

## Strong Complementary Acyclic Domination of a Graph

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**Abstract.** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is called a strong complementary acyclic dominating set if  $S$  is a strong dominating set and the induced subgraph  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is acyclic. The minimum cardinality of a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  is called the strong complementary acyclic domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$ . In this paper, we introduce and discuss the concept of strong complementary acyclic domination number of  $G$ . We determine this number for some standard graphs and obtain some bounds for general graphs. Its relationship with other graph theoretical parameters are also investigated.

**Keywords:** Domination number, strong domination number, strong complementary acyclic domination number

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### 1. Introduction

By a graph we mean a finite, simple, and undirected graph  $G(V, E)$  where  $V$  denotes its vertex set and  $E$  its edge set. Unless otherwise stated, the graph  $G$  has  $n$  vertices and  $e$  edges. Degree of a vertex  $v$  is denoted by  $d(v)$ , the maximum degree of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $\Delta(G)$ . We denote a cycle on  $n$  vertices by  $C_n$ , a path on  $n$  vertices by  $P_n$ , and a complete graph on  $n$  vertices by  $K_n$ . A graph  $G$  is connected if any two vertices of  $G$  are connected by a path. A maximal connected sub graph of a graph  $G$  is called a component of  $G$ . The number of components of  $G$  is denoted by  $\omega(G)$ . The complement  $\overline{G}$  of  $G$  is the graph with vertex set  $V$  in which two vertices are adjacent if and only if they are not adjacent in  $G$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be acyclic if it has no cycles. A tree is a connected acyclic graph. A bipartite graph is a graph whose vertex set can be partitioned into two disjoint sets  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  such that every edge has one end in  $V_1$  and another end in  $V_2$ . A Complete bipartite graph is a bipartite graph where every vertex of  $V_1$  is adjacent to every vertex in  $V_2$ . The Complete bipartite graph with partitions of order  $|V_1| = m$  and  $|V_2| = n$ , denoted by  $K_{m,n}$ . A star denoted by  $K_{1,n-1}$  is a tree with one root vertex and  $n-1$  pendant vertices. A bistar, denoted by  $D(r,s)$  is the graph obtained by joining the root

vertices of the stars  $K_{1,r}$  and  $K_{1,s}$ . A wheel graph denoted by  $W_n$  is a graph with  $n$  vertices formed by joining a single vertex to all vertices of  $C_{n-1}$ . A helm graph, denoted by  $H_n$  is a graph obtained from the wheel  $W_n$  by attaching a pendant vertex to each vertex in the outer cycle of  $W_n$ . Corona of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , denoted by  $G_1 \circ G_2$  is the graph obtained by taking one copy of  $G_1$  and  $|V(G_1)|$  copies of  $G_2$  in which  $i$ th vertex of  $G_1$  is joined to every vertex in the  $i$ th copy of  $G_2$ . If  $S$  is a subset of  $V$ , then  $\langle S \rangle$  denotes the vertex induced sub graph of  $G$  induced by  $S$ . The open neighborhood of a set  $S$  of vertices of graph  $G$ , denoted by  $N(S)$  is the set of all vertices adjacent to some vertex in  $S$ , and  $N(S) \cup S$  is called the closed neighbourhood of  $S$ , denoted by  $N[S]$ . The diameter of a connected graph is the maximum distance between two vertices in  $G$  and is denoted by  $\text{diam}(G)$ . A cut-vertex of a graph  $G$  is a vertex whose removal increases the number of components. A vertex cut of a connected graph  $G$  is a set of vertices whose removal results in a disconnected graph. The connectivity or vertex connectivity of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $k(G)$  (where  $G$  is not complete) is the size of a smallest vertex cut. A connected sub graph  $H$  of a connected graph  $G$  is called a  $H$ -cut if  $\omega(G - H) \geq 2$ . The chromatic number of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\chi(G)$  is the minimum number of colors needed to color all the vertices a graph  $G$  in which adjacent vertices receive distinct colors. For any real number  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  denotes the largest integer less than or equal to  $x$ . A Nordhaus-Gaddum type result is a lower or upper bound on the sum or product of a parameter of a graph and its complement. Terms not defined here are used in the sense of [2].

A subset of  $V$  is called a dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to at least one vertex in  $S$ . The domination number  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality taken over all dominating sets in  $G$ . A dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is called a strong dominating set of  $G$  if for every  $v \in V - S$  there exist a vertex  $u \in S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $d(u) \geq d(v)$ . The minimum cardinality taken over all strong dominating sets is the strong domination number and is denoted by  $\gamma_{st}(G)$ .

A dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is called a complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is acyclic. The minimum cardinality taken over all complementary acyclic dominating sets is the complementary acyclic domination number and is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-a}(G)$ .

Many authors have introduced different types of domination parameters by imposing conditions on the dominating set [2]. The concept of strong domination has been introduced by Sampathkumar and Pushpalatha [5].

In this paper, we use this idea to develop the concept of strong complementary acyclic domination number of a graph..

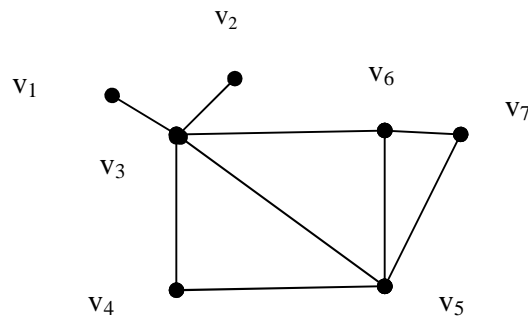
## 2. Strong complementary acyclic domination

**Definition 2.1.** A dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is called a strong complementary acyclic dominating set if  $S$  is a strong dominating set and the induced subgraph  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is

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acyclic. The minimum cardinality of a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  is called the strong complementary acyclic domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$ .

**Example 2.2.** A Strong complementary acyclic dominating set of a graph  $G$  is given below:



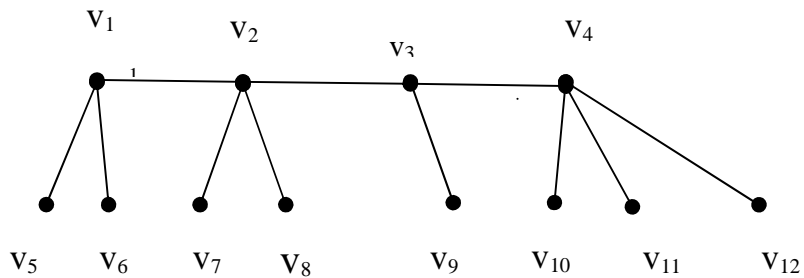
**Figure 2.1:**  $G_1$

$\{v_3, v_5\}$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ .

For any graph  $G$ ,  $V(G)$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Remark 2.3.** Throughout this paper we consider only graphs for which strong complementary acyclic dominating set exists. The complement of the strong complementary acyclic dominating set need not be a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Example 2.4.**



**Figure 2.2:**  $G_2$

$\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set. But its complement is not a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Definition 2.5.** A Strong Complementary acyclic dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is minimal if no proper subset of  $S$  is a Strong Complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ .

**Remark 2.6.** Any superset of strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  is also a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ . Since if  $S$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  and  $u \in V - S$ , then  $S \cup \{u\}$  is a strong complementary

acyclic dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore strong complementary acyclic domination is super hereditary.

**Remark 2.7.** A strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  is minimal iff it is 1-minimal.

**Theorem 2.8.** A strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$  is minimal if and only if for each vertex  $u \in S$  one of the following conditions holds:

1.  $u$  has a strong private neighbor in  $V - S$ .
2.  $\langle (V - S) \cup \{u\} \rangle$  contains a cycle.

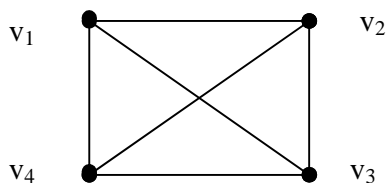
**Proof:** Let  $S$  be a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ . Suppose  $S$  is minimal. Let  $u \in S$ . Then  $S - \{u\}$  is not a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore  $\langle (V - S) \cup \{u\} \rangle$  contains a cycle or  $u$  has a strong private neighbour in  $V - S$  with respect to  $S$ . Conversely, suppose for every  $u$  in  $S$ , one of the conditions holds.

If (1) holds, then  $S - \{u\}$  is not a strong dominating set.

If (2) holds, then  $S - \{u\}$  is not a complementary acyclic. Therefore,  $S$  is a minimal strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ .

**Remark 2.9.** Every strong complementary acyclic dominating set is a dominating set. But every dominating set need not be a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Example 2.10.**



**Figure 2.3:**  $G_3$

Here  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set and also a dominating set. Also  $\{v_1\}$  is a dominating set but it is not a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Theorem 2.11.** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{st}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$  and the bounds are sharp.

Let  $S$  be a minimum strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ .

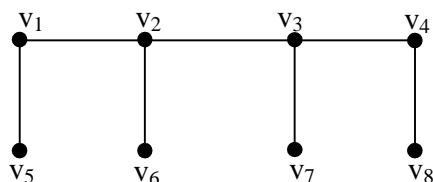
Let  $v \in V - S$ . Then there exists  $u \in S$  such that  $u$  and  $v$  are adjacent and  $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$ .

Therefore  $S$  is a strong dominating set of  $G$  and hence  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ .

Therefore  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{st}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$ .

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**Example 2.12.**



**Figure 2.4:**  $G_4$

Here  $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{st}(G) = \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = 4$ .

**Theorem 2.13.**

1.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(K_2) = n - 1$ .
1.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(K_n) = n - 2, n \geq 3$ .
2.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(K_{1,n}) = 1$ .
3.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(D_{r,s}) = 2$ .
4.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(W_n) = 2$ .
5.  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(K_{m,n}) = \min\{m, n\}$ .

**Theorem 2.14.** For any path  $P_m$

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_m) &= n \text{ if } m = 3n, n \in \mathbb{N} \\ &= n + 1 \text{ if } m = 3n + 1 \text{ or } 3n + 2, n \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:**

**Case (i)** Let  $G = P_{3n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{3n}$  be the vertices of  $V(P_{3n})$ .

$\{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{3n-1}, v_{3n+1}\}$  is the unique strong dominating set of  $P_{3n}$ . It is also the strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $P_{3n}$ . Therefore  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_{3n}) = n$ , for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Case (ii)** Let  $G = P_{3n+1}, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{3n}, v_{3n+1}\}$ .

$S_1 = \{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{3n-1}, v_{3n+1}\}$  and  $S_2 = \{v_1, v_3, v_6, v_9, \dots, v_{3n}\}$  are two strong complementary acyclic dominating sets of  $G$ .

Now  $|S_1| = |\{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{3n-1}\}| + |v_{3n+1}| = n + 1$ . Also

$$|S_2| = |v_1| + |\{v_3, v_6, \dots, v_{3n}\}| = n + 1.$$

Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_{3n+1}) \leq n + 1$ .

Also  $\gamma_{st}(P_{3n+1}) = n + 1$  and by Theorem 2.10, we have  $\gamma_{st}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$ .

Hence  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_{3n+1}) = n + 1$ .

**Case (iii)** Let  $G = P_{3n+2}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{3n}, v_{3n+1}, v_{3n+2}\}$ .

$S = \{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{3n-1}, v_{3n+1}\}$  is a strong complementary acyclic dominating set of  $G$ .

Now  $|S| = |\{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{3n-1}\}| + |v_{3n+1}| = n + 1$ .

Therefore  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_{3n+2}) \leq n + 1$

Also  $\gamma_{st}(P_{3n+2}) \leq n + 1$  and by Theorem 2.10  $\gamma_{st}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G)$ .

Hence  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(P_{3n+2}) = n + 1$ .

**Theorem 2.15.**

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(C_m) &= n \text{ if } m = 3n, n \in \mathbb{N} \\ &= n + 1 \text{ if } m = 3n + 1 \text{ or } 3n + 2, n \in \mathbb{N} \end{aligned}$$

**Proof:** The proof follows from Theorem 2.11.

**Observation 2.16.** If a spanning sub graph  $H$  of a graph  $G$  has a strong complementary acyclic dominating set then  $G$  has a strong complementary acyclic dominating set.

**Observation 2.17.** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $H$  be a spanning sub graph of  $G$ . If  $H$  has a strong complementary acyclic dominating set, then  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(H)$  and the bounds are sharp.

**Theorem 2.18.** For any connected graph  $G$ , with  $n \geq 3$  vertices,  $1 \leq \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \leq n - 2$  and the bounds are sharp.

**Proof:** The lower and upper bounds follows from definition. For  $K_{1, n-1}$  the lower bound is attained and for  $K_4$ , the upper bound is attained.

**Observation 2.19.** For any connected graph  $G$  with 3 vertices,  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = n - 2$  if and only if  $G \cong P_4, C_3$ .

The Nordhaus-Gaddum type result is given below.

**Theorem 2.20.** Let  $G$  be a graph such that  $G$  and  $\overline{G}$  no isolates of order  $n \geq 3$ . Then  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(\overline{G}) \leq 2n - 4$  and  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \cdot \gamma_{c-a}^{st}(\overline{G}) \leq (n - 2)^2$ .

**Proof:** The bound directly follows from Theorem 2.15.

**Relationship with other graph theoretical parameters.**

**Theorem 2.21.** For any connected graph with  $n \geq 3$  vertices  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + k(G) \leq 2n - 3$  and the bound is sharp if and only if  $G \cong K_n$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $n$  vertices. We know that  $k(G) \leq n - 1$  and by theorem 2.18,  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \leq n - 2$ . Hence  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + k(G) \leq 2n - 3$ . Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic  $K_n$ . Then clearly  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + k(G) = 2n - 3$ . Conversely, let

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$\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + k(G) = 2n - 3$ . This is possible only if  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = n - 2$  and  $k(G) = n - 1$ .

But  $k(G) = n - 1$  and so  $G \cong K_n$  for which  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = n - 2$ . Hence  $G \cong K_n$ .

**Theorem 2.22.** For any connected graph  $G$  with  $n \geq 3$  vertices,

$\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \chi(G) \leq 2n - 2$  and the bound is sharp if and only if  $G \cong K_n$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $n$  vertices. We know that  $\chi(G) \leq n$  and by

Theorem 2.18,  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \leq n - 2$ . Hence  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \chi(G) \leq 2n - 2$ . Suppose  $G$  is

isomorphic to  $K_n$ . Then clearly  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \chi(G) = 2n - 2$ . Conversely, let

$\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \chi(G) = 2n - 2$ . This is possible only if  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\chi(G) = n$ .

Since  $\chi(G) = n$ ,  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_n$  for which  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) = n - 2$ .

Hence  $G \cong K_n$ .

**Theorem 2.23.** For any connected graph  $G$  with  $n \geq 3$  vertices,

$\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \Delta(G) \leq 2n - 3$  and the bound is sharp.

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $n$  vertices,  $\Delta(G) \leq n - 1$  and by Theorem 2.18,

$\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) \leq n - 2$ . Hence  $\gamma_{c-a}^{st}(G) + \Delta(G) \leq 2n - 3$ . For  $K_5$  the bound is sharp.

### 3. Conclusion

We found strong complementary acyclic domination number for some standard graphs and obtained some bounds for general graphs. Its relationship with other graph theoretical parameters are also investigated.

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