



## Domination Cover Pebbling Number for Sun

A. Lourdusamy<sup>1</sup> and T. Mathivanan<sup>2</sup>

Department of Mathematics,  
St. Xavier's College (Autonomous),  
Palayamkottai - 627 002, India.

<sup>1</sup>E-mail: lourdusamy15@gmail.com

<sup>2</sup>E-mail: tahit\_van\_man@yahoo.com

### Abstract

Given a configuration of pebbles on the vertices of a connected graph  $G$ , a pebbling move (or pebbling step) is defined as the removal of two pebbles from a vertex and placing one pebble on an adjacent vertex. The domination cover pebbling number,  $\psi(G)$ , of a graph  $G$  is the minimum number of pebbles that are placed on  $V(G)$  such that after a sequence of pebbling moves, the set of vertices with pebbles forms a dominating set of  $G$ , regardless of the initial configuration. In this paper, we determine  $\psi(G)$  for Sun.

**Keywords:** pebbling, sun, cover pebbling, domination.

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### 1 Introduction

One recent development in graph theory, suggested by Lagarias and Saks, called pebbling, has been the subject of much research. It was first introduced into the literature by Chung [1], and has been developed by many others including Hulbert, who published a survey of graph pebbling [5]. There have been many developments since Hulbert's survey appeared.

Given a graph  $G$ , distribute  $k$  pebbles (indistinguishable markers) on its vertices in some configuration  $C$ . Specifically, a configuration on a graph  $G$  is a function from  $V(G)$  to  $\mathbb{N} \cup \{0\}$  representing an arrangement of pebbles on  $G$ . For our purposes, we will always assume that  $G$  is connected. A pebbling move (or pebbling step) is defined as the removal of two pebbles from some vertex and the placement of one of these pebbles on an adjacent vertex. Define the pebbling number,  $\pi(G)$ , to be the minimum number of pebbles such that regardless of their initial configuration, it is possible to move to any root vertex  $v$ , a pebble by a sequence of pebbling moves. Implicit in this definition is the fact that if after moving to vertex  $v$  one desires to move to another root vertex, the pebbles reset to their original configuration.

The domination cover pebbling [3] is the combination of two ideas cover pebbling [2] and domination [4]. This introduces a new graph invariant called the domination cover pebbling number,  $\psi(G)$ . Recall that, a set of vertices  $D$  in  $G$  is a dominating set if every vertex in  $G$  is either in  $D$  or adjacent to a vertex of  $D$ . The cover pebbling number,  $\lambda(G)$ , is defined as the minimum number of pebbles required such that given any initial configuration of at least  $\lambda(G)$  pebbles, it is possible to make a series of pebbling moves to place at least one pebble on every vertex of  $G$ . The domination cover pebbling number of a graph  $G$ , proposed by A. Teguia, is the minimum number  $\psi(G)$  of pebbles required so that any initial configuration of at least  $\psi(G)$  pebbles can be transformed so that the set of vertices that contain pebbles form a dominating set of  $G$ . In [3], Gardner et al. computed domination cover pebbling number for complete  $r$ -partite graph, path, wheel graph, cycle, and binary tree. We have also determined the domination cover pebbling number of some families of graph in [7-10]. We now proceed to determine the domination cover pebbling number for sun.

## 2. Domination cover pebbling number for sun

**Definition 2.1** [6] A simple connected graph  $G$  is called a SUN if it contains exactly one cycle  $C_n$  and  $R$  distinct vertices not in  $C_n$  such that each  $v_p \in R$  is connected to exactly one  $v_i \in C_n$ . A sun is denoted  $C_n \cdot R_I^{(d)}$ , where  $v_i \in I$  iff  $\{v_i v_p\} \in E(G)$  and  $(d) = \max\{(d(v_{ia}, v_{ib}))\}$  for all  $v_{ia}, v_{ib} \in I$ .

Now we give the labeling for  $C_n \cdot R_I^{(d)}$ . For  $C_n: v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_{k-1} v_k u_{k-1} \dots u_1 v_0$  if  $n = 2k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) and  $C_n: v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_{k-1} u_{k-1} \dots u_1 v_0$  if  $n = 2k - 1$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) and then label the vertices of  $R$  by,  $v'_i$  if  $\{v_i v'_i\} \in E(G)$   $i \neq 0$  and  $v_t$  if  $\{v_t v_0\} \in E(G)$  and  $u'_j$  if  $\{u_j u'_j\} \in E(G)$ , where  $G = C_n \cdot R_I^{(d)}$ .

**Lemma 2.2** The value of  $\psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)})$  is attained when the original configuration consists of placing all the pebbles on any one of the vertices of  $R$ .

**Proof:** Assume first that a worst configuration consists of more than one set of consecutively pebbled vertices (islands) in  $C_n$  and no pebbled vertices in  $R$ . The cardinality of any such island in  $C_n$  is at most two, for were it to be three or more, one could relocate the pebbles to the inner one or two vertices, and there by causing a larger number of pebbles to be needed to cover dominate the vertices of  $C_n, R_1^{(d)}$  - a contradiction. Thus each "island" consists of at most two vertices. Now consider the effect of relocating all the pebbles onto a single island. Once again one reaches a contradiction to the assumption that there could be more than one island since after relocating all the pebbles to a single island, one would now require more pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of the graph. Next, assume that island in  $C_n$  consists of exactly two vertices. Once again, we consider the effect of relocating all the pebbles to any one of the two pebbled vertices of  $C_n$ . One would now require more pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of the graph. So, our assumption is wrong.

Next, assume that a worst configuration consists of exactly one pebbled vertex in  $C_n$  and more than one pebbled vertex in  $R$ . Now consider the effect of relocating all the pebbles in the vertex of  $C_n$  to a vertex of  $R$ . One would now require more pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of the graph – a contradiction. From this, we conclude that any worst configuration never consists of a pebbled vertex in  $C_n$ .

Finally, assume that a worst configuration consists of more than one pebbled vertex in  $R$ . Now, relocate all the pebbles from the vertices of  $R$  onto a single vertex of  $R$ . Once again one reaches a contradiction to the assumption that there could be more than one pebbled vertex, since after relocating all the pebbles to a single vertex of  $R$ , one would now require more pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of the graph  $C_n, R_1^{(d)}$ . The statement follows. ■

Since placing all the pebbles on a single vertex of  $R$  is a worst configuration, we will now determine the value of  $\psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)})$

**Theorem 2.3** Let  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$  be the sun. Then

$$\psi(C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}) = \max \left\{ \sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_{v_k}) + \sum_{u_l \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_{u_l}) - \gamma(v_t) \right\} \text{ for all}$$

$v_t \in R$ , where  $v_k$  and  $u_l$  are the initial vertices of the paths  $P_{v_k}$  and  $P_{u_l}$  respectively and  $\gamma(v_t) = 1$  if both  $v_1$  and  $u_1$  are pebbled and  $\gamma(v_t) = 0$  if  $u_1$  or  $v_1$  or both are unpebbled. Also,

$$\mu(P_{v_k}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v_k = 0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ or } 2 \\ \psi(P_{v_k}) & \text{if } v_k \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and } \mu(P_{u_l}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u_l = 0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ or } 2 \\ \psi(P_{u_l}) & \text{if } u_l \geq 3 \end{cases}.$$

**Proof:** We first prove this theorem for  $n=2m$ .

**Case 1:** Consider the Sun  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$  where  $n = 2m$  ( $m \geq 2$ ). By Lemma 2.2, fix a target vertex from  $R$ . Label the target vertex by  $v_t$  and then label the remaining vertices as given in Definition 2.1. Now, we have to

put one pebble each at the vertices  $v_i$  and  $u_j$  which belong to  $I$ , to cover dominate the vertices  $v_i$  and

$u_j$  respectively. For that, we need  $2^{i+1}$  and  $2^{j+1}$  pebbles at  $v_t$  (since,  $d(v_t, v_i) = i + 1$ ;  $d(v_t, u_j) = j + 1$ ) for

the vertices  $v_i$  and  $u_j$  respectively. So, totally we need  $\sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1}$  pebbles to cover

dominate the vertices which are not in  $C_n$  for all  $v_i, u_j \in I$ . Note that, in this process, we have also cover dominated the vertices  $v_{i-1}$ , and  $v_{i+1}$  by putting a pebble at  $v_i$  and we have cover dominated the vertices  $u_{j-1}$ , and  $u_{j+1}$  by putting a pebble at  $u_j$ . Next, we have to cover dominate the remaining vertices which are in between the neighbor vertices of  $I$ .

For that, consider the paths  $P_A: v_0 v_1 \dots v_{m-1} v_m$  and  $P_B: v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1}$ . First, consider the path  $P_A: v_0 v_1 \dots v_{m-1} v_m$  and two consecutive vertices which belong to  $I$ , say  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+h}$  ( $i \geq 0$  and  $h > i$ ) in  $P_A$ . If both  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+h}$  are adjacent or connected by at most two vertices in  $P_A$  then we have already cover dominated the vertices between  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+h}$ . Otherwise consider the path  $P_V: v_{i+1} v_{i+2} \dots v_{i+h-2}$ . So, we

need  $2^{i+2}$  ( $\psi(P_v)$ ) pebbles at  $v_t$  to cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_v$ , since  $d(v_t, v_{i+1})=i+2$ . If  $v_m \in I$  then the path  $P_v$  ends with the vertex  $v_{m-2}$ , otherwise, the path  $P_v$  ends with  $v_{m-1}$  in  $P_A$ , if  $u_{m-1} \notin I$  (this case arises for the last two consecutive vertices which belong to  $I$  in  $P_A$ ). After this process, we would have cover dominated all the vertices of the path  $P_A$ , using  $\sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v)$  pebbles from  $v_t$ , where  $v_k$  is the initial vertex of the path  $P_v$  and

$$\mu(P_v) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{if } v=0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ or } 2 \\ \psi(P_v) & , \text{if } v \geq 3 \end{cases} .$$

Now, we do the same thing for the other path  $P_B : v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1} v_m$ . To cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_B$ , we need  $\sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{u_i \notin I} 2^{i+1} \mu(P_u)$  pebbles at  $v_t$  where  $u_1$  is the initial vertex of the path  $P_u$  and

$$\mu(P_u) = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{if } u=0 \text{ or } 1 \text{ or } 2 \\ \psi(P_u) & , \text{if } u \geq 3 \end{cases}$$

Now, we have cover dominated all the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$ , but we may use an extra pebble at  $v_0$  if both  $v_1$  and  $u_1$  are pebbled by the previous processes. Thus we have to subtract one pebble from  $v_t$ . Otherwise, we are already done.

$$\text{That is, } \gamma(v_t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if both } v_1 \text{ and } u_1 \text{ are pebbled} \\ 0 & \text{if either } v_1 \text{ or } u_1 \text{ or both are unpebbled} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Thus we need, } \sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v) + \sum_{u_i \notin I} 2^{i+1} \mu(P_u) - \gamma(v_t)$$

pebbles at  $v_t$  to cover dominate the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$

Now, consider another target vertex in  $R$  and label it by  $v_t$  and then carry out the process described above. Finally, we choose the one from  $R$ , which takes maximum number of pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$ .

That is,

$$\Psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) = \max \left\{ \sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_{v_k}) + \sum_{u_l \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_{u_l}) - \gamma(v_t) \right\}$$

for all  $v_t \in R$ .

**Case 2:** Consider the sun  $C_n, R_1^{(d)}$ , where  $n = 2m - 1$  ( $m \geq 2$ ).

By Lemma 2.2, fix a target vertex  $v_t$  from the  $R$  distinct vertices not in  $C_n$ . Label the target vertex by  $v_t$  and then label the remaining vertices as given in Definition 2.1. Using  $\sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1}$  pebbles at  $v_t$ , we can cover dominate all the vertices outside  $C_n$  for all  $v_i, u_j \in I$ .

Also, we have cover dominated the adjacent vertices of  $v_i$  and  $u_j$  in  $C_n$ . Next, we have to cover dominate the remaining vertices in between the neighbor vertices of  $I$ .

**Case (2a):**  $v_{m-1} \in I$  and  $u_{m-1} \notin I$ .

Consider the paths  $P_A: v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_{m-1}$  and  $P_B: v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1}$ . First consider the path  $P_A$  and two consecutive vertices which belong to  $I$ , say,  $v_i$  and  $v_{i+h}$  ( $i \geq 0$  and  $h > i$ ). So, we need  $\sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_{v_k})$  pebbles at  $v_t$  to cover dominate the vertices of  $P_A$ , where  $P_{v_i}: v_{i+1}, v_{i+2}, \dots, v_{i+h-2}$  and  $v_k = v_{i+1}$  is the initial vertex of the path  $P_{v_i}$ . Since,  $v_{m-1} \in I$ , the vertex  $u_{m-1}$  is already cover dominated. A similar work can be done for the other path  $P_B$ , that is, if  $u_{m-2} \in I$ , then the path  $P_u$  ends with  $u_{m-2}$ . Otherwise,  $P_u$  ends with  $u_{m-3}$ . Therefore, to cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_B$  we need  $\sum_{u_i \notin I} 2^{i+1} \mu(P_{u_i})$  pebbles at  $v_t$ .

**Case (2b):**  $u_{m-1} \in I$  and  $v_{m-1} \notin I$ .

Consider the paths  $P_A: v_0 v_1 v_2 \dots v_{m-1}$  and  $P_B: v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1}$ . First consider the path  $P_B$  and two consecutive vertices which belong to  $I$ , say,  $u_i$  and  $u_{i+h}$  ( $i \geq 0$  and  $h > i$ , Here let  $u_0 = v_0$ ). So, we need  $\sum_{u_i \notin I} 2^{i+1} \mu(P_{u_i})$  pebbles at  $v_t$  to cover dominate the vertices of  $P_B$ . A similar work can be done for the other path  $P_A$  (as described in case(2a)). Thus, to cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_A$  we need  $\sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_{v_k})$  pebbles at  $v_t$ .

**Case (2c):** Both  $v_{m-1}$  and  $u_{m-1} \in I$ .

Consider the paths  $P_A : v_0 v_1 \dots v_{m-1}$  and  $P_B : v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1}$ . Clearly, the paths  $P_u$  and  $P_v$  end with  $v_{m-1}$  and  $u_{m-1}$  respectively. So, we need  $\sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v)$  to cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_A$  and

$\sum_{u_1 \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_u)$  to cover dominate the vertices of the path  $P_B$  at  $v_t$ .

**Case (2d):** Both  $v_{m-1}$  and  $u_{m-1} \notin I$ .

Consider the paths  $P_A : v_0 v_1 \dots v_{m-1}$  and  $P_B : v_0 u_1 u_2 \dots u_{m-1}$ . Clearly, the paths  $P_u$  and  $P_v$  end with  $v_{m-2}$  and  $u_{m-2}$  respectively. So, we need  $\sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v) + \sum_{u_1 \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_u)$  pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of the paths  $P_A$  and  $P_B$ .

Now, we cover dominate all the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$ . But there may be an extra pebble at  $v_0$  if both  $v_1$  and  $u_1$  are pebbled by the previous processes. So, we have to subtract one pebble from  $v_t$ . Otherwise, we are already done. That is,

$$\gamma(v_t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if both } v_1 \text{ and } u_1 \text{ are pebbled} \\ 0 & \text{if either } v_1 \text{ or } u_1 \text{ or both are unpebbled} \end{cases}$$

Thus, we need  $\sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v) + \sum_{u_l \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_u) - \gamma(v_t)$  pebbles at  $v_t$  to cover dominate the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$ .

Now, consider another target vertex in  $R$  and label it by  $v_t$  and then carry out the process described above. Finally, we choose the one from  $R$ , which takes maximum number of pebbles to cover dominate the vertices of  $C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}$ .

Therefore, we get,

$$\psi(C_n \cdot R_1^{(d)}) = \max \left\{ \sum_{v_i \in I} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{u_j \in I} 2^{j+1} + \sum_{v_k \notin I} 2^{k+1} \mu(P_v) + \sum_{u_l \notin I} 2^{l+1} \mu(P_u) - \gamma(v_t) \right\}$$

for all  $v_t \in R$ . ■

**Corollary 2.4** For  $R = n$ ,  $\psi(C_n, R_I^{(d)}) = \begin{cases} 3 \cdot 2^{m+1} - 7, & \text{if } n = 2m (m \geq 2) \\ 2^{m+2} - 7, & \text{if } n = 2m - 1 (m \geq 2) \end{cases}$ ,

$$\text{For } R = n - 1, \psi(C_n, R_I^{(d)}) = \begin{cases} 3 \cdot 2^{m+1} - 10, & \text{if } n = 2m (m \geq 2) \\ 2^{m+2} - 10, & \text{if } n = 2m - 1 (m \geq 2) \end{cases}.$$

**Proof:**

**Case A:** Let  $R = n$ . Without loss of generality, choose a vertex  $v_t \in R$ .

**Case A1:** Let  $n = 2m$  ( $m \geq 2$ ). This implies that  $d(v_t, v_m) = m + 1$ . Note,  $\mu(P_v) = \mu(P_u) = 0$ , since  $v = 0 = u$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \psi(C_n, R_I^{(d)}) &= \sum_{\substack{i=0 \\ v_i \in I}}^m 2^{i+1} + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ u_j \in I}}^{m-1} 2^{j+1} - \gamma(v_t) \\ &= 2 + 2^{m+1} + 2 \left( \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ v_i \in I}}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} \right) - 1 \\ &= 3 \cdot 2^{m+1} - 7, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality follows since both  $v_1$  and  $u_1 \in I$ .

$$\text{Therefore, } \psi(C_n, R_I^{(d)}) = 3 \cdot 2^{m+1} - 7$$

**Case A2:** Let  $n = 2m - 1$  ( $m \geq 2$ ). This implies that  $d(v_t, v_{m-1}) = d(v_t, u_{m-1}) = m$ . Also,  $\mu(P_v) = \mu(P_u) = 0$ , since  $v = u = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \psi(C_n, R_I^{(d)}) &= \sum_{\substack{i=0 \\ v_i \in I}}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ u_j \in I}}^{m-1} 2^{j+1} - \gamma(v_t) \\ &= 2 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} - 1 \\ &= 2 \cdot 2^{m+1} - 7, \end{aligned}$$

where the second equality follows since both  $v_1$  and  $u_1 \in I$ .



Therefore,  $\psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) = 2^{m+2} - 7$ .

**Case B:** Let  $R = n - 1$ . This implies that, one vertex does not belong to  $I$ . First label the vertex by  $v_1$  and then label the remaining vertices of  $C_n, R_1^{(d)}$ , so that we get maximum number of pebbles at  $v_t$ . Also, note  $\mu(P_v) = 0$  (since,  $v = 0$  or  $1$ ) and  $\mu(P_u) = 0$  (since,  $u = 0$  or  $1$ ).

**Case B1:** Let  $n = 2m$  ( $m \geq 2$ ).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) &= 2 + \sum_{i=2}^m 2^{i+1} + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} 2^{j+1} - \gamma(v_t) \\ &= 2 + 2^{m+1} + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} 2^{j+1} - \gamma(v_t) - 4 \\ &= 2^{m+1} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} + 2 - 4 \\ &= 3(2^{m+1}) - 10, \end{aligned}$$

where the third equality follows since  $v_1 \notin I$ .

Therefore,  $\psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) = 3(2^{m+1}) - 10$ .

**Case B2:** Let  $n = 2m - 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) &= 2 + \sum_{i=2}^{m-1} 2^{i+1} + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} 2^{j+1} \\ &= 2^{m+2} - 10, \end{aligned}$$

where the first equality follows since  $v_1 \notin I$ .

Therefore,  $\psi(C_n, R_1^{(d)}) = 2^{m+2} - 10$ . ■

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