



NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTED EQUITABLE EDGE DOMINATION IN GRAPHS

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ABSTRACT

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph, for any edge  $f \in E(G)$  the degree of  $f = uv$  in  $G$  is defined by  $deg(f) = deg(u) + deg(v) - 2$ . A set  $F \subseteq E$  for edges is an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$  if every edge  $f$  not in  $F$  is adjacent to at least one edge  $f' \in F$  such that  $|\deg(f) - \deg(f')| \leq 1$ . The minimum cardinality of such equitable edge dominating set is denoted by  $\gamma_e(G)$  and is called equitable edge domination number of  $G$ . In this paper we introduced The connected equitable edge domination and neighbourhood connected equitable edge domination in a graphs exact value for the some standard graphs bounds and some interesting results are obtained.

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1. INTRODUCTION

By a graph  $G = (V, E)$  we mean a finite, undirected with neither loops nor multiple edges the order and size of  $G$  are denoted by  $p$  and  $q$  respectively for graph theoretic terminology we refer to Chartrand and Lesnaik [2] A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called a dominating set if  $N[S] = V$  the minimum (maximum) cardinality of a minimal dominating set of  $G$  is called the domination number (upper domination number) of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ ,  $(\Gamma(G))$ . An excellent treatment of the fundamentals of domination is given in the book by Haynes et al [6] A survey of several advanced topics in domination is given in the book edited by Haynes et al. [7]. Various types of domination have been defined and studied by several authors and more than 75 models of domination are listed in the appendix of Haynes et al. [6]. Sampathkumar and Walikar [9] introduced the concept of connected domination in graphs. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $v \in V$  the open neighborhood and the closed neighborhood of  $v$  are denoted by  $N(v)$  and  $N[v] = N(v) \cup v$  respectively. If  $S \subseteq V$  then  $N(S) = \cup_{v \in S} N(v)$  and  $N[S] = N(S) \cup S$ . If  $S \subseteq V$  and  $u \in S$  then the private neighbor set of  $u$  with respect to  $S$  is defined by  $Pn[u, S] = \{v : N[v] \cap S = \{u\}\}$ .

A dominating set  $S$  of  $G$  is called a connected dominating set if the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  is connected the minimum cardinality of a connected dominating set of  $G$  is called the connected domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_c(G)$ . Arumugam.S and Sivagnanam.C.[1] introduced the concept of neighborhood connected domination in graphs, A dominating set  $S$  of a connected graph  $G$  is called a neighborhood connected dominating set (ncd-set) if the induced subgraph  $\langle N(S) \rangle$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a ncd-set of  $G$  is called the neighborhood connected domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{nc}(G)$ . A ncd-set  $S$  is said to be minimal if no proper subset of  $S$  is a ncd-set. A coloring of a graph  $G$  is an assignment of colors to the vertices of  $G$  such that no two adjacent vertices receive the same color. The minimum integer  $K$  for which a graph  $G$  is  $k$  - colorable is called the chromatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\chi(G)$ .

A matching in  $G=(V, E)$  is a set  $M \subseteq E$  of pairwise non-adjacent edges. Let  $Y$  be a subset of the reals, a function  $f: V \rightarrow Y$  is a  $Y$ -dominating function if for every vertex  $v \in V$ ,  $f(N(v)) \geq 1$ .

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a function  $f: E \rightarrow Y$  is a  $Y$ -edge dominating function if for every vertex  $e \in E$ ,  $f(N(e)) \geq 1$ .

A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called an equitable dominating set if for every  $v \in V - S$  there exist a vertex  $u \in S$  such that  $uv \in E(G)$  and  $|d(u) - d(v)| \leq 1$ . The minimum cardinality of such an equitable dominating set is denoted by  $\gamma_e$  and is called the equitable domination number of  $G$ . A vertex  $u \in V$  is said to be degree equitable with a vertex  $v \in V$  if  $|d(u) - d(v)| \leq 1$ . If  $S$  is an equitable dominating set then any super set of  $S$  is an equitable dominating set. An equitable set  $S$  is said to be a minimal equitable dominating set if no proper subset of  $S$  is an equitable dominating set. The minimal upper equitable dominating number is  $\Gamma_e$  the upper equitable dominating set of  $G$ . If  $u \in V$  such that  $|d(u) - d(v)| \geq 2$  for every  $v \in N(u)$  then  $u$  is in every equitable dominating set such points are called an equitable isolated.  $I_e$  denotes the set of all equitable isolates. An equitable dominating  $S$  of connected graph  $G$  is called a connected equitable dominating set (ced-set) if the induced subgraph  $\langle S \rangle$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a ced-set of  $G$  is called the connected equitable domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_{ce}(G)$ . Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and let  $u \in V$  the equitable neighborhood of  $u$  denoted by  $N_e(u)$  is defined as  $N_e(u) = \{v \in V : |v \in N(u), |d(u) - d(v)| \leq 1\}$ . The maximum and minimum equitable degree of a point in  $G$  are denoted by  $\Delta_e(G)$  and  $\delta_e(G)$  that is  $\Delta_e(G) = \max_{u \in V(G)} |N_e(u)|$  and  $\delta_e(G) = \min_{u \in V(G)} |N_e(u)|$ . The open equitable neighbourhood and closed equitable neighbourhood of  $v$  are denoted by  $N_e(v)$  and  $N_e[v] = N_e(v) \cup \{v\}$  respectively. If  $S \subseteq V$  then  $N_e(S) = \cup_{v \in S} N_e(v)$  and  $N[S] = N_e(S) \cup S$ . If  $S \subseteq V$  and  $u \in S$  then the private equitable neighbor set of  $u$  with respect to  $S$  is defined by  $pne[u, S] = N_e[u] - N_e[S - \{u\}]$ .

If  $G$  is connected graph, then a vertex cut of  $G$  is a subset  $R$  of  $V(G)$  with the property that the subgraph of  $G$  induced by  $V(G) - R$  is disconnected.

### EQUITABLE EDGE DOMINATION NUMBER

Anwar Alwardi and N. D. Soner introduce the Edge Equitable Domination in graphs [3]. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. for any edge  $f \in E$  The degree of  $f = uv$  in  $G$  is defined by  $deg(f) = deg(u) + deg(v) - 2$ . A set  $S \subseteq E$  of edges is equitable edge dominating set of  $G$  if every edge  $f$  not in  $S$  is adjacent to at least one edge  $f' \in S$  such that  $|deg(f) - deg(f')| \leq 1$ .

The minimum cardinality of such equitable edge dominating set is denoted by  $\gamma'_e(G)$  and is called equitable edge domination number of  $G$ .  $S$  is minimal if for any edge  $f \in S$ ,  $S - \{f\}$  is not an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ . A subset  $S$  of  $E$  is called an equitable edge independent set, if for any  $f \in S$ ,  $f \notin N_e(g)$ , for all  $g \in S - \{f\}$ . If an edge  $f \in E$  be such that  $|deg(f) - deg(g)| \geq 2$  for all  $g \in N(f)$  then  $f$  is in any equitable dominating set. Such edges are called equitable isolates. The equitable neighbourhood of  $f$  denoted by  $N_e(f)$  is defined as  $N_e(f) = \{g \in N(f), |deg(f) - deg(g)| \leq 1\}$ . The cardinality of  $N_e(f)$  is called the equitable degree of  $f$  and denoted by  $deg_e(f)$ . The maximum and minimum equitable degree of edge in  $G$  are denoted respectively by  $\Delta'_e(G)$  and  $\delta'_e(G)$ . That is  $\Delta'_e(G) = \max_{f \in E(G)} |N_e(f)|$ ,  $\delta'_e(G) = \min_{f \in E(G)} |N_e(f)|$ . The equitable degree of an edge  $f$  in a graph  $G$  denoted by  $deg_e(f)$  is equal to the number of edges which is equitable adjacent with  $f$ . the minimum equitable edge dominating set is denoted by  $\gamma'_e$ -set. In this paper if  $f$  and  $g$  any two edges in  $E(G)$  we say that  $f$  and  $g$  are equitable adjacent if  $f$  and  $g$  are adjacent and  $|deg(f) - deg(g)| \leq 1$  where  $deg(f), deg(g)$  is the degree of the edges  $f$  and  $g$  respectively. The degree of the edge  $f = uv$ ,  $deg(f) = deg(v) + deg(u) - 2$ .

**2. MAIN RESULT**

**Definition2.1:** An equitable edge dominating set  $F$  of a connected graph  $G$  is called the connected equitable edge dominating set (ceed-set) if the induced subgraph  $\langle F \rangle$  of  $G$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a Ceed-set is called the connected equitable edge domination number and is denoted by  $\gamma'_{ce}(G)$ .

**Observation2.2:** A connected equitable edge dominating set of  $G$  exists if and only if  $G$  is a connected graph  $G$ .

**Proposition2.3:** For any graph  $G$ .  $\gamma'(G) \leq \gamma'_e(G) \leq \gamma'_{ce}(G)$

**Proof:** From the definition of the connected equitable edge dominating set of a graph  $G$ , it is clearly that for any graph  $G$  any connected equitable edge dominating set  $F$  is also an equitable edge dominating set and every equitable edge dominating set is also edge dominating set.

Hence  $\gamma'(G) \leq \gamma'_e(G) \leq \gamma'_{ce}(G)$ .

**Theorem2.4:** For any connected graph  $G$  of order  $p \geq 3$ ,  $\gamma'_{ce}(G) \leq p - 2$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $T$  be a spanning tree of  $G$ . If  $u$  is an end vertex of  $T$  then  $p-2$  edges of  $T$  other than that incident with  $u$  form a connected equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ , hence the result

The following propositions are straight forward from the definition of Ceed-set.

- 1)  $\gamma'_{ce}(K_p) = p - 2$ , if  $p \geq 3$
- 2)  $\gamma'_{ce}(C_p) = p - 2$ , if  $p \geq 3$
- 3)  $\gamma'_{ce}(P_p) = p - 2$  if  $p \geq 3$
- 4)  $\gamma'_{ce}(K_{r,s}) = \min \{r, s\}$

For any tree  $T$  of order  $p$  at least two cut vertices

$$\gamma'_{ce}(T) = p - 1 - n$$

Where  $n$  is the number of end vertices of  $T$ .

**Theorem 2.5:** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma'_{ce}(G) \leq q - \Delta'_e(G)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $f$  be an edge in  $G$  of an equitable degree  $\Delta'_e(G)$  then clearly  $E(G) - N_e(f)$  is an connected equitable edge set hence  $\gamma'_{ce}(G) \leq q - \Delta'_e(G)$ .

**Proposition2.6:** For any graph  $G$  without any equitable isolated edges, if  $F$  is minimal connected equitable edge dominating set then  $E-F$  is equitable edge dominating set.

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be minimal connected equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ . Suppose  $E-F$  is not an equitable edge dominating set. Then there exist an edge  $f$  such that  $f \in F$  is not an equitable adjacent to any edge in  $E-F$ . Since  $G$  has no equitable isolated edges then  $f$  is equitable dominated by at least one edge in  $F - \{f\}$ . Thus  $F - \{f\}$  is an equitable edge dominating set a contradiction to the minimality of  $F$ , Therefore  $E-F$  is an equitable edge dominating set.

**Theorem 2.7:** For any  $\gamma'_{ce}$ -set  $F$  of a graph  $G = (V, E)$

$$|E - F| \leq \sum_{f \in F} \deg_e(f),$$

The equality holds if and only if. For every edge  $f \in E-F$ , there exists only one edge  $g \in F$  such that  $N_e(f) \cap F = \{g\}$ .

**Proof:** Since each edge in  $E-F$  is equitable adjacent to at least one edge of  $F$ . Therefore each edge in  $E-F$  contributes at least one to the sum of the equitable degrees of the edges of  $F$ .  $|E-F| \leq \sum_{f \in F} \deg_e(f)$ ,

Suppose the condition is not true, Then  $N_e(f) \cap F \geq 2$ , For some edge  $f \in E-F$ . Let  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  belong to  $N_e(f) \cap F$ . Hence  $\sum_{f \in F} \deg_e(f)$  exceeds  $E-F$  by at least one since  $f_1$  counted twice once in  $\deg_e(f_1)$  and the once in  $\deg_e(f_2)$ . Hence if the equality holds then the condition must be true. The converse is obvious.

**Theorem 2.8:** For any  $(p, q)$  graph  $G$ ,  $\left\lceil \frac{q}{\Delta'_e(G)+1} \right\rceil \leq \gamma'_{ce}(G)$  without equitable isolated edges.

**Proof:** From the above theorem

$$\begin{aligned} |E-F| &\leq \gamma'_{ce}(G) \Delta'_e(G) \\ q - \gamma'_{ce}(G) &\leq \gamma'_{ce}(G) \Delta'_e(G) \\ q &\leq \gamma'_{ce}(G) (\Delta'_e(G) + 1) \\ \text{There fore } \left\lceil \frac{q}{\Delta'_e(G)+1} \right\rceil &\leq \gamma'_{ce}(G) \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 2.9:** A connected equitable edge dominating set  $F$  is minimal if and only if for each edge  $f \in F$  one of the following conditions holds.

- 1)  $N_e(f) \cap F \neq \emptyset$ .
- 2) There exist an edge  $g \in E-F$  such that  $N_e(g) \cap F = \{f\}$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $F$  is minimal connected equitable edge dominating set. Assume that (1) and (2) do not hold. Then for some  $f \in F$  there exist an edge  $g \in N_e(f) \cap F$  and for every edge  $h \in E-F$ .  $N_e(h) \cap F = \{f\}$ . Therefore  $F - \{f\}$  is not an equitable edge dominating set contradiction to minimality of  $F$ . Therefore (1) or (2) holds.

Conversely, Suppose for every  $f \in F$ . One of the conditions holds. Suppose  $F$  is not minimal. Then there exist  $f \in F$  such that  $F - \{f\}$  is not an equitable edge dominating set. Therefore there exist an edge  $g \in F - \{f\}$  such that  $g \in N_e(f)$ . Hence  $f$  does not satisfy (1). Then  $f$  must satisfy (2). Then there exist an edge  $g \in E-F$  such that  $N_e(g) \cap F = \{f\}$  since  $F - \{f\}$  is an equitable edge dominating set. There exist an edge  $f' \in F - \{f\}$  such that  $f'$  is equitable adjacent to  $g$ . Therefore  $f' \in N_e(g) \cap F$  and  $f' \neq f$ , a contradiction to  $N_e(g) \cap F = \{f\}$ . Hence  $F$  is minimal connected equitable edge dominating set.

### 3. MAIN RESULT

**Definition 3.1:** An equitable edge dominating set  $F$  of connected graph  $G$  is called the neighbourhood connected equitable edge dominating set (nceed-set) if the edge induced subgraph  $\langle N(F) \rangle$  of  $G$  is connected. The minimum cardinality of a nceed-set is called the neighbourhood connected equitable edge domination number (nceed-number) and is denoted by  $\gamma'_{nce}(G)$ .

**Proposition 3.2:** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma'_e(G) \leq \gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq \gamma'_{ce}(G)$

**Proposition 3.3:** For any graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma'_e(G) \leq \gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq 2\gamma'_e(G)$

**Proof:** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and let  $F$  be an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ . obviously pairing  $e \in X$  with a private neighbour forms a nceed-set of cardinality  $2\gamma'_e(G)$ .

**Theorem 3.4:** For the path  $P_p$ ,  $p \geq 2$ ,  $\gamma'_{nce}(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{p-1}{2} \right\rceil$

**Proof:** Let  $P_p = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p)$  and let  $e_i = v_i v_{i+1}$ , if  $p$  is odd then  $F = \{e_j: j=2k \text{ or } 2k+1 \text{ and } k \text{ is odd}\}$  is a nceed set of  $P_p$  and if  $p$  is even then  $F_1 = F \cup \{e_{p-1}\}$  is a nceed-set of  $P_p$ . Hence  $\gamma'_{nce}(P_p) \leq \left\lceil \frac{p-1}{2} \right\rceil$ . Further if  $F$  is any  $\gamma'_{nce}$ -set of  $P_p$ .

Then  $N_e(F)$  contains all the internal edges of  $P_p$  and hence  $|F| \geq \left\lceil \frac{p-1}{2} \right\rceil$ . Thus  $\gamma'_{nce}(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{p-1}{2} \right\rceil$ .

**Corollary 3.5:** For any non-trivial path  $P_p$ ,

- a)  $\gamma'_{ne}(P_p) = \gamma'_e(P_p)$  if and only if  $p=3$  or  $5$ .
- b)  $\gamma'_{nce}(P_p) = \gamma'_{ce}(P_p)$  if and only if  $p=2, 3, 5$  or  $6$ .

**Proof:** Since  $\gamma'_e(P_p) = \left\lceil \frac{p-1}{3} \right\rceil$  and  $\gamma'_e(P_p) = p-3$  the corollary follows.

**Theorem 3.6:** For the cycle  $C_p$  and  $p$  vertices.

$$\gamma'_{nce}(C_p) = \begin{cases} \left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil & \text{if } p \not\equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \\ \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor & \text{if } p \equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** Let  $C_p = (v_1, v_2, \dots, v_p, v_1)$  and  $p=4k+r$  where  $0 \leq r \leq 3$  and  $e_i = v_i v_{i+1}$ . Let  $F = \{e_i, i=2j, 2j+1, j \text{ is odd} \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq 2k-1\}$

$$\text{Let } F_1 = \begin{cases} F & \text{if } p \equiv 0(\text{mod } 4) \\ F \cup \{e_p\} & \text{if } p \equiv 1 \text{ or } 2(\text{mod } 4) \\ F \cup \{e_{p-1}\} & \text{if } p \equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \end{cases}$$

Clearly  $F_1$  is a nceed-set of  $C_p$  and hence

$$\gamma'_{nce}(C_p) = \begin{cases} \left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil & \text{if } p \not\equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \\ \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor & \text{if } p \equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \end{cases}$$

Now, Let  $F$  be and  $\gamma'_{nce}$ -set of  $C_p$  then  $\langle F \rangle$  contains at most one isolated edge.

$$\langle N_e(F) \rangle = \begin{cases} C_p - \{e\} & \text{if } p \not\equiv 0(\text{mod } 4) \\ C_p & \text{if } p \equiv 0(\text{mod } 4) \end{cases}$$

Hence

$$|F| \geq \begin{cases} \left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil & \text{if } p \not\equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \\ \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor & \text{if } p \equiv 3(\text{mod } 4) \end{cases}$$

And the result follows

**Corollary 3.7:**

- a)  $\gamma'_{ne}(C_p) = \gamma'_e(C_p)$  if and only if  $p=3, 4, \text{ or } 7$ .
- b)  $\gamma'_{nce}(C_p) = \gamma'_{ce}(C_p)$  if and only if  $p=3, 4, \text{ or } 5$ .

**Proof:** since  $\gamma'_{nce}(C_p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{3} \right\rfloor$  and  $\gamma'_{ce}(C_p) = p - 2$  the result follows.

**Theorem 3.8:**  $\gamma'_{nce}(K_p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$ , if  $p \geq 3$ .

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be an equitable edge dominating set of  $K_p$  also  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle = K_p - F$  which is connected. Hence  $F$  is a nceed-set which implies  $\gamma'_{nce}(K_p) \leq |F| = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$ . Since  $\gamma'_e(K_p) = \left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$  the result follows.

**Theorem 3.9:**  $\gamma'_{nce}(K_{r,s}) = \min\{r, s\}$ ,  $|r - s| \leq 1$

**Proof:** Let  $v$  be a vertex such that  $\deg_e(v) = \min\{r, s\}$ . Let  $F$  be the set of all edges incident with  $v$ . It is clear that  $F$  is an equitable edge dominating set. Also  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle = K_{r,s}$  if  $K_{r,s}$  is a star and  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle = K_{1,p-1}$  Thus  $F$  is a nceed-set. Hence  $\gamma'_{nce}(K_{r,s}) \leq |F| = \deg_e(v) = \min\{r, s\}$  since  $\gamma'_e(K_{r,s}) = \min\{r, s\}$  the result follows.

**Theorem 3.10:** For a tree  $T$ ,  $\gamma'_{nce}(T) = 1$  if and only if  $T$  is a star.

**Proof:** Let  $\gamma'_{nce}(T) = 1$  and Let  $F = \{e\}$  be the  $\gamma'_{nce}$ -set of  $G$ . Let  $e = uv$  and let  $\deg_e(u) \geq 2$ .

If  $\deg_e(v) > 1$ . Then  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle = T - e$  is disconnected. Hence  $\deg_e(v) = 1$ . Thus  $T$  is a star. The converse is obvious.

**Lemma 3.11:** A superset of a nceed-set is a nceed-set.

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be a nceed-set of graph  $G$  and let  $F_1 = F \cup \{e\}$  where  $e \in E - F$ . Let  $e = uv$  clearly  $e \in N_e(F)$  and  $F_1$  is an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ . Now Let  $f, g \in V(\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle)$ . If  $f, g \in V(\langle N_e(F) \rangle)$  then any  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle$  is a  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$ . If  $f \in V(\langle N_e(F) \rangle)$  and  $g \notin V(\langle N_e(F) \rangle)$ , Then without loss of generality we assume  $f-u$  path in  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle$  and hence  $f-u$  path together with  $u-g$  path gives a  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$ . Also if  $f, g \notin V(\langle N_e(F) \rangle)$  then  $(f, u, v, g)$  or  $(f, v, u, g)$  or  $(f, u, g)$  or  $(f, v, g)$  or  $(f, g)$  is a  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$ . Thus  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$  is connected so that  $F_1$  is a nceed-set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 3.12:** A nceed-set  $F$  of a graph  $G$  is a minimal nceed-set if and only if for every  $e \in F$  one of the following holds.

1.  $P_{ne}[e, F] \neq \emptyset$ ,
2. There exists two vertices  $f, g \in \langle N_e(F) \rangle$  such that  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle$  contains at least one edge of  $N_e(F) - N_e(F - \{e\})$ .

**Proof:** Let  $F$  be a minimal nceed-set of  $G$ . Let  $e \in F$  and Let  $F_1 = F - e$ . Then either  $F_1$  is not an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$  or  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$  is disconnected. If  $F_1$  is not an equitable edge dominating set of  $G$ , Then  $P_{ne}[e, F] \neq \emptyset$ . If  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$  is disconnected then there exists two vertices  $f, g \in \langle N_e(F) \rangle$  such that there is no  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle$ . Since  $\langle N_e(F) \rangle$  is connected, it follows that every  $f-g$  path in  $\langle N_e(F_1) \rangle$  contains at least one equitable edge of  $N_e(F) - N_e(F - \{e\})$ . Conversely  $F$  is a nceed-set of  $G$  satisfying the conditions of theorem, Then  $F$  is 1-minimal and hence the result follows from lemma.

**Theorem 3.14:** Let  $G$  be a graph with  $\Delta'_e < q - 1$  then  $\gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq q - \Delta'_e$ .

**Proof:** Suppose  $e \in E(G)$  and  $\deg_e(e) = \Delta'_e$ , Since  $G$  is connected and  $\Delta'_e < q - 1$ . There exists two equitable adjacent edges  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  such that  $e_1 \in N_e(e)$  and  $e_2 \in N_e[e]$ . Now, Let  $F = (N_e(e) - \{e_1\}) \cup \{e_2\}$ . Clearly  $E - F$  is a nceed-set of

G and hence  $\gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq q - \Delta'_e$ . This bound is sharp for  $P_5, C_4$ .

**Theorem 3.15:** For any graph G  $\gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq \left\lfloor \frac{3p}{4} \right\rfloor$

**Proof:** Let F be a maximum matching of the graph G. Label the edges of F by  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_k, e_{k+1}, \dots, e_r$  such that the edges  $e_i$  and  $e_{i+1}$ ,  $i$  is odd  $1 \leq i \leq k-1$  are equitable adjacent to common edge  $f(e_i)$  with maximum value of  $k$ , Let  $Y = \{f(e_i) / i \text{ is odd}\}$ . Then  $F \cup Y$  is an equitable edge dominating set with  $\langle N_e(F \cup Y) \rangle$  is connected and hence

$$\gamma'_{nce}(G) \leq |F \cup Y| = \left\lfloor \frac{3p}{4} \right\rfloor.$$

The above found is sharp the graph  $C_5$

$$\gamma'_{nce}(C_5) = 3 = \left\lfloor \frac{3p}{4} \right\rfloor$$

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