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# The Girth of the Total Graph of $\mathbb{Z}_n$

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#### ABSTRACT

Let *R* be a commutative ring with a non-zero identity, and Z(R) is a set of zero-divisors of *R*. The total graph of *R*, denoted  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$ , is an (undirected) graph with all elements *R* as vertices of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  and for distinct vertices  $x, y \in R$  are adjacent if and only if  $x + y \in Z(R)$ . The girth of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  is the length of the shortest cycle in  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$ , its denoted by  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(R))$ . In this paper, we discuss the characterization of the total graph of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ ,  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  and  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n))$ . *Keywords: Total graph, Commutative ring, Zero divisors, Girth.* 

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

Graphs are a very interesting topic to be discussed because they are general, have images, and have many benefits. One of the beneficial application of a graph in the health sector is how a total graph forms a polypeptide chain in the genetic code [1]. The total graph in that paper construct graph from algebraic structure.

Let *R* be a commutative ring with non-zero identity elements and Z(R) is the set of all zero-divisors in *R*, whereas  $Z(R)^* = Z(R) - \{0\}$  and set of regular elements in *R* is Reg(R) = R - Z(R) [2]. A ring *R* is called an integral domain if and only if  $Z(R) = \{0\}$  [3]. Anderson & Badawi [2] introduced the concept of a total graph of *R*, denoted by  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$ , is an (undirected) graph where the vertices are all elements of *R* and for each two different vertices  $x, y \in R$  is adjacent if and only if  $x + y \in Z(R)$ . The subgraphs of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  which are induced by Z(R) and Reg(R) is denoted by  $Z_{\Gamma}(R)$  and  $Reg_{\Gamma}(R)$  respectively. Z and  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  denote the ring of integers and the ring of integers modulo *n* respectively.

**Example 1.1** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}_4 = \{\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \overline{2}, \overline{3}\}$  be a ring of integer modulo 4. Then  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_4) = \{\overline{0}, \overline{2}\} = \langle \overline{2} \rangle$ . The graph  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_4)$  have  $V(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_4)) = \{\overline{0}, \overline{1}, \overline{2}, \overline{3}\}$  and  $E(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_4)) = \{(\overline{0}, \overline{2}), (\overline{1}, \overline{3})\}$ . So, the corresponding graphs are given in Figure 1 below.





Girth of the graph *G*, denoted by gr(G), is the length of the shortest cycle in *G* ( $gr(G) = \infty$  if *G* does not contain any cycle). The definition of a cycle here is a closed walk where each edge is different, and all vertices in it are different [4]. The regular graph is denoted by r - regular if the degree of each vertex is *r*, this graph with *n* vertices has  $\frac{nr}{2}$  edges. A complete graph with *n* vertices denoted by  $K_n$ , is a graph where each vertex is joined to one another with exactly one edge. A complete bipartite graph with *r* vertex in *A* and *s* vertex in *B* is denoted by  $K_{r,s}$ . General references for the graph theory are [4–6].

Most of the publications concerning the form of the total graph in ring R underlined the diameter and the girth in ring R with some example in  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  [2], [4]. In Chelvam and Asir[7], they have been studied about fundamental properties of total graph on  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  without disscuss about the girth of the total graph of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . In this paper, we will discuss about girth of total graph from  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ .

#### **2.** GIRTH OF THE TOTAL GRAPH OF $\mathbb{Z}_n$

In this section, we present some properties of the total graph of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ . First of all, we discuss the total graph of R. The following observation is due to Anderson and Badawi [2].

**Theorem 2.1** [2]. Let *R* be a commutative ring such that Z(R) is an ideal of *R*. Then  $Z_{\Gamma}(R) = K_{|Z(R)|}$  is a complete subgraph of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  with |Z(R)| vertices and  $Z_{\Gamma}(R)$  is disjoint from  $Reg_{\Gamma}(R)$ .



Theorem 2.2 [2]. Let *R* be commutative ring such that Z(R) is an ideal of *R*, and let  $|Z(R)| = \lambda$ , and  $|R/Z(R)| = \mu$ . Then

$$Reg_{\Gamma}(R) = \begin{cases} \underbrace{K_{\lambda} \cup K_{\lambda} \cup \dots \cup K_{\lambda}}_{(\mu-1)kali} & \text{if } 2 \in Z(R); \\ K_{\lambda,\lambda} \cup K_{\lambda,\lambda} \cup \dots \cup K_{\lambda,\lambda} & \text{if } 2 \notin Z(R). \\ (\frac{\mu-1}{2})kali \end{cases}$$

Example 2.3 Some examples for the total graph when Z(R) is an ideal of R, Z(R) is not an ideal of R, and R be an integral domain ( $Z(R) = \{0\}$ ) are given here Figure 2, Figure 3, and Figure 4.

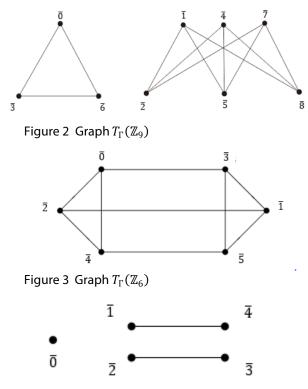


Figure 4 Graph  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_5)$ 

Next, we are interested in the total graph  $\partial L_n$ , there are some basic properties on the total graph  $\partial L_n$  that refer to [7].

Lemma 2.4. Let  $x \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Then  $x \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  if and only if gcd(x, n) > 1.

Lemma 2.5. For  $n \in \mathbb{Z}^+, n \ge 1, |Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = n - \phi(n)$ , where  $\phi$  is Euler's function.

Remark 2.6. If  $x \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , then  $\deg(x) = n - \phi(n) - 1$ .

#### 3. MAIN RESULT

In this section, we will discuss the characterization of the total graph of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ 

Theorem 3.1 For  $n > 1, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , *n* is even, the following statements are true:

(i) If  $n = 2^k$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{2^{k-1}} \cup K_{2^{k-1}}$ .

(ii) Otherwise,  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  is a  $(n - \phi(n) - 1) - regular$ 

Proof.

(i) If  $n = 2^k$ ,  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \langle 2 \rangle$  is the ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , where  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = 2^k - \phi(2^k)$ 

$$|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = 2^k - \phi(2^k) = 2^k - (2^k - 2^{k-1})$$
$$= 2^k - 2^k + 2^{k-1} = 2^{k-1}$$

 $Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  is an ideal  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , according to Theorem 2.1, then  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{2^{k-1}}$  and  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  disjoint from  $Reg_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ . And through Theorem 2.2, where  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = 2^{k-1}$  and  $|\mathbb{Z}_n/Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = 2$ , if  $2 \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , then  $Reg_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{2^{k-1}}$ . So,  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{2^{k-1}} \cup K_{2^{k-1}}$ .

(ii) If *n* is even, then  $2 \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ . For every  $x \notin Z(\mathbb{Z}_n), 2x \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n), x$  is adjacent to  $y - x \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , for every  $y \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , where  $y \neq 2x$ . According to Remark 2.6 deg $(y) = n - \phi(n) - 1$ . Therefore deg $(x) = n - \phi(n) - 1$ . So,  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  is  $(n - \phi(n) - 1) - regular$ .

Theorem 3.2 For  $n, p, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , p be a prime number, the following statements are true:

(i) If n = p, p > 2, then  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_1 \cup K_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_2$  $\underbrace{K_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_2}_{\frac{n-1}{2}kali}$ 

(ii) If 
$$n = p^{k}, p > 2, k > 1$$
, then  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_{n}) = K_{p^{k-1}} \cup K_{p^{k-1}, p^{k-1}} \cup \dots \cup K_{p^{k-1}, p^{k-1}} \cup \dots \cup K_{p^{k-1}, p^{k-1}} (\frac{p-1}{2})$ kali

Proof.

(i) Let n = p, then  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  be an integral domain, where  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \{0\}$ ,  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = 1$ . So,  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_1$ .  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  and  $Reg(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  are disjoint, because for  $x \in Reg(\mathbb{Z}_n), x + 0 = x \notin Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ . For every,  $x \in Reg(\mathbb{Z}_n), x$  adjacent to -x, because  $x + (-x) = 0 \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ . Therefore,  $Reg_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = 0$ 



$$\underbrace{\underbrace{K_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_2}_{\frac{n-1}{2}kali}}_{K_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_2}.$$
 So, $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_1 \cup \underbrace{K_2 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_2}_{\frac{n-1}{2}kali}.$ 

(ii) Let  $n = p^k$ , p > 2, k > 1, then  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_n) = \langle p \rangle$  is the ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$  and  $2 \notin Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , where  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = p^k - \phi(p^k) = p^k - (p^k - p^{k-1}) = p^{k-1}$ . Because  $Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  is the ideal of  $\mathbb{Z}_n$ , according to Theorem 2.1, then  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{p^{k-1}}$  and  $Z_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  disjoint from  $Reg_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ . Through the Theorem 2.2, where  $|Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = p^{k-1}$  and  $|\mathbb{Z}_n/Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)| = p$ , if  $2 \in Z(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ , then  $Reg_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n) = K_{p^{k-1}} \cup \dots \cup K_{p^{k-1},p^{k-1}}$ .  $\underbrace{K_{p^{k-1},p^{k-1}} \cup K_{p^{k-1},p^{k-1}} \cup \dots \cup K_{p^{k-1},p^{k-1}}}_{(\frac{p-1}{2})kali}$ .

From the Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.2 above, we can obtain that

**Corollary 3.3** For  $n, p, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , p be a prime number, the following statements are true:

(i) If  $n = 2^k, k > 2, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ 

then  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)) = 3$ 

- (ii) If n = p, p prime, then  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)) = \infty$
- (iii) If  $n = p^k$ , p > 2, p prime,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , then  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)) = 3$

The following example of Corollary 3.3 in  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$ .

#### Example 3.4

- (a) Let  $n = 2^3 = 8$ , then  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_8) = K_4 \cup K_4$ . So,  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_8)) = 3$ .
- (b) Let n = 5. From Figure 4, we can see that  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_5) = K_1 \cup K_2 \cup K_2$ . An (undirected) graph  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_5)$  have no cycle, then  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_5)) = \infty$ .
- (c) Let  $n = 3^2 = 9$ . From Figure 2, we can see that  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_9) = K_3 \cup K_{3,3}$ , then  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_8)) = 3$ .

### 4. CONCLUSION

Let R be a commutative ring with a non-zero identity, and Z(R) is a set of zero-divisors of R. The total

graph of R, denoted  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$ , is an (undirected) graph with all elements R as vertices of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  and for distinct vertices  $x, y \in R$  are adjacent if and only if  $x + y \in$ Z(R). The girth of  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$  is the length of the shortest cycle in  $T_{\Gamma}(R)$ , its denoted by  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(R))$ . We obtain the characterization of  $T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n)$  and  $gr(T_{\Gamma}(\mathbb{Z}_n))$  for n > $1, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , n is even; for  $n, p, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , p be a prime number; for  $n, p, k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , p be a prime number.

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