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An analogue of the Shannon capacity of a graph. (English) Zbl 0717.05070

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The Shannon capacity of a graph G is the value $\alpha_s(G) = \sup_n \sqrt{\alpha(G^n)}$, where $\alpha(G^n)$ is the independence number of the strong product of n copies of G . The independent domination number of G , denoted $\mathcal{K}(G)$, is the smallest possible cardinality of a set which is both independent and dominating. The author introduces an analogue of the Shannon capacity, namely the \mathcal{K} -capacity $\mathcal{K}_s(G) = \inf_n \sqrt{\mathcal{K}(G^n)}$. Consider the graph $G_{\mathcal{A}} = (V, E)$ which has one vertex for each letter in an alphabet \mathcal{A} and in which two vertices are adjacent if and only if the corresponding letters can be confused. The Shannon capacity of $G_{\mathcal{A}}$ yields an upper bound on the cardinality of a set of n -letter words which are pairwise nonconfusable, and the \mathcal{K} -capacity of $G_{\mathcal{A}}$ yields a lower bound on the size of a maximal such set. The author makes use of linear programming duality to present lower bounds on the \mathcal{K} -capacity and uses them to evaluate the \mathcal{K} -capacity of certain cycles and trees.

MSC:

05C99 Graph theory

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Keywords:

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