

## ON THE GRUNDY BONDAGE NUMBERS OF GRAPHS

Seyede M. Moosavi Majd<sup>1</sup>, Hamid R. Maimani<sup>2</sup> and Abolfazl Tehranian<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Science and Research Branch,  
Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran

<sup>2</sup> Mathematics Section, Department of Basic Sciences,  
Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, Tehran, Iran

**Abstract.** For a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , a sequence  $S = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$  of distinct vertices of  $G$  is called a *dominating sequence* if  $N_G[v_i] \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} N[v_j] \neq \emptyset$ . The maximum length of dominating sequences is denoted by  $\gamma_{gr}(G)$ . We define the Grundy bondage numbers  $b_{gr}(G)$  of a graph  $G$  to be the cardinality of a smallest set  $E$  of edges for which  $\gamma_{gr}(G - E) > \gamma_{gr}(G)$ . In this paper the exact values of  $b_{gr}(G)$  are determined for several classes of graphs.

**Keywords:** Grundy Domination Number, Grundy Bondage Number.

### 1. Introduction

In this paper,  $G$  is a simple graph with the vertex set  $V = V(G)$  and the edge set  $E = E(G)$ . For notation and graph theoretical terminology, we generally follow [8]. The order  $|V|$  and the size  $|E|$  of  $G$  is denoted by  $n = n(G)$  and  $m = m(G)$ , respectively. For every vertex  $v \in V$ , the *open neighborhood*  $N_G(v)$  of  $v$  is the set  $\{u \in V(G) : uv \in E(G)\}$  and the *closed neighborhood* of  $v$  is the set  $N_G[v] = N_G(v) \cup \{v\}$ . The *degree* of a vertex  $v \in V$  is  $\deg_G(v) = d_G(v) = |N_G(v)|$ . The *minimum degree* and the *maximum degree* of a graph  $G$  are denoted by  $\delta = \delta(G)$  and  $\Delta = \Delta(G)$ , respectively. We write  $P_n$  for the path of order  $n$ ,  $C_n$  for the cycle of order  $n$ ,  $K_n$  for the complete graph of order  $n$  and  $K_{m,n}$  for complete bipartite graph. Also  $K_{1,n}$  is called *star graph* and is denoted by  $S_n$ .

Received October 10, 2022. accepted February 08, 2023.

Communicated by Alireza Ashrafi, Hassan Daghigh, Marko Petković

Corresponding Author: Hamid R. Maimani, Mathematics Section, Department of Basic Sciences, Shahid Rajaei Teacher Training University, P.O. Box 16785-163, Tehran, Iran | E-mail: maimani@ipm.ir

2010 *Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary 05C69; Secondary 05C76

© 2023 BY UNIVERSITY OF NIŠ, SERBIA | CREATIVE COMMONS LICENSE: CC BY-NC-ND

The *cartesian product* of graphs  $G = G_1 \times G_2$ , are sometimes simply called the graph product of graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  with point sets  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  and edge sets  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  is the graph with the point set  $V_1 \times V_2$  and  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  is adjacent with  $v = (v_1, v_2)$  whenever  $(u_1 = v_1$  and  $u_2$  adjacent  $v_2)$  or  $(u_1$  adjacent  $v_1$  and  $u_2 = v_2)$ . The *join* of two graphs  $G$  and  $H$  is denoted by  $G \vee H$  is a graph with vertex set  $V(G) \cup V(H)$  and edge set  $E(G) \cup E(H) \cup \{xy | x \in V(G), y \in V(H)\}$ . The graph  $K_1 \vee C_{n-1}$  is called *wheel graph* and is denoted by  $W_n$ .

Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n$  and let  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$ , be  $n$  graphs. The *generalized corona product*, is the graph obtained by taking one copy of graphs  $G, H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$  and joining the  $i$ th vertex of  $G$  to every vertex of  $H_i$ . This product is denoted by  $G \circ \bigwedge_{i=1}^n H_i$ . If each  $H_i$  is isomorphic to a graph  $H$ , then generalized corona product is called the *corona product* of  $G$  and  $H$  and is denoted by  $G \circ H$ .

A subset  $D$  of  $V(G)$  is called a *dominating set* of  $G$  if every vertex of  $G$  is either in  $D$  or adjacent to at least one vertex in  $D$ . The *domination number* of  $G$ , denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ , is the number of vertices in a smallest dominating set of  $G$ . A dominating set of cardinality  $\gamma(G)$  is called a  $\gamma$ -*set*. For further information about various domination sets in graphs, we refer reader to [9, 10].

Based on the domination number, Grundy domination invariants has been introduced in recent years by some authors [1, 5, 6] and then they continued the study of these concepts in [3, 2, 4, 7].

In [5] the first type of Grundy dominating sequence was introduced. Let  $S = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$  be a sequence of distinct vertices of a graph  $G$ . The corresponding set  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  of vertices from the sequence  $S$  will be denoted by  $\widehat{S}$ . A sequence  $S = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$  is called a *closed neighborhood sequence* if, for each  $i$ ,

$$N_G[v_i] \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} N_G[v_j] \neq \emptyset.$$

If for a closed neighborhood sequence  $S$ , the set  $\widehat{S}$  is a dominating set of  $G$ , then  $S$  is called a *dominating sequence* of  $G$ . Clearly, if  $S = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k)$  is a dominating sequence for  $G$ , then  $k \geq \gamma(G)$ . We call the maximum length of a dominating sequence in  $G$  the *Grundy domination number* of  $G$  and denote it by  $\gamma_{gr}(G)$ . The corresponding sequence is called a Grundy dominating sequence of  $G$  or  $\gamma_{gr}$ -sequence of  $G$ .

The *Grundy bondage number*  $b_{gr}(G)$  of a non-empty graph  $G$  is the cardinality of a smallest set of edges whose removal from  $G$  results in a graph with Grundy domination number greater than  $\gamma_{gr}(G)$ . For empty graph  $G$ , we define  $b_{gr}(G) = 0$ .

In this paper we introduced this concept and in Section 2, we obtain  $b_{gr}(G)$  for some families of graphs.

## 2. Main results

In this section, we compute the Grundy bondage numbers of some special family of graph. First, we state some necessary known results.

**Proposition 2.1.** [5] *Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Then*

- i) For  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\gamma_{gr}(C_n) = n - 2$ , while for  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma_{gr}(P_n) = n - 1$ .*
- ii) For  $n \geq 1$ , we have  $\gamma_{gr}(K_n) = 1$ , while for complete bipartite graphs  $K_{r,s}$  we have  $\gamma_{gr}(K_{r,s}) = s$  if  $r \leq s$ .*
- iii) If  $G$  is the join of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , Then*

$$\gamma_{gr}(G) = \max\{\gamma_{gr}(G_1), \gamma_{gr}(G_2)\}.$$

In the following theorem we study some families of graphs with Grundy bondage numbers are equal 1

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $G$  be a graph of order  $n \geq 4$ . If  $G \in \{K_n, C_n, W_n, K_2 \times C_n\}$ , then  $b_{gr}(G) = 1$ .*

*Proof.* We have  $\gamma_{gr}(K_n) = 1$ , by Proposition 2.1 [ii]. Let  $e = xy$ . It is not difficult to see that  $S = (x, y)$  is a dominating sequence for  $K_n - e$ . So we conclude that  $\gamma_{gr}(K_n - e) > \gamma_{gr}(K_n)$  and thus  $b_{gr}(K_n) = 1$ .

Now consider the graph  $C_n$ . By Proposition 2.1, we have  $\gamma_{gr}(C_n) = n - 2$ . Consider the edge  $e$  from  $C_n$ . Hence  $C_n = P_n$  and therefore  $\gamma_{gr}(C_n - e) > \gamma_{gr}(C_n)$ . Hence,  $b_{gr}(C_n) = 1$ .

Let  $G = W_n$ . Since  $W_n = K_1 + C_{n-1}$ , by Proposition 2.1, we have

$$\gamma_{gr}(W_n) = \max\{\gamma_{gr}(K_1), \gamma_{gr}(C_{n-1})\}.$$

So,  $\gamma_{gr}(W_n) = n - 3$ . Consider an edge  $e$  from  $C_{n-1}$ . Then

$$\gamma_{gr}(W_n - e) = \gamma_{gr}(K_1 + P_{n-1}) = n - 2.$$

Thus,  $b_{gr}(W_n) = 1$ .

Now Consider  $K_2 \times P_n$ . Let  $V(K_2 \times P_n) = \{v_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq 2, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ . The Grundy domination number of  $K_2 \times C_n$  is equal to  $2n - 4$ . Now consider  $K_2 \times C_n - v_{11}v_{1n}$ . Hence

$$(v_{11}, v_{21}, v_{12}, v_{22}, \dots, v_{1n-1})$$

is a Grundy sequences in  $K_2 \times C_n - v_{11}v_{1n}$  of size  $2n - 3$ . Hence  $\gamma_{gr}((K_2 \times C_n) - v_{11}v_{1n}) > \gamma_{gr}(K_2 \times C_n)$  and we conclude that  $b_{gr}(K_2 \times C_n) = 1$ .

□

**Theorem 2.2.** *Let  $G$  be a caterpillar of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $b_{gr}(G) = n - 1$ .*

*Proof.* Note that for a graph  $H$ , we have  $\gamma_{gr}(H) = n$  if and only if  $H$  is an empty graph. Hence if  $E_0$  is a subset of edge set  $G$ , such that  $\gamma_{gr}(G - E_0) > \gamma_{gr}(G)$ , then  $G - E_0$  is an empty graph. Therefore  $|E_0| \geq n - 1$  and we conclude that  $b_{gr}(G) = n - 1$ .

□

**Corollary 2.1.**  $b_{gr}(P_n) = b_{gr}(S_n) = n - 1$ .

*Proof.* The results follows from Theorem 2.2, since paths and stars are caterpillar. □

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $2 \leq m \leq n$ . Then  $b_{gr}(K_{m,n}) \leq n - 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $G = K_{m,n}$  and  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are two parts of  $G$  of sizes  $m$  and  $n$ , respectively. Suppose that  $V_2 = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n\}$ . Consider the arbitrary vertex  $v_1 \in V_1$  and edge set  $E_0 = \{v_1 w_i | 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . Clearly  $K_{m,n} - E_0 = K_1 \cup K_{m-1,n}$  and hence  $\gamma_{gr}(K_{m,n} - E_0) = n + 1$ . This implies that  $b_{gr}(K_{m,n}) \leq n - 1$ . □

The following lemma is a useful result for computing  $b_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n)$ .

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $G$  be a connected graph of order  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $\gamma_{gr}(G) = n - 1$  if and only if  $G$  is a caterpillar.*

*Proof.* We prove by induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 2$ , the result is true. Suppose that result is true for any connected graph of order  $n - 1$  and  $G$  is a connected graph of order  $n \geq 3$  with  $\gamma_{gr}(G) = n - 1$ . Let  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-2}, v_{n-1})$  be a dominating sequences of  $G$ . Hence there exists

$$x \in (N_G[v_{n-1}] \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{n-2} N_G[v_j]).$$

Note that  $x \neq v_j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n - 2$ . If  $x = v_n$ , then  $v_n$  is not adjacent to any  $v_j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n - 2$  and this fact implies that  $\deg(v_n) = 1$ . Hence  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-3}, v_{n-2})$  is a dominating sequences for  $G - v_n$ . The graph  $G - v_n$  is a connected graph of order  $n - 1$  with  $\gamma_{gr}(G - v_n) = n - 2$ . Hence  $G - v_n$  is a caterpillar and this fact implies that  $G$  is a caterpillar. If  $x = v_{n-1}$ , then  $v_{n-1}$  is not adjacent to any  $v_j$  for  $1 \leq j \leq n - 2$ . Since  $G$  is connected, we conclude that  $v_{n-1}$  is adjacent to  $v_n$  and  $\deg(v_{n-1}) = 1$ . By changing the the dominating sequence  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-2}, v_{n-1})$  to dominating sequence  $(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-2}, v_n)$  and a same argument the result can be obtained.

The converse of lemma obtained by 2.1. □

**Theorem 2.4.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . Then  $b_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n) = n - 1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $V(K_2 \times P_n) = \{v_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq 2, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ . We know that  $\gamma_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n) = 2n - 2$  [2]. Consider the set  $E_0 = \{v_{1i}v_{2i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n - 1\}$ . Clearly  $E_0 \subseteq E(K_2 \times P_n)$  and  $K_2 \times P_n - E_0 = P_{2n}$ . Hence  $\gamma_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n - E_0) = 2n - 1$ . Thus  $b_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n) \leq n - 1$ . On the other hand, if  $E_0 \subseteq E(K_2 \times P_n)$  such that  $\gamma_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n - E_0) = 2n - 1$ , then  $(K_2 \times P_n) - E_0$  is a forest such that all components except one are a single vertex. Hence  $|E_0| \geq n - 1$  and we conclude that  $b_{gr}(K_2 \times P_n) = n - 1$ .  $\square$

An additional variant of the Grundy domination number was introduced in [1]. Let  $G$  be a graph without isolated vertices. A sequence  $S = (v_1, \dots, v_k)$ , where  $v_i \in V(G)$ , is called a  $Z$ -sequence if for each  $i$ ,

$$N_G(v_i) \setminus \bigcup_{j=1}^{i-1} N_G[v_j] \neq \emptyset.$$

Then the  $Z$ -Grundy domination number  $\gamma_{gr}^Z(G)$  of the graph  $G$  is the length of a longest  $Z$ -sequence.

The following results are known

**Proposition 2.2.** [5, 1] For  $n \geq 3$ ,  $\gamma_{gr}(C_n) = \gamma_{gr}^Z(C_n) = n - 2$ , while for  $n \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma_{gr}(P_n) = \gamma_{gr}^Z(P_n) = n - 1$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** [11] Let  $G$  and  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$  be  $n+1$  graphs with without isolated vertices. Then

$$\gamma_{gr}(G \circ \wedge_{i=1}^n H_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{gr}(H_i) + \gamma_{gr}^Z(G).$$

**Theorem 2.6.** Let  $G$  and  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_n$  be  $n + 1$  graphs with without isolated vertices. If  $G = C_n$  or  $H_1 = C_n$ , then  $b_{gr}(G \circ \wedge_{i=1}^n H_i) = 1$ .

*Proof.* Suppose that  $G = C_n$  and consider an edge  $e$  from  $G$ . Hence  $G - e = P_n$  and therefor by Proposition 2.2 and Theorem 2.5

$$\gamma_{gr}(G \circ \wedge_{i=1}^n H_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{gr}(H_i) + n - 2 < \gamma_{gr}(G - e \circ \wedge_{i=1}^n H_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \gamma_{gr}(H_i) + n - 1.$$

Thus  $b_{gr}(G \circ \wedge_{i=1}^n H_i) = 1$ .  $\square$

## REFERENCES

1. B. BREŠAR, CS. BUJTAS, T. GOLOGRANC, S. KLAVZAR, G. KOSMRLJ, B. PATKOS, Z. TUZA and M. VIZER: *Grundy dominating sequences and zero forcing sets*, Discrete Optim., **26** (2017), 66-77.
2. B. BREŠAR, C. BUJTAS, T. GOLOGRANC, S. KLAVZAR, G. KOSMRLJ, B. PATKOS, Z. TUZA and M. VIZER: *Dominating sequences in grid-like and toroidal graphs*, Electron. J. Combin., **23** (2016), P4.34 (19 pages).
3. B. BREŠAR, T. GOLOGRANC and T. KOS: *Dominating sequences under atomic changes with applications in Sierpinski and interval graphs*, Appl. Anal. Discrete Math., **10** (2016), 518-531.
4. B. BREŠAR, KOS and TERROS: *Grundy domination and zero forcing in Kneser graphs*, Ars Math. Contemp., **17** (2019), 419-430.
5. B. BREŠAR, T. GOLOGRANC, M. MILANIČ, D. F. RALL and R. RIZZI: *Dominating sequences in graphs*, Discrete Math., **336** (2014), 22-36.
6. B. BREŠAR, M. A. HENNING and D. F. RALL: *Total dominating sequences in graphs*, Discrete Math., **339** (2016) 1165-1676.
7. B. BREŠAR, T. KOS, G. NASINI and P. TORRES: *Total dominating sequences in trees, split graphs, and under modular decomposition*, Discrete Optim., **28** (2018), 16-30.
8. G. CHARTRAND and L. LESNIAK: *Graphs and digraphs*, Third Edition, CRC Press,(1996).
9. T. W. HAYNES, S. HEDETNIEMI and P. SLATER: *Fundamentals of Domination in Graphs*, CRC Press, (1998).
10. M. A. HENNING and A. YEO: *Total domination in graphs*, (Springer Monographs in Mathematics.) ISBN-13: 987-1461465249 (2013).
11. S. M. MOOSAVI MAJD and H. R. MAIMANI: *Grundy domination sequences in generalized corona products of graphs*, Facta Universitatis Ser: Math. Inform., Vol. **35**, No 4 (2020) 1231–1237.