The [a,b]-domination and [a,b]-total Domination of Graphs

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Abstract

A subset *S* of the vertices of G = (V, E) is an [a, b]-set if for every vertex *v* not in *S* we have the number of neighbors of *v* in *S* is between *a* and *b* for non-negative integers *a* and *b*, that is, every vertex *v* not in *S* is adjacent to at least *a* but not more than *b* vertices in *S*. The minimum cardinality of an [a, b]-set of *G* is called the [a, b]-domination number of *G*. The [a, b]-domination problem is to determine the [a, b]-domination number of a graph. In this paper, we show that the [2,b]-domination problem is NP-complete for *b* at least 3, and the [1,2]-total domination problem is NP-complete. We also determine the [1,2]-total domination and [1,2] domination numbers of toroidal grids with three rows and four rows.

Keywords: [a,b]-domination, [a,b]-total domination, NP-complete, toroidal grids

1. Introduction

Let *G* be a graph, $S \subseteq V(G)$, $v \in V(G)$. The open neighborhood of *v* in *S*, $\{u|uv \in E(G), u \in S\}$, is denoted by $N_S(v)$. We write $N_S[v] = \{v\} \cup N_S(v)$. If S = V(G), we write $N_S(v) = N(v)$ and $N_S[v] = N[v]$. Let $T \subseteq V(G)$, we write $N_G(T) = \bigcup_{x \in T} N_G(x)$. We omit the subscript *G*, that is to say, $N_G(T) = N(T)$. The diameter of *G* is the maximum distance between the vertices of *G*, denoted by *diam*(*G*). The maximum degree of graph *G* is denoted by $\Delta(G)$. For more definitions and notations of graph theory, please consult (Bondy & Murty, 1976). If $n \equiv r \pmod{p}$, we write $n \in \mathbb{Z}_p^r$.

The *Cartesian product* $F \Box G$ of graphs F and G is a graph with the vertex set $F \times G$, and $(f, g)(f', g') \in E(F \Box G)$ if either $ff' \in E(F)$ and g = g', or $gg' \in E(G)$ and f = f'. For more information on the Cartesian product of graphs please consult(Hammack, Imrich & Klavžar, 2011). The graph $C_m \Box C_n$ is called a *toroidal grid* with m rows and n columns, and it is denoted by $T_{m,n}$.

Recently, a variation of the domination problem, called [a,b]-set, was proposed and studied (Chellali, Haynes, Hedetniemi & McRae, 2013; Yang & Wu, 2014; Goharshady, Hooshmandasl & Meybodi,2016). A vertex subset *S* of a graph G = (V, E) is an [a, b]-set if, $a \le |N(v) \cap S| \le b$ for every vertex $v \in V \setminus S$, that is, each vertex $v \in V \setminus S$ is adjacent to either one or two vertices in *S*. A vertex subset *S'* of a graph G = (V, E) is an [a, b]-total set if, $a \le |N(v) \cap S'| \le b$ for every vertex $v \in V \setminus S$, that is, each vertex $v \in V \setminus S$ is adjacent to either one or two vertices in *S*. A vertex subset *S'* of a graph G = (V, E) is an [a, b]-total set if, $a \le |N(v) \cap S'| \le b$ for every vertex $v \in V$, that is, each vertex $v \in V$ is adjacent to either one or two vertices in *S'*. The minimum cardinality of an [a, b]-set (resp. [a, b]-total set) of *G*, denoted by $\gamma_{[a,b]}(G)$ ($\gamma_{[a,b]}^t(G)$), is called the [a, b]- domination (resp. [a, b]-total domination) number of *G*. The [a, b]-domination (resp. [a, b]-total domination) problem is to determine the [a, b]- domination (resp. [a, b]-total domination) number of a graph. (Chellali et al., 2013) studied graph *G* with $\gamma_{[1,2]}(G) = n$ and grid graphs and prove that the [1,2]-domination graph is NP-complete for bipartite graphs by transforming an instance of EXACT-3-COVER to the [1,2]-domination problem.

In this paper, we show that the [2,b]-domination problem is NP-complete for $b \ge 3$, and the [1,2]-total domination problem is NP-complete. We also determine the [1,2]-total domination and [1,2] domination numbers of toroidal grids $T_{3,n}$ and $T_{4,n}$.

2. Complexity of the [a,b]-domination Problem

In (Fiala, Golovach, Kratochvíl, Lidický & Paulusma, 2012), the NP-completeness of Monotone Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability was applied, and in this paper, we will reduce from the *Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability* problem, which is also NP-complete for $p \ge 3$ (Schaefer, 1978).

The Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability:

Instance: A collection $C = \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m\}$ of clauses on a finite set $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ of boolean variables such that $|C_i| = p$ for $1 \le i \le m$.

Question: Can the literals be assigned value true or false so that each clause has at least one true and at least one false variable ?

The [*a*,*b*]*-domination problem*:

Instance: A graph G, and an integer k.

Question: Is there an [a,b]-dominating set of G with weight at most k?

The [1,2]*-total domination problem*:

Instance: A graph G, and an integer k.

Question: Is there a [1,2]-total dominating set of G with weight at most k?

We will prove the following result:

Theorem 1 *The* [2,b]*-domination problem is NP-complete for* $b \ge 3$ *.*

Proof. Given a *Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability* with p = b instance C, we will construct a graph G whose order is polynomially bounded in the size of C such that C is satisfiable if and only if G has a [2,b]-set of size at most k.

we construct a polynomial transformation from an instance of the *The Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability* to an instance of the [2,b]-domination problem. Let *I* be an arbitrary instance of *The Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability* with p = b for the set of clauses $C = \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m\}$ on the set of boolean variables $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$. For every boolean variable *x* occurring in *C* we introduce a gadget G_x , where $V(G_x) = \{x, \overline{x}, a, b, c, y, z\}$ and $E(G_x) = \{x\overline{x}, xa, xb, xc, \overline{x}a, \overline{x}b, \overline{x}c, ya, yb, yc, za, zb, zc, yz, xy, \overline{x}z\}$. For each clause *C*, we construct a clause gadget G_C with specific vertex *w*, where $V(G_C) = \{w, d, e, f, g, h\}$ and $E(G_C) = \{wd, de, df, dg, he, hf, hg\}$. If the literal *x* occurs in clause *C* we connect the specified vertex *x* in G_x with the vertex *w*.

Let G denote the resulting graph. It can be seen that C is satisfiable (in the sense of Not-All-Equal p-Satisfiability) if and only if G has a [2,b]-set of size at most 2n + 2m. Moreover, we have that G has 6m + 7n vertices and 16n + (p + 7)m edges, and so it is a polynomial transformation. This completes the proof.

Theorem 2 *The* [1,2]*-total domination problem is NP-complete.*

Proof. Given Not-all-equal 3SAT instance C, we will construct a graph G whose order is polynomially bounded in the size of C such that C is satisfiable if and only if G has a [1,2]-total set of size at most k.

we construct a polynomial transformation from an instance of the Not-all-equal 3SAT problem to an instance of the [1,2]total domination problem. Let *I* be an arbitrary instance of Not-all-equal 3SAT for the set of clauses $C = \{C_1, C_2, \dots, C_m\}$ on the set of boolean variables $X = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$. For every boolean variable *x* occurring in *C* we introduce a copy G_x of the gadget *K* which contains two specific vertices *x* and \overline{x} , where $V(K) = \{x, \overline{x}, y, z, w, c\}$, $E(K) = \{xy, \overline{x}y, cx, c\overline{x}, cz, cw\}$. For each clause C_i , we construct a vertex labeled c_i . If the literal *x* occurs in clause C_i we connect the specified vertex *x* in G_x with the vertex c_i . (For an example see Figure. 1 where $C = \{x \lor y \lor z, x \lor \overline{z} \lor \overline{w}\}$).

Let *G* denote the resulting graph. It can be seen that *C* is satisfiable if and only if *G* has a [1,2]-total set of size at most 2n. Moreover, we have that *G* has m + 6n vertices and 6n + 3m edges, and so it is a polynomial transformation. This completes the proof.



Figure 1. The graph *G* for $C = \{x \lor y \lor z, x \lor \overline{z} \lor \overline{w}\}$

3. The [1,2]-total Domination Number of Some Cartesian Product of Two Cycles

We will use the following Observation.

Observation 1 Let $n \ge 3$ and D is a [1,2]-total set of $T_{m,n}$. If $|D \cap C^i| = 0$ for each $i \in \{j, j+2\}$ for some $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. Then we have $|D \cap C^{j+1}| \ge \lceil \frac{m}{2} \rceil$.

Theorem 3 *Let* $n \ge 3$. *Then* $\gamma_{[1,2]}^t(T_{3,n}) = \lceil \frac{4n}{5} \rceil$.

Proof. The lower bound can be found in (Thiagarajan & Bhaskaram,2015), and we only need to show the upper bound. Let

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then the pattern P^k induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 4k of $T_{3,5k}$ for any $k \ge 1$, and the pattern $P^k Q^i$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 4k + i of $T_{3,5k+i}$ for any $k \ge 1$ and $i \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$. Thus, all the upper bounds are settled.

Theorem 4 *Let* $n \ge 4$ *. Then*

$$\gamma_{[1,2]}^t(T_{4,n}) = \begin{cases} n, & n \equiv 0 \pmod{4}, \\ n+1, & n \equiv 1, 3 \pmod{4}, \\ n+2, & n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

Proof. The lower bound can be found in (Thiagarajan & Bhaskaram,2015), and we only need to show the upper bound. Let

	0	0	1	I		1		0	1	I	
n	0	0	0	0	$, Q_1 =$	0		0	0	0	
P =	1	1	0	0		1	$, Q_3 =$	1	1	0	,
	0	0	0	0		0		0	0	0	

then the pattern P^k induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 4k of $T_{4,4k}$ for any $k \ge 1$, the pattern $P^k Q_1^2$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 4k + 4 of $T_{4,4k+2}$ for any $k \ge 1$, and the pattern $P^k Q_i$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 4k + i + 1 of $T_{4,4k+i}$ for any $k \ge 1$ and $i \in \{1,3\}$. Thus, all the upper bounds are settled.

Theorem 5 Let $n \ge 6$. Then $\gamma_{[1,2]}^t(T_{5,n}) \le \lceil \frac{9n}{7} \rceil$.

Proof. We consider the following seven cases.

Case 1: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^0$.

Let n = 7k and

	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
P =	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	,
	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	

then the pattern P^k induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k of $T_{5,7k}$ for any $k \ge 1$.

Case 2: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^1$.

Let n = 7k + 1

and

then the pattern P_i induces a [1,2]-total set of with the desired weight of $T_{5,i}$ for $i \in \{8, 15, 22\}$.

Let

then the pattern $P^k Q_{22}$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 2 of $T_{5,7k+1}$ for any $k \ge 4$.

Case 3:
$$n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^2$$

Let
$$n = 7k + 2$$

	[0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1]	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
$P_9 =$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	$, P_{16} =$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Ι,
	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0		1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

then the patterns P_9 and P_{16} induce a [1,2]-total set of with the desired weight of $T_{5,9}$ and $T_{5,16}$, respectively. Let

then the pattern $P^k Q_{16}$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 3 of $T_{5,7k+2}$ for any $k \ge 3$. Case 4: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^3$. Let n = 7k + 3

then the pattern P_{10} induces a [1,2]-total set of with the desired weight of $T_{5,10}$. Let

then the pattern $P^k Q_{10}$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 4 of $T_{5,7k+3}$ for any $k \ge 2$. Case 5: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^4$. Let n = 7k + 4

$$Q_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

then the pattern $P^k Q_4$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 6 of $T_{5,7k+4}$ for any $k \ge 2$. Case 6: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^5$. Let n = 7k + 5

	[1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	1
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
$P_{19} =$	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	Ι,
	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

then the patterns P_{12} and P_{19} induce a [1,2]-total set of with the desired weight of $T_{5,12}$ and $T_{5,19}$, respectively. Let

then the pattern $P^k Q_{19}$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 7 of $T_{5,7k+5}$ for any $k \ge 4$. Case 7: $n \in \mathbb{Z}_7^5$.

Let n = 7k + 6

$$Q_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

then the pattern $P^k Q_6$ induces a [1,2]-total set of with weight 9k + 8 of $T_{5,7k+6}$ for any $k \ge 2$.

Therefore, all the upper bounds are obtained.

4. Some Graphs *G* with $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$

In 2013, Chellali et al. proposed the following Question (see [(Chellali et al., 2013), Question 8]):

Question 1 For which graphs is $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$?

The following results concerning Question 1 are established in (Chellali et al., 2013):

Theorem 6 If G is claw-free, then $\gamma(G) = i(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Corollary 1 If a graph G has maximum degree $\Delta(G) \leq 2$, then $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Corollary 2 For paths $G = P_n$ or cycles $G = C_n$, then $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Proposition 1 If every vertex v of a graph G of order $n \ge 2$ is either a support vertex or has degree at most 2, then $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Corollary 3 *If T is a caterpillar, then* $\gamma(T) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(T)$ *.*

Let the corona $G \circ K_1$ be the graph obtained from a graph G = (V, E) by attaching a leaf to each vertex $v \in V$. Then **Corollary 4** *If G is a corona* $H \circ K_1$, *then* $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Proposition 2 If G is a non-trivial graph with $\Delta(G) \ge |V(G)| - 3$, then $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

Theorem 7 If G is P_4 -free, then $\gamma(G) = i(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

The toroidal grid is neither a claw-free graph nor a P_4 -free graph, so it is of interest to investigate if it is a graph G with $\gamma(G) = \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

By the definition of [1,2]-domination, it can be seen that

Lemma 1 For any graph G, $\gamma(G) \leq \gamma_{[1,2]}(G)$.

In (Klavžar & Seifter, 1995), it was prove that

Theorem 8 (Klavžar & Seifter, 1995) $\gamma(T_{3,n}) = n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$ for $n \ge 4$.

Theorem 9 (Klavžar & Seifter, 1995) $\gamma(T_{4,n}) = n \text{ for } n \ge 4.$

Theorem 10 $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{3,n}) = n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$ for $n \ge 4$.

Proof. The lower bounds follows from Lemma 1 and Theorem 8. Now we give the upper bounds.

Case 1. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^0$. Let

$$P = \left[\begin{array}{rrrr} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

By repeating the pattern *P* for $\frac{n}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight $\frac{3n}{4}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{3,n}) \le n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$. Case 2. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^1$.

Let

$$P_1 = \left[\begin{array}{rrrrr} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

By repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_1 for $\frac{n-1}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight $n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{3,n}) \le n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$.

Case 3. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^2$.

Let

By repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_2 for $\frac{n-2}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight $n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{3,n}) \le n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$.

Case 4. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^3$.

Let

$$P_3 = \left| \begin{array}{cccccccccc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right|.$$

By repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_3 for $\frac{n-3}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight $n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{3,n}) \le n - \lfloor \frac{n}{4} \rfloor$.

Theorem 11 $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) = n$ for $n \ge 4$. *Proof.* The lower bounds follows from Lemma 1 and Theorem 9. Now we give the upper bounds.

Case 1. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^0$.

Let

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

By repeating the pattern *P* for $\frac{n}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight *n* of of $T_{4,n}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) \leq n$. Case 2. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^1$.

Let

$$P_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } P_{1}' = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

For $n \ge 9$, by repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_1 for $\frac{n-1}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight *n* of $T_{4,n}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) \le n$. The pattern P'_1 induces a [1,2]-set of weight 5 of $T_{4,5}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) \le n$ for each $n \ge 5$ in this case. Case 3. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^2$.

Let

	0	0	1	1	÷	0	1	
$P_2 =$	0	0	0	0	÷	0	0	
- 2	1	1	0	0	÷	1	0	
	0	0	0	0	:	0	0	

By repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_2 for $\frac{n-2}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight *n* of $T_{4,n}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) \leq n$.

Case 4. $n \in \mathbb{Z}_4^3$.

Let

 $P_3 = \left[\begin{array}{cccccccccc} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \vdots & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \vdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$

By repeating the leftmost 4 columns of the pattern P_3 for $\frac{n-3}{4}$ times, we obtain a [1,2]-set of weight *n* of $T_{4,n}$. Therefore, $\gamma_{[1,2]}(T_{4,n}) \le n$.

5. Conclusion

We show that the [2,b]-domination problem is NP-complete for *b* at least 3, and the [1,2]-total domination problem is NP-complete. Chellali et al. asked which graph satisfies the domination number equals to the [1,2] domination number. We determine the [1,2]-total domination and [1,2] domination numbers of toroidal grids with three rows and four rows, and show that this class of graphs satisfied the above condition.

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