

Theorem. Let  $x$  be the number of maximum queens that share the same row/column in a minimum domination set. We have  $x \leq 2\gamma - n + 2$ .

First, consider the following theorem from this paper: “Cockayne, E.J., 1990. Chessboard domination problems. *Discrete Mathematics*, 86(1-3), pp.13-20.”

**Theorem 3** (Spencer [14]). *For any  $n$ ,  $\gamma(Q_n) \geq (n - 1)/2$ .*

**Proof.** Consider a covering of the  $n \times n$  board using  $\gamma = \gamma(Q_n)$  queens. Suppose that the rows and columns are sequentially labelled  $1, \dots, n$  from top to bottom and left to right respectively. A row or column is said to be *occupied* if it contains a queen.

Let column  $a$ , ( $b$ ) be the left most (right most) unoccupied column and let row  $c$  ( $d$ ) be the unoccupied row closest to the top (bottom). Further we set  $\delta_1 = b - a$  and  $\delta_2 = d - c$  and assume without loss of generality that  $\delta_1 \geq \delta_2$ .

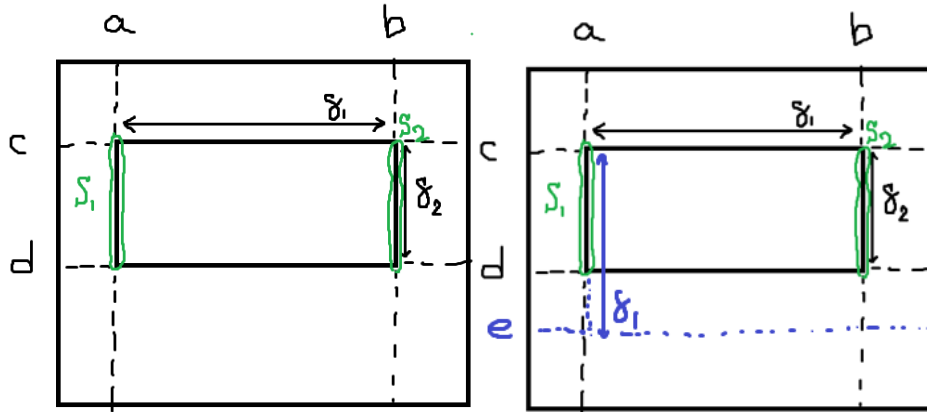
Consider the sets  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  of squares in columns  $a$  and  $b$  respectively, which lie between rows  $c$  and  $c + \delta_1 - 1$  inclusive and let  $S = S_1 \cup S_2$ . Since  $\delta_1 \geq \delta_2$ , no diagonal intersects both  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . Hence every queen diagonally dominates at most two squares of  $S$  (i.e. at most one per diagonal). Further queens situated above row  $c$  or below row  $c + \delta_1 - 1$  do not dominate squares of  $S$  by row or column.

By definition of  $c$ , there are at least  $c - 1$  queens above row  $c$ . Each row below row  $d$  is occupied and  $d = c + \delta_2 \leq c + \delta_1$ . Therefore all the  $n - c - \delta_1$  rows below row  $c + \delta_1$  are occupied. Hence there are at least  $n - c - \delta_1$  queens below row  $c + \delta_1 - 1$ .

It follows that at least  $(c - 1) + (n - c - \delta_1) = n - \delta_1 - 1$  queens dominate at most 2 squares of  $S$ . The remaining queens of which there are at most  $\gamma - (n - \delta_1 - 1)$ , may cover at most 4 squares of  $S$ . Since all the  $2\delta_1$  squares of  $S$  must be dominated we have

$$2(n - \delta_1 - 1) + 4(\gamma - (n - \delta_1 - 1)) \geq 2\delta_1,$$

which gives  $\gamma \geq (n - 1)/2$  as required.  $\square$



Let  $x \geq 2$  be the number of maximum queens that share the same row in a minimum domination set. Thus, there is at least one row with  $x$  queen.

Case 1. If there is such a row above or below the inner rectangle of the figure, we have:

$$2(n - \delta_1 - 1 + (x - 1)) + 4(\gamma - (n - \delta_1 - 1 + (x - 1))) \geq 2\delta_1 \text{ which gives } x \leq 2\gamma - n + 2$$

In other words, Case 1 represents the scenario in which such a row is one that each queen on it can at most attach 2 squares of S potentially.

Case 2. If there is such a row in the inner rectangle of the figure, we have:

$$2(n - \delta_1 - 1) + 4(\gamma - (n - \delta_1 - 1) - x) + 2 \times 3 + 2(x - 2) \geq 2\delta_1 \text{ which gives } x \leq 2\gamma - n + 2$$

In other words, Case 2 represents the scenario in which such a row is one that each queen on it could at most attach 4 squares of S potentially.

Therefore,  $x \leq 2\gamma - n + 2$  in all cases. The board is symmetric, and so, the result is also valid for columns.

Corollary. If  $\gamma = n/2$ ,  $x \leq 2$ .