

EDGE SIGNED DOMINATION NUMBERS OF
A GRAPH AND ITS COMPLEMENT

Xinzhong Lu

Department of Mathematics
Zhejiang Normal University
Jinhua, 321004, P.R. CHINA
e-mail: lvxingzhong@163.com

Abstract: Let G be a finite connected simple graph with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$. An edge signed domination function of G is a function $f: E(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ such that $f[e] = \sum_{e' \in N[e]} f(e') \geq 1$ for all $e \in E(G)$, where $N[e]$ is the closed edge neighborhood of the edge e . The edge signed domination number $\gamma'_s(G)$ of G is $\min\{\sum_{e \in E(G)} f(e) \mid f \text{ is an edge signed domination function}\}$. An edge signed domination function of weight $\gamma'_s(G)$, we call a γ'_s -function of G . Let \overline{G} be the complement of the graph G . In this paper we establish upper and lower bounds on $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G})$.

AMS Subject Classification: 26A33

Key Words: edge signed domination function, edge signed domination number

1. Introduction

Let G be a finite connected simple graph with vertex set $V(G)$ and edge set $E(G)$. We denote by $|X|$ The cardinality of a set X . For an edge $e = uv \in E(G)$, let $N(e) = \{e' \mid e' = uw \text{ or } e' = vw, e' \in E(G)\}$ and $N[e] = N(e) \cup \{e\}$, and call them the edge neighborhood and closed edge neighborhood of e in G . For a set S of edges of $E(G)$, $G[S]$ denote the subgraph of G induced by S . For each $v \in V(G)$, $d_G(v)$ is the degree of v in G and for each $e \in E(G)$, $d_G(e) = |N(e)|$

is the edge-degree of e in G . Let \overline{G} be the complement of the graph G . For an edge $e = uv \in E(\overline{G})$, let $N_{\overline{G}}(e) = \{e' \mid e' = uv \text{ or } e' = vw, e' \in E(\overline{G})\}$ and $N_{\overline{G}}[e] = N_{\overline{G}}(e) \cup \{e\}$, and call them the edge neighborhood and closed edge neighborhood of e in \overline{G} . For each $v \in V(\overline{G})$, $d_{\overline{G}}(v)$ is the degree of v in \overline{G} and for each $e \in E(\overline{G})$, $d_{\overline{G}}(e) = |N_{\overline{G}}(e)|$ is the edge-degree of e in \overline{G} .

Let $f : E(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ be a function. The weight of f is $w(f) = \sum_{e \in E(G)} f(e)$. For an edge $e \in E(G)$, we define $f[e] = \sum_{e' \in N[e]} f(e')$. An edge signed domination function of G is a function $f : E(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ such that $f[e] = \sum_{e' \in N[e]} f(e') \geq 1$ for all $e \in E(G)$. The edge signed domination number $\gamma'_s(G)$ of G is the minimum weight of an edge signed domination function of G . An edge signed domination function of $\gamma'_s(G)$, we call a $\gamma'_s(G)$ -function of G .

Finding bounds on the sum or product of a parameter on a graph and its complement has become a useful lens for looking at the behavior of graph parameter, starting with the results of Nordhaus and Gaddum for the chromatic number [2]. For signed domination number it has been shown that for any graph G on n vertices such that $\gamma_s(G) + \gamma_s(\overline{G}) \leq 2n$ (see [4]). For any graph G on n vertices and m edges, since the edge signed domination number $\gamma'_s(G)$ and $\gamma'_s(\overline{G})$ are at most m and $\binom{n}{2} - m$, respectively, we have $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G}) \leq \binom{n}{2}$. In this paper we show that this trivial bound is in fact achieved in exactly five graphs, and more generally, we establish upper and lower bounds on $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G})$.

2. Upper Bounds on $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G})$

We present a lemma characterizing graphs G on m edges for which $\gamma'_s(G) = m$.

Lemma 1. *A graph G on m edges has $\gamma'_s(G) = m$ if and only if every $e \in E(G)$ is either $d_G(e) = 1$ or e is adjacent to an edge e' of $d_G(e') = 1$.*

Proof. Let G be a graph contains an edge e such that $d_G(e) \geq 2$, and for each edge y adjacent to e , $d_G(y) \geq 2$. Consider the function $f : E(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ for which $f(e) = -1$ and for any other edge x , $f(x) = 1$. Clearly this is an edge signed domination function of G . Therefore, the edge signed domination number of G is at most $m - 2$. Now suppose G be a graph with every $e \in E(G)$ is either $d_G(e) = 1$ or e adjacent to an edge e' of $d_G(e') = 1$. An edge signed domination function of G must assign 1 to every edge of edge-degree 1, and it must assign 1 to every edge that is adjacent to an edge of edge-degree 1. Hence, every edge in $E(G)$ must assign 1, and $\gamma'_s(G) = m$. \square

From Lemma 1 we can see that for a graph G on m edges if has $\gamma'_s(G) = m$, then G contains neither P_t (where P_t is a path on t vertices, $t \geq 5$) nor C_t (where

C_t is a cycle on t vertices, $t \geq 3$). Given a graph G , we denote the subdivision G^* of G is a graph obtained from G by subdividing each edge of G exactly once. Obviously, $|V(G^*)| = |V(G)| + |E(G)|$ and $|E(G^*)| = 2|E(G)|$.

Lemma 2. (see [7]) *Let G be a connected graph, then $\gamma'_s(G) = |E(G)|$ if and only if either $G \cong P_n$ for some n ($1 \leq n \leq 5$) or G is the subdivision of some star $K_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 3$).*

Lemma 3. *If G is a graph containing a vertex v of degree k then $\gamma'_s(G) \geq 1 + k - m$.*

Proof. Suppose $f : E(G) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$, v is a vertex of degree k in G and for some $u \in V(G)$ such that $vu \in E(G)$. The edge-degree of vu is $d_G(vu) = d_G(v) + d_G(u) - 2$ and $|N[vu]| = d_G(v) + d_G(u) - 1$. If f is an edge signed domination function of G , then $f[vu] \geq 1$. The least possible weight for f will now be achieved if $f(e') = -1$ for all $e' \notin N[vu]$. In this case the weight for f is $f(G) = 1 - (m - |N[vu]|) = 1 - [m - (d_G(v) + d_G(u) - 1)] \geq 1 + k - m$. \square

In [8] X.Z. Lu investigated the edge signed domination number of complete graph K_n , an exact expression for the edge signed domination number of K_n was obtained.

Theorem 4. (see [8]) *For any complete graph K_n , we have*

$$\gamma'_s(K_n) = \begin{cases} \frac{n}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is even,} \\ \frac{n-1}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Theorem 5. *If G is a connected graph on m edges such that $\gamma'_s(G) = m$ then $0 \leq \gamma'_s(\overline{G}) \leq \frac{m}{2}$.*

Proof. By Lemma 2, if $\gamma'_s(G) = |E(G)|$ if and only if either $G \cong P_n$ ($1 \leq n \leq 5$) or G is the subdivision of some star $K_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 3$).

(1) If $G \cong P_n$ ($1 \leq n \leq 5$), we can easily to check that the conclusions are true.

(2) If G is the subdivision of $K_{1,n}$ ($n \geq 3$). For convenience let $V(G) = \{v_i : i = 0, 1, \dots, n; u_j : j = 1, \dots, n\}$ and $E(G) = \{v_0u_j : j = 1, \dots, n; u_iv_i : i = 1, \dots, n\}$, $|V(G)| = 2n + 1$ and $|E(G)| = 2n = m$. In this case $V(G) = V(\overline{G})$ and $E(\overline{G}) = \{v_iv_j : i, j = 0, 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\} \cup \{u_iv_j : i, j = 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\} \cup \{u_iv_j : i, j = 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\}$, $|V(\overline{G})| = 2n + 1$ and $|E(\overline{G})| = \binom{2n+1}{2} - 2n$. Let $E_1 = \{v_iv_j : i, j = 0, 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\}$, $E_2 = \{u_iv_j : i, j = 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\}$ and $E_3 = \{u_iv_j : i, j = 1, \dots, n, i \neq j\}$. $\overline{G}[E_1]$, $\overline{G}[E_2]$ and $\overline{G}[E_3]$ denote the subgraphs of \overline{G} induced by E_1 , E_2 and E_3 , respectively.

For the lower bound, let f be an edge signed domination function of G , let $V_1 = \{u, v | e = uv \in E(\overline{G}), f(e) = 1\}$, $E_1 = \{e | e \in E(\overline{G}), f(e) = 1\}$, $V_2 = \{u, v | e = uv \in E(\overline{G}), f(e) = -1\}$, $E_2 = \{e | e \in E(\overline{G}), f(e) = -1\}$, $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$ and $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$. Let $|E(\overline{G})| = m'$ and $|E(G_1)| = |E_1| = t$. Then $|E(G_2)| = |E_2| = m' - t$ and $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = |E(G_1)| - |E(G_2)| = 2t - m'$. We define that $d^*(u) = d_{G_1}(u) - d_{G_2}(u)$ for each vertex $u \in V(\overline{G})$. By using this notation, we can see that

$$\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = |E_1| - |E_2| = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{u \in V(\overline{G})} d_{G_1}(u) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{u \in V(\overline{G})} d_{G_2}(u) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{u \in V(\overline{G})} d^*(u).$$

If for each $u \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $d^*(u) \geq 0$ then $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{u \in V(\overline{G})} d^*(u) \geq 0$.

If there exist some $u \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $d^*(u) \leq -1$ then any two these vertices u and $v, uv \notin E(\overline{G})$. Otherwise, $f[uv] = \sum_{e \in N[uv]} f(e) = d^*(u) + d^*(v) - f(uv) \leq -1$, it is contradiction on f being an edge signed domination function. From the construction of \overline{G} , there exist at most two vertices u and v in \overline{G} such that $d^*(u) \leq -1$ and $d^*(v) \leq -1$. If exists only one vertex $u \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $d^*(u) \leq -1$, then there exists a vertex $w \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $uw \in E(\overline{G})$. Since $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \sum_{e \in N[uw]} f(e) = d^*(u) + d^*(w) - f(uw) \geq 1$, then $d^*(u) + d^*(w) \geq 0$, hence

$$\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{v \in V(\overline{G})} d^*(v) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{v \in V(\overline{G}) - \{u, w\}} d^*(v) + d^*(u) + d^*(w) \right) \geq 0.$$

If exist two vertices $u, v \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $d^*(u) \leq -1, d^*(v) \leq -1$, then there exist two vertices $w_1 \in V(\overline{G}), w_2 \in V(\overline{G})$ such that $uw_1 \in E(\overline{G}), vw_2 \in E(\overline{G})$ and $d^*(u) + d^*(w_1) \geq 0, d^*(v) + d^*(w_2) \geq 0$. Since for each $v \in V(\overline{G})$ has $d_{\overline{G}}(v) \geq n$, so we can choose that $w_1 \neq w_2$, hence

$$\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{x \in V(\overline{G}) - \{u, v, w_1, w_2\}} d^*(x) + d^*(u) + d^*(w_1) + d^*(v) + d^*(w_2) \right) \geq 0.$$

For the upper bound, to complete the proof, it suffices to construct an edge signed domination function f of \overline{G} .

If n is odd, at this time $\overline{G}[E_3]$ is a $(n-1)$ -regular graph and $|\overline{G}[E_3]| = n(n-1)$. Since $(n-1)$ is even, $\overline{G}[E_3]$ has an Euler circuit $C_{n(n-1)} = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n(n-1)}\}$. Let $V(\overline{G}[E_3]) = \{u_i | 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n-1}{2}\} \cup \{u_j | \frac{n-1}{2} < j \leq n-1\} \cup \{u_n\}$. Define $f : E(\overline{G}) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ by:

$$f(v_i v_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i+j \text{ is odd,} \\ -1 & \text{if } i+j \text{ is even,} \end{cases} \quad f(e) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } e = u_i u_n \text{ or } e = u_i u_j, \\ -1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$f(e_t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } e_t \in \overline{G}[E_3] = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n(n-1)}\}, t \text{ is odd,} \\ -1 & \text{if } e_t \in \overline{G}[E_3] = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{n(n-1)}\}, t \text{ is even.} \end{cases}$$

Then f is an edge signed domination function of \overline{G} , by Theorem 4 we have $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) \leq w(f) = \frac{n-1}{2} + \frac{n+1}{2} = n = \frac{m}{2}$.

If n is even, at this time the graph $G^* = \overline{G}[E_3] \setminus \{u_n, v_n\}$ is a $(n-2)$ -regular graph and $|G^*| = (n-1)(n-2)$. Since $(n-2)$ is even, G^* has an Euler circuit $C_{(n-1)(n-2)} = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{(n-1)(n-2)}\}$. Let $V(\overline{G}[E_1]) = \{v_i | 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{2}\} \cup \{v_j | \frac{n}{2} < j \leq n\} \cup \{v_0\}$. Define $f : E(\overline{G}) \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$ by:

$$f(u_i u_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i + j \text{ is odd,} \\ -1 & \text{if } i + j \text{ is even,} \end{cases} \quad f(e) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } e = v_i v_0 \text{ or } e = v_i v_j, \\ -1 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

$$f(e_t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } e_t \in G^* = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{(n-1)(n-2)}\}, t \text{ is odd,} \\ -1 & \text{if } e_t \in G^* = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_{(n-1)(n-2)}\}, t \text{ is even,} \end{cases}$$

$$f(v_n u_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n + j \text{ is odd, } 1 \leq j \leq n - 1, \\ -1 & \text{if } n + j \text{ is even, } 1 \leq j \leq n - 1, \end{cases}$$

$$f(u_n v_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq \frac{n}{2}, \\ -1 & \text{if } \frac{n}{2} < i \leq n - 1. \end{cases}$$

Then f is an edge signed domination function of \overline{G} , by Theorem 4 we have $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) \leq w(f) = \frac{n}{2} + \frac{n+1-1}{2} = n = \frac{m}{2}$.

This completes the proof. □

For any graph G on n vertices and m edges, since the edge signed domination number $\gamma'_s(G)$ and $\gamma'_s(\overline{G})$ are at most m and $\binom{n}{2} - m$, respectively, we have $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G}) \leq \binom{n}{2}$. From Lemma 1 and Theorem 5 we notices that $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \binom{n}{2}$ if and only if $\gamma'_s(G) = m$ and $\gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \binom{n}{2} - m$, that is

Corollary 6. *Let G be a graph with n vertices and m edges, then $\gamma'_s(G) + \gamma'_s(\overline{G}) = \binom{n}{2}$ if and only if $G \in \{P_1, P_2, \overline{P_2}, P_3, \overline{P_3}, P_4\}$, where P_i is a path on i vertices.*

Acknowledgements

This project is supported by the NNSF (19871036).

References

- [1] J.A. Bondy, U.S.R. Murty, *Graph Theory with Applications*, Macmillan, London and Elsevier, New York (1976).
- [2] E.A. Nordhaus, J.W. Gaddum, On complementary graphs, *Amer. Math. Monthly*, **63** (1956), 175-177.
- [3] G.J. Chang, S.C. Liar, H.G. Yeh, k -Subdomination in graphs, *Discrete Appl. Math.*, **120** (2002), 44-60.
- [4] R. Hass, T.B. Wexler, Signed domination numbers of a graph and its complement, *Discrete Math.*, **283** (2004), 87-92.
- [5] R. Hass, T.B. Wexler, Bounds on the signed domination numbers of a graph, *Manuscript*.
- [6] Z. Zhang, B. Xu, Y. Li, L. Liu, A note on the lower bounds of signed domination number of a graph, *Discrete Math.*, **195** (1999), 295-298.
- [7] B. Xu, Signed edge domination numbers of graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **239** (2001), 179-189.
- [8] X.Z. Lu, Edge signed domination numbers of graphs, To Appear.