

## BOUNDS ON TOTAL DOMINATION IN SQUARES OF GRAPHS

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### ABSTRACT:

Let  $G^2 = (V, E(G^2))$  be the square of a connected graph  $G$ . A dominating set  $D$  of  $G^2$  is said to be total dominating set, if for every vertex  $v \in V(G^2)$ , there exists a vertex  $u \in D$ ,  $u \neq v$ , such that  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . The total domination number of  $G^2$ , denoted by  $\gamma_t(G^2)$  is the minimum cardinality of a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . In this paper, many bounds on  $\gamma_t(G^2)$  were obtained in terms of the elements of  $G$ . Also its relationship with other domination parameters were obtained.

**Keywords:** Graph, Square graph, Dominating set, Total dominating set and Total domination number.

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### [I] INTRODUCTION

In this paper, we follow the notations of [1]. All the graphs considered here are simple, finite, non-trivial, undirected and connected. As usual  $p = |V|$  and  $q = |E|$  denote the number of vertices and edges of a graph  $G$ , respectively.

In general, we use  $\langle X \rangle$  to denote the subgraph induced by the set of vertices  $X$  and  $N(v)$  and  $N[v]$  denote the open and closed neighborhoods of a vertex  $v$ .

The minimum(maximum)degree among the vertices of  $G$  is denoted by  $\delta(G)(\Delta(G))$ . A

vertex of degree one is called an end vertex. Any vertex of degree greater than one is called an internal vertex. The term  $\alpha_0(G)(\alpha_1(G))$  denote the minimum number of vertices(edges) cover of  $G$ . Further,  $\beta_0(G)(\beta_1(G))$  represents the vertex (edge) independence number of  $G$ .

The square of a graph  $G$  denoted by  $G^2$ , has the same vertices as in  $G$  and the two vertices  $u$  and  $v$  are joined in  $G^2$  if and only if they are joined in  $G$  by a path of length one or two. The

concept of squares of graphs was introduced in [2].

A set  $S \subseteq V(G)$  is said to be a dominating set of  $G$ , if every vertex in  $V - S$  is adjacent to some vertex in  $S$ . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G)$ . A dominating set  $S$  is called total dominating set, if for every vertex  $v \in V$ , there exists a vertex  $u \in S$ ,  $u \neq v$  such that  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . The total domination number of  $G$ , denoted by  $\gamma_t(G)$  is the minimum cardinality of total dominating set of  $G$ . A dominating set  $S$  is called an independent dominating set, if no two vertices of  $S$  are adjacent. The independent domination number of  $G$ , denoted by  $i(G)$  is the minimum cardinality taken over all independent dominating sets of  $G$ .

Further, a dominating set  $S$  is called an end dominating set of  $G$ , if  $S$  contains all the end vertices in  $G$ . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the end domination number of  $G$  and is denoted by  $\gamma_e(G)$ . Domination related parameters are now well studied in graph theory (see [3], [4]).

A subset  $S'$  of  $E$  is called an edge dominating set of  $G$  if every edge not in  $S'$  is adjacent to some edges in  $S'$ . The edge domination number of  $G$ , denoted by  $\gamma'(G)$  is the minimum cardinality taken over all edge dominating sets of  $G$  (see [6]).

A set  $D \subseteq V(G^2)$  is said to be a dominating set of  $G^2$ , if every vertex not in  $D$  is adjacent to a vertex in  $D$ . The minimum cardinality of vertices in such a set is called the domination number of  $G^2$  and is denoted by  $\gamma(G^2)$  (see [5]).

Analogously, a dominating set  $D$  of  $G^2$  is said to be total dominating set, if for every vertex  $v \in V(G^2)$ , there exists a vertex  $u \in D$ ,  $u \neq v$ , such that  $u$  is adjacent to  $v$ . The total domination number of  $G^2$ , denoted by  $\gamma_t(G^2)$  is the minimum cardinality of a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . In this paper, many bounds on  $\gamma_t(G^2)$  were obtained in terms of elements of  $G$ . Also its relationship with other domination parameters were obtained.

### [II] RESULTS

Initially, we relate the total domination number of  $G$  and  $G^2$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \gamma_t(G)$ . Equality holds if and only if  $diam(G) \leq 3$ .

**Proof.** For  $p = 2$ , the result is obvious. Let  $p \geq 3$ , Suppose  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_i\}$  be the set of all internal vertices in  $G$ . Then there exists a minimal set  $C' = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq C$  such that  $C' \cup H$ , where  $H \subseteq V - C'$  forms a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G$ . Now without loss of generality in  $G^2$ , suppose  $D_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of minimal vertices with  $\deg(v_j) \geq 2, 1 \leq j \leq n$  such that  $D_1 \cup I$ , where  $I \subseteq V(G^2) - D_1$  covers all the vertices of  $G^2$  and the subgraph  $\langle D_1 \cup I \rangle$  has no isolated vertex. Clearly,  $D_1 \cup I$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Since distance between vertices of  $G^2$  is at most two, it follows that,  $|D_1 \cup I| \leq |C' \cup H|$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \gamma_t(G)$ .

Suppose  $diam(G) \leq 3$ , then  $|C' \cup H| = 2$

$= |D_1 \cup I|$ . Clearly, it follows that  $\gamma_t(G^2) = \gamma_t(G)$ .

In contradiction to the above, suppose  $diam(G) \geq 4$ . Then in this case, there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V(G)$  such that  $|C' \cup H| \geq 3$ . Clearly,  $|D_1 \cup I| < |C' \cup H|$  and hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) < \gamma_t(G)$ .  $\square$

In the following Theorem, we characterize total domination number of  $G^2$  in terms of diameter of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** For any graph  $G$ ,

$\gamma_t(G^2) = 2$  if  $G$  is

- (i) isomorphic to a tree  $T$  with  $diam(T) \leq 6$
- (ii) containing a cycle  $C$  with  $diam(C) \leq 2$  and  $diam(G) \leq 6$ .

**Proof.** (i) For any connected graph  $G$ , if  $diam(G) \leq 6$  then  $\gamma_t(G^2) = 2$  with  $G$  containing a cycle  $C$  with  $diam(C) \leq 2$ . Suppose  $G$  does not contain any cycle and  $diam(G) > 6$ , then there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V(G^2)$  in the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  which is isolated, where  $D$  is a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G^2$ . Clearly,  $D \cup \{v\}$  forms a minimal  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G^2$  and  $|D \cup \{v\}| \geq 3$  and hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) \geq 3$ , a contradiction.

Conversely, if  $diam(G) \leq 6$ , then in  $G^2$ ,  $|D| = 2$  with the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertex. Clearly,  $\gamma_t(G^2) = 2$ .

(ii) Suppose  $diam(G) \leq 6$  and assume  $G$  contains a cycle  $C$  with  $diam(C) \geq 3$ . Then in  $G^2$ , there exists at least one vertex  $u \in V(G^2)$  of cycle  $C$  which makes the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$

containing an isolate. Clearly,  $D \cup \{u\}$  forms a minimal  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G^2$  and hence  $|D \cup \{u\}| \geq 3$ , a contradiction to the fact that  $diam(C) \geq 3$ . Therefore  $diam(C) \leq 2$  with  $diam(G) \leq 6$ .  $\square$

The following Corollary is immediate from the above Theorem.

**Corollary 2.1.**

$$\gamma_t(K_p^2) = \gamma_t(W_p^2) = \gamma_t(K_{1,n}^2) = \gamma_t(K_{p_1,p_2}^2) = 2.$$

The following Theorem relates total domination in  $G^2$  with domination number of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 3$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma(G) \leq p$ . Equality holds for  $C_3, P_3, C_4, P_4$ .

**Proof.** For  $p = 2$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma(G) \not\leq p$ . Now we consider the graph with  $p \geq 3$  and let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(G)$  be the minimal dominating set of  $G$  such that  $|S| = \gamma(G)$ . Now in  $G^2$ , since  $V(G) = V(G^2)$ , let  $D \subseteq S$  be a minimal dominating set of  $G^2$ . Suppose  $V_1 = V(G^2) - D$  and  $D' \subseteq V_1$  such that  $D' \in N(D)$  in  $G^2$ . Then  $D \cup D'$  forms a total dominating set in  $G^2$ . Clearly,  $|D \cup D' \cup S| \leq p$  and hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma(G) \leq p$ .

For equality, we have the following cases.

**Case 2.3.1:** Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to  $C_3$  or  $P_3$ . Then in this case,  $|D \cup D'| = 2|S|$ . Clearly, it follows that,  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma(G) = p$ .

**Case 2.3.2:** Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to  $C_4$  or  $P_4$ . Then in this case,  $|D \cup D'| = 2 = |S|$ . Clearly, it follows that,  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma(G) = p$ .  
□

The following Theorem relates total domination in  $G^2$  with domination number of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** For any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \gamma(G) + 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $F' = \{e_1, e_2, e_3, \dots, e_m\}$  be the set of all end edges in  $G$ . Suppose  $E - F' = I$ , then  $S' \subseteq I$  forms an  $\gamma'$ -set of  $G$ . Further, if  $E - F' = \emptyset$ , then there exists at least one edge  $\{e\} \in F'$  such that  $S' = \{e\}$  forms a minimal edge dominating set of  $G$ . Now in  $G^2$ , since  $V(G) = V(G^2)$ , let  $D' = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_m\} \subseteq V(G^2)$  be the set of vertices which are incident to the edges of  $S'$ . Further,  $D = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq D'$  be the minimum set of vertices such that  $N[D] = V(G^2)$ . Suppose the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolate, then  $D$  itself is a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise, there exists at least one vertex  $u \notin D$ , such that the subgraph  $\langle D \cup \{v\} \rangle$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that,  $|D \cup \{v\}| \leq |S'| + 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \gamma(G) + 1$ . □

In the following Theorem, we give the lower bound on  $\gamma_t(G^2)$  in terms of vertices and degree of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{p}{\Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ . Equality holds if  $diam(G) \leq 3$ .

**Proof.** Let  $D$  be a dominating set of  $G^2$  and  $V_1 = V(G^2) - D$  such that  $V_1 \in N(D)$ . Suppose  $D_1 \subseteq V_1$  and  $D_1 \in N(D)$ , then  $D \cup D_1$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Further, if  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of all non end vertices in  $G$ , then there exists at least one vertex  $v$  of maximum degree  $\Delta(G)$  in  $C$  such that  $|D \cup D_1| \cdot \Delta(G) \leq p$ . Clearly, it follows that  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{p}{\Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ .

For the equality, suppose  $diam(G) \leq 3$ . For the graphs with  $diam(G) \leq 2$ , we have  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $n \geq 2$  as a spanning subgraph of  $G$ . Since  $G^2 = K_{1+n}$  and  $\Delta(G^2) = n$ , then  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{p}{\Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ . Suppose  $diam(G) = 3$ , then the spanning subgraph is a double star. Let  $u$  and  $v$  be the corresponding adjacent vertices with maximum degree in double star. Let  $N(u) = v_i$  and  $N(v) = v_j$ , each  $v_i$  is adjacent to  $v$  and each  $v_j$  is adjacent to  $u$ . Also  $N(u)$  and  $N(v)$  together with  $u$  and  $v$  forms complete sub graphs in its square. The minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$  contains exactly  $u$  and  $v$ . Then its cardinality is  $2 = \gamma_t(G^2) = \left\lceil \frac{p}{\Delta(G)} \right\rceil$ . □

The following Theorem relates total domination number of  $G^2$  with independent domination number of  $G$ .

**Theorem 2.6.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -

graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) + i(G) \leq p + 1$ .

**Proof.** Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_k\} \subseteq V(G)$  be the minimum set of vertices such that  $d(u, v) \geq 2$ , for all  $u, v \in S$ , which covers all the vertices in  $G$ . Clearly,  $S$  forms an independent dominating set of  $G$ . Now in  $G^2$ , let  $D_1 = \{v_1, v_2, v_3, \dots, v_n\} \subseteq V(G^2)$  be the minimal set of vertices which covers all the vertices in  $G^2$ . If the subgraph  $\langle D_1 \rangle$  does not contain any isolated vertex, then  $D_1$  itself is a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise, there exists at least one vertex  $u \notin D_1$  makes the subgraph  $\langle D_1 \cup \{u\} \rangle$  not containing any isolated vertex. Clearly,  $D_1 \cup \{u\}$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Therefore, it follows that,  $|D_1 \cup \{u\}| + |S| \leq p + 1$ . Hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) + i(G) \leq p + 1$ .  $\square$

In the following Theorems, we give lower bounds on  $\gamma_t(G^2)$ .

**Theorem 2.7.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - \alpha_0(G) + 1$ . Equality holds if and only if  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_p$ .

**Proof.** Let  $B = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be the minimum set of vertices which covers all the edges in  $G$  such that  $|B| = \alpha_0(G)$ . Now without loss of generality in  $G^2$ , suppose  $D' = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the minimal set of vertices such that  $N[D'] = V(G^2)$  does not contain any isolated

vertex, then  $D'$  itself is a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise,  $D' \cup H = D$  where  $H \subseteq V(G^2) - D'$ , and the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertex forms the minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D| \leq p - |B| + 1$ . Therefore,

$$\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - \alpha_0(G) + 1.$$

Suppose  $G$  is not isomorphic to  $K_p$ . Then  $|D| \geq 2$  or  $|B| \leq p - 1$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D| < p - |B| + 1$ , a contradiction.

Conversely, if  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_p$ . Then in this case  $|D'| = 2$  and  $|B| = p - 1$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D| = p - |B| + 1$  and hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) = p - \alpha_0(G) + 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.8.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - \gamma_e(G) + 1$ . Equality holds if  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_{1,n}$ .

**Proof.** To prove this result, we consider the following two cases.

**Case 2.8.1:** Suppose  $G$  has no end vertices. Let  $S = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be the minimal set of vertices with  $\deg(v_i) \geq 2$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq k$ , which covers all the vertices in

$G$ . Clearly,  $S$  forms an end dominating set of  $G$ . Now without loss of generality in  $G^2$ , since  $V(G) = V(G^2)$ , there exists a vertex set  $D'_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_j\}$  which covers all the vertices in  $G^2$ . Suppose the subgraph  $\langle D'_1 \rangle$  contains no isolated vertex. Then  $D'_1$  itself is a  $\gamma_t$ -set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise, there exists at least one vertex  $u \notin D'_1$  such that  $D'_1 \cup \{u\} = D$

forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D| \leq p - |S| + 1$  and hence  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - \gamma_e(G) + 1$ .

**Case 2.8.2:** Suppose  $G$  has end vertices, let  $F = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_m\}$  be the set of all end vertices in  $G$  and  $V' = V(G) - F$ . Then there exists a vertex set  $A \subseteq V'(G)$  which are not adjacent to the vertices of  $F$ , such that  $F \cup A$  forms a minimal end dominating set of  $G^2$ . Now in  $G^2$ , since  $V(G) = V(G^2)$ , let  $D \subseteq V'$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D| \leq p - |F \cup A| + 1$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - \gamma_e(G) + 1$ .

Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to  $K_{1,n}$ ,  $1+n = p$ . Then in this case,  $|D| = 2$  and  $F$  itself is a minimal  $\gamma_e$ - set of  $G$  such that  $|F| = p - 1$ . Therefore, it follows that,  $\gamma_t(G^2) = p - \gamma_e(G) + 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ - graph  $G$ , which is not a path,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - diam(G)$ . Equality holds if  $G$  is isomorphic to  $C_3$  and  $C_4$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to a path  $P_p$ . Then in this case,  $p - diam(G) = 1$ . Since for any connected graph  $G$ ,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \geq 2$ . Clearly,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \not\leq p - diam(G)$ . Let  $G$  is not isomorphic to a path  $P_p$  and  $u, v \in V(G)$  be any two distinct vertices such that the distance between  $u$  and  $v$  forms the  $diam(G)$ . If  $D = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$

$\subseteq V(G^2)$  be the minimal set which covers all the vertices of  $G^2$  and if the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolates, then  $D$  itself is a total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise, there exists a subset  $H \subseteq V(G^2) - D$  such that  $D \cup H$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that  $|D \cup H| \leq p - diam(G)$ . Therefore,  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq p - diam(G)$ .

Suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to either  $C_3$  or  $C_4$ . Then in this case,  $diam(G) = p - 2$  and  $\gamma_t(G^2) = 2$ . Clearly, it follows that  $\gamma_t(G^2) = p - diam(G)$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.10.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ - graph  $G$ ,  $\left\lceil \frac{\gamma_t(G^2)}{2} \right\rceil \leq p - \Delta(G)$ . Equality holds if and only if  $\deg(v) = p - 1$ , where  $v \in V(G)$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of all non end vertices in  $G$ , then there exists at least one vertex  $v \in V(G)$  of maximum degree such that  $\deg(v) = \Delta(G)$ . Now without loss of generality in  $G^2$ ,  $V(G) = V(G^2)$ . Suppose  $D \subseteq C$  in  $G^2$ , is a minimal  $\gamma$ - set of  $G^2$ , then  $D \cup H$ , where  $H \in N(D)$  and  $H \subseteq V(G^2) - D$  forms a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Further, since two vertices in  $G^2$  are joined which are at distance at most two, it follows that,

$$\left\lceil \frac{|D \cup H|}{2} \right\rceil \leq p - \Delta(G). \quad \text{Clearly,} \quad |D \cup \{u\}| - 1 \leq \frac{(p - |F|)}{2}. \quad \text{Therefore, } \gamma_t(T^2)$$

$$\left\lceil \frac{\gamma_t(G^2)}{2} \right\rceil \leq p - \Delta(G). \quad \leq \left\lceil \frac{p - m}{2} \right\rceil + 1.$$

Suppose  $G$  contains a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $\deg(v) < p - 1$ . Then in this case,  $\Delta(G) < p - 1$ . Further, since  $\text{diam}(G) \geq 3$ , we have  $\gamma_t(G^2) \geq 2$ . Clearly, it follows that

$$\left\lceil \frac{\gamma_t(G^2)}{2} \right\rceil < p - \Delta(G), \text{ a contradiction.}$$

Conversely, if  $G$  contains a vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $\deg(v) = p - 1$ . Then in this case,  $\Delta(G) = p - 1$ ,  $\text{diam}(G) \leq 2$ . Clearly, we have  $\gamma_t(G^2) = 2$  and hence  $\frac{\gamma_t(G^2)}{2} = p - \Delta(G)$ .

□

**Theorem 2.11.** If every non end vertex of a tree  $T$  is adjacent to at least one end vertex, then  $\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{p - m}{2} \right\rceil + 1$ , where  $m$  is the number of end vertices in  $T$ .

**Proof.** Let  $F = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$  be the set of all end vertices in  $T$  such that  $|F| = m$ . Now in  $G^2$ , since  $V(T) = V(T^2)$ , there exists a set  $D \subseteq V(T^2) - F$ , which covers all the vertices in  $T^2$ . Suppose the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolated vertex, then  $D$  itself is a minimal total dominating set of  $T^2$ . Otherwise, there exists at least one vertex  $u \notin D$  such that  $D \cup \{u\}$  forms minimal  $\gamma_t$ - set of  $T^2$ . Since every tree  $T$  contains at least two end vertices, it follows that

**Theorem 2.12.** For any connected  $(p, q)$ -graph  $G$  with  $p \geq 3$  vertices,

$$\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{(2q - p)}{3} \right\rceil + 1. \text{ Equality holds if } G \text{ is isomorphic to } P_4, P_5, K_3 \text{ or } K_{1,n} \text{ with } n \leq 4.$$

**Proof.** Let  $C = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k\}$  be the set of all non end vertices which are adjacent to the support vertices in  $G$ . Further let  $C' = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n\}$  be the set of vertices with  $\deg(u_i) \geq 2$  and  $u_i \neq v_j$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,

$1 \leq j \leq k$ . Now without loss of generality in  $G^2$ ,  $D = C \cup C_1'$ , where  $C_1' \subseteq C'$ , covers all the vertices in  $G^2$ .

Suppose the subgraph  $\langle D \rangle$  has no isolate, then  $D$  itself is a minimal total dominating set of  $G^2$ . Otherwise, there exists at least one vertex  $w \in V(G^2)$ , such that  $D \cup \{w\}$  forms a minimal  $\gamma_t$ - set of  $G^2$ . Clearly, it follows that

$$|D \cup \{w\}| \leq \left\lceil \frac{(2q - p)}{3} \right\rceil + 1. \quad \text{Therefore,}$$

$$\gamma_t(G^2) \leq \left\lceil \frac{(2q - p)}{3} \right\rceil + 1.$$

For the equality, suppose  $G$  is isomorphic to either  $P_4$  or  $P_5$  or  $K_3$  or  $K_{1,n}$  with  $n \leq 4$ . Then in this case,  $|D| = 2$  and  $(2q - p) \leq 3$ . Clearly, it follows that,  $\gamma_t(G^2) =$

$$\left\lceil \frac{(2q-p)}{3} \right\rceil + 1.$$

Finally, we give the Nordhaus – Gaddum type result.

**Theorem 2.13.** If  $G$  and  $\bar{G}$  are connected graphs with  $p$  - vertices, then

1.  $\gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma_t(\bar{G}^2) = 4 = \gamma_t(G^2) \cdot \gamma_t(\bar{G}^2)$   
for  $p \leq 3$ .
2.  $4 \leq \gamma_t(G^2) + \gamma_t(\bar{G}^2) \leq \frac{2p}{3} + 2$  and  
 $4 \leq \gamma_t(G^2) \cdot \gamma_t(\bar{G}^2) \leq \frac{4p}{5}$  for  $p \geq 4$ .

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