

## Domination number of distance $k$ -complement graph

**M. Kalanithi, V. Swaminathan**

Ramanujan Research Center in Mathematics,  
Saraswathi Narayanan College, Madurai-625 022, INDIA.  
E-mail:kalaadeline@gmail.com, sulanesri@yahoo.com

**A. Selvam**

Department of Mathematics, V.H.N.S.N. College,  
Virudhunagar, Tamilnadu, INDIA.

### Abstract

In this paper the extremal graphs on the domination number of the distance  $k$ -complement graph  $G_k^c$  of a graph  $G$  are characterized and the relation between the domination number of  $G_k^c$  and the distance  $k$ -domination number of  $G$  are established.

**Keywords:** Domination number, distance  $k$ -domination number, distance  $k$ -complement graph.

**AMS Subject Classification(2010):** 05C12, 05C69.

### 1 Introduction

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph of order  $p$  and size  $q$ . The distance  $d_G(u, v)$  or  $d(u, v)$  between two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in  $G$  is the length of a shortest path joining  $u$  and  $v$  in the graph  $G$ . For  $u \in V(G)$ , let  $N(u) = \{v \in V(G) : uv \in E(G)\}$  and  $d(u) = |N(u)|$ . The eccentricity of a vertex  $u$  is given by  $e(u) = \max\{d(u, v) : v \in V(G)\}$ . The radius and diameter of the graph  $G$  are given by  $rad(G) = \min\{e(u) : u \in V(G)\}$  and  $diam(G) = \max\{e(u) : u \in V(G)\}$  respectively. A vertex with eccentricity equal to  $rad(G)$  is called central vertex. A vertex  $v$  is called an eccentric vertex of some vertex  $u$  in  $G$  if  $d_G(u, v) = e(u)$ . The set of all eccentric vertices of a vertex  $u$  is denoted by  $C(u)$ . The corona  $H^+$  of a graph  $H$  is a graph obtained from  $H$  by adding new vertex  $u'$  corresponding to each vertex  $u$  in  $H$  and by joining  $u$  and  $u'$  by an edge. The complement graph  $\overline{G}$  is a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and two vertices are adjacent in  $\overline{G}$  if and only if  $d_G(u, v) > 1$ . The antipodal graph  $A(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent in  $A(G)$  if and only if  $d_G(u, v) = diam(G)$ . In [3] the authors introduced the concept of distance  $k$ -complement graph, a natural generalization of the complement graph and hence the antipodal graph and in this paper the extremal graphs on the domination number of the distance  $k$ -complement graph  $G_k^c$  of a graph  $G$  are characterized and the relation between the domination number of  $G_k^c$  and the distance  $k$ -domination number of  $G$  are established.

**Definition 1.1.** For an integer  $k \geq 0$ , the distance  $k$ -complement graph, denoted by  $G_k^c$ , of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a graph whose vertex set is  $V(G)$  and two vertices are adjacent in  $G_k^c$  if and only if  $d_G(u, v) > k$ . That is, the edge set is  $\{uv : d_G(u, v) > k\}$ .

**Definition 1.2.** For  $k \geq 1$ , a graph  $G$  is said to be a distance  $k$ -complete graph if  $diam(G) \leq k$ .

**Theorem 1.3.** [3] Let  $G$  be a graph. Then  $k \leq rad(G) - 1$  if and only if  $G_k^c$  has no isolated vertices.

## 2 Domination in $G_k^c$

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A subset  $D$  of  $V$  is said to be a dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V - D$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $D$ . The minimum cardinality of a dominating set is called the domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ .

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $k \geq 1$  be an integer. A subset  $D$  of  $V$  is said to be a distance  $k$ -dominating set of  $G$  if for every vertex  $u$  in  $V - D$ , there is some vertex  $v$  in  $D$  such that  $d_G(u, v) \leq k$ . The minimum cardinality of a distance  $k$ -dominating set is called the distance  $k$ -domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_k(G)$ .

**Definition 2.3.** A partition  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_l$  of  $V(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is said to be a domatic partition of  $G$  if each  $V_i$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . The maximum size of a such partition is called the domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d(G)$ .

By using the following theorem, we characterize the extremal graphs attaining the upper bound on the domination number of the distance  $k$ -complement graph.

**Theorem 2.4.** [2] For a graph  $G$  with even order  $p$  and no isolated vertices,  $\gamma(G) = \frac{p}{2}$  if and only if the components of  $G$  are the cycle  $C_4$  or the corona  $H^+$  for any connected graph  $H$ .

**Proposition 2.5.** A graph  $G$  has an isolated vertex if and only if  $\gamma(G_k^c) = 1$ .

**Proposition 2.6.** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $p$ . If  $k \leq \text{rad}(G) - 1$ , then  $\gamma(G_k^c) \leq \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor$ .

**Proof:** This follows from Theorem 1.3 and the classical Ore's Theorem [2] on the bound on domination number of a graph. ■

**Theorem 2.7.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be graph and  $k \leq \text{rad}(G) - 1$  be an integer. Then the components of  $G_k^c$  are the cycle  $C_4$  or the corona  $H^+$  for some connected graph  $H$  if and only if there exists a partition  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  of  $V(G)$  such that  $|V_1| = |V_2|$  and at least one of  $V_1, V_2$ , say  $V_1$  has the following property: Every vertex  $u$  in  $V_1$  has either the unique eccentric vertex  $x$  in  $V_2$  or has two eccentric vertices  $x_1, x_2$  in  $V_2$  with  $c(x_1) = c(x_2) = \{u, v\}$  and  $c(u) = c(v) = \{x_1, x_2\}$  for some vertex  $v$  in  $V_1$  and  $\text{rad}(G) = k + 1$ .

**Proof:** Let the components of  $G_k^c$  be the cycle  $C_4$  or the corona  $H^+$  for some connected graph  $H$ . Let  $V_1$  be the set of all pendant vertices of  $H^+$  if  $H \neq K_1$ , one pendant vertex of  $K_1^+$  and the vertices in one partite set of  $C_4$  and let  $V_2 = V(G) - V_1$ . Let  $u \in V_1$ . If  $u$  is a pendant vertex of some  $H^+$  and  $x$  is its support vertex, then  $x$  is the unique eccentric vertex of  $u$  in  $G$  and  $k = \text{rad}(G) - 1$ . Let  $d(u) = 2$  in  $G_k^c$ . Then there exist two vertices  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  such that  $d(u, x_1) \geq k + 1$  and  $d(u, x_2) \geq k + 1$ . Since  $d(u) = 2$  in  $G_k^c$ ,  $d(u, x_1) \leq k + 2$  and  $d(u, x_2) \leq k + 2$ . If  $d(u, x_1) = k + 2$  and  $d(u, x_2) = k + 2$ , then there exists a vertex  $y$  such that  $d_G(u, y) = k + 1$ . Then  $d(u) \geq 3$  in  $G_k^c$  which is a contradiction. Therefore, we have  $d(u, x_1) = k + 1$  and  $d(u, x_2) \leq k + 2$ .

Suppose that  $d(u, x_2) = k + 2$ . If there exists a shortest  $u - x_2$  path not containing  $x_1$  in  $G$ , then there exists a vertex  $y \neq x_1$  on the  $u - x_2$  path such that  $d_G(u, y) = k + 1$ . Thus,  $d(u) \geq 3$  in  $G_k^c$  which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $x_1$  is on every shortest  $u - x_2$  path in  $G$ . Let  $y$  be a vertex on a

shortest  $u - x_2$  path such that  $d_G(u, y) = k$ . Since  $G_k^c$  has no isolates, there exists a vertex  $z$  such that  $d_G(y, z) = k + 1$ . If  $w \in N(x_2)$  such that  $w$  lies on a shortest  $x_2 - z$  path, then  $d_G(u, w) \geq k + 1$ , since  $d_G(u, x_2) = k + 2$ . If  $x_1 \neq w$ , then  $d(u) \geq 3$  in  $G_k^c$  which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $w = x_1$ . If  $d_G(z, x_1) \leq k - 1$ , then the path containing the  $z - x_1$  path followed by the edge  $x_1 y$  is of length at most  $k$  which is a contradiction to  $d_G(y, z) = k + 1$ . Thus,  $d_G(z, x_1) \geq k$  and hence  $d_G(z, x_2) \geq k + 1$ , since  $x_1$  lies on every  $z - x_2$  shortest path. Let  $u_1$  be a vertex on the  $u - x_2$  path such that  $d_G(u_1, x_2) = k + 1$ . Since  $d_G(u, y) = k$  and  $d_G(z, y) = k + 1$ ,  $z \neq u_1$  and  $z \neq u_1$ . Therefore,  $d(x_2) \geq 3$  in  $G_k^c$  which is a contradiction to  $x_2$  lies on  $C_4$ . Thus,  $d(u, x_1) = k + 1$  and  $d(u, x_2) = k + 1$ . Hence  $c(u) = \{x_1, x_2\}$ . If  $v$  is the other vertex of  $C_4$ , then  $c(v) = \{x_1, x_2\}$ . Hence  $c(x_1) = c(x_2) = \{u, v\}$ .

Conversely, let  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  be the partition of  $V(G)$  having the given property and  $k = \text{rad}(G) - 1$ . Then the vertices  $u, v, x_1$  and  $x_2$  induce the cycles  $C_4$  in  $G_k^c$ . If  $u$  has the unique eccentric vertex  $x$  in  $G$ , then  $u$  is the pendant vertex and  $x$  is its support vertex in  $G_k^c$ . Thus, the components of  $G_k^c$  are the cycle  $C_4$  or the corona  $H^+$  for some connected graph  $H$ . ■

**Corollary 2.8.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph of order  $p$  and  $k \leq \text{rad}(G) - 1$ . Then  $\gamma(G_k^c) = \frac{p}{2}$  if and only if there exists a partition  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  of  $V(G)$  such that at least one of  $V_1, V_2$ , say  $V_1$  has the following property: Every vertex  $u$  in  $V_1$  has either the unique eccentric vertex  $x$  in  $V_2$  or two eccentric vertices  $x_1, x_2$  in  $V_2$  with  $c(x_1) = c(x_2) = \{u, v\}$  and  $c(u) = c(v) = \{x_1, x_2\}$  for some  $v$  in  $V_1$  and  $\text{rad}(G) = k + 1$ .

**Theorem 2.9.** If a graph  $G$  has no isolated vertices and  $\text{diam}(G) \geq 2k + 1$ , then  $\gamma(G_k^c) = 2$ .

**Proof:** Since  $G$  has no full degree vertices,  $\gamma(G_k^c) \geq 2$  by Proposition 2.5. Let  $u$  and  $v$  be two diametrical opposite vertices of  $G$ . Then  $d_G(u, v) \geq 2k + 1$  and for every  $w \in V(G) - \{u, v\}$ ,  $d_G(u, w) > k$  or  $d_G(w, v) > k$ . Thus  $\{u, v\}$  is a dominating set of  $G_k^c$ . Hence,  $\gamma(G_k^c) = 2$ . ■

**Theorem 2.10.** Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $p$ . Then for an integer  $k \geq 1$ ,  $\gamma_k(G) \cdot \gamma(G_k^c) \leq p$ .

**Proof:** For  $S \subset V(G)$ , define  $D_e(S) = \{y \in V - S : d_G(y, x) \leq k \text{ for every } x \in S\}$  and  $D_i(S) = \{y \in S : d_G(y, x) \leq k \text{ for every } x \in S\}$ . Let  $d_i(S) = |D_i(S)|$  and let  $d_e(S) = |D_e(S)|$ . Let  $D = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{\gamma_k}\}$  be a  $\gamma_k$  set of  $G$  and partition  $V(G)$  into  $\gamma_k$  subsets  $B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{\gamma_k}$  such that  $x_j \in B_j$  and all the vertices in  $B_j$  are adjacent to  $x_j$ , for  $1 \leq j \leq \gamma_k$ . Let  $P$  be a such partition for which  $\sum_{j=1}^{\gamma_k} d_i(B_j)$  is maximum.

Suppose that  $d_e(B_j) \geq 1$ . Let  $x \in D_e(B_j)$ . Then  $x \notin B_j$ . Since  $B_j$ 's partition  $V(G)$ ,  $x \in B_m$  for some  $m \neq j$ . If  $x \in D_i(B_m)$ , then  $D - \{x_j, x_m\} \cup \{x\}$  is a distance  $k$ -dominating set of  $G$ , which is contradiction to  $D$  is a  $\gamma_k$ -set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $x \notin D_i(B_m)$ . Now let  $B'_l = B_l$  for  $l \neq m$  and  $l \neq j$  and  $B'_j = B_j \cup \{x\}$  and  $B'_m = B_m - \{x\}$ . Then  $\{B'_1, B'_2, \dots, B'_{\gamma_k}\}$  is a partition of  $V$  such that  $\sum_{j=1}^{\gamma_k} d_i(B'_j) > \sum_{j=1}^{\gamma_k} d_i(B_j)$ , which is a contradiction to our choice of the partition  $P$ . Thus  $d_e(B_j) = 0$  and hence  $D_e(B_j) = \phi$  for  $1 \leq j \leq \gamma_k$ . Thus for every  $y \notin B_j$ , there exists  $x \in B_j$  such that  $d_G(x, y) \geq k + 1$ . Then  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent in  $G_k^c$ . Thus, each  $B_j$  is a dominating set of  $G_k^c$ . Therefore  $\gamma(G_k^c) \leq |B_j|$  and hence,  $p = \sum_{j=1}^{\gamma_k} |B_j| \geq \sum_{j=1}^{\gamma_k} \gamma(G_k^c) = \gamma_k(G) \gamma(G_k^c)$ . ■

In the proof of the above theorem, the partition  $P$  is a domatic partition of  $G_k^c$ . It gives the lower bound for the domatic number of  $G_k^c$ .

**Corollary 2.11.** For any graph  $G$ ,  $d(G_k^c) \geq \gamma_k(G)$ .

The proof for the following theorems are straight forward as given in [2] for the domination number of  $G$ .

**Proposition 2.12.** Let  $G$  be a  $(p,q)$  graph and  $k$  be an integer. Then  $\gamma_k(G) + \gamma(G_k^c) \leq p + 1$ . Equality holds if and only if  $G$  is either a totally disconnected graph or a distance  $k$ -complete graph.

**Theorem 2.13.** Let  $G$  be a  $(p,q)$  graph and  $k \geq 1$  be an integer. If the radius of each component of  $G$  is greater than or equal to  $k + 1$ , then  $\gamma_k(G) + \gamma(G_k^c) \leq \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor + 2$ . The bound is attained by  $G = C_{2k+2}$ .

**Theorem 2.14.** Let the radius of each component of  $G$  be greater than or equal to  $k + 1$ . Then for  $k \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma_k(G) + \gamma(G_k^c) = \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor + 2$  if and only if  $\gamma(G_k^c) = \lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor$ .

**Proof:** Since  $\gamma_k(G) \leq \lfloor \frac{p}{k+1} \rfloor$  and  $k \geq 2$ , the theorem follows. ■

**Theorem 2.15.**  $G_k^c = H^+$  for some graph  $H$  if and only if  $G$  has at least  $\frac{p}{2}$  central vertices having unique eccentric vertices and  $k = rad(G) - 1$ .

**Proof:** Assume that  $G$  has at least  $\frac{p}{2}$  central vertices having unique eccentric vertices and  $k = rad(G) - 1$ . Since all the central vertices having unique eccentric vertices in  $G$  are pendant vertices in  $G_k^c$  and the unique eccentric vertices in  $G$  are the support vertices in  $G_k^c$ ,  $G_k^c = H^+$  for some graph  $H$ .

Conversely, let  $G_k^c = H^+$  for some graph  $H$ . Then each pendant vertices in  $H^+$  must be a central vertex and have unique eccentric vertex in  $G$ . Since  $H^+$  has no isolates,  $e(u) \geq k + 1$ , for every  $u \in V(G)$ . Since  $\delta(G_k^c) = 1$ ,  $rad(G) = k + 1$ . In  $H^+$ , some of the components may be  $K_2$ . Therefore,  $G$  has at least  $\frac{p}{2}$  central vertices having unique eccentric vertices and  $k = rad(G) - 1$ . ■

**Corollary 2.16.** If  $G$  has at least  $\frac{p}{2}$  central vertices having unique eccentric vertices and  $k = rad(G) - 1$ , then  $\gamma(G_k^c) = \frac{p}{2}$ .

## References

- [1] F. Haray , *Graph Theory*, Addison-Wesley Publishing Company. 1969.
- [2] T. W. Haynes, S. T. Hedetniemi, and P. J. Slater, *Fundamentals of Domination in Graphs*, Marcel Dekker, Inc.. 1998.
- [3] M. Kalanithi, V. Swaminathan and A. Selvam, *Distance  $k$ -complement graph of a graph*, Preprint.
- [4] B. Rajendran, *Topics in Graph Theory : Antipodal Graphs*, Ph. D. Thesis, Madurai Kamaraj University, 1985.
- [5] E. Sampathkumar, *K-dimensional Graph and Semi Graph Theory*, DST Project Report No. DST/MS/131/2K, 2005.