

# Linear separation of connected dominating sets in graphs\*

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Received 21 February 2017, accepted 12 November 2018, published online 15 March 2019

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## Abstract

A connected dominating set in a graph is a dominating set of vertices that induces a connected subgraph. Following analogous studies in the literature related to independent sets, dominating sets, and total dominating sets, we study in this paper the class of graphs in which the connected dominating sets can be separated from the other vertex subsets by a linear weight function. More precisely, we say that a graph is connected-domishold if it admits non-negative real weights associated to its vertices such that a set of vertices is a connected dominating set if and only if the sum of the corresponding weights exceeds a certain threshold. We characterize the graphs in this non-hereditary class in terms of a property of the set of minimal cutsets of the graph. We give several characterizations for the hereditary case, that is, when each connected induced subgraph is required to be connected-domishold. The characterization by forbidden induced subgraphs implies that the class properly generalizes two well known classes of chordal graphs, the block graphs and the trivially perfect graphs. Finally, we study certain algorithmic aspects of connected-domishold graphs. Building on connections with minimal cutsets and properties of the derived hypergraphs and Boolean functions, we show that our approach leads to new polynomially solvable cases of the weighted connected dominating set problem.

*Keywords: Connected dominating set, connected domination, connected-domishold graph, forbidden induced subgraph characterization, split graph, chordal graph, minimal cutset, minimal separator, 1-Sperner hypergraph, threshold hypergraph, threshold Boolean function, polynomial-time algorithm.*

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\*The authors are grateful to the anonymous reviewers for the many insightful remarks, to Endre Boros, Andreas Brandstädt, Yves Crama, Vladimir Gurvich, Pinar Heggernes, Haiko Müller, and Vito Vitrih for helpful discussions, and to Dieter Kratsch and Haiko Müller for providing them with a copy of paper [43]. The work for this paper was partly done in the framework of a bilateral project between Argentina and Slovenia, financed by the Slovenian Research Agency (BI-AR/15–17–009) and MINCYT-MHEST (SLO/14/09).

Part of this work appeared as an extended abstract in [17].

<sup>†</sup>This work is supported in part by the Slovenian Research Agency (research project J1-7051).

<sup>‡</sup>This work is supported in part by the Slovenian Research Agency (research core funding No. I0-0035 and P1-0285, and projects N1-0032, J1-7051, and J1-9110).

*Math. Subj. Class.: 05C69, 05C75, 05C65, 05C85*

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# Linearna separacija povezanih dominantnih množic v grafih\*

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Prejeto 21. februarja 2017, sprejeto 12. novembra 2018, objavljeno na spletu 15. marca 2019

## Povzetek

Povezana dominantna množica v grafu je dominantna množica točk, ki inducira povezan podgraf. Po zgledu sorodnih raziskav v literaturi o neodvisnih množicah, dominantnih množicah in totalno dominantnih množicah v tem članku raziskujemo razred grafov, v katerem lahko povezane dominantne množice točk ločimo od ostalih podmnožic točk z linearno utežno funkcijo. Natančneje, pravimo, da je graf povezano dominantno pragoven, če lahko njegovi množici točk priredimo take nenegativne realne uteži, da je množica točk povezana dominantna množica natanko tedaj, ko vsota uteži njenih elementov preseže določen prag. Grafe tega nehereditarnega razreda karakteriziramo s pomočjo množice minimalnih prerezov grafa. Podamo tudi več karakterizacij za hereditarni primer, tj. ko se za vsak povezan induciran podgraf zahteva, da je povezano dominantno pragoven. Karakterizacija s prepovedanimi induciranimi podgrafi implicira, da je ta razred grafov prava posplošitev dobro znanih razredov tetivnih grafov, bločnih grafov in trivialno popolnih grafov. Preučujemo tudi določene algoritmične vidike povezano dominantno pragovnih grafov. Na podlagi povezav z minimalnimi prerezi in lastnostmi izpeljanih hipergrafov in Boolovih funkcij pokažemo, da naš pristop vodi k novim polinomsko rešljivim primerom problema utežene povezane dominantne množice.

*Ključne besede:* Povezana dominantna množica, povezano dominantnost, povezano dominantno pragoven graf, karakterizacija s prepovedanimi induciranimi podgrafi, razcepljen graf, tetiven graf, minimalen prerez, minimalen separator, 1-Spernerjev hipergraf, pragoven hipergraf, pragovna Boolova funkcija, algoritem polinomske časovne zahtevnosti.

\*Avtorja sta hvaležna anonimnim recenzentom za mnoge relevantne pripombe, Endreju Borosu, Andreasu Brandstädtu, Yvesu Crami, Vladimirju Gurvichu, Pinar Heggenes, Haiku Müllerju in Vitu Vitrihu za koristne razprave, ter Dietru Kratschu in Haiku Müllerju, da sta jima priskrbela kopijo članka [43]. Delo za ta članek je bilo deloma opravljeno v okviru bilateralnega projekta med Argentino in Slovenijo, financirano pa s strani Javne agencije za raziskovalno dejavnost Republike Slovenije (BI-AR/15–17–009) in MINCYT-MHEST (SLO/14/09).

Del tega dela je bil objavljen kot razširjen povzetek v [17].

<sup>†</sup>To delo je deloma podprto s strani Javne agencije za raziskovalno dejavnost Republike Slovenije (raziskovalni projekt J1-7051).

<sup>‡</sup>To delo je deloma podprto s strani Javne agencije za raziskovalno dejavnost Republike Slovenije (temeljno financiranje raziskav št. IO-0035 in P1-0285 ter projekti N1-0032, J1-7051 in J1-9110).

