

## Domination Stability in Fuzzy Graphs

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### Abstract

In general  $\gamma_f(G)$  can be made to increase or decrease by the removal of nodes from  $G$ . In this paper we studied the stability of fuzzy dominating set. We investigate the stability of fuzzy paths and fuzzy cycles. Also we obtain sharp bounds and characterizations for the domination stability of fuzzy graphs.

**Keywords:** Fuzzy dominating set, fuzzy domination number, fuzzy domination stability.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Brigham [1] introduced vertex domination critical graphs. Harary et al [2] explained an interesting application in voting situations using the concept of domination. Nagoor Gani [4] and Vijayalakshmi [4] discussed domination critical nodes in fuzzy graph Rosenfeld [5] introduced the notion of fuzzy graph and several fuzzy analogous of graph theoretic concepts such as paths, cycles, connectedness and etc. Somasundaram and Somasundaram [6] discussed domination in fuzzy graphs. Sumner [7] discussed domination critical graphs. Nader Jafari Rad, Elahe Sharifi and Marcin krzywkowski [4] introduced domination stability in graphs.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

A *fuzzy graph*  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  is a non-empty set  $V$  together with a pair of functions  $\sigma: V \rightarrow [0,1]$  and  $\mu: V \times V \rightarrow [0,1]$  such that  $\mu(u,v) \leq \sigma(u) \wedge \sigma(v)$  for all  $u,v \in V$ , where  $\sigma(u) \wedge \sigma(v)$  is the minimum of  $\sigma(u)$  and  $\sigma(v)$ . The *underlying crisp graph* of the fuzzy graph  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  is denoted as  $G^*=(\sigma^*, \mu^*)$  where  $\sigma^*=\{u \in V / \sigma(u) > 0\}$  and  $\mu^* = \{(u,v) \in V \times V / \mu(u,v) > 0\}$ . Let  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  be a fuzzy graph and  $\tau$  be any fuzzy subset of  $\sigma$ , i.e  $\tau(u) \leq \sigma(u)$  for all  $u$ . Then the fuzzy subgraph of  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  induced by  $\tau$  is the maximal fuzzy sub graph of  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  that has fuzzy node set  $\tau$ . Evidently this is just the fuzzy graph  $(\tau, \rho)$ , where  $\rho(u,v) = \tau(u) \wedge \tau(v)$  for all  $u, v \in V$ .

A fuzzy graph  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  is a *complete fuzzy graph* if  $\mu(u,v) = \sigma(u) \wedge \sigma(v)$  for all  $u,v \in \sigma^*$ . Two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  are said to be *neighbours* if  $\mu(u,v) > 0$ . The *strong neighbourhood* of  $u$  is  $N_S(u) = \{v \in V : (u,v) \text{ is a strong arc}\}$ .  $N_S[u] = N_S(u) \cup \{u\}$  is the *closed strong neighbourhood* of  $u$ . Let  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  be a fuzzy graph. Two nodes  $u$  and  $v$  of  $G$  are *strong adjacent* if  $(u,v)$  is strong arc. The *strong degree* of a node  $v$  is the minimum number of nodes that are strong adjacent to  $v$ . It is denoted by  $d_S(v)$ . The minimum cardinality of strong neighbourhood  $\delta_S(G) = \min\{|N_S(u)| : u \in V(G)\}$  and the maximum cardinality of strong neighbourhood  $\Delta_S(G) = \max\{|N_S(u)| : u \in V(G)\}$ . Let  $G$  be a fuzzy graph. Let  $S$  be a set of vertices in  $G$ . Let  $u \in S$  then the *private neighbourhood* of  $u$  is  $pn(u,S) = \{v : N_S(v) \cap S = \{u\}\}$ . The *external private neighbourhood*  $epn(v,S) = pn(u,S) \setminus S$ . A node  $u$  is called a *fuzzy end node* of  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  if it has at most one strong neighbour in  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$ .

A *path*  $\rho$  in a fuzzy graph is a sequence of distinct nodes  $u_0, u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  such that  $\mu(u_{i-1}, u_i) > 0$ ;  $1 \leq i \leq n$  here  $n \geq 0$  is called the *length* of the path  $\rho$ . The consecutive pairs  $(u_{i-1}, u_i)$  are called the *arcs* of the path. A path  $\rho$  is called a *cycle* if  $u_0 = u_n$  and  $n \geq 3$ . An arc  $(u,v)$  is said to be a *strong arc* if  $\mu(u,v) \geq \mu^\circ(u,v)$  and the node  $v$  is said to be a *strong neighbour* of  $u$ . If  $\mu(u,v) = 0$  for every  $v \in V$  then  $u$  is called *isolated node*. Two nodes that are joined by a path are said to be *connected*. The relation connected is a reflexive, symmetric and transitive. The equivalence classes of nodes under this relation are the *connected components* of the given fuzzy graph. A fuzzy graph  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  is *fuzzy bipartite* if it has a spanning fuzzy sub graph  $H=(\tau, \pi)$  which is bipartite where for all edges  $(u,v)$  not in  $H$ , weight of  $(u,v)$  in  $G$  is strictly less than the strength of pair  $(u, v)$  in  $H$ . (i.e)  $\mu(u,v) < \pi^\circ(u,v)$ . A fuzzy bipartite graph  $G$  with fuzzy bipartition  $(V_1, V_2)$  is said to be a *complete fuzzy bipartite* if for each node of  $V_1$ , every node of  $V_2$  is a strong neighbour. Let  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  be a fuzzy graph and  $u$  be a node in  $G$  then there exist a node  $v$  such that  $(u,v)$  is a strong arc then we say that  $u$  *dominates*  $v$ . Let  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  be a fuzzy graph. A set  $D$  of  $V$  is said to be *fuzzy dominating set* of  $G$  if every  $v \in V-D$  there exist  $u \in D$  such that  $u$  dominates  $v$ . A fuzzy dominating set  $D$  of  $G$  is called a *minimal fuzzy dominating set* of  $G$  if no

proper subset of  $D$  is a fuzzy dominating set. The *fuzzy domination number*  $\gamma_f(G)$  of the fuzzy graph  $G$  is the smallest number of nodes in any fuzzy dominating set of  $G$ . A fuzzy dominating set  $D$  of a fuzzy graph  $G$  such that  $|D| = \gamma_f(G)$  is called minimum fuzzy dominating set. If  $G$  is a disconnected fuzzy graph with components  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_k$  then  $st\gamma_f(G) = \min \{ st\gamma_f(G_1), st\gamma_f(G_2), \dots, st\gamma_f(G_k) \}$ .

### 3. FUZZY DOMINATING CRITICAL NODES

**Definition 3:**

Let  $G=(\sigma, \mu)$  be a fuzzy graph. A node  $v$  of  $G$  is said to be *fuzzy dominating critical node* if its removal either increases (or) decreases the fuzzy domination number.

We partition the nodes of  $G$  into three disjoint sets according to how their removal affects  $\gamma_f(G)$ . Let  $V = V_f^0 \cup V_f^+ \cup V_f^-$  for

$$V_f^0 = \{ v \in V : \gamma_f(G-v) = \gamma_f(G) \}$$

$$V_f^+ = \{ v \in V : \gamma_f(G-v) > \gamma_f(G) \}$$

$$V_f^- = \{ v \in V : \gamma_f(G-v) < \gamma_f(G) \}$$

**Definition 3.2:**

The *domination stability (or)  $\gamma_f$  – stability* of a fuzzy graph is the minimum number of nodes whose removal changes the fuzzy domination number.

$\gamma_f^+$ - *Stability* of a fuzzy graph  $G$  denoted by  $\gamma_f^+(G)$  is defined as the minimum number of nodes whose removal increases  $\gamma_f(G)$ .

$\gamma_f^-$  - *Stability* of a fuzzy graph  $G$  denoted by  $\gamma_f^-(G)$  is defined as the minimum number of nodes whose removal decreases  $\gamma_f(G)$ .

We denote the  $\gamma_f$  – stability of  $G$  by  $st\gamma_f(G)$ . Thus the domination stability of a fuzzy graph  $G$  is  $st\gamma_f(G) = \min \{ \gamma_f^-(G), \gamma_f^+(G) \}$ .

**Proposition 3.3: [4]**

A fuzzy graph  $G$  has a domination critical node if and only if  $\rho(G) = \emptyset$ . Here  $\rho(G) = \min \{ |epn(v, S)| : v \in S, S \text{ is a } \gamma_f(G) \text{ – set} \}$ .

**Proposition 3.4:**

For every fuzzy graph  $G$  we have  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq \delta_S(G) + 1$ .

**Observation 3.5:**

If  $G$  is a fuzzy star then  $st\gamma_f(G) = 1$ .

**Observation 3.6:**

For complete fuzzy bipartite graphs  $K_{m,n}$  with  $2 \leq m \leq n$  we have  $st\gamma_f(K_{m,n}) = m-1$ .

**Observation 3.7:**

$$\gamma_f(P_n) = \gamma_f(C_n) = \lfloor (n+2)/3 \rfloor.$$

**4.  $\gamma_f$  - STABILITY OF FUZZY PATHS :****Proposition 4.1:**

For fuzzy paths  $P_n$  we have  $st\gamma_f(P_n) = 2$  if  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $st\gamma_f(P_n) = 1$  otherwise.

**Proof:**

First assume that  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Let us observe that  $\gamma_f(P_{n-v}) = \gamma_f(P_n) + 1$ , where  $v$  is a node adjacent to fuzzy end node. Consequently,  $st\gamma_f(P_n) = 1$ . Next assume that  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ . If  $v$  is a fuzzy end node then  $\gamma_f(P_{n-v}) = \gamma_f(P_n) - 1$ , and consequently  $st\gamma_f(P_n) = 1$ . Now assume that  $n = 3k + 2$  for some integer  $k$ . Using observation 3.7 we get  $\gamma_f(P_n) = k + 1$ . Let  $v$  be an arbitrary node of  $P_n$ . We show that the removal of  $v$  does not change the fuzzy domination number. If  $v$  is a fuzzy end node then  $\gamma_f(P_{n-v}) = \gamma_f(P_{n-1}) = k + 1 = \gamma_f(P_n)$ . Now assume that the strong degree of node  $v$  is 2. Let  $P_{n_1}$  and  $P_{n_2}$  be the components of  $P_{n-v}$ .

Without loss of generality we may assume that either  $n_1 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$  and  $n_2 \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , or  $n_1 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$  and  $n_2 \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ . In the first case we get  $\gamma_f(P_{n-v}) = \gamma_f(P_{n_1}) + \gamma_f(P_{n_2}) = \lfloor (n_1 + 2)/3 \rfloor + \lfloor (n_2 + 2)/3 \rfloor = n_1/3 + (n_2 + 2)/3 = k + 1 = \gamma_f(P_n)$ . In the second case we similarly obtain  $\gamma_f(P_{n-v}) = \gamma_f(P_n)$ . We conclude that  $st\gamma_f(P_n) \geq 2$ . Now proposition 3.4 implies that  $st\gamma_f(P_n) = 2$ .

**5.  $\gamma_f$  – STABILITY OF FUZZY CYCLES :**

**Proposition 5.1:**

We have  $st\gamma_f(C_n) = i$  if  $n \equiv i \pmod{3}$  for  $i = 1, 2$ , while  $st\gamma_f(C_n) = 3$  if  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Proof:**

First assume that  $n = 3k+1$  for some integer  $k$ . Then for any node  $v$  we have  $\gamma_f(C_n-v) = \gamma_f(P_{n-1}) = k = \gamma_f(C_n) - 1$ , and thus  $st\gamma_f(C_n) = 1$ . Now assume that  $n = 3k+2$ . For any node  $v$  we have  $\gamma_f(C_n-v) = \gamma_f(P_{n-1}) = k+1 = \gamma_f(C_n)$ . Thus  $st\gamma_f(C_n) \geq 2$ .

Now  $\gamma_f(C_n-u-v) = \gamma_f(P_{n-2}) = k = \gamma_f(C_n) - 1$ , where  $u$  and  $v$  are two adjacent nodes. This implies that  $st\gamma_f(C_n)=2$ . Finally assume that  $n=3k$ . It is easy to observe that the removal of any node does not change the fuzzy domination number. Since  $C_n - v = P_{n-1}$  and by proposition 4.1 we have  $st\gamma_f(P_{n-1}) = 2$ , we conclude that  $st\gamma_f(C_n) = 3$ .

**6. BOUNDS AND CHARACTERIZATIONS FOR THE DOMINATION STABILITY OF A FUZZY GRAPH:**

**Proposition 6.1:**

If  $G$  is a fuzzy graph of order  $n$ , then  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq n$  with equality if and only if  $G = K_n$ .

**Proof:**

The bound for an arbitrary fuzzy graph is obvious. Clearly,  $st\gamma_f(K_n) = n$ . Now if  $G \neq K_n$ , then  $\delta_S(G) < n-1$  and using proposition 2 we get  $st\gamma_f(G) < n$ .

**Theorem 6.2:**

For any fuzzy graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_f(G) \geq 2$  we have  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq \lfloor n / \gamma_f(G) \rfloor$  and this bound is sharp.

**Proof:**

Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_f(G)$  – set, and let  $x$  be a node of  $D$  with minimum number of fuzzy private neighbours in  $V(G) \setminus D$ . Then the removal of  $x$  and its private neighbours in  $V(G) \setminus D$  decreases the fuzzy domination number, which implies that  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq \lfloor n / \gamma_f(G) \rfloor$ . To see the sharpness, consider a cycle  $C_n$ , where  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

**Proposition 6.3:**

For every connected fuzzy graph  $G \neq K_1$  we have  $\gamma_f(G) \leq n/2$  with equality if and only if  $G$  is the cycle  $C_4$ .

**Proposition 6.4:**

If  $\gamma \geq 2$  and  $1 \leq k \leq 2\gamma - 2$ , then there is no connected fuzzy graph  $G$  of order  $n$  with  $\gamma_f(G) = \gamma$  and  $st\gamma_f(G) = n - k$ .

**Proof:**

Suppose that  $G$  is a connected fuzzy graph with  $\gamma_f(G) \geq 2$  and  $st\gamma_f(G) = n - k$ . Using proposition 6.3 we get  $n > k \cdot n / (2(\gamma_f(G) - 1)) \geq k \gamma_f(G) / (\gamma_f(G) - 1)$ . This implies that  $n - k = st\gamma_f(G) > n / \gamma_f(G)$ , contradicting theorem 6.2.

**Proposition 6.5:**

There is no fuzzy graph  $G$  of order  $n$  with  $st\gamma_f(G) = n - 1$ .

**Proof:**

Suppose that  $G$  is a fuzzy graph of order  $n$  with  $st\gamma_f(G) = n - 1$ . Proposition 6.4 implies that  $\gamma_f(G) = 1$ . Let  $x$  be a universal node of  $G$ . From  $st\gamma_f(G) = n - 1$  we obtain that there is no pair of non-adjacent nodes in  $N(x)$ . Consequently,  $G = K_n$ . But then  $st\gamma_f(G) = n$ , a contradiction.

**Proposition 6.6:**

For every integers  $n$  and  $k$  such that  $1 \leq k \leq n$  and  $k \neq n - 1$  there exists a fuzzy graph  $G$  of order  $n$  with  $st\gamma_f(G) = k$ .

**Proof:**

We construct a fuzzy graph  $G_{k,n}$  from a complete fuzzy graph  $K_k$  with nodes  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  by adding  $n - k$  new nodes  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_{n-k}$  together with new arcs  $v_i u_j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n - k$ . It can be easily verified that the removal of any subset of  $k - 1$  nodes of  $G_{k,n}$  does not change the fuzzy domination number. On the other hand,  $\gamma_f(G_{k,n} - v_1 - v_2 - \dots - v_k) = n - k \neq 1$ . Thus  $st\gamma_f(G_{k,n}) = k$ .

**Proposition 6.7:**

For a fuzzy graph  $G$  we have  $st\gamma_f(G) = n-2$  if and only if  $G = G_{n-2,n}$ .

**Proof:**

It was already seen that  $st\gamma_f(G_{n-2,n}) = n-2$ . Now let  $G$  be a fuzzy graph of order  $n$  with  $st\gamma_f(G) = n-2$ . Theorem 7 implies that  $\gamma_f(G) = 1$ . Clearly,  $G \neq K_n$ . Let  $y$  and  $z$  be two non-adjacent nodes of  $G$ . If there is a node  $x \in V(G) \setminus \{y,z\}$  such that  $x \notin N(y) \cap N(z)$ , then the removal of  $x, y$  and  $z$  yields that  $st\gamma_f(G) < n-2$ , a contradiction. Thus every node of  $V(G) \setminus \{y,z\}$  is adjacent to both  $y$  and  $z$ . If there are two non-adjacent nodes  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  in  $V(G) \setminus \{y,z\}$ , then similarly we obtain  $st\gamma_f(G) < n-2$ , which is a contradiction. Thus the graph induced by  $V(G) \setminus \{y,z\}$  is complete. Consequently,  $G = G_{n-2,n}$ .

**7. UPPER BOUND ON THE DOMINATION STABILITY OF A FUZZY GRAPH WITH DOMINATION NUMBER ATLEAST TWO:**

**Proposition 7.1:**

For any fuzzy graph  $G$  with  $\gamma_f(G) \geq 2$  we have  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq \min \{ \delta_S(G)+1, n- \delta_S(G)-1 \}$ .

**Proof:**

Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma_f(G)$  – set. If there is a node  $x \in D$  such that  $epn(x, D) = \emptyset$ , then  $x$  is a domination critical node and  $st\gamma_f(G) = 1$ . Thus assume that for every  $x \in D$  we have  $epn(x,D) \neq \emptyset$ .

Let  $v \in D$ , and let  $A$  be the set of private neighbours of  $v$  in  $V(G) \setminus D$ . Then  $\gamma_f(G[A \cup \{v\}]) = 1 < \gamma_f(G)$ . Using proposition 2 we get  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq \min \{ \delta_S(G)+1, n- \delta_S(G)-1 \}$ .

**Observation 7.2:**

If  $G$  is a fuzzy graph with  $\gamma_f(G) = 1$  or  $\gamma_f(\bar{G}) = 1$ , then  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq n+1$ , and this bound is sharp.

**Theorem 7.3:**

If  $G$  is a fuzzy graph with  $\gamma_f(G) \geq 2$  and  $\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \geq 2$ , then  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq n-1$ , and this bound is sharp.

**Proof:**

If  $n$  is odd, then using theorem 6.2 we get  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq (n-1)/2 + (n-1)/2 = n-1$ . Thus assume that  $n$  is even. Using proposition 7.1 we get  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq \min \{ \delta_S(G)+1, n-\delta_S(G)-1 \} + \min \{ \delta_S(\bar{G})+1, n-\delta_S(\bar{G})-1 \} \leq n/2 + n/2 = n$ . Suppose now that  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) = n$ . This implies that  $\delta_S(G) = \delta_S(\bar{G}) = n/2-1$ , and consequently,  $\Delta_S(G) = \Delta_S(\bar{G}) = n/2$ . If  $x$  is a node of maximum strong degree in  $G$ , then  $|V(G) \setminus N[x]| = n/2-1$ . Clearly,  $\gamma_f(G[N[x]]) = 1 < \gamma_f(G)$ . This implies that  $st\gamma_f(G) \leq |V(G) \setminus N[x]| = n/2-1$ . Similarly we get  $st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq n/2-1$ . Consequently,  $st\gamma_f(G) + st\gamma_f(\bar{G}) \leq n-2$ . To see the sharpness, consider a cycle  $C_5$ .

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