

## Complementary Degree Equitable Dominating Sets in Graphs

<sup>1</sup>L. Muthusubramanian, <sup>2</sup>S.P. Subbiah and <sup>3</sup>V. Swaminathan

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Sethu Institute of Technology, Kariapatti, Tamilnadu, India.

e-mail: lmssethu@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>Department of Mathematics, Mannar Thirumalai Naicker College, Madurai, Tamilnadu, India.

e-mail: jasminemtn@gmail.com

<sup>3</sup>Ramanujan Research Centre in Mathematics, Saraswathi Narayanan College, Madurai, Tamilnadu, India.

e-mail: swaminathan.sulanesri@gmail.com

### Abstract

Let  $G=(V,E)$  be a simple graph. A subset  $D$  of  $V(G)$  is said to be a dominating set of  $G$  if for every vertex  $v \in V-D$  there exists a vertex  $u \in D$  such that  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $G$ . A subset  $D$  of  $V(G)$  is called a complementary degree equitable dominating set (cdged-set) of  $G$  if  $D$  is a dominating set of  $G$  and  $V-D$  is a degree equitable set in  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a minimal cdged-set of  $G$  is called the complementary degree equitable domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma^{cdged}(G)$ . The maximum cardinality of a minimal cdged-set of  $G$  is called the upper complementary degree equitable domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\Gamma^{cdged}(G)$ . Complementary degree equitable domination is super hereditary. Therefore, complementary degree equitable domination is minimal if and only if it is 1-minimal. Interesting results are proved with respect to the new parameters.

**Classification:** 05C69

**Keywords:** Dominating sets, Complementary Degree Equitable Dominating Sets.

**Introduction 1.0** Let  $u, v \in V(G)$ .  $u$  and  $v$  are said to be degree equitable if  $|\deg(u)-\deg(v)| \leq 1$ . A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is said to be degree equitable if any two vertices of  $S$  are degree equitable. Such sets are studied in detail by Arumugam et al [1,2]. Instead of requiring that the set is degree equitable, equitability in degree is imposed in the complement of a set. Complementary degree equitable dominating sets and complementary equitable independent sets are studied.

**Definition 1.1** Let  $G=(V,E)$  be a simple graph. A subset  $D$  of  $V(G)$  is called a complementary degree equitable dominating set (cdged-set) of  $G$  if  $D$  is a dominating set of  $G$  and  $V-D$  is a degree equitable set in  $G$ .

$V$  is always a complementary degree equitable dominating set of  $G$  and hence the existence of a complementary degree equitable dominating set is guaranteed in any graph.

**Definition 1.2** The minimum cardinality of a minimal cdged-set of  $G$  is called the complementary degree equitable domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma^{cdged}(G)$ . The maximum cardinality of a minimal cdged-set of  $G$  is called the upper complementary degree equitable domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\Gamma^{cdged}(G)$ .

Complementary degree equitable domination is super hereditary. Therefore, complementary degree equitable dominating set is minimal if and only if it is 1-minimal.

### Remark 1.3

Let  $G$  be a simple graph. Then  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma^{cdged}(G)$ .

## $\gamma^{cdged}(G)$ for standard graphs

$$1. \gamma^{cdged}(K_n) = 1$$

$$2. \gamma^{cdged}(K_{1,n}) = 1$$

$$3. \gamma^{cdged}(K_{m,n}) = \begin{cases} 2, & \text{if } |m - n| \leq 1 \\ m + 1, & \text{if } |m - n| \geq 2 \text{ and } m \leq n \end{cases}$$

$$4. \gamma^{cdged}(D_{r,s}) = 2$$

$$5. \gamma^{cdged}(P_n) = \gamma(P_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil$$

$$6. \gamma^{cdged}(C_n) = \gamma(C_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil, n \geq 3$$

$$7. \gamma^{cdged}(W_n) = 1$$

$$8. \gamma^{cdged}(P) = \gamma(P) = 3 \text{ where } P \text{ is the Petersen graph.}$$

**Proposition 1.4** Let  $G$  be a simple graph. Then  $\gamma^{cdged}(G)=n$  if and only if  $G = \overline{K_n}$ .

### Observation 1.5

$$\gamma^{cdged}(K_n + K_{1,m}) = \min\{n + 1, m\}.$$

### Observation 1.6

$$\gamma^{cdged}(K_n + P_m) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } m = 1, 2, 3 \\ 2, & \text{if } m = 4 \\ \min\{m, n\}, & \text{if } m \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

### Observation 1.7

$$\gamma^{cdged}(K_n + C_m) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } m = 3, 4 \\ \min\{m, n\}, & \text{if } m \geq 5 \end{cases}$$

### Observation 1.8

$$\gamma^{cdged}(K_n + W_m) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } m \leq 5 \\ m - 1, & \text{if } m \geq 6 \end{cases}$$

**Definition 1.9** A vertex  $u$  is a complementary equitable full degree vertex if  $u$  is a full degree vertex and  $V(G) - \{u\}$  is degree equitable.

**Remark 1.10**  $\gamma^{cdged}(G)=1$  if and only if  $G$  has a complementary equitable full degree vertex.

**Theorem 1.11** A  $cdged$ -set  $D$  is minimal if and only if for any vertex  $u \in D$  one of the following holds:

- (i)  $u$  is an isolate of  $D$
- (ii)  $u$  has a private neighbour in  $V - D$  with respect to  $D$
- (iii) there exists a vertex  $v \in V - D$  such that  $|\deg(u) - \deg(v)| \geq 2$

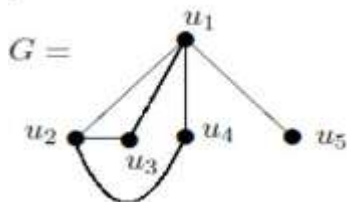
**Proof:** Routine.

**Observation 1.12** Suppose  $G$  has an independent edged-set. The minimum cardinality of a maximal independent edged-set is defined as the independent edged-number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $i^{cdged}(G)$ .

**Remark 1.13** Let  $G$  be a simple graph. Then  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \leq i^{cdged}(G) \leq \beta_0(G)$ .

**Remark 1.14** There are graphs which admit independent edged-sets.

For:



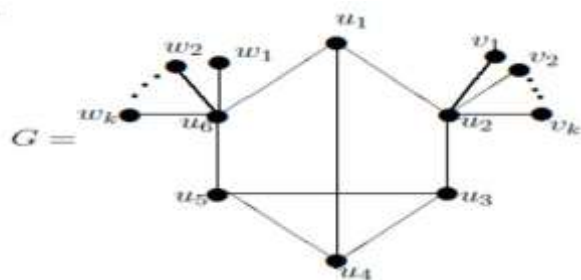
$G$  has an independent edged-set namely  $\{u_3, u_4, u_5\}$ .

**Remark 1.15** There exist graphs in which no independent edged-set exists.

**Remark 1.16** A maximal independent set of a graph  $G$  is a minimal dominating set of  $G$  but need not be a edged-set of  $G$ .

**Remark 1.17** There are graphs in which the complement of a minimal edged-set is not even a dominating set.

For:



$D = \{u_2, u_4, u_6, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k, w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k\}$  is a minimal edged-set.  $V - D = \{u_1, u_3, u_5\}$ .  $V - D$  is not even a dominating set.

**Definition 1.18** Let  $u \in V(G)$ .  $N^e_G(u)$  stands for the set of all neighbours of  $u$  which form an equitable set in  $G$ .

$$\deg^e_G(u) = |N^e_G(u)|. \quad \delta^e(G) = \min\{\deg^e_G(u) : u \in V(G)\}. \quad \Delta^e(G) = \max\{\deg^e_G(u) : u \in V(G)\}.$$

**Theorem 1.19** Let  $G$  be a simple graph. Then  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \leq n - \Delta^e(G)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $u$  be a vertex of  $G$  such that  $\deg^e_G(u) = \Delta^e(G)$ . Let  $S = V - N^e_G(u)$ . Therefore,  $S$  is a edged-set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \leq |S| \leq n - \Delta^e(G)$ .

**Theorem 1.20** Let  $G$  be a simple graph. Then  $\frac{n}{1 + \Delta^e(G)} \leq \gamma^{cdged}(G)$ .

**Proof:**  $\Delta^e(G)$  vertices can be equitably dominated by a vertex  $u$  of  $\deg^e_G(u) = \Delta^e(G)$ . Thus,  $1 + \Delta^e(G)$  vertices are covered by  $u$ . Therefore, to cover  $n$  vertices we require at least  $\frac{n}{1 + \Delta^e(G)}$  vertices. Therefore,  $\frac{n}{1 + \Delta^e(G)} \leq \gamma^{cdged}(G)$ .

**Remark 1.21**  $\frac{n}{1 + \Delta^e(G)} \leq \gamma^{cdged}(G) \leq n - \Delta^e(G)$ .

**Theorem 1.22** For any tree  $T$ ,  $\gamma^{cdged}(T) = n + 1 - \Delta^e(T)$  if and only if  $T$  is a wounded spider.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a wounded spider. Except for the centre of the spider, all other vertices are equitable. Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(T)=1+t$  where  $t$  is the number of vertices with degree two.  $\Delta^e(T)=\text{degree of the central vertex}=n+1-1-t$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(T)+\Delta^e(T)=1+t+n+1-1-t=n+1$ . Conversely, Let  $\gamma^{cdged}(T)+\Delta^e(T)=n+1$ . Let  $v$  be a vertex of equitable degree  $\Delta^e$ . If  $T-N^e[v]=\emptyset$ , then  $T$  is a star. Therefore,  $N^e[v]=n+1$ . Therefore,  $N^e(v)=n$ . Since  $T$  is a tree, the equitable neighbours of  $v$  are independent. Therefore,  $T$  is a star ( $K_{1,n}$ ). Suppose  $T-N^e[v]\neq\emptyset$ .

$$\begin{aligned} n+1-|N^e[v]| &= n+1-(\Delta^e(T)+1) \\ &= n+1-\Delta^e(T)-1 \\ &= \gamma^{cdged}(T)-1 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $D'$  be a minimum cdged-set of  $G$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |D'| &\leq n+1-|N^e[v]|+1 \\ &= \gamma^{cdged}(T)-1+1 \\ &= \gamma^{cdged}(T) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|D'|=\gamma^{cdged}(T)$ . Therefore,  $|D'|$  contains  $v$  and  $V-N^e[v]$ . Let  $u \in D'$ . Then  $u$  and  $v$  are connected. That is, there exists a path  $u, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k, v$  in  $T$ . If  $k=0$ , then  $u$  is adjacent with  $v$ . If  $k=1$ , then  $u$  is adjacent with  $u_1$  and  $u_1$  is adjacent with  $v$ . If  $k \geq 2$ , then  $\gamma^{cdged}(T) < n+1-\Delta^e(T)$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $T$  is a wounded spider.

**Theorem 1.23** Let  $G$  be a simple graph with  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 2$ . Then

$$m \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G))(n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right] \text{ where } m \text{ is the size of } G.$$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a simple graph with  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 2$ . The proof is by induction on the order  $n$ . If  $n=2$ , then  $G$  is  $K_2$  or  $\overline{K_2}$ .  $m=1$  or  $0$ .  $\gamma^{cdged}(G)=1$  or  $2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} m &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G))(n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [(2 - 1)(2 - 1 + 2)] \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

which is true since  $K_2$  has exactly one edge. If  $G=\overline{K_2}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} m &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G))(n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [(2 - 2)(2 - 2 + 2)] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $m=0$  which is true since  $\overline{K_2}$  has no edge. Assume the result for all graphs with order less than  $n$  and  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 3$ . Let  $v$  be a vertex of degree  $\Delta^e(G)$ .  $|N^e(v)| = \Delta^e(G) \leq n - \gamma^{cdged}(G)$ . That is,  $|N^e(v)| = n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) - r$  where  $0 \leq r \leq n - \gamma^{cdged}(G)$ . Let  $S = V - N^e[v]$ . Therefore,  $|S| = \gamma^{cdged}(G) + r - 1$ . Then  $S = N^e[v]$ . Therefore,  $V-S$  is equitable. Let  $u \in N^e(v)$ . Let  $T = (S - N^e(u)) \cup \{u, v\}$ . Therefore,  $T$  is cdged-set.

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma^{cdged}(G) &\leq T \\ &= |S - N^c(u)| + 2 \\ &\leq \gamma^{cdged}(G) + r - 1 - |S \cap N^c(u)| + 2 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,  $|S \cap N^c(u)| \leq r + 1$ . This is true for every  $u \in N^c(v)$ . Therefore, number of edges between  $N^c(v)$  and  $S$  denoted by  $m_1$  is at most  $\Delta^e(G)(r + 1)$ . That is,  $m_1 \leq \Delta^e(G)(r + 1)$ . If  $D$  is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $\langle S \rangle$ , then  $D \cup \{v\}$  is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \leq |D| + 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(\langle S \rangle) \geq \gamma^{cdged}(G) - 1 \geq 2$ . Therefore, by induction hypothesis the number of edges in  $\langle S \rangle$  say  $m_2$  is

$$\begin{aligned} m_2 &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (|S| - \gamma^{cdged}(\langle S \rangle)) (|S| - \gamma^{cdged}(\langle S \rangle) + 2) \right] \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [(\gamma^{cdged}(G) + r - 1 - (\gamma^{cdged}(G) - 1)) (\gamma^{cdged}(G) + r - 1 - (\gamma^{cdged}(G) - 1) + 2)] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [r(r + 2)] \end{aligned}$$

Let  $m_3 = |E(N^c[v])|$ . Therefore, number of edges in

$$\begin{aligned} G &= m_1 + m_2 + m_3 \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G)) (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right] \end{aligned}$$

By induction, the proof is complete when  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 3$ . If  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 2$ , by adding an isolated vertex to the graph, we get that  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) \geq 3$  and order of the graph is  $n + 1$ . The number of edges is not increased. Therefore,

$$|E(G)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G)) (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right].$$

**Theorem 1.24** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n$  and size  $m$ . Let  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) = t$ . Then every subset of  $V(G)$  of cardinality  $t$  is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $G$  if and only if  $G$  is either  $K_n$  or  $\overline{K_n}$  or  $\binom{n}{2} K_2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n$ , size  $m$  and  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) = t$ . Suppose every subset of  $V(G)$  of cardinality  $t$  is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $G$ . If  $t = n$ , then  $G = \overline{K_n}$ . Let  $t < n$ . Let  $u \in V(G)$ . If  $\deg_{\overline{G}}(u) \geq t$ , then  $u$  is not adjacent in  $G$  to at least  $t$  vertices say  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_t$ . Therefore, the set  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_t\}$  is not a dominating set of  $G$ , a contradiction since any  $t$  element set is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\deg_{\overline{G}}(u) < t$  for every  $u \in V(G)$ . Therefore,  $\deg_G(u) \geq n - t$ . Therefore,

$$2m = \sum \deg_G(u) \geq n(n - t).$$

$$\text{Therefore, } m \geq \frac{n(n-t)}{2} = \frac{n(n-\gamma^{cdged}(G))}{2} \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

When  $t > 2$ ,  $m \leq \frac{1}{2} \left[ (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G)) (n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) + 2) \right]$ , a contradiction to (1). Therefore,  $t \leq 2$ . Suppose  $t = 1$ . Then  $G = K_n$  (since every vertex of  $G$  is a dominating vertex and hence  $G = K_n$ ). Suppose  $t = 2$ . Then  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) = 2$ .  $\Delta^e(G) \leq n - \gamma^{cdged}(G) = n - 2$ .  $\deg_G(u) \geq n - 2$  for every  $u \in V(G)$ . Therefore,  $\delta(G) \geq n - 2$ . If  $\Delta^e(G) = n - 1$ , then  $\Delta^e(u) = n - 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma^{cdged}(G) = 1$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $\Delta^e(G) \leq n - 2$ . Suppose  $\delta(G) = n - 1$  and  $\Delta^e(G) = n - 2$ . Suppose there exists a vertex  $u \in V(G)$  such that  $\delta(u) = n - 1$  and  $\Delta^e(u) = n - 2$ . Then  $\{u\}$  is not a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set. Let  $v$  be not degree equitable with  $u$ . If  $n = 3$ , then  $\deg_G(u) = 2$  and  $\deg_G(v) = 2$  for every  $v \in V(G)$ . Therefore,  $\Delta^e(G) = 2$ , a contradiction. Therefore,  $n \geq 4$ . Let  $S = \{u, u_1\}$  where  $u_1 \neq v$ . Then  $S$  is a  $\gamma^{cdged}$ -set of  $G$

but  $V-S$  is not degree equitable since  $v \in V-S$ . Therefore,  $\Delta(G)=n-2$  and  $\delta(G)=n-2$ . Therefore,  $G$  is regular and every vertex has degree  $n-2$ . Therefore,  $2m = \sum \deg_G(u) = n(n-2)$ . Therefore,  $m = \frac{n(n-2)}{2}$ . Therefore,  $n$  is even. Therefore,  $G = \overline{\binom{n}{2}K_2}$ .

Conversely, If  $G = K_n$  or  $\overline{K_n}$  or  $\overline{\binom{n}{2}K_2}$ , then any subset of  $V(G)$  of cardinality  $\gamma^{\text{cdged}}(G)$  is a minimum cdged-set of  $G$ . Hence the theorem.

**Theorem 1.25** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n$  and  $\gamma^{\text{cdged}}(G)=t$ . Then the following are equivalent:

- (i) every  $t$ -subset of  $V(G)$  is a cdged set
- (ii)  $G = K_n$  or  $\overline{K_n}$  or  $\overline{\binom{n}{2}K_2}$
- (iii)  $t=n-\kappa(G)$

**Proof:** From the above theorem, (i) and (ii) are equivalent. It has been proved that (ii) and (iii) are equivalent in [5]. Hence the theorem.

## References

- [1] A. Anitha, S. Arumugam, S. B. Rao and E. Sampathkumar, *Degree Equitable Chromatic Number of a Graph*, J. Combin. Math. Combin. Comput., **75** (2010), 187-199.
- [2] A. Anitha, S. Arumugam and E. Sampathkumar, *Degree Equitable Sets in a Graph*, International J. Math. Combin., **Vol. 3** (2009), 32-47.
- [3] F. Harary, *Graph Theory*, Addison Wesley, Reading Mass (1972).
- [4] Terasa W. Haynes, Stephen T. Hedetniemi, Peter J. Slater, *Fundamentals of Domination in Graphs*, Marcel Dekker Inc. (1998).
- [5] H.B. Walikar, B.D. Acharya and E. Sampathkumar, *Recent Developments in the Theory of Domination in Graphs and its Applications*, MRI Lecture Notes in Mathematics (1979).