

## Bold signed total domination

**KR.Nithyakalyani<sup>1</sup> and Dr.K.Subramanian<sup>2</sup>**

<sup>1</sup> Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, Alagappa Govt. Arts College, Karaikudi, TamilNadu, India,  
[nithyakalyani05@gmail.com](mailto:nithyakalyani05@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup> Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, Alagappa Govt. Arts College, Karaikudi, TamilNadu, India,  
[drks1955@gmail.com](mailto:drks1955@gmail.com)

Corresponding Author:

KR. Nithyakalyani, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, Alagappa Govt. Arts College, Karaikudi - 630003,  
Tamil Nadu, India.

Email: [nithyakalyani05@gmail.com](mailto:nithyakalyani05@gmail.com)

### Abstract

A set  $D$  is a subset of  $V(G)$  is called dominating (or total dominating) set in  $G$ , if  $D \cap N[v] \neq \emptyset$  (or  $D \cap N(v) \neq \emptyset$ , respectively) for every vertex  $v \in V(G)$ . The minimum number of vertices of a dominating set (or of a total dominating set) in  $G$  is called the domination number  $\gamma(G)$  (or the total domination number  $\gamma_t(G)$ , respectively) of  $G$ . If  $v$  is a vertex of a graph  $G$ , then  $N(v)$  is its open neighbourhood, (ie) the set of all vertices adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ . A mapping  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{-2, 1\}$ , where  $V(G)$  is the vertex set of  $G$ , is called a Bold Signed Total Dominating Function (BSTDF) on  $G$ , if  $w(f) = \sum_{x \in N(v)} f(x) \geq 1$  for each  $v \in V(G)$ .  $\min_f \{ \sum_{x \in V(G)} f(x) : f \text{ is a BSTDF} \}$  is called the bold signed total domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{bst}(G)$ . The bold signed total domination number of a graph is a certain variant of the domination number. The lower bounds of  $\gamma_{bst}(G)$  are found for the case of regular graphs, and  $\gamma_{bst}(G)$  are found for complete graphs, circuits and complete bipartite graphs. The independent proofs are seen.

**AMS subject classification (2000):** 05C69,05C35,05C22.

**Keywords:** Dominating function; Domination number; Bold signed total dominating function; Bold signed total domination number.

**Title: Bold signed total domination.**

### 1 Introduction

In this paper we study the bold signed total domination number of a graph and using the notation as in [2]. We consider finite undirected graphs without loops and multiple edges [1]. The vertex set of a graph  $G$  is denoted by  $V(G)$ . If  $v \in V(G)$ , then the open neighbourhood  $N(v)$  of  $v$  in  $G$  is the set of all vertices which are adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ . Further, the closed neighbourhood of  $v$  in  $G$  is defined as  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . Let  $f$  be a mapping of  $V(G)$  into set of real numbers, let  $S$  is a subset of  $V(G)$ . Then we denote  $f(S) = \sum_{x \in S} f(x)$ . Further, the weight of  $f$  is  $w(f) = f(V(G)) = \sum_{x \in V(G)} f(x)$ . We will study the concept, from the definition. A function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{-2, 1\}$  is called a Bold Signed dominating function (shortly BSDF) of  $G$ , if  $f(N[v]) \geq 1$  for each  $v \in V(G)$ . The minimum of  $w(f) = f(V(G)) = \sum_{x \in V(G)} f(x)$ , taken over all BSDF of  $G$ , is the bold signed domination number  $\gamma_{bs}(G)$  of  $G$ . Similarly, a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{-2, 1\}$  is called a bold signed total dominating function (shortly BSTDF) of  $G$ , if

$f(N(v)) \geq 1$  for each  $v \in V(G)$ . The minimum of  $w(f) = f(V(G)) = \sum_{x \in V(G)} f(x)$ , taken over all BSTDF of  $G$ , is the bold signed total domination number  $\gamma_{bst}(G)$  of  $G$ .

**Lemma 1.1** Let  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{-2, 1\}$  and  $S$  is a subset of  $V(G)$ . Then  $f(S) \equiv |S| \pmod{3}$ .

**Proof:** Let  $S^+ = \{x \in S : f(x) = 1\}$ ,  $S^- = \{x \in S : f(x) = -2\}$ . Then  $|S| = |S^+| + |S^-|$ . Therefore  $f(S) = \sum_{x \in S} f(x) = |S^+| - 2|S^-|$ . Therefore  $|S| - f(S) = 3|S^-|$  (i.e.)  $f(S) \equiv |S| \pmod{3}$ .

**Theorem 1.2** For a circuit  $C_n$  of length  $n \geq 3$  we have  $\gamma_{bst}(C_n) = n$ .

**Proof:** Let  $C_n$  be a circuit of length  $n$ . Let  $r$  be the number of vertices assigned with  $-2$ . (ie)  $n-r$  vertices assigned with  $1$ . Now  $f(N(v)) = (2-r)-2r \geq 1$  (since  $N(v)$  contains only 2 vertices in  $C_n$ ). (i.e.)  $2-3r \geq 1$  implies  $3r \leq 1$  (i.e.)  $r \leq (1/3)$ .

Since  $r$  is an integer,  $r=0$ . Therefore all the vertices are assigned with  $1$ .

Hence  $\gamma_{bst}(C_n) = \min w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v) = n$ .

**Theorem 1.3** Let  $G$  be a regular graph of degree  $r$ . Then for all  $n \geq 3$ ,

$$\gamma_{bst}(G) \geq \begin{cases} n/r & \text{if } r \equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \\ 2n/r & \text{if } r \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \\ 3n/r & \text{if } r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a regular graph of degree  $r$  and  $n$  be the number of vertices. If  $r = 1$ , then  $\gamma_{bst}(G) = 2$ . If  $r = 2$ , then  $\gamma_{bst}(G) = n$  (since  $G = C_n$ ). For  $r \geq 3$ . Let  $f$  be a BSTDF of  $G$  such that  $\min w(f) = \gamma_{bst}(G)$ . Let  $V^+ = \{v \in V(G) : f(v) = 1\}$  and  $V^- = \{v \in V(G) : f(v) = -2\}$ . Let  $E_0$  be the set of all edges joining a vertex of  $V^+$  with a vertex of  $V^-$  in  $G$ . Let  $u \in V^+$  and let  $u$  be adjacent to exactly  $s$  vertices of  $V^-$ . Hence  $s$  vertices assign values  $-2$ . Then  $u$  is adjacent to  $r-s$  vertices of  $V^+$ , since  $\deg u = r$ .  $r-s$  vertices are assigned with value  $1$ . Now  $f(N(u)) = (r-s)-2s = r-3s \geq 1$ . (since  $f$  is BSTDF,  $f(N(u)) \geq 1$ ).  $3s \leq r-1$ ,  $s \leq (r-1)/3$ . Therefore  $u$  is adjacent to atmost  $(r-1)/3$  vertices of  $V^-$ .

Since  $s$  is an integer,

$$s \leq \begin{cases} (r-1)/3 & \text{if } r \equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \\ (r-1)/3 - (1/3) & \text{if } r \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \\ (r-1)/3 - (2/3) & \text{if } r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

Now let  $v \in V^-$  and let  $v$  be adjacent to exactly  $t$  vertices of  $V^+$ . Then  $v$  is adjacent to  $(r-t)$  vertices of  $V^-$ . Therefore  $f(N(v)) = t-2(r-t) = 3t-2r \geq 1$  (since  $f(N(v)) \geq 1$ ). (i.e.)  $t \geq (1+2r)/3$ .

$$\text{Therefore } t \geq \begin{cases} (1+2r)/3 & \text{if } r \equiv 1 \pmod{3}. \\ (1+2r)/3 + (1/3) & \text{if } r \equiv 2 \pmod{3}. \\ (1+2r)/3 + (2/3) & \text{if } r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}. \end{cases}$$

If  $n^+ = |V^+|$  and  $n^- = |V^-|$ , then  $|E_0| \leq n^+ s$  and  $|E_0| \geq n^- t$ .

**Case (i)** For  $r \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

$$|E_0| \leq n^+ (r-1)/3 \text{ and } |E_0| \geq n^- (1+2r)/3.$$

$$\begin{aligned} n^- (1+2r)/3 &\leq n^+ (r-1)/3 \\ n^+ + n^- &\leq (n^+ - 2n^-) r \\ n &\leq w(f) r \\ n &\leq \gamma_{bst}(G) r \\ \gamma_{bst}(G) &\geq n/r \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\gamma_{bst}(G) \geq n/r$  if  $r \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (ii)** For  $r \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

$$|E_0| \leq n^+ [(r-1)/3 - (1/3)] \text{ and } |E_0| \geq n^- [(1+2r)/3 + (1/3)].$$

$$\begin{aligned} n^- [(1+2r)/3 + (1/3)] &\leq n^+ [(r-1)/3 - (1/3)] \\ n^- (2+2r) &\leq n^+ (r-2) \\ 2(n^+ + n^-) &\leq (n^+ - 2n^-) r \\ 2n &\leq w(f) r \\ 2n &\leq \gamma_{bst}(G) r \\ \gamma_{bst}(G) &\geq 2n/r \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\gamma_{bst}(G) \geq 2n/r$  if  $r \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

**Case (iii)** For  $r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

$$|E_0| \leq n^+ [(r-1)/3 - (2/3)] \text{ and } |E_0| \geq n^- [(1+2r)/3 + (2/3)].$$

$$\begin{aligned} n^- [(1+2r)/3 + (2/3)] &\leq n^+ [(r-1)/3 - (2/3)] \\ n^- (3+2r) &\leq n^+ (r-3) \\ 3(n^+ + n^-) &\leq (n^+ - 2n^-) r \\ 3n &\leq w(f) r \\ 3n &\leq \gamma_{bst}(G) r \\ \gamma_{bst}(G) &\geq 3n/r \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\gamma_{bst}(G) \geq 3n/r$  if  $r \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Theorem 1.4** If  $K_n$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) is a complete graph with  $n$  vertices, then

$$\gamma_{bst}(K_n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n = 3s \\ 4 & \text{if } n = 3s + 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } n = 3s + 2 \end{cases} \quad \text{for all } n \geq 3$$

**Proof:** Let  $K_n$  be a complete graph with  $n$  vertices. Therefore  $N(v)$  contains  $(n-1)$  vertices. Let  $r$  be the number of vertices assign  $-2$ . Then  $(n-1)-r$  vertices assign  $1$ . We know that  $f(N(v)) \geq 1$ . Therefore  $(n-1)-2r \geq 1$ . (i.e.)  $n-1-3r \geq 1$ . (i.e.)  $n-2 \geq 3r$ . Therefore  $r \leq (n-2)/3$ . Since  $r$  is an integer,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (n-2)/3 \\ \end{array} \right. \quad \text{if } n = 3s + 2.$$

$$r \leq \begin{cases} (n-2)/3-(2/3) & \text{if } n = 3s + 1. \\ (n-2)/3-(1/3) & \text{if } n = 3s. \end{cases}$$

Therefore  $w(f) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v) = n-r-2r = n-3r$ .

$$(i.e.) \quad w(f) \geq \begin{cases} n-3[(n-2)/3] = 2 & \text{if } r \leq (n-2)/3, n = 3s + 2. \\ n-3[(n-2)/3-(2/3)] = 4 & \text{if } r \leq (n-2)/3-(2/3), n = 3s + 1. \\ n-3[(n-2)/3-(1/3)] = 3 & \text{if } r \leq (n-2)/3-(1/3), n = 3s. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \gamma_{bst}(K_n) = \min w(f) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n = 3s \\ 4 & \text{if } n = 3s + 1 \\ 2 & \text{if } n = 3s + 2 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem 1.5** For a complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  we have

$$\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i + 1, i = 1 \text{ or } 2. \\ 3 & \text{if one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i + 1 \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 2, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 4 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i + 2 \text{ or one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 1, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 5 & \text{if one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 2, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 6 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i, i = 1, 2 \quad \text{for } m, n \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** Let  $K_{m,n}$  be a complete bipartite graph. Let  $V_1$  be a vertex set containing  $m$  vertices and  $V_2$  be a vertex set containing  $n$  vertices. Let  $r_1$  vertices assigned with  $-2$  in  $V_1$  and  $r_2$  vertices assigned with  $-2$  in  $V_2$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} f(N(v)) &= \begin{cases} n-r_2-2r_2 \geq 1 & \text{if } v \in V_1 \\ m-r_1-2r_1 \geq 1 & \text{if } v \in V_2. \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} n-3r_2 \geq 1 & \text{if } v \in V_1 \\ m-3r_1 \geq 1 & \text{if } v \in V_2. \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 3r_2 \leq n-1 & \text{if } v \in V_1 \\ 3r_1 \leq m-1 & \text{if } v \in V_2. \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 & \text{if } v \in V_1 \\ r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 & \text{if } v \in V_2. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are integers,  $m = 3s_1, 3s_1 + 1$  or  $3s_1 + 2$  and  $n = 3s_2, 3s_2 + 1$  or  $3s_2 + 2$ .

If  $m = 3s_1, r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (2/3)$  and  $n = 3s_2, r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (2/3)$ .

If  $m = 3s_1 + 1, r_1 \leq (m-1)/3$  and  $n = 3s_2 + 1, r_2 \leq (n-1)/3$ .

If  $m = 3s_1 + 2, r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (1/3)$  and  $n = 3s_2 + 2, r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (1/3)$ .

**Case (i):**

If  $m = 3s_1 + 1, n = 3s_2 + 1$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - r_1 - 2r_1 + n - r_2 - 2r_2 \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3] - 3[(n-1)/3] \\ &= m + n - m + 1 - n + 1 \\ &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(G) = \gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 2$ .

**Case (ii):**

If  $m = 3s_1 + 1, n = 3s_2 + 2$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (1/3)$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3] - 3[(n-1)/3 - (1/3)] \\ &= 3. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 3$ .

**Case (iii):**

If  $m = 3s_1 + 2, n = 3s_2 + 2$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (1/3)$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (1/3)$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3 - (1/3)] - 3[(n-1)/3 - (1/3)] \\ &= 4. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 4$ .

**Case (iv):**

If  $m = 3s_1, n = 3s_2 + 1$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (2/3)$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3 - (2/3)] - 3[(n-1)/3] \\ &= 4. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 4$ .

**Case (v):**

If  $m = 3s_1, n = 3s_2 + 2$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (2/3)$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (1/3)$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3 - (2/3)] - 3[(n-1)/3 - (1/3)] \\ &= 5. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 5$ .

**Case (vi):**

If  $m = 3s_1, n = 3s_2$ .

(i.e.)  $r_1 \leq (m-1)/3 - (2/3)$  and  $r_2 \leq (n-1)/3 - (2/3)$ .

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} w(f) &= \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v). \\ &= m - 3r_1 + n - 3r_2 \\ &\geq m + n - 3[(m-1)/3 - (2/3)] - 3[(n-1)/3 - (2/3)] \\ &= 6. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \min w(f) = 6$ .

$$\gamma_{bst}(K_{m,n}) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i + 1, i = 1 \text{ or } 2. \\ 3 & \text{if one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i + 1 \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 2, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 4 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i + 2 \text{ or one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 1, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 5 & \text{if one of } m, n \text{ is } 3s_i \text{ and another is } 3s_j + 2, i \neq j, i, j = 1, 2. \\ 6 & \text{if both } m \text{ and } n \text{ are } 3s_i, i = 1, 2 \quad \text{for } m, n \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

**References**

[1] J.A.Bondy and U.S.R.Murty, Graph Theory with Applications, The MACMILLAN Press Ltd., London and Basingstoke.

[2] Bohdan Zelinka, Liberec, Signed Total Domination Number of a Graph, Czechoslovak Mathematical Journal, 51 (126)(2001), 225-229.

[3] V.R.Kulli, Theory of Domination in Graphs, Vishwa International Publications, Gulbarga, India.

