

Correction

# Correction: Cabrera Martínez et al. On the Secure Total Domination Number of Graphs. *Symmetry* 2019, 11, 1165

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The authors wish to make the following corrections on paper [1]:

- (1) Eliminate Lemma 1 because we have found that this lemma is not correct.
- (2) Theorem 3 states that for any graph  $G$  with no isolated vertex,

$$\gamma_{st}(G) \leq \alpha(G) + \gamma(G).$$

The result is correct, but the proof uses Lemma 1. For this reason, we propose the following alternative proof for Theorem 3.

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be a  $\gamma(G)$ -set. Let  $I$  be an  $\alpha(G)$ -set such that  $|D \cap I|$  is at its maximum among all  $\alpha(G)$ -sets. Notice that for any  $x \in D \cap I$ ,

$$epn(x, D \cup I) \cup ipn(x, D \cup I) \subseteq epn(x, I). \quad (1)$$

We next define a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  of minimum cardinality among the sets satisfying the following properties.

- (a)  $D \cup I \subseteq S$ .
- (b) For every vertex  $x \in D \cap I$ ,
  - (b1) if  $epn(x, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $S \cap epn(x, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ ;
  - (b2) if  $epn(x, D \cup I) = \emptyset$ ,  $ipn(x, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$  and  $epn(x, I) \setminus ipn(x, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ , then either  $epn(x, I) \setminus D = \emptyset$  or  $S \cap epn(x, I) \setminus D \neq \emptyset$ ;
  - (b3) if  $epn(x, D \cup I) = \emptyset$  and  $epn(x, I) = ipn(x, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $S \cap N(epn(x, I)) \setminus \{x\} \neq \emptyset$ ;
  - (b4) if  $epn(x, D \cup I) = ipn(x, D \cup I) = \emptyset$ , then  $N(x) \setminus (D \cup I) = \emptyset$  or  $S \cap N(x) \setminus (D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ .

Since  $D$  and  $I$  are dominating sets, from (a) and (b) we conclude that  $S$  is a TDS. From now on, let  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ . Observe that there exists a vertex  $u \in N(v) \cap I \subseteq N(v) \cap S$ , as  $I \subseteq S$  is an  $\alpha(G)$ -set. To conclude that  $S$  is a STDS, we only need to prove that  $S' = (S \setminus \{u\}) \cup \{v\}$  is a TDS of  $G$ .

First, notice that every vertex in  $V(G) \setminus N(u)$  is dominated by some vertex in  $S'$ , because  $S$  is a TDS of  $G$ . Let  $w \in N(u)$ . Now, we differentiate two cases with respect to vertex  $u$ .

**Case 1.**  $u \in I \setminus D$ . If  $w \notin D$ , then there exists some vertex in  $D \subseteq S'$  which dominates  $w$ , as  $D$  is a dominating set. Suppose that  $w \in D$ . If  $w \in ipn(u, D \cup I)$ , then  $I' = (I \cup \{w\}) \setminus \{u\}$  is an  $\alpha(G)$ -set such that  $|D \cap I'| > |D \cap I|$ , which is a contradiction. Hence,  $w \notin ipn(u, D \cup I)$ , which implies that there exists some vertex in  $(D \cup I) \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$  which dominates  $w$ .

**Case 2.**  $u \in I \cap D$ . We first suppose that  $w \notin D$ . If  $w \notin epn(u, D \cup I)$ , then  $w$  is dominated by some vertex in  $(D \cup I) \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$ . If  $w \in epn(u, D \cup I)$ , then by (b1) and the fact that in this case all vertices in  $epn(u, D \cup I)$  form a clique,  $w$  is dominated by some vertex in



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$S \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$ . From now on, suppose that  $w \in D$ . If  $w \notin ipn(u, D \cup I)$ , then there exists some vertex in  $(D \cup I) \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$  which dominates  $w$ . Finally, we consider the case in that  $w \in ipn(u, D \cup I)$ .

We claim that  $ipn(u, D \cup I) = \{w\}$ . In order to prove this claim, suppose that there exists  $w' \in ipn(u, D \cup I) \setminus \{w\}$ . Notice that  $w' \in D$ . By (1) and the fact that all vertices in  $epn(u, I)$  form a clique, we prove that  $ww' \in E(G)$ , and so  $w \notin ipn(u, D \cup I)$ , which is a contradiction. Therefore,  $ipn(u, D \cup I) = \{w\}$  and, as a result,

$$epn(u, D \cup I) \cup \{w\} \subseteq epn(u, I). \quad (2)$$

In order to conclude the proof, we consider the following subcases.

Subcase 2.1.  $epn(u, D \cup I) \neq \emptyset$ . By (2), (b1), and the fact that all vertices in  $epn(u, I)$  form a clique, we conclude that  $w$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$ , as desired.

Subcase 2.2.  $epn(u, D \cup I) = \emptyset$  and  $epn(u, I) \setminus \{w\} \neq \emptyset$ . By (2), (b2), and the fact that all vertices in  $epn(u, I)$  form a clique, we show that  $w$  is dominated by some vertex in  $S \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$ , as desired.

Subcase 2.3.  $epn(u, D \cup I) = \emptyset$  and  $epn(u, I) = \{w\}$ . In this case, by (b3) we deduce that  $w$  is dominated by some vertex in  $S \setminus \{u\} \subseteq S'$ , as desired.

According to the two cases above, we can conclude that  $S'$  is a TDS of  $G$ , and so  $S$  is a STDS of  $G$ . Now, by the minimality of  $|S|$ , we show that  $|S| \leq |D \cup I| + |D \cap I| = |D| + |I|$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_{st}(G) \leq |S| \leq |I| + |D| = \alpha(G) + \gamma(G)$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

The authors would like to apologize for any inconvenience caused to the readers by these changes. The changes do not affect the scientific results.

## Reference

1. Cabrera Martínez, A.; Montejano, L.P.; Rodríguez-Velázquez, J.A. On the secure total domination number of graphs. *Symmetry* **2019**, *11*, 1165. [[CrossRef](#)]