# Reconfiguration of Dominating sets 

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## Dominating sets


$S \subset V(G)$ is a dominating set of $G$ if and only if every vertex of $V(G) \backslash S$ is adjacent to a vertex of $S$.
The domination number, $\gamma(G)$, is the minimum cardinality of a dominating set of $G$. upper domination number, $\Gamma(G)$, is the maximum cardinality of a minimal dominating set of $G$.

## The $k$-dominating graph


$D_{k}(G)$, vertices are dominating sets with cardinality $\leqslant k$; two vertices of $D_{k}(G)$
Reconfiguration rule: addition or deletion of a single vertex.

Others models for domination reconfiguration also of interest. E.g., Subramaniam, Sridharan, and Fricke; Hedetniemi, Hedetniemi, Hutson,
$\gamma$-graph

- Only $\gamma$ sets
- Token jumping.


## The $k$-dominating graph

First question: find $d_{0}(G)$ the least value of $k$ for which $D_{k}(G)$ is connected for all $k \geqslant d_{0}(G)$.
First results:
(i) $d_{0}(G) \geqslant \Gamma(G)+1$, if $E(G)$ is non-empty. (any $\Gamma$ set is isolated)
(ii) $d_{0}(G) \leqslant|V(G)|$.

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(ii) $d_{0}(G) \leqslant|V(G)|$.
(iii) $d_{0}(G) \leqslant \gamma(G)+\Gamma(G)$.

In (H\&S 2014) gave classes of graphs for which $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$ (bipartite graphs, chordal graphs)

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And, that sometimes $d_{0}(G)>\Gamma(G)+1$.


Alikhani, Fatehi and Klavzar considered which graphs can be $D_{k}(G)$. They showed:

Theorem
If $V(G) \geqslant 2$ and $G \cong D_{k}(G)$, then $k=2$ and $G=K_{1, n-1}$ for some $n \geqslant 4$.

Theorem
For a fixed $r$ there exist only a finite number of $r$-regular, connected dominating graphs of connected graphs.

## new results

Today we show

- All independent dominating sets are in the same connected component of $D_{\Gamma+1}(G)$
- If $G$ is both perfect and irredundant perfect then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.
- For certain classes of well-covered graphs, $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.


## more notation, basics

- If dominating sets $S$ and $T$ of $G$ are in the same component of $D_{k}(G)$. Then for all $m \geqslant k, D_{k}(G)$ is an induced subgraph of $D_{m}(G)$, and hence $S$ and $T$ are in the same component of $D_{m}(G)$.
$\bullet$ Write $A \leftrightarrow B$ if there is a path in $D_{k}(G)$ joining $A$ and $B$.


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Theorem (H\&S)
Let $T_{1}$ and $T_{2}$ be independent dominating sets of a graph $G$. Then $T_{1} \leftrightarrow T_{2}$ in $D_{\alpha+1}(G)$, and hence in $D_{\Gamma+1}(G)$.

## Proof that all independent dominating sets in same component

$\forall v \in V(G)$, let $\mathcal{S}_{v}$ be the set of maximal independent sets of $G$ that contain $v$. Note $\mathcal{S}_{v} \neq \varnothing$.

Show
(i) Each $\mathcal{S}_{v}$ is connected (by induction on $\alpha$ ).
(ii) If $\mathcal{S}_{v} \cap \mathcal{S}_{u} \neq \varnothing$ then these are in same connected component.
(iii) $\mathcal{S}_{v} \cap \mathcal{S}_{u}=\varnothing$ then these are in same connected component.

## (i) Show by induction $\mathcal{S}_{v}$ is connected.

## Lemma

$S$ is a maximal independent set if and only if $S \backslash\{v\}$ is a maximal independent set of $G-N[v]$.

So $\left\{S \backslash\{v\} \mid S \in \mathcal{S}_{v}\right\}$ is the set of all independent dominating sets of $G-N[v]$.

## Lemma

For any graph $G$ and any $v \in V(G), \Gamma(G-N[v])<\Gamma(G)$ and $\alpha(G-N[v])<\alpha(G)$.

So, $\alpha(G-N[v])<\alpha(G)$.

## To show $T_{1} \leftrightarrow T_{2}$ in $D_{\alpha+1}$

If $T_{1}, T_{2}$ max indep in $G$ then by lemmas:
$\left(T_{1} \backslash\{v\}\right) \leftrightarrow\left(T_{2} \backslash\{v\}\right)$ in $D_{\alpha(G-N[v])+1}(G-N[v])$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T_{1} \backslash\{v\}, A_{1}, A_{2}, \ldots, A_{k}, T_{2} \backslash\{v\} \\
& \\
& \quad \text { in } D_{\alpha(G-N[v])+1}(G-N[v])
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
T_{1}, A_{1} \cup\{v\}, A_{2} \cup\{v\} \ldots, A_{k} \cup\{v\}, T_{2}
$$

is a path in $D_{\alpha+1}$.
So all sets of $\mathcal{S}_{v}$ are in the same component of $D_{\alpha+1}(G)$.

## (ii) $\mathcal{S}_{u} \cap \mathcal{S}_{v} \neq \varnothing$

If $\mathcal{S}_{u} \cap \mathcal{S}_{v} \neq \varnothing$, then there exists a maximal independent set containing both $u$ and $v$.

Thus all the the sets of $\mathcal{S}_{v}$ and $\mathcal{S}_{u}$ are in the same connected component of $D_{\alpha+1}$.

## (iii) $\mathcal{S}_{u} \cap \mathcal{S}_{v}=\varnothing$

Suppose $T_{1} \cap T_{2}=\varnothing$, with $u \in T_{1}$ and $v \in T_{2}$. (If non-empty both in $\mathcal{S}_{w}$, some w)
If there is a path in $\bar{G}$ joining $u$ and $v$, say

$$
u, x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{k}, v
$$

then there exist maximal independent sets $S_{1} \in \mathcal{S}_{u} \cap \mathcal{S}_{x_{1}}$, $S_{i} \in \mathcal{S}_{x_{i-1}} \cap \mathcal{S}_{x_{i}}$ for $2 \leqslant i \leqslant k$, and $S_{k+1} \in \mathcal{S}_{k} \cap \mathcal{S}_{v}$, such that

$$
T_{1} \leftrightarrow S_{1}, S_{1} \leftrightarrow S_{2}, \ldots, S_{k} \leftrightarrow S_{k+1}, S_{k+1} \leftrightarrow T_{2}
$$

in $D_{\alpha+1}(G)$. Thus $T_{1} \leftrightarrow T_{2}$ in $D_{\alpha+1}(G)$.

## (iii') $\mathcal{S}_{u} \cap \mathcal{S}_{v}=\varnothing$, continued

Suppose $T_{1} \cap T_{2}=\varnothing$, with $u \in T_{1}$ and $v \in T_{2}$.
If there is no path in $\bar{G}$ joining $u$ and $v$, then $u$ and $v$ are in different components of $\bar{G}$.

Lemma
If $\bar{G}$ is disconnected, and $u, v \in V(G)$ are in different components of $\bar{G}$, then $\{u, v\}$ is a dominating set of $G$ and hence $\gamma(G) \leqslant 2$.

So,

$$
T_{1} \leftrightarrow T_{1} \cup\{v\} \leftrightarrow\{u, v\} \leftrightarrow T_{2} \cup\{u\} \leftrightarrow T_{2}
$$

from $T_{1}$ to $T_{2}$ in $D_{\alpha+1}(G)$.
Thus $\mathcal{S}_{u}, \mathcal{S}_{v}$ are in same connected component in this case too.

## Theorem

For any graph $G, d_{0}(G) \leqslant \Gamma(G)+\alpha(G)-1$. Furthermore, if $G$ is triangle free, then $d_{0}(G) \leqslant \Gamma(G)+\alpha(G)-2$.

## Irredundant perfect graphs

- $S \subseteq V(G)$ is an irredundant set if every $s \in S$ has a private neighbour.
- $\operatorname{ir}(\mathrm{G})$ and $\operatorname{IR}(\mathrm{G})$, are the cardinalities of the smallest and largest maximal irredundant sets of $G$.
- The clique cover number $\bar{\chi}(G)$, is the minimum number of cliques in a clique cover of $G$.
- $\alpha(G) \leqslant \Gamma(G) \leqslant \operatorname{IR}(G)$,
- $\alpha(G) \leqslant \bar{\chi}(G)$.

Note that $\bar{\chi}(G)$ may be larger or smaller than $\Gamma(G)$.


If $S$ is an independent set and $\mathcal{C}$ is a clique cover and $|S|=|\mathcal{C}|$, then

$$
\alpha(G)=|S|=|\mathcal{C}|=\bar{\chi}(G) .
$$

- $G$ is perfect if $\alpha(H)=\bar{\chi}(H)$ for all induced subgraphs $H$ of $G$.
- $G$ is irredundant perfect if and only if $\alpha(H)=\operatorname{IR}(H)$ for all induced subgraphs $H$ of $G$.

The following theorem holds for all graphs that are both perfect and irredundant perfect (including all strongly perfect graphs), but it also holds slightly more generally.

Theorem (H\&S)
Let $G$ be a graph with $\alpha(G)=\bar{\chi}(G)=\Gamma(G)$, and $\alpha(H)=\Gamma(H)$ for all induced subgraphs $H$ of $G$. Then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.

## Well covered and well dominated

## Definition (Plummer)

$G$ is well-covered if every maximal independent set has the same cardinality, namely $\alpha(G)$.

Definition (Finbow, Hartnell and Nowakowski )
$G$ is well-dominated if every minimal dominating set has the same cardinality, namely $\gamma(G)=\Gamma(G)$

Since every maximal independent set of a graph is a dominating set, every well-dominated graph is necessarily well-covered; hence if $G$ is well-dominated, $\alpha(G)=\Gamma(G)$.

## Families of well-covered graphs

A graph $G$ is in the family $\mathcal{L}$ if there exists $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{k}\right\} \subseteq V(G)$ so that for each $i$, the subgraph induced by $N\left[x_{i}\right]$ is isomorphic to a complete graph and $\left\{N\left[x_{i}\right] \mid 1 \leqslant i \leqslant k\right\}$ is a partition of $V(G)$. We say that the set $\left\{x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots x_{k}\right\}$ is a kernel of $G$. Note that a kernel of $G$ is a maximal independent set of $G$.

## Lemma

If $G \in \mathcal{L}$, then $G$ is well-dominated and hence well-covered.

## Theorem

If $G \in \mathcal{L}$ then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.


Theorem (Finbow, Hartnell, Nowakowski)
A graph $G$ is connected, well-covered and contains neither $C_{4}$ nor $C_{5}$ as a subgraph if and only if $G \in \mathcal{L}$ has kernel $\left\{x_{1}, \ldots, x_{k}\right\}$ in which the subgraph induced by $N\left[x_{i}\right]$ is isomorphic to $K_{1}, K_{2}$ or $K_{3}$; or $G$ is isomorphic to $C_{7}$ or $T_{10}$.

Theorem (H\&S)
If $G$ is a connected well-covered graph containing neither $C_{4}$ nor $C_{5}$ as a subgraph, then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.

## Claw Free and well covered

A basic chain is a graph $\mathcal{L}$ with additional properties.
Theorem (Whitehead)
Let $G$ be a connected well-covered claw free graph with no 4-cycle. Then $G$ is either a basic chain or isomorphic to one of $K_{1}, C_{5}$ or $C_{7}$.

## Theorem

Let $G$ be a non-trivial, connected, well-covered, claw free graph with no 4 -cycle. Then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.

## Well-covered graphs of girth at least five

Theorem (Finbow, Hartnell and Nowakowski)
If $G$ is a connected, well-covered graph of girth at least five, then $G \in \mathcal{P C}$ or $G$ is isomorphic to one of six exceptional graphs: $K_{1}, C_{7}, P_{10}, P_{13}, Q_{13}, P_{14}$.


## $\mathcal{P C}$ graphs


$V(G)=\mathcal{P} \cup \mathcal{C}$
$\mathcal{P}$ incident to pendant edges, and those form a matching.
$\mathcal{C}$ set of 5-cycles, adjacent vertices can not both have degree greater than two.

## Theorem (H\&S)

If $G$ is a non-trivial, connected, well-covered graph of girth at least five, then $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.

## Well-covered plane triangulations

Theorem (Finbow, Hartnell, Nowakowski, Plummer)
A plane triangulation $G$ is well-covered if and only if $G \in \mathcal{K}^{+}$or $G \in\left\{K_{3}, R_{6}, R_{7}, R_{8}, R_{12}, R_{8} \bigcirc K_{3}, R_{8} \bigcirc R_{8}\right\}$.


The two non-isomorphic versions of $R_{8} \bigcirc R_{8}$.

## The Well covered plane triangulations $\mathcal{K}^{+}$



Construct a graph $G \in \mathcal{K}^{+}$as follows:
Begin with a plane triangulation $T$ from the family $\mathcal{L}$, where $T$ has kernel $\left\{q_{10}, q_{20}, \ldots, q_{\mu 0}\right\}$, and $q_{i 0}$ has degree three in $T$, $1 \leqslant i \leqslant \mu$.

In each face of $T$ that is not incident with a kernel vertex do one of the following: (i)nothing, (ii)O-join a triangle, or (iii)O-join a copy of $R_{8}$.

Theorem (H\&S)
If $G$ is a well-covered triangulation of the plane, then
$d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$.

- (Finbow and van Bommel ) Most graphs in $\mathcal{K}^{+}$are not well-dominated.
- This makes proof for $G \in \mathcal{K}^{+}$more complex.
- A maximal independent set of $G$ has one vertex from each $K_{4}$, one vertex from each O-joined triangle, and two vertices from each O-joined $R_{8}$.
- Other minimal dominating sets might use a vertex from the original triangluation to dominate a vertex in an O-joined triangle or $R-8$. And, may not use all kernel vertices.

Idea of proof:
For $S$ is a minimal dominating set, consider the connected component of $D_{\Gamma}(G)$ containing $S$.

Find the member of the component that uses the least non-kernel vertices and then show that number has to be 0 .

On the other hand the graphs below are well covered but $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+2$.


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## Open:

1. Characterize graphs for which $d_{0}(G)=\Gamma(G)+1$
2. Are there any graph for which $d_{0}(G)>\Gamma(G)+2$.
