

# Characterization Of Strong And Weak Dominating $\chi$ - Color Number In A Graph

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**Abstract:** Strong dominating  $\chi$ - color number of a graph  $G$  is defined as the maximum number of color classes which are strong dominating sets of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $sd_\chi(G)$ . Similarly, weak dominating  $\chi$ - color number of a graph  $G$  is defined as the maximum number of color classes which are weak dominating sets of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $wd_\chi(G)$ . In both the cases, the maximum is taken over all  $\chi$ -coloring of  $G$ . In this paper, some bounds for  $sd_\chi(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G)$  are obtained and characterized the graphs for which strong dominating  $\chi$ - color number and strong dominating  $\chi$ - color number exist. Finally, Nordhaus-Gaddum inequalities for  $sd_\chi(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G)$  is derived.

**Index Terms:** Dominating- $\chi$ -color number, Strong dominating  $\chi$ -color number, Weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we consider finite, connected, undirected and simple graph  $G = (V(G), E(G))$  with vertex set  $V = V(G)$  and edge set  $E = E(G)$ . The number of vertices  $|V(G)|$  of a graph  $G$  is called the order of  $G$  and the number of edges  $|E(G)|$  of a graph  $G$  is called the size of  $G$ . The order and size is denoted by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively. In graph theory, coloring and dominating are two important areas which have been extensively studied. The fundamental parameter in the theory of graph coloring is the chromatic number  $\chi(G)$  of a graph  $G$  which is defined to be the minimum number of colors required to color the vertices of  $G$  in such a way that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. If  $\chi(G) = k$ , we say that  $G$  is  $k$ -chromatic [1]. For any vertex  $v \in V(G)$ , the open neighborhood of  $v$  is the set  $N(v) = \{u | uv \in E(G)\}$  and the closed neighborhood is the set  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . Similarly, for any set  $S \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $N(S) = \cup_{v \in S} N(v) - S$  and  $N[S] = N(S) \cup S$ . A set  $S$  is a dominating set if  $N[S] = V(G)$ . The minimum cardinality of a dominating set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ [4]. A set  $D \subseteq V$  is a dominating set of  $G$ , if for every vertex  $x \in V - D$  there is a vertex  $y \in D$  with  $xy \in E$  and  $D$  is said to be strong dominating set of  $G$ , if it satisfies the additional condition  $\deg(x) \leq \deg(y)$  [2]. The strong domination number  $\gamma_{st}(G)$  is defined as the minimum cardinality of a strong dominating set. A set  $S \subseteq V$  is called weak dominating set of  $G$  if for every vertex  $u \in V - S$ , there exists vertex  $v \in S$  such that  $uv \in E$  and  $\deg(u) \geq \deg(v)$ . The weak domination number  $\gamma_w(G)$  is defined as the minimum cardinality of a weak dominating set and was

introduced by Sampathkumar and PushpaLatha [3]. The number of maximum degree vertices of  $G$  is denoted by  $n_\Delta(G)$  and the number of minimum degree vertices of  $G$  is denoted by  $n_\delta(G)$ .

## 2 TERMINOLOGY

We start with more formal definition of dominating  $\chi$ -color number of  $G$  [5]. Let  $G$  be a graph with  $\chi(G) = k$ . Let  $C = V_1, V_2, \dots, V_k$  be a  $k$ -coloring of  $G$ . Let  $d_C$  denotes the number of color classes in  $C$  which are dominating sets of  $G$ . Then  $d_\chi(G) = \max_C d_C$  where the maximum is taken over all the  $k$ -colorings of  $G$ , is called the dominating  $\chi$ -color number of  $G$ . Instead of dominating set in the definition of dominating  $\chi$ -color number, if we consider strong dominating set, then it is called strong dominating  $\chi$ -color number  $sd_\chi(G)$  and, if we consider weak dominating set, then it is called weak dominating- $\chi$ -color number  $wd_\chi(G)$ [6]. Though substantial work has been carried out on domination and coloring parameters and related topics in graphs, there are only a few results concerning strong and weak domination in graphs. The new parameter, strong dominating- $\chi$ - color number and weak dominating  $\chi$ - color number defined by us in [7]. The following are some perceived propositions,

**Proposition 1 :** For any graph  $G$ ,  $0 \leq sd_\chi(G) \leq d_\chi(G)$ .

**Proposition 2 :** For any graph  $G$ ,  $0 \leq wd_\chi(G) \leq d_\chi(G)$ .

**Proposition 3 :** For any cycle  $C_n$ :  $sd_\chi(C_n) = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{6} \\ 2, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

**Proposition 4 :** If  $W_n$ , is any wheel with  $n > 4$ , then  $sd_\chi(W_n) = 1$ .

## 3 STRONG (WEAK) DOMINATING $\chi$ - COLOR NUMBER EQUALS TO ZERO

Arumugam et al. [8] observed that "Every graph contains a  $\chi$ -coloring with the property that at least one color class is a dominating set in  $G$ ." Strong dominating  $\chi$ -color number and weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number may not exist for all the graphs, even though every graph has dominating  $\chi$ -color set and independent strong dominating set and weak dominating set. Because, in the definition of strong dominating  $\chi$ -color number and weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number, first priority goes to  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph. To examine the necessary condition for  $sd_\chi(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G)$  equals zero, we proved the following theorem.

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**Theorem 1:** If there exist a pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  such that for all  $x \in N(u)$ ,  $d(u) > d(x)$ , and for all  $y \in N(v)$ ,  $d(v) > d(y)$ , has distinct color in all possible  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ , then  $sd_\chi(G) = 0$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $D$  be a color class with vertex  $u$  of  $G$ . Let there exist a pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  such that for all  $x \in N(u)$ ,  $d(u) > d(x)$ , and for all  $y \in N(v)$ ,  $d(v) > d(y)$ , has distinct color in all possible  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ . Since the vertex  $u$  can not be strongly dominated by any vertices of  $G$ , the only one color class  $D$  may be a strong dominating  $\chi$ -color set of  $G$ . But there is vertex  $v \notin D$ , that also cannot be strongly dominated by any other vertices. Therefore,  $sd_\chi(G) = 0$ . The following theorem is immediate for weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number.

**Theorem 2:** If there exist a pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  such that for all  $x \in N(u)$ ,  $d(u) < d(x)$ , and for all  $y \in N(v)$ ,  $d(v) < d(y)$ , has distinct color in all possible  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ , then  $wd_\chi(G) = 0$ .

**4 STRONG (WEAK) DOMINATING  $\chi$ - COLOR NUMBER EQUALS TO ONE**

Negation of theorem 6, gives the following theorem 3 that characterize the graphs for which  $sd_\chi(G) \geq 1$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 3:** If there is no pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  has distinct color in  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ , then  $sd_\chi(G) \geq 1$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 4:** If there is no pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  such that for all  $x \in N(u)$ ,  $d(u) > d(x)$ , and for all  $y \in N(v)$ ,  $d(v) > d(y)$ , has distinct color in all possible  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ , then  $sd_\chi(G) \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 5:** If there is no pair of non-adjacent vertices  $(u, v)$  such that for all  $x \in N(u)$ ,  $d(u) < d(x)$ , and for all  $y \in N(v)$ ,  $d(v) < d(y)$ , has distinct color in all possible  $\chi$ -coloring of a graph  $G$ , then  $wd_\chi(G) \geq 1$ .

**Theorem 6:** For any regular graph  $G$ ,  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = d_\chi(G)$ .

**Proof :** Since all the degree of the regular graph is same, all the dominating color classes are strong as well weak. Consequently,  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = d_\chi(G)$ .

**Corollary 1:** For any complete graph  $K_n$ ;  $sd_\chi(K_n) = wd_\chi(K_n) = n$ .

**Theorem 7:** For any bi-regular graph  $G$ ,

- (a) If  $\Delta(G) \neq \delta(G)$ , then  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = 1$ .
- (b) If  $\Delta(G) = \delta(G)$ , then  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = 2$ .

**Proof:**

- (a) Since  $\Delta(G) \neq \delta(G)$ , there are two partitions with different degree. If the maximum degree vertex partition and minimum degree vertex partition associated with color class  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  respectively,

then  $C_1$  is strong dominating color set and  $C_2$  is weak dominating color set. Therefore,  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = 1$ .

- (b) Since  $\Delta(G) = \delta(G)$ , all the degree of the biregular graph is same, both the partitions are dominating color classes as well as strong and weak. Consequently,  $sd_\chi(G) = wd_\chi(G) = 2$ .

**Corollary 2:** For any star graph,  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $sd_\chi(K_{1,n}) = wd_\chi(K_{1,n}) = 1$ .

**Theorem 8:** Let  $G$  be a path  $P_n$ , then  $sd_\chi(P_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 1 \text{ or } 3 \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

**Proof:**

For  $n = 1$  or  $3$ , it is clear that  $sd_\chi(P_n) = 1$ .

For  $n = 2$ , the path  $P_2 = K_2$ .  $sd_\chi(P_n) = 2$ .

Now our claim is  $sd_\chi(P_n) = 2$ , if  $n > 3$ . Since  $P_n$  is a bipartite graph,  $d_\chi(P_n) = \chi(P_n) = 2$ , let  $A$  and  $B$  be two dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $P_n$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be the pendent vertices of  $P_n$ . If  $n$  is odd, then  $u, v \in A$ . In that case, all the vertices outside  $A$  can be strongly dominated by  $A - \{u, v\}$ . So,  $A$  strongly dominates  $B$ . All the vertices outside  $B$  can be strongly dominated by  $B$ , because the dominating set  $B$  has only vertices with maximum degree. If  $n$  is even, then  $u \in A$  and  $v \in B$ . In that case, all the vertices outside  $A$  can be strongly dominated by  $A - \{u\}$ . So,  $A$  strongly dominates  $B$ . All the vertices outside  $B$  can be strongly dominated by  $B - \{v\}$ . So,  $B$  strongly dominates  $A$ . Consequently both  $A$  and  $B$  strong dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $P_n$ . Thus,  $sd_\chi(P_n) = 2$ .

For  $n = 2$ , the path  $P_2 = K_2$ .  $wd_\chi(P_n) = 2$ . The next theorem gives the weak dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $P_n$  for  $n \neq 2$ .

**Theorem 9:** Let  $G$  be a path  $P_n$ ,  $n \neq 2$ , then

$$wd_\chi(P_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 0 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

**Proof:**

Since  $P_n$  is a bipartite graph,  $d_\chi(P_n) = \chi(P_n) = 2$ , let  $A$  and  $B$  be two dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $P_n$ . Let  $u$  and  $v$  be the pendent vertices of  $P_n$ . If  $n$  is odd, then  $u, v \in A$ . In that case, all the vertices outside  $A$  can be weakly dominated by  $A - \{u, v\}$ . So,  $A$  weakly dominates  $B$ . But the pendent vertices  $u, v$  are outside  $B$ , they cannot be weakly dominated by any vertex of  $B$ . Even though  $B$  is a dominating  $\chi$ -color set, it is not a weak dominating  $\chi$ -color set. Consequently,  $wd_\chi(P_n) = 1$ . If  $n$  is even, then  $u \in A$  and  $v \in B$ . In that case, both  $A$  and  $B$  are not weak dominating  $\chi$ -color sets. Because, the pendent vertices  $u$  and  $v$  is only dominated by its support vertices, which has degree two. Thus  $wd_\chi(P_n) = 0$ .

**Theorem 10 :** For any graphs  $G$  and  $H$ ,

$$sd_\chi(G \cup H) = \min\{sd_\chi(G), sd_\chi(H)\}.$$

**Proof:**

Let  $D_1, D_2, \dots, D_{sd_\chi(H)}$  be the strong dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $H$  and let  $C_1, C_2, \dots, C_{sd_\chi(G)}$  be the strong dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $G$ . Without loss of generality, let us assume that  $sd_\chi(G) > sd_\chi(H)$ .

Now combine the vertices of  $D_i$  and  $C_i$ , for all  $1 \leq i \leq sd_\chi(H)$ . Then

$D_1 \cup C_1, D_2 \cup C_2, \dots, D_{sd_\chi(H)} \cup C_{sd_\chi(H)}, C_{sd_\chi(H)+1}, \dots, C_{sd_\chi(G)}$  are the

color classes of  $G \cup H$ . By definition of  $G \cup H$ , no vertices of  $G$  dominates the vertices of  $H$  and vice versa. Therefore, only  $D_1 \cup C_1, D_2 \cup C_2, \dots, D_{sd_\chi(H)} \cup C_{sd_\chi(H)}$  are the strong dominating  $\chi$ -color sets of  $G \cup H$ . Hence  $sd_\chi(G \cup H) = \min\{sd_\chi(G), sd_\chi(H)\}$ .

**5 EXISTENCE OF GRAPHS WITH  $sd_\chi(G) = 1$  AND  $wd_\chi(G) = 1$**

Arumugam et al. [8] showed that “For every integer  $k \geq 0$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $\delta(G) = k$  and  $d_\chi(G) = 1$ .” In the proof, they begin with the statement “For  $k = 0$ , take  $G = \bar{K}_n$ .” But  $\bar{K}_n$  is not connected graph for  $n > 1$ , which contradicts the statement “there exists a connected graph”. So, we need to start the proof as: For  $k = 0$ , take  $G = K_1$ . Similarly, we next show that even if the minimum degree of  $G$  is arbitrarily large, the strong dominating  $\chi$ -color and weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number may be 1.

**Theorem 11 :** For every integer  $k \geq 0$ , there exists a graph  $G$  with  $\delta(G) = k$  and  $sd_\chi(G) = 1$  and  $wd_\chi(G) = 1$ .

**Proof :**

For  $k = 0$ , take  $G = K_1$ . Hence we may assume that  $k > 0$ . Let  $G_k$  be obtained from a complete bipartite graph with partite set  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  each of cardinality  $k$  by adding a new vertex  $v$  and adding all the edges between vertex  $v$  and vertices of  $V_1$ . By construction,  $\delta(G_k) = k$ . Since  $G_k$  is a bipartite graph and  $|V_1| \neq |V_2|$ ,  $sd_\chi(G) = 1$  and  $wd_\chi(G) = 1$

**Theorem 12 :** For all integers  $a \geq b \geq 0$ , there exists a graph  $G$  with  $\chi(G) = a$  and  $sd_\chi(G) = b$ .

**Proof:**

For  $a = b$ , take  $G = K_a$ . Hence we may assume that  $a > b$ . Suppose that  $a > 1$  and  $b = 1$ . Let  $G$  be obtained from a complete graph  $K_a$  by adding a new vertex  $v$  and adding an edge between vertex  $v$  and any vertices of  $K_a$ . By construction,  $\chi(G) = a$  and  $sd_\chi(G) = 1$ . Thus  $\chi(G) = a$  and  $sd_\chi(G) = b$ .

Suppose that  $a > 1$  and  $b > 1$ . Let  $G$  be obtained from complete graphs  $K_a$  with vertex set  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_a\}$  and  $K_b$  with vertex set  $\{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_b\}$  by adding  $b$  non-adjacent edges  $\{v_1 u_1, v_2 u_2, \dots, v_b u_b\}$  between them.

If  $G$  is colored by the coloring function  $c(v_i) = i$  and  $c(u_j) = j + 1$ , then  $\chi(G) = a$ . Since the coloring of  $G$  has  $b$  color classes that are strong dominating sets in  $G$ , say the color classes associated with the colors  $2, \dots, b + 1$ , we have  $sd_\chi(G) \geq b$ .

The color classes  $\{u_1, v_2\}, \{u_2, v_3\}, \dots, \{u_b, v_{b+1}\}$  are strong dominating sets of  $G$ . The remaining  $(a - b)$  color classes  $\{v_1\}, \{v_{b+2}\}, \{v_{b+3}\}, \dots, \{v_a\}$  are not dominating sets of  $G$ . Consequently,  $\chi(G) = a$  and  $sd_\chi(G) = b$ . Correspondingly, we can show the following theorem for weak dominating  $\chi$ -color number.

**Theorem 13:** For all integers  $a \geq b \geq 0$ , there exists a graph  $G$  with  $\chi(G) = a$  and  $wd_\chi(G) = b$ .

**6 NORDHAUS-GADDUM INEQUALITIES**

For any graph  $G$  with parameter  $\psi$ , sharp upper and lower bounds for both  $\psi(G) + \psi(\bar{G})$  and  $\psi(G) \cdot \psi(\bar{G})$  are referred as Nordhaus-Gaddum inequalities. In this section, some bounds

and these inequalities are derived for  $sd_\chi(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G)$ .

**Observation 1:** For all graphs  $G$ ,  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \delta + 1$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \leq \delta + 1$ .

**Theorem 14:** If any graph  $G$  is a non-regular graph with  $n$  vertices and it has a connected complement, denoted by  $\bar{G}$ , then

- (a)  $sd_\chi(G) \leq n_\Delta(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta(G)$ .
- (b)  $sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\delta(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \leq n_\delta(G)$ .
- (c)  $sd_\chi(G) + sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n$ .
- (d)  $wd_\chi(G) + wd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n$ .
- (e)  $sd_\chi(G) + wd_\chi(G) \leq n$ .
- (f)  $sd_\chi(\bar{G}) + wd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n$ .

**Proof:**

It is necessary to have a maximum degree and minimum degree vertices of  $G$  in strong dominating  $\chi$ -color set of  $G$  respectively. And number of maximum degree  $n_\Delta(G)$  and minimum degree  $n_\delta(G)$  vertices of  $G$  equal to the number of minimum degree and maximum degree vertices of  $\bar{G}$  respectively. Due to this fact, (a) and (b) can be easily proved.

From (a) and (b),  $sd_\chi(G) + sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta(G) + n_\delta(G)$ . Since  $G$  is not a regular graph,  $sd_\chi(G) < n$ ,  $wd_\chi(G) < n$  and  $n_\Delta(G) + n_\delta(G) = n$ . The following are immediate from (a) and (b).

- (c)  $sd_\chi(G) + sd_\chi(\bar{G}) = n_\Delta(G) + n_\delta(G) \leq n$ .
- (d)  $wd_\chi(G) + wd_\chi(\bar{G}) = n_\Delta(G) + n_\delta(G) \leq n$ .
- (e)  $sd_\chi(G) + wd_\chi(G) = n_\Delta(G) + n_\delta(G) \leq n$ .
- (f)  $sd_\chi(\bar{G}) + wd_\chi(\bar{G}) = n_\delta(G) + n_\Delta(G) \leq n$ .

Further, we can sharpen the bounds of  $sd_\chi(G)$  and  $wd_\chi(G)$  in the succeeding theorems. Let  $V_\Delta$  and  $V_\delta$  be the set of all vertices which has maximum and minimum degree of a graph  $G$  respectively.

**Theorem 15:** Let  $G$  be any graph, then  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \leq \chi(\langle V_\delta \rangle)$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $G$  be any graph. The maximum degree vertices of  $G$  occur minimum  $\chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of color classes of  $G$ . If all the maximum degree vertices occur in  $\chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of color classes, then  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$ . If not, there are maximum  $n_\Delta(G) - \chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  vertices occur in  $\chi(G) - \chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of color classes which are not strong dominating sets of  $G$ . Because such maximum degree vertices are non adjacent and has different color with  $\chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of maximum degree vertices. Also, those vertices cannot be strongly dominated by any other vertices of  $G$ . In that case,  $sd_\chi(G) = 0$ . Consequently,  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$ . Similarly, we can prove that  $wd_\chi(G) \leq \chi(\langle V_\delta \rangle)$ .

**Theorem 16:** Let  $G$  be any graph, then  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \omega(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  and  $wd_\chi(G) \leq \omega(\langle V_\delta \rangle)$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $G$  be any graph. The maximum degree vertices of  $G$  occur minimum  $\chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of color classes of  $G$ . It is clear that, out of this  $\chi(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$  number of color classes of  $G$ ,  $\omega(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$

number of color classes of  $G$  can be a strong dominating set of  $G$ . Even though the remaining color classes of  $G$  has maximum degree vertices, they not dominate atleast one maximum degree vertex of  $G$ . So, they are not strong dominating sets of  $G$ . Therefore,  $sd_\chi(G) \leq \omega(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$ . Similarly we can prove that  $wd_\chi(G) \leq \omega(\langle V_\Delta \rangle)$ .

**Corollary 3:** If  $\langle V_\Delta \rangle$  is a null graph, then  $sd_\chi(G) \leq 1$

**Corollary 4:** If  $\langle V_\delta \rangle$  is a null graph, then  $wd_\chi(G) \leq 1$ .

**Theorem 17:** Let  $G$  be any graph with  $n$  vertices. Then

- (a)  $0 \leq sd_\chi(G) + sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta + n_\delta$  and  $0 \leq sd_\chi(G) \cdot sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta \cdot n_\delta$
- (b)  $0 \leq wd_\chi(G) + wd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta + n_\delta$  and  $0 \leq wd_\chi(G) \cdot wd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\Delta \cdot n_\delta$

Proof: Since  $0 \leq sd_\chi(G) \leq n_\Delta$  and  $0 \leq sd_\chi(\bar{G}) \leq n_\delta$ , we can easily derive (a) and (b).

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