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**Abstract:** For a simple graph G = (V, E) with no isolated vertices, a total Roman {3}-dominating function(TR3DF) on *G* is a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  having the property that (i)  $\sum_{w \in N(v)} f(w) \ge 3$  if f(v) = 0; (ii)  $\sum_{w \in N(v)} f(w) \ge 2$  if f(v) = 1; and (iii) every vertex v with  $f(v) \neq 0$  has a neighbor u with  $f(u) \neq 0$  for every vertex  $v \in V(G)$ . The weight of a TR3DF f is the sum  $f(V) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$  and the minimum weight of a total Roman {3}-dominating function on *G* is called the total Roman {3}-domination number denoted by  $\gamma_{t\{R3\}}(G)$ . In this paper, we show that the total Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete for planar graphs and chordal bipartite graphs. Finally, we present a linear-time algorithm to compute the value of  $\gamma_{t\{R3\}}$  for trees.

Keywords: dominating set; total roman {3}-domination; NP-complete; linear-time algorithm

# 1. Introduction

Let G = (V, E) be a graph with vertex set V = V(G) and edge set E = E(G). For every vertex  $v \in V$ , the open neighborhood  $N_G(v) = N(v) = \{u \in V(G) : uv \in E(G)\}$ and the closed neighborhood  $N_G[v] = N[v] = N(v) \cup \{v\}$ . We denote the degree of vby  $d_G(v) = d(v) = |N_G(v)|$ . A vertex of degree one is called a leaf and its neighbor is a support vertex, and a support vertex is called a strong support if it is adjacent to at least two leaves. Let  $S_n$  be a star with order n. A tree T is an acyclic connected graph.  $G = (G_1 \cup G_2)$ is a union graph G such that  $V(G) = V(G_1) \cup V(G_2)$  and  $E(G) = E(G_1) \cup E(G_2)$ .

Given a graph *G* and a positive integer *k*, assume that  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, ..., k\}$  is a function, and suppose that  $(V_0, V_1, ..., V_k)$  is the ordered partition of *V* introduced by *f*, where  $V_i = \{v \in V(G) : f(v) = i\}$  for  $i \in \{0, 1, ..., k\}$ . Then we can write  $f = (V_0, V_1, ..., V_k)$  and  $\omega_f(V(G)) = \sum_{v \in V(G)} f(v)$  is the weight of a function *f* of *G*.

A subset S of a vertex set V(G) is a dominating set of G if for every vertex  $v \in V(G) \setminus S$ , there exists a vertex  $w \in S$  such that wv is an edge of G. The domination number of G denoted by  $\gamma(G)$  is the smallest cardinality of a dominating set S of G [1]. A function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  is called a dominating function(DF) on G if every vertex u with f(u) = 0has a vertex  $v \in N(u)$  such that f(v) = 1 [2]. The dominating set problem(DSP) is to find the domination number of G, which has been deeply and widely studied in recent years [3–7].

A subset S of a vertex set V(G) is a total dominating set of G if  $\bigcup_{v \in S} N(v) = V(G)$ . The total domination number of G denoted by  $\gamma_t(G)$  is the smallest cardinality of a total dominating set S of G [8]. The literature on the subject of total domination in graphs has been surveyed and provided in detail in a recent book [9]. Moreover, Michael A. Henning et al. presented a survey of selected recent results on total domination in graphs [10].

The mathematical concept of Roman domination is originally defined and discussed by Stewart et al. [11] and ReVelle et al. [12]. A Roman dominating function(RDF) on graph *G* is a function  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that every vertex  $v \in V(G)$  for which f(u) = 0is adjacent to at least one vertex *u* with f(u) = 2 [13]. The Roman domination number of



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**Copyright:** © 2021 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/). *G* is the minimum weight overall *RDF*s, denoted by  $\gamma_R(G)$  [14]. On the basis of Roman domination, signed Roman domination [15], double Roman domination [16] and total Roman domination [17] have been proposed recently.

The total Roman dominating function(TRDF) on *G* is an RDF *f* on *G* with an additional property that every vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $f(v) \neq 0$  has a neighbor *u* with  $f(u) \neq 0$ . Let  $\gamma_{tR}(G)$  denote the minimum weight of all TRDFs on *G*. A TRDF on *G* with weight  $\gamma_{tR}(G)$  is called a  $\gamma_{tR}(G)$ -function. The conception of TRDF was first defined by Hossein Ahangar et al. [18]. In addition, Nicolás Campanelli et al. studied the total Roman domination number of the lexicographic product of graphs [17] and Chloe Lampman et al. presented some basic results of Edge-Critical Graphs [19].

The Roman {2}-dominating function (also named Italian domination) f [20] introduced by Chellali et al. which is defined as follows:  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0,1,2\}$  has the property that  $\sum_{u \in N(v)} f(u) \ge 2$  for f(v) = 0 [21]. Chellali et al. proved that the Roman {2}-domination problem is NP-complete for bipartite graphs [21]. Hangdi Chen showed that the Roman {2}-domination problem is NP-complete for split graphs, and gave a linear-time algorithm for finding the minimum weight of Roman {2}-dominating function in block graphs [22]. As a generalization of Roman domination, Michael A. Henning et al. studied the relationship between Roman {2}-domination and dominating set parameters in trees [20].

A Roman {3}-dominating function(R{3}DF) f defined by Mojdeh et al. [23], which is defined as follows:  $f : V(G) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  has the property that for every vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $f(v) \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\sum_{u \in N(v)} f(u) \ge 3$ . Mojdeh et al. presented an upper bound on the Roman {3}-domination number of a connected graph G, characterized the graphs attaining upper bound and showed that the Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete, even restricted to bipartite graphs [23].

The total Roman {3}-domination [24] was studied recently. The total Roman {3}-dominating function(TR3DF) on a graph *G* is an R{3}DF on *G* with the additional property that every vertex  $v \in V(G)$  with  $f(v) \neq 0$  has a neighbor w with  $f(w) \neq 0$ . The minimum weight of a total Roman {3}-dominating function on *G* denoted by  $\gamma_{t{R3}}(G)$  is named the total Roman {3}-domination number of *G*. A  $\gamma_{t{R3}}(G)$ -function is a total Roman {3}-dominating function on *G* denoted by  $\gamma_{t{R3}}(G)$  is named the total Roman {3}-domination number of *G*. A  $\gamma_{t{R3}}(G)$ -function is a total Roman {3}-dominating function on *G* with weight  $\gamma_{t{R3}}(G)$ . Doost Ali Mojdeh et al. showed the relationship among total Roman {3}-domination, total domination, and total Roman {2}-domination parameters. They also presented an upper bound on the total Roman {3}-domination number of a connected graph *G* and characterized the graphs arriving this bound. Finally, they investigated that total Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete for bipartite graphs [24].

In this paper, we further investigate the complexity of total Roman {3}-domination in planar graphs and chordal bipartite graphs. Moreover, we give a linear-time algorithm to compute the  $\gamma_{t{R3}}$  for trees which answer the problem that it is possible to construct a polynomial algorithm for computing the number of total Roman {3}-domination for trees [24].

#### 2. Complexity

In this section, we study the complexity of total Roman {3}-domination of graph. We show that the total Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete for planar graphs and chordal bipartite graphs. Consider the following decision problem.

### Total Roman {3}-Domination Problem TR3DP.

**Instance:** Graph G = (V, E), and a positive integer *m*. **Question:** Does *G* have a total Roman {3}-function with weight at most *m*?

Please note that the dominating set problem is NP-complete for planar graphs [25] and chordal bipartite graphs [26]. We show the NP-completeness results by reducing the well-known NP-complete problem, dominating set, to TR3D.

Let *G* be a graph on n vertices. Let  $T_v$  be the tree with  $V(T_v) = \{v, v_a, v_b, v_c, v_d, v_e, v_f, v_p, v_q\}, E(T_v) = \{vv_a, v_av_c, v_cv_e, v_cv_f, vv_b, v_bv_d, v_dv_p, v_dv_q\}$ , as depicted in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** The tree  $T_v$ .

Let *G'* be the graph obtained by adding edges between  $v' \in T_{v'}$  and  $v'' \in T_{v''}$  if  $v'v'' \in E(G)$  from the union of the trees  $T_v$  for  $v \in V(G)$ . Please note that  $|V(G')| = n \times |V(T_v)| = 9n$  and  $|E(G')| = |E(G)| + n \times |E(T_v)| = |E(G)| + 8n$ .

**Lemma 1.** If *G* is a planar graph or chordal bipartite graph , so is *G*'.

**Lemma 2.** ([24]) Let  $S_n$  be a star with  $n \ge 3$ , then  $\gamma_{t\{R3\}}(S_n) = 4$ .

**Lemma 3.** Let g be a TR3DF of G. If v is a strong support vertex of G, then  $\omega_g(N[v]) \ge 4$ .

**Proof of Lemma 3.** Let  $v_1, v_2, ..., v_k$  be leaves of v with  $k \ge 2$ . Since  $g(N[v_i]) \ge 3$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ , we have  $g(v_i) \ge 3 - g(v)$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}$ . Then  $\omega_g(N[v]) = g(v) + \sum_{i \in \{1, 2, ..., k\}} g(v_i) \ge g(v) + g(v_1) + g(v_2) \ge 6 - g(v)$ . If  $g(v) \le 2$ , it is clear that  $\omega_g(N[v]) \ge 4$ . If g(v) = 3, there exists a vertex  $u \in N(v)$  with  $g(u) \ne 0$ . Then  $\omega_g(N[v]) \ge 4$ .  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 4.** If f is a DF of G with  $\omega_f(G) \leq \ell$ , then there exists a TR3DF g of G' with  $\omega_g(G') \leq \ell + 8n$ .

**Proof of Lemma 4.** For each  $v \in V(G)$ , we define g as follows:  $V(T_v) \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $g(v_a) = g(v_b) = 1$ ,  $g(v_c) = g(v_d) = 3$ , g(v) = f(v), g(x) = 0 otherwise. It is clear that g is a *TR3DF* of *G'*. Therefore we have that  $\omega_g(G') = \omega_f(G) + 8n \le \ell + 8n$ .  $\Box$ 

**Claim 1.** Let g be a TR3DF of G', then  $\omega_g(T'_v) \ge 8$ .

**Proof of Claim 1.** By Lemmas 2, 3 and definition, we have that  $\omega_g(N[v_c]) \ge 4$  and  $\omega_g(N[v_d]) \ge 4$ . Since  $N(v_c) \cap N(v_d) = \emptyset$ , then we can reduce  $\omega_g(T'_v) = \omega_g(N[v_c]) + \omega_g(N[v_d]) \ge 8$ .  $\Box$ 

**Claim 2.** If there exists a TR3DF h of G' with  $h(v_a) + h(v_b) \ge 3$  for  $v_a, v_b \in V(T_v)$ , then there exists a TR3DF g of G' such that  $\omega_g(G') \le \omega_h(G')$  and  $g(v_a) + g(v_b) \le 2$ .

**Proof of Claim 2.** By the definition of *TR3DF*, we have  $\omega_h(N[v_e]) \ge 3$  and  $\omega_h(N[v_p]) \ge 3$ , then we have  $\omega_h(T'_v) \ge 9$ .

If h(v) = 0, then we define  $g: V(G') \rightarrow \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  such that  $g(v_e) = g(v_f) = g(v_p) = g(v_q) = 0$ ,  $g(v) = g(v_a) = g(v_b) = 1$ ,  $g(v_c) = g(v_d) = 3$ , g(x) = h(x) otherwise, seeing Figure 2. Therefore g is a *TR3DF* of G' such that  $g(v_a) + g(v_b) \leq 2$  and  $\omega_g(G') = \omega_h(G')$ .

If  $h(v) \ge 1$ , then we define  $g: V(G') \to \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  such that  $g(v_e) = g(v_f) = g(v_p) = g(v_q) = 0$ ,  $g(v_a) = g(v_b) = 1$ ,  $g(v_c) = g(v_d) = 3$ , g(x) = h(x) otherwise. Therefore g is a *TR3DF* of G' such that  $g(v_a) + g(v_b) \le 2$  and  $\omega_g(G') \le \omega_h(G')$ .  $\Box$ 



Figure 2. Pre-labeling of *g*.

**Lemma 5.** If g is a TR3DF of G with  $\omega_g(G') \leq \ell + 8n$ , then there exists a DF f of G with  $\omega_f(G) \leq \ell$ .

**Proof of Lemma 5.** By Claim 2, w.l.o.g, let *g* be a *TR3DF* of *G'* with  $g(v_a) + g(v_b) \le 2$  for  $v_a, v_b \in V(T_v), v \in V(G)$ . Define  $f : V(G) \to \{0, 1\}$  such that f(v) = g(v) if  $g(v) \le 1$ , and f(v) = 1 if  $g(v) \ge 2$ . For each vertex  $v \in V(G)$ , since  $g(v_a) + g(v_b) \le 2$ , we have  $g(v) \ge 1$  or there exists a vertex  $u \in N(v) \cap V(G)$  such that  $g(u) \ge 1$ . Therefore *f* is *DSF* of *G* and  $\omega_f(G) \le \omega_g(G) - 8n \le \ell$  by Claim 1.  $\Box$ 

**Theorem 1.** By Lemmas 1, 4, 5, the total Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete for planar graphs and chordal bipartite graphs.

# 3. A Linear-Time Algorithm for Total Roman {3}-Domination in Trees

In this section, we present a linear-time algorithm to compute the minimum weight of total Roman  $\{3\}$ -dominating function for trees. First, we define the following concepts:

**Definition 1.** Let u be a vertex of G, and let  $F_{u,G}^{(i,j)}$  on G be a function  $f : V(G) \to \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  having the property that (i) f(u) = i,  $\sum_{w \in N(u)} f(w) \ge j$ ; (ii)  $\forall v \in V(G) \setminus \{u\}$ ,  $\sum_{p \in N[v]} f(p) \ge 3$  if  $f(v) \le 2$  and  $\sum_{p \in N(v)} f(p) \ge 1$  if f(v) = 3.

**Definition 2.** The minimum weight overall  $F_{u,G}^{(i,j)}$  functions on G denoted by  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u,G)$  is the  $F_{u,G}^{(i,j)}$  number of G, and a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u,G)$ -function is an  $F_{u,G}^{(i,j)}$  function on G with weight  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u,G)$ .

**Definition 3.** Let 
$$coil(x)$$
 be a function defined as follows:  $coil(x) = \begin{cases} x, x \ge 0; \\ 0, x < 0. \end{cases}$ 

**Lemma 6.** For any graph G with specific vertex u, we have

$$\gamma_{t\{R3\}}(G) = \min\{\gamma_{tR3}^{(0,3)}(u,G), \gamma_{tR3}^{(1,2)}(u,G), \gamma_{tR3}^{(2,1)}(u,G), \gamma_{tR3}^{(3,1)}(u,G)\}.$$

**Lemma 7.** Suppose  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are trees with specific vertices v and u, respectively. Let  $T_3$  be the tree with the specific vertex u, which is obtained by joining a new edge uv from the union of  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , as depicted in Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** *T*<sub>3</sub>.

Then the following statements hold for  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u, T_k)$ .

(*a*) For  $i = 0, j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , we have :

$$\begin{split} \gamma_{tR3}^{(0,j)}(u,T_3) &= \min\{\gamma_{tR3}^{(3,1)}(v,T_1) + \gamma_{tR3}^{(0,0)}(u,T_2),\\ &\min\{\gamma_{tR3}^{(s,3-s)}(v,T_1) + \gamma_{tR3}^{(0,coli(j-s))}(u,T_2)|s=0,1,2\}\} \end{split}$$

(*b*) For  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ , we have :

$$\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u,T_3) = min\{\gamma_{tR3}^{(s,coil(3-i-s))}(v,T_1) + \gamma_{tR3}^{(i,coil(j-s))}(u,T_2)|s=0,1,2,3\}$$

**Proof of Lemma 7.** Let  $V(T'_1) = V(T_1) \cup \{u\}$ ,  $E(T'_1) = E(T_1) \cup \{vu\}$ , f be a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u, G)$ -function of  $T_3$ , f' be the restriction of f on  $T'_1$  and f'' be the restriction of f on  $T_2$ .

(a) If f is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(0,j)}(u, T_3)$ -function on  $T_3$ , for  $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ . By the definition of  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u, G)$ -function, we have that if f(v) = 3, then  $\sum_{w \in N_{T_3 \setminus \{u\}}} f(w) \ge 1$ . It follows from the fact that f is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(0,j)}(u, G)$ -function of  $T_3$  if and only if  $f = f'' \cup f'$ , where at least one of followings holds: (i) f'' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(0,0)}(u, G)$ -function of  $T_2$ , f' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(3,1)}(v, T_1)$ -function of  $T_1$ ; (ii) f'' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(0,coil(j-s))}(u, G)$ -function of  $T_2$ , f' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(s,3-s)}(v, T_1)$ -function of  $T_1$ , for  $s \in \{0, 1, 2\}$ .

(b) It follows from the fact that f is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,j)}(u, T_3)$ -function of  $T_3$ , for  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ ,  $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  if and only if  $f = f'' \cup f'$ , where f'' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(i,coli(j-s))}(u, T_2)$ -function of  $T_2$  and f' is a  $\gamma_{tR3}^{(t,coil(3-i-s))}(v, T_1)$ -function of  $T_1$ , for  $s \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ .  $\Box$ 

Lemmas 6 and 7 give the following dynamic programming algorithm 1 for the total Roman {3}-domination problem in trees.

# **Algorithm 1** Counting $\gamma_{t\{R3\}}$ in trees.

**Input:** A tree *T* with a tree ordering  $[v_1, v_2, ..., v_n]$ . **Output:** the TR3D number  $\gamma_{t\{R3\}}(T)$  of *T*. 1 for p = 1 to n do for i = 0 to 3, j = 0 to 3 do 2 if *j*=0 then 3  $\gamma^{(i,j)}(v_p) \leftarrow i;$ 4 5  $\gamma^{(i,j)}(v_p) \leftarrow \infty;$ 6 7 for p = 1 to n - 1 do let  $v_q$  be the parent of  $v_p$ 8 for i = 0 to 3 and j = 0 to 3 do 9 if *i*=0 then 10 11 else 12  $| \gamma^{(i,j)}(v_q) = \min\{\gamma^{(s,coil(3-i-s))}(v_p) + \gamma^{(i,coil(j-s))}(v_q) | s = 0, 1, 2, 3\};$ 13 14 return  $min\{\gamma^{(0,3)}(v_n), \gamma^{(1,2)}(v_n), \gamma^{(2,1)}(v_n), \gamma^{(3,1)}(v_n)\}$ 

The total Roman {3}-domination problem was introduced and studied in [24], and it was proven to be NP-complete for bipartite graphs. In this paper, we prove that the total Roman {3}-domination problem is NP-complete for planar graphs or chordal bipartite graphs, and showed a linear-time algorithm for total Roman {3}-domination problem on trees. For the algorithmic aspects of the total Roman {3}-domination problem, designing exact algorithms or approximation algorithms on general graphs, or polynomial algorithms for total Roman {3}-domination problem on some special classes graphs deserve further research.

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#### Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this manuscript:

DF	Dominating function
DSP	Dominating set problem
TRDF	Total Roman dominating function
R3DF	Roman {3}-domination
TR3DF	Total Roman {3}-domination

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