$  and  $(S \setminus \{v_i\}) \cup \{u_i\}$  forms a dominating set of  $H_n$ . Clearly, both  $S$  and  $S_0$  forms a CSDS, but the minimum cosecure number  $\gamma_{cs}(H_n)$  is  $n$ .

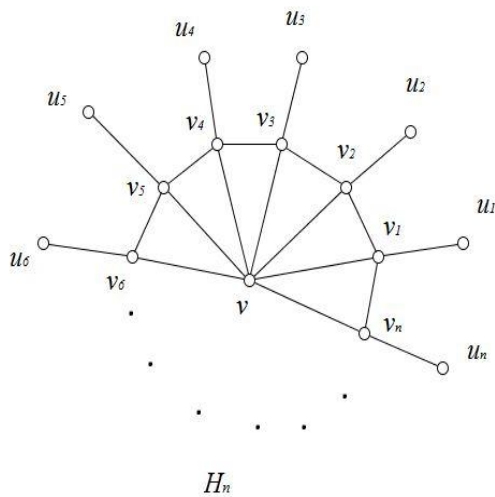


Fig 6: Helm graph,  $H_n$

Hence we have  $\gamma_{cs}(H_n) | S | = n$ . Now we need to show that  $S$  forms the minimum cosecure dominating set. i.e, there exist no cosecure dominating set with less than  $n$  vertices.

On the contrary assume that there exist a co secure dominating set  $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(H_n)$  with  $|D| < n$ .

From the given labeling, it is clear that every vertex  $v_i$  in  $D$  dominates  $u_i$ . Since  $v_n$  does not belong to  $D$ , there exist atleast one vertex say,  $u_n$  on  $V(H_n)$  which is not dominated by  $D$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $D$  forms a CSDS of  $H_n$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{cs}(H_n) \neq n$ .

Therefore, we have  $\gamma_{cs}(H_n) = n$ .

**Theorem 3.6.** If  $T \in \mathbb{T}$ , then  $\gamma_{cs}(T) = \frac{n+2}{3}$

**Proof.** The family  $\mathbb{T}$  of trees  $T = T_k$  is obtained as follows. For any  $k \geq 1$ ,  $T_k$  can be constructed recursively from  $T_{k+1}$  by adding a copy  $P_3^k = u_k v_k w_k$  of  $P_3$  and joining an edge between  $x$  and  $u_k$ .

Since  $x$  is adjacent to each  $u_i$ 's the vertex  $x$  must belongs to every CSDS. Since  $w_i$ 's are pendant vertices, either  $w_i$  or  $N(u_i) = v_i$  must belong to the co-secure dominating set (CSDS) for  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$

Suppose that  $v_i$ 's belongs to the CSDS, say  $S = \{x, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  such that  $|S| = |v_i| = k + 1$ . Clearly  $S$  dominates every vertex in  $T_k$  and  $(S \setminus \{v_i\}) \cup \{w_i\}$  forms a dominating set of  $T_k$ . Also,  $(S \setminus \{x\}) \cup \{u_i\}$  forms a dominating set of  $T_k$ . Clearly,  $S = \{x, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  forms a CSDS of  $T_k$ .

Thus we have  $\gamma_{cs}(T_k) \leq k + 1$ .

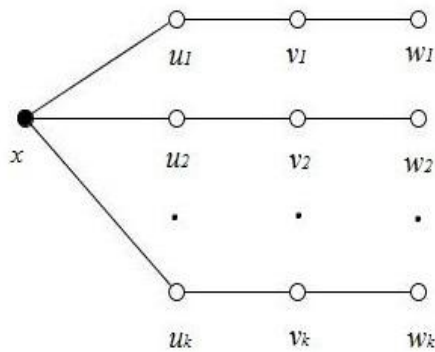


Fig 7: A family  $\mathbb{T}$  of trees  $T = T_k$ .

Now we need to show that  $S$  forms the minimum co-secure dominating set.

i.e, there exist no co-secure dominating set with less than  $k + 1$  vertices. On the contrary assume that there exist a co-secure dominating set  $S' = \{x, v_k, \dots, v_{k-1}\} \subseteq V(T_k)$  with  $|S'| < k + 1$ .

It is clear that  $x$  in  $S'$  dominates  $u_i$  (Figure 7). Since  $v_k$  does not belong to  $S'$  there exist atleast two vertex say,  $v_k$  and  $w_k$  on  $V(T_k)$  which is not dominated by  $S'$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $S'$  forms a CSDS of  $T_k$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{cs}(T_k) \not\leq k + 1$ .

Thus we have,  $\gamma_{cs}(T_k) = k + 1 = \frac{n+2}{3}$

**Remark:** Also,  $\gamma_s(T_k) = \frac{n+2}{3}$  is already found in [5].

Thus we have,  $\gamma_s(T) = \gamma_{cs}(T)$  for all  $T \in \mathbb{T}$ .

#### IV. CONCLUSIONS

In this paper we have studied the cosecure domination number of some families of graphs namely, Friendship graph  $F_k$ , Jahangir graph  $J_{2,m}$  and Helm graph  $H_n$ . We also discussed on family of trees  $\mathbb{T}$  for which  $\gamma_{cs} = \gamma_s$ . Further works can be done in this area by finding co-secure domination numbers for other classes of graphs and by characterizing graphs  $G$  such that  $\gamma_{cs} = \gamma_s$ . The concepts of co-secure and secure domination has various applications in communication networks and security system. The secure domination number represents the minimum number of guards required to protect the entire system in a bid to save on the total guard remuneration or deployment cost whereas co-secure domination set gives the provision for a substitute guard for each guards in the system and thereby safeguarding the system in the absence of a guard.

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