# (G,D)-Bondage and (G,D)-Nonbondage Number of a Graph

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**Abstract:** The (G,D)-bondage number of a graph G denoted by  $b\gamma_G(G)$  is the least positive integer k such that there exists  $F \subseteq E(G)$  with |F| = k and  $\gamma_G(G - F) > \gamma_G(G)$ . If no such k exists, it is defined to be  $\infty$ . The (G,D)-nonbondage number of a graph G denoted by  $b_n\gamma_G(G)$  is defined as the maximum cardinality among all sets of edges  $X \subseteq E(G)$  such that  $\gamma_G(G - X) = \gamma_G(G)$ . If  $b_n\gamma_G(G)$  does not exist, we define  $b_n\gamma_G(G) = 0$ . In this paper we initiate a study of these two parameters.

**Keywords:** Domination, Geodomination, (G, D)-number, (G, D)-bondage number and (G, D)-nonbondage number.

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**1. Introduction:** Throughout this paper, we consider G as a finite undirected graph with no loops and multiple edges. The study of domination in graphs was begun by Ore and Berge[6]. Let G = (V, E) be any graph. A dominating set of a graph G is a set D of vertices of G such that every vertex in V–D is adjacent to atleast one vertex in D and the minimum cardinality among all dominating sets is called the domination number  $\gamma(G)$ . The concept of geodominating (or geodetic) set was introduced by Buckley and Harary in [1] and Chartrand, Zhang and Harary in [2, 3, 4]. Let u,  $v \in V(G)$ . A u-v geodesic is a u-v path of length d(u, v). A vertex x  $\in V(G)$  is said to lie on a u-v geodesic P if x is a vertex of P including the vertices u and v. A set S of vertices of G is a geodominating (or geodetic) set if every vertex of G lies on an x-y geodesic for some x, y in S. The minimum cardinality of a geodominating set is the geodomination(or geodetic) number of G and is denoted as g(G)[1, 2, 3, 4]. A (G, D)-set of G is a subset S of V(G) which is both a dominating and geodetic set of G. A (G, D)-set S of G is said to be a minimal (G, D)-set of G if no proper subset of S is a (G, D)-set of G. The minimum cardinality of all (G, D)-sets of G is called the (G, D)-number of G and it is denoted by  $\gamma_G(G)$ . Any (G, D)-set of G of cardinality  $\gamma_G$  is called a  $\gamma_G$ -set of G [8, 9, 10].

Fink et al. [5] introduced the bondage number of a graph in 1990. The bondage number b(G) of a graph G is the cardinality of a smallest set of edges whose removal from G results in a graph with domination number greater than  $\gamma(G)$ .

In [7], Kulli and Janakiram introduced the concept of the nonbondage number as follows: The nonbondage number  $b_n(G)$  of G is the maximum cardinality of all sets of edges  $X \subseteq E$  for which  $\gamma(G - X) = \gamma(G)$  for an edge set X, then X is called the nonbondage set and the maximum one the maximum nonbondage set. If  $b_n(G)$  does not exist, we define  $b_n(G) = 0$ .

Let G = (V, E) be any graph and  $v \in V(G)$ . The neighbourhood of v, written as  $N_G(v)$  or N(v) is defined by  $N(v) = \{x \in V(G) : x \text{ is adjacent to } v\}$ . The *degree of* a vertex v in a graph G is defined to be the number of edgesincident with v and is denoted by *degv*. A vertex of degree zero is an isolated vertex and a vertex of degree one is a *pendant vertex* (or end vertex). Any vertex which is adjacent to a pendant vertex is called a support. A graph G is complete if every pair of distinct vertices of Gare adjacent in G. A complete graph on p vertices denoted by  $K_p$ . A graph G is called *acyclic* if it has no cycles. A connected acyclic graph is called a *tree*.

**Remark1.1:**[8] 
$$\left[\frac{n-4}{3}\right] + 2 = \begin{cases} \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] & \text{if } n \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] + 1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem1.2:[8]

$$\gamma_{G}(P_{n}) = \begin{cases} \left| \frac{n-4}{3} \right| + 2 & ifn \ge 5\\ 2 & ifn = 2, 3 \text{ or } 4. \end{cases}$$

**Proposition 1.3:[8]** For n > 5,  $\gamma_G(\mathcal{C}_n) = \gamma(\mathcal{C}_n) = \left[\frac{n}{3}\right]$ .

**Theorem 1.4:[8]** Let  $W_p = C_{p-1} + K_1$ ,  $p \ge 5$  denote the wheel graph on p vertices. Then,  $\gamma_G(W_p) = \left|\frac{p}{2}\right|$ .

**Corollary 1.5:**[8] Let G = (V, E) be a connected graph on p vertices. Then,  $\gamma_G(G) = p$  if and only if G is complete.

Notation 1.6: $K_n(m_1, m_2, ..., m_n)$  denotes the graph obtained from  $K_n$  by pasting  $m_1, m_2, ..., m_n$  edges to the vertices  $u_1, u_2, ..., u_n$  of  $K_n$  respectively.

## 2. (G,D)-BONDAGE NUMBER OF A GRAPH

**Definition 2.1:** The (G,D)-bondage number of a graph G denoted by  $b\gamma_G(G)$  is the least positive integer k such that there exists  $F \subseteq E(G)$  with |F| = k and  $\gamma_G(G - F) > \gamma_G(G)$ . If no such k exists, it is defined to be  $\infty$ .

**Remark 2.2:** (i) If  $\gamma_G(G) = p$ , then  $b\gamma_G(G) = \infty$ . Hence,  $b\gamma_G(K_p) = \infty$ . (ii) (G,D)-number is defined for connected graphs with atleast two vertices [8]. So, let us assume that (G,D)-number of a disconnected graph is the sum of (G,D)-number of its components. (iii) Also, assume that (G,D)-number of a graph with less than two vertices, that is, graph is a single vertex is 1.

**Proposition 2.3:**  $b\gamma_{c}(P_{n}) = 1$  for all  $n \ge 3$ .

**Proof:** Obviously,  $b\gamma_G(P_3) = b\gamma_G(P_4) = b\gamma_G(P_5) = b\gamma_G(P_6) = 1$ .Let  $n \ge 7$ . Remove an edge *e* from  $P_n$  such that  $P_n - \{e\} = P_5 \cup P_{n-5}$ .

Then,  $\gamma_G(P_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_5) + \gamma_G(P_{n-5}).$ 

*Case* 1: *n* = 7, 8 or 9

$$\gamma_G(P_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_5) + \gamma_G(P_{n-5})$$

= 3 + 2(by theorem 1.2)

= 5

But,  $\gamma_G(P_7) = 3$  and  $\gamma_G(P_8) = \gamma_G(P_9) = 4$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_G(P_n - \{e\}) = 5 > \gamma_G(P_n)$ . Hence,  $b\gamma_G(P_n) = 1$ .

Case 2:  $n \ge 10$ 

$$\gamma_G(P_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_5) + \gamma_G(P_{n-5})$$

 $= 3 + \left[\frac{n-5-4}{3}\right] + 2($  by theorem 1.2)

$$=3+\left[\frac{n-9}{3}\right]+2.$$

By theorem 1.2,  $\gamma_G(P_n) = \left[\frac{n-4}{3}\right] + 2.$ 

Now,  $3 + \left[\frac{n-9}{3}\right] = \left[\frac{9}{3}\right] + \left[\frac{n-9}{3}\right] \ge \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] \ge \left[\frac{n-4}{3}\right].$ Therefore,  $\gamma_G(P_n - \{e\}) = 3 + \left[\frac{n-9}{3}\right] + 2$ 

$$>\left[\frac{n-4}{3}\right]+2$$

 $= \gamma_G(P_n).$ 

Hence,  $b\gamma_G(P_n) = 1$  for all  $n \ge 3$ .

**Proposition 2.4:** For n > 5,

$$b\gamma_G(C_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & ifn \equiv 0 \pmod{3} \text{ orn} \equiv 2 \pmod{3} \\ 2 & otherwise. \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** 

**Case 1:**  $n \equiv 0$  or 2 (mod 3)

Then, 
$$\gamma_G(C_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_n)$$

 $= \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] + 1(\text{ by theorem } 1.2 \text{ \& remark } 1.1)$  $> \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] = \gamma_G(C_n)(\text{ by proposition } 1.3)$ 

Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(C_n) = 1$ .

Case  $2:n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ 

Then,  $\gamma_G(C_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_n)$ 

 $= \left[\frac{n}{3}\right]$  (by theorem 1.2 & remark 1.1)

 $= \gamma_G(C_n)$  (by proposition 1.3).

But,  $b\gamma_G(P_n) = 1$ (by proposition 2.3).

Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(C_n) = 2$ .

**Proposition 2.5:**  $b\gamma_{G}(K_{1,n}) = n - 1.$ 

**Proof:** $\gamma_{G}(K_{1,n}) = n$  and it becomes n + 1 only if we remove n - 1 of its n edges. That is,  $\gamma_{G}(K_{1,n} - F) = n + 1$  only when |F| = n - 1. Therefore,  $b\gamma_{G}(K_{1,n}) = |F| = n - 1$ .

**Proposition 2.6:**  $b\gamma_G(W_p) = \begin{cases} 1 & ifpisodd \\ 2 & otherwise. \end{cases}$ 

**Proof:** We know that,  $W_p = C_{p-1} + K_1$ .

By theorem (1.4),  $\gamma_G(W_p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$ .

When p is odd, p - 1 is even. Now, if we remove any one edge from the cycle  $C_{p-1}$ , then any set containing  $\left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$  vertices of W<sub>p</sub> is not a (G,D)-set. Therefore,  $\gamma_G(W_p - \{e\}) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor + 1 > \gamma_G(W_p)$ . Hence,  $b\gamma_G(W_p) = 1$  if p is odd.

If p is even, then only by removing atleast two consecutive edges from  $C_{p-1}$ , we get the  $\gamma_G$ -value increased. Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(W_p) = 2$  if p is even.

**Proposition 2.7:** If  $\gamma_G(G) \neq p$ , then  $1 \leq b\gamma_G(G) \leq e$ , where *e* is the cardinality of the edge set of G.

**Proof:** Obviously,  $b\gamma_G(G) \ge 1$ . By removing all the edges from G, obviously G - E is a totally disconnected graph and so  $\gamma_G(G - E) = p > \gamma_G(G)$ . Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(G) \le |E| = e$ . Hence,  $1 \le b\gamma_G(G) \le e$ .

**Theorem 2.8:** Let *T* be any tree with  $k \ge 2$  support vertices and *l* end vertices such that l + k = p.Let Land *K* be the set of all end and support vertices of *T* respectively. Then, b $\gamma_c(T) = min_{v \in K}\{|N(v) \cap L|\}$ .

**Proof**: Let v be a support vertex of T such that  $|N(v) \cap L|$  is minimum. Assume that v is adjacent to h end vertices in T.

**Case 1**:v is adjacent to exactly one support vertex

Remove all the edges incident with the end vertices adjacent to v. In the resultant graph T', v is an end vertex. Any minimum (G, D)-set of T together with v forms a minimum (G, D)- set of T'. Therefore,  $\gamma_G(T') = \gamma_G(T) + 1 > \gamma_G(T)$ . Obviously,  $h = |N(v) \cap L|$ . Also, removal of no set of less than hedges, increases the (G, D)- number of the resulting graph. Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(T) = min_{v \in K} \{|N(v) \cap L|\}$ .

Case 2:vis adjacent to atleast two support vertices

Let T'' be the graph obtained by removing all the edges incident with the end vertices of v. In T'', no minimum (G, D)- set of T dominates v. Further, any minimum (G, D)-set of T together with v forms a minimum (G, D)-set of T''. Therefore,  $\gamma_G(T'') = \gamma_G(T) + 1 > \gamma_G(T)$ . As before,  $h = |N(v) \cap L|$  and removal of no set of less than h edges, increases the (G, D)-number of the resulting graph.

Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(T) = min_{v \in K}\{|N(v) \cap L|\}.$ 

**Theorem 2.9:** For every positive integer  $k \ge 1$ , there exists a graph *G* with  $b\gamma_G(G) = k$ .

**Proof:** Let  $k \ge 1$ . Consider  $G \cong K_n(k, 0, 0, ...)$  and |V(G)| = n + k = p.Let  $V(K_n) = \{v_1, v_2, ..., v_n\}$ . Then, G is obtained by pasting k edges to  $v_1$  say,  $u_iv_1(i = 1, 2, ..., k)$ . Clearly,  $V(G) - \{v_1\}$  is the unique minimum (G, D)- set of G and so,  $\gamma_G(G) = n - 1 + k = p - 1$ . Obviously, removal of any set of t < k edges from G, does not increase the (G, D)- number of G. Let G' be the graph obtained by removing the kedges pasted to  $v_1$  from G. Then,  $G' \cong K_n \cup [K_1 \cup K_1 \cup ... (ktimes)]$  and so,  $\gamma_G(G') = n + k = p > \gamma_G(G)$ . Also,  $\{u_iv_1: 1 \le i \le k\}$  is the unique b $\gamma_G$ -set of G. Again, removal of no set of less than kedges increases the (G, D)- number of the resulting graph. Therfore,  $b\gamma_G(G) = k$ .

## **Proposition 2.10:**

 $b\gamma_G(G_1 \cup G_2) = \min\{b\gamma_G(G_1), b\gamma_G(G_2)\}$ , for any two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $b\gamma_G(G_1) = m(\leq q_1)$  and  $b\gamma_G(G_2) = n(\leq q_2)$  Where,  $|E(G_1)| = q_1$  and  $|E(G_2)| = q_2$ . Then, removal of *m* edges from  $G_1$  increases the  $\gamma_G$ -value of  $G_1$  and removal of *n*edges from  $G_2$  increases the  $\gamma_G$ -value of  $G_2$ . Take  $\gamma_G(G_1) = r$  and  $\gamma_G(G_2) = t$ . So,  $\gamma_G(G_1 \cup G_2) = r + t$ . Thus, removal of *m* edges from  $G_1$ ,  $\gamma_G(G_1 \cup G_2)$  is strictly greater than r + t. Also removal of *n* edges from  $G_2$ ,  $\gamma_G(G_1 \cup G_2)$  is strictly greater than r + t. Therefore,  $b\gamma_G(G_1 \cup G_2) = \min\{m, n\} = \min\{b\gamma_G(G_1), b\gamma_G(G_2)\}$ .

## 3. (G,D)-NONBONDAGE NUMBER OF A GRAPH

**Definition 3.1:** The (G,D)-nonbondage number of a graph G denoted by  $b_n \gamma_G(G)$  is defined as the maximum cardinality among all sets of edges  $X \subseteq E(G)$  such that  $\gamma_G(G - X) = \gamma_G(G)$ .

**Proposition3.2:**For*n* > 5,

 $b_n \gamma_G(C_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & ifn \equiv 1 \pmod{3} \\ 0 & otherwise. \end{cases}$ 

**Proof:** 

Case 1:  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ 

Removal of any one edge from  $C_n$  results in  $P_n$ . Further,  $\gamma_G(C_n) = \gamma_G(P_n)$  if and only if n = 3k + 1. That is,  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . Therefore,  $b_n \gamma_G(C_n) \ge 1$ . Further, removal of more edges from  $C_n$  results in a disconnected graph with at least two components. And, sum of their  $\gamma_G$ -values is greater than  $\gamma_G(C_n)$ . Therefore,  $b_n \gamma_G(C_n) = 1$ .

**Case 2:**  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  or  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ 

$$\gamma_G(C_n - \{e\}) = \gamma_G(P_n)$$

 $= \left[\frac{n}{3}\right] + 1$  (by theorem 1.2 & remark 1.1)

 $= \gamma_c(C_n) + 1$  (by proposition 1.3)

$$> \gamma_G(C_n).$$

Therefore,  $b_n \gamma_G(C_n) = 0$ .

**Proposition 3.3:**  $b_n \gamma_G(K_{1,n}) = n - 2.$ 

**Proof:** In a star graph, even if we remove n - 2 of the *n* edges incident with the central vertex,  $\gamma_G$ -value is not changed and is equal to *n*. But, if we remove n - 1 of the *n* edges incident with the central vertex, the resultant graph is  $[K_1 \cup K_1 \cup ... (n - 1)times] \cup K_2$ . So,

$$\gamma_{G}(K_{1,n} - \{e_{1}, e_{2}, \dots, e_{n-1}\}) = n - 1 + \gamma_{G}(K_{2})$$
$$= n - 1 + 2$$
$$= n + 1$$

 $> \gamma_G(K_{1,n}).$ 

Therefore,  $b_n \gamma_G(K_{1,n}) = n - 2$ .

**Proposition 3.4:** Let G be a connected graph on p vertices. Then,  $b_n \gamma_G(G) = q$  if and only if G is complete, where q = |E(G)|.

**Proof:** Let G be a graph on p vertices. Suppose  $b_n \gamma_G(G) = q$ . Then,  $\gamma_G(G) = \gamma_G(G - E(G)) \dots \dots \dots \dots (1)$ . Since q = |E(G)|, G - E(G) is the totally disconnected graph on p vertices and  $\gamma_G(G - E(G)) = p$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_G(G) = p$  [ by equation (1) ]. By corollary 1.5, G is complete. Conversely, suppose G is complete. Then, by corollary 1.5,  $\gamma_G(G) = p$ . Since G is complete,  $\gamma_G(G - E(G)) = p = \gamma_G(G)$ . Therefore,  $b_n \gamma_G(G) = q$ .

**Objective 3.5:**  $0 \le \gamma_G(G) \le q$ .

Here, the bounds are strict. For example,  $b_n \gamma_G(C_6) = 0$  and

$$\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{n}}\boldsymbol{\gamma}_{G}\left(K_{p}\right)=q.$$

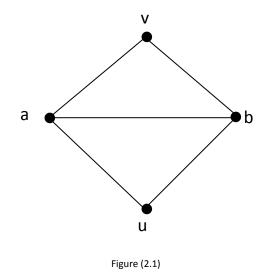
**Result 3.6**:  $b_n \gamma_G(K_p - \{v\}) < b_n \gamma_G(K_p)$  for all  $v \in V(K_p)$ . This is true, since  $K_p - \{v\} \cong K_{p-1}$ .

**Remark 3.7:** The above result can be extended to any number of vertices. That is,  $b_n \gamma_G(K_p - V') < b_n \gamma_G(K_p)$  for every proper subset V' of  $V(K_p)$  [since,  $K_p - V' = K_{p-|V'|}$ ].

**Theorem 3.8:** If two adjacent vertices  $u, v \in S$  for every  $\gamma_G$ -set S of G, then the edge e = uv lies in every  $b_n \gamma_G$ -set of G.

**Proof:** Let e = uv be an edge such that  $u, v \in S$  for every  $\gamma_G$ -set S of G. Then,  $\gamma_G[G - \{e\}] = \gamma_G(G)$  and so e lies in every  $b_n \gamma_G$ -set.

*Remark 3.9:* Converse of the above theorem is not true. Consider the graph G given in figure (2.1).



Here,  $S = \{u, v\}$  is the unique  $\gamma_G$ -set of G and so  $\gamma_G(G) = 2$ . Non-bondage (G, D)-sets  $(b_n \gamma_G(G)$ -sets) of G are  $X_1 = \{ab, av\}, X_2 = \{ab, vb\}, X_3 = \{bu, ab\}$  and  $X_4 = \{ab, au\}$ . Here, the edge e = ab lies in every nonbondage (G,D)-sets of G. But, the vertices of e(a and b) not belonging to S.

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