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ISSN (Online) : 2455 - 3662  
SJIF Impact Factor :3.395 (Morocco)

EPRA International Journal of  
**Multidisciplinary  
Research**

**Volume: 2 Issue: 5 May 2016**



**Published By :**  
**EPRA Journals**

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# TOTAL COMPLEMENTARY TREE DOMINATION NUMBER OF GRAPHS

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## ABSTRACT

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a non-trivial, simple, finite and undirected graph. A dominating set  $D$  is called a complementary tree dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a complementary tree dominating set is called the complementary tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ctd}(G)$ . A dominating set  $D$  is called a total complementary tree dominating set (tctd-set) if every vertex  $v \in V$  is adjacent to an element of  $D$  and  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a total complementary tree dominating set is called the total complementary tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$ . In this paper, bounds for  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  and its exact values for particular classes of graphs are found. Some results on total complementary tree domination numbers are also established.

**KEYWORDS:** Total domination, total complementary tree domination.

**AMS Subject Classification (2010):** 05C69.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

The graphs considered here are nontrivial, simple, finite and undirected. Let  $G$  be a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and edge set  $E(G)$ . For  $v \in V(G)$  the neighbourhood  $N(v)$  of  $v$  is the set of all vertices adjacent to  $v$  in  $G$ .  $N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$  is called the closed neighborhood of  $v$ .  $N_i[v] = \{v \in V(G) : d(u, v) = i\}$  is called the  $i$ th neighbourhood of  $v$ . The corona  $G_1 \odot G_2$  of two graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  defined as the graph  $G$  of order  $p_1$  and  $p_1$  copies of  $G_2$  and then joining the  $i$ th copy of  $G_2$ . It has  $p_1(1 + p_2)$  vertices and  $q_1 + p_1q_2 + p_1p_2$  edges. For any graph  $G$ , the corona  $G \odot K_1$  is denoted by  $G^+$ .  $C_3^+ - v$ , where  $v$  is a pendant vertex of  $C_3^+$  is called a bull graph. The concept of domination was first studied by Ore [5]. A set  $D \subseteq V$  is said to a dominating set of  $G$ , if every vertex in  $V-D$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $D$ . The minimum cardinality of a dominating set is called the domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ . The concept of complementary tree domination was introduced by S. Muthammai, M. Bhanumathi and P. Vidhya in [4]. A dominating set  $D \subseteq V$  is called a complementary tree dominating (ctd) set, if the induced subgraph  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a complementary tree dominating set is called the complementary tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ctd}(G)$ . A dominating set  $D$  is called a total dominating set if every vertex  $v \in V$  is adjacent to an element of  $D$ . The minimum cardinality of a total dominating set in  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_t(G)$ . A dominating set  $D$  is called a total complementary tree dominating set if every vertex  $v \in V$  is adjacent to an element of  $D$  and  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree. The minimum cardinality of a total complementary tree dominating set is called the total complementary tree domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$ .

Kulli and Janakiram [7] introduced the concept of split domination in graphs. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a split dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is disconnected. The split domination

number  $\gamma_s(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a split dominating set. Kulli and Janakiram [8] introduced the concept of non-split domination in graphs. A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a non split dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is connected. The non split domination number  $\gamma_{ns}(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a non split dominating set. In this paper bounds for  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  and its exact values for particular classes of graphs are found. Some results on total complementary tree domination number are also established.

## 2 PRIOR RESULTS

### Theorem 2.1. [5]

A dominating set  $D$  of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a minimal dominating set if and only if for each vertex  $v$  in  $D$ , one of the following two conditions hold

- (i)  $v$  is an isolatex vertex of  $D$
- (ii) there exist a vertex  $u$  in  $V-D$  for which  $N(u) \cap D = \{v\}$

### Theorem 2.2. [1]

- (i) if  $G$  is a connected graph with  $p \geq 3$  vertices, then  $\gamma_t(G) = 2p/3$
- (ii) if  $G$  has  $p$  vertices and no isolated then  $\gamma_t(G) = p - \Delta(G) + 1$
- (iii) if  $G$  is connected  $\Delta(G) \leq p - 1$ , then  $\gamma_t(G) = p - \Delta(G)$

### Observation 2.1. [4]

- (i) For any connected graph,  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{ctd}(G)$ .
- (ii) For any connected graph  $H$  of  $G$ ,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) \leq \gamma_{ctd}(H)$ .
- (iii) For any connected graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) \leq p-1$ .

## 3 TOTAL COMPLEMENTARY TREE DOMINATION NUMBER OF GRAPHS

### Definition 3.1.

A complementary tree dominating set  $D \subseteq V$  of a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is said to be a total complementary tree dominating set (tctd-set), if the induced subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertices.

The minimum cardinality of a tctd-set  $D$  of a connected graph  $G$  is called the total complementary tree domination number, denoted by  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  and such a set  $D$  is called a  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set.

A total ctd-set  $D$  of  $G$  is minimal, if no proper subset of  $D$  is a tctd-set of  $G$ . It is to be noted that  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set exists for all connected graphs.

### Observation 3.1.

Since every total complementary tree dominating set is a complementary tree dominating set,  $\gamma_{ctd}(G) \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$  for any connected graph  $G$ . Also, every total complementary tree dominating set is a total dominating set. Therefore

$\gamma_t(G) \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$  for any connected graph  $G$ .

### Note.

If  $G$  is a connected graph and  $H$  is any connected spanning (induced) subgraph of  $G$ , then it is not necessary that the inequality  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq \gamma_{tctd}(H)$  holds.

### Example 3.1.

For the graph  $G$  in Figure 1,  $H_1$  is a spanning subgraph of  $G$  and  $H_2$  is an induced subgraph of  $G$ .

$\gamma_{tctd}(G) = 3$ , whereas  $\gamma_{tctd}(H_1) = 2$  and  $\gamma_{tctd}(H_2) = 2$ .

In analogous to Theorem 2.4 [4], following result characterizes minimal total complementary tree dominating sets and is stated without proof.

### Theorem 3.1.

A total complementary dominating set  $D \subseteq V$  of a connected graph  $G = (V, E)$  is minimal if and only if for each vertex  $v \in D$ , one of the following conditions hold

- (i)  $v$  is not an isolated vertex of  $G$ .
- (ii) There exists a vertex  $u$  in  $V-D$  such that  $N(u) \cap D = \{v\}$
- (iii)  $N(v) \cup (V - D) = \phi$
- (iv) The subgraph  $\langle (V - D) \cup \{v\} \rangle$  of  $G$  either contains a cycle or disconnected.
- (v)  $D - \{v\}$  contains isolated vertices.

### Observation 3.2.

- (i) For any connected graph  $G$  with atleast three vertices,  $2 \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-1$ . The lower bound is attained, when  $G \cong W_p$ , wheel on  $p$  vertices and the upper bound is attained, when  $G \cong K_{1,p}$ ,  $p \geq 3$ .
- (ii) If  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-2$ , then pendant vertices and supports of  $G$  are members of every tctd-set and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq m+n$ , where  $m$  and  $n$  are number of pendant vertices and supports of  $G$ , respectively.

### Observation 3.3.

- (i) For the path  $P_n$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(P_n) = n-2$ ,  $n \geq 4$ .

- (ii) For the cycle  $C_n$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(C_n) = n-2, n \geq 4$ .
- (iii) For the complete graph  $K_n$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(K_n) = n-2, n \geq 4$ .
- (iv) For the star  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(K_{1,n}) = n, n \geq 3$ .
- (v) For the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(K_{m,n}) = \min(m, n), m, n \geq 2$ .
- (vi)  $\gamma_{tctd}(C_n \circ K_1) = 2n-1, n \geq 3$ .  
Here,  $V(C_n \circ K_1)$  - a pendant vertex forms a  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set.
- (vii) For the wheel  $W_n$  with  $n$  vertices,  $\gamma_{tctd}(W_n) = 2, n \geq 4$ .
- (viii) For the subdivision graph of star  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = 2n, n \geq 2$ .  
Here, all the  $n$  pendant vertices and  $n$  support vertices forms a  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set.

**Proposition 3.1.**

Let  $C_n^{(t)}$ ,  $t \geq 2$  be the one point union of  $t$  cycles of length  $n$  ( $n \geq 3$ ), then

$$\gamma_{tctd}(C_n^{(t)}) = \begin{cases} (n-1)t, & n = 3 \\ (n-2)t + 1, & n = 4 \\ (n-3)t + 1, & n \geq 5. \end{cases}$$

**Proof.**

$G = C_n^{(t)}$  and  $u$  be the point of union of  $t$  cycles of length  $n$ .

$G$  has  $t(n-1)+1$  vertices. Let the vertex set of  $k^{th}$  cycle in  $C_n^{(t)}$  be

$$V_k = \{u, u_{k1}, u_{k2}, \dots, u_{k,n-1}\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, t.$$

**Case 1.**  $n = 3$ .

$$\text{Let } D_k = \{u_{k1}, u_{k2}\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, t \text{ and } D = \bigcup_{k=1}^t D_k \subseteq V(G).$$

Then,  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_1$  and let  $v \in D$ , then  $\langle V-(D-\{v\}) \rangle$  either contains a cycle or is disconnected and hence,  $D$  is a minimum  $tctd$ -set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = |D| = (n-1)t$ .

**Case 2.**  $n = 4$ .

$$\text{Let } D_k = \{u_{k2}, u_{k3}\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, t \text{ and } D = \bigcup_{k=1}^t D_k \cup \{u_{11}\} \subseteq V(G).$$

Then,  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_{1,t}$ . As in case 1,  $D$  is a minimum  $tctd$ -set of  $G$  and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = |D| = (n-2)t+1$ .

**Case 3.**  $n \geq 5$ .

$$\text{Let } D_k = \{u_{k2}, u_{k3}, \dots, u_{k,n-2}\}, k = 1, 2, \dots, t \text{ and } D = \bigcup_{k=1}^t D_k \cup \{u_{11}\} \subseteq V(G).$$

Then,  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_{1,2t-1}$ . As in case 1,  $D$  is a minimum  $tctd$ -set of  $G$  and hence  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = |D| = (n-3)t+1$ . □

**4 BOUNDS AND SOME EXACT VALUES FOR THE TOTAL COMPLEMENTARY TREE DOMINATION NUMBER**

In the following, a lower bound of  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  in terms of order and size of the graph  $G$  is given.

**Theorem 4.1.**

For any connected  $(p, q)$  ( $p \geq 3$ ) graph  $G$ ,

$$\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq \left\lfloor \frac{2(2p-q-1)}{3} \right\rfloor$$

**Proof.**

Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set of  $G$ . Let  $t$  be the number of edges in  $G$  having one vertex in  $D$  and the other in  $V-D$  and  $s$  be the number of edges in  $D$ . The number of vertices in  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is  $p-\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  and since  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree, number of edges in  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is  $p-\gamma_{tctd}(G)-1$ . Since there are atleast  $p-\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  edges from  $V-D$  to  $D$ ,  $t \geq p-\gamma_{tctd}(G)$ . Also,  $\sum_{v \in D} \deg_{\langle D \rangle}(v) = 2s$

and  $\deg_{\langle D \rangle}(v) \geq 1$ , for each  $v \in D$  implies that  $2s \geq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ . Hence,  $s \geq \frac{\gamma_{tctd}(G)}{2}$ .

Therefore,  $q = \text{number of edges in } \langle D \rangle + t + p - \gamma_{tctd}(G) - 1$

$$\geq \frac{\gamma_{tctd}(G)}{2} + p - \gamma_{tctd}(G) + p - \gamma_{tctd}(G) - 1$$

That is,  $q \geq 2p - 1 - \frac{3\gamma_{tctd}(G)}{2}$ .

Hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq \left\lfloor \frac{2(2p - q - 1)}{3} \right\rfloor$ .

This bound is attained, if  $G \cong C_4$ . □

**Corollary 4.1.**

If  $G$  is a tree on  $p$  vertices, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq \frac{2p}{3}$  and is attained, if  $G$  is the graph obtained from  $P_m^+$  ( $m \geq 2$ ) by subdividing each pendant edge exactly once.

**Proof.**

Replacing  $q$  by  $p-1$  in Theorem 4.1  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq \frac{2p}{3}$  is obtained. □

**Observation 4.1.**

Since  $\gamma_t(G) \geq \left\lfloor \frac{P}{\Delta(G)} \right\rfloor$  for a connected graph  $G$  and  $\gamma_t(G) \geq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ , we have  $\left\lfloor \frac{P}{\Delta(G)} \right\rfloor \leq \gamma_t(G)$ . This bound

is attained, if  $G \cong C_4, C_5, W_n, n \geq 4$ .

**Theorem 4.2.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) \geq 2$  and  $\text{diam}(G) \geq 3$ . If there exists a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that the induced subgraph  $\langle N(v) \rangle$  is totally disconnected, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p - \delta(G)$ , where  $N(v)$  is the neighbourhood set of  $v$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $v \in V(G)$  be such that  $\langle N(v) \rangle$  is totally disconnected. Then,  $\langle N[v] \rangle \cong K_{1,t}$  where  $t = \text{deg}(v) \geq \delta(G)$ . Let  $u \in N(v)$ . Then,  $D = V - N[v] \cup \{u\}$  is a total dominating of  $G$ . Also,  $\langle V - D \rangle \cong K_{1,t-1}$ .

Therefore,  $D$  is a tctd-set of  $G$  and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{tctd}(G) &\leq |D| \\ &= |V - N[v] \cup \{u\}| \\ &= p - (t + 1) + 1 \\ &= p - t \\ &\leq p - \delta(G) \end{aligned}$$

Equality holds, if  $G \cong C_n, n \geq 6$ . □

**Remark 4.1.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$  and  $\delta(G) \geq 2$ . If there exists a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $\langle N(v) \rangle$  is totally disconnected and  $\langle N_2(v) \rangle$  contains no isolated vertices, then

$$\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p - \delta(G),$$

where  $N_2(v)$  is the second neighbourhood set of  $v$ .

**Theorem 4.3.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$ . If there exists a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $\langle N_2(v) \rangle$  is a tree, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq \Delta(G) + 1$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $v \in V(G)$  be such that  $\langle N_2(v) \rangle$  is a tree.

Since  $\text{diam}(G) = 2$ ,  $N(v)$  is a dominating set of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $N[v]$  is a total dominating set of  $G$ .

Since  $\langle N_2(v) \rangle$  is a tree,  $N[v]$  is a tctd-set of  $G$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma_{tctd}(G) &\leq |N[v]| \\ &= \text{deg}_G(v) + 1 \\ &\leq \Delta(G) + 1 \end{aligned}$$

This bound is attained, if  $G \cong C_5$ . □

**Theorem 4.4.**

Let T be a tree with atleast three vertices. Then the set of all pendant vertices and supports of T are tctd-set if and only if

- (i) each nonsupport of T of degree atleast 2 is adjacent to exactly one support and
- (ii) no two nonsupports of degree atleast 2 is adjacent to the same support.

**Proof.**

Let D be the set of all pendant vertices and supports of T and be a tctd-set of T. Then,  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree and it contains nonsupports of T.

If the above conditions do not hold, then T contains a cycle.

Conversely, if the condition (i) and (ii) hold, then  $V(T) - \text{nonsupports}$  is a tctd-set of G. □

**Remark 4.2.**

From the above theorem, T is the tree obtained from  $P_n^+$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) by subdividing each pendant edge exactly once.

**Theorem 4.5.**

Let G be a connected graph with atleast four vertices, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = 2$  if and only if G is one of the following graphs.

- (i) G is the graph obtained from  $K_1 + T$  with one pendant edge attached at the vertex of  $K_1$ , where T is any tree with atleast two vertices.
- (ii) G is the graph obtained from a tree by joining each of the vertices of the tree to atleast one of the vertices of  $K_2$  such that  $\deg_G v \geq 2$ , for all  $v \in V(K_2)$ .

**Proof.**

Let G be one of the graph mentioned in (i) and (ii). Since G is not isomorphic to  $K_1 + T$ , for any tree T,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq 2$ .

If G is the graph as in (i), the subset of  $V(G)$  consisting of the vertex of  $K_1$  and the pendant vertex of G forms a tctd-set of G.

Therefore,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq 2$  and hence  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = 2$ . Conversely, assume  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = 2$ . Then, there exists a tctd-set D such that  $|D| = 2$ .

Let  $D = \{u, v\}$ .

- (i) If u or v is a pendant vertex in G, then all the vertices of  $V-D$  are adjacent to v or u. Therefore, G is the graph mentioned in (i).
- (ii) Let  $\deg_G(u) \geq 2$  and  $\deg_G(v) \geq 2$ . Since  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree and D is a total dominating set of G, each vertex in  $V-D$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in D. Hence, G is the graph as in (ii). □

**Theorem 4.6.**

Let G be a connected (p, q) graph with  $p \geq 3$  and  $\delta(G) = 1$ . Then,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$  if and only if either

- (i) every vertex of degree atleast 2 is a support (or)
- (ii) the subgraph of G induced by nonsupports of G of degree atleast 2 is either totally disconnected (or) contains exactly one vertex

**Proof.**

Let G be a connected graph with  $p \geq 3$  and  $\delta(G) = 1$

Assume  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p - 1$

Let D be a tctd-set of G such that  $|D| = p - 1$ . Then  $V-D$  contains exactly one vertex of G. Let S be the set of all pendant vertices and supports of G. Then,  $S \subseteq D$ .

If  $S = D$ , then the vertex in  $V-D$  is neither a pendant vertex nor a support of G and is adjacent to atleast two supports of G. That is, subgraph of G induced by the vertices of degree atleast 2 and are not the supports contains exactly one vertex.

If  $S = V(G)$ , then since D contains (p-1) vertices, one pendant vertex must be in  $V-D$ .

In this case, every vertex of degree atleast 2 is a support of G.

Let  $v \in V-D$ , then v is adjacent to atleast one vertex, say w in D.

If  $w \in D-S$  and is adjacent to a vertex in  $D-S$ , then  $D-\{w\}$  is a tctd-set of G. Therefore, w is adjacent to a vertex in S. That is, w is adjacent to atleast one support of G.

Hence, vertices in  $D-S$  are independent. That is, the vertices of G, which are neither pendant vertices nor supports, are independent in G.

Conversely, if every vertex of degree atleast 2 in G is a support, then  $V - \{\text{a pendant vertex}\}$  is a tctd-set of G and no vertex in D can be included in  $V-D$  and hence  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$ .

Let the subgraph, say U of G induced by nonsupport vertices of degree atleast 2 either totally connected or contains exactly one vertex, then  $V - \{u\}$ , where  $u \in U$  is a tctd-set of G and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$ . □

**Theorem 4.7.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $p \geq 4$ . If there exists an induced path  $P$  of length 2 in  $G$  such that central vertex of  $P$  has degree atleast 3 and none of the vertices of  $P$  are supports and  $\langle V(G) - V(P) \rangle$  has no isolated vertices, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-3$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $D = V(G) - V(P)$ .

Since central vertex of  $P$  has degree atleast 3, each vertex in  $P$  is adjacent to atleast one vertex in  $D$ .

Also  $\langle V - D \rangle = \langle V(P) \rangle \cong P_3$ .

Hence,  $D$  is a ctd-set of  $G$ .

Since  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertices,  $D$  is a total ctd-set of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq |V(G) - V(P)| = p-3$ . □

**Theorem 4.8.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with atleast four vertices and let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G$  such that  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is complete or  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong mK_2$ ,  $m \geq 1$ . Then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-2$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G$  such that  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is complete. If  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_2$ , then  $D$  itself is a  $\gamma_{tctd}$ -set of  $G$  and hence  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = \gamma_t(G) = p-2$ .

Let  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_m$ ,  $m \geq 3$ . Then,  $D \cup V(K_{m-2})$  is a tctd-set of  $G$ . Similarly, if  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong mK_2$ ,  $m \geq 2$ , then  $D \cup V((m-1)K_2)$  is a tctd-set of  $G$ . In both the cases,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-2$ . Also, since  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree, no subset of  $V(G)$  containing atmost  $(p-3)$  vertices is a tctd-set of  $G$  and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-2$ . □

**Theorem 4.9.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with atleast three vertices, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-2$  if and only if

- (i)  $G \cong K_p$ ,  $p \geq 4$
- (ii)  $G \cong C_p$ ,  $p \geq 3$ ,  $P_p$ ,  $p \geq 6$
- (iii)  $G$  has atleast one of the following
  - (a) If  $G$  has an induced path of length 2 in  $G$ , then the central vertex is of degree 2 in  $G$ .
  - (b) If  $G$  has an induced path  $P$  of length 2 in  $G$  and if the central vertex of  $P$  is of degree atleast three in  $G$ , then either central vertex of  $P$  is a support of  $G$  or atleast one of the pendant vertices of  $P$  is a support or a pendant vertex of  $G$  such that either  $G$  has atleast two adjacent nonsupport vertices of degree atleast 2 (or)  $V(G) - V(P)$  has isolated vertices.

**Proof.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-2$

Let  $D$  be a tctd-set of  $G$  such that  $|D| = p-2$ . Then  $\langle V-D \rangle \cong K_2$ .

By the Theorem 4.7, if there exists an induced path  $P$  of length 2 in  $G$  such that

- (a) the central vertex of  $P$  has degree atleast three in  $G$
- (b) None of the vertices of  $P$  are supports of  $G$ , and
- (c)  $\langle V(G) - V(P) \rangle$  has no isolated vertices, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-3$ .

Hence, atleast one of the following holds

- (i) There exists no induced path of length 2 in  $G$
- (ii) The central vertex of induced path of length 2 in  $G$  is of degree 2 in  $G$
- (iii) If the central vertex of an induced path  $P$  of length 2 in  $G$  is of degree atleast three, then either
  - (a) central vertex of  $P$  is a support (or) atleast one of the pendant vertices of  $P$  is a support or a pendant vertex of  $G$  (or)
  - (b)  $\langle V(G) - V(P) \rangle$  has atleast one isolated vertex.

If (i) holds, then any two vertices of  $G$  are adjacent and hence  $G \cong K_p$ ,  $p \geq 3$ . If the central vertex of each induced path of length 2 in  $G$  is of degree 2 in  $G$ , then  $G \cong P_p$  (or)  $C_p$ ,  $p \geq 3$ . But, if  $G \cong P_p$ ,  $p = 3, 4, 5$ ,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$ . Hence,  $G \cong P_p$ ,  $p \geq 6$ . Let the central vertex of each induced path of length 2 in  $G$  is of degree atleast 3 in  $G$ . If each vertex of  $G$  of degree atleast 2 is a support, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$ . (by Theorem 4.6). Similarly, if the subgraph of  $G$  induced by nonsupports of  $G$  of degree atleast 2 is either totally disconnected or contains exactly one vertex, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-1$ .

Hence, if the central vertex of an induced path  $P$  of length 2 in  $G$  is of degree atleast three in  $G$ , then either central vertex of  $P$  is a support of  $G$  or atleast one of the pendant vertices of  $P$  is a support of  $G$  or a pendant vertex of  $G$  such that  $G$  has atleast two adjacent nonsupport vertices of degree atleast 2 (or)  $V(G) - V(P)$  has isolated vertices. Therefore,  $G$  is one of the graphs given in (i), (ii) and (iii).

Conversely, let  $G$  be one of the graphs given in (i), (ii) and (iii). If  $G \cong K_p$ ,  $p \geq 4$ ,  $P_p$ ,  $p \geq 6$ ,  $C_p$ ,  $p \geq 3$ , then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = p-2$ . If  $G$  is the graph satisfying (iii), then every tctd-set of  $G$  contains both supports and pendant vertices, all the vertices of  $G$  except two adjacent vertices,

which are nonsupports of degree atleast 2, are to be included in the tctd-set and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq p-2$ .

□

**Theorem 4.10.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph with  $\delta(G) = 1$  and let  $S \subseteq V(G)$  be the set consisting of supports and pendants vertices of  $G$ . If  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is a tree and each vertex in  $V-S$  is adjacent to a support in  $G$ , then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = m+n$ .

**Proof.**

Since  $S$  has no isolated vertices,  $S$  is a tctd-set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq |S| = m+n$ . Also,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \geq m+n$  and hence,  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = m+n$ .

□

**5 Relationship between Total Complementary Tree Domination Number and other Parameters**

In this section, the relationship between  $\gamma_{tctd}(G)$  and  $\gamma_t(G)$ ,  $\gamma_{tns}(G)$ ,  $\gamma_s(G)$  are found.

**Theorem 5.1.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph. If  $\kappa(G) > \gamma_t(G)$  and if there exists a  $\gamma_t$ -set  $D$  of  $G$  such that  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is acyclic, then  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) = \gamma_t(G)$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G$ . Since  $\kappa(G) > \gamma_t(G)$ ,  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is connected and since  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is acyclic, and is a tree. Therefore,  $D$  is a tctd-set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{tctd}(G) \leq |D| = \gamma_t(G)$ .

But,  $\gamma_t(G) \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ .

Therefore,  $\gamma_{tctd} = \gamma_t(G)$ .

□

**Observation 5.1.**

Every connected graph contains a spanning connected subgraph  $H$  such that  $\gamma_{tctd}(H) = \gamma_{tns}(G)$ , where  $\gamma_{tns}(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of a nonsplit dominating set having no isolated vertices.

**Theorem 5.2.**

Let  $G$  be a connected graph and let  $D$  be a tctd-set of  $G$ . If there exists a vertex  $v \in D$  such that  $N(v) \subseteq D$ , then  $\gamma_s(G) < \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ , where  $\gamma_s(G)$  is the split domination number of  $G$ .

**Proof.**

Let  $D$  be a tctd-set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\langle V-D \rangle$  is a tree and  $|D| \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ . Let  $v \in D$  be such that  $N(v) \subseteq D$ , then  $D - \{v\}$  is a split dominating set of  $G$ , since  $V - [D - \{v\}]$  is disconnected with an isolated vertex.

Hence,  $\gamma_s(G) \leq |D - \{v\}| \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G) - 1$ .

Therefore,  $\gamma_s(G) < \gamma_{tctd}(G)$ .

□

In the following, Nordhaus-Gaddum type result for total complementary tree domination number is established.

**Theorem 5.3.**

Let  $G$  be a graph such that both  $G$  and its complement  $\bar{G}$  are connected. Then

$$4 \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G) + \gamma_{tctd}(\bar{G}) \leq 2(p-1)$$

$$4 \leq \gamma_{tctd}(G) \cdot \gamma_{tctd}(\bar{G}) \leq (p-1)^2$$

The upper bound is attained, if  $G \cong$  Bull graph and the lower bound is attained, if  $G$  is the cycle  $C_4$  with one pendant edge attached at a vertex of  $C_4$ .

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