

## COMPLEMENTARY EQUIVALENCE DOMINATING SETS IN GRAPHS

N. SARADHA\*<sup>1</sup>, V. SWAMINATHAN<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics,  
 S. C. S. V. M. V. University, Enathur, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, India.

<sup>2</sup>Coordinator, Ramanujan Research Center in Mathematics,  
 Saraswathi Narayanan College, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, India.

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### ABSTRACT

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple finite undirected graph. A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is called an equivalence set if every component of the induced sub graph  $\langle S \rangle$  is complete. A graph  $G$  is an equivalence graph if every component of  $G$  is complete. A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is called a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is an equivalence set of  $G$  and  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a c-e-d set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-e}(G)$ . In this paper, several results concerning complementary equivalence domination are derived. Also Complementary equivalence irredundance is defined and relationship between the minimum cardinality of a maximal c-e irredundance set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{c-e}(G)$  are found. Further Independence c-e saturation parameter is also introduced.

**Keywords:** Equivalence domination, Complementary equivalence domination, Complementary equivalence irredundance.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is called an equivalence set if every component of the induced sub graph  $\langle S \rangle$  is complete. A graph  $G$  is an equivalence graph if every component of  $G$  is complete. A sub set  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is called a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is an equivalence set of  $G$  and  $S$  is a dominating set of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a c-e-d set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-e}(G)$ . The complementary equivalence number (upper complementary equivalence number) of  $G$  is defined and these parameters are found for standard graphs. Independent complementary equivalence sets are defined and two parameters  $i_{c-e}(G)$  and  $\beta_{c-e}(G)$  are introduced. These are determined for standard graphs. Several nice results involving c-e-d sets are derived, relationship with other graph parameters are found and inequality chain is established. Complementary equivalence irredundance is defined and relationship between the minimum cardinality of a maximal c-e irredundance set of  $G$  and  $\gamma_{c-e}(G)$  are found. Independence c-e saturation parameter is also introduced.

### 2. COMPLEMENTARY EQUIVALENCE DOMINATING SETS IN GRAPHS

**Definition 2.1** [3]: Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph. A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called an equivalence set of  $G$  if the components of  $\langle S \rangle$  are complete.

**Definition 2.2:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph. Then a subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called a complementary equivalence set if the components of  $\langle V - S \rangle$  are complete.

*Corresponding Author: N. Saradha\*<sup>1</sup>*

*<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics,  
 S. C. S. V. M. V. University, Enathur, Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, India.*

**Definition 2.3:** The complementary equivalence number of G (upper complimentary equivalence number of G) denoted by  $c-e(G)$  ( $C-E(G)$ ) is defined as  
 $c-e(G) = \text{Min} \{ |S| / S \text{ is a minimal c-e set of } G \}.$   
 $C-E(G) = \text{Max} \{ |S| / S \text{ is a minimal c-e set of } G \}$

**Some Standard Results**

$$\begin{aligned} C - E(K_n) &= 0 = c - e(K_n) \\ C - E(C_n) &= n - 1 = c - e(C_n) \\ C - E(P_n) &= n - 1 \\ c - e(P_n) &= n - 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.4:**  $i_{c-e}(G) = \text{Min} \{ |S| / S \text{ is a maximal independent c-e set} \}$   
 $\beta_{c-e}(G) = \text{Max} \{ |S| / S \text{ is a maximal independent c - e set} \}$

**Remark 2.5:** A maximal independent c-e set of G is a c-e-dominating set of G.

**Proof:** Suppose S is a maximal independent c-e set of G. Let  $x \in V - S$ . Suppose x is not adjacent with any vertex of S. Then  $S \cup \{x\}$  is an independent set of G. Also  $V - (S \cup \{x\})$  is an equivalence set of G, since  $V - (S \cup \{x\})$  is a subset of the equivalence set V-S. Therefore,  $S \cup \{x\}$  is an independent c-e set of G, a contradiction, since S is a maximal independent c-e set of G. Therefore, S is a dominating set of G.

**Some Standard Results**

$$\begin{aligned} i_{c-e}(K_n) &= 1 \\ i_{c-e}(C_n) &= \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil \\ i_{c-e}(P_n) &= \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil \\ i_{c-e}(K_{1,n}) &= 1 \\ \beta_{c-e}(K_n) &= 0 \\ \beta_{c-e}(C_n) &= \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \\ \beta_{c-e}(P_n) &= \left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor \\ \beta_{c-e}(K_{1,n}) &= n \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.6:** Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a simple graph. Let S be a subset of V. S is called a complementary equivalence dominating set of G if S is a dominating set of G and V-S is an equivalence set of G and it is abbreviated as c-e-d set of G.

**Remark 2.7:**

1. c-e-d property is super hereditary.
2. The minimum cardinality of a c-e-d set is called the c-e domination number and it is denoted by  $\gamma_{c-e}(G)$ .

**Characterization of minimal c-e-d set.**

**Theorem 2.8:** Let S be a c-e-d set of G. S is minimal if and only if for any  $u \in S$ , one of the following holds:

- i)  $pn[u, S] \neq \phi$ .
- ii) At least one component of V-S has two or more elements and in each component there exists a vertex which is not adjacent to u.

**Proof:** Let S be a minimal c-e-d set of G. Let  $u \in S$ . Then  $S - \{u\}$  is not a dominating set of G. Suppose  $S - \{u\}$  is not a dominating set of G. Then either u is an isolate of G or u has a private neighbour with respect to S in V-S. That is, condition (i) holds.

Suppose  $S-\{u\}$  is a dominating set but its complement is not an equivalence set of  $G$ . That is,  $V-(S-\{u\})$  is not an equivalence set of  $G$ . But  $V-S$  is an equivalence set of  $G$ . Let  $T_1, T_2, \dots, T_k$  be the components of  $\langle V-S \rangle$ . If  $u$  is adjacent with every vertex of a component  $T_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) then  $\langle (V-S) \cup \{u\} \rangle$  is an equivalence set of  $G$ , a contradiction. Therefore, in each component of  $\langle V-S \rangle$ , there exists a vertex which is not adjacent with  $u$ . Suppose every component of  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is singleton. Suppose  $u$  is not adjacent with the vertex in each component. Then  $(V-S) \cup \{u\}$  is an equivalence set of  $G$ , a contradiction. Therefore, at least one component of  $\langle V-S \rangle$  contains two or more elements. Therefore, condition (ii) holds.

Conversely, suppose  $S$  is a c-e-d set of  $G$  and every vertex  $u \in S$  satisfies one of the two conditions. Suppose  $u$  satisfies (i). Then  $pn[u, S] \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore,  $S-\{u\}$  is not a dominating set of  $G$ . Suppose  $u$  satisfies (ii). Then  $(V-S) \cup \{u\}$  is not an equivalence set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $S-\{u\}$  is not complementary equivalence set of  $G$ . Thus if  $u$  satisfies (i) or (ii), then  $S-\{u\}$  is not a c-e-d set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $S$  is 1-minimal c-e-d set of  $G$ . Since c-e-d property is super-hereditary,  $S$  is a minimal c-e-d set of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.9:** The upper c-e domination number  $\Gamma_{c-e}(G)$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal c-e-d set.

#### Some Standard Results

$$\gamma_{c-e}(K_n) = 1$$

$$\gamma_{c-e}(C_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil$$

$$\gamma_{c-e}(P_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil$$

$$\gamma_{c-e}(K_{1,n}) = 1$$

**Observation 2.10:** For any graph  $G$  with out isolates,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq \alpha(G)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $S$  be a maximum independent set of a graph  $G$  with out isolates. Then  $V-S$  is a dominating set and is also a complementary equivalence set. Therefore,  $|V-S| \geq \gamma_{c-e}(G)$ . That is,  $n-|S| \geq \gamma_{c-e}(G)$ . That is,  $n - \beta(G) \geq \gamma_{c-e}(G)$ . That is,  $\alpha(G) \geq \gamma_{c-e}(G)$ .

**Definition 2.11 [15]:** A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is a non split dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a non split dominating set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_{ns}(G)$  and is called the non split domination number of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.12 [12]:** A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is called a strong non split dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is complete. The minimum cardinality of a strong non split dominating set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_{sns}(G)$  and is called the strong non split domination number of  $G$ .

**Observation 2.13:**  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq \gamma_{sns}(G)$ .

**Definition 2.14 [13]:** A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is called a split dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is disconnected. The minimum cardinality of a split dominating set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_s(G)$  and is called the split domination number of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.15 [14]:** A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is called a strong split dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle V-S \rangle$  is totally disconnected with at least two vertices. The minimum cardinality of a strong split dominating set of  $G$  is denoted by  $\gamma_{ss}(G)$  and is called the strong split domination number of  $G$ .

**Observation 2.16:** If  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) < \gamma_{sns}(G)$  then  $\gamma_s(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq \gamma_{ss}(G)$ .

**Definition 2.17:** A dominating set  $S$  of a graph  $G$  is a complementary strong split dominating set of  $G$  if  $\langle S \rangle$  is totally disconnected. The complementary strong split domination number  $\gamma_{c-ss}(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a complementary strong split dominating set of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.18:** The upper complementary strong split domination number  $\Gamma_{c-ss}(G)$  is the maximum cardinality of a minimal complementary strong split dominating set of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.19:** A subset  $S$  of  $V$  of  $G$  is called complementary independent if  $\langle V - S \rangle$  is totally disconnected.  $S$  is also called a covering set of  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of  $S$  such that  $V - S$  is an independent set is called complement maximum independent set or a minimum covering set of  $G$ .

**Observation 2.20:** Let  $G$  be an isolate free graph. Suppose  $S$  is a subset of  $V(G)$  such that  $V - S$  is a maximal independent set. Then  $S$  is a minimal complementary strong split dominating set.

**Proof:** Let  $u \in V - S$ . Then  $u$  is an isolate in  $\langle V - S \rangle$ . Since  $u$  is not an isolate of  $G$ ,  $u$  is adjacent with some vertex of  $S$ . Therefore,  $S$  is a complementary strong split dominating set. Suppose  $S$  is not minimal. Then there exists some  $u \in S$  such that  $S - \{u\}$  is a complementary strong split dominating set. Therefore,  $(V - S) \cup \{u\}$  is totally disconnected set, contradicting the maximality of  $V - S$ . Therefore,  $S$  is a minimal complementary strong split dominating set.

The following inequality chain is observed.

$$ir(G) \leq \gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq i_{c-e}(G) \leq \beta_{c-e}(G) \leq \Gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq \Gamma(G) \leq IR(G).$$

Also if  $G$  has no isolates then  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq \alpha_0(G)$ ,  $i(G) \leq i_{c-e}(G)$ ,  $\beta_{c-e}(G) \leq \beta_0(G)$

### 3. COMPLEMENTARY EQUIVALENCE C-E IRREDUNDANCE IN GRAPHS

**Definition 3.1:** A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called c-e irredundant set if for each  $u \in S$ , one of the following holds.

- i)  $pn[u, S] \neq \phi$  where  $pn[u, S] = N[u] - N[S - \{u\}]$
- ii) In every component of  $V - S$  of order  $\geq 2$  there exists  $w_1$  such that  $w_1$  is not adjacent to  $u$  and there exists  $w_2$  such that  $w_2$  is adjacent with  $u$ .

**Definition 3.2:** The minimum (maximum) cardinality of a maximum c-e-irredundant set of a graph  $G$  is called c-e irredundance number of  $G$  (upper c-e-irredundance number of  $G$ ) and is denoted by  $ir_{c-e}(G)$  ( $IR_{c-e}(G)$ ).

#### Some Standard Results

$$ir_{c-e}(K_n) = 1$$

$$ir_{c-e}(K_{1,n}) = 2$$

$$ir_{c-e}(C_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil$$

$$ir_{c-e}(P_n) = \left\lceil \frac{n}{3} \right\rceil$$

**Proposition 3.3:** c-e irredundance is hereditary.

**Proof:** Let  $S$  be a c-e irredundance set of  $G$  and let  $T$  be a subset of  $S$ . Let  $u \in T$ . Then  $u \in S$ . (Suppose  $u$  satisfies the condition that every component of  $V - S$ , there exists  $w$  such that  $w$  is not adjacent to  $u$ ). Suppose  $pn[u, T] = \phi$ . Then  $pn[u, S] = \phi$ . Then  $V - S$  has a component say  $X$  of order  $\geq 2$  and  $u$  is adjacent with at least one vertex of  $X$  and not adjacent with a vertex of  $X$ . Hence  $\langle X \cup \{u\} \rangle$  is non complete component of  $V - T$ . Hence  $T$  is c-e irredundent.

**Theorem 3.4:** Any minimal c-e-d set is a maximal c-e irredundent set.

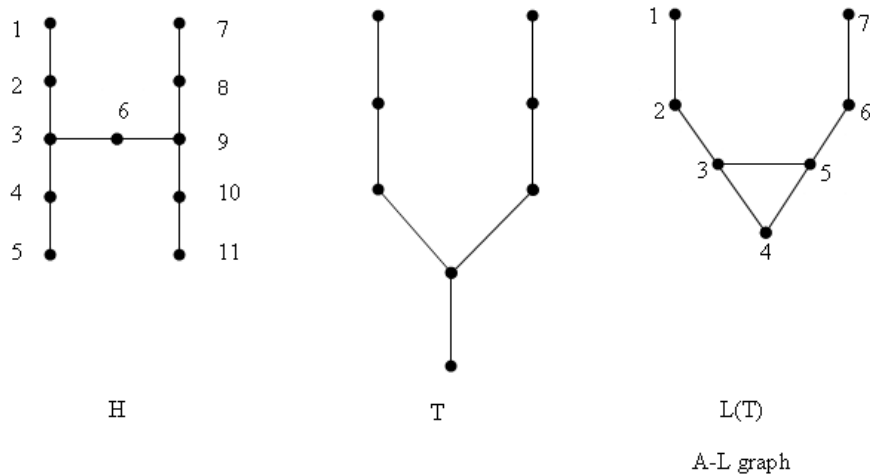
**Proof:** Let  $S$  be a minimal c-e-d set. Then  $S$  is a c-e irredundent set. Suppose  $S$  is not a maximal c-e irredundent set. Then there exists  $u \in V - S$  such that  $S \cup \{u\}$  is a c-e irredundent set.

**Case I:** Suppose  $pn[u, S \cup \{u\}] \neq \emptyset$ . Therefore, there exists  $v \in V - (S \cup \{u\})$  such that  $v$  is adjacent only with  $u$  with respect to  $S \cup \{u\}$ . That is,  $v$  is not adjacent with any vertex of  $S$ . Therefore,  $S$  is not a dominating set, a contradiction. Therefore,  $S$  is a maximal c-e -irredundent set.

**Case II:** Suppose in every component of  $V - (S \cup \{u\})$ , there exists  $w$  such that  $w$  is not adjacent with  $u$ . If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_r$  be the components of  $V - (S \cup \{u\})$  then  $u$  is not adjacent to some vertex in each component of  $V - (S \cup \{u\})$ . That is,  $V-S$  is not component wise complete, a contradiction, since  $S$  is a c-e-d set. Therefore,  $S$  is a maximal c-e irredundent set.

**Remark 3.5:**  $ir_{c-e}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G)$ .

**Example 3.6:**



**Figure 3.1:** Graphs for which  $ir_{c-e}(G) < \gamma_{c-e}(G)$

For the graph  $H$ ,  $S = \{2, 3, 8, 9\}$  is a c-e irredundent set.

[Because  $pn(2) = 1$ ;  $pn(3) = 4$ ;  $pn(8) = 7$ ;  $pn(9) = 10$ ;  $V-S = \{1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11\}$  Each component in the induced subgraph of  $V-S$  is complete].

$S' = \{2, 4, 6, 8, 10\}$  is a c-e dominating set.

That is,  $ir_{c-e}(H) = 4$  and  $\gamma_{c-e}(H) = 5$ .

For the A-L graph  $(L(T))$ ,

$ir_{c-e}(L(T)) = 2$  and  $\gamma_{c-e}(L(T)) = 3$ .

$S = \{3, 6\}$  is a c-e irredundant set.

$S' = \{2, 6, 3\}$  is a c-e dominating set.

**Theorem 3.7:**  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) / 2 < ir_{c-e}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq 2ir_{c-e}(G) - 1$

**Proof:** Let  $ir_{c-e}(G) = k$ . Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be an ir c-e set of  $G$ . Since  $S$  is irredundent,  $pn[v_i, S] \neq \emptyset$  or there exist a component of  $V-S$  of order greater than or equal to two and  $v_i$  is adjacent with a vertex of the component and not adjacent with another vertex of that component. Let  $S' = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s\}$  where  $u_i \in pn[v_i, S]$  if  $v_i$  has a private neighbor and  $u_i$  is one of the vertices in a component of  $V-S$  of order greater than or equal to two adjacent with  $v_i$ .

Lets  $S'' = S \cup S'$ . Suppose  $S''$  is not a dominating set. Then there exist  $w \in V-S''$  such that  $w$  is not adjacent to  $u_i$  as well as  $v_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ . Therefore,  $w$  does not belongs to  $N[x]$  for any vertex  $x$  in  $S''$ .  $pn[w, S \cup \{u\}] \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $w \notin N[x]$  for any  $x \in S''$ ,  $w$  is not adjacent with any  $u_i$ . Therefore,  $pn[u_i, S \cup \{w\}] \neq \emptyset$ .

**Case I:**  $u_i = v_i$ . Then  $v_i$  is a private neighbor of  $S$ .  $v_i$  is not adjacent with  $w$ . Therefore,  $v_i$  is an isolate of  $S \cup \{w\}$ .  $S \cup \{w\}$  is complementary componentwise complete.

**Case II:**  $u_i \neq v_i$ .  $u_i$  is not adjacent with  $w$ . If  $u_i$  is a private neighbor of  $v_i$  then  $pn[u_i, S \cup \{w\}] \neq \emptyset$ .

**Case III:**  $u_i \neq v_i$ , and  $u_i$  is not a private neighbor of  $v_i$ . Then  $u_i$  is a vertex in a component of  $V-S$  such that  $v_i$  is adjacent with  $u_i$  and  $v_i$  is not adjacent with a vertex of the component. Since  $S \cup \{w\}$  is complementary componentwise complete,  $u_i$  is not a private neighbor of  $v_i$  but  $u_i$  is adjacent with  $v_i$  in a component containing  $v_i$  having at least two elements.

From case I, case II, case III,  $S \cup \{w\}$  is a c-e irredundent set, contradicting the maximality of  $S$ . Therefore,  $S''$  is a dominating set. Also  $S''$  is a complementary component wise complete. Therefore,  $S''$  is a c-e-d set.

Suppose  $S''$  is a minimal c-e-d set. Then  $S''$  is a maximal c-e irredundent set containing  $S$ , a contradiction. Therefore,

$$\gamma_{c-e}(G) < |S''| = 2ir_{c-e}(G). \text{ Hence } \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq 2ir_{c-e}(G) - 1.$$

$$\gamma_{c-e}(G) / 2 \leq ir_{c-e}(G) - 1 / 2.$$

$$\gamma_{c-e}(G) / 2 < ir_{c-e}(G).$$

$$\text{Therefore, } r_{c-e}(G) / 2 < ir_{c-e}(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq 2ir_{c-e}(G) - 1$$

**Theorem 3.8:** Let  $S$  be a  $\beta_{c-e}$  set of  $G$ . Then  $S$  is dominating set.

**Proof:** Suppose  $S$  is not a dominating set. Then there exists a vertex  $u \in V - S$  such that  $u$  is not adjacent with any vertex of  $S$ . Therefore,  $S \cup \{u\}$  is an independent set and complement of  $S \cup \{u\}$  is componentwise complete. This contradicts the fact that  $S$  is a maximum independent set with complement componentwise complete. Therefore,  $S$  is a dominating set. That is,  $S$  is a c-e-d set.

**Remark 3.9:** A  $\beta_0$ -set of a graph need not be a c-e set.

For example, let  $G = A-L$ -graph (Figure 3.1).  $\{1, 7, 3\}$  is a maximum independent set. The complement is not componentwise complete.

**Definition 3.10:**

**Independent c-e saturation parameter (I-c-e Saturation parameter)**

Let  $G$  be an i-c-e excellent graph. Let  $u \in V(G)$ . Then

$$i\text{-c-e-s}(u) = \text{Maximum} \{ |S| : S \text{ is a independent c-e set containing } u \}$$

$$i\text{-c-e-s}(G) = \text{Minimum} \{ i\text{-c-e-s}(u) : u \in V(G) \}$$

**Remark 3.11:**

1. Let  $S$  be a maximum i-c-e-s( $u$ ) set. Then  $S$  is a dominating set.
2.  $i_{c-e}(G) \leq i - c - e - s(G) \leq \beta_{c-e}(G)$

#### 4. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OTHER GRAPH PARAMETERS

**Proposition 4.1:** Given positive integers  $a, b$  and  $c$  such that  $a \leq b \leq c$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  with  $\gamma(G) = a, \gamma_{c-e}(G) = b$  and  $\gamma_{sns}(G) = c$ .

**Proof:** Let  $a, b$  and  $c$  be three positive integers such that  $a \leq b \leq c$ . Consider  $K_b$ . Let  $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_a, \dots, u_b\}$  be the vertex set of  $K_b$ . Add  $c$  vertices  $\{u_1', u_2', u_3', \dots, u_c'\}$ . Attach each  $u_i', 1 \leq i \leq c$ , as a pendant vertex to some  $u_j, 1 \leq j \leq a$  such that each  $u_j$  has at least one pendant vertex. Join  $u_{a+k}$  with  $u_{a+k}', 1 \leq k \leq b - a$ . Let  $G$  be the resulting graph. Then  $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_a\}$  is a minimum dominating set of  $G$ ,  $\{u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots, u_a, \dots, u_b\}$  is a minimum c-e dominating set of  $G$  and  $\{u_1', u_2', u_3', \dots, u_c'\}$  is a minimum sns-dominating set of  $G$ .

Therefore,  $\gamma(G) = a$ ,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = b$  and  $\gamma_{\text{sns}}(G) = c$ .

**Remark 4.2:**  $\gamma(G) \leq n - 2$  if and only if  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 2$ .

**Proof:** Let  $S$  be a dominating set of  $G$ . Then any super set of  $S$  containing  $n-2$  vertices is a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 2$ . The converse is also true (since,  $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 2$ ).

**Observation 4.3:** If  $G$  is a graph without isolates and of order greater than or equal to 4 and if  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = n - 2$ , then  $G$  is a triangle free graph.

**Proof:** Let  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = n - 2$ . Since  $G$  has no isolates,  $\gamma(G) \leq \frac{n}{2}$ . Let  $S$  be a dominating set of  $G$ . If  $\langle V - S \rangle$  contains a triangle say  $x, y, z$ , then  $S \cup ((V - S) - \{x, y, z\})$  is a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 3$ , a contradiction. Suppose  $\langle S \rangle$  contains a triangle  $x, y, z$ . Since  $S$  is a minimum dominating set and since  $x, y, z$  are not isolates of  $\langle S \rangle$ , each of them has a private neighbour in  $\langle V - S \rangle$ . Let  $S_1 = V - \{x, y, z\}$ . Then  $S_1$  is a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 3$ , a contradiction. Suppose  $G$  has a triangle with one vertex in  $S$  and two vertices in  $V - S$  (or) two vertices in  $S$  and one vertex in  $V - S$ .

**Sub Case I:**  $\langle x, y, z \rangle$  is a triangle in  $G$  with  $x \in S$  and  $y, z \in V - S$ .

If  $x$  is an isolate of  $\langle S \rangle$ , then  $x$  has private neighbour in  $V - S$ . If  $x$  is not an isolate of  $\langle S \rangle$ , then there exists vertices in  $S$  which are adjacent to  $x$ . Therefore,  $V - \{x, y, z\}$  is a complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 3$ , a contradiction.

**Sub Case II:**  $x, y \in S$  and  $z \in V - S$ .

Then  $x$  and  $y$  are not isolates of  $\langle S \rangle$  and hence  $V - \{x, y, z\}$  is complementary equivalence dominating set of  $G$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) \leq n - 3$ . Therefore,  $G$  has no triangle.

**Remark 4.4:** The converse of the above result is not true.

Consider  $K_{m,n}$ . Then  $\gamma_{c-e}(K_{m,n}) = \min\{m, n\} < m + n - 2$  if  $m, n \geq 3$ . Also  $K_{m,n}$  is triangle free.

**Remark 4.5:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph of even order. If  $\gamma(G) = \frac{n}{2}$ , then  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = \frac{n}{2}$ .

**Proof:** Since  $G$  is connected with  $\gamma(G) = \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $G$  is either  $C_4$  or  $H^+$  where  $H$  is connected graph.  $\gamma_{c-e}(C_4) = \gamma(C_4)$  and  $\gamma_{c-e}(H^+) = \gamma(H^+)$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = \gamma(G) = \frac{n}{2}$ .

**Remark 4.6:** Let  $G$  be a complete bipartite graph. Then  $\gamma_{c-e}(G) = \gamma(G)$  if and only if  $G$  is either a star or  $\overline{K_{n+2}} + \overline{K_2}$ .

**Proof:** If  $G$  is a complete bipartite graph with  $m, n$  as the orders of the partition, then

$$\gamma(G) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } m, n \geq 2 \\ 1 & \text{if } m = 1 \text{ or } n = 1 \end{cases}, \gamma_{c-e}(G) = \min\{m, n\}.$$

Therefore,  $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{c-e}(G)$  if and only if  $\min\{m, n\} = 2$  or  $\min\{m, n\} = 1$ . That is,  $G$  is either a star or  $\overline{K_{n+2}} + \overline{K_2}$ .

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