



Weak Domination in Block Graphs

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ABSTRACT

For any graph $G = (V, E)$, the block graph $B(G)$ is a graph whose set of vertices is the union of set of blocks of G in which two vertices are adjacent if and only if the corresponding blocks of G are adjacent. For any two adjacent vertices u and v we say that v weakly dominates u if $\deg(v) \leq \deg(u)$. A dominating set D of a graph $B(G)$ is a weak block dominating set of $B(G)$, if every vertex in $V[B(G)] - D$ is weakly dominated by at least one vertex in D . A weak domination number of a block graph $B(G)$ is the minimum cardinality of a weak dominating set of $B(G)$. In this paper, we study a graph theoretic properties of $\gamma_{WB}(G)$ and many bounds were obtained in terms of elements of G and the relationship with other domination parameters were found.

Keywords

Dominating set; Strong split domination; Weak domination; Perfect domination; Weak block domination.

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1. INTRODUCTION

We consider finite, undirected, simple graphs. Let G be a graph, with vertex set V and edge set E . The open neighborhood of a vertex

$v \in V$ is $N(v) = \{u \in V | uv \in E\}$ and the closed neighborhood is $N[V] = N(V) \cup \{v\}$. For a subset $S \subseteq V$, the open neighborhood is $N(S) = \bigcup_{v \in S} N(v)$ and the closed neighborhood is $N[S] = N(S) \cup S$. If v is vertex of V , then the degree of v denoted by $\deg(v)$, is the cardinality of its open neighborhood. By $\Delta(G) = \Delta$ we denote the maximum degree of a graph G . The minimum distance between any two furthest vertices of a connected graph G is called the diameter of G and is denoted by $\text{diam}(G)$. In literature, the concept of graph theory terminology not presented here can be found in Harary [6].

A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is said to be a dominating set of G , if every vertex in $V - S$ is adjacent to some vertex in S . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the domination number of G and is denoted by $\gamma(G)$.

Further, A set F of edges is an edge dominating set, if for every edge $e \in E - F$ there exist an edge $f \in F$ such that e and f have a vertex in common. The edge domination number $\gamma'(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of an edge dominating set of G see [15].

A dominating set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called the total dominating set, if for every vertex $v \in V$, there exist a vertex $u \in S$, $u \neq v$ such that u is adjacent to v . The total

domination number of G is denoted by $\gamma_t(G)$ is the minimum cardinality of total dominating set of G . This was introduced by Cockayne [2].

In [12] Hadetniemi and Laskar defined a connected dominating set. A dominating set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is connected dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle S \rangle$ is connected. The connected domination number $\gamma_c(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of connected dominating set of G .

An independent domination of a graph G was studied by Allan [1]. A dominating set D of a graph $G = (V, E)$ is an independent dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle D \rangle$ has no edges. The independent domination number $i(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of an independent dominating set.

A dominating set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called the double dominating set for G , if each vertex in V is dominated by at least two vertices in S . The double domination number $\gamma_{dd}(G)$ of G is the minimum cardinality of a double dominating set of G see [7].

Analogously, a set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is a Restrained dominating set of G , if every vertex in $V - S$ is adjacent to a vertex in S and another vertex in $V - S$. The Restrained domination number of a graph G is denoted by $\gamma_{Res}(G)$ is the minimum cardinality of a Restrained dominating set in G see in [5].

A dominating set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is called the Perfect dominating set of G , if each $u \in V(G) - S$ is dominated by exactly one element of S . The Perfect domination number of G , denoted by $\gamma_p(G)$ is the minimum cardinality of a Perfect dominating set of G . This was introduced by Cockayne [4].

The line graph $n(G)$ of a graph G is the graph whose set of vertices is the union of set of edges and the set of cutvertices of G in which two vertices are adjacent if and only if the corresponding edges are adjacent or the corresponding members of G are incident formed in [14].

A set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is a cototal dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle V - S \rangle$ has no isolated vertices. The cototal domination number $\gamma_{cot}(G)$ is the minimum cardinality of a cototal dominating set of G defined in [13].

A dominating set $S \subseteq V(G)$ is a split dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle V - D \rangle$ is disconnected. The split domination number $\gamma_s(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of a split dominating set in [13].

A dominating set $D \subseteq V(G)$ is the strong split dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle V - D \rangle$ is totally



disconnected with at least two vertices. The strong split domination number $\gamma_{ss}(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of a strong split dominating set of G see [13].

In [13] a dominating set $D \subseteq V(G)$ is a nonsplit dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle V - D \rangle$ is connected. The nonsplit domination number $\gamma_{ns}(G)$ of a graph G is the minimum cardinality of a nonsplit dominating set.

A dominating set $D \subseteq V(G)$ is a strong nonsplit dominating set, if the induced subgraph $\langle V - D \rangle$ is complete. The strong nonsplit domination number $\gamma_{sns}(G)$ of G is the minimum cardinality of a strong nonsplit dominating set formed in [13].

In [26], Sampathkumar and Pushpa Latha have introduced the concept of weak and strong domination in graphs. A subset $D \subseteq V$ is a weak dominating set (WDS) if every vertex $u \in V - S$ is adjacent to a vertex $v \in D$, where $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$. The subset D is a strong dominating set (SDS) if every vertex $v \in V - S$ is adjacent to a vertex $u \in D$, where $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$. The weak (strong, respectively) domination number $\gamma_w(T)$ ($\gamma_s(T)$, respectively) is the minimum cardinality of a WDS (a SDS, respectively) of G . Strong and weak domination have been studied for example in [8, 9, 16, 23, 24, 25]. For more details on domination in graphs and its variation see the two books [10, 11]. Farther domination related graph valued functions has been studied in [17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22].

In this paper we initiate the study of weak block domination in graphs.

2. RESULTS

We begin by the following straight forward observation.

Observation 1: Every weak block dominating set of a graph G contains all the end vertices of G .

Next result is a lower bound on the weak block domination number for trees.

Theorem 2.1: For any nontrivial tree T , $\gamma_{wb}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$.

Proof: Let $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} \subseteq V(T)$ such that $N[D] = V(T)$. Then D itself is a dominating set of T . Let $A = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ be the edge set of T and $B = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} = V[B(T)]$ be the set of vertices corresponding to the edges of A and has no end vertices. Now we consider a set $B_1 \subseteq B$ be the set of minimum degree vertices which are nonend vertices in $B(T)$. Suppose $B_2 \subseteq B_1$ such that $N[B_2] = V[B(T)]$. Then B_2 is dominating set of $B(T)$. Which is also a γ_{WB} -set. Hence $|B_2| \geq |D|$ gives required result.

Further, if $B(T)$ has end vertices then, $C = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\}$ be the set of end vertices in $B(T)$. Since B_2 is γ_{WB} -set, by the definition it is also true that $\{B_2 \cup C\}$ forms a γ_{WB} -set. Hence, again $|\{B_2 \cup C\}| \geq |D|$ and gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$.

Now we establish the relationship between domination number, strong split domination with weak block domination number.

Theorem 2.2: For any tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{ss}(T) + \gamma(T) + 1$.

Proof: Let $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of nonend vertices such that $N[D] = V(T)$. Then D is a minimal dominating set of T .

If for every $v_i \in V - D$, with $\deg(v_i) = 0$ and $\langle V - D \rangle$ has at least two vertices, then D is a γ_{ss} -set of T . Otherwise if there exists a vertex set $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\}$ and every vertex of H is incident to at least one edge, where $H \in V - D$. Now consider $H_1 \subseteq H \forall v_i \in \langle H - H_1 \rangle$, $\deg(v_i) = 0$ and $\langle V - \{D \cup H_1\} \rangle$ has at least two isolated vertices. Clearly $\{D \cup H_1\}$ is a γ_{ss} -set of T .

Let $A = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$ be the set of blocks in T . Then $A_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} = V[B(T)]$ corresponding to the blocks of A . Consider J as a dominating set of $B(T)$. Suppose $\forall v_i \in J$, $\deg(v_i) \leq \deg(v_j)$, $\forall v_j \in V[B(T)] - J$. Then J itself is a weak dominating set of $B(T)$. If not, then there exists a set $S \subseteq V[B(T)] - J$ such that $\deg(v_k) < \deg(v_i)$, $\forall v_k \in S$, hence the set $J \cup \{S\}$ gives a weak dominating set of $B(T)$. So that $|J \cup \{S\}| \leq |D \cup H_1| + |D| + 1$, gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{ss}(T) + \gamma(T) + 1$.

The following result gives an upper bound on $\gamma_{WB}(T)$ in terms of vertices and maximum degree of G .

Theorem 2.3: for any nontrivial (p, q) tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq p - \Delta(T)$.

Proof: Let $E = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$ be the edge set of T . Then $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ be the set of vertices in $B(T)$ corresponding to the edges of E . Let $D_1 \subseteq D$ be the set of all end vertices. Suppose $D_2 \subseteq D$ be the set of vertices with minimum degree which are adjacent to the cut vertices of $B(T)$ and covers all the vertices of $B(T)$. Then D_2 is minimal dominating set of $B(T)$.

If $D_1 \neq \emptyset$, then $D_2 \cup D_1$ forms a γ_{WB} -set. Otherwise D_2 itself is a γ_{WB} -set. Since for any tree T , there exist at least one vertex v , $\deg(v) = \Delta(T)$ and $p = V(T)$. It follows that $|D_2 \cup D_1|$ or $|D_2| \leq |V(T)| - \Delta(T)$. Hence $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq p - \Delta(T)$.

In the following theorem we establish the relation between $\gamma_{WB}(T)$, $\gamma_{cot}(T)$ and $diam(T)$.

Theorem 2.4: For any non trivial tree T with $n \geq 2$ blocks, $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{cot}(T) + diam(T) + 1$.

Proof: Let $J = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\} \subseteq E(T)$ be the minimal set of edges which constitute the longest path between any two distinct vertices $u, v \in V(T)$ such that $dist(u, v) = diam(T)$. Let $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the minimum set of vertices which covers all the vertices in T . Suppose the subgraph $\langle V(T) - D \rangle$ has no isolated vertex then D itself is a γ_{cot} -set of T . Otherwise if there exist a set $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_j\} \subseteq V(T) - D$ with $\deg(v_i) = 0$, $1 \leq i \leq j$. Now we make $\deg(v_i) = 1$ by joining vertices $\{v_k\} \subseteq V(T) - D$ and $N(v_i) \in \{v_k\}$. Clearly $D_1 = D \cup H - \{v_k\}$ forms a minimal cototal dominating set of T .

Suppose $B = \{b_1, b_2, b, \dots, b_m\}$ be the set of vertices of block graph $B(T)$. Suppose $B_1 \subseteq B \forall v_i \in B_1$ has $\deg(v_i) < \Delta[B(T)]$ and $N[B_1] = V[B(T)]$ and $\deg(v_i) \leq \deg(v_j)$, $\forall v_j \in V[B(T)] - B_1$. Then B_1 is a γ_{WB} -set. It



follows that $|B_1| \leq |D_1| + \text{diam}(T) + 1$ which gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{\text{cot}}(T) + \text{diam}(T) + 1$.

In the following theorem we develop the relation between $\gamma_{WB}(T)$, $\gamma_{Res}(T)$ and $\text{diam}(T)$.

Theorem 2.5: For any non trivial tree T with $n \geq 2$ blocks, $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{Res}(T) + \text{diam}(T) + 1$.

Proof: Let $F = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\} \subseteq E(T)$ be the minimal set of edges which constitute the longest path between any two distinct vertices $u, v \in V(T)$ such that $\text{dist}(u, v) = \text{diam}(T)$.

Suppose $B = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of all end vertices. Suppose $S = B \cup B'$, where $B' \subseteq V(T) - B$ be the set of vertices covering all the vertices with $\text{diam}(u, v) \geq 3, \forall u \in B, \forall v \in B'$ or for every vertex $w \in V(T) - S$, there exists at least one vertex $z \in V(T) - S$ such that wz is an edge in $V(T) - S$. Clearly S forms a minimal γ_{Res} - set of T .

Let $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ be the set of edges in T . Then $A = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} = V[B(T)]$ corresponding to the edges of E . Suppose $A_1 \subseteq A, \forall v_j \in A_1, \text{deg}(v_j) = 1$ and $A_2 \subseteq A$ be the set of minimum degree vertices which are adjacent to a cut vertex of $B(T)$, since each block of $B(T)$ is complete and covers all the vertices of $B(T)$. Then $\{A_1 \cup A_2\}$ is a minimal weak dominating set of $B(T)$. Clearly $|A_1 \cup A_2| \leq |S| + |F| + 1$. Hence $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_{Res}(T) + \text{diam}(T) + 1$.

Roman domination: The concept of Roman domination function (RDF) was introduced by Cockayne [3]. A Roman domination function of a graph $G = (V, E)$ is a function $f: V \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$ satisfying the condition that every vertex u for which $f(u) = 0$ is adjacent to at least one vertex v for which $f(v) = 2$. The weight of a Roman dominating function in G is the value of $f(v) = \sum_{u \in V} f(u)$. The Roman domination number of a graph G is denoted by $\gamma_R(G)$, equals the minimum weight of a Roman dominating function on G .

Further, we relates $\gamma_{WB}(T)$ with Roman domination number and domination number.

Theorem 2.6: For any (p, q) tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_R(T) + \gamma(T) + 1$.

Proof: Let $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of vertices with $\text{deg}(v_i) \geq 2, \forall v_i \in S, 1 \leq i \leq n$. Further, let there exist a set $S_1 \subseteq S$ of vertices with $\text{diam}(u, v) \geq 3, \forall u, v \in S_1$ which covers all the vertices in T . Clearly, S_1 forms a dominating set of T . Otherwise, if $\text{diam}(u, v) < 3$, then there exists at least one vertex $x \notin S_1$ such that $S' = S_1 \cup \{x\}$ forms a minimal γ - set of T . Suppose $f: V(T) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$ and partition the vertex set $V(T)$ into (V_0, V_1, V_2) induced by f with $|V_i| = n_i$ for $i = 0, 1, 2$. Suppose the set V_2 dominates V_0 , then $H = V_1 \cup V_2$ forms a minimal Roman dominating set of T . Suppose D be a γ_{WB} - set of tree T and assume $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\} = E(T)$. Let $E_1 \subseteq E$ be the minimum degree edges in T and $E_2 \subseteq E$ be the maximum degree edges in T . If $E_2' \subseteq E_2$ and since $\{E\} = V[B(T)]$, then $\{E_1 \cup E_2'\} \in V[B(T)]$. So that $\forall v_i \in V[B(T)] - \{E_1 \cup E_2'\}$ is adjacent to at least one vertex of $\{E_1 \cup E_2'\}$. Further if $\text{deg}(v_i) \in V[B(T)] - \{E_1 \cup E_2'\}$ is greater than or equal

to $\text{deg}(v_j) \in \{E_1 \cup E_2'\}$. Clearly $\{E_1 \cup E_2'\} = D$. Hence $|\{E_1 \cup E_2'\}| \leq |H| + |S'| + 1$ and implies $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_R(T) + \gamma(T) + 1$.

The following theorem gives upper bound for edges of tree in terms of $\gamma_p(T)$ and $\gamma_{WB}(T)$.

Theorem 2.7: For any non trivial tree T , then $\gamma_p(T) + \gamma_{WB}(T) \leq q, T \neq p_4$.

Proof: Let $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ such that $N(v_i) \cap N(v_j) = \emptyset, \forall v_i, v_j \in D$. Let $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} \subseteq V(T) - D$ be the minimal set of vertices which covers all the vertices in T . Suppose every vertex $v_k \in V(T) - S$ is adjacent to exactly one vertex of S . Then S is a γ_p - set of T .

Let $H = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ be the edge set of T . In $B(T)$, $M = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} = V[B(T)]$ corresponding to the edges of H . Now we consider a set $M_1 \subseteq M$ be the set of end vertices in $B(T)$. Let $M_2 \subseteq M$ be the set of minimum degree vertices which are nonend vertices in $B(T)$. Suppose $M_3 \subseteq M_2$ and $N[M_1 \cup M_3] = V[B(T)]$. Then $S = \{M_1 \cup M_3\}$ is a γ_{WB} - set of $B(T)$. Thus $|S| + |M_1 \cup M_3| \leq |E|$ which gives $\gamma_p(T) + \gamma_{WB}(T) \leq q$.

The following theorem gives an upper bound for $\gamma_{WB}(T)$.

Theorem 2.8: For any non trivial tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_n(T) + \gamma_c(T) - 1$.

Proof: Let $V_l = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of all nonend vertices in T . Suppose there exists a minimal set of vertices $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V_l$. Such that $N[v_i] = V(T), \forall v_i \in S, 1 \leq i \leq k$. Then S forms a minimal dominating set of T .

Further, if the subgraph $\langle S \rangle$ has exactly one component, then S itself is a connected dominating set of T . Suppose S has more than one component, then attach the minimum set of vertices S' of $V_l - S$, which are in every $u - w$ path, $\forall w \in S, \forall u \in V_l - S$ gives a single component. $S_1 = S \cup S'$. Clearly S_1 forms a minimal γ_c - set of T .

Let $E_1 = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\} \subseteq E(T), \text{deg}(e_i) \geq 3, 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $E_2 = E(T) - E_1$. Since $V[n(T)] = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup C, \forall v_i \in C$ is a cutvertices of T . Then there exists a minimal set $E_1' \subseteq E_1$ which covers all the vertices of $n(T)$. Clearly E_1' forms a minimal γ_n - set of T .

Now we consider the tree T such that each block of T is an edge. Let $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_k\}$ be the set of blocks in T . Suppose $F = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V[B(T)]$ be the set of vertices with $\text{deg}(v_j) \geq 1$. Suppose there exists a vertex set $D \subseteq F$ with $N[D] = V[B(T)]$ and if $|\text{deg}(x) - \text{deg}(y)| \leq 1, \forall x \in V[B(T)] - D, \forall y \in D$. Then D forms a weak block dominating set of T . Otherwise there exists at least one vertex $\{w\} \subseteq F$ where $\{w\} \notin D$ such that $D \cup \{w\}$ forms a minimal γ_{WB} - set. It follows that $|D| \leq |E_1'| + |S_1| - 1$. Clearly $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_n(T) + \gamma_c(T) - 1$.

Theorem 2.9: For any tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma'(T) + \gamma_t(T) + \Delta(T) + 1$.



Proof: Let $F' = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ be the set of all end edges in T . Suppose $E - F' = I$, then $S \subseteq I$ forms an γ' -set of T . Further, if $E - F' = \emptyset$, then there exists at least one edge $\{e\} \in F'$ such that $S = \{e\}$ forms a minimal edge dominating set of T . If $A = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ be the minimal set of vertices with $\deg(v_i) \geq 2$, $1 \leq i \leq n$ and $N[v_i] = V[T]$. And if the subgraph $\langle A \rangle$ has no isolated vertex, then A itself is a minimal total dominating set of T . Otherwise, if there exists a vertex $x \in A$, $\deg(x) = 0$, then attach a vertex which is $N(x)$ and $\langle A \cup \{x\} \rangle$ has no isolates. Then $A \cup \{x\}$ is a minimal total dominating set of T .

Let $J = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$ be the edge set of T . In $B(T)$, $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} = V[B(T)]$ corresponding to the edges of J . Suppose $D_1 \subseteq D$ be the end vertices of $B(T)$. Let $D_2 \subseteq D$ be the nonend vertices with minimum degree and $N[\{D_1 \cup D_2\}] = V[B(T)]$ with the property that $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$, $\forall u \in V[B(T)] - \{D_1 \cup D_2\}$ and $v \in \{D_1 \cup D_2\}$. Hence $\{D_1 \cup D_2\}$ forms a minimal weak block dominating set of T . Since for any tree T , there exists at least one vertex $v \in V(T)$ with $\deg(v) = \Delta(T)$. Clearly $|D_1 \cup D_2| \leq |S| + |A + \{x\}| + \Delta(T) + 1$ which gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma'(T) + \gamma_t(T) + \Delta(T) + 1$.

Theorem 2.10: For any non trivial T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_s(T) + \alpha_0(T) + \left\lceil \frac{C}{2} \right\rceil + 2$. where C is the number of cut vertices in T .

Proof: Let $B = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the minimal set of vertices with $dist(u, v) \geq 2$ for all $u, v \in B$ covers all the edges in T . Clearly, $|B| = \alpha_0(T)$. Let $D \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of vertices such that $N[D] = V(T)$ and if the subgraph $\langle V(T) - D \rangle$ contains more than one component, then D forms a split dominating set of T . Otherwise there exists at least one vertex $\{u\} \in V(T) - D$ such that $\langle V(T) - D - \{u\} \rangle$ yields more than one component. Clearly, $D \cup \{u\}$ forms a minimal γ_s -set of T .

Let $A = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$ be the edge set of T . Let $H = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} = V[B(T)]$ be the set of vertices corresponding to the edges of A . Let $J \subseteq H$ be the set of vertices with $\deg(w) \geq 1$ for every $w \in J$ such that $N[J] = V[B(T)]$ and if $\forall v_i \in J$ has degree at least 2 and $v_j \in V[B(T)] - J$ and $\deg(v_j) \geq \deg(v_i)$. Then J forms γ_{WB} -set. Let C be set of cut vertices which are nonend vertices in T which gives $|J| \leq |D \cup \{u\}| + |B| + \left\lceil \frac{C}{2} \right\rceil + 2$. Clearly $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_s(T) + \alpha_0(T) + \left\lceil \frac{C}{2} \right\rceil + 2$.

Theorem 2.11: For any tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq i(T) + \alpha_0(T) + \Delta(T) + m - 1$ where m is the number of support vertex in T .

Proof: Suppose $A = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of vertices which covers all the vertices in T . Further, if the $\langle A \rangle \supset \forall v_i \in A$, $\deg(v_i) = 0$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, then A itself is an independent dominating set of T . Otherwise $S = A' \cup I$, where $A' \subseteq A$ and $I \subseteq V(T) - A$ forms a minimal independent dominating set of T . Let $C = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the minimal set of vertices which covers all the edges in T then $|C| = \alpha_0(T)$.

Suppose $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p\}$ be the set of vertices in T then there exists at least one vertex $v \in V$ such that $\deg(v) = \Delta(T)$.

Let $M = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\}$ be the set of all support vertices in T with $|M| = m$.

Suppose $S = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$ be the set of edges in T . Then $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ be the set of vertices in $B(T)$ corresponding to the edges of S . Let $H_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\} \subseteq H$ be the set of cutvertices in $B(T)$, since $\deg(v_i) \geq \deg(v_j)$, $\forall v_i \in H_1$ and $\forall v_j \in H - H_1$. Let D be the weak dominating set of $B(T)$ such that $D \subseteq \{H - H_1\}$ and hence $|D| \leq |S| + |C| + |\deg(v)| + |M| - 1$ which gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq i(T) + \alpha_0(T) + \Delta(T) + m - 1$.

We establish the following upper bound for $\gamma_{WB}(T)$.

Theorem 2.12: For any tree T , $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_W(T) + \Delta'(T) + 2$.

Proof: Let $F = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V(T)$ be the set of vertices with $\deg(v_j) \geq 1$, $1 \leq j \leq k$. Suppose there exists a vertex set $D \subseteq F$ with $N[D] = V(T)$ and if $|\deg(x) - \deg(y)| \leq 1$, $\forall x \in [V(T)] - D$, $\forall y \in D$. Then D forms a weak dominating set in T . Otherwise there exists at least one vertex $\{w\} \in F$ with $\{w\} \notin D$ such that $D \cup \{w\}$ forms a minimal γ_w -set in T .

Let $H = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} = V[B(T)]$, suppose $S \subseteq H$ be the set of vertices with $\deg(w) \geq 1$ for every $w \in S$ such that $N[S] = V[B(T)]$ and if $\forall v_i \in S$ has degree at least 2 and $v_j \in V[B(T)] - S$ and $\deg(v_j) \geq \deg(v_i)$. Then S forms γ_{WB} -set. For any graph T , there exists at least one edge $e \in E(T)$ with $\deg(e) = \Delta'(T)$. Clearly it follows that $|S| \leq |D \cup \{w\}| + |\deg(e)| + 2$ gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \leq \gamma_W(T) + \Delta'(T) + 2$.

Theorem 2.13: For any tree T , with $n \geq 2$ blocks then $\gamma_{WB}(T) \geq \left\lceil \frac{diam(T)+1}{3} \right\rceil$.

Proof: Let $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_j\}$ be the set of all vertices in T such that there exists 2 vertices $u, v \in V(T)$ and $dist(u, v)$ forms a diametral path in T . Clearly, $dist(u, v) = diam(T)$. Let $F = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$ be the set of edges in T and $F \subseteq E(T)$. Then in $B(T)$, $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ which corresponds to $\forall e_i \in F$. Let $\deg(e_i)$, $\forall e_i \in F$ and $\deg(e_j)$ $\forall e_j \in E(T) - F$ such that $\deg(e_i) \leq \deg(e_j)$. Suppose $D_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\} \subseteq D$ and $N[D_1] = V[B(T)]$. Then D_1 forms a γ_{WB} -set. It follow that $|D_1| \geq \left\lceil \frac{diam(T)+1}{3} \right\rceil$, gives $\gamma_{WB}(T) \geq \left\lceil \frac{diam(T)+1}{3} \right\rceil$.

A relationship between weak block domination number and the edge covering number of T is given in the following result.

Theorem 2.14: For any nontrivial tree T , $\gamma_{ns}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + \alpha_1(T) + 1$.

Proof: Let $A = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\} \subseteq E(T)$ be the edge set of T . Suppose $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be the set of vertices which are incident with the edges of A and if $|B| = p$. Then A itself is an edge covering number. Otherwise



consider the minimum number of edges, $\{e_m\} \subseteq E(T) - A$ such that $A_1 = A \cup \{e_m\}$ forms a minimal edge covering set of T . Let $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ is a dominating set T . If a vertex $v \in D$ there exists a vertex $u \in V(T) - D$ such that $N(u) \cap D = \{v\}$ gives minimum nonsplit dominating set such that $|D| = \gamma_{ns}(T)$.

Suppose $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$ be the set of vertices of $B(T)$ corresponding to the blocks $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$ of T . Let $S = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_m\}$ where $m < n$ is a minimal dominating set of $B(T)$ such that $V[B(T)] - S = N$, $\forall v_j \in N$, $\deg(v_i) \leq \deg(v_j)$, $\forall v_i \in S$. Then $|S| = \gamma_{WB}(T)$. Hence $|D| \leq |S| + |A_1| + 1$ gives $\gamma_{ns}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + \alpha_1(T) + 1$.

Theorem 2.15: For any nontrivial tree T , $\gamma_{sns}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + \gamma_t(T) + \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor + 2$.

Proof: Let $K = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V(T)$ such that $N[u_i] \cap N[u_j] = \emptyset$ where $1 \leq i \leq n$, $1 \leq j \leq n$. Suppose there exists a minimal set $K_1 = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k\} \in N(K)$ such that the subgraph $\langle K \cup K_1 \rangle$ has no isolated vertex. Further, if $K \cup K_1$ covers all the vertices in T , then $K \cup K_1$ form a minimal total dominating set of T . Now suppose each block of T is an edge. Then $V(T) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ and there exists a set $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$, $1 \leq i \leq n$, $H \subseteq V(T)$ such that $v_j, v_k \in V(T)$ and $v_j, v_k \in E(T)$. Hence $V(T) - \{H\} = v_j, v_k$ is complete. Clearly H is γ_{sns} - set.

Suppose $A = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_i\} = E(T)$ be the edge set of T . In $B(T)$, let $S = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} = V[B(T)]$ be the set of vertices corresponding to the edges of A . Suppose $D \subseteq S$ be the set of vertices with $\deg(w) \geq 1$ for every $w \in D$. Assume there exists $D' \subseteq D$ such that $\forall u_j \in D'$ $\deg(u_j) \leq \deg(u_k)$, $\forall u_k \in V[B(T)] - D'$. Clearly D' forms a weak block dominating set of T . Hence $|H| \leq |D'| + |\{K \cup K_1\}| + \lfloor \frac{V(T)}{2} \rfloor + 2$. Clearly $\gamma_{nsn}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + \gamma_t(T) + \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor + 2$.

In the following theorem we establish the relation with double domination number of T .

Theorem 2.16: For any tree T , $\gamma_{dd}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + q$. Equality holds for $K_{1,n}$.

Proof: Let D be the minimal dominating set of T . If $F = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k\}$ be the set of all end vertices in T . Then $F \cup H = D^d$ where $H \subseteq V(T) - F$ forms a double dominating set of T , such that $|N(u) \cap D^d| \geq 2$, $\forall u \in V(T) - D^d$.

Let $E_1 = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$ be the set of edges in T and $E_1 \subseteq E(T)$. Then in $B(T)$, $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ be the set of vertices corresponding to E . Let $\deg(e_i)$, $\forall e_i \in E_1$ and $\deg(e_j) \forall e_j \in E(T) - E_1$ such that $\deg(e_i) \leq \deg(e_j)$. Suppose $D_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i\} \subseteq D$ and $N[v_k] = V[B(T)]$, $\forall v_k \in D_1$, $1 \leq k \leq i$. Then D_1 forms γ_{WB} - set. It follows that $|D^d| \leq |D_1| + |E(T)|$. Hence $\gamma_{dd}(T) \leq \gamma_{WB}(T) + q$.

To see the sharpness consider stars of order at least three.

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