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### *Total Dominator Chromatic Number of Grid Graphs*

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Let  $G$  be a graph with minimum degree at least one. A total dominator coloring of  $G$  is a proper coloring of  $G$  with the extra property that every vertex in  $G$  properly dominates a color class. The total dominator chromatic number of  $G$  is denoted by  $\chi_{td}(G)$  and is defined by the minimum number of colors needed in a total dominator coloring of  $G$ . In this paper, we obtain total dominator chromatic number of grid graphs.

**Mathematics Subject Classification :** 05C15, 05C69

**KEY WORDS :** Total dominator chromatic number, ladder graph, grid graph.

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## INTRODUCTION

All graphs considered in this paper are finite, undirected graphs and we follow standard definition of graph theory as found in [1]. Let  $G=(V, E)$  be a graph of order  $n$  with minimum degree atleast one . The open neighborhood  $N(v)$  of a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  consists of the set of all vertices adjacent to  $v$ . The closed neighborhood of  $v$  is  $N[v]=N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . The path and cycle of order  $n$  are denoted by  $P_n$  and  $C_n$  respectively. For any two graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , we define the cartesian product, denoted by  $G \times H$ , to be the graph with vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  and edges between two vertices  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  iff either  $u_1=u_2$  and  $v_1v_2 \in E(H)$  or  $u_1u_2 \in E(G)$  and  $v_1=v_2$ . A grid graphs can be defined as  $P_m \times P_n$  where  $m, n \geq 2$ . A ladder graph can be defined as  $P_2 \times P_n$  where  $n \geq 2$  and is denoted by  $L_n$ . A subset  $S$  of  $V$  is called a total dominating set if every vertex in  $V$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S$ . The total dominating set is minimal total dominating set if no proper subset of  $S$  is a total dominating set of  $G$ . The total domination number  $\gamma_t$  is the minimum cardinality taken over all minimal total dominating set of  $G$ . A  $\gamma_t$ -set is any minimal total dominating set with cardinality  $\gamma_t$ .

A proper coloring of  $G$  is an assignment of colors to the vertices of  $G$  such that adjacent vertices have different colors. The minimum number of colors for which there exists a proper coloring of  $G$  is called chromatic number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\chi(G)$ . A total dominator coloring (td-coloring) of  $G$  is a proper coloring of  $G$  with the extra property that every vertex in  $G$  properly dominates a color class. The total dominator chromatic number is denoted by  $\chi_{td}(G)$  and is defined by the minimum number of colors needed in a total dominator coloring of  $G$ . This concept was introduced by A.Vijiyalekshmi in[2]. This notion is also referred as a smarandachely  $k$ -dominator coloring of  $G$  ( $k \geq 1$ ) and was introduced by A.Vijiyalekshmi in[4]. For an integer  $k \geq 1$ , a smarandachely  $k$ -dominator coloring of  $G$  is a proper coloring of  $G$  such that every vertex in  $G$  properly dominates a  $k$  color class. The smallest number of colors for which there exist a smarandachely  $k$ -dominator coloring of  $G$  is called the smarandachely  $k$ -dominator chromatic number of  $G$ , and is denoted by  $\chi_{td}^k(G)$ .

In a proper coloring  $C$  of  $G$ , a color class of  $C$  is a set consisting of all those vertices assigned the same color. Let  $C^1$  be a minimal td-coloring of  $G$ . We say that a color class  $c_i \in C^1$  is called a non-dominated color class ( $n$ -d color class) if it is not dominated by any vertex of  $G$ . These color classes are also called repeated color classes.

The total dominator chromatic number of paths, cycles and ladder graphs were found in [3].

We have the following observations from [3].

**Theorem A [3]** Let  $G$  be  $p_n$  or  $C_n$ . Then

$$\chi_{td}(p_n) = \chi_{td}(C_n) = \begin{cases} 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n}{4} \right\rfloor + 3 & \text{if } n \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \\ 2 \left\lfloor \frac{n+2}{4} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem B [3]** For every  $n \geq 2$ , the total dominator chromatic number of a ladder graph  $L_n$  is

$$\chi_{td}(L_n) = \begin{cases} 2 \left\lfloor \frac{p}{6} \right\rfloor + 2 & \text{if } p \equiv 0 \pmod{6} \\ \begin{cases} 2 \left\lfloor \frac{p-2}{6} \right\rfloor + 4 \\ 2 \left\lfloor \frac{p-4}{6} \right\rfloor + 4 \end{cases} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

In this paper, we obtain the least value for total dominator chromatic number for grid graphs.

**Main Results**

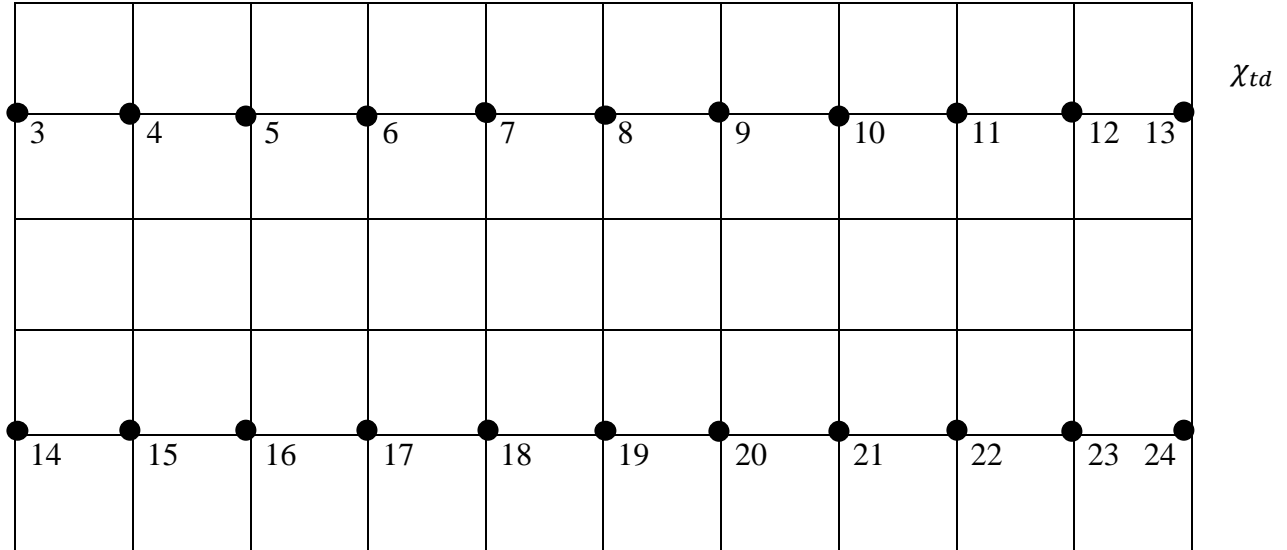
**Notations:** We denote  $G_{m,n} = P_m \times P_n$  and let  $V(G_{m,n}) = \{u_{ij} / 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ .

**Theorem 1**  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \frac{mn}{3} + 2$  if either  $m$  or  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ .

**Proof:** Let  $m=3p$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ . Proof is by using induction on  $p$ . For  $1 \leq i \leq p$ , let  $D_{i,n} = \{u_{(i+1,j)} / \substack{1 \leq j \leq n \\ 1 \leq i \leq k+1}\}$  be a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G_{3,n}$ . We assign  $n$  distinct colors say  $3, 4, 5, \dots, (n+2)$  to all vertices of  $D_{i,n}$ . Also we assign two repeated colors say  $1, 2$  to the vertices  $u_{ij}$  and  $u_{kl} \in V(G_{3,n}) - D_{i,n}$  such that  $|i - k| + |j - l| = 1$ . So  $\chi_{td}(G_{3,n}) = n+2 = \frac{mn}{3} + 2$ . By induction hypothesis, we assume that the theorem is true for  $p=k$  and so  $\chi_{td}(G_{3k,n}) = kn+2 = \frac{mn}{3} + 2$ . For  $p=k+1$ , first for td-coloring of  $G_{3k,n}$ , we need  $kn+2$  colours, by induction hypothesis. Since in a td-coloring of  $G_{3(k+1),n}$ , we can already use repeated colors  $1$  and  $2$  in the vertices  $V(G_{3k,n}) - D_{i,n}$  followed by  $G_{3(k+1),n}$  as earlier and we assign  $n(k+1)$  different colors to the vertices of  $D_{i,n}$  for  $1 \leq i \leq k+1$ . So  $\chi_{td}(G_{3(k+1),n}) = n(k+1)+2 = \frac{mn}{3} + 2$ .

**Illustration:**

Consider  $G_{6,11}$



$(G_{6,11})=24$

Fig.1

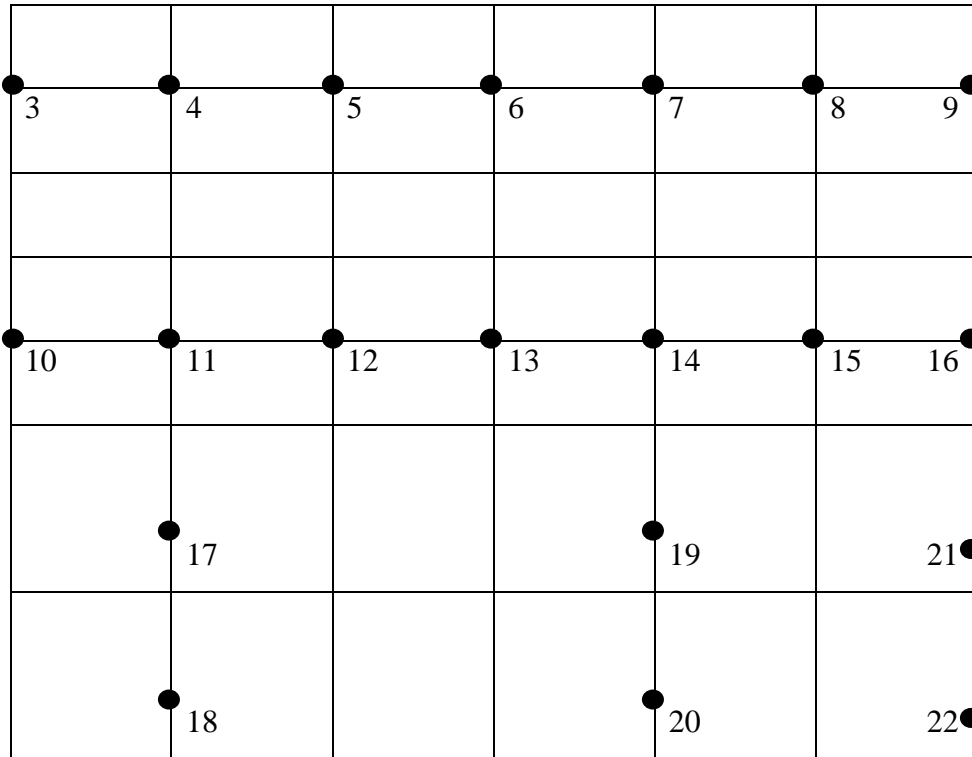
**Theorem 2**  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m-2,n}) + \chi_{td}(L_n) - 2$  if  $m \equiv 2(mod 3)$  and  $n \equiv 1,2(mod 3)$ .

**Proof:** We have  $G_{m,n}$  is obtained by  $G_{m-2,n}$  followed by  $G_{2,n}$ . Since in a td-coloring of  $G_{m,n}$ , we cannot use the non-repeated colors of vertices in  $G_{m-2,n}$ , for the  $G_{2,n}$  and we can use the same repeated colors of vertices in the graphs  $G_{m-2,n}$  and  $G_{2,n}$ . Since  $m - 2 \equiv 0(mod 3)$  and

$$\chi_{td}(G_{m-2,n}) = \frac{(m-2)n}{3} + 2. \text{ Thus } \chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m-2,n}) + \chi_{td}(L_n) - 2. \square$$

**Illustration:**

Consider  $G_{8,7}$



$\chi_{td}(G_{8,7})=22$

Fig.2

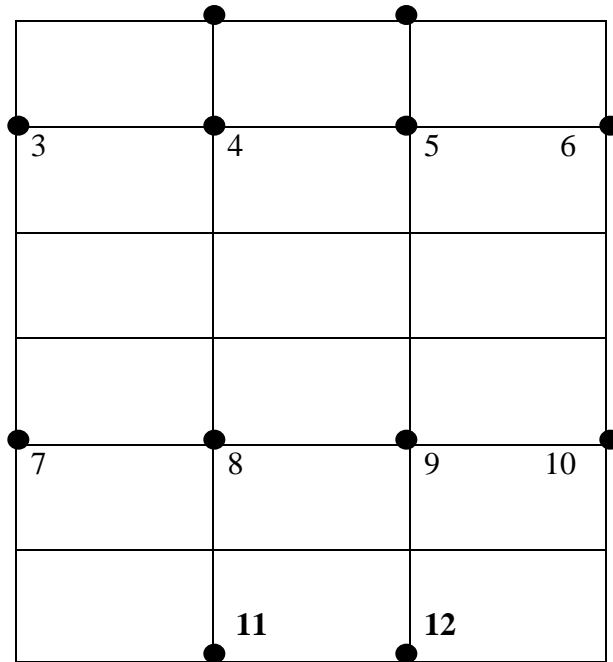
**Theorem 3** For  $m, n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ ,

$$\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \begin{cases} \chi_{td}(G_{m,n-1}) + \chi_{td}(P_m) - 2 & \text{if } m \leq n \\ \chi_{td}(G_{m-1,n}) + \chi_{td}(P_n) - 2 & \text{if } m \geq n \end{cases}$$

**Proof:** Let  $m, n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , so  $(m-1), (n-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ . Let  $D_{m,n-1}$  be the  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G_{m,n-1}$  and  $|D_{m,n-1}| = \frac{m(n-1)}{3}$ . Suppose that  $|V(G_{m,n}) \cap D_{m,n-1}| = \frac{m(n-1)}{3}$  holds for  $\frac{m(n-1)}{3}$ -layer  $P_{n-1}$ . We now assign  $\frac{m(n-1)}{3}$  distinct colors to the vertices of  $D_{m,n-1}$  and two repeated colors say 1 and 2 to the remaining vertices such that adjacent vertices receive different colors. Since the graph  $G_{m,n}$  is  $G_{m,n-1}$  followed by  $P_m$ ,  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m,n-1}) + \chi_{td}(P_m)$ . Also the already used repeated colors are used in the coloring of  $P_m$ . So  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m,n-1}) + \chi_{td}(P_m) - 2$ . Proof is similar for the case  $m \geq n$ .  $\square$

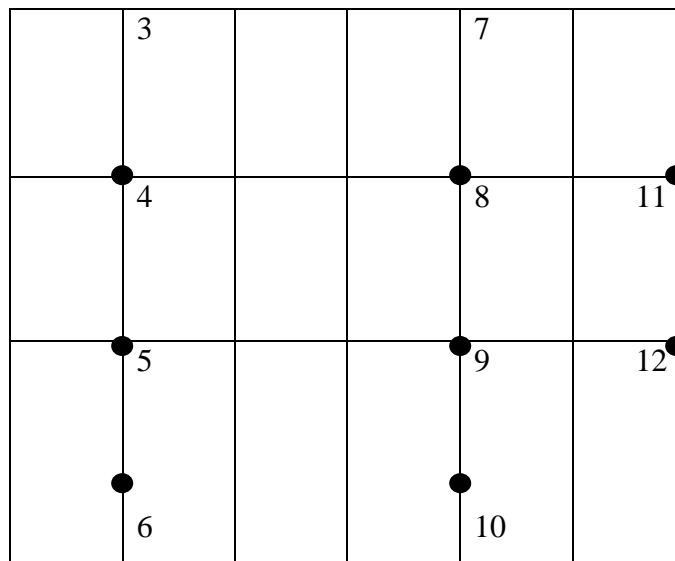
**Illustration:**

Consider  $G_{4,7}$  and  $G_{7,4}$



$\chi_{td}(G_{4,7})=12$

Fig.3



$\chi_{td}(G_{7,4})=12$

Fig.4

**Theorem 4**

$\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m,n-2}) + \chi_{td}(L_m) - 2$  if  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$  and  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$ .

**Proof:** Since  $n - 2 \equiv 0 \pmod{3}$ ,  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n-2}) = \frac{m(n-2)}{3} + 2$ .  $G_{m,n}$  is got from  $G_{m,n-2}$  followed by  $L_m$ .

From theorem 2,  $\chi_{td}(G_{m,n}) = \chi_{td}(G_{m,n-2}) + \chi_{td}(L_m) - 2$ .  $\square$

**Illustration:**

Consider  $G_{7,8}$

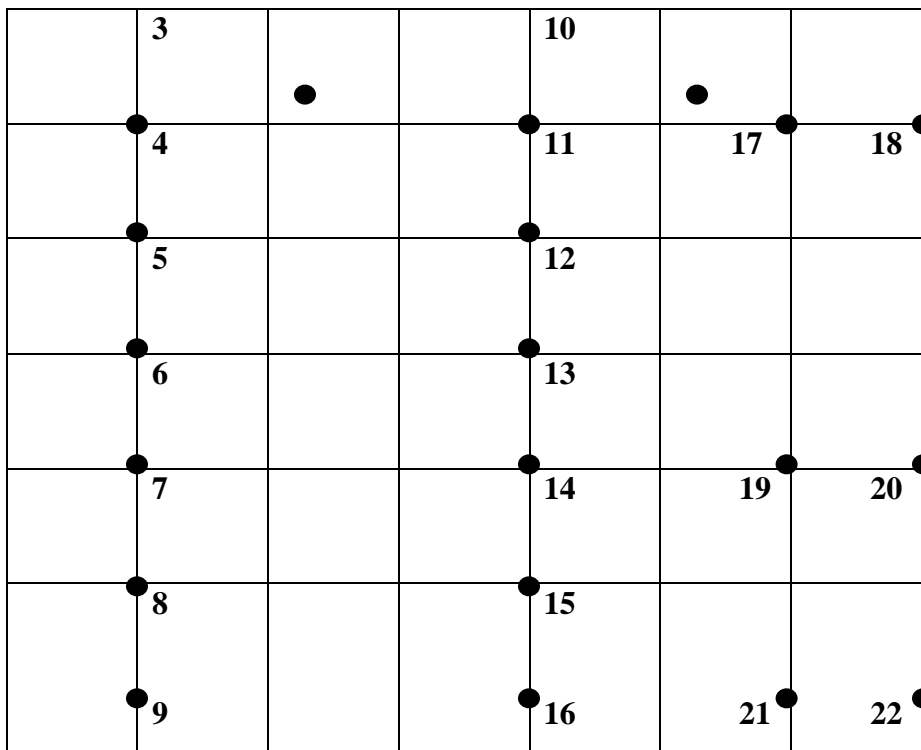


Fig .5

$\chi_{td}(G_{7,8}) = 22$

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