

## ON SOME TOTAL GRAPHS ON FINITE RINGS

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ABSTRACT. We give a decomposition of the total graph  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n}p^m))$  where  $p$  is a prime and  $m, n$  are positive integers. We also studied some graph theoretical properties with some of its fundamental subgraphs.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring and  $Z(R)$  and  $Reg(R)$  be the sets of zero-divisors and regular elements of  $R$ , respectively. Let  $T(\Gamma(R))$  denote the total graph of  $R$  and let  $Z(\Gamma(R))$  and  $Reg(\Gamma(R))$  be the induced subgraphs of  $T(\Gamma(R))$  with vertices in  $Z(R)$  and  $Reg(R)$ , respectively. In this paper, we study the decomposition of total graphs on some finite commutative rings  $R = \mathbb{Z}_m$ , where the set of zero-divisors of  $R$  is not an ideal. For  $m \geq 2$ , it is well-known that  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_m)$  is an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_m$  if and only if  $m = p^n$  for some prime  $p$  and integer  $n \geq 1$ .

For a simple graph  $G$ , let  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$  be the sets of vertices and edges of  $G$ , respectively. For a nonnegative integer  $r$ , the graph  $G$  is called *r-regular* if all vertices have the same degree  $r$ . Recall that the *complement* of a graph  $G$  is a graph denoted by  $\bar{G}$  on the same vertex set as  $G$ , where two distinct vertices are adjacent in  $\bar{G}$  if and only if they are not adjacent in  $G$ . A graph is called *planar* if it can be drawn in the plane without crossing edges. A *tree* is a connected graph with no cycles. A *claw* the star graph  $K_{1,3}$ . A *claw-free* is one that does not

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have a claw as an induced subgraph. A *caterpillar* is a tree in which a single path is incident to every edge. A *k-coloring* of  $G$  is a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\}$  from the vertex set into the set of positive integers less than or equal to  $k$ . A  $k$ -coloring is said to be *proper* if adjacent vertices are colored differently. A graph is called *k-colorable* if it has a proper  $k$ -coloring. The *chromatic number*  $\chi(G)$  is the least  $k$  such that  $G$  is  $k$ -colorable. For vertices  $x$  and  $y$  of  $G$ , we define  $d(x, y)$  to be the length of a shortest path from  $x$  to  $y$ .  $d(x, x) = 0$ ; and  $d(x, y) = \infty$  if there is no such path). The *diameter* of  $G$  is defined as  $\text{diam}(G) = \sup\{d(x, y) | x \text{ and } y \text{ are vertices of } G\}$ . The *girth* of  $G$ , denoted by  $\text{gr}(G)$ , is the length of a shortest cycle in  $G$ .  $\text{gr}(G) = \infty$  if  $G$  contains no cycles. We say that two (induced) subgraphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  of  $G$  are *disjoint* if  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  have no common vertices and no vertex of  $G_1$  (respectively,  $G_2$ ) is adjacent (in  $G$ ) to any vertex not in  $G_1$  (respectively,  $G_2$ ). An *independent set* of  $G$  is a set of vertices, no two of which are adjacent. The *independence number* of  $G$  is defined as the maximum size of an independent set of vertices, denoted by  $\alpha(G)$ . A *vertex cover* of a graph  $G$  is a set  $Q \subset V(G)$  that contains at least one endpoint of all edges. We denote the minimum size of vertex covers in  $G$  by  $\beta(G)$ . A *dominating set* for a graph  $G$  is a set  $D \subseteq V(G)$  such that every vertex of  $V(G) - D$  is adjacent to at least one vertex of  $D$ . The *domination number*  $\gamma(G)$  is the number of vertices of a smallest dominating set for  $G$ . A set  $I \subseteq V(G)$  is an *independent dominating set* of  $G$  if  $I$  is both an independent and dominating set. The cardinality of a minimum independent dominating set of  $G$  is called the *independent domination number* of  $G$  and is denoted by  $i(G)$ . A graph  $G$  is called *domination perfect* if  $\gamma(H) = i(H)$  for every induced subgraph  $H$  of  $G$ . A graph is *well-covered* if  $i(G) = \alpha(G)$ . A *matching* of  $G$  is a set of non-loop edges with no shared endpoints. The vertices incident to the edges of a matching  $M$  are saturated by  $M$ . A *perfect matching* is a matching that saturates every vertex. The maximum size of matchings in  $G$  is denoted by  $\alpha'(G)$ . An *edge cover* of  $G$  is a set  $L$  of edges such that every vertex of  $G$  is incident to some edge of  $L$ . The minimum size of edge covers is denoted by  $\beta'(G)$ . Let  $\omega(G)$  denote the number of components of a graph  $G$ . A *vertex cut* of a graph  $G$  is a set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  such that  $G - S$  has more than one component. The *connectivity* of  $G$ , written as  $\kappa(G)$ , is the minimum size of a vertex set  $S$  such that  $G - S$  is disconnected or has only one vertex. A *disconnecting set* of edges is a set  $F \subseteq E(G)$  such that  $G - F$  has more than one component. The *edge-connectivity* of  $G$ , written as  $\kappa'(G)$ , is the minimum size of a disconnecting set. More terminologies can be seen in [5].

Throughout, we assume that  $p$  is an odd prime number and  $n, m$  are natural numbers. Note that  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$  is not an ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}$ . So, by [2] we have

- (1)  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a connected graph with  $diam(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))) = 2$  and  $gr(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})) = gr(Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))) = 3$ .
- (2)  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$  is a set of  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p+1)$  elements which can be classified into two subsets of even and odd zero-divisors with  $2^{n-1}p^m$  and  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}$  elements, respectively. In addition, it is obvious that  $Reg(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$  is the set of odd elements that are not multiples of  $p$  and has  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p-1)$  elements.
- (3) By (2) and Lemma 2.4 of [4],  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a  $(2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p+1)-1)$ -regular graph.

## 2. DECOMPOSITION OF $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$

Let  $p$  be an odd prime number. In this section, we consider the total graph  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  and decompose it in several steps. At first, we give some basic notions required in the context of this request.

**Lemma 2.1.** *The only odd zero-divisor of the ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  is  $p$ .*

*Proof.* It is obvious that  $p$  is an odd zero-divisor of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ . Let  $a$  be an odd zero-divisor of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ . Then there exists a  $0 \neq b \in \mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  such that  $ab = 0$ . It is clear that  $p \nmid b$ . Hence,  $p \mid a$  and so,  $p = a$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** *The clique number of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  is  $p$ .*

*Proof.* The set of zero-divisors of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  contains  $p$  and all even elements. Thus, in  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  every even vertex of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  is adjacent to the other even vertices and similarly every odd vertex of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  is adjacent to the other odd vertices. Since we have exactly  $p$  even and  $p$  odd elements in  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ , so there are exactly two complete graphs  $K_p$  in the total graph, one with even vertices and the other with odd vertices. Now we show that there isn't any complete graph with more than  $p$  vertices. We claim that there isn't any odd vertex adjacent to all even vertices. Let  $x$  be an odd vertex adjacent to all even vertices, so  $x + y \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})$  for any even vertex  $y$ . Thus, by Lemma 2.1,  $x + y = p$  for any even vertex  $y$  which is a contradiction. Similarly, there isn't any even vertex adjacent to all odd vertices. Hence  $\omega(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))) = p$ .  $\square$

**Definition 2.3.** A *decomposition* of a graph  $G$  is a set of subgraphs  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$  that partitions the edges of  $G$  such that  $\bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq r} E(G_i) = E(G)$  and  $E(G_i) \cap E(G_j) = \emptyset$  for all  $i \neq j$ . If there is a decomposition

$G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$  for  $G$ , we say that  $G$  is decomposed by  $G_1, G_2, \dots, G_r$  and denote it by  $G = G_1 + G_2 + \dots + G_r$ .

Our next theorem provides a decomposition of the total graph which will be useful in the sequel.

**Theorem 2.4.**  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  has the following decomposition;

$$T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) = 2K_p + pK_{1,1}.$$

*Proof.* By the argument of Theorem 2.2, we have exactly two complete graphs  $K_p$  in the decomposition of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $p$  is the only odd zero divisor of ring  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$ . Moreover, there are exactly  $p$  distinct pairs of even-odd vertices in  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  such that the sum of each is  $p$ . So we have  $p$  edges between even vertices and odd vertices.  $\square$

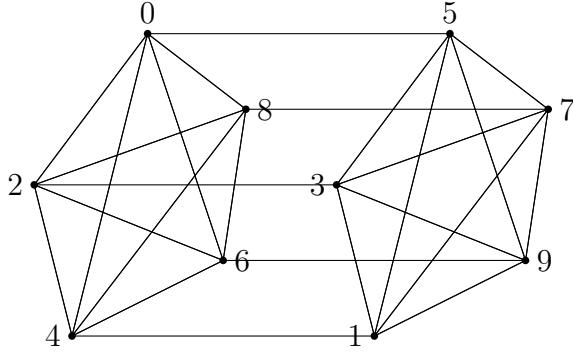


Figure 1.  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{10}))$

**Theorem 2.5.** The followings hold.

- (i)  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) = K_p + K_{1,1}$ .
- (ii)  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  is a complete graph with  $p - 1$  vertices.

*Proof.* (i) It's clear that in  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ , there exist  $p$  even vertices adjacent to each other. So we have a complete graph  $K_p$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $p$  is the only odd zero-divisor in  $\mathbb{Z}_{2p}$  which is adjacent to 0.

(ii) In  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ , all odd vertices of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  are adjacent to each other except  $p$ . So, we have the complete graph  $K_{p-1}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.6.** For all  $n \geq 1$  and  $p \geq 3$ , we have the following decomposition

$$T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})) = 2K_{2^{n-1}p} + pK_{2^{n-1}, 2^{n-1}}.$$

*Proof.* As mentioned in the proof of Theorem 2.2,  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  induces two complete subgraphs  $K_{2^{n-1}p}$ , one consists of even vertices and the other of odd vertices. The proof is completed by showing that the remaining edges of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  appears in  $p$  induced subgraphs  $K_{2^{n-1}, 2^{n-1}}$

with parts as even and odd vertices. We'll refer to these partitions as *even-odd partitions*.

We proceed by induction on  $n$ . For  $n = 1$ , in view of Theorem 2.4, there are  $p$  induced subgraphs  $K_{1,1}$  in the decomposition of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . Let the assertion be true for a  $n > 1$ . It is enough to show that  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^{n+1}p}))$  has  $p$  induced subgraphs  $K_{2^n,2^n}$ .

Since  $|V(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^{n+1}p}))| = 2|V(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))|$ , any induced subgraph  $K_{2^n,2^n}$  of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^{n+1}p}))$  can be constructed by appending  $2^{n-1}$  even vertices to the even part elements and  $2^{n-1}$  odd vertices to odd part elements of an induced subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1},2^{n-1}}$  of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$ . Let  $K = \{0, \dots, 2^{n-1}-1\}$ ,  $K' = \{2^{n-1}, \dots, 2^n-1\}$  and  $\{2kp; k \in K\} \cup \{(2k+1)p; k \in K\}, \{2kp+2; k \in K\} \cup \{(2k+1)p-2; k \in K\}, \dots, \{2kp+2^{p-1}; k \in K\} \cup \{(2k+1)p-2^{p-1}; k \in K\}$  be even-odd partitions of  $p$  subgraphs  $K_{2^{n-1},2^{n-1}}$ . Consider the subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1},2^{n-1}}$  of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  with  $A = \{2kp; k \in K\}$  as even part and  $B = \{(2k+1)p; k \in K\}$  as odd part; and append to  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $2^{n-1}$  even vertices of  $A' = \{2kp; k \in K'\}$  and  $2^{n-1}$  odd vertices of  $B' = \{(2k+1)p; k \in K'\}$ , respectively. We have to show that for any  $x \in A$ ,  $y \in B$ ,  $x' \in A'$  and  $y' \in B'$ ,  $x'$  is adjacent to both  $y'$  and  $y$  and also,  $x$  is adjacent to  $y'$ .

Note that for any  $x' \in A'$ , there is  $x \in A$  such that  $x' = x + 2^n p$ . Similarly, for any  $y' \in B'$ ,  $y' = y + 2^n p$  for some  $y \in B$ . By induction hypothesis  $x+y \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})$ ; it follows that,  $x'+y' = (x+2^n p) + (y+2^n p) = (x+y) + 2^{n+1} p \equiv^{2^{n+1} p} x+y \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}) \subseteq Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^{n+1} p})$ . Hence  $x'$  is adjacent to  $y'$ .

If  $x \in A$ , then there is an odd number  $k \in \{1, \dots, 2^n-1\}$  such that  $x+y = kp$ . So, one sees immediately that  $x'+y = (x+2^n p) + y = kp + 2^n p = (k+2^n)p$  in which  $k+2^n$  is an odd number belonging to  $\{1+2^n, \dots, 2^{n+1}-1\}$ . Thus  $x'+y \in Z_{odd}(\mathbb{Z}_{2^{n+1} p})$ , where the index means the odd zero-divisors. Similarly  $x$  is adjacent to  $y'$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.7.** *The followings hold.*

- (i)  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})) = K_{2^{n-1}p} + K_{2^{n-1},2^{n-1}} + K_{2^{n-1}}$  for  $n > 1$ .
- (ii)  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  is a complete graph with  $2^{n-1}(p-1)$  vertices.

*Proof.* (i) There are  $2^{n-1}p$  even zero-divisors and  $2^{n-1}$  odd zero-divisors in  $\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}$ . Clearly, the  $2^{n-1}p$  even vertices in  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  are adjacent to each other which induce the complete graph  $K_{2^{n-1}p}$ . Furthermore, the set of odd zero-divisors of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}$  is  $\{p, 3p, \dots, (2^n-1)p\}$  which forms  $K_{2^{n-1}}$ , (see Figure 2.b). Considering the sets  $\{2kp; 0 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1}-1\}$  and  $\{(2k+1)p; 0 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1}-1\}$  as two parts, the complete bipartite subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1},2^{n-1}}$  will be formed, (see Figure 2.a).

- (ii) The vertices of  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  are the odd vertices of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  which are non-zero-divisors, so they are not multiple of  $p$ , and  $|V(Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))| = 2^{n-1}(p-1)$ . One can clearly see that they form the complete graph  $K_{2^{n-1}(p-1)}$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** *For all  $n \geq 1$  and  $p \geq 3$ , one has*

$$T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})) = 2K_{2^{n-1}p^m} + pK_{2^{n-1}p^{m-1}, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}}.$$

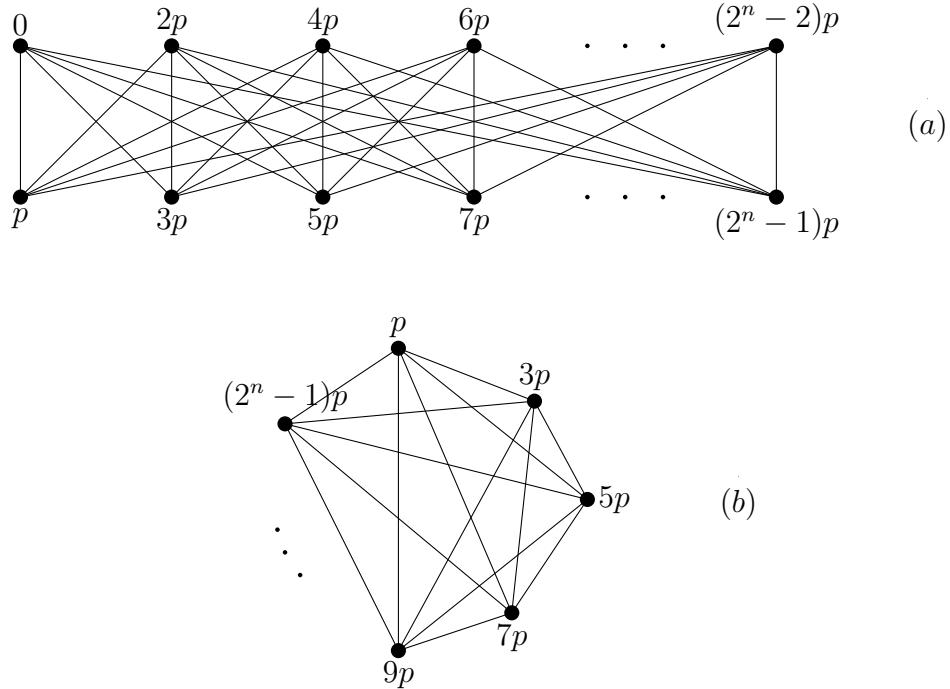


Figure 2.

*Proof.* We do by induction on  $m$ . For  $m = 1$ , in view of Theorem 2.6,  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})) = 2K_{2^{n-1}p} + pK_{2^{n-1}, 2^{n-1}}$ . Let the assertion be true for a  $m > 1$ . Analogue of the proof of Theorem 2.6,  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^{m+1}}))$  induces two complete subgraphs as  $K_{2^{n-1}p^{m+1}}$ , one consists of even vertices and the other of odd vertices. In the similar way to the proof of Theorem 2.6, consider the subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1}p^{m-1}, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}}$  of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  with  $A = \{2kp; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1} - 1\}$  as even part and  $B = \{(2k+1)p; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1} - 1\}$  as odd part, and append to  $A$  and  $B$  even vertices  $A' = \{2kp; k = 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}, \dots, 2^{n-1}p^m - 1\}$  as odd vertices  $B' = \{(2k+1)p; k = 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}, \dots, 2^{n-1}p^m - 1\}$ , respectively. Let  $x' \in A'$  and  $y' \in B'$ , then we have  $x' = x + a2^n p^m$  and  $y' = y + a2^n p^m$  for some  $x \in A, y \in B$  and  $1 \leq a \leq p-1$ . By induction hypothesis  $x+y \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$ ; so, it follows that,  $x'+y' =$

$(x+y) + 2a2^n p^m \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}) \subseteq Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^{m+1}})$ . Hence,  $x'$  is adjacent to  $y'$ . It is easy to check that for any  $x' \in A'$  and  $y \in B$ ,  $x'$  is adjacent to  $y$ , too.  $\square$

**Corollary 2.9.** *The following statements hold.*

- (i)  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})) = K_{2^{n-1} p^m} + K_{2^{n-1} p^{m-1}, 2^{n-1} p^{m-1}} + K_{2^{n-1} p^{m-1}}$  for  $n > 1$ .
- (ii)  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a complete graph with  $2^{n-1} p^{m-1}(p-1)$  vertices.

### 3. SOME PROPERTIES OF $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$

In this section, we show that  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a claw-free graph and determine some graph theoretical properties of  $G$  and  $\bar{G}$ . We also study the structure of  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(R))$ , the spanning subgraph of  $G = T(\Gamma(R))$  with edge set  $E(G) - E(H)$  where  $H = Z(\Gamma(R)) \cup Reg(\Gamma(R))$ .

**Corollary 3.1.** *Let  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ , then*

$$\kappa(G) = \kappa'(G) = 2^{n-1} p^{m-1}(p+1) - 1.$$

*Proof.* By decomposition of  $G$  proved in Theorem 2.8, each vertex contributes in exactly one complete subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$  and one complete bipartite subgraph  $K_{2^{n-1} p^{m-1}, 2^{n-1} p^{m-1}}$ . So, to obtain the number of smallest vertex cut, first we pick up all vertices of  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$  except one, say  $v$ . By the way,  $v$  has  $2^{n-1} p^{m-1}$  neighbours in the other  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$ , which should be picked up. So,  $\kappa(G) = (2^{n-1} p^m - 1) + 2^{n-1} p^{m-1} = 2^{n-1} p^{m-1}(p+1) - 1$ . Also, to determine the number of smallest disconnecting set of edges, we should pick up all edges incident on a vertex. Thus, for an arbitrary vertex  $v$  on  $G$ ,  $\kappa(G) = \kappa'(G) = deg(v)$  which is  $2^{n-1} p^{m-1}(p+1) - 1$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.**  *$T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a claw-free graph.*

*Proof.* By decomposition of  $G$  in Theorem 2.8, some stars  $K_{1,3}$  are visible in  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ . One can show that they are not induced subgraphs of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ , by the light discussion in the following cases.

Case 1: All vertices of  $K_{1,3}$  are present in one  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$ .

Case 2: The center vertex of  $K_{1,3}$  is in one of  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$  and the leaves are in the other one.

Case 3: There is a leaf of  $K_{1,3}$  in one  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$  and the other vertices are in the other one.

By the adjacencies in complete graphs we are done.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.** *(See [5], Lemma 3.1.21) In a graph  $G$ ,  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is an independent set if and only if  $\bar{S}$  is a vertex cover, and hence  $\alpha(G) + \beta(G) = n(G)$ .*

**Theorem 3.4.** (See [5], Theorem 3.1.22) If  $G$  is a graph without isolated vertices, then  $\alpha'(G) + \beta'(G) = n(G)$ .

**Proposition 3.5.** (See [5], Corollary 3.1.24) If  $G$  is a bipartite graph with no isolated vertices, then  $\alpha(G) = \beta'(G)$ .

**Corollary 3.6.** Let  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ , then

- (i)  $\alpha(G) = \gamma(G) = 2$ ,
- (ii)  $\beta(G) = 2^n p^m - 2$ ,
- (iii)  $\alpha'(G) = \beta'(G) = 2^{n-1} p^m$ ,
- (iv)  $i(G) = 2$ , and  $G$  is domination perfect.
- (v)  $G$  is well-covered.

*Proof.* Using the structure of  $G$  decomposed in Theorem 2.8, it is a simple matter to verify that the largest independent sets are of size two, which contain a pair of even and odd nonadjacent vertices present in the different two  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$ s, like  $\{(2k+1)p, (2k+1)p-1\}$ . Also, they can be the smallest dominating sets. So,  $\alpha(G) = \gamma(G) = 2$ . By Proposition 3.2,  $G$  is claw-free. So by the main theorem in [1] for claw-free graphs,  $i(G) = \gamma(G)$  and  $G$  is domination perfect. Also, since  $i(G) = \alpha(G)$ ,  $G$  is a well-covered graph. Furthermore, the maximum size of matchings is the number of independent edges between two  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$ s, which is equal to  $|V(K_{2^{n-1} p^m})|$ , i.e.  $\alpha'(G) = 2^{n-1} p^m$ . The equalities mentioned in Lemma 3.3 and Theorem 3.4 yield the remaining items.  $\square$

*Remark 3.7.* The chromatic number of complete bipartite graphs and complete graphs are well-known by [5] and [3], as follows

$$\chi(K_{m,n}) = 2, \quad \chi(K_n) = n.$$

**Corollary 3.8.** Let  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ , then  $\chi(G) = 2^{n-1} p^m$ .

*Proof.* According to the decomposition of Theorem 2.8 and Corollary 3.6, there are  $2^{n-1} p^m$  independent sets of vertices of size two in  $G$ , each contain a pair of even and odd nonadjacent vertices from different two  $K_{2^{n-1} p^m}$ s. Thus, we can color the vertices of each independent set by the same color. Since each independent set contains a vertex of a complete graph, by Remark 3.7, we need  $2^{n-1} p^m$  different colors for coloring of the vertices of  $G$ . Thus,  $\chi(G) = 2^{n-1} p^m$ .  $\square$

In the next two results, we mention some simple properties about the complement of  $G$ . Anderson and Badawi in [2], described the total graph of  $R$  completely. They showed that if  $2 \in Z(R)$ , then the structure of  $Reg(\Gamma(R))$  is different from that without 2 in  $Z(R)$ . And since in this paper,  $2 \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$ , we need the next lemma.

**Definition 3.9.** Let  $G = T(\Gamma(R))$ . Then  $\bar{G}$ , the complement of  $G$ , is a graph with vertex set  $V(G)$  and two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent if and only if  $x + y \notin Z(R)$ .

**Lemma 3.10.** Let  $R$  be a finite ring such that  $|R| = n$ . Let  $G = T(\Gamma(R))$ . If  $2 \in Z(R)$ , then  $\bar{G}$  is a  $(n - |Z(R)|)$ -regular graph.

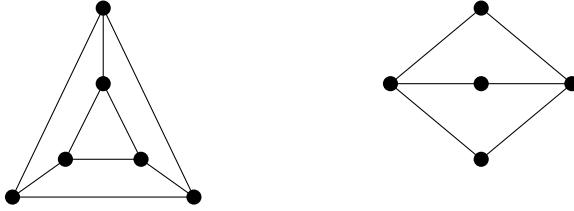
*Proof.* By Lemma 2.4 of [4],  $G$  is a  $(|Z(R)| - 1)$ -regular graph. Let  $v$  be an arbitrary vertex of  $G$ . Evidently, by definition of complement,  $\deg_{\bar{G}}(v) = \deg_{K_n}(v) - \deg_G(v) = (n-1) - (|Z(R)|-1) = n - |Z(R)|$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.11.** Let  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ . Then the following statements hold.

- (i)  $\bar{G}$  is a  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p-1)$ -regular graph.
- (ii)  $\bar{G}$  is a connected bipartite graph.
- (iii)  $\bar{G}$  is triangle-free.
- (iv)  $\text{diam}(\bar{G}) = 3$ , except for  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ .
- (v)  $\text{gr}(\bar{G}) = 4$ , except for  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ .
- (vi)  $\alpha(\bar{G}) = \beta(\bar{G}) = \alpha'(\bar{G}) = \beta'(\bar{G}) = 2^{n-1}p^m$ .

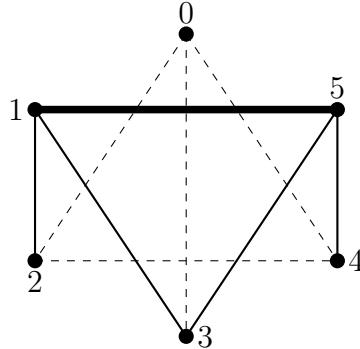
*Proof.* By Lemma 3.10, the regularity of  $\bar{G}$  is  $2^n p^m - 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p+1) = 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p-1)$ . Since every two even (odd) vertices of  $G$  are adjacent, they are nonadjacent in  $\bar{G}$ . Hence,  $\bar{G}$  is a triangle-free graph with no odd cycle and thus,  $\bar{G}$  is a bipartite graph with parts of even and odd vertices. In view of Example 3.2, one can obtain the complement of  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  and see that  $\bar{G} \cong C_6$  whose diameter is 2 and girth is 6. This is the only exception graph for parts [(iv)] and [(v)]. For  $G \neq T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ , any pair of even vertices has a common neighbour and so does any pair of odd vertices. If  $x$  and  $y$  are two nonadjacent even and odd vertices, respectively, then they don't have any common neighbour, so  $\text{diam}(\bar{G}) > 2$ . On the other hand, there exist odd and even vertices  $z$  and  $t$ , respectively such that  $x \sim z \sim t \sim y$ . Therefore  $\bar{G}$  is connected and  $\text{diam}(\bar{G}) = 3$ . Furthermore, for  $G \neq T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ , there is a  $C_4$  in  $\bar{G}$ , like  $0 \sim 1 \sim (2k+1)p+1 \sim (2k+1)p+2 \sim 0$  where  $0 \leq k \leq (p-1)/2$ . Thus  $\text{gr}(\bar{G}) = 4$ . For the last part, it is easy to see that the set of even vertices and the set of odd vertices are two only largest independent sets in  $\bar{G}$ , so  $\alpha(\bar{G}) = 2^{n-1}p^m$ . Looking at Lemma 3.3, we conclude that  $\beta(\bar{G}) = 2^{n-1}p^m$ . It is easy to check that  $\alpha'(\bar{G}) = 2^{n-1}p^m$  and in view of Lemma 3.4,  $\beta'(\bar{G}) = 2^{n-1}p^m$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.12.** Let  $G = T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ . In view of Theorem 2.8, one can see some  $K_{3,3}$  in  $K_{2^{n-1}p^{m-1}, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1}}$  or some  $K_5$  in  $K_{2^{n-1}p^m}$  where  $G \neq T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ . So, by Proposition 6.2.2 in [5],  $G$  is not planar. In Figure 3, we show a planar embedding for  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  and draw its dual which is isomorphic to  $K_{2,3}$ .

 $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  $T^*(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ Figure 3.  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  and its dual.

**Definition 3.13.** Let  $R$  be a finite ring. Let  $H = Z(\Gamma(R)) \cup \text{Reg}(\Gamma(R))$ . The spanning subgraph of  $G = T(\Gamma(R))$  with edge set  $E(G) - E(H)$  is denoted by  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(R))$ .

**Example 3.14.** In Figure 4, we see an edge decomposition of  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  by  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  as dashed lines,  $\text{Reg}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  as a bold line, and  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  as ordinary lines.

Figure 4.  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ ,  $\text{Reg}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ , and  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  in  $T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$ 

**Theorem 3.15.**  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  is a disconnected graph consisting of two components; a tree and an isolated vertex.

*Proof.* First, in the graph  $Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ , zero vertex is adjacent to the other zero-divisor vertices, so it is an isolated vertex in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . We claim that the other  $2p - 1$  vertices induce a connected graph with  $2p - 2$  edges, so it is a tree, by Theorem 2.1.4 in [5]. Let  $u, v$  be two arbitrary non-adjacent vertices of  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . We show that there is a  $u, v$ -path in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . The following cases can be considered:

- (i) If both  $u$  and  $v$  are even vertices, then there exist distinct odd vertices  $x \neq p$  and  $y \neq p$  such that  $x \not\sim y$  and  $x \sim u$ ,  $y \sim v$  in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ , because the zero element is the only even vertex adjacent to  $p$ , and all other odd vertices are adjacent

in  $Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$ . So we have  $x \sim p \sim y$ , and the  $u, v$ -path  $u \sim x \sim p \sim y \sim v$ .

- (ii) If both  $u$  and  $v$  are odd vertices other than  $p$ , then we have the  $u, v$ -path  $u \sim p \sim v$ .
- (iii) If one of  $u$  or  $v$  is  $p$ , say  $u = p$ , then  $v$  is an even vertex, if not,  $u \sim v$ . Therefore, there exists odd vertex  $x$  such that  $x \sim v$ . So, we have  $u \sim x \sim v$ .
- (iv) If  $u, v$  are even and odd vertices, respectively, and none of them is  $p$ , then there exists an odd vertex  $x$  such that  $u \sim x \sim p$ . So, we have the  $u, v$ -path  $u \sim x \sim p \sim v$ .

Furthermore, as we mentioned in Theorems 2.4, 2.5,

$$\begin{aligned} T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) &= 2K_p + pK_{1,1}, \\ Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) &= K_p + K_{1,1}, \\ Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) &= K_{p-1}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that,

$$\begin{aligned} |E(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})))| &= |E(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})))| - |E(Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})) \cup Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p})))| \\ &= 2\frac{p(p-1)}{2} + p - \left( \frac{p(p-1)}{2} + 1 + \frac{(p-1)(p-2)}{2} \right) \\ &= 2p - 2. \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}) - \{0\})$  is a graph with  $2p-1$  vertices which is connected with  $2p-2$  edges, and it is a tree.  $\square$

It is proved in Theorem 2.2.19 of [5] that a tree is a caterpillar if and only if it does not contain the tree  $Y$  below.

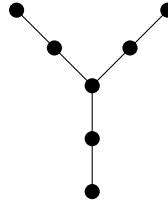


Figure 5. The Tree  $Y$

**Theorem 3.16.** *The tree in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  is not a caterpillar for  $p \neq 3$ .*

*Proof.* It is clear that the tree which consists of  $ZR(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_6))$  without its isolated vertex 0, shown by bold lines  $2 \sim 1 \sim 3 \sim 5 \sim 4$  in Example 3.14, is a  $P_5$  which obviously doesn't contain the tree  $Y$ . So it is a caterpillar. Consider  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  without its isolated vertex 0. As the argument in Theorem 3.15, it is a tree. Let  $p \neq 3$ . Since  $p$  is adjacent to all of the other odd vertices, and there are more than three odd vertices

in  $ZR(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2p}))$  where  $p > 3$ , one can see the star subgraph  $K_{1,3}$  whose center is  $p$ . Moreover, there is an even vertex adjacent to each one of the neighbours of  $p$  in this  $K_{1,3}$ , the degree of these neighbours is not one. So,  $Y$  shown in Figure 5 exists.  $\square$

**Definition 3.17.** Let  $G$  be a graph. The subgraph of  $G$  obtained by removing all isolated vertices is called *sociable* subgraph of  $G$ , and denoted by  $S(G)$ .

**Theorem 3.18.**  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  is a disconnected graph consisting of a bipartite graph and  $2^{n-1}$  isolated vertices.

*Proof.* In view of Remark 1,  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}) = \{2k; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p - 1\} \cup \{(2k + 1)p; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1} - 1\}$ . So  $Reg(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}) = \{2k + 1; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p - 1\} - \{(2k + 1)p; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p - 1\}$ . By the argument of Theorem 2.7 and looking at Figure 2, one can see that  $A = \{2kp; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1} - 1\}$  is the set of isolated vertices in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$ . Let  $x$  be a vertex of  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))$  and  $x = 2kp$ , then it is obvious that

$$\deg_{T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) = \deg_{Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) = 2^{n-1}(p + 1) - 1.$$

So,  $\deg_{\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) = 0$ . We put aside these isolated vertices, so it remains to show that  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))$  is a bipartite graph. By considering  $V_1 = Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}) - A$  and  $V_2 = Reg(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})$  as a partition for  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))$ , we are done.  $\square$

One may easily generalize the result for  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  as the following corollary.

**Corollary 3.19.**  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$  is a disconnected graph consisting of a bipartite graph and  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}$  isolated vertices.

*Proof.* One can see that  $A = \{2kp; k = 0, \dots, 2^{n-1}p^{m-1} - 1\}$  is the set of isolated vertices in  $\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}))$ , and  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})))$  is partitioned by  $V_1 = Z(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m}) - A$  and  $V_2 = Reg(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.20.** The following statements hold for  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))$ .

- (i) The even zero-divisor vertices are of degree  $2^{n-1}$ .
- (ii) The odd zero-divisor vertices are of degree  $2^{n-1}(p - 1)$ .
- (iii) The regular vertices are of degree  $2^n$ .

*Proof.* (i) The even zero-divisors of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}$  are of the form  $2k$ , where  $0 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1}p - 1$ . Let  $x = 2k$  be an even zero-divisor vertex. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \deg_{S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))}(x) &= \deg_{T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) - \deg_{Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) \\ &= 2^{n-1}(p+1) - 1 - (2^{n-1}p - 1) \\ &= 2^{n-1}. \end{aligned}$$

(ii) The odd zero-divisors of  $\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}$  are of the form  $(2k+1)p$ , where  $0 \leq k \leq 2^{n-1} - 1$ . Let  $x$  be an odd zero-divisor vertex and  $x = (2k+1)p$ , then by Theorem 2.7,

$$\begin{aligned} \deg_{Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) &= \deg_{K_{2^{n-1}, 2^{n-1}}}(x) + \deg_{K_{2^{n-1}}}(x) \\ &= 2^{n-1} + (2^{n-1} - 1) \\ &= 2^n - 1. \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \deg_{S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))}(x) &= \deg_{T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) - \deg_{Z(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) \\ &= 2^{n-1}(p+1) - 1 - (2^n - 1) \\ &= 2^{n-1}(p-1). \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Let  $x$  be a regular vertex, then

$$\begin{aligned} \deg_{S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p})))}(x) &= \deg_{T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) - \deg_{Reg(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p}))}(x) \\ &= 2^{n-1}(p+1) - 1 - (2^{n-1}(p-1) - 1) \\ &= 2^n. \end{aligned}$$

□

At the end of article, one can easily generalize the recent results to  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})))$ .

**Corollary 3.21.** *The following statements hold for  $S(\overline{ZR}(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{2^n p^m})))$ .*

- (i) *The even zero-divisor vertices are of degree  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}$ .*
- (ii) *The odd zero-divisor vertices are of degree  $2^{n-1}p^{m-1}(p-1)$ .*
- (iii) *The regular vertices are of degree  $2^n p^{m-1}$ .*

*Proof.* In the light of Theorem 2.5, Theorem 2.7, Corollary 2.9, and Theorem 3.20, one can easily check the items. □

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ON SOME TOTAL GRAPHS ON FINITE RINGS

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درباره گراف‌های جامع روی حلقه‌های متناهی

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فرض کنیم  $p$  یک عدد اول و  $m$  و  $n$  اعداد صحیح مثبت باشند. در این مقاله گراف جامع  $(T(\Gamma(\mathbb{Z}_{\gamma^n p^m}))$  را تجزیه کرده، خواص آن و زیرگراف‌های اساسی آن را مورد مطالعه قرار می‌دهیم.

کلمات کلیدی: گراف جامع، تجزیه در گراف، گراف‌های روی حلقه‌های تعویض پذیر.