

# On questions on (total) domination vertex critical graphs

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## Abstract

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. Let  $\gamma(G)$  and  $\gamma_t(G)$  be the domination and total domination number of a graph  $G$  respectively. The  $\gamma$ -criticality and  $\gamma_t$ -criticality of Harary graphs are studied. The Question 2 of the paper; [W. Goddard et al., The Diameter of total domination vertex critical graphs, *Discrete Math.* 286 (2004), 255–261] is fully answered with the family of Harary graphs. It is answered to the second part of Question 1 of that paper with some Harary graphs.

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## 1 Introduction

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph. A vertex  $v \in V(G)$  *dominates* itself and its neighbors. A subset  $S$  of  $V(G)$  is called a *dominating set* if it dominates every vertex of  $G$ , i.e., every vertex  $v \in V(G)$  is either an element of  $S$  or is adjacent to an element of  $S$  [3]. The *domination number*  $\gamma(G)$  of  $G$  is the minimum cardinality among the dominating sets of  $G$ . A  $\gamma(G)$ -set

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is a dominating set of cardinality  $\gamma(G)$ . The open neighborhood of vertex  $v \in V$  is denoted by  $N(v) = \{u \in V \mid uv \in E\}$ . For a set  $S \subseteq V$ ,  $N(S) = \bigcup_{s \in S} N(s)$ . A set  $S$  is called a *total dominating set* if its open neighborhood is  $V(G)$ , i.e.,  $N(S) = V(G)$ . The *total domination number*  $\gamma_t(G)$  is the minimum cardinality among the total dominating sets of  $G$ . A  $\gamma_t(G)$ -set is a total dominating set of cardinality  $\gamma_t(G)$  (see [1-3]).

For a set  $S \subseteq V$ , denote the subgraph of  $G$  induced by  $S$  by  $G[S]$ . The minimum and maximum degrees of the graph  $G$  are denoted by  $\delta(G)$  and  $\Delta(G)$ , respectively. An *end-vertex* is a vertex of degree one and a *support vertex* is one that is adjacent to an end-vertex. Let  $S(G)$  be the set of support vertices of  $G$ . We say that a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  is *critical* if  $\gamma(G-v) < \gamma(G)$ . A graph  $G$  is called *domination vertex critical* if  $\gamma(G-v) < \gamma(G)$ , for every vertex  $v$  in  $V(G)$ . We say that a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  is *total critical* if  $\gamma_t(G-v) < \gamma_t(G)$ . Since total domination is undefined for a graph with isolated vertices, we say that a graph  $G$  is *total domination vertex critical*, or just  $\gamma_t$ -critical, if every vertex of  $V - S(G)$  is total critical. If  $G$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical, and  $\gamma_t(G) = k$ , then we say that  $G$  is  *$k$ - $\gamma_t$ -critical* (see [1,5]).

Given  $k \leq n$ , place  $n$  vertices around a circle, equally spaced. If  $k$  is even, form  $H_{k,n}$  by making each vertex adjacent to the nearest  $k/2$  vertices in each direction around the circle. If  $k$  is odd and  $n$  is even, form  $H_{k,n}$  by making each vertex adjacent to the nearest  $(k-1)/2$  vertices in each direction and to the diametrically opposite vertex. In each case,  $H_{k,n}$  is  $k$ -regular. When  $k$  and  $n$  are both odd, index the vertices by the integers modulo  $n$ . Construct  $H_{k,n}$  from  $H_{k-1,n}$  by adding the edges between vertices  $i$  and  $i + (n-1)/2$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq (n+1)/2$ . In this case the vertex with index  $n+1/2$  has degree  $k+1$  and the others have degree  $k$ . The graph  $H_{k,n}$  in each case is known as Harary graph (see [6]). Note that for any Harary graph  $H$ ,  $S(H) = \emptyset$ .

In [4], A. Khodkar et al. investigated the domination numbers, the forcing domination numbers, the independent domination numbers and the total domination numbers of Harary graphs. In this paper, we shall study the  $\gamma$ -criticality and  $\gamma_t$ -criticality of Harary graphs and it is answered to the Question 2 of [1] with the family of Harary graphs and is partially answered to the Question 1 of [1] with some Harary graphs.

The following results (see [4]) are useful for providing the main results.

**Theorem A.**  $\gamma(H_{2m,n}) = \lceil \frac{n}{2m+1} \rceil$ .

**Theorem B.** Let  $n - (m + 1) = (2m + 2)t + r$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 2m + 1$ . Then

$$\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n}) = \begin{cases} \left\lceil \frac{n}{m+1} \right\rceil + 1 & \text{if } 2 \leq r \leq m + 1 \text{ and } t + r \geq m + 1 \\ \left\lceil \frac{n}{m+1} \right\rceil & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem C.** Let  $n - (m + 1) = (2m + 2)t + r$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 2m + 1$ . Then

$$\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = \begin{cases} \left\lceil \frac{n}{m+1} \right\rceil + 1 & \text{if } 2 \leq r \leq m + 1 \text{ and } t + r \geq m \\ \left\lceil \frac{n}{m+1} \right\rceil & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem D.** Let  $n = (3m + 1)l + r$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 3m$ . Then

$$\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = \begin{cases} 2l & \text{if } r = 0 \\ 2l + 1 & \text{if } 1 \leq r \leq m \\ 2l + 2 & \text{if } m + 1 \leq r \leq 3m. \end{cases}$$

**Theorem E.** Let  $2n = (4m + 2)l + r$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 4m$  and  $2n \geq 2m + 2$ . Then

$$\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n}) = \begin{cases} 2l & \text{if } r = 0 \\ 2l + 2 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Theorem F.** Let  $2n + 1 = (4m + 2)l + (2r + 1)$ , where  $0 \leq r \leq 2m$ . Then

$$\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = \begin{cases} 2l + 1 & \text{if } r = 0 \\ 2l + 2 & \text{if } 1 \leq r \leq 2m. \end{cases}$$

Criticality and total criticality of all types of Harary graphs are fully verified and we study the diameter of those graphs and the following questions of [1].

1. Does there exist a  $4\text{-}\gamma_t$ -critical graph with diameter 2?
2. Which graphs are domination vertex critical and total domination vertex critical or one but not the other?

## 2 Elementary results

In this section some elementary results are studied for providing the main results.

**Lemma 1** *In a Harary graph  $H_{2m,n}$  we have.*

1. *Any  $k$  adjacent vertices dominate at most  $(k + 1)m + 1$  vertices.*
2. *Any  $2k$  vertices totally dominate at most  $k(3m + 1)$  vertices and any  $2k + 1$  vertices totally dominate at most  $k(3m + 1) + m$  vertices.*

**Proof.**

1. In  $H_{2m,n}$ , the vertex  $i + jm$  dominates itself and  $2m$  vertices  $\{i + (j - 1)m, i + (j - 1)m + 1, \dots, i + (j - 1)m + m - 1, i + jm + 1, \dots, i + (j + 1)m\}$ . Every two adjacent vertices have at least  $m$  common vertices in their dominated set and two adjacent vertices such as  $i + jm$  and  $i + (j + 1)m \pmod{n}$  exactly dominate  $3m + 1$  vertices  $\{i + (j - 1)m, i + (j - 1)m + 1, \dots, i + (j - 1)m + m - 1, i + jm, i + jm + 1, \dots, i + (j + 1)m, i + (j + 1)m + 1, \dots, i + (j + 2)m\}$ . Thus every  $k$  adjacent vertices dominate the most vertices of  $G$  if these vertices are such as  $S = \{i + m, i + 2m, \dots, i + km\} \pmod{n}$ . The set  $S$  dominates at most  $(2m + 1) + (k - 1)m = (k + 1)m + 1$  vertices.

2. Any  $2k$  vertices ( $2k + 1$  vertices) in Harary graph  $H_{2m,n}$  totally dominate the most vertices if these  $2k$  vertices ( $2k + 1$  vertices) are separated to  $k$  subsets of 2-set such as  $\{i + jm, i + (j + 1)m\}$  ( $k - 1$  subsets of 2-set such as  $\{i + jm, i + (j + 1)m\}$  and 1 subset of 3-set such as  $\{i + jm, i + (j + 1)m, i + (j + 2)m\}$ ) and the totally dominated vertices of any of these 2-sets (and the totally dominated vertices of any of these 2-sets and 3-set) do not have common vertices. The part 1 implies that  $2k$  vertices ( $2k + 1$  vertices) totally dominate at most  $k(3m + 1)$  vertices ( $k(3m + 1) + m$  vertices).  $\square$

**Lemma 2** *In the Harary graphs of types  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  we have.*

1. *Any  $k$  vertices dominate at most  $k(2m + 2)$  and  $k(2m + 2) + 1$  vertices respectively.*
2. *Any  $2k + 1$  vertices totally dominate at most  $2k(2m + 1) + m$  vertices and any  $2k$  vertices totally dominate at most  $2k(2m + 1)$  vertices*

**Proof.** 1. Each vertex in  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  dominates  $2m+2$  vertices. So  $k$  vertices dominates at most  $k(2m+2)$  vertices of  $H_{2m+1,2n}$ . The graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$ , has only one vertex of degree  $2m+2$  and the others are of degree  $2m+1$ . So in a graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  any  $k$  vertices dominate at most  $k(2m+2)+1$ .

2.  $2k$  vertices in Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  totally dominate the most vertices if these  $2k$  vertices are separated to  $k$  subsets of 2-set such that each 2-set is such as  $\{v_i, v_{i+n}\} \pmod{n}$  (is diametrically opposite vertices in  $H_{2m+1,2n}$ ) and the totally dominated vertices of any of these 2-sets do not have common vertices. Now it is obvious that  $2k$  vertices totally dominates  $k(4m+2) = 2k(2m+1)$ , because each of these 2-sets totally dominates  $4m+2$ .

$2k+1$  vertices in Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  totally dominate the most vertices if  $2k+1$  vertices are separated to  $k-1$  subsets of 2-set and 1 subset of 3-set such that each 2-set is such as  $\{v_i, v_{i+n}\} \pmod{n}$  and 3-set is such as  $\{v_i, v_{i+n}\} \pmod{n}$  and one of the vertices of the set  $\{v_{i-m}, v_{i+m}, v_{i+n-m}, v_{i+n+m}\}$  and the totally dominated vertices of any of these 2-sets and 3-set do not have common vertices. Now it is obvious that  $2k+1$  vertices totally dominates  $(k-1)(4m+2) + (4m+2) + m = 2k(2m+1) + m$ .  $\square$

The following lemmas are useful.

**Lemma 3** Let  $G = H_{2m+1,2n}$  where  $2n = (2t+1)(2m+2) + 2r$ ,  $3 \leq r \leq m+1$  and  $t+r \geq m+1$ .

1. There are at most  $t+k = \lfloor \frac{n+m}{2m+1} \rfloor$  vertices so that dominate  $(t+k)(2m+2)$  vertices and  $2n - (t+k)(2m+2)$ , other vertices are dominated by at least  $t+3-k$  vertices so that each of  $t+1-k$  vertices dominate exactly  $2m$  vertices and each of two others dominate at least 2 vertices.

2. There are at most  $2t+1$  vertices that dominate  $(2t+1)(2m+2)$  vertices and  $2r$  other vertices of  $G$  are dominated by at least 2 vertices.

**Proof.** 1. Let  $k$  be a positive integer and  $t+k = \lfloor \frac{n+m}{2m+1} \rfloor$ . Let  $S_1 = \{m+1, 3m+2, 5m+3, \dots, (2(t+k)-1)m + (t+k)\}$ . Since  $m+1+n > n+m \geq (t+k)(2m+1) = (2(t+k)-1)m + (t+k) + m$  and  $(2(t+k)-1)m + (t+k) + n = (t+k)(2m+1) - m + n \leq 2n$ , hence  $S_1$  exactly dominate  $(t+k)(2m+2)$  vertices, named  $D_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, (t+k)(2m+1), m+1+n, 3m+2+n, \dots, (t+k)(2m+1) - m + n\}$ . Let  $\{x = (2l-1)m+l+n, y = (2l+1)m+(l+1)+n\} \subset n+S_1 = \{n+u \mid u \in S_1\}$ , then  $y-x = 2m+1$  and the set  $\{x+1, x+2, \dots, x+2m\}$  has not dominated yet for  $x \in n+S_1$ . Let  $v \notin D_1$  be any vertex. Then  $(t+k)(2m+1)+1 \leq v \leq 2n$

and  $v \notin n + S_1$ . So  $v$  dominates  $2m$  vertices, because  $v + n \in D_1$ . There are  $t+k-1$  vertices such as  $v$  and so a set of  $2(t+k-1)m$  vertices named  $D_2$  is dominated by them.

If  $k = 1$ , then  $|D_1 \cup D_2| = (t+1)(2m+2) + 2tm = 2n - 2(2t+1) - 2r + 2(t+1)$  and  $2(t+r) \geq 2m+2$ . Since these  $2(t+1) \geq 2m+2$  vertices are dominated by at least two vertices so that each of both dominates at least 2 vertices, thus  $2n - (t+k)(2m+2) = 2n - |D_1|$  vertices are dominated by  $t+2 = t+3-1$  vertices.

If  $k \geq 2$ , then  $2n - |D_1| = 2n - (t+k)(2m+2) \geq 2n - (n+m) - (t+k) = n - m - (t+k) \geq (t+k-1)2m$ . This relation shows that we need at least  $t+k-1 \geq t+3-k$  vertices to dominate  $2n - |D_1|$  vertices so that each vertex must dominate at least  $2m$  vertices.

2. Let  $S_2 = \{(2i+1)(m+1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq t\} \cup \{n+j(2m+2) \mid 1 \leq j \leq t\} \pmod{2n}$ . The set  $S$  exactly dominates  $(2t+1)(2m+2)$  vertices of the  $V(H_{2m+1,2n}) \setminus S'_1 \cup S'_2$  where  $S'_1 = \{(2t+1)(m+1)+m+1, \dots, (2t+1)(m+1)+m+r\}$  and  $S'_2 = \{n+t(2m+2)+m+2, \dots, n+t(2m+2)+m+r+1\}$ . Each vertex of the set  $S'_1$  or  $S'_2$  cannot dominate  $S'_1 \cup S'_2$ , because  $r \geq 3$ . Thus we need at least 2 vertices for dominating of  $S'_1 \cup S'_2$  so that each vertex must dominate at least  $r-1$  vertices.  $\square$

**Lemma 4** Let  $G = H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  where  $2n = (2t+1)(2m+2) + 2r$ ,  $2 \leq r \leq m+1$  and  $t+r \geq m+1$ .

1. There are at most  $t+k = \lfloor \frac{n+m}{2m+1} \rfloor$  vertices so that dominate  $(t+k)(2m+2)$  or  $(t+k)(2m+2)+1$  vertices and  $2n-(t+k)(2m+2)+1$  or  $2n-(t+k)(2m+2)$  other vertices are dominated by at least  $t+3-k$  vertices.
2. There are at most  $2t+1$  vertices that dominate  $(2t+1)(2m+2)$  and  $2r+1$  other vertices are dominated by at least 2 vertices.
3. There are at most  $2t$  vertices that dominate  $2t(2m+2)$ , 1 vertex (the vertex with maximum degree) dominates  $2m+3$  vertices, and  $2r$  other vertices are dominated by at least 2 vertices.

**Proof.** Let the vertex  $n+1$  have maximum degree  $2m+2$ .

1. The proof is the same as the proof of part 1 of Lemma 3 depending on  $n+1 \in S_1$  or  $n+1 \notin S_1$ .
2. Let  $S_2 = \{(2i+1)(m+1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq t\} \cup \{(2m+2)j+n \mid 1 \leq j \leq t\}$ .  $S_2$  does not dominate  $2r+1$  vertices of the set  $\{v \mid (t+1)(2m+2) \leq v \leq (t+1)(2m+2)+r-1 \text{ and } (2t+1)(2m+2)+r+1 \leq v \leq 2n+1\}$ . It easy to see that, this set is dominated by 2 vertices.

3. There are several ways for choosing a set of  $2t+1$  vertices containing the vertex  $n+1$ . We can give two ways. If  $S_3$  is a set of  $2t+1$  vertices so that  $n+1 \in S_3$  such as  $\{(2i+1)(m+1)+r+1 \mid 0 \leq i \leq t\} \cup \{(2m+2)j+r+1+n \mid 1 \leq j \leq t\}$  then  $S_2$  dominates  $(2t+1)(2m+2)+1$  vertices, and  $2r$  vertices  $\{2, \dots, r+1, n+m+2, \dots, n+m+1+r\}$  are not dominated by  $S_3$ . These  $2r$  vertices are dominated by 2 vertices and as well, if one of the vertices  $r+1$  or  $n+m+2$  is deleted, the resulted set is also dominated by 2 vertices. Let  $v_i = (m+2) + (2m+2)i$ ,  $w_j = (n+1) + (2m+2)j$  and  $S_4 = \{v_i \mid 0 \leq i \leq t-1\} \cup \{w_j \mid 1 \leq j \leq t\} \cup \{n+1\}$ . Then  $S_4$  dominates  $2t(2m+2) + (2m+3)$ . The  $2r$  vertices of the set  $\{v_{t-1}+m+2, v_{t-1}+m+3, \dots, n-m\} \cup \{w_t+m+1, w_t+m+2, \dots, 2n\}$  has not been dominated yet. This set is dominated by 2 vertices and as well if one of the vertices  $n-m$  or  $w_t+m+1$  is deleted, the resulted set is also dominated by 2 vertices.  $\square$

In order to clear the Lemmas some examples are given.

**Example 1.**  $H_{5,48}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical. Theorem B implies that the set  $\gamma(H_{5,48}) = \lceil \frac{24}{3} \rceil + 1 = 9$  and  $\lfloor \frac{n+m}{2m+1} \rfloor = \lfloor \frac{24+2}{5} \rfloor = 5$ . There are 2 cases. If  $S_1 = \{3, 8, 13, 18, 23\}$ , then the set  $D_1 = \{1, 2, \dots, 25, 27, 32, 37, 42, 47\}$  is dominated by  $S$ . Each vertex of  $V(H_{5,48}) \setminus D_1$  dominates at most 4 vertices. So 5 vertices dominate  $V(H_{5,48}) \setminus D_1$ . Further, removing any vertex does not decrease the domination number.

If  $S_2 = \{3, 9, 15, 21, 28, 36, 42\}$ , then  $S_2$  dominates 42 vertices. The non-dominated vertices  $S_3 = \{24, 25, 26, 46, 47, 48\}$  are dominated by at least 2 vertices and  $\gamma(H_{5,48} - v) = \gamma(H_{5,48})$  for every vertex  $v$  in  $H_{5,48}$ .

**Example 2.**  $H_{5,35}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical. By Theorem C,  $\gamma(H_{5,35}) = 7$ . Lemma 4 implies that, there are three cases.

1. There are  $3 = \lfloor \frac{19}{5} \rfloor$  vertices such as  $S_1 = \{3, 8, 13\}$  so that dominate 18 vertices. The other vertices  $\{16, \dots, 35\} \setminus \{20, 25, 30\}$  are dominated by at least 4 vertices and each of them cannot dominates more than 4 vertices except for the vertex 18. Now, removing any vertex does not decrease the domination number.

2. There are 5 vertices such as  $\{3, 9, 15, 23, 29\}$  so that dominate 30 vertices. This yields 5 other vertices  $\{18, 19, 33, 34, 35\}$  are dominated by 2 vertices. It is easy to see that  $\gamma(H_{5,35} - v) = \gamma(H_{5,35})$ .

3. There are  $2t+1$  vertices such as  $\{4, 10, 18, 24, 30\}$  that dominate  $24+7 = 31$  vertices and the vertex set  $\{14, 15, 33, 34\}$  is dominated by 2 vertices and as well  $\{14, 33, 34\}$  or  $\{14, 15, 34\}$  is dominated by 2 vertices. Thus  $H_{5,35}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical.

### 3 Main results

We verify the vertex criticality of dominating and total dominating sets of Harary graphs. A sample of any types of the Harary graphs is shown in Figure 1.

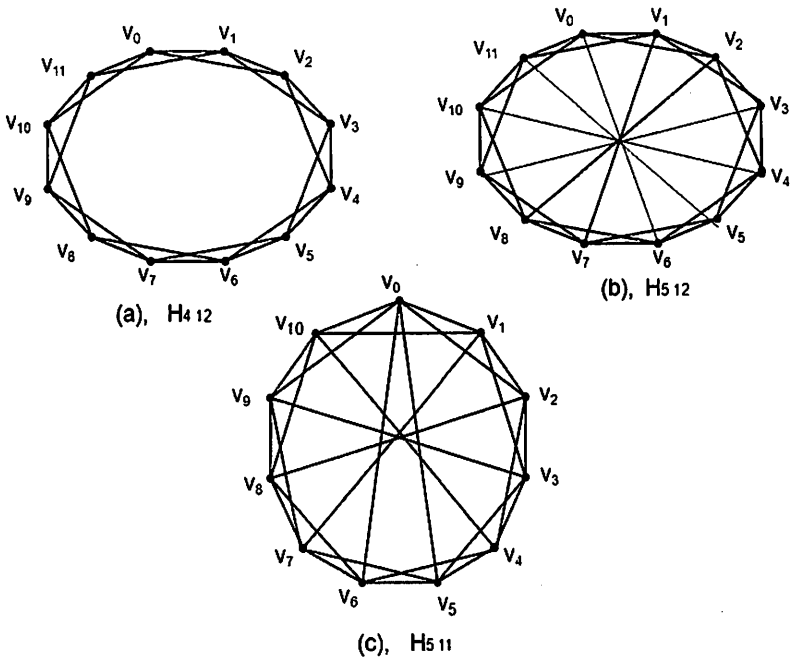


Figure 1.

#### 3.1 $H_{2m,n}$

The criticality and total criticality of the Harary graphs of type  $H_{2m,n}$  are determined.

**Theorem 5** *The graph  $H_{2m,n}$  where  $n = (2m + 1)t + r$  and  $0 \leq r \leq 2m$  is  $\gamma$ -critical for  $r = 1$  and is not  $\gamma$ -critical for  $2 \leq r \leq 2m$  and  $r = 0$ .*



**Proof.** By Theorem A,  $\gamma(H_{2m,n}) = \lceil \frac{n}{2m+1} \rceil$ .

Let  $r = 1$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m,n}) = t + 1$ . If the vertex  $v$  is deleted of  $H_{2m,n}$ , then the set  $S = \{v + m + 1 + i(2m + 1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq t - 1\} \pmod{n}$  is a dominating set for  $H_{2m,n} - v$  for the given  $n$ .

Let  $r = 0$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m,n}) = \lceil \frac{n}{2m+1} \rceil = t$ . Each vertex dominate  $2m + 1$  vertices and since  $n = (2m + 1)t$ , it is clear that  $\gamma(H_{2m,n} - v) = t$ .

Let  $2 \leq r \leq 2m$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m,n}) = t + 1$  and  $n = (2m + 1)t + r$  where  $r \geq 2$ . Since  $t$  vertices dominate at most  $(2m + 1)t$  vertices, and  $H_{2m,n} - v$  has at least  $n - 1 = (2m + 1)t + 1$  vertices. So, the dominating set of  $H_{2m,n} - v$  has at least  $t + 1$  vertices. Hence,  $H_{2m,n}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical for the given  $n$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 6** *The graph  $H_{2m,n}$  where  $n = (3m + 1)l + r$  and  $0 \leq r \leq 3m$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical for  $r \in \{1, m + 1\}$  and is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical for another  $r$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $r = 1$ . Theorem D says  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l + 1$ . If the vertex  $v$  of  $H_{2m,n}$  for the given  $n$  is deleted, then the set  $\{v + m + 1 + i(3m + 1), v + 2m + 1 + i(3m + 1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq l - 1\} \pmod{n}$  is a totally dominating set for  $H_{2m,n} - v$  and this shows  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l$ .

Let  $r = m + 1$ , Theorem D says  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l + 2$ . If the vertex  $v$  is deleted of  $H_{2m,n}$ , then the set  $\{v + m + 1 + i(3m + 1), v + 2m + 1 + i(3m + 1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq l - 1\} \cup \{v + (3m + 1)l\} \pmod{n}$  is a total dominating set of  $H_{2m,n} - v$  and this shows  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n} - v) = 2l + 1$ . Therefore,  $H_{2m,n}$  for  $n = (3m + 1)l + 1$  and  $n = (3m + 1)l + m + 1$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

Let  $r = 0$ ,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l$  and  $n = (3m + 1)l$ . Since  $n - 1 = (3m + 1)(l - 1) + 3m$  and by Lemma 1, two (three) adjacent vertices dominate at most  $3m + 1$  ( $4m + 1$ ) vertices, and so to totally dominate of  $n - 1 = (3m + 1)(l - 1) + 3m$  vertices, it needs at least  $2l$  vertices. Thus for  $r = 0$ ,  $H_{2m,n}$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

Let  $2 \leq r \leq m$ ,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l + 1$  and  $n = (3m + 1)l + r$  and  $2l$  vertices totally dominate at most  $l(3m + 1)$  vertices. Since  $n - 1 \geq (3m + 1)l + 1$ , so at least  $2l + 1$  vertices dominate  $H_{2m,n} - v$  for any vertex  $v \in H_{2m,n}$ . Thus,  $H_{2m,n}$  for the given  $n$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical. Let  $m + 2 \leq r \leq 3m$ ,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m,n}) = 2l + 2$  and  $n = (3m + 1)l + r$ . Since  $n - 1 \geq (3m + 1)l + m + 1$  and three adjacent vertices totally dominate at most  $4m + 1$  vertices and  $n - 1 \geq (3m + 1)(l - 1) + 4m + 2$ , and so to totally dominate of  $n - 1$  vertices we need at least  $2l + 2 = 2(l - 1) + 4$  vertices. Thus,  $H_{2m,n}$  for this  $n$  is not total domination vertex critical too.  $\square$

By using Theorems 5 and 6, we have:

**Corollary 7** *Let  $k$  be any non negative integer. The graphs  $H_{2m,n}$  for (i)  $n = (2m + 1)(3m + 1)k + 1 = (3m + 1)(2m + 1)k + 1$  is  $\gamma$ -critical and*

$\gamma_t$ -critical.

(ii)  $n = (3m + 1)((2m + 1)k + 1) + m + 1 = (2m + 1)((3m + 1)k + 2)$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical but is not  $\gamma$ -critical.

(iii)  $n = ((3m - 2) + (3m + 1)k)(2m + 1) + 1 = ((2m - 1) + (2m + 1)k)(3m + 1)$  is  $\gamma$ -critical but not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

(iv)  $n = (3m + 1)(2m + 1)k$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical and  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

### 3.2 $H_{2m+1,2n}$

The criticality and total criticality of the Harary graphs of type  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  are determined.

**Theorem 8** *The Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  where  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2r$  and  $0 \leq r \leq 2m + 1$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical for  $r = 0$ ,  $m + 2 \leq r \leq 2m + 1$ ,  $2 \leq r \leq m + 1$  and  $1 \leq t + r \leq m$ , or  $3 \leq r \leq m + 1$  and  $t + r \geq m + 1$  and it is  $\gamma$ -critical for  $r = 2$  and  $t + r \geq m + 1$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $r = 0$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2t + 1$  and  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2)$ ,  $2n - 1 = 2t(2m + 2) + 2m + 1$ . Since each vertex dominates at most  $2m + 2$  vertices,  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n} - v) = 2t + 1$  for any vertex  $v$ .

Let  $m + 2 \leq r \leq 2m + 1$ . Then  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2r \geq (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2m + 4 = (2t + 2)(2m + 2) + 2$ . By Theorem B,  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2t + 3$ . Since  $2n - 1 \geq (2t + 2)(2m + 2) + 1$  and each vertex dominates at most  $(2m + 2)$  vertices. So we need at least  $2t + 3$  vertices to dominate  $H_{2m+1,2n} - v$  for any vertex  $v$ .

Let  $2 \leq r \leq m + 1$  and  $1 \leq t + r \leq m$ . Then  $\gamma = 2t + 2$  and  $2n - 1 = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2r - 1 \geq (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 3$ . As above, at least  $2t + 2$  vertices can dominate  $H_{2m+1,2n} - v$  for any vertex  $v$ .

Let  $3 \leq r \leq m + 1$  and  $t + r \geq m + 1$ . By Theorem B,  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2t + 3$ . Now Lemma 3 and its proof show that  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  cannot be  $\gamma$ -critical for the given  $n$ .

Let  $r = 2$  and  $r + t \geq m + 1$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2t + 3$  for  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 4$ . If the vertex  $v$  is deleted, then the set  $S = \{v + m + 2 + i(2m + 2) \mid 0 \leq i \leq t\} \cup \{v + m + 4 + j(2m + 2) \mid t + 1 \leq j \leq 2t\} \cup \{v + n + 1\} \pmod{2n}$  dominates the  $H_{2m+1,2n} - v$  for any vertex  $v$ . So,  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n} - v) = 2t + 2$ . It shows that  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  is  $\gamma$ -critical for this  $n$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 9** *The Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  where  $2n = 2l(2m + 1) + 2r$  and  $0 \leq r \leq 2m$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical for  $r = 1$ , and is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical for  $r \neq 1$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $r = 1$  then  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2l + 2$ . The set  $S = \{v + m + 1 + i(2m + 1) \mid 0 \leq i \leq l - 1\} \cup \{v + 3m + 3 + j(2m + 1) \mid l - 1 \leq j \leq 2(l - 1)\} \cup \{v + n + 1\} \pmod{2n}$  is the set with  $2l + 1$  vertices that totally dominates  $H_{2m+1,2n} - v$  for any vertex  $v$ , so  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical for the given  $n$  and  $r = 1$ .

Let  $r = 0$ . By Theorem E,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2l$  for  $2n = 2l(2m + 1)$ . It is obviously  $2n - 1 = 2(l - 1)(2m + 1) + 2m$  vertices of this  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  cannot be dominated by  $2l - 1$  vertices. So  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  for the given  $n$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

Let  $2r \geq m + 2$ . Then  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2l + 2$  and  $2n = 2l(2m + 1) + 2r \geq 2l(2m + 1) + m + 2$ . Since  $2n - 1 \geq 2l(2m + 1) + m + 1 = 2(l - 1)(2m + 1) + 5m + 3$ . So by Lemma 2,  $H_{2m+1,2n} - v$  cannot be totally dominated by  $2(l - 1) + 3 = 2l + 1$  vertices for any vertex  $v$ .

Let  $4 \leq 2r \leq m + 1$ . Then  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n}) = 2l + 2$ . If we say the set  $S_1 = \{(2i + 1)m + i + 1, n + (2i + 1)m + i + 1 \mid 0 \leq i \leq l - 1\} \pmod{2n}$  and the set  $S_2 = \{l(2m + 1) + k, l(2m + 1) + k + n\}$  for a  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, r\}$ . Then by Lemma 2,  $S_1$  totally dominates  $2l(2m + 1)$  distinct vertices and  $S_2$  totally dominates  $2r$  distinct vertices that have not been dominated by  $S_1$ . Also each vertex adjacent to a vertex of  $S_1$  dominates at most  $r$  vertices of  $2r$  vertices dominated by  $S_2$ . Hence if we delete a vertex  $v$  of  $H_{2m+1,2n}$ , then it has  $2n - 1 = 2l(2m + 1) + 2r - 1 \geq 2l(2m + 1) + r + 1$  vertices, and  $2l + 1$  vertices totally dominate at most  $(2l - 2)(2m + 1) + 2(2m + 1) + r = 2l(2m + 1) + r$  vertices. So  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n} - v) = 2l + 2$  for any vertex  $v$  and given  $n$ .  $\square$

By using Theorems 8 and 9, we have:

**Corollary 10** *Let  $k$  be any non negative integer. The graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  for (i)  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 4 = 2l(2m + 1) + 2$ , where  $t = (m - 1) + (2m + 1)k$  and  $l = m + (2m + 2)k$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical and  $\gamma$ -critical.*

*(ii)  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2 = 2l(2m + 1) + 2$ , where  $t = m + (2m + 1)k$  and  $l = (m + 1) + (2m + 2)k$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical and is not  $\gamma$ -critical.*

*(iii)  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 4 = 2l(2m + 1) + 2m + 4$ , where  $t = 2m + (2m + 1)k$  and  $l = (2m + 1) + (2m + 2)k$  is  $\gamma$ -critical and is not  $\gamma_t$  critical.*

*(iv)  $2n = (2t + 1)(2m + 2) + 2 = 2l(2m + 1) + (2m + 4)$ , where  $t = (2m + 1)k$  and  $l = (2m + 2)k$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical and  $\gamma$ -critical.*

### 3.3 $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$

The criticality and total criticality of the Harary graphs of type  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  are determined.

**Theorem 11** *The Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  where  $2n+1 = (2t+1)(2m+2)+2r+1$  and  $0 \leq r \leq 2m+1$  is  $\gamma$ -critical for  $(2 \leq r \leq m+1$  and  $t+r = m)$  and it is not  $\gamma$ -critical for  $r \in \{0, 1, m+2, \dots, 2m+1\}$  or  $t+r \neq m$ .*

**Proof.** Let  $2 \leq r \leq m+1$  and  $t+r = m$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2t+3$ . If we delete the vertex  $v$  of  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$ , then the set  $S = \{v+m+1+i(2m+1), v+m+1+i(2m+1)+n \mid 0 \leq i \leq t\}$  dominates  $H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v$  for any vertex  $v$  and the given  $n$ . So  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v) = 2t+2$ , and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  is  $\gamma$ -critical for this  $n$ .

Let  $r = 0$  and  $2n+1 = (2t+1)(2m+2)$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2t+1$  and each vertex except  $n+1$  dominates  $2m+2$  vertices. If  $n+1$  is deleted, it needs at least  $2t+1$  vertices to dominate  $H_{2m+1,2n+1} - (n+1)$ . So  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  for this  $n$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical.

Let  $r = 1$ ,  $2n+1 = (2t+1)(2m+2)+3$  and  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2t+2$ . The graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v$  has  $2n = (2t+1)(2m+2)+2$  vertices. It is clear that  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v) = 2t+2$  for the given  $n$ .

Let  $m+2 \leq r \leq 2m+1$  and  $2n+1 = (2t+1)(2m+2)+2r+1$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2t+3$  and  $2n+1 \geq (2t+2)(2m+2)+3$ . Since  $H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v$  has  $(2t+2)(2m+2)+2$  and  $(2t+2)$  vertices dominate at most  $(2t+2)(2m+2)+1$  vertices so  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v) = 2t+3$ .

Let  $2 \leq r \leq m+1$ ,  $1 \leq t+r \leq m-1$ . Then  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2t+2$ . Since  $r \geq 2$ ,  $2r \geq 4$ ,  $2n+1 \geq (2t+1)(2m+2)+4+1$  and  $2n \geq (2t+1)(2m+2)+4$ . It is easy to see that  $\gamma(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - v) = 2t+2$  for any vertex  $v$  and given  $n$ .

Let  $2 \leq r \leq m+1$ ,  $t+r \geq m+1$ . Now Lemma 4 and its proof show that  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical.  $\square$

**Theorem 12** *The Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  where  $2n+1 = 2l(2m+1)+2r+1$  and  $0 \leq 2r \leq 4m$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.*

**Proof.** Let  $r = 0$  then  $2n+1 = 2l(2m+1)+1$  and  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n+1}) = 2l+1$ . We show that  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - (n+1)) = 2l+1$ , where  $n+1$  is the vertex with maximum degree. To the contrary, let  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1,2n+1} - (n+1)) = 2l$ . So we

have to choose these  $2l$  vertices so that any 2 vertices are such as  $\{i, i+n\}$  for some  $1 \leq i \leq n-m$ ,  $|D_1| = l$  vertices must dominate  $\{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\} \cup \{i+n \mid i \in D_1\}$  and  $|D_2| = l$  other vertices must dominate  $\{n+2, n+3, \dots, 2n, 2n+1\} \cup \{i \mid i \in D_1\}$ . If  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m, m+1\}$ , then  $i+n$  dominates  $n+1$  and so  $2l$  vertices cannot dominate  $H_{2m+1, 2n+1} - (n+1)$ . If  $i \geq m+2$ , then it cannot find  $l$  vertices in  $\{m+2, \dots, n-m\}$  so that dominate  $\{1, 2, \dots, n-1, n\}$ . Anyway,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1, 2n+1} - (n+1)) = 2l+1$  for  $r=0$ .

Let  $r=1$  then  $2n+1 = 2l(2m+1)+3$  and  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1, 2n}) = 2l+2$ . By Lemma 2,  $2l$  vertices of the set  $S = \{v+(2m+1)i \mid 0 \leq i \leq l-1\} \cup \{v+(2m+1)i+n \mid 0 \leq i \leq l-1\}$  totally dominate  $2l(2m+1)$  vertices and three vertices  $\{v+(2m+1)(l-1)+m+1, v+(2m+1)(l-1)+m+1+n, v+(2m+1)(l-1)+m+2+n\}$  is totally dominated by two adjacent vertices  $v+(2m+1)(l-1)+m+1$  and  $v+(2m+1)(l-1)+m+1+n$ . Now if the vertex  $2n+1$  is deleted and  $2n+1$  is not adjacent to any vertex of  $S$ , then two other non-dominated vertices are  $\{1, n+1\}$  or  $\{n, 2n\}$ . Each of two sets cannot be dominated by a vertex not belong to  $S$  but adjacent to a vertex of  $S$ . So, it must be dominated by itself. Hence,  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1, 2n+1} - (2n+1)) = 2l+2$ . If the vertex  $2n+1$  is adjacent to a vertex of  $S$  it is easily seen that  $H_{2m+1, 2n+1}$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

Let  $2r \geq m+1$ . Then  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1, 2n+1}) = 2l+2$  and  $2n+1 = 2l(2m+1) + 2r + 1 \geq 2l(2m+1) + m + 2$ . Since  $2n \geq 2l(2m+1) + m + 1 = 2(l-1)(2m+1) + 5m + 3$ . So  $2l+1$  vertices cannot dominate  $2n$  vertices of  $H_{2m+1, 2n+1}$ , and hence  $\gamma_t(H_{2m+1, 2n+1} - v) = 2l+2$ .

Let  $4 \leq 2r \leq m$ . It is sufficient to use the method of the proof of Theorem 7 for the case  $4 \leq 2r \leq m+1$ , then it will be seen that  $H_{2m+1, 2n+1}$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical for the given  $n$ .  $\square$

By using Theorems 11 and 12 we have:

**Corollary 13** *Let  $k$  be any non negative integer. The graph  $H_{2m+1, 2n+1}$  for*

(i)  $2n = 2l(2m+1) = (2t+1)(2m+2) + 2r$  where  $t+r = m$  is  $\gamma$ -critical but is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

(ii)  $2n = 2l(2m+1) + 2 = (2t+1)(2m+2) + 2$  where  $l = (m+1)(2k+1)$  and  $t = m+k(2m+1)$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical and  $\gamma$ -critical.

## 4 Answer the questions

Now we fully answer the question 2 of [1] with the family of Harary graphs

**Question 2 of [1].** Which graphs are domination vertex critical and total domination vertex critical or one but not the other?

**Solution.** The Corollaries 7 and 10 (i) show that, there are many graphs  $H_{2m,n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  so that they are  $\gamma_t$ -critical and  $\gamma$ -critical.

The Corollaries 7 and 10 (ii) show that, there are many graphs  $H_{2m,n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  so that they are  $\gamma_t$ -critical but are not  $\gamma$ -critical.

The Corollaries 7, 10 (iii) and 13 (i) show that, there are many graphs  $H_{2m,n}$ ,  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  so that they are not  $\gamma_t$ -critical but they are  $\gamma$ -critical.

The Corollaries 7, 10 (iv) and 13 (ii) show that, there are many graphs  $H_{2m,n}$ ,  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  and  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  so that they are not both  $\gamma_t$ -critical and  $\gamma$ -critical.

Now we study the part 2 of Question 1 of [1].

**Part 2 of Question 1 of [1].** Does there exist a  $4\text{-}\gamma_t$ -critical graph with diameter 2?

The graph  $H_{2m,n}$  has the diameter  $k + 1$  if  $2km + 2 \leq n \leq 2(k + 1)m + 1$ . The path  $1, m + 1, 2m + 1, \dots, km + 1, km + 1 + \lfloor \frac{r}{2} \rfloor$  where  $2 \leq r \leq 2m$  is a diameter of  $H_{2m,n}$  for the given  $n$ . For  $n$  belongs to this interval, for some  $k$  and  $m$ ,  $H_{2m,n}$  may be a domination vertex critical or total domination vertex critical or one but not the other. In general the diameter does not affect on (total) domination vertex criticality. For example, see below.

Let  $m = 4$ .

1. For  $74 \leq n \leq 81$  the graph  $H_{2m,n}$  is not  $\gamma$ -critical but it is  $\gamma_t$ -critical for  $n = 79$ .
2. For  $58 \leq n \leq 65$ ,  $H_{2m,n}$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical but it is  $\gamma$ -critical for  $n = 64$ .
3. For  $42 \leq n \leq 49$ ,  $H_{2m,n}$  is  $\gamma_t$ -critical for  $n = 44$  and it is  $\gamma$ -critical for  $n = 46$ .
4. For  $(2 \times 72 \times 4) + 2 = 578 \leq n \leq 585 = (2 \times 73 \times 4) + 1$  the graph  $H_{2m,n}$  is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical and it is not  $\gamma$ -critical.

The Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  for  $2n = 2l(2m+1) + 2r$  has a diameter  $l + 1 \leq k \leq l + 2$  for  $1 \leq r \leq 2m$  and the path  $1, m + 1, 2m + 1, \dots, lm + 1, (l + 1)m + 1$  or  $1, m + 1, \dots, lm + 1, (l - 1)m + 1, (l - 1)m + 1 + s$  where  $1 \leq s \leq m$  is a

diameter in  $H_{2m+1,2n}$ .

**Solution of part 2 of Question 1 of [1].**

In Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n}$  for  $2n = 2(2m + 1) + 2$ , the diameter is 2 and by Theorem 9, it is  $4-\gamma_t$ -critical. This is an answer to the part 2 of Question 1 of [1].

In Harary graph  $H_{2m,n}$ , there is no answer for Question 1 of [1].

In Harary graph  $H_{2m+1,2n+1}$  for  $2n = 2(2m + 1) + 2$ , the diameter is 2,  $\gamma_t = 4$  and by Theorem 12 it is not  $\gamma_t$ -critical.

In general, the Question 2 is open for other than Harary graphs and the part 1 of Question 1 is open right now.

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