

## STRONG SPLIT BLOCK DOMINATION IN GRAPHS

M. H. Muddebihal\*

Nawazoddin U. Patel\*

### **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. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $B(G)$  is a strong split block dominating set if the induced sub graph  $\langle V[B(G)] - D \rangle$  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  $G$ . In this paper, we study graph theoretic properties of  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  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 /strong split block domination.

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\* Department of Mathematics Gulbarga University, Gulbarga-585106, Karnataka, India.

**1. Introduction:** In this paper, all the graphs consider here are simple and finite. For any undefined terms or notations can be found in Harary [2]. In general, we use  $\langle X \rangle$  to denote the subgraph induced by the set of vertices  $X$  and  $N(v)(N[v])$  denote open (closed) neighborhoods of a vertex  $v$ .

The notation  $\alpha_o(G)(\alpha_1(G))$  is the minimum number of vertices (edges) in a vertex (edge) cover of  $G$ . The notation  $\beta_o(G)(\beta_1(G))$  is the maximum cardinality of a vertex (edge) independent set in  $G$ . Let  $deg(v)$  is the degree of vertex  $v$  and as usual  $\delta(G)(\Delta(G))$  is the minimum (maximum) degree. 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.

We begin by recalling some standard definitions from domination theory. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is an independent dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no edges. The independent domination number  $i(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of an independent dominating set.

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  $G$ , denoted by  $\gamma_R(G)$ , equals the minimum weight of a Roman dominating function on  $G$ . A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $B(G)$  is a strong split block dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V[B(G)] - D \rangle$  is totally disconnected. The strong split block domination number  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of strong split block dominating set of  $G$ . In this paper, many bounds on  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  were obtained in terms of elements of  $G$  but not the elements of  $B(G)$ . Also its relation with other domination parameters were established.

We need the following theorems for our further results.

**Theorem A [3]:** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma(G) \geq \left\lceil \frac{p}{1+\Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ .

**2. Results:**

**Theorem 1:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  with  $n$ -blocks and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then

$$\gamma_{ssb}(G) + \gamma(G) \leq n(G).$$

**Proof:** Suppose  $B = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  is the set of blocks in  $G$ . Then  $\{B\} = V[B(G)]$ . Let  $A = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_i\}, 1 \leq i \leq n$  such that  $A \subseteq B$  and  $\forall b_i \in A$  are the non- end blocks in  $G$  which gives cut vertices in  $B(G)$ . Also  $C = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}, 1 \leq j \leq n$  be the set of end blocks in  $G$  and  $C \subseteq B$ . Let  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p\}$  be the set of vertices of  $G$  and  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\}$  where  $m \leq p$  be a dominating set of  $G$  such that  $\gamma(G) = |D|$ . Now we consider  $A^1 \subset A$  and  $C^1 \subset C$ . Then  $V[B(G)] - \{A^1\} \cup \{C^1\} = \{K\} \forall v \in K$  is an isolates. Hence  $|A^1| \cup |C^1| = \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . Since  $\{A\} \cup \{C\} = V[B(G)]$ . Clearly  $|A^1| \cup |C^1| + |D| \leq |A| \cup |C|$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) + \gamma(G) \leq n(G)$ .

**Theorem 2:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq \beta_o(G) - 1$ . Where  $\beta_o(G)$  is the maximal vertex independence number of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  be the set of blocks in  $G$  and let  $H = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices which corresponds to the blocks of  $B$  such that  $V[B(G)] = |H|$ .

Now we consider the following cases.

**Case 1:** Suppose  $G$  is a tree with at least 3-blocks. For at most two blocks  $B(G)$  is complete hence  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$  set does not exists. For this we consider a tree with at least 3-blocks. Suppose  $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p\}$  be the set of vertices of  $G$  and  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$  for  $i \leq p$  be the maximal independence set of vertices of  $G$ , such that  $|D| = \beta_o(G)$ .

Let  $C = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_i\}$  be the set of cut vertices in  $B(G)$ . Since each block in  $B(G)$  is complete and each cut vertex is incident with at least two blocks. Let  $C^1 = V[B(G)] - C$  and consider a set  $C_1^1 \subseteq C^1$  such that  $V[B(G)] - \{C^1 \cup C_1^1\} = S$  where  $\forall b_i \in S$  is an isolates. Hence  $|C^1 \cup C_1^1| = \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . Also  $|C^1 \cup C_1^1| < |D| - 1$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq \beta_o(G) - 1$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $G$  is a not tree then there exists at least a block which is not an edge. Let  $B_i$  be the number of blocks which are not edges  $V[B_i] \subset V[B(G)]$ . Let  $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices of  $B(G)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  respectively in  $G$ . Suppose  $D^1$  is a dominating set of  $B(G)$  such that  $|D^1| = \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . Since  $|D^1| \leq |D|$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq \beta_o(G) - 1$ .

**Theorem 3:** For any non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$ . Equality holds for a path  $P_p$  with  $P \geq 5$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p\}$  be the set of vertices of  $T$ . Let  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\}$   $1 \leq k \leq p$  be a minimal dominating set of  $T$  such that  $|D| = \gamma(T)$ . Further  $B = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  be the number of blocks in  $T$ . In  $B(T), V[B(T)] = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  of  $T$ . In  $B(T)$  each blocks is complete. Let  $\{B_1^1, B_2^1, B_3^1, \dots, B_p^1\}$  be the set of blocks in  $B(T)$  with the property such that  $\forall B_i, 1 \leq i \leq p$  has at least two vertices. From each block in  $B(T), p - 1$  numbers of vertices forms a dominating set  $D^1$  such that  $|D^1| = \gamma_{ssb}(T)$ . Hence  $|D| \leq |D^1|$ , which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$ . For equality, suppose  $T = P_p$  with  $P \leq 4$ . If  $B(T) = K_{1,2}$ , which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \neq \gamma(T)$  for  $P = 2, 3$ ,  $\gamma_{ssb}(T)$  does not exists. Hence we consider  $T = P_p$  with  $P \geq 5$ . Suppose  $T = P_p$  with  $P \geq 5$ .

Let  $T = P_p: \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_p\}$  be a path with  $P \geq 5$  then we consider a set  $D = \{v_2, v_5, v_8, \dots, v_{p-n}\}$  such that  $N(v_{p-n}) \cap N(v_{p-n-1}) = \emptyset$ . Hence  $D$  be a  $\gamma$ -set of  $P_p$ . In  $B(P_p), V[B(P_p)] = P - 1$ , then we consider a set  $K \subset V[B(P_p)]$  such that  $V[B(P_p)] - K = M$  where each element in  $M$  is an isolate. Clearly  $|M| = |D|$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(P_p) = \gamma(P_p)$ .

We have the following proposition.

**Proposition 1:** If  $B(G)$  is a star, then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) = 1$ .

**Theorem 4:** For any connected  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) + \gamma(G) \leq P - 1$ .

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $P$  –vertices and  $n$ - blocks. Let  $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, \dots, b_n\}$  be the number of vertices in  $B(G)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, \dots, B_n\}$  in  $G$ . Let  $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set vertices in  $G$ ,  $J = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_i\}$  where  $1 \leq i \leq n$  such that  $J \subset H, v_i \in J$  which covers all the vertices of  $G$  and there does not exists any proper sub set  $J^1$  of  $J$  such that  $v_k \in H - J^1$  for which  $N(v_k) \cap J^1 \neq \emptyset$  where  $u \in J^1$ . Hence  $J$  is a minimal dominating set of  $G$  and  $|J| = \gamma(G)$ .

Let  $S_1 = \{B_i\}$  where  $1 \leq i \leq n, S_1 \subset S$  and  $\forall B_i \in S_1$  are non end blocks in  $G$ . The we have  $M_1 \subset M$  which corresponding to the elements of  $S_1$  such that  $M_1$  forms a minimal dominating set of  $B(G)$ . Since each element of  $H - M_1$  is an isolates then  $|M_1| = \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . Further  $M_1 \cup J \leq P - 1$ , which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) + \gamma(G) \leq P - 1$ .

**Theorem 5:** For any non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq 2\alpha_o(T) - 1$ . Where  $\alpha_o(T)$  is the vertex covering number of  $G$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $B(T) = K_p$ . Then  $\gamma_{ssb}$  – set does not exists. We consider a non-trivial tree  $T$  with  $V(T) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_p\}$ . Let  $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_i\}, 1 \leq i \leq p$  be the set of cut vertices which are adjacent to end vertices and  $V_2 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_l\}, 1 \leq l \leq p$  be the set of cut vertices such that  $\forall v_k \in N(v_l)$  are non-end vertices  $1 \leq l \leq p$ . Suppose a set  $v_j \subseteq V_1$  or  $V_2$ . Then we consider another subset  $V_2^1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_n\}, 1 \leq n \leq l$  which are at a odd distance from the vertices of  $T$  with  $\deg(v_p) \geq 3$ . Then every vertex belongs to  $V_1 \cup V_2 \cup V_j \cup V_2^1$  which covers all the edges of  $T$ . Hence  $|V_1| \cup |V_2| \cup |V_j| \cup |V_2^1| = \alpha_o(T)$ . In  $B(T)$ , each block is complete. And to get  $\gamma_{ssb}(T)$ . We consider the following cases.

**Case 1:** Suppose each block of  $B(T)$  is an edge. Then  $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, \dots, v_n\} \subset V[B(T)]$  are in alternate sequence such that  $\forall v \in V[B(T)] - H$  is an isolates. Hence  $H$  is a  $\gamma_{ssb}$  – set and  $\alpha_o$  – set. Clearly  $|H| = \gamma_{ssb}(T) = \alpha_o(T)$ . Which gives the equality of the result.

**Case 2:** Suppose there exist at least one block of  $B(T)$  which is not an edge. Now assume each block of  $B(T)$  is a complete graph with  $P \geq 2$  vertices. Let  $H$  be a  $\gamma_{ssb}$  – set of  $B(T)$  which contains  $P - 1$  vertices from each block of  $B(T)$ . Since  $B(T)$  has  $n$  number of blocks, then

$n[P - 1] \in V[B(T)] = H$ . Hence  $2\{|V_1| \cup |V_2| \cup |V_j| \cup |V_2^1|\} - 1 = |H|$ , which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq 2\alpha_o(T) - 1$ .

**Theorem 6 :** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  with  $n - blocks$  and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then

$$\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq n + \gamma(G) - 4.$$

**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 block vertices in  $B(G)$  with respect to the set  $S$ . Let  $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of vertices in  $G$ , such that  $V(G) = H$ . If  $J = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\}$  where  $1 \leq m \leq n$  and  $J \subset H$  such that  $N(J) = V(G) - J$  gives a minimal domination set in  $G$ . Hence  $|J| = \gamma(G)$ .

Suppose  $M^1 = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_j\}$  where  $1 \leq j \leq n$  such that  $M^1 \subset M$  then  $\forall b_i \in M^1$  are cut vertices in  $B(G)$ . Further  $M^{11} \subset M$  be a set of vertices in  $B(G)$  such that  $V[B(G)] - \{M^1 \cup M^{11}\} = N$  where  $\forall v_i \in N$  is an isolates. Hence  $|N| = \gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . In  $B(G)$  each block is complete with  $P \geq 2$  vertices. Then  $|N| \leq n + |J| - 4$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq n + \gamma(G) - 4$ .

**Theorem 7:** For any non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq \gamma_R(T)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $f = (V_0, V_1, V_2)$  be any  $\gamma_R$ -function of  $T$ . Then  $V_2$  is a  $\gamma$ -set of  $H = G[V_0 \cup V_2]$  such that  $|H| = \gamma_R(T)$ .

Next we consider  $\{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the set of vertices of  $B(T)$  corresponding to the blocks  $\{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  of  $T$ . Let  $D^1 = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_m\}$  where  $m < n$  is a minimal dominating set of  $B(T)$  such that  $V[B(T)] - D^1 = N, \forall v_i \in N$  is a isolates, then  $|D^1| = \gamma_{ssb}(T)$ . Hence  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) = |D^1| \leq |H| = \gamma_R(T)$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq \gamma_R(T)$ .

**Theorem 8:** For any non-trivial tree  $T \neq P_4$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$ . Equality holds if  $T = P_n$  with  $n = 1, 2, \dots, 7$  and  $H$  where  $H$  is  $k_{1,3}$  together with an end edge adjoined at most three end vertices.

**Proof:** Suppose  $T = P_4$ . Then  $B(T) = K_{1,2}, \gamma_{ssb} = 1 \neq \gamma(T)$ . Now we consider a tree  $T \neq P_4$ . Let  $V = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of vertices in  $T$ . Let

$V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\}$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$  be the set of cut vertices of  $G$   
 $V_2 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_j\}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$  such that  $V_2 \subset V_1$  and  $|V_2| = \gamma(T)$ . Let  $E = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_i\}$  be the set of non-end edges in  $T$ . In  $B(T)$ ,  $V[B(T)] = E[T]$ . Since each edge is a block, then  $\{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_i\} \in V[B(T)]$  are cut vertices and each  $e_i$  lie an exactly two blocks of  $B(T)$ . Now  $V[B(T)] - E, E \in V[B(T)]$  gives  $e_i$  number of components and each component is again a complete graph. Since one less than  $P$  number of vertices from each block of  $B(T)$  are removed, then we get a null graph. Hence  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  represent the cut vertex set and other vertices of  $P_i$  components. Hence  $E_1 \cup E_2$  is a  $\gamma_{ssb}$ -set which gives  $|E_1 \cup E_2| = \gamma_{ssb}(T)$ . Suppose  $\Delta(T) \geq 2$ . Then  $|E_1 \cup E_2| \geq |V_2|$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \geq \gamma(T)$ .

**Theorem 9:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ , and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{P \cdot \Delta(G)}{2 + \Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ .

**Proof:** We consider only those graphs which are not  $B(G) = K_p$ . let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_{ss}$ -set of  $B(G)$  it follows that for each vertex  $v \in D$  there exist a vertex  $u \in V[B(G)] - D$ . such that  $v$  is adjacent to  $u$ . Since each block in  $B(G)$  is a complete, this implies that  $V[B(G)] - D$  is a dominating set of  $B(G)$  such that  $\forall v_i \in V[B(G)] - D$  is an isolates. By Theorem A, we have  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq \left\lceil \frac{P \cdot \Delta(G)}{2 + \Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ .

**Theorem 10:** For any  $(p, q)$  non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq \left\lceil \frac{q + M(T)}{2} \right\rceil - 1$ . where  $M(T)$  is the number of end vertices in  $T$ .

**Proof:** We consider a tree  $T \neq K_{1,n}$   $n \geq 1$ . Let  $T$  be a tree with  $q \geq 3$  edges,  $E(T) = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_n\}$ . Now  $H = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of vertices which corresponds to the set of edges in  $E(T)$ . Let  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and  $\forall v_j \in \{H - D\}$  is adjacent to at least one  $v_i \in D$ . Since each edge is a block in  $T$ , then  $D$  is a dominating set of  $B(T)$ . Suppose  $B(T)$  is a path with even number of vertices. Then  $v \in D$  is an end vertex in  $B(T)$ . Suppose  $B(T)$  is a path with odd number of vertices. Then  $v \notin D$ . Hence  $|D| \leq \left\lceil \frac{q + M(T)}{2} \right\rceil - 1$ .

Suppose  $T$  is not a path. Then there exists at least one vertex  $v$  with  $deg v \geq 3$ . Let  $L = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \forall v_k, deg [v_k] \geq 3$  and  $E_1 = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_k\}$  be the edges in

$T$  incident with  $v_k \in L$ . Suppose  $E_2 \subset E_1$  which are non end edges in  $T$ . Then  $|E_2| \cup |E_1| = M$ . Suppose  $E_3 = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_j\}$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq k$ ,  $E_3 \subset \{E_2 \cup E_1\} \forall v_i \in E_3$  is an element of  $E_2$  or  $E_1$  and hence  $\{E_3\} \subset V[B(T)]$  and  $\{E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3\} = D$  and  $|E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3| = q + M$  thus  $\{E_1 \cup E_2 \cup E_3\} \leq \frac{\{E_1 \cup E_2\} + \{E(T)\}}{2} - 1$  hence  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{q+M(T)}{2} \right\rfloor - 1$ .

**Theorem 11:** For any  $(p, q)$  non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then

$$\gamma_{ssb}(T) + 2\gamma_c(T) \geq \gamma_t(T) + \Delta(T).$$

**Proof:** Suppose  $G$  is a tree,  $F = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of all end vertices of  $G$  and  $V^1 = V - F$ . Then  $D^1 \subseteq V^1$  is a minimal connected dominating set of  $G$ . Further if  $\{v_j\} \in N(D^1)$  and  $\{v_j\} \subseteq V^1$ , then  $D^1 \cup v_j$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G$ . If  $\{v_j\} = \emptyset$ , then there exists at least one vertex  $v \in F$  such that  $D^1 \cup \{v\}$  forms a total dominating set of  $G$ . Let  $D = \{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_k\}$  be the dominating set of  $B(T)$ . If the neighbors of each  $u_i$   $1 \leq i \leq k$  are at a distance at least two which generates  $D$  to be a minimal dominating set of  $B(T)$  such that  $V[B(T)] - D = X$  where  $\forall v_i \in X$  is an isolates. Hence  $|D|$  a  $\gamma_{ssb}$ -set of  $T$ . Suppose  $V^1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  such that  $\deg(v_i) \geq 2, 1 \leq i \leq k$ . Then there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V^1$  such that  $\deg(v) = \Delta(T)$ . Now we have  $|D| + 2|D^1| \geq |D^1 \cup \{v_j\}| + \Delta(T)$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) + 2\gamma_c(T) \geq \gamma_t(T) + \Delta(T)$ .

**Theorem 12:** For any tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_p$ , then  $i(T) \geq \gamma_{ssb}(T)$  where  $i(T)$  is a independent domination number.

**Proof:** Suppose  $D$  be a dominating set of  $T$ . Let  $v$  be an end vertex of  $T$  and root the tree  $T$  at  $v$ . Let  $A$  be the set of all vertices in  $V(T) - D$  that are dominated only from above by a vertex in  $D$ . Thus the parent of each vertex in  $A$  belongs to  $D$  and no child vertex of  $A$  belongs to  $D$ . Possibly  $A = \emptyset$ . Let  $B = V(T) - (A \cup D)$ . Then every vertex of  $B$  is dominated from below by  $D$  that is every vertex  $B$  has a child that belongs to  $D$ . Let  $B_1$  be those vertices in  $B$  adjacent to vertex in  $A$ . Then  $B_1$  is an independent set of  $T$  and dominates  $A$  (from below). We now extend  $B_1$  to an independent set  $B^*$  that dominates  $B$  by adding vertices in  $B - B_1$ . Then  $B^*$  dominates  $A \cup B$ . Let  $D_1$  be the set of all vertices of  $D$  that are dominated by  $B^*$  and  $D_1 = D \cap N(B^*)$ . Since every vertex in  $B$  is dominated from below by at least one vertex of  $D$ , then  $|B^*| \geq |D_1|$ . Let



$D_2 = D - D_1$ , and let  $D^*$  be a maximal independent set of vertices of  $D_2$ . Then  $D^*$  dominates  $D_2$ . Further more  $|D^*| \geq |D_2|$ . By construction,  $B^* \cup D^*$  is an independent dominating set of  $T$ . Hence  $|B^* \cup D^*| = i(T)$ . Since every block in  $B(T)$  is complete and every cut vertex of  $B(T)$  lies on exactly two blocks of  $B(T)$ . Let  $k_{n_1}, k_{n_2}, \dots, k_{n_m}$  be the number of blocks which are complete. Then each block is complete with  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_1}\} \in k_{n_1}, \dots, \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_2}\} \in k_{n_2}, \dots, \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n_m}\} \in k_{n_m}$ , number of vertices.

Now assume  $S$  be a dominating set of  $B(T)$  and

$S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i; v_1, v_2, \dots, v_j; v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k \dots, v_z\}$  such that  $1 \leq i \leq n_1; \dots, 1 \leq j \leq n_2; \dots, 1 \leq z \leq n_m; \forall v_i \in k_{n_1}; \dots, \forall v_j \in k_{n_2}; \dots, \forall v_z \in k_{n_m}$ .

Now  $V[B(T)] - S = H$  where each vertex of  $H$  is an isolates which gives  $|S| = \gamma_{ssb}(T)$ . Hence  $|B^* \cup D^*| \geq |S|$  and we have  $i(T) \geq \gamma_{ssb}(T)$ .

**Theorem 13:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$  and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq 3q - 2p$ .

**Proof:** suppose  $G$  has a block say  $B$  with maximum number of vertices and edges. Then  $3q - 2p$  is always more with  $\gamma_{ssb}(G)$ . Hence we require to get the sharp bound. For this we consider the graph  $G$  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  $p - 1$  vertices and  $q - 1$  edges, then  $3q - 2p = 3(p - 1) - 2p = p - 3$  for  $P \geq 4$ . One can easily verify that  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \leq p - 3 = 3q - 2p$ .

**Case 2:** Suppose  $G$  is not a path. Then there exists at least one vertices  $v, degv \geq 3$ . Let  $C = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_i\}$  be the number cut vertices and  $D$  be a dominating set of  $B(G)$ . Suppose each block of  $B(G)$  complete with  $P - 1$  vertices. Then  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{p-1}\}$  where  $D$  consists of  $P - 1$  vertices from each block  $B(T)$  such that

$C \subseteq D$  and  $V[B(T)] - D = H$ , where  $v_i \in H$  is an isolates, clearly  $|D| = \gamma_{ssb}(T) \leq p - 3 = 3q - 2p$ .

**Theorem 14:** For any  $(p, q)$  non-trivial tree  $T$  and  $B(T) \neq K_n$ , then

$$\gamma_{ssb}(T) + \gamma_t(T) \geq +P - \Delta(T).$$

**Proof:** Suppose  $B(T) = K_n$ . Then by definition  $\gamma_{ssb}(T)$  - set does not exist. Hence and  $B(T) \neq K_n$ . Assume  $T$  is a tree. Then every block of  $T$  is an edge. Let  $A = \{B_1, B_2, B_3, \dots, B_n\}$  be the blocks of  $T$  and  $M = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, \dots, b_n\}$  be the block vertices in  $B(T)$  corresponding to the blocks of  $A$ .

Let  $\{B_i\} \subset A$  such that each  $B_i$  is an non end block of  $T$ . Then  $\{b_i\} \subseteq V[B(T)]$  which are vertices corresponding to the set  $\{B_i\}$  since each block is complete in  $B(T)$ . Again we consider a subset  $\{b_i^1\}$  such that  $\{b_i^1\} \subset V[B(T)] - \{b_i\}$ . Suppose there consists at least one edge then  $V[B(T)] - \{b_i^1 \cup b_i\} = \{b_k\}$  where each element of  $b_k$  is an isolates. Then  $\{b_i^1 \cup b_i\} = \gamma_{ssb}T$ . If  $b_i^1 = \emptyset$ , then  $V[B(T)] - \{b_i\}$  give at least two isolates such that  $b_i = \gamma_{ssb}T$ . Let  $S \subseteq V[B(T)]$  is minimal total dominating set of  $T$  such that  $\gamma_t(T) = |S|$ . Now assume  $\Delta(T) \leq 2$ . Then  $T = P_n, n \geq 4$ . Hence  $P - \Delta(T) \leq |b_i^1| + |S|$  which gives  $\gamma_{ssb}(T) + \gamma_t(T) \geq +P - \Delta(T)$ .

Further if  $\Delta(T) \geq 3$ . Then there exists a positive integer  $j$  such that  $j \leq P - \Delta(T)$ . Also  $j \leq |b_i^1| + |S|$  which gives  $P - \Delta(T) \leq \gamma_{ssb}(T) + \gamma_t(T)$ .

Finally we obtained the Nordhous-Gaddum type results.

**Theorem 15:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ , and  $B(G) \neq K_p$ , then

- I.  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) + \gamma_{ssb}(\bar{G}) \leq p$ .
- II.  $\gamma_{ssb}(G) \cdot \gamma_{ssb}(\bar{G}) \leq 2p$ .

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