



Total Dominator Total Chromatic Numbers of Some Graphs

Leila Vusuqi¹, Adel P. Kazemi^{1,✉}, Farshad Kazemnejad²

¹ Faculty of Mathematical Sciences, University of Mohaghegh Ardabili P.O. Box 5619911367, Ardabil, Iran

² Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Basic Sciences, Ilam University P.O.Box 69315-516, Ilam, Iran

ABSTRACT

Total dominator total coloring of a graph is a total coloring of the graph such that each object of the graph is adjacent or incident to every object of some color class. The minimum number of the color classes of a total dominator total coloring of a graph is called the total dominator total chromatic number of the graph. Here, we will find the total dominator chromatic numbers of wheels, complete bipartite graphs and complete graphs.

Keywords: Total dominator total coloring, Total dominator total chromatic number, Total domination number, Total mixed domination number, Total graph

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C15, 05C69.

1. Introduction

Here, in a simple graph $G = (V, E)$, while $deg_G(v)$, $N_G(v)$ and $N_G[v]$ denote respectively the *degree*, *open* and *closed neighborhoods* of a vertex $v \in V$, the *minimum degree*, *maximum degree* and *independence number* of G are denoted by $\delta = \delta(G)$, $\Delta = \Delta(G)$ and $\alpha = \alpha(G)$, respectively. A *maximum independent set* is an independent set of cardinality $\alpha(G)$. Also a *mixed independent set* of G is a subset of $V \cup E$, no two objects of which are adjacent or incident, and a *maximum mixed independent set* is a mixed independent set of the largest cardinality in G . This cardinality is called the *mixed independence number* of G , and is denoted by $\alpha_{mix}(G)$. Two isomorphic graphs G and H are shown by $G \cong H$. We write K_n , C_n and P_n for a *complete graph*, a *cycle* and a *path* of order n , respectively, while W_n , $K_{m,n}$ and $G[S]$ denote a *wheel* of order $n + 1$, a *complete bipartite graph*

✉ Corresponding author.

E-mail addresses: adelpkazemi@yahoo.com (Adel P. Kazemi).

Received 29 October 2024; accepted 14 December 2024; published 31 December 2024.

DOI: [10.61091/um121-07](https://doi.org/10.61091/um121-07)

© 2024 The Author(s). Published by Combinatorial Press. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

of order $m + n$ and the *induced subgraph* of G by a vertex set S , respectively. Also for any positive integer k , we use $[k]$ to denote the set $\{1, 2, \dots, k\}$.

The *Cartesian product* $G \square H$ of two graphs G and H is a graph with $V(G) \times V(H)$ and two vertices (g_1, h_1) and (g_2, h_2) are adjacent if and only if either $g_1 = g_2$ and $(h_1, h_2) \in E(H)$, or $h_1 = h_2$ and $(g_1, g_2) \in E(G)$.

While the *line graph* $L(G)$ of $G = (V, E)$ is a graph with the vertex set E in which two vertices are adjacent when they are incident in G , the *total graph* $T(G)$ of a graph G is the graph whose vertex set is $V \cup E$ and two vertices are adjacent whenever they are either adjacent or incident in G . It is obvious that if G has order n and size m , then $T(G)$ has order $n + m$ and size $3m + |E(L(G))|$, and also $T(G)$ contains both G and $L(G)$ as two induced subgraphs and it is the largest graph formed by adjacent and incidence relation between graph elements.

In this paper, by assumption $V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$, we use the notations $V(T(G)) = V \cup \mathcal{E}$ where $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{ij} \mid v_i v_j \in E\}$, and $E(T(G)) = \{v_i e_{ij}, v_j e_{ij} \mid v_i v_j \in E\} \cup E \cup E(L(G))$. Obviously $deg_{T(G)}(v_i) = 2deg_G(v_i)$ and $deg_{T(G)}(e_{ij}) = deg_G(v_i) + deg_G(v_j)$. So if G is k -regular, then $T(G)$ is $2k$ -regular. Also $\alpha_{mix}(G) = \alpha(T(G))$. For an example, a graph G and its total graph are shown in Figure 1.

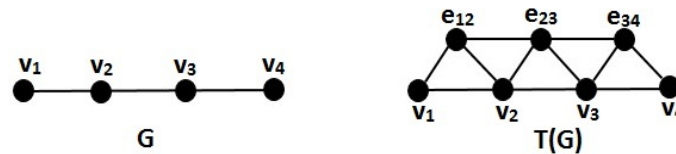


Fig. 1. The illustration of G (left) and $T(G)$ (right)

1.1. Total mixed dominating set

Total domination in graphs is now well studied in graph theory and the literature on this subject has been surveyed and detailed in the book [2]. A vertex subset of a graph with this property that every vertex of the graph is adjacent to some vertex of the set is called a *total dominating set*, briefly TD-set, of the graph, and the minimum cardinality of a TD-set of a graph G is called the *total domination number* $\gamma_t(G)$ of G . In [8] the authors has defined total mixed dominating set of a graph as follows.

Definition 1.1. [8] A subset $S \subseteq V \cup E$ of a graph G is called a total mixed dominating set, briefly TMD-set, of G if each object of $V \cup E$ is either adjacent or incident to an object of S , and the total mixed domination number $\gamma_{tm}(G)$ of G is the minimum cardinality of a TMD-set.

A min-TD-set/min-TMD-set of G denotes a TD-set/TMD-set of G with minimum cardinality. Also we agree that a vertex v dominates an edge e or an edge e dominates a vertex v mean $v \in e$. Similarly, we agree that an edge dominates another edge means they have a common vertex.

1.2. TD-coloring and TDT-coloring of a graph

Graph coloring is used as a model for a vast number of practical problems involving allocation of scarce resources (e.g., scheduling problems), and has played a key role in the development of graph theory and, more generally, discrete mathematics and combinatorial optimization. Graph colorability is NP-complete in the general case, although the problem is solvable in polynomial time for many classes.

If a function $f : V \rightarrow [k]$ from the vertex of a graph G to a k -set $[k]$ of colors such that any two adjacent vertices have different colors, then f is called a *proper k -coloring* of G . The minimum number k of colors needed in a proper coloring of a graph G is called the *chromatic number* of G and denoted by $\chi(G)$. In a proper coloring of a graph, a set consisting of all those vertices assigned the same color is called a *color class*. Trivially every color class contains at most $\alpha(G)$ vertices. For simply, we denote a proper coloring f of a graph with ℓ color classes V_1, \dots, V_ℓ by $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$.

In a similar way, a *total coloring* of G assigns a color to each vertex and to each edge so that colored objects have different colors when they are adjacent or incident, and the minimum number of colors needed in a total coloring of a graph is called the *total chromatic number* $\chi_T(G)$ of G .

Motivated by the relation between coloring and total dominating, the concept of total dominator coloring in graphs introduced in [5] by Kazemi, and extended in [1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 7, 9, 11].

Definition 1.2. [5] A total dominator coloring, briefly *TD-coloring*, of a graph G with a positive minimum degree is a proper coloring of G in which each vertex of the graph is adjacent to every vertex of some color class. The total dominator chromatic number $\chi_d^t(G)$ of G is the minimum number of color classes in a TD-coloring of G .

In [9], the authors initiated studying of a new concept called total dominator total coloring in graphs which is obtained from the concept of total dominator coloring of a graph by replacing total coloring of a graph instead of coloring of it.

Definition 1.3. [9] A total dominator total coloring, briefly *TDT-coloring*, of a graph G with a positive minimum degree is a total coloring of G in which each object of the graph is adjacent or incident to every object of some color class. The total dominator total chromatic number $\chi_d^{tt}(G)$ of G is the minimum number of color classes in a TDT-coloring of G .

For any TD-coloring (TDT-coloring) $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ of a graph G , a vertex (an object) v is called a *common neighbor* of V_i or we say V_i *totally dominates* v , and we write $v \succ_t V_i$, if vertex (object) v is adjacent (adjacent or incident) to every vertex (object) in V_i . Otherwise we write $v \not\succeq_t V_i$. Also v is called a *private neighbor* of V_i with respect to f if $v \succ_t V_i$ and $v \not\succeq_t V_j$ for all $j \neq i$. The set of all common neighbors of V_i with respect to f is called the *common neighborhood* of V_i in G and denoted by $CN_{G,f}(V_i)$ or simply by $CN(V_i)$. Also every TD-coloring or TDT-coloring of G with $\chi_d^t(G)$ or $\chi_d^{tt}(G)$ colors is called respectively a *min-TD-coloring* or a *min-TDT-coloring*.

Also for any TD-coloring $(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ and any TDT-coloring $(W_1, W_2, \dots, W_\ell)$ of a graph $G = (V, E)$, we have

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\ell} CN(V_i) = V \text{ and } \bigcup_{i=1}^{\ell} CN(W_i) = V \cup E. \quad (1)$$

1.3. Goal of the paper

In [9], the authors initiated to study the TDT-coloring of a graph and found some useful results, and presented some problems such as finding the total dominator total chromatic numbers of wheels, complete bipartite graphs and complete graphs, that we consider them here. For that we use the following two theorems that state the total mixed domination and total dominator total chromatic numbers of a graph are respectively the total domination and total dominator chromatic numbers of the total of the graph.

Theorem 1.4. [8] For any graph G without isolate vertex, $\gamma_{tm}(G) = \gamma_t(T(G))$.

Theorem 1.5. [9] For any graph G without isolate vertex, $\chi_d^{tt}(G) = \chi_d^t(T(G))$.

2. Wheels

Here, we calculate the total dominator total chromatic number of a wheel. First we calculate the mixed independence number of a wheel, and state some facts on the structure of a minimal TD-coloring of the total of a wheel. But before that, we recall the following propositions which are needed in its proof.

Proposition 2.1. [5] For any connected graph G with $\delta(G) \geq 1$,

$$\chi_d^t(G) \leq \gamma_t(G) + \min_S \chi(G[V(G) - S]),$$

where $S \subseteq V(G)$ is a min-TD-set of G . And so $\chi_d^t(G) \leq \gamma_t(G) + \chi(G)$.

Proposition 2.2. [8] For any wheel W_n of order $n + 1 \geq 4$, $\gamma_{tm}(W_n) = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1$.

Proposition 2.3. [7] For any integer $n \geq 3$, if G is a cycle or a path of order n , $\alpha_{mix}(G) = \lfloor \frac{2n}{3} \rfloor + \epsilon$ in which $\epsilon = 1$ when G is the path P_n of order $n \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$, and $\epsilon = 0$ otherwise.

Lemma 2.4. For any wheel W_n of order $n + 1 \geq 4$, $\alpha_{mix}(W_n) = \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$.

Proof. Let $W_n = (V, E)$ be a wheel of order $n + 1 \geq 4$ where $V = \{v_i \mid 0 \leq i \leq n\}$ and $E = \{v_0v_i, v_iv_{i+1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Then $V(T(W_n)) = V \cup \mathcal{E}$ when $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{0i}, e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Let S be an independent set of $T(W_n)$. Since the subgraph induced by $\{e_{0i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{v_0\}$ is a complete graph, we have $|S \cap (\{e_{0i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{v_0\})| \leq 1$. If $|S \cap (\{e_{0i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\} \cup \{v_0\})| = 0$, then $S \subseteq \{v_i, e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$, and since the subgraph induced by $\{v_i, e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ is isomorphic to $T(C_n)$, Proposition 2.3 implies $|S| \leq \lfloor \frac{2n}{3} \rfloor$. If also $v_0 \in S$, then $S \subseteq \{e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$, and since the subgraph induced by $\{e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ is isomorphic to C_n , we have $|S| \leq \alpha(C_n) + 1 = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$. Finally if $e_{0i} \in S$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n$, then $S \subseteq V \cup \mathcal{E} - N_{T(W_n)}(e_{0i})$, and since the subgraph induced by $V \cup \mathcal{E} - N_{T(W_n)}(e_{0i})$ is isomorphic to $T(P_{n-1})$, Proposition 2.3 implies $|S| \leq \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$. Therefore $\alpha_{mix}(W_n) = \alpha(T(W_n)) = \max\{\lfloor \frac{2n}{3} \rfloor, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1, \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil\} = \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$. \square

Fact 2.5. Let $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ be a minimal TD-coloring of $T(W_n)$ where $n \geq 3$ and $|V_1| \geq \dots \geq |V_\ell|$, and let $\mathcal{B}_i = \{V_k \mid e_{i(i+1)} \succ_t V_k \text{ and } |V_k| = i \text{ for some } e_{i(i+1)} \in \mathcal{E}_1\}$ and $b_i = |\mathcal{B}_i|$ for $1 \leq i \leq \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$. Then the following facts are hold.

- (1) $\sum_{i=1}^{\ell} |V_i| = 3n + 1$, by $|V| = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} |V_i|$ and $3n + 1 \leq \ell \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$.
- (2) For any $v \in \mathcal{E}_0 \cup \mathcal{E}_1$, if $v \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$, then $|V_k| \leq 2$.
- (3) If $e_{i(i+1)} \succ_t V_k$ for some $e_{i(i+1)} \in \mathcal{E}_1$ and some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$ and $|V_k| = 2$, then $CN(V_k) \cap \mathcal{E}_1 = \{e_{i(i+1)}\}$.
- (4) If $e_{i(i+1)} \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$ and $|V_k| = 1$, then $|CN(V_k) \cap \mathcal{E}_1| = 2$.
- (5) $n \leq 2b_1 + b_2 \leq \ell$ (by 3 and 4).
- (6) For $1 \leq i \leq n$, if $v_i \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$, then $|V_k| \leq 3$.

(7) For $1 \leq i \leq n$, if $v_i \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$ and $|V_k| = 3$, then $CN(V_k) = \{v_0\}$.

(8) If $v_0 \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$, then $|V_k| \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$.

Proposition 2.6. For any wheel W_n of order $n + 1 \geq 4$,

$$\chi_d^{tt}(W_n) = \begin{cases} n + 2 & \text{if } 3 \leq n \leq 7, \\ n + 1 & \text{if } n \geq 8. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Let $W_n = (V, E)$ be a wheel of order $n + 1 \geq 4$ where $V = \{v_i \mid 0 \leq i \leq n\}$ and $E = \{v_0v_i, v_iv_{i+1} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Then $V(T(W_n)) = V \cup \mathcal{E}_0 \cup \mathcal{E}_1$ when $\mathcal{E}_0 = \{e_{0i} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ and $\mathcal{E}_1 = \{e_{i(i+1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Let $f = (V_1, \dots, V_\ell)$ be a minimal TD-coloring of $T(W_n)$ where $n \geq 3$ and $|V_1| \geq \dots \geq |V_\ell|$, and let $\mathcal{B}_i = \{V_k \mid e_{i(i+1)} \succ_t V_k \text{ and } |V_k| = i \text{ for some } e_{i(i+1)} \in \mathcal{E}_1\}$ and $b_i = |\mathcal{B}_i|$ for $1 \leq i \leq \lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$. we continue our proof in the following cases.

- $n = 3$. Then $|V_i| \leq \alpha = 2$ for each i , and so $\ell \geq 5$, by Fact 2.5 (1). Now since the coloring function $(\{e_{12}, e_{03}\}, \{v_1, e_{23}\}, \{v_0, e_{13}\}, \{v_2, e_{01}\}, \{v_3, e_{02}\})$ is a TD-coloring of $T(W_3)$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(W_3) = 5$.
- $n = 4$. Then $|V_i| \leq \alpha = 3$ for each i , and so $\ell \geq 5$, Fact 2.5 (1). If $\ell = 5$, then $(|V_1|, |V_2|, \dots, |V_5|) = (3, 3, 3, 3, 1)$ which contradicts the Fact 2.5 (2,4), or $(|V_1|, |V_2|, \dots, |V_5|) = (3, 3, 3, 2, 2)$ which contradicts the Fact 2.5 (2,3). So $\ell \geq 6$, and since (V_1, \dots, V_6) is a TD-coloring of $T(W_4)$ where $V_i = \{e_{0i}, v_{i+1}\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq 3$, $V_4 = \{e_{04}, v_1\}$, $V_5 = \{e_{12}, e_{34}\} \cup \{v_0\}$ and $V_6 = \{e_{23}, e_{45}\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(W_4) = 6$.
- $n = 5$. By the contrary, let $\ell = 6$. Then $2b_1 + b_2 \geq 5$ (by Fact 2.5 (5)) and $(V_1, \dots, V_6) = (4, 4, 4, 2, 1, 1)$ (by Fact 2.5 (1)). But by considering the proof of Lemma 2.4, we know that all of the maximum independent sets in $T(W_5)$ are the sets $\{e_{0i}, v_{i+1}, e_{(i+2)(i+3)}, v_{i+5}\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq 5$, which only two of them are disjoint. Thus $V_i \cap V_j \neq \emptyset$ for some $1 \leq i < j \leq 3$, a contradiction. So $\ell \geq 7$, and since (V_1, \dots, V_7) is a TD-coloring of $T(W_5)$ where $V_1 = \{v_1, v_3, e_{02}, e_{45}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_2, e_{34}, e_{05}\}$, $V_3 = \{e_{03}, v_4\}$, $V_4 = \{e_{01}, e_{23}\}$, $V_5 = \{e_{04}, v_5\}$, $V_6 = \{v_0, e_{15}\}$, $V_7 = \{e_{12}\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(W_5) = 7$.
- $n = 6$. By the contrary, let $\ell = 7$. Then $6 \leq 2b_1 + b_2 \leq 7$ by Fact 2.5 (5). Since obviously $b_1 \geq 4$ implies $|V_1| > \alpha = 4$, we assume $b_1 \leq 3$, and so $(b_1, b_2) = (3, 0), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (0, 7)$. Since $(b_1, b_2) = (3, 4), (2, 5), (1, 6), (0, 7)$ imply $\sum_{i=1}^7 |V_i| \neq 3n + 1$, and $(b_1, b_2) = (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (2, 2), (2, 3), (2, 4), (1, 4), (1, 5)$ imply $|V_1| > \alpha = 4$, which contradict Fact 2.5 (1), we may assume $(b_1, b_2) = (3, 0)$. But this implies $(|V_1|, \dots, |V_7|) = (4, 4, 4, 4, 1, 1, 1)$ (by Fact 2.5 (1)) which is not possible. Because, by considering the proof of Lemma 2.4, the number of disjoint maximum independent sets in $T(W_6)$ is at most three. So $\ell \geq 8$, and since the coloring function (V_1, \dots, V_8) is a TD-coloring of $T(W_6)$ where $V_1 = \{e_{12}, e_{34}, e_{56}, v_0\}$, $V_2 = \{e_{23}, e_{45}, e_{16}\}$, $V_3 = \{e_{01}, v_2\}$, $V_4 = \{e_{02}, v_3\}$, $V_5 = \{e_{03}, v_4\}$, $V_6 = \{e_{04}, v_5\}$, $V_7 = \{e_{05}, v_6\}$, $V_8 = \{e_{06}, v_1\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(W_6) = 8$.
- $n = 7$. By the contrary, let $\ell = 8$. Then $7 \leq 2b_1 + b_2 \leq 8$ by Fact 2.5 (5). Since $|V_1| > \alpha = 5$ when $b_1 \geq 5$, we have $b_1 \leq 4$, and so $(b_1, b_2) = (4, 0), (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), (4, 4), (3, 1), (3, 2), (3, 3), (3, 4), (3, 5), (2, 3), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (1, 5), (1, 6), (1, 7), (0, 8)$. Since $(b_1, b_2) = (4, 4), (3, 5), (2, 6), (1, 7), (0, 8)$ imply $\sum_{i=1}^8 |V_i| \neq 3n + 1$ and $(b_1, b_2) = (4, 1), (4, 2), (4, 3), (3, 3), (3, 4), (2, 4), (2, 5), (1, 5), (1, 6)$ imply $|V_1| > \alpha = 5$ which contradict Fact 2.5 (1), we may assume $(b_1, b_2) = (4, 0), (3, 1), (3, 2)$ or $(2, 3)$. But then we have $4 \leq |V_3| \leq |V_2| \leq |V_1| \leq 5$, which is not

possible. Because, by considering the proof of Lemma 2.4, the number of disjoint independent sets of cardinalities four or five in $T(W_6)$ is at most two. So $\ell \geq 9$, and since the coloring function (V_1, \dots, V_9) is a TD-coloring of $T(W_7)$ where $V_1 = \{e_{01}, e_{34}, e_{56}, v_2, v_7\}$, $V_3 = \{e_{12}, e_{45}, e_{67}, e_{03}\}$, $V_5 = \{e_{23}, e_{05}, v_1, v_4, v_6\}$, $V_7 = \{e_{17}, v_3, v_5\}$, $V_{2i} = \{e_{0(2i)}\}$ (for $1 \leq i \leq 3$), $V_8 = \{v_0\}$, $V_9 = \{e_{07}\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(W_7) = 9$.

- $n \geq 8$. Since the subgraph of $T(W_n)$ induced by $\mathcal{E}_0 \cup \{v_0\}$ is isomorphic to a complete graph of order $n + 1$, we have $\chi_d^t(T(W_n)) \geq n + 1$. Since the sets $S_e = \{e_{0(2i)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\} \cup \{v_0\}$ for even n , and $S_o = \{e_{0(2i)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\} \cup \{v_0, e_{0n}\}$ for odd n , are two min-TD-sets of $T(W_n)$ of cardinality $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ by Proposition 2.2, we have

$$\chi_d^{tt}(W_n) \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + 1 + \chi(G[V(T(W_n)) - S]),$$

by Proposition 2.1 in which $S = S_e$ for even n and $S = S_o$ for odd n . So it is sufficient to prove $\chi(G[V(T(W_n)) - S]) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. Since the subgraph induced by $\{e_{0(2i-1)} \mid 1 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\}$ is a complete graph, we have $\chi(G[V(T(W_n)) - S]) \geq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. On the other hand, since, for even n the coloring function f_e with the criterion

$$f_e(w) \equiv \begin{cases} i & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{0(2i+1)}, \\ i + 1 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{(2i+1)(2i+2)} \text{ or } v_{2i+3}, \\ i + 2 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = v_{2i+2}, \\ i + 3 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{(2i+2)(2i+3)}, \end{cases}$$

when $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor - 1$ is a proper coloring of $G[V(T(W_n)) - S_e$, and for odd n the coloring function f_o with the criterion

$$f_o(w) \equiv \begin{cases} i & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{0(2i+1)}, \\ i + 1 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{(2i+1)(2i+2)} \text{ or } v_{2i+3}, \\ i + 2 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = v_{2i+2}, \\ i + 3 & \pmod{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} \text{ if } w = e_{(2i+2)(2i+3)}, \\ 2 & \text{if } w = e_{(n-1)n}, \\ 3 & \text{if } w = v_n, \end{cases}$$

when $0 \leq i \leq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor - 1$ is a proper coloring of $G[V(T(W_n)) - S_o$, we have $\chi(G[V(T(W_n)) - S]) = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$. □

Proposition 2.6 shows that the upper bound given in Proposition 2.1 is tight for wheels of order more than 8. Figure 2 shows a min-TDT-coloring of W_5 (left) and its corresponding min-TD-coloring of $T(W_5)$ (right) as an example.

3. Complete Bipartite Graphs

Here, we calculate the total dominator total chromatic number of a complete bipartite graph $K_{m,n} = (V \cup U, E)$ in which $V \cup U$ is the partition of its vertex set to the independent sets $V = \{v_i : 1 \leq i \leq m\}$, $U = \{u_j : 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ and $E = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ is its edge set.

Proposition 3.1. *For any complete bipartite graph $K_{m,n}$ in which $n \geq m \geq 1$,*

$$\chi_d^{tt}(K_{m,n}) = \begin{cases} m + n & \text{if } m = 1, 2 \text{ and } (m, n) \neq (1, 1), \\ m + n + 1 & \text{if } m \geq 3 \text{ or } (m, n) = (1, 1). \end{cases}$$

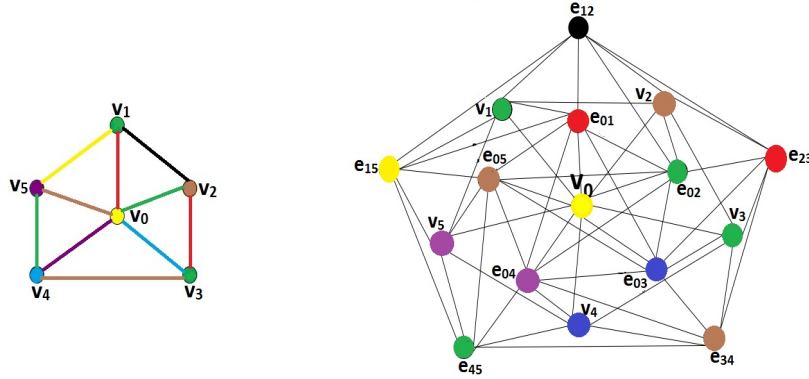


Fig. 2. A min-TDT-coloring (V_1, \dots, V_7) of W_5 (left) and its corresponding min-TD-coloring of $T(W_5)$ (right) where $V_1 = \{v_1, v_3, e_{02}, e_{45}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_2, e_{34}, e_{05}\}$, $V_3 = \{v_0, e_{15}\}$, $V_4 = \{v_4, e_{03}\}$, $V_5 = \{v_5, e_{04}\}$, $V_6 = \{e_{01}, e_{23}\}$ and $V_7 = \{e_{12}\}$

Proof. Let $K_{m,n}$ be the complete bipartite graph $(V \cup U, E)$ of order $n + m \geq 2$. Hence $V \cup U \cup \mathcal{E}$ is a partition of the vertex set $T(K_{m,n})$ where $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$. Since $T(K_{1,1}) \cong K_3$ implies $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{1,1}) = 3$, we assume $n > m = 1$. Let $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ be a minimal TD-coloring of $T(K_{m,n})$. Since the subgraph of $T(K_{m,n})$ induced by $\{v_1, e_{11}, \dots, e_{1n}\}$ is a complete graph of order $n + 1$, we have $\chi_d^t(T(K_{m,n})) \geq n + 1$. Since $(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{n+1})$ is a TD-coloring of $T(K_{1,n})$ where $V_1 = \{e_{11}, u_n\}$, $V_i = \{e_{1i}, u_{i-1}\}$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$, $V_{n+1} = \{v_1\}$, which implies $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{1,n}) = n + 1$, we continue our proof in the following two cases.

Case 1. $n \geq m = 2$. Let $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{m,n}) = n + 1$, and let $\mathcal{E}_i = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq j \leq n\}$ for $i = 1, 2$. Since $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_1] \cong T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_2] \cong K_n$ we have to color the vertices in \mathcal{E}_1 (and also in \mathcal{E}_2) by n different colors. On the other hand, since $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2] \cong K_n \square K_2$ we conclude that e_{1j} and e_{2j} are not in a same color class when $1 \leq j \leq n$. Without loss of generality, we may assume $e_{1j} \in V_j$ for $1 \leq j \leq n$ and $v_1 \in V_{n+1}$. If $f(\mathcal{E}_2) = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, then $v_1 \not\asymp_t V_k$ for each $1 \leq k \leq n$, because $N_{T(K_{m,n})}(v_1) \cap \mathcal{E}_2 = \emptyset$ and $|V_k| \geq 2$ for each $1 \leq k \leq n$. So $n + 1 \in f(\mathcal{E}_2)$, and a color, say 1, is not in $f(\mathcal{E}_2)$. This implies $f(v_2) = 1$ and so $v_1 \not\asymp_t V_k$ for each $1 \leq k \leq n + 1$. So $\ell \geq n + 2 = n + m$, and since, by assumptions $V_1 = \{e_{11}, e_{2n}\}$, $V_i = \{e_{1i}, e_{2(i-1)}\}$ for $2 \leq i \leq n$, $V_{n+1} = V$ and $V_{n+2} = U$, the coloring function $(V_1, V_2, \dots, V_{n+2})$ is a TD-coloring of $T(K_{m,n})$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{m,n}) = n + 2$.

Case 2. $n \geq m \geq 3$. For $1 \leq i \leq m$ let $\mathcal{E}_i = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq j \leq n\}$, and for $1 \leq j \leq n$ let $\mathcal{E}'_j = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i \leq m\}$. It can be easily verified that $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_i] \cong K_n$, $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}'_j] \cong K_m$, $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m] \cong T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}'_1 \cup \mathcal{E}'_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}'_n] \cong K_n \square K_m$ and $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}_i \cup \{v_i\}] \cong K_{n+1}$, $T(K_{m,n})[\mathcal{E}'_j \cup \{u_j\}] \cong K_{m+1}$. By proving $\ell \geq n + m + 1$ in the following two subcases, and by considering this fact that the coloring function g with the criterion

$$\begin{aligned} g(e_{ij}) &\equiv j - i + 1 \pmod{n} && \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq m \text{ and } 1 \leq j \leq n, \\ g(v_i) &= n + i && \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq m, \text{ and} \\ g(u_i) &= n + m + 1 && \text{if } 1 \leq i \leq n, \end{aligned}$$

is a TD-coloring of $T(K_{m,n})$ with $m + n + 1$ color classes, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{m,n}) = m + n + 1$.

- 2.1. $f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m) = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Since for each $1 \leq i \leq m$, $v_i \succ_t V_{k_i}$ implies $f(V_{k_i}) \cap \{1, 2, \dots, n\} = \emptyset$ (because every color $1 \leq i \leq n$ appears $m \geq 2$ times) and $V_{k_i} \subseteq U$, we have $\ell \geq n + 1$. On the other hand, we see that for each $1 \leq i \leq m$ and $1 \leq j \leq n$, $e_{ij} \succ_t V_{k_{ij}}$ implies $V_{k_{ij}} \subseteq \{v_i, u_j\}$. Then, by the minimality of f , $n \geq m$ implies $V_{k_{ij}} = \{v_i\}$ for each $1 \leq i \leq m$. Now since $f(V) \cap f(U) = \emptyset$, we have $\ell \geq n + m + 1$.
- 2.2. $\{1, 2, \dots, n + 1\} \subseteq f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m)$. We assume the minimal TD-coloring f of $T(K_{m,n})$

is *best* in this meaning that for every minimal TD-coloring g of $T(K_{m,n})$, $|f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m)| \leq |g(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m)|$. Then for each $1 \leq i \leq m$, $v_i \succ_t V_{k_i}$ implies $V_{k_i} \subseteq U \cup \mathcal{E}_i$ and specially if also $e_{ij} \in V_{k_i}$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n$, then $u_j \notin V_{k_i}$ and $f(e_{ij}) \notin f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m) - f(\mathcal{E}_i)$, that is, the color of e_{ij} does not appear in the other vertices in $\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m - \mathcal{E}_i$. If every color in $f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m)$ is appear at least two times, then similar to Case 1, we can prove that at least $m + 1$ new color are needed for coloring of $V \cup U$, which implies $\ell \geq n + m + 1$. Therefore, we assume there exists at least one color which is used for coloring of only one vertex in $\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m$. For $1 \leq i \leq m$ let r_i be the number of colors which are used only for coloring of one vertex from $\mathcal{E}_i - (\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_{i-1})$. Without loss of generality, we may assume $r_1 \geq r_2 \geq \dots \geq r_m$. We know $|f(\mathcal{E}_i)| = n$ for each i . Since $|f(\mathcal{E}_2) \cap f(\mathcal{E}_1)| \leq n - r_1$, we have $|f(\mathcal{E}_2) - f(\mathcal{E}_1)| \geq r_1$. In a similar way, we have $|f(\mathcal{E}_k) - \cup_{i=1}^{k-1} f(\mathcal{E}_i)| \geq \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} r_i$ for $3 \leq k \leq m$. By summing this inequalities, we obtain

$$|f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m)| \geq n + (m-1)r_1 + (m-2)r_2 + \dots + r_{m-1}. \quad (2)$$

Since (2) implies $\ell \geq n + m + 1$ when $r_1 \geq 2$, we may assume $r_1 = 1$. If $r_1 = r_2 = r_3 = 1$, then $m \geq 4$ and again (2) implies $\ell \geq n + m + 1$. Otherwise, there exists at least a vertex $e_{ij} \in \mathcal{E}_i$ for some $3 \leq i \leq m$ such that if $e_{ij} \succ_t V_{k_{ij}}$, then $V_{k_{ij}} \cap f(\mathcal{E}_1 \cup \mathcal{E}_2 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{E}_m) = \emptyset$, that is, at least a new color is needed, and $V_{k_{ij}} \subset \{v_i, u_j\}$. Since $f(V) \cap f(U) = \emptyset$, $V_{k_{ij}} = \{v_i\}$ implies at least one new color is used to color some vertex in U , and similarly $V_{k_{ij}} = \{u_j\}$ implies that at least one new color is used to color some vertex in V . Therefore (2) implies $\ell \geq (n + m - 1) + 1 + 1 \geq n + m + 1$. \square

Since $\chi_d^{tt}(G) = n$ when G is a wheel of order $n \geq 9$ (by Proposition 2.6) or G is $K_{1,q}$ or $K_{2,q}$ of order $n \geq 3$ (by Proposition 3.1), we have the following theorem.

Theorem 3.2. *For any $n \geq 3$, there exists a graph G of order n with $\chi_d^{tt}(G) = n$.*

4. Complete Graphs

From [9], we know that for any complete graph K_n of order $n \geq 2$,

$$\chi_d^{tt}(K_n) \leq \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil. \quad (3)$$

Here, we show that the upper bound in (3) is tight when $11 \neq n \geq 9$. Here, we assume the vertex set of the complete graph K_n is the set $V = \{v_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$, and the vertex set of the total of it is $V(T(K_n)) = V \cup \mathcal{E}$ where $\mathcal{E} = \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}$. First we clarify more details on the total of a complete graph in the next observation. To more understanding the observation, $T(K_5)$ is shown in Figure 3 as an example.

Observation 4.1. *Let $T(K_n)$ be the total of a complete graph K_n of order $n \geq 2$ with the vertex set $V = \{v_i \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$. Then the following states are hold.*

- (1) $T(K_n)$ is $2(n-1)$ -regular and $T(K_n) = K_n^{v_0} \cup K_n^{v_1} \cup \dots \cup K_n^{v_n}$ is the partition of $T(K_n)$ to $n+1$ edge-disjoint copies of K_n where $K_n^{v_0} = K_n$ and $V(K_n^{v_i}) = \{v_i\} \cup \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq j \neq i \leq n\}$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$.

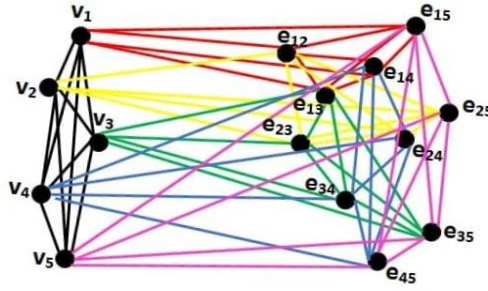


Fig. 3. $T(K_5)$ and its six edge-disjoint copies of K_5

- (2) $L(K_n) = T(K_n) - K_n = (K_n^{v_1} - \{v_1\}) \cup \dots \cup (K_n^{v_n} - \{v_n\})$ is the partition of the line graph of K_n to n edge-disjoint copies of K_{n-1} .
- (3) $V(K_n^{v_i}) \cap V(K_n^{v_j}) = \{e_{ij}\}$ for each $1 \leq i < j \leq n$.
- (4) $V(K_n^{v_i}) \cap V(K_n^{v_0}) = \{v_i\}$ for each $1 \leq i \leq n$.
- (5) For every $x \in V(T(K_n))$, $N(x) = V(K_n^{v_i}) \cup V(K_n^{v_j}) - \{x\}$ for some $0 \leq i < j \leq n$.
- (6) For each $1 \leq i \leq n$, the function ϕ_i on $V(T(K_n))$ with the criterion

$$\phi_i(x) = \begin{cases} v_i & \text{if } x = v_i, \\ v_j & \text{if } x = e_{ij}, \\ e_{ij} & \text{if } x = v_j, \\ x & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

is an automorphism of $T(K_n)$ which replaces K_n with $K_n^{v_i}$. And so $\phi_j \circ \phi_i^{-1}$ is an automorphism of $T(K_n)$ which replaces $K_n^{v_i}$ with $K_n^{v_j}$.

We recall a needed proposition from [8].

Proposition 4.2. [8] For any complete graph K_n of order $n \geq 2$,

- (1) $\gamma_{tm}(K_n) = \gamma_t(T(K_n)) = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - n$,
- (2) $\alpha_{mix}(K_n) = \alpha(T(K_n)) = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$.

Some facts on a minimal TD-coloring of $T(K_n)$ are listed here.

Fact 4.3. Let $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ be a minimal TD-coloring of $T(K_n)$ in which $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_\ell|$, and let $\mathcal{A}_i = \{V_k \mid v \succ_t V_k \text{ and } |V_k| = i \text{ for some } v \in V \cup \mathcal{E}\}$ be a set of cardinality a_i for $1 \leq i \leq \alpha = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$. Then the following facts are hold.

- (1) $\sum_{i=1}^\ell |V_i| = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ and $\sum_{i=1}^\ell |CN(V_i)| \geq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ by $|V| = \sum_{i=1}^\ell |V_i|$ and (1), respectively. Also $|V_k| \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$ for each $1 \leq k \leq \ell$.
- (2) For any $v \in V \cup \mathcal{E}$, if $v \succ_t V_k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq \ell$, then $|V_k| \leq 2$. Because $N(v) = V(K_n^{v_i}) \cup V(K_n^{v_j}) - \{v\}$, for some $0 \leq i < j \leq n$ (by Observation 4.1 (5)), implies $|V_k \cap V(K_n^{v_i})| \leq 1$ and $|V_k \cap V(K_n^{v_j})| \leq 1$.
- (3) If $V_k = \{v_i, e_{pq}\}$ for different indices i, p, q , then $CN(V_k) = \{v_p, v_q, e_{ip}, e_{iq}\}$, and if $V_k = \{e_{rs}, e_{pq}\}$ for different indices p, q, r, s , then $CN(V_k) = \{e_{rp}, e_{rq}, e_{sp}, e_{sq}\}$.

(4) If $V_k = \{v_i\}$ for some i , then $CN(V_k) = V \cup \{e_{ij} \mid 1 \leq j \neq i \leq n\} - \{v_i\}$, and if $V_k = \{e_{pq}\}$ for some $p \neq q$, then $CN(V_k) = \{e_{ij} \mid |\{p, q\} \cap \{i, j\}| = 1\} \cup \{v_p, v_q\}$.

(5) $(2n - 2)a_1 + 4a_2 \geq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$. Because

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n(n+1)}{2} &= |V \cup \mathcal{E}| \\ &\leq \sum_{|V_k| \leq 2} |CN(V_k)| && \text{(by (2))} \\ &= \sum_{|V_k|=1} |CN(V_k)| + \sum_{|V_k|=2} |CN(V_k)| \\ &\leq (2n - 2)a_1 + 4a_2. \end{aligned}$$

(6) $\lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - n \leq a_1 + a_2 \leq \ell$. Because the set S with this property that $|S \cap V_i| = 1$ for each $V_i \in \mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$ is a TD-set of $T(K_n)$ (by (2) and Proposition 4.2 (2) for left), and $a_1 + \dots + a_\alpha = \ell$ (for right).

(7) $\lceil \frac{n(n+1)/2 - 4(\lceil 5n/3 \rceil - n)}{2n-6} \rceil \leq a_1 \leq \lfloor \frac{\alpha \ell - n(n+1)/2}{\alpha - 1} \rfloor$. Because the lower bound can be obtained by (5, 6), and the upper bound can be obtained by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n(n+1)}{2} - a_1 &= |V(T(K_n))| - |\mathcal{A}_1| \\ &= \sum_{|V_i| \geq 2} |V_i| \\ &\leq (\ell - a_1)\alpha. \end{aligned}$$

(8) $\lceil \frac{(2n-2)(\lceil 5n/3 \rceil - n) - n(n+1)/2}{2n-6} \rceil \leq a_2 \leq \ell - a_1$ (by (5, 6, 7)).

(9) For any $V_i = \{e_{rs}\}, V_j = \{e_{pq}\} \in \mathcal{A}_1$,

$$|CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)| = \begin{cases} 4 & \text{if } \{r, s\} \cap \{p, q\} = \emptyset, \\ n - 1 & \text{if } \{r, s\} \cap \{p, q\} \neq \emptyset. \end{cases}$$

Notice e_{ii} is the same v_i .

Theorem 4.4. For any complete graph K_n of order $n \geq 2$,

$$\chi_d^{tt}(K_n) = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 2 & \text{if } n = 3, 4, 5, \\ \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1 & \text{if } n = 2, 6, 7, 8, 11 \\ \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil & \text{if } n \geq 9 \text{ and } n \neq 11. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Since the result holds for $2 \leq n \leq 4$ by Proposition 2.6 and some results in [8], we may assume $n \geq 5$. We recall from Proposition 4.2 that $\alpha_{mix}(K_n) = \alpha(T(K_n)) = \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$. Let $f = (V_1, V_2, \dots, V_\ell)$ be a minimal TD-coloring of $T(K_n)$ in which $|V_1| \geq |V_2| \geq \dots \geq |V_\ell|$, and let $\mathcal{A}_i = \{V_k \mid v \succ_t V_k \text{ and } |V_k| = i \text{ for some } v \in V \cup \mathcal{E}\}$ be a set of cardinality a_i for $1 \leq i \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$. We continue our proof in the following cases.

Case 1. $5 \leq n \leq 8$ or $n = 11$.

- 1.1. $n = 5$. Let $\ell = 6$. Then $(a_1, a_2) = (0, 5), (0, 6), (1, 5)$. Because $0 \leq a_1 \leq 1$ and $5 \leq a_2 \leq 6$ by Fact 4.3 (7,8). Since $(a_1, a_2) = (0, 6), (1, 5)$ imply $\sum_{i=1}^6 |V_i| \neq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, and $(a_1, a_2) = (0, 5)$ implies $|V_1| > \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = 3$, which contradict Fact 4.3 (1), we have $\ell \geq 7$. Now since (V_1, \dots, V_7) is a TD-coloring of $T(K_5)$ where $V_1 = \{v_3, e_{12}, e_{45}\}, V_2 = \{v_4, e_{23}, e_{15}\}, V_3 = \{v_5, e_{13}, e_{24}\}, V_4 = \{e_{25}, e_{34}\}, V_5 = \{e_{35}, e_{14}\}, V_6 = \{v_1\}, V_7 = \{v_2\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_5) = 7 = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 2$.
- 1.2. $n = 6$. Let $\ell = 8$. Then $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (1, 7)$. Because $a_1 = 1$ and $4 \leq a_2 \leq 7$ by Fact 4.3 (7,8). Since $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 7)$ implies $\sum_{i=1}^8 |V_i| \neq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, and $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6)$ imply $|V_1| > \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = 3$, which contradict Fact 4.3 (1), we have $\ell \geq 9$. Now since (V_1, \dots, V_9)

is a TD-coloring of $T(K_6)$ where $V_1 = \{v_3, e_{12}, e_{45}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_4, e_{13}, e_{26}\}$, $V_3 = \{v_5, e_{16}, e_{23}\}$, $V_4 = \{v_6, e_{14}, e_{25}\}$, $V_5 = \{e_{36}, e_{15}, e_{24}\}$, $V_6 = \{e_{34}, e_{56}\}$, $V_7 = \{e_{35}, e_{46}\}$, $V_8 = \{v_1\}$, $V_9 = \{v_2\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_6) = 9 = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$.

- 1.3. $n = 7$. Let $\ell = 10$. Then $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 4), (1, 5), (1, 6), (1, 7), (1, 8), (1, 9), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (2, 7), (2, 8), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (3, 7), (4, 4), (4, 5), (4, 6)$. Because $1 \leq a_1 \leq 4$ and $4 \leq a_2 \leq 10 - a_1$ by Fact 4.3 (7,8). Since $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 9), (2, 8), (3, 7), (4, 6)$ imply $\sum_{i=1}^{10} |V_i| \neq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, and $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 5), (1, 6), (1, 7), (1, 8), (2, 4), (2, 5), (2, 6), (2, 7), (3, 4), (3, 5), (3, 6), (4, 4), (4, 5)$ imply $|V_1| > \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = 4$, which contradict Fact 4.3 (1), we have $(a_1, a_2) = (1, 4)$. By Observation 4.1(6), we may assume $V_{10} = \{v_i\}$ for some $1 \leq i \leq n$. Then $v_i \succ_t V_k$ for some $k \neq 10$ implies $V_k = \{v_p, e_{iq}\}$ for some three different indices i, p, q . Since

$$\begin{aligned} |CN(V_k) \cup CN(V_{10})| &= |CN(V_k)| + |CN(V_{10})| - |CN(V_k) \cap CN(V_{10})| \\ &= 4 + 12 - 4 \\ &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

by Fact 4.3 (3,4), we reach to the contradiction

$$\begin{aligned} 28 &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \\ &\leq \sum_{i=6}^{10} |CN(V_k)| \\ &\leq \sum_{k \neq i=6}^9 |CN(V_k)| + \sum_{i=k,10} |CN(V_i)| \\ &\leq 3 \times 4 + 12 && \text{(by Fact 4.3 (3))} \\ &= 24. \end{aligned}$$

Thus $\ell \geq 11$, and since (V_1, \dots, V_{11}) is a TD-coloring of $T(K_7)$ where $V_1 = \{v_4, e_{16}, e_{25}, e_{37}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_5, e_{67}, e_{13}, e_{24}\}$, $V_3 = \{v_6, e_{15}, e_{23}, e_{47}\}$, $V_4 = \{v_7, e_{35}, e_{26}, e_{14}\}$, $V_5 = \{v_3, e_{46}, e_{57}\}$, $V_6 = \{v_1, e_{27}, e_{36}\}$, $V_7 = \{v_2, e_{34}\}$, $V_8 = \{e_{12}\}$, $V_9 = \{e_{45}\}$, $V_{10} = \{e_{56}\}$, $V_{11} = \{e_{17}\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_7) = 11 = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$.

- 1.4. $n = 8$. Let $\ell = 12$. Then $(a_1, a_2) = (2, 5), (2, 6), (2, 7), (2, 8), (2, 9), (2, 10), (3, 5), (3, 6), (3, 7), (3, 8), (3, 9), (4, 5), (4, 6), (4, 7), (4, 8)$. Because $2 \leq a_1 \leq 4$ and $5 \leq a_2 \leq 12 - a_1$ by Fact 4.3 (7,8). Since $(a_1, a_2) = (2, 10), (3, 9), (4, 8)$ imply $\sum_{i=1}^{12} |V_i| \neq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, and $(a_1, a_2) = (2, 5), (2, 6), (2, 7), (2, 8), (2, 9), (3, 5), (3, 6), (3, 7), (3, 8), (4, 5), (4, 6), (4, 7)$ imply $|V_1| > \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = 4$, which contradict Fact 4.3 (1), we have $\ell \geq 13$. Now since (V_1, \dots, V_{13}) is a TD-coloring of $T(K_8)$ where $V_1 = \{v_8, e_{13}, e_{24}, e_{56}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_7, e_{25}, e_{36}, e_{48}\}$, $V_3 = \{v_6, e_{18}, e_{27}, e_{34}\}$, $V_4 = \{v_5, e_{16}, e_{28}, e_{37}\}$, $V_5 = \{v_4, e_{17}, e_{26}, e_{35}\}$, $V_6 = \{v_2, e_{15}, e_{47}, e_{38}\}$, $V_7 = \{e_{57}, e_{68}\}$, $V_8 = \{e_{46}, e_{58}\}$, $V_9 = \{e_{45}, e_{67}\}$, $V_{10} = \{e_{14}, e_{78}\}$, $V_{11} = \{v_3, e_{12}\}$, $V_{12} = \{e_{23}\}$, $V_{13} = \{v_1\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_8) = 13 = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$.

- 1.5. $n = 11$. Let $\ell = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 2 = 17$. Then $(a_1, a_2) = (3, 6), (3, 7), (3, 8), (3, 9), (3, 10), (3, 11), (3, 12), (3, 13), (3, 14), (4, 6), (4, 7), (4, 8), (4, 9), (4, 10), (4, 11), (4, 12), (4, 13), (5, 6), (5, 7), (5, 8), (5, 9), (5, 10), (5, 11), (5, 12), (6, 6), (6, 7), (6, 8), (6, 9), (6, 10), (6, 11), (7, 6), (7, 7), (7, 8), (7, 9), (7, 10)$. Because $3 \leq a_1 \leq 7$ and $6 \leq a_2 \leq 17 - a_1$ by Fact 4.3 (7,8). Since $\sum_{i=1}^{17} |V_i| \neq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$ when $(a_1, a_2) = (3, 14), (4, 13), (5, 12), (6, 11), (7, 10)$ and $|V_1| > \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil = 6$ in the other cases, which contradict Fact 4.3 (1), we have $\ell \geq 18$. Now since (V_1, \dots, V_{18}) is a TD-coloring of $T(K_{11})$ where $V_1 = \{v_{11}, e_{1(10)}, e_{26}, e_{37}, e_{48}, e_{59}\}$, $V_2 = \{v_{10}, e_{19}, e_{28}, e_{35}, e_{46}, e_{7(11)}\}$, $V_3 = \{v_9, e_{1(11)}, e_{27}, e_{34}, e_{8(10)}, e_{56}\}$, $V_4 = \{v_8, e_{14}, e_{2(11)}, e_{39}, e_{6(10)}, e_{57}\}$, $V_5 = \{v_7, e_{18}, e_{29}, e_{36}, e_{4(10)}, e_{5(11)}\}$, $V_6 = \{v_4, e_{15}, e_{2(10)}, e_{3(11)}, e_{68}, e_{79}\}$, $V_7 = \{v_5, e_{16}, e_{24}, e_{3(10)}, e_{9(11)}\}$, $V_8 = \{v_6, e_{17}, e_{25}, e_{38}, e_{49}\}$, $V_9 = \{v_3, e_{12}, e_{4(11)}, e_{58}, e_{7(10)}\}$, $V_{10} = \{e_{6(11)}, e_{9(10)}\}$, $V_{11} = \{e_{47}, e_{5(10)}\}$, $V_{12} = \{e_{89}, e_{(10)(11)}\}$, $V_{13} = \{v_2, e_{13}\}$, $V_{14} = \{e_{67}, e_{8(11)}\}$, $V_{15} = \{e_{69}, e_{78}\}$, $V_{16} = \{v_1\}$, $V_{17} = \{e_{23}\}$, $V_{18} = \{e_{45}\}$, we have $\chi_d^{tt}(K_{11}) = 18 = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$.

Case 2. $n \geq 9$ and $n \neq 11$. Let $\ell = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$, and let

$$\begin{aligned} m_1 &= \lceil \frac{n(n+1)/2 - 4(\lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - n)}{2n-6} \rceil, & M_1 &= \lfloor \frac{\alpha\ell - n(n+1)/2}{\alpha-1} \rfloor, \\ m_2 &= \lceil \frac{(2n-2)(\lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - n) - n(n+1)/2}{2n-6} \rceil, & M_2 &= \ell - a_1. \end{aligned}$$

Then $(a_1, a_2) = (x_1 + i, x_2 + j)$ for some $0 \leq i \leq M_1 - m_1$ and some $0 \leq j \leq M_2 - m_2$. In the following subcases, we show that $\ell = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil - 1$ leads us to a contradiction.

2.1. Either n is even or n is odd and $(a_1, a_2) \neq (m_1, m_2)$. Then, by Fact 4.3 (1), we must have $a_1 + a_2 \leq \ell - 1$ and $|V_1| \leq \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil$, and so by assumptions $a_1 = m_1 + i$ and $a_2 = m_2 + j$ for some $0 \leq i \leq M_1 - m_1$ and some $0 \leq j \leq M_2 - m_2$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} |V_i| &= \sum_{i=1}^{\ell-(a_1+a_2)} |V_i| + \sum_{i=\ell-(a_1+a_2)+1}^{\ell} |V_i| \\ &\leq (\ell - a_1 - a_2) \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + a_1 + 2a_2 \\ &= (\ell - m_1 - m_2) \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + (m_1 + 2m_2) + (1 - \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil)i + (2 - \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil)j \\ &\leq (\ell - m_1 - m_2) \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + (m_1 + 2m_2) - (4i + 3j) \quad (\text{because } n \geq 9) \\ &\leq (\ell - m_1 - m_2 - \epsilon) \lceil \frac{n}{2} \rceil + (m_1 + 2m_2 + 2\epsilon) \\ &< \frac{n(n+1)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts Fact 4.3 (1) (where ϵ is 0 when n is even and is 1 otherwise).

2.2. $n \geq 13$ is odd and $(a_1, a_2) = (m_1, m_2)$. Then $a_1 = \lfloor \frac{n+1}{4} \rfloor \geq 3$ and

$$a_2 = \begin{cases} \lceil \frac{5n}{12} \rceil & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{12}, \\ \lceil \frac{5n}{12} \rceil + 1 & \text{if } n \not\equiv 3 \pmod{12}. \end{cases}$$

Let $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{V_i \mid i \in I\}$ where $I = \{\ell - i \mid 0 \leq i \leq \ell - a_1 + 1\}$. Let $z = \sum_{i,j \in I - \{t\}} |CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)|$ for some $t \in I$. Since $|CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)| \geq 4$ for each $i, j \in I - \{t\}$ (by Fact 4.3 (9)) and $CN(V_t) \cap CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j) = \emptyset$ for each 2-subset $\{i, j\} \subseteq I - \{t\}$, we conclude

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j \in I} |CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)| &= z + \sum_{i,j \in I - \{t\}} |CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)| \\ &\geq z + 4(a_1 - 1) \\ &= z + 4 \binom{a_1 - 1}{1}. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Since $z = 4 \binom{3}{2}$ when $a_1 = 3$, by induction on $a_1 \geq 3$ and (4), we will have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i,j \in I} |CN(V_i) \cap CN(V_j)| &\geq 4 \binom{a_1 - 1}{2} + 4 \binom{a_1 - 1}{1} \\ &= 4 \binom{a_1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} |CN(V_i)| &= \sum_{V_i \in \mathcal{A}_2} |CN(V_i)| + \sum_{V_i \in \mathcal{A}_1} |CN(V_i)| \\ &\leq 4a_2 + (2n - 2)a_1 - 4 \binom{a_1}{2} \\ &< \frac{n(n+1)}{2}, \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts Fact 4.3 (1).

2.3. $n = 9$ and $(a_1, a_2) = (2, 5)$. Then $\ell = 14$, $\mathcal{A}_1 = \{V_{13}, V_{14}\}$ and $\mathcal{A}_2 = \{V_i \mid 8 \leq i \leq 12\}$. If $T(K_n)[V_{13} \cup V_{14}] \cong K_2$, then, by $|CN(V_{13}) \cup CN(V_{14})| = 3n - 3 = 24$ and Fact 4.3 (2,3), we

have

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\bigcup_{i=1}^{\ell} CN(V_i)| &= |\bigcup_{i \in \mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2} CN(V_i)| \\
 &\leq |\bigcup_{i \in \mathcal{A}_1} CN(V_i)| + |\bigcup_{i \in \mathcal{A}_2} CN(V_i)| \\
 &\leq 24 + 4a_2 \\
 &= 44 \\
 &< 45 \\
 &= \frac{n(n+1)}{2},
 \end{aligned}$$

which contradicts Fact 4.3 (1). So $V_{13} \cup V_{14}$ is an independent set, and by Observation 4.1(6), we may assume $V_{13} = \{v_1\}$ and $V_{14} = \{e_{23}\}$, which implies $|CN(V_{13}) \cup CN(V_{14})| = 28$. Then the assumption $v_1 \succ_t V_{12}$ implies $V_{12} = \{v_p, e_{1q}\}$ for some $p \neq q$ by Observation 4.1(6). If $\{p, q\} \cap \{2, 3\} = \emptyset$, then each of the six numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 must be appeared three times in the indices of the elements of $V_8 \cup \dots \cup V_{11}$, which is not possible. Because the number of indices in the elements of each $V_i \in \mathcal{A}_2$, is at most four. So, we have $\{p, q\} \cap \{2, 3\} \neq \emptyset$. Then the number of appearing all of the six numbers 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 (by allowing repeating numbers) as indices of the elements of $V_8 \cup \dots \cup V_{11}$ can be reduced to 16. But then we have the contradiction $e_{23} \not\succeq_t V_k$ for each k .

Therefore $\ell \geq \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil$, and in fact $\chi_d^t(T(K_n)) = \lceil \frac{5n}{3} \rceil$ by (3). \square

References

- [1] M. A. Henning. Total dominator colorings and total domination in graphs. *Graphs and Combinatorics*, 31:953–974, 2015.
- [2] M. A. Henning and A. Yeo. *Total domination in graphs*. Springer Monographs in Mathematics. Springer, 2013. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4614-6525-6>.
- [3] P. Jalilolghadr, A. P. Kazemi, and A. Khodkar. Total dominator coloring of the circulant graphs $C_n(a, b)$. *Utilitas Mathematica*, 115:105–117, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1051/ro/2022183>.
- [4] A. P. Kazemi. Total dominator coloring in product graphs. *Utilitas Mathematica*, 94:329–345, 2014.
- [5] A. P. Kazemi. Total dominator chromatic number of a graph. *Transactions on Combinatorics*, 4(2):57–68, 2015.
- [6] A. P. Kazemi. Total dominator chromatic number of mycielskian graphs. *Utilitas Mathematica*, 103:129–137, 2017.
- [7] A. P. Kazemi and F. Kazemnejad. Total dominator total chromatic numbers of cycles and paths. *RAIRO-Operations Research*, 57(2):383–399, 2023. <https://doi.org/10.1051/ro/2022183>.
- [8] A. P. Kazemi, F. Kazemnejad, and S. Moradi. Total mixed domination in graphs. *AKCE International Journal of Graphs and Combinatorics*, 19(3):229–237, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09728600.2022.2111240>.
- [9] A. P. Kazemi, F. Kazemnejad, and S. Moradi. Total dominator total coloring of a graph. *Contributions to Discrete Mathematics*, 18(2):1–19, 2023. <http://dx.doi.org/10.55016/ojs/cdm.v18i2.70912>.
- [10] F. Kazemnejad and A. P. Kazemi. Total dominator coloring of central graphs. *Ars Combinatoria*, 155:45–67, 2021.
- [11] F. Kazemnejad, B. Pahlavsay, E. Palezzato, and M. Torielli. Total dominator coloring number of middle graphs. *Discrete Mathematics, Algorithms and Applications*, 15(2):2250076, 2023. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1142/S1793830922500763>.