



# Neighborhood Tree Domatic Number and Connectivity of Graphs

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**Abstract:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a connected graph. A subset  $D$  of  $V$  is called a dominating set if every vertex in  $V - D$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $D$ . A dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  is called a neighborhood tree dominating set (ntr-set), if the induced subgraph  $\langle N(D) \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a ntr-set of  $G$  is called the neighborhood tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ntr}(G)$ . The connectivity  $\kappa(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum number of vertices whose removal results in a disconnected or trivial graph. A partition  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_n\}$  of  $V(G)$ , in which each  $V_i$  is a ntr - set in  $G$  is called a neighborhood tree domatic partition of simply ntr partition of  $G$ . The maximum order of a ntr - partition of  $G$  is called the neighborhood tree domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d_{ntr}(G)$ .

In this paper, we find an upper bound for the sum of the neighborhood tree domination number and connectivity of a graph and to find bounds for  $d_{ntr}(G)$  and its exact value for some particular classes of graphs are studied.

**Keywords:** Domination number, tree domination, neighborhood tree domination number, connectivity, domatic number.  
**Subject classification:** 05C69.

## INTRODUCTION

The graph  $G = (V, E)$ , we mean a finite, undirected, connected simple graph. The order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $n$  and  $m$  respectively. The open neighborhood and the closed neighborhood of  $v \in V$  are denoted by  $N(v)$  and  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$  respectively. If  $D \subseteq V$ , then  $N(D) = \bigcup_{v \in D} N(v)$  and  $N[D] = N(D) \cup D$ .

The study of domination in graphs has found rapid growth in the recent years. It is a highly flourishing area of research in graph theory. So far, hundreds of research articles have appeared on this topic of research in view of its growing real life application.

A subset  $D$  of  $V$  is called a dominating set of  $G$  if  $N[D] = V$ . The minimum cardinality of a minimal dominating set of  $G$  is called the domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ . An excellent treatment of the fundamentals of domination is given in the book by Haynes et al. [4]. A survey of several advanced topics in domination is given in the book edited by Haynes et al. [5].

Xuegang Chen, Liang Sun and Alice McRae [8] introduced the concept of tree domination in graphs. A

dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  is called a tree dominating set, if the induced subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  is tree. The minimum cardinality of a tree dominating set of  $G$  is called the tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{tr}(G)$ . S. Arumugam and C. Sivagnanam introduced the concepts of neighborhood connected and neighborhood total domination in graphs [1,2]. A dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  is called a neighborhood connected dominating set (ncd-set), if the induced subgraph  $\langle N(D) \rangle$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a ncd-set of  $G$  is called the neighborhood connected domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{nc}(G)$ .

A dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  is called a neighborhood total dominating set, if the induced subgraph  $\langle N(D) \rangle$  has no isolated vertices. The minimum cardinality of a ntd-set of  $G$  is called the neighborhood total domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ntd}(G)$ .

We introduced the concept of neighborhood tree dominating set in [6]. Zelinka [10] studied the connected domatic number of a graph. Chen et al. [9] studied the tree domatic number of a graph.

A dominating set  $D$  of a connected graph  $G$  is called a neighborhood tree dominating set (ntr-set), if the induced subgraph  $\langle N(D) \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum



cardinality of a ntr-set of  $G$  is called the neighborhood tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G)$ . The tree domatic number of  $G$  is the maximum number of pairwise disjoint tree dominating sets in  $V(G)$  and is denoted by  $d_{\text{tr}}(G)$ .

A partition  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_n\}$  of  $V(G)$ , in which each  $V_i$  is a ntr - set in  $G$  is called a neighborhood tree domatic partition of simply ntr partition of  $G$ . the maximum order of a ntr partition of  $G$  is called the neighborhood tree domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d_{\text{nt}}(G)$ . The connectivity  $\kappa(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum number of vertices whose removal results in a disconnected or trivial graph.

In this paper, we find an upper bound for the sum of the neighborhood tree domination number and connectivity of a graph and to find bounds for  $d_{\text{nt}}(G)$  and its exact value for some particular classes of graphs are studied.

## 2. PRIOR RESULTS

**THEOREM: 2.1[6]** Let  $G$  be a connected graph on  $n \geq 3$  vertices. Then  $0 \leq \gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq n - 1$  and  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  iff  $G \cong P_3$ .

**THEOREM: 2.2[1]** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\kappa(G) \leq \delta(G)$ .

## 3. MAIN RESULTS

**THEOREM: 3.1** For any connected graph  $G$  with  $n$  vertices,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) \leq 2n - 3$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

**PROOF:**

By theorem 2.1 and 2.2,

$$\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) \leq n - 1 + \delta(G) \leq n - 1 + n - 1 \leq 2n - 2.$$

If  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 2$ , then the following cases are to be considered.

- (i)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$ .
- (ii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$

Since  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq n - 1$  the case (ii) alone be considered. But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  iff  $G \cong P_3$  and  $\kappa(P_3) = 1 \neq n - 1$ . Therefore, there is no connected graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 2$ . Hence,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) \leq 2n - 3$ ,  $n \geq 3$ .

**THEOREM: 3.2** Let  $G$  be a connected graph. Then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 3$  ( $n \geq 3$ ) if and only if  $G$  is isomorphic to one of the graphs  $C_3$  and  $P_3$ .

**PROOF:**

If  $G \cong P_3$  then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = 1$  and hence  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 3 = 2n - 3$ .

If  $G \cong C_3$  then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = 2$  and  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 3 = 2n - 3$ .

Conversely, assume  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 3$ , for  $n \geq 3$ . Then the following cases are to be considered.

- (i)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$
- (ii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$
- (iii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$ .

Case(i):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$ .

Since for any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq n - 1$ , this case is not possible.

Case(ii):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$

$\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  if and only if  $G \cong P_3$  and  $\kappa(P_3) = 1 = n - 2$ . Therefore  $G \cong P_3$ .

Case(iii):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$ .

If  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$ , then  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 0$  for  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_3$  (or)  $C_3$ . Also  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(C_3) = 1 = n - 2$ .

Therefore, from case(ii) and case(iii),  $G \cong P_3$  (or)  $C_3$ .

**THEOREM: 3.3** There is no connected graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 4$ , where  $n \geq 3$ .

**PROOF:**

Assume  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 4$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . Then the following cases are to be considered.

- (i)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 4$
- (ii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$
- (iii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$
- (iv)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$

There is no connected graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$ ,  $\kappa(G) = n - 4$  and  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$ ,  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$ .

Case(iii):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2 = \kappa(G)$

Since  $\kappa(G) \leq \delta(G)$ ,  $\delta(G) \geq n - 2$ .

(a) If  $\delta(G) > n - 2$ , then  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 0$  for  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_3$ , and  $\kappa(K_3) = 2 \neq n - 2$ .

(b) Assume  $\delta(G) = n - 2$ . Then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_n - Y$  where  $Y$  is a matching in  $K_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq 2$ . If  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 2 = n - 2$  then  $n = 4$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_4 - e$ ,  $C_4$ . If  $G \cong C_4$ , then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 0$ . If  $G \cong K_4 - e$ , then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 1 \neq n - 2$ . If  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) < 2$ , then  $n - 2 < 2$ . That is,  $n \leq 3$ . Therefore  $n = 3$  and  $G \cong P_3$  (or)  $C_3$ . If  $G \cong P_3$ ,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(P_3) = n - 1$ . If  $G \cong C_3$ ,  $\kappa(C_3) = 2 \neq n - 2$ .



Case(iv):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$

If  $\delta(G) = n - 1$ , then  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 3$ . But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(K_n) = 0$  for  $n \geq 4$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_3$  and  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = \gamma_{\text{nt}}(K_3) = 1 \neq n - 3$ . Therefore, there is no connected graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 4$ .

**THEOREM: 3.4** For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 5$  ( $n \geq 4$ ) if and only if  $G \cong K_4 - e$ ,  $K_5 - \{e_1, e_2\}$ .

**PROOF:**

Assume  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) + \kappa(G) = 2n - 5$ , then the following cases are to be considered.

- (i)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 5$
- (ii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 1$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 4$
- (iii)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$
- (iv)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$
- (v)  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 4$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 1$

There is no connected graph  $G$  satisfying (i), (ii), and (v).

$\kappa(K_4 - e) = 1 \neq n - 2$ . Therefore,  $G \cong P_4$ . If  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) < 2$ , then  $n \leq 3$ . But  $n \geq 4$ . Therefore,  $\delta(G) = n - 3$ .

Let  $X = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-3}\}$  be a vertex cut of  $G$  and  $V - X = \{x_1, x_2, x_3\}$ .

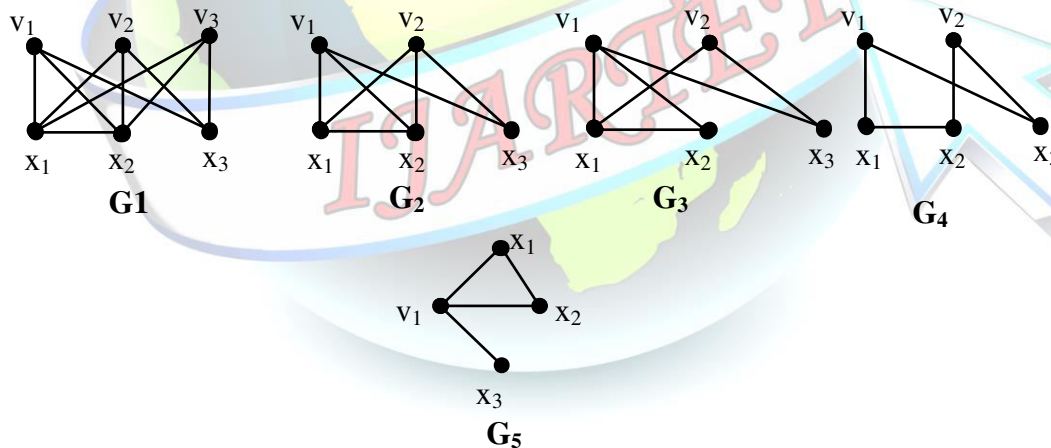
Subcase: 3.1  $\langle V - X \rangle \cong \overline{K_3}$

Since  $\delta(G) = n - 3$ , each vertex in  $V - X$  is adjacent to all the vertices of  $X$ .

(1) Assume  $E(\langle X \rangle) = \emptyset$ . If  $|X| \geq 4$ , then  $\langle X \rangle$  contains atleast one edge. Therefore,  $|X| \leq 3$ . Hence,  $G \cong K_{3,3}$ ,  $K_{2,3}$  or  $K_{1,3}$ . But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(K_{3,3}) = \gamma_{\text{nt}}(K_{2,3}) = 0$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_{1,3}$ .

(2) Let  $E(\langle X \rangle) \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $\langle X \rangle$  contains exactly one edge say  $(v_1, v_2) \in E(\langle X \rangle)$ . Then  $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-3}\}$  is a ntr - set of  $G$  and hence  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq n - 4$ . If  $\langle X \rangle$  is a tree, then  $V - X$  is a ntr - set of  $G$  and hence  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq |V - X| = 3$ .

That is.,  $n - 2 \leq 3 \Rightarrow n \leq 5$  and hence  $|X| \leq 2$ . If  $|X| = 2$ , then  $G \cong K_2 + 3 K_1$ . If  $|X| = 2$ , then  $G \cong K_{1,3}$ . If  $|X|$  contains atleast two edge and  $\langle X \rangle$  is not a tree, then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 0$ .



Case (iii):  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = n - 2$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 3$

Then  $\delta(G) \geq n - 3$ , since  $\kappa(G) \leq \delta(G)$ . If  $\delta(G) = n - 1$ , then  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . But  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(K_n) = 0$  for  $n \geq 4$ . If  $\delta(G) = n - 2$ , then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_n - Y$ , where  $Y$  is matching in  $K_n$ . Then  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) \leq 2$ . If  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(G) = 2$ , then  $n = 4$ . Therefore  $K_4 - e$ ,  $C_4$ . If  $G \cong C_4$ ,  $\gamma_{\text{nt}}(C_4) = 0$ . If  $G \cong K_4 - e$ ,

Sub case: 3.2  $\langle V - X \rangle \cong K_2 \cup K_1$ .

Let  $(x_1, x_2) \in E(G)$ . Since  $\delta(G) = n - 3$ ,  $x_3$  is adjacent to all the vertices in  $X$ . That is,  $d(x_3) = n - 3$ .

(1)  $E(\langle X \rangle) = \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $d(v_i) \leq 3$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 3$ .





$3 \Rightarrow n \leq 6$

$\Rightarrow |X| \leq 3$ .

(a)  $|X| = 3$ . Then  $|V(G)| = 6$  and  $\delta(G) = n - 3 \leq 3$ . Each vertex in  $X$  is adjacent to all the vertices of  $V - X$ . If  $G \cong G_1$ , then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G_1) = 2 \neq n - 2$ .

(b)  $|X| = 2$ . Then  $|V(G)| = 5$  and  $\delta(G) = n - 3 \leq 2$ . If  $G \cong G_2$  and  $d(x_1) = d(x_2) = 3$  and  $d(x_3) = 2$  and then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G_2) = 2 \neq n - 2$ . If  $G \cong G_3$  and  $d(x_1) = 3$  and  $d(x_2) = d(x_3) = 2$  and then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G_3) = 2 \neq n - 2$ . If  $G \cong G_4$  and  $d(x_1) = d(x_2) = d(x_3) = 2$  and then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G_4) = 0$ .

(c)  $|X| = 1$ . Then  $|V(G)| = 4$  and  $\delta(G) = n - 3 \leq 1$ . If  $G \cong G_5$  and  $d(x_1) = d(x_2) = 2$  and  $d(x_3) = 1$  and then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G_5) = 2 = n - 2$ .

(2).  $E(\langle X \rangle) \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $\delta(G) = n - 3$ ,  $d(x_1), d(x_2) \geq n - 3$ . Therefore,  $x_1, x_2$  are adjacent to atleast  $(n - 4)$  vertices of  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-3}$ . Let  $d(x_1) = d(x_2) = n - 2$ . If  $\langle X \rangle$  contains an edge, then any dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  containing  $(n - 2)$  vertices,  $\langle N(D) \rangle$  contains a cycle and hence  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 0$ . Let  $d(x_1) = d(x_2) = n - 3$  and  $(v_{n-4}, v_{n-3}) \in E(G)$ . Let  $x_1$  be adjacent to  $v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-4}$ . Then  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-4}\}$  is a ntr-set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq n - 4$ . Let  $d(x_1) = n - 2$ ,  $d(x_2) = n - 3$  and let  $x_2$  be non adjacent to  $v_{n-3}$ . Then  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_{n-4}\}$  is a ntr-set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq n - 4$ . If  $\langle X \rangle$  contains atleast two edges then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 0$ .

Sub case: 3.3  $\langle V - X \rangle \cong P_3$

- (1) If  $E(\langle X \rangle) = \emptyset$ , then  $X$  is an ntr-set of  $G$  and hence  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq |X| = n - 3$ .
- (2) If  $E(\langle X \rangle) \neq \emptyset$ , and if  $\langle X \rangle$  contains exactly one edge, then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq n - 4$ . If  $E(\langle X \rangle) \neq \emptyset$ , and if  $\langle X \rangle$  contains exactly two edge, then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 0$ .

Sub case: 3.4  $\langle V - X \rangle \cong C_3$

Then any dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  containing  $(n - 2)$  vertices contain a cycle and hence  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 0$ .

case (iv):  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = n - 2$

Therefore,  $\delta(G) \geq n - 2$ . If  $\delta(G) = n - 1$ , then  $G \cong K_n$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . But  $\gamma_{ntr}(K_n) = 0$ ,  $n \geq 4$ . Let  $\delta(G) = n - 2$ . Then  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_n - Y$ , where  $Y$  is a matching in  $G$ ,  $n \geq 4$  and  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq 2$ . If  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 2$ , then  $n = 5$ . Therefore,  $G \cong K_5 - e$  (or)  $K_5 - (e_1, e_2)$ , where  $(e_1, e_2)$  is a matching. If  $G \cong K_5 - e$ , then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 0$ . If  $G \cong K_5 - (e_1, e_2)$ , then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 2 = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = 3 = n - 2$ . If  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 1$ , then  $n = 4$ . Therefore,

$G \cong K_4 - e$ ,  $C_4$ . But  $\gamma_{ntr}(C_4) = 0$ . If  $G \cong K_4 - e$ , then  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = 1 = n - 3$  and  $\kappa(G) = 2 = n - 2$ .

#### 4. NEIGHBORHOOD TREE DOMATIC NUMBER

In this section we define a new parameter known as neighborhood tree domatic partition of a given graph and study that parameter.

DEFINITION: 4.1

A **domatic partition** of  $G$  is a partition  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_n\}$  of  $V(G)$ , in which each  $V_i$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . The maximum order of a domatic partition of  $G$  is called the domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d(G)$ .

DEFINITION: 4.2

A partition  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_n\}$  of  $V(G)$ , in which each  $V_i$  is a ncd - set in  $G$  is called a **neighborhood connected domatic partition** of simply ncd partition of  $G$ . the maximum order of a ncd partition of  $G$  is called the neighborhood connected domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d_{ncd}(G)$ .

DEFINITION: 4.3

A partition  $\{V_1, V_2, V_3, \dots, V_n\}$  of  $V(G)$ , in which each  $V_i$  is a ntr - set in  $G$  is called a **neighborhood tree domatic partition** of simply ntr partition of  $G$ . the maximum order of a ntr partition of  $G$  is called the neighborhood tree domatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $d_{ntr}(G)$ .

EXAMPLE: 4.1



$$D_1 = \{v_1, v_4\}, V - D_1 = \{v_2, v_3\}$$

$$D_2 = \{v_2, v_3\}, d_{ntr}(G) = 2$$

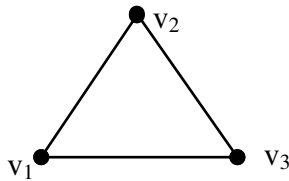
REMARKS:

- a) If  $G \cong C_3$ , then  $d_t(G) = d_{ntr}(G) = \kappa(G)$  where  $\kappa(G)$  is the connectivity of  $G$ .
- b) Since any tree domatic partition of  $G$  is a ntr - domatic partition, we have  $d_{tr}(G) \leq d_{ntr}(G) \leq d(G)$ .



c) Let  $v \in V(G)$  and  $d(v) = \delta$ . Since any ntr – set of  $G$  must contains either  $v$  (or) neighbor of  $v$ , it follows that  $d_{ntr}(G) \leq \delta(G) + 1$ .

EXAMPLE 4.2:



$$d_{ntr}(G) \leq \delta(G) + 1 = 3$$

$$d_t(G) = d_{ntr}(G) = \kappa(G) = 3$$

Now we give some observations, theorems relating neighborhood tree domatic numbers of some classes of graphs.

Observation: 4.1

If  $\{V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{d_{ntr}}\}$  is a neighborhood tree domatic partition of  $G$ . Since  $|V_k| \geq \gamma_{ntr}$  for each  $k$ , it follows that  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \cdot d_{ntr}(G) \leq n$ .

EXAMPLE 4.3:

If  $G \cong G_1 \circ K_1$ , where  $G_1$  is any tree then  $d_{ntr}(G) = 2$  and  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) = n/2$  and hence  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \cdot d_{ntr}(G) = n$ .

THEOREM : 4.1

For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\lfloor d(G)/2 \rfloor \leq d_{ntr}(G) \leq d(G)$  and the bounds are sharp.

PROOF:

Since every neighborhood tree dominating set, we have  $d_{ntr}(G) \leq d(G)$ . Further, since the union of two disjoint dominating sets is a neighborhood tree dominating set, we have  $\lfloor d(G)/2 \rfloor \leq d_{ntr}(G)$ .

Also for the graphs  $G \cong P_3, K_{1, n-1}, J_{m, n}, T_n$ ,  $\lfloor d(G)/2 \rfloor = d_{ntr}(G)$ . For the graph  $G = K_3$ ,  $d_{ntr}(G) = d(G) = 3$ .

THEOREM: 4.2

If  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) > 0$ , then  $d_{ntr}(G) \leq \frac{n}{\gamma_{ntr}(G)}$  and the bound is sharp.

PROOF:

Let  $\{D_1, D_2, \dots, D_k\}$  is a partition of  $V(G)$  into  $k$  neighborhood tree dominating sets, such that  $d_{ntr}(G) = k$ . Since each  $\langle N(D_i) \rangle$  is a neighborhood tree dominating set, it follows that  $\gamma_{ntr}(G) \leq |D_i|$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k$ .

$$\text{Thus, } n = \sum_{1 \leq i \leq k} |D_i| \geq \gamma_{ntr}(G) \cdot k$$

THEOREM: 4.3

For the path  $P_n$  ( $n \geq 4$ ), we have

$$d_{ntr}(P_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ 2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

PROOF:

Let  $V(P_n) = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\}$ .

If  $n$  is odd,  $V(P_n)$  is the only ntr – set. Suppose  $n$  is even, it follows from remarks that  $d_{ntr}(P_n) \leq 2$ .

Now, let

$$S = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor} \{v_{4i-2}, v_{4i-1}\} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{let } V_1 = \begin{cases} S & n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ S \cup v_n & n \equiv 1, 2 \pmod{4} \\ S \cup \{v_{n-1}, v_n\} & n \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$

Then  $\{V_1, V - V_1\}$  is a ntr- domatic partition of  $P_n$  and hence  $d_{ntr}(P_n) = 2$ .

Observation 4.2:

For the cycle  $C_n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ), we have

$$d_{ntr}(C_n) = \begin{cases} 3 & \text{if } n=3 \\ 2 & \text{if } n=4k+2, k \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

Observation 4.3:  $d_{ntr}(K_{1, n-1}) = 1, n \geq 3$ .

Observation 4.4:  $d_{ntr}(S_{m, n}) = 2, m, n \geq 1$ .

Observation 4.5:  $d_{ntr}(P_n \bullet K_1) = 2, n \geq 2$ .

Observation 4.6:  $d_{ntr}(P_n + K_1) = 3, n \geq 2$ .

Observation 4.7:  $d_{ntr}(\overline{P_n}) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } n=4 \\ 0 & \text{if } n \geq 4 \end{cases}$



Observation 4.8:  $d_{\text{nt}}(\overline{C_6}) = 3$

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