

## STRONG BLOCK DOMINATION IN GRAPHS

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### ABSTRACT

For any graph  $G = (V, E)$ , the block graph  $B(G)$  is a graph whose set of vertices is the union of the set of blocks of  $G$  in which two vertices are adjacent if and only if the corresponding blocks of  $G$  are adjacent. For any two adjacent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  we say that  $u$  strongly dominates  $v$  if  $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$ . A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $B(G)$  is a strong block dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V[B(G)] - D$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$ . Strong block domination number  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong block dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, we study graph theoretic properties of  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  and many bounds were obtain in terms of elements of  $G$  and its relationship with other domination parameters were found.

**Keywords:** Dominating set/ Independent domination/ Block graph/ Line graph/ Roman domination/ Strong split domination/ Strong block domination.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

In this paper, all the graphs consider here are simple and finite. For any undefined terms or notation can be found in Harary [5]. In general, we use  $\langle X \rangle$  to denote the subgraph induced by the set of vertices  $X$  and  $N(v)$  and  $N([v])$  denote open (closed) neighborhoods of a vertex  $v$ . Let  $\deg(v)$  is the degree of vertex  $v$  and as usual  $\delta(G)$  ( $\Delta(G)$ ) is the minimum (maximum) degree. A vertex of degree one is called an end vertex and its neighbor is called a support vertex. The notation  $\alpha_0(G)$  ( $\alpha_1(G)$ ) is the minimum number of vertices (edges) in vertex (edge) cover of  $G$ . The minimum distance between any two farthest vertices of a connected  $G$  is called the diameter of  $G$  and is denoted by  $diamG$ . A block graph  $B(G)$  is the graph whose vertices corresponds to the blocks of  $G$  and two vertices in  $B(G)$  are adjacent if and only if the corresponding blocks in  $G$  are adjacent.

A set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is said to be a dominating set of  $G$ , if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S$ . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ . A set  $S \subseteq V[B(G)]$  is said to be a dominating set of  $B(G)$ , if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S$ . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the domination number of  $B(G)$  and is denoted by  $\gamma[B(G)]$ . A dominating set  $S$  is called the total dominating set, if for every vertex  $v \in V$ , there exists a vertex  $u \in S$ ,  $u \neq v$  such that  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . The total domination number of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_t(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of total dominating set of  $G$ . A dominating set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a connected dominating set, if the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  has no isolated vertices. The connected domination number  $\gamma_c(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a connected dominating set of  $G$ . Also in terms of connected block domination  $\gamma_{cb}(G)$  which is discussed in [13]. Also characterized graphs achieving these bounds.

The concept of Roman domination function (RDF) was introduced by E.J. Cockayne, P.A.Dreyer, S.M.Hedetiniemi and S.T.Hedetiniemi in [1]. A Roman dominating function on a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a function  $f: V \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  satisfying the condition that every vertex  $u$  for which  $f(u) = 0$  is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $v$  for which  $f(v) = 2$ . The weight of a Roman dominating function is the value  $f(V) = \sum_{v \in V} f(v)$ . The Roman domination number of a graph, denoted by  $\gamma_R(G)$ , equals the minimum weight of a Roman dominating function on  $G$ . A Roman dominating function  $f = (V_0, V_1, V_2)$  on a graph  $G$  is a connected Roman dominating function (CRDF) on  $G$  if  $\langle V_1 \cup V_2 \rangle$

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or  $\langle V_2 \rangle$  is connected. The minimum weight of a CRDF is called a connected Roman domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{RC}(G)$ , (see[12]). A dominating set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is restrained dominating set of  $G$ , if every vertex not in  $S$  is adjacent to a vertex in  $S$  and to a vertex in  $V(G) - S$ . The restrained domination number of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_r(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a restrained dominating set in  $G$ . The concept of restrained domination in graphs was introduced by Domke *et.al.*,[2].

The concept of strong split block domination in graphs was introduced by M.H.Muddebihal and Nawazoddin U.Patel in [9]. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G$  is a strong split block dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V[B(G)] - D \rangle$  is totally disconnected with at least two vertices. The strong split block domination number  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong split block dominating set of  $G$ . The concept of strong nonsplit block domination in graphs was introduced by M.H.Muddebihal and Nawazoddin U.Patel in [10]. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $B(G)$  is a strong nonsplit block dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V[B(G)] - D \rangle$  is complete. The strong nonsplit block domination number  $\gamma_{snbsb}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong nonsplit block dominating set of  $G$ . Recently we study a variation on the domination which is called strong line domination in graphs, was introduced by M.H.Muddebihal and Nawazoddin U.Patel in [11]. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $L(G)$  is a strong line dominating set if every vertex in  $\langle V[L(G)] - D \rangle$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$ . Strong line domination number  $\gamma_{SL}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong line dominating set of  $G$ . Analogously, a dominating set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is a cototal dominating set, if the induced subgraph  $\langle V - S \rangle$  has no isolated vertices. The cototal domination number,  $\gamma_{ct}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a cototal dominating set of  $G$ . This concept was introduced by Kulli *et.al.*, [3]. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G$  is a split dominating set of  $G$  if the induced subgraph  $\langle V - D \rangle$  is disconnected (see [4]). The split domination number  $\gamma_s(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of the minimal split dominating set of  $G$ .

The concept of a dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G$  is a strong split dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V - D \rangle$  is totally disconnected with at least two vertices. The strong split domination number  $\gamma_{ss}(G)$  of graph  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a strong split dominating set of  $G$ . The concept of Strong domination was introduced by Sampathkumar and Pushpa Latha in [14] and well studied in [6, 7 and 8]. Given two adjacent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  we say that  $u$  strongly dominates  $v$  if  $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$ . A set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  is strong dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V - D$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$ . The strong domination number  $\gamma_s(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a strong dominating set of  $G$ . A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $B(G)$  is a strong block dominating set of  $G$  if every vertex in  $V[B(G)] - D$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$ . Strong block domination number  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong block dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, many bounds on  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  were obtained in terms of elements of  $G$  but not the elements of  $B(G)$ . Also its relation with other domination parameters were established.

## 2. MAIN RESULTS

First we obtained necessary and sufficient condition on  $G$  for which  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  is connected.

**Theorem 1:** For any graph  $G$  with at least two block, then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq q - 1$ .

**Proof:** Suppose block graph  $B(G)$  has at least two vertices. Then  $G$  has at least two blocks. If two blocks of  $G$  are edges, then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = q - 1$ . Otherwise the inequality holds. Thus  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq q - 1$ .

**Theorem 2:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{bc}(G)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $H = \{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n\}$  be the set of blocks of  $G$  and  $B = \{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_i\}$  be the set of all non-end blocks of  $G$ . Let  $B_1 = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_i\}$  be the vertices of block graph  $B(G)$  corresponding to the elements of  $B$ . Since  $\forall b_j \in B_1, 1 \leq j \leq i$  is a cutvertex in  $B(G)$ , then there exists a set  $B_1' \subseteq B_1$  such that  $\forall b_k \in B_1'$  is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $V[B(G)] - B_1'$  and  $\langle B_1' \rangle$  is connected clearly  $B_1'$  is a  $\gamma_{bc}(G)$ -set. Let  $B_1'' = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\} \subseteq B_1'$  and if  $\forall v \in B_1'', \deg(v) \geq \deg(u), \forall u \in V[B(G)] - B_1'', N[B_1''] = V[B(G)]$ . Then  $B_1''$  is a  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set. Hence  $|B_1'| \geq |B_1''|$  gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{bc}(G)$ .

**Corollary:** For any block graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 2$  vertices,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \geq \lceil p/3 \rceil$ .

**Theorem 3:** For any non-trivial connected tree  $T$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(T) \leq \gamma_{Rc}(T)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be any connected graph with a CRDF  $f = (V_0', V_1', V_2')$ . Suppose  $G$  be a non-trivial tree  $T$ . Let  $V_{en} = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of all end vertices,  $V_c = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_c\}$  be the set of all cutvertices in  $T$  such that  $V(T) = V_c \cup V_{en}$  and  $V_c' \subseteq V_c$  be the set of all cutvertices adjacent to end vertices in  $T$ . Then  $\forall v_i \in V_c'$ ,  $w(v_i) = 2$  and  $\forall v_j \in V_c' \subseteq V_c / V_c'$ ,  $w(v_j) = 1$  such that  $w(N(v_i) \cap N(v_j)) = 1$  or  $2$ . Then  $\langle v_i v_j \rangle$  is connected. Hence  $V_c$  forms  $\gamma_{Rc}$ -set in  $T$  and  $|V_c| = |V_1'| + |V_2'| = \gamma_{Rc}(T)$ . Next we consider  $\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices of  $B(T)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_n\}$  of  $T$ . Let  $D = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m\}$  where  $m < n$  is a minimal dominating set of  $B(T)$  such that  $V[B(T)] - D = N, \forall v_i \in N, \deg(v_i) \leq \deg(v_j), \forall v_j \in D$ . Then  $|D| = \gamma_{SB}(T)$ . Hence  $\gamma_{SB}(T) = |D| \geq |V_c| = \gamma_{Rc}(T)$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(T) \leq \gamma_{Rc}(T)$ .

**Theorem 4:** For any connected tree  $T$  with  $p \geq 4$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(T) \geq \gamma(T) - 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$  be the set of all vertices of  $T$  and suppose  $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_l\}, l < p$  be the minimal dominating set of  $T$  such that  $|D| = \gamma(T)$ . Let  $A = \{B_1, B_2, \dots, B_{p-1}\}$  be the set of all blocks of  $T$  and  $H = \{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{p-1}\}$  be the corresponding block vertices in  $B(T)$ .  $\forall B_i$  adjacent to end blocks containing  $v_i \in D$  in  $T$ , there exists a corresponding blocks vertex set  $\{b_i\}$  in  $B(T)$  such that  $\{b_i\} \in V_2 \cup V_1$  and  $B_j$  not adjacent to end blocks in  $T$  there exist a corresponding block vertex set  $\{b_j\}$  in  $B(T)$  such that  $\{b_j\} \in V_1$ . Hence  $\langle b_i \cup b_j \rangle$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$  and it forms  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set such that  $|V_1| + |V_2| = |D| = \gamma_{SB}(T)$ . Clearly  $|D| \leq |D| - 1$  gives  $\gamma_{SB}(T) \geq \gamma(T) - 1$ .

In the following theorem we obtain the relation between for  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  in term of  $\gamma_{ss}(G)$ .

**Theorem 5:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{ss}(G)$ .

**Proof:** let  $S'$  be a maximum independent set of vertices in  $G$  and  $S'' \subseteq S'$  be the of all isolated vertices in  $\langle S' \rangle$ . Then  $(V - S') \cup S''$  is a strong split dominating set of  $G$ . Since for each vertex  $v \in (V - S') \cup S''$  either  $v$  is an isolated vertex in  $\langle (V - S') \cup S' \rangle$  or there exists a vertex  $u \in S' - S''$  and  $v$  is adjacent to  $uv, (V - S') \cup S''$  is minimal. Since  $S'$  is maximum,  $(V - S') \cup S''$  is minimum. Thus  $|(V - S') \cup S''| = \gamma_{ss}(G)$ . Let  $F = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$  be set of edges in  $G$  and  $F \subseteq E(G)$ . Then in  $B(G), D' = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  which corresponds to  $\forall e_i \in F$ . Let  $\deg(e_i), \forall e_i \in F$  and  $\deg(e_j) \forall e_j \in E(G) - F$  such that  $\deg(e_i) \geq \deg(e_j)$ . Suppose  $D'' = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\} \subseteq D'$  and  $N[v_k] = V(B(G)), \forall u_k \in D'', 1 \leq k \leq i$ . Then  $D''$  forms a  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set. It follows that  $|D''| \leq |(V - S') \cup S''|$ . Hence  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{ss}(G)$ .

**Theorem 6:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq p - \Delta(G)$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $G$  is a connected graph with  $n$  - blocks in which at least one block has maximum number of vertices with  $\Delta(G) \geq 3$ . Then in  $B(G), |\gamma_{SB}|$ -set is always less than  $p - \Delta(G)$ . Now we consider the graph  $G$  such that each block of  $G$  is an edge. Let  $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_k\}$ , be the set of blocks in  $G$ . Suppose  $F = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V(B(G))$  be the set of vertices with  $\deg(v_j) \geq 2$ . Suppose there exists a vertex set

$D \subseteq F$  with  $N[D] = V(B(G))$  and if  $|\deg(x) - \deg(y)| \leq 1, \forall x \in D, y \in V(B(G)) - D$ . Then  $D$  forms a strong block dominating set in  $B(G)$ . Otherwise there exists at least one vertex  $\{w\} \subseteq F$  where  $\{w\} \notin D$  such that  $D \cup \{w\}$  forms a minimal  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set in  $B(G)$ . Since for any graph  $G$ , there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V(G)$  of maximum degree  $\Delta(G)$ , it follows that  $|D \cup \{w\}| \leq p \cup |\deg(v)|$ . Clearly,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq p - \Delta(G)$ .

**Theorem 7:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq diam(G) - 1$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $A = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_i\} \subseteq E(G)$  be the minimal set of edges which constitute the longest path between any two distinct vertices  $u, v \in V(G)$  with  $dist(u, v) = diam(G)$ . Let  $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V[B(G)]$  be the set of vertices. Suppose  $D \subseteq k$  be the set of vertices with  $\deg(w) \geq 3$  for every  $w \in D$ . Assume there exists  $D' \subseteq D$  such that  $\forall u_j \in D' \deg(u_j) \geq \deg(u_k), \forall u_k \in V[B(G)] - D'$ . Clearly  $D'$  forms a strong block dominating set. Since each block in  $G$  is either an edge or at least one block contain more than two edges, then  $|D'| \leq diam(G) - 1$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq diam(G) - 1$ .

The following theorem we obtain upper bound for  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  in terms of Roman domination number  $\gamma_R(G)$ .

**Theorem 8:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_R(G) + \Delta(G) - 3$ .

**Proof:** Let  $f = (V_0, V_1, V_2)$  be any  $\gamma_R$ -function of  $G$ . Suppose  $V_1 \cup V_2$  or  $V_2$  form a  $\gamma_R$ -set of  $G$  such that  $|H| = \gamma_R(G)$ . Next we consider  $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices of  $B(G)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  of  $G$ . Let  $D' = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_m\}$  where  $m < n$  is a minimal dominating set of  $B(G)$  such that  $V[B(G)] - D' = N, \forall v_i \in N$  is a strongly dominated by at least one vertex of  $D'$ . Suppose there exists at least one vertex  $v$  of  $G$  with maximum degree. Then  $\Delta(G) = \deg(v)$ , which gives  $|D'| = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Hence  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = |D'| \leq |H| = \gamma_R(G)$ , clearly  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_R(G) + \Delta(G) - 3$ .

In the following theorem we establish the relation between  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$  and  $\gamma_c(G)$ .

**Theorem 9:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma(G) + \gamma_c(G) - 1$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $G$  has at least one block which is not an edge. Then  $G$  has at least one block with maximum number of vertices. Hence one can easily verify the inequality. Now we consider every block of  $G$  is an edge. Let  $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(G)$  which are non end vertices. Suppose  $D' \subseteq D$ , where  $\forall v_i \in D', N[v_i] = V[G]$ . Then  $D'$  is a minimal dominating set of  $G$ . Further if  $\langle D' \rangle$  is connected then  $D'$  is also a  $\gamma_c$ -set. Otherwise there exists  $H = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}, H \subseteq D'$  which forms a dominating set which is minimal and  $\langle \{D' \cup H\} \rangle$  is connected. Then  $\{D' \cup H\}$  is  $\gamma_c$ -set of  $G$ . Let  $M = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\} \subseteq E(G)$  be the set of all non end edges of  $G$ . Since  $M \subseteq V[B(G)]$  and each block of  $B(G)$  is complete,  $\forall v_i \in M$  is a cutvertex of  $B(G)$ . Now we consider  $M' \subseteq M$ . Suppose  $\forall v_k \in M'$  has  $\deg(v_k) \geq \deg(v_n)$ , where  $v_n \in V[B(G)] - M'$ . Then  $M'$  is a  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set of  $G$ . Thus  $|M'| \leq |D'| + |D'| - 1$  or  $|M'| \leq |D'| + |\{D' \cup H\}| - 1$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma(G) + \gamma_c(G) - 1$ .

**Theorem 10:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq 2C + \Delta(G) - 3$ .

Where  $C$  is the number of cutvertices of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Let  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  where  $n < p$  be the number of cutvertices of  $G$ . Then there exists a vertex  $v \in V$  such that  $\deg(v) = \Delta(G)$ . Assume  $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the number of vertices of  $B(G)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  of  $G$ . Then we prove the result by induction on the number of blocks of  $G$ .

Assume that the result is true for  $n = 2$ . Then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = 1, v \geq 1$  and  $C \neq \emptyset$ . If  $v \neq 1$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = 2C + \Delta(G)$ . If  $v > 1$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq 2C + \Delta(G)$ . Assume the result for  $n = k$ . Then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq 2C + \Delta(G)$ . Let  $D_{SB} = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}$  with  $j \leq n$  be the minimal strong dominating set of  $B(G)$  such that  $|D_{SB}| = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Suppose  $G'$  has  $(k+1)$  blocks. Then  $v' \geq v$  and  $C' \geq C$ . If  $v' \geq v$ , then  $C' = C$ , it follows that  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = |D_{SB}| \leq 2|C'| + |v| < 2|C'| + |v'| = 2C + \Delta(G) - 3$ , clearly  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq 2C + \Delta(G) - 3$ .

**Theorem 11:** For any non-trivial tree  $T$  with  $n \geq 3$  blocks,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{cot}(G) - 1$ .

**Proof:** We consider only those graphs which are not  $n = 1$ . Let  $H = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}, H_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i\}, 1 \leq i \leq p$  be a subset of  $V(G) = H$  which are end vertices in  $G$ . Let  $J = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_j\} \subseteq V(G)$  with  $1 \leq j \leq p$  such that  $\forall v_j \in J, N(v_i) \cap N(v_j) = \emptyset$  and  $\langle V(G) - (H_1 \cup J) \rangle$  has no isolates, then  $|H_1 \cup J| = \gamma_{cot}(G)$ .

Let  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the vertices in  $B(G)$ . Consider  $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_t\} = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V_3$  be the set of all vertices of  $B(G)$ . Where  $\forall v_s \in V_1$  and  $\forall v_t \in V_2$  with the property  $(v_s) \cap N(v_t) = \emptyset, \forall v_l \in V_3$  is a set of all end vertices in  $B(G)$ . The  $\langle D \rangle$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$  such that  $|D| = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Clearly  $|H_1 \cup J| - 1 \leq |D|$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{cot}(G) - 1$ .

**Theorem 12:** For any graph  $G$  with  $n$ -blocks, then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq n + \gamma_s(G) - 3$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $S = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  be the blocks of  $G$ . Then  $M = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the corresponding blocks vertices in  $B(G)$  with respect to the set  $S$ . Let  $H = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of vertices in  $G, V(G) = H$ . If  $J = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$  where  $1 \leq m \leq n$  such that  $J \subset H$  and suppose there exists a set  $J_1 \subset J$  then  $\{v_i\} \in J_1$  which gives  $H - J_1$  is a disconnected graph. Suppose  $J_1 \cup J$  has the minimum number of vertices, such that  $N(J_1 \cup J) = V(G) - (J_1 \cup J)$  gives a minimal split domination set in  $G$ . Hence  $|J_1 \cup J| = \gamma_s(G)$ .

Suppose  $D = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}$  where  $1 \leq j \leq n$  such that  $D \subset M$  then  $\forall b_i \in M$  are cutvertices in  $B(G)$ , since they are non end blocks in  $B(G)$  is strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $D$ . Hence  $D$  is a  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set of  $B(G)$ . Clearly  $|D| = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Now  $|D| \leq n + |J_1 \cup J| - 3$ , gives the required result.

Next, the following theorem establish the upper bound for  $\gamma_{snbs}(G)$  and  $\gamma_{SB}(G)$ .

**Theorem 13:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G, \gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{snbs}(G)$ .

**Proof:** Assume every block of  $G$  is an edge, let  $A' = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_m\}$  be the blocks of  $G$  and  $M_1 = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_m\}$  be the block vertices in  $B(G)$ . Again we consider a subset  $\{b_i\}$  such that  $\{b_i\} \subset V[B(G)] - \{b_i\}$ . Then  $V[B(G)] - \{b_i\} = \{b_i\}$ . If  $i = 1$ , then  $\{b_i\}$  is a  $\gamma_{snbs}$ -set of  $G$ . Otherwise if there exists  $i > 1$  for  $\{b_i\}$ , we choose  $\forall v_i \in N[b_i]$  such that  $V[B(G)] - \{b_i\} \cup \{v_i\} = b_i$  gives for  $i > 1$ . Hence  $\langle b_i \rangle$  is complete. Thus  $|V[B(G)] - \{b_i\} \cup \{v_i\}| = \gamma_{snbs}(G)$ .

Let  $H = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V[B(G)]$  be the set of vertices such that  $\{u_i\} = \{e_i\} \in E(G)$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , where  $\{e_i\}$  are incident with the vertices of  $A'$ . Further let  $D' \subseteq H$  be the set of vertices with  $\deg(w) \geq 3$  for every  $w \in D'$  and  $N[D'] = V[B(G)]$  and if  $\forall v_i \in V[B(G)]$  has degree at most 2 and  $v_i \in V[B(G)] - D'$ . Then  $\{D'\} \cup \{v_i\}$  forms a strong block dominating set. Clearly it follows that  $|D' \cup \{v_i\}| \leq |V[B(G)] - \{b_i\} \cup \{v_i\}|$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{snb}(G)$ .

In the following theorem we establish the relation between with strong split block domination of  $G$  and strong split block domination  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  of  $G$ .

If  $G$  is a block then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  does not exist. Hence we consider,  $G$  must have at least two blocks.

**Theorem 14:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 4$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $G$  has  $p \leq 3$ . Then  $\gamma_{ssb}$  does not exist. Hence we consider  $p \geq 4$ , for  $p = 4$  and each block is an edge then equality holds. Let  $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  be the set of blocks of  $G$ , and  $H = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the vertices of  $B(G)$  corresponding to the blocks of  $B$ .

Suppose  $S_1 = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_i\}$  and  $S_2 = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}$  in which  $\forall b \in S_1, \deg(b) > 2$  and  $\forall b \in S_2, \deg(b) \leq 2$ . Since each block in  $B(G)$  is complete, then there exists  $S'_1 \subseteq S_1$  such that  $\deg(b_k) \geq \deg(b_m) \forall b_k \in S'_1$  and  $\forall b_m \in V[B(G)] - S'_1$ . Thus  $S'_1$  is a  $\gamma_{SB}$ -set of  $G$ . Further in case of  $\gamma_{ssb}$ -set, we have  $S'_2 \subseteq S_2$  and  $J = V[B(G)] - \{S'_1 \cup S'_2\}$  in which  $\forall b \in J$  is an isolate and  $|J| \geq 2$  which is a  $\gamma_{ssb}$ -set. Hence  $|S'_1| \leq |S'_1 \cup S'_2|$  and gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ .

**Theorem 15:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{SL}(G)$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $A = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}$  where  $1 \leq j \leq n$  such that  $A \subset A^1$  then  $\forall b_i \in A$  are cutvertices in  $B(G)$ . Further  $A_1 \subset A^1$  be a set of vertices in  $B(G)$  such that  $V[B(G)] - \{A \cup A_1\} = N^1$  where  $\forall v_i \in N^1$  is a strongly dominated by at least one vertex in  $N$ . Hence  $|N| = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Let  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(L(G))$  be the minimal dominating set of  $L(G)$  and  $\deg(v_i) \geq 2 \forall v_i \in D$  with  $\deg(v_k) \leq 2 \forall v_k \in V[L(G)] - D$ . Then  $D$  is a Strong dominating set of  $L(G)$ . It follows that  $|D| \geq |N|$  which gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_{SL}(G)$ .

**Theorem 16:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 4$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq 3q - 2p$ .

**Proof:** suppose  $G$  has a block say  $B$  with maximum number of vertices and edges. Then  $3q - 2p > |\gamma_{SB}(G)|$ . Hence we require to get the sharp bound. For this we consider the graph  $G$  which is a non-trivial tree with at least 3-blocks. We consider the following cases.

**Case-1:** Suppose  $G$  is a path  $P_n, n \geq 4$  vertices. Then  $B(G) = P_{n-1}$ . Since the path  $P_n$  has  $p$  - vertices and  $q$  - edges, then  $3q - 2p = 3(p - 1) - 2p = p - 3$  for  $p \geq 4$ . One can easily verify that  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq p - 3 = 3q - 2p$ .

**Case-2:** Suppose  $G$  is not a path. Then there exists at least one vertices  $v, \deg v \geq 3$ . Let  $C = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$  be the number cutvertices and  $D$  be a dominating set of  $B(G)$ . Suppose each block of  $B(G)$  is complete with  $P$  - vertices. Then  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{p-1}\}$  where  $D$  consists of  $P - 1$  vertices from each block  $B(G)$  such that  $C \subseteq D$  and  $V[B(G)] - D = H$ , where  $v_i \in H$  is strongly dominating by at least one vertex in  $D$ . Clearly  $|D| = \gamma_{SB}(G) \leq p - 3 = 3q - 2p$ .

**Theorem 17:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 3$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_t(G) + 2\gamma(G) - 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $A' = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(G)$  be the set of all non end vertices in  $G$ . Suppose  $A'' \subseteq A'$  and  $\forall v_i \in V(G) - A''$  are adjacent to at least one vertex of  $A''$ . Then  $A''$  forms a  $\gamma$ -set of  $G$ . Let  $S \subseteq A''$  be the  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G$ .

By the minimality for every vertex  $v \in S$ , the induced subgraph  $\langle S - v \rangle$  contains an isolated vertex. Let  $S_1 = \{v : v \in S\}$  and  $A_1$  be the set of isolated vertices in  $\langle S_1 \rangle$ ,  $B = S_1 - A_1$ , further let  $A$  be the minimum set of vertices of  $S - S_1$  and each vertex of  $A_1$  is adjacent to some vertex of  $A$ . Clearly  $|A| \leq |A_1|$ . Suppose  $S' = S - \{S_1 \cup A\}$  and every  $u_i v_i \in \langle S' \rangle$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , clearly  $|S'| = \gamma_t(\langle S' \rangle)$ . Then  $S'$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G$ . Let  $H = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_n\} \subseteq V[B(G)]$ , suppose  $D' \subseteq H$  be the set of vertices with  $\deg(w) \geq 3$  for every  $w \in D'$  such that  $N[D'] = V[B(G)]$  and if  $\forall v_i \in V[B(G)]$  has degree at most 2 and  $v_i \in V[B(G)] - D'$ . Then  $D'$  forms a strong block dominating set. Clearly it follows that  $|D'| \leq |A| \cup |S'| - 2$  and hence  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma_t(G) + 2\gamma(G) - 2$ .

**Theorem 18:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma[B(G)] \leq \gamma_{SB}(G)$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $G$  is path with  $P \geq 3$  vertices. Then  $B(G)$  is also a path with  $p - 1$  vertices. Since this path has exactly two vertices of degree and remaining  $p - 2$  vertices are of degree two. Then every minimal dominating set of  $B(G)$  is also a strong dominating set of  $B(G)$ . Thus  $\gamma[B(G)] = \gamma_{SB}(G)$ . Suppose  $G$  is not a path. Then in  $B(G)$  every block is complete and there exists at least one block with at least three vertices. Now assume let  $B(G)$  has two vertices  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  with maximum degree. Let  $D$  be strong dominating set, then  $\{v_1, v_2\} \subseteq D$ , if  $N(v_1) = v_2$  or  $N(v_2) = v_1$ . Where as in case of  $\gamma[B(G)]$ , either  $v_1$  or  $v_2$  belongs to  $\gamma[B(G)]$ . Hence  $\gamma[B(G)] \leq \gamma_{SB}(G)$ .

**Theorem 19:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + \alpha_0(G) - 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $A$  be the vertex cover of  $G$  with  $|A| = \alpha_0(G)$ . Suppose  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p\}$  be the set of vertices in  $G$  then there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V$  such that  $\deg(v) = \Delta(G)$ . Now without loss of generality in  $B(G)$ , suppose there is a set  $D \subseteq V[B(G)]$ , consists of at most  $\Delta(G) + |A|$  elements. Hence  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = |D| \leq \Delta(G) + |A| = \Delta(G) + \alpha_0(G) - 2$ , clearly  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + \alpha_0(G) - 2$ .

Now obtain the following result on restrained domination number of  $G$ .

**Theorem 20:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma(G) + \gamma_{re}(G) - 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $D$  be any  $\gamma$ -set of  $G$  with  $\gamma(G) = |D|$ . Suppose  $D_R$  be the restrained dominating set of  $G$  such that  $\gamma_{re}(G) = |D_R|$ . If  $D'$  be the strong block dominating set of  $B(G)$ , then  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = |D'|$ . By the definition of domination number and restrained domination number of  $G$  one can easily verify that,  $|D'| \leq |D \cup D_R| - 1$ . Hence  $\gamma_{SB}(G) = |D'| \leq |D \cup D_R| - 1 = \gamma(G) + \gamma_{re}(G) - 1$  gives  $\gamma_{SB}(G) \leq \gamma(G) + \gamma_{re}(G) - 1$ .

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