



## Forcing Total Outer Independent Monophonic Domination Number of a Graph

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### ABSTRACT

We initiate the study of forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number of a graph. Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $M$  a minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . A subset  $T \subseteq M$  is called a forcing subset of  $M$  if  $M$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing  $T$ . A forcing subset for  $M$  of minimum cardinality is a minimum forcing subset of  $M$ . The forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $M$ , denoted by  $f_{Y_{m_t}^{oi}}(M)$ , is the cardinality of a minimum forcing subset of  $M$ . The forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $G$ , denoted by  $f_{Y_{m_t}^{oi}}(G)$ , is  $f_{Y_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \min \{f_{Y_{m_t}^{oi}}(M)\}$ , where the minimum is taken over all minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating sets  $M$  in  $G$ . Some of its general properties are studied. It is shown that for every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $0 \leq a \leq b - 4$  and  $b \geq 5$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $f_{Y_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = a$  and  $Y_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = b$ .

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**Keywords:** total monophonic number, total outer independent monophonic number, total outer independent monophonic domination number, forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and  $n$  be the number of vertices and  $m$  be the number of edges. Thus the cardinality of  $V(G) = m$  and the cardinality of  $E(G) = n$ . We consider a finite undirected graph without loops or multiple edges. For the basic graph theoretic notations and terminology we refer to Buckley and Harary. For vertices  $u$  and  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$ , the distance  $d(u, v)$  is the length of a shortest  $u - v$  path in  $G$ . A  $u - v$  path of length  $d(u, v)$  is called a  $u - v$  geodesic.

The neighbourhood of a vertex  $v$  is the set  $N(v)$  consisting of all vertices which are adjacent with  $v$ . The degree of a vertex  $v$ , denoted by  $d_G(v)$ , is the cardinality of its neighbourhood. A vertex  $v$  is an extreme vertex if the subgraph induced by its neighbourhood is complete. A vertex  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$  is a cut vertex of  $G$ , if  $G - v$  is disconnected. A vertex  $v$  in a connected graph  $G$  is said to be a semi-extreme vertex if  $\Delta(< N(v) >) = |N(v)| - 1$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be semi-extreme graph if every vertex of  $G$  is a semi-extreme vertex. A connected acyclic graph is called a tree.

A subset of  $V(G)$  is independent if there is no edge between any two vertices of this set. The independence number of a graph  $G$ , denoted by  $\alpha(G)$ , is the maximum cardinality of an independent subset of the set of vertices of  $G$ . A monophonic set of  $G$  is a set  $M \subseteq V(G)$  such that every vertex of  $G$  is contained in a monophonic path joining some pair of vertices in  $M$ . The monophonic number  $m(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum order of its monophonic sets and any monophonic set of order  $m(G)$  is a minimum monophonic set of  $G$ . A total monophonic set of a graph  $G$  is a monophonic set  $M$  such that the subgraph induced by  $M$  has no isolated vertex. The minimum cardinality of a total monophonic set of  $G$  is its total monophonic number and is denoted by  $m_t(G)$ . A total monophonic set of size  $m_t(G)$  is said to be a  $m_t$ -set.

A subset  $M \subseteq V(G)$  is independent monophonic set if  $M$  is a monophonic set and every two vertices from  $M$  are not adjacent in  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of a independent monophonic set of  $G$  is the independent monophonic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $im(G)$ .

A subset  $M \subseteq V(G)$  is *outer independent monophonic set* if  $M$  is a monophonic set and the set  $V(G) - M$  is independent. The minimum cardinality of a independent monophonic set of  $G$  is the *outer independent monophonic number* of  $G$  and is denoted by  $m_{oi}(G)$ .

A *total outer-independent dominating set* of a graph  $G$  is a set  $D$  of vertices of  $G$  such that every vertex of  $G$  has a neighbor in  $D$ , the set of all vertices in  $D$  is not isolated and the set  $V(G) - D$  is independent. The *total outer-independent domination number* of a graph  $G$  is the minimum cardinality of a total outer-independent dominating set of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_t^{oi}(G)$ .

A monophonic set  $M \subseteq V$  is said to be *total outer independent monophonic dominating set*, abbreviated TOIMDS if it is a monophonic dominating set and  $\langle V - M \rangle$  is an independent set. The minimum cardinality of a total outer independent monophonic dominating set, denoted by  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G)$  is called the *total outer independent monophonic domination number* of  $G$ .

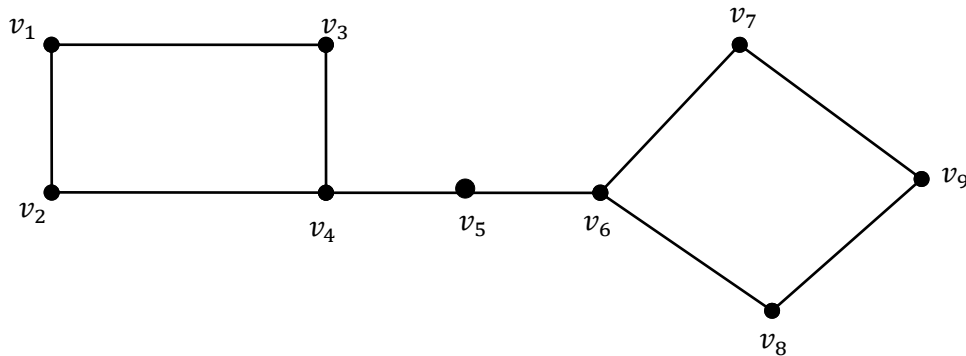
The following theorem will be used in the sequel.

**Theorem 1.1** Each extreme vertex of a connected graph  $G$  belongs to every total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $G$ .

**Definition 2.1** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $M$  a minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . A subset  $T \subseteq M$  is called a *forcing subset* for  $M$  if  $M$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing  $T$ . A forcing subset for  $M$  of minimum cardinality is a *minimum forcing subset* of  $M$ . The forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $M$  denoted by  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M)$ , is the cardinality of a minimum forcing subset of  $M$ . The forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $G$ , denoted by  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G)$  is  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \min \{f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M)\}$ , where the minimum is taken over all minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating sets  $M$  in  $G$ .

**Example 2.2**

For the graph  $G$  given in Figure 2.1  $M_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_4, v_5, v_7, v_9\}$  and  $M_2 = \{v_1, v_3, v_4, v_5, v_6, v_8, v_9\}$  are the only two total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $G$ . It is clear that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M_1) = 1$  and  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M_2) = 1$  so that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1$



**Figure 2.1**

**Theorem 2.3** For any connected graph  $G, 0 \leq f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) \leq \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) \leq p$ .

**Definition 2.4** A vertex  $v$  of a connected graph  $G$  is said to be a *total outer independent monophonic dominating vertex* of  $G$  if  $v$  belongs to every minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.5** Let  $G$  be a connected graph. Then

- a)  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$  if and only if  $G$  has a unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set
- b)  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1$  if and only if  $G$  has at least two minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating sets, one of which is unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing one of its elements, and
- c)  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G)$  if and only if no minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing any of its proper subsets.

**Proof.** (a) Let  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$ . Then by definition  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M) = 0$  for some total outer independent monophonic dominating set  $M$  of  $G$  so that the empty set  $\varphi$  is the minimum forcing subset for  $M$ . Since the empty set  $\varphi$  is a

subset of every set, it follows that  $M$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . The converse is clear.

b) Let  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1$ . Then by Theorem 2.5 (a),  $G$  has atleast two total outer independent monophonic dominating sets. Also, since  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1$ , there is a singleton subset  $T$  of a total outer independent monophonic dominating set  $M$  of  $G$  such that  $T$  is not a subset of any other total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Thus  $M$  is the unique total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing one of its elements. The converse is clear.

c) Let  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G)$ . Then  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M) = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(M)$  for every total outer independent monophonic dominating sets  $M$  in  $G$ . Also, it is clear  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) \geq 2$  and hence  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) \geq 2$ . Then by theorem 2.5 (a)  $G$  has atleast two total outer independent monophonic dominating set and so that the empty set  $\varphi$  is not a forcing subset for any total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Since  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(M) = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G)$ , no proper subset of  $M$  is a forcing subset of  $M$ . Thus no total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  is the unique total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing any of its proper subsets. Conversely, the data implies that  $G$  contains more than one total outer independent monophonic dominating set and no subset of any total outer independent monophonic dominating set  $M$  other than  $M$  is a forcing subset for  $M$ . Hence it follows that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G)$ .

**Theorem 2.6** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and let  $\mathfrak{F}$  be the set of relative complements of the minimum forcing subsets in their respective minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating sets in  $G$ . Then  $\cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$  is the set of total outer independent monophonic dominating vertices of  $G$ .

**Proof.** Let  $W$  be the set of all total outer independent monophonic dominating vertices of  $G$ . We have to show that  $W = \cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$ . Let  $v \in W$ . Then  $v$  is a total outer independent monophonic dominating vertex of  $G$  that belongs to every minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set  $M$  of  $G$ . Let  $T \subseteq M$  be any minimum forcing subset for any minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set  $M$  of  $G$ . We claim that  $v \notin T$ . If  $v \in T$ , then  $T' = T - \{v\}$  is a proper subset of  $T$  such that  $M$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing  $T'$  so that  $T'$  is a forcing subset for  $M$  with  $|T'| < |T|$ , which is a contradiction to  $T$  is a minimum forcing subset for  $M$ . Hence  $v \in \cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$  so that  $W \subseteq \cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$ .

Conversely, let  $v \in \cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$ . Then  $v$  belongs to the relative complement of  $T$  in  $M$  for every  $T$  and every  $M$  such that  $T \subseteq M$ , where  $T$  is a minimum forcing subset for  $M$ . Since  $F$  is the relative complement of  $T$  in  $M$ , we have  $F \subseteq M$  and thus  $v \in M$  for every  $M$ , which implies that  $v$  is a total outer independent monophonic dominating vertex of  $G$ . Thus  $v \in W$  and so  $\cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F \subseteq W$ . Hence  $W = \cap_{F \in \mathfrak{F}} F$ .

**Corollary 2.7** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $M$  a minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Then no total outer independent monophonic dominating vertex of  $G$  belongs to any minimum forcing set of  $M$ .

**Theorem 2.8** Let  $G$  be a connected graph and  $W$  be the set of all total outer independent monophonic dominating vertices of  $G$ . Then  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) \leq \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) - |W|$ .

**Proof.** Let  $M$  be any minimum total monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Then  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = |M|$ ,  $W \subseteq M$  and  $M$  is the unique minimum forcing total outer independent monophonic dominating set containing  $M - W$ . Then  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) \leq |M - W| = |M| - |W| = \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) - |W|$ .

**Theorem 2.9** For any complete graph  $G = K_p$ ,  $p \geq 2$ ,  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$ .

**Proof.** For  $G = K_p$ , it follows from Theorem 1.1, that the set of all vertices of  $G$  is the unique total outer independent monophonic dominating set. Now, by Theorem 2.5 (a),  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$ .

**Theorem 2.10** For the complete bipartite graph  $G = K_{r,s}$  ( $r, s \geq 2$ ),

$$f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } r < s \\ 1 & \text{if } r = s \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Let  $U = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r\}$  and  $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_s\}$  be the two bipartite sets of  $G$ . Let us consider  $r < s$ . Clearly  $r$  is the total outer independent monophonic domination number of  $G$ . Therefore  $S = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_r\}$  is the unique minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Hence it follows from Theorem 2.5 (a), that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$ .

If  $r = s$ , then  $S_1 = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_s\}$ ,  $S_2 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_s\}$  are the two minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  so that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(S_1) = 1$  and  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(S_2) = 1$ . Hence,  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1$ .

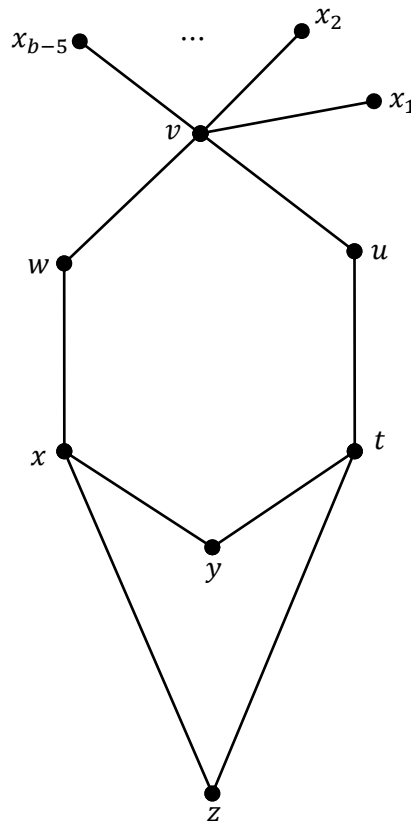
**Corollary 2.11** If  $G$  is a connected graph with  $k$  simplicial vertices and  $l$  cut-vertices, then  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) \leq \gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) - (k + l)$ .

**Theorem 2.12** For every pair  $a, b$  of integers with  $0 \leq a \leq b - 4$  and  $b \geq 5$ , there exists a connected graph  $G$  such that  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = a$  and  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = b$ .

**Proof.** We prove this theorem by considering three cases. For  $b = 4$ , we have  $a = 0$ . Hence for  $G = K_4$ , we have  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$  and  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = 4 = b$ . Now, take  $b \geq 5$ .

**Case 1.**  $a = 0$ . Let  $G = K_b$ . Then by Theorem 2.9 and Theorem 1.1, we have  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 0$  and  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = b$ .

**Case 2.**  $a = 1$ . Let  $C_6: t, u, v, w, x, y, t$  be a cycle of order of 6. Let  $H$  be the graph obtained from  $C_6$  by adding  $b - 5$  new vertices  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{b-5}$  and joining each  $x = (1 \leq i \leq b - 5)$  to  $v$ . Let  $G$  be the graph obtained from  $H$  by adding a new vertex  $z$  and join  $z$  to both  $u$  and  $w$ . The graph  $G$  is given in Figure 2.2. Let  $S = [x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{b-5}]$  be the set of all extreme vertices of  $G$ . Then by Theorem 1.1, every total outer independent monophonic dominating set contains  $S$ .  $G$  contains exact by two minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating sets namely  $S_1 = S \cup \{v, u, w, x, y, z\}$  and  $S_2 = S \cup \{v, x, y, t, z\}$ . Then  $\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}(G) = |s| + 5 = b$ . Clearly  $f_{\gamma_{m_t}^{oi}}(G) = 1 = a$ .



**Figure 2.2**

**Case 3.**  $a \geq 2$ . Let  $P_4: y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4$  be a path of order 4 and  $C_6: v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, y_3, y_2, v_1$  be a cycle of order of 6. Let  $H$  be a graph obtained from  $P_4$  and  $C_6$  by adding new vertices  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{b-a-4}$  and joining each  $x_i (1 \leq i \leq b - a - 4)$  with  $y_2$ . Let  $G$  be the graph obtained from  $H$  by adding new vertices  $z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{a-2}$  and joining each  $z_i (1 \leq i \leq a - 2)$  to both  $y_3$  and  $v_3$ . The graph  $G$  is given in Figure 2.3

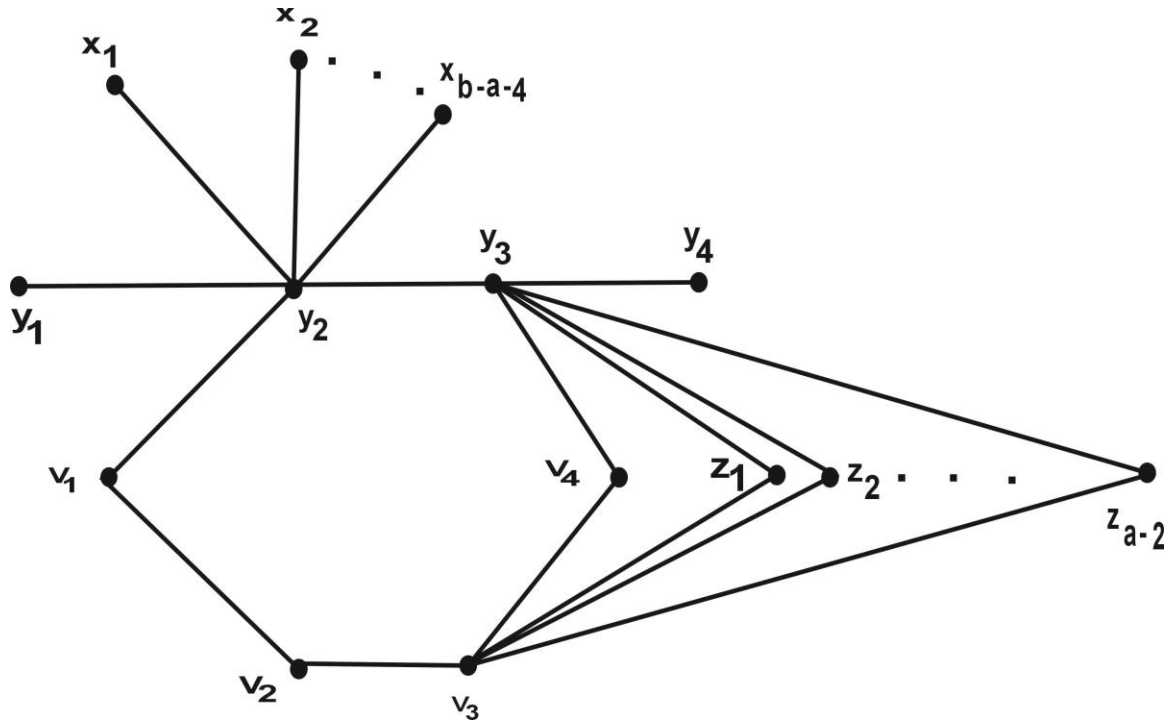


Figure 2.3

Let  $M_1 = \{y_1, y_4, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{b-a-4}\}$  be the set of all extreme vertices of  $G$ . By Theorem 1.1, every total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  contains  $M_1$ . It is clear that  $M_1$  is not a total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ . Let  $M_2 = M_1 \cup \{v_1, v_3, y_2, y_3, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{a-2}\}$  is the minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$ , so that  $\gamma_{mt}^{oi}(G) = b$ . Next to show that  $f_{\gamma_{mt}^{oi}}(G) = a$ . Since every minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  contain  $M_1 \cup \{y_2, y_3\}$ , it follows from Theorem 2.8, that  $f_{\gamma_{mt}^{oi}}(G) \leq \gamma_{mt}^{oi}(G) - |M_1 \cup \{y_2, y_3\}| = a$ . Moreover, the set  $M_2$  is the minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  if and only if  $M_2$  is of the form  $M_1 \cup \{v_1, v_3, y_2, y_3, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{a-2}\}$ . If  $f_{\gamma_{mt}^{oi}}(G) < a$ , let  $M_3$  be a subset of  $M_2$  with  $|M_3| < a$ . Then there is a vertex  $y_j$  such that  $y_j \notin M_3$ . Let  $w_j$  be a vertex different from  $y_j$ . Then  $M'_2 = M_2 - (\{y_j\} \cup \{w_j\})$  is the minimum total outer independent monophonic dominating set of  $G$  different from  $M_2$  such that  $M'_2$  contain  $M_3$ . Thus  $f_{\gamma_{mt}^{oi}}(G) \geq a$ . Then  $f_{\gamma_{mt}^{oi}}(G) = a$ .

## II. Conclusion

We can extend the concept of forcing total outer independent monophonic domination number to find the forcing total outer independent edge monophonic domination number, forcing upper total outer independent monophonic domination number of a graph and so on.

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