

THE GENERALIZED TOTAL GRAPH OF MODULES  
RESPECT TO PROPER SUBMODULES OVER  
COMMUTATIVE RINGS

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ABSTRACT. Let  $M$  be a module over a commutative ring  $R$  and let  $N$  be a proper submodule of  $M$ . The total graph of  $M$  over  $R$  with respect to  $N$ , denoted by  $T(\Gamma_N(M))$ , have been introduced and studied in [2]. In this paper, A generalization of the total graph  $T(\Gamma_N(M))$ , denoted by  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is presented, where  $I$  is an ideal of  $R$ . It is the graph with all elements of  $M$  as vertices, and for distinct  $m, n \in M$ , the vertices  $m$  and  $n$  are adjacent if and only if  $m + n \in M(N, I)$ , where  $M(N, I) = \{m \in M : rm \in N + IM \text{ for some } r \in R - I\}$ . The main purpose of this paper is to extend the definitions and properties given in [2] and [12] to a more general case.

1. INTRODUCTION

Throughout of this paper  $R$  is a commutative ring with nonzero identity and  $M$  is a unitary  $R$ -module. Recently, there has been considerable attention in the work to associating graphs with algebraic structures (see [1],[5],[7] and [11] ). In [6], the notion of the total graph of a commutative ring  $T(\Gamma(R))$  was introduced. The vertices of this graph are all elements of  $R$  and two vertices  $x, y \in R$  are adjacent if and only if  $x + y \in Z(R)$  ( $Z(R)$  is the set of zero divisors of  $R$ ). The total torsion element graph of a module  $M$  over a commutative ring  $R$  denoted by  $T(\Gamma(M))$  was introduced by Ebrahimi Atani and Habibi in [12], as the graph with all elements of  $M$  as vertices, and two distinct vertices

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$x, y \in M$  are adjacent if and only if  $x + y \in T(M)$  ( $T(M)$  is the set of torsion elements of  $M$ ). Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and the ideal  $\{r \in R : rM \subseteq N\}$  will be denoted by  $(N : M)$ . Also for an element  $r \in R$ , the submodule  $\{m \in M : rm \in N\}$  will be denoted by  $(N :_M r)$ . In [2], Abbasi and Habibi introduced total graph of  $M$  respect to an arbitrary proper submodule  $N$ ; denoted by  $T(\Gamma_N(M))$ . The vertex set of  $T(\Gamma_N(M))$  is  $M$  and two distinct vertices  $m, n \in M$  are adjacent if and only if  $m + n \in M(N)$ , where  $M(N) = \{m \in M : rm \in N \text{ for some } r \in R - (N : M)\}$ . A proper submodule  $N$  of  $M$  is said to be a prime submodule if whenever  $rm \in N$  for some  $r \in R$  and  $m \in M$ , then either  $m \in N$  or  $r \in (N : M)$ . It is clear to see that if  $N$  is a prime submodule of  $M$ , then  $P = (N : M)$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  and  $N$  is said to be a  $P$ -prime submodule. Now, let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$ . Then  $S(I)$  is the set of all elements of  $R$  that are not prime to  $I$ ; i.e.,  $S(I) = \{a \in R : ra \in I \text{ for some } r \in R - I\}$ . It is clear that  $S(P) = P$  for every prime ideal  $P$  of  $R$ . We define  $M(N, I) = \{m \in M : rm \in N + IM \text{ for some } r \in R - I\}$ . Since  $IM + N \subseteq M$ , then  $M(N, I)$  is not empty.  $M(N, I)$  is not necessarily a submodule of  $M$  (not always closed under addition, see Example 2.2), but it is clear that if  $r \in R$  and  $x \in M(N, I)$ , then  $rx \in M(N, I)$ . It is easy to see that  $T(M) = M(0, 0)$  and  $M(N, I) = M(N)$  for every ideal  $I \subseteq (N : M)$ .

In the present paper, we introduce and investigate the generalized total graph of  $M$  respect to a submodule, denoted by  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ , as a (undirected) graph with all elements of  $M$  as vertices, and for distinct  $m, n \in M$ , the vertices  $m$  and  $n$  are adjacent if and only if  $m+n \in M(N, I)$ . It is easy to check that  $T(\Gamma_N(M)) = T(\Gamma_{N,(N:M)}(M))$  and  $T(\Gamma(M)) = T(\Gamma_{0,0}(M))$ . So by this definition, we can extend the definitions and the results of graphs expressed in [2] and [12].

Let  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  be the (induced) subgraph of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  with vertex set  $M(N, I)$ , and let  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  be the (induced) subgraph  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  with vertices consisting of  $M - M(N, I)$ .

The study of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  breaks naturally into two cases depending on whether or not  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . In the second section, we obtain some properties concerning  $M(N, I)$ . In the third section, we handle the case when  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ ; in fourth section, we do the case when  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . For every case, we characterize the girths and diameters of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ ,  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .

We begin with some notation and definitions. For a graph  $\Gamma$ , by  $E(\Gamma)$  and  $V(\Gamma)$ , we mean the set of all edges and vertices, respectively. We

recall that a graph is connected if there exists a path connecting any two of its distinct vertices. At the other extreme, we say that a graph is totally disconnected if no two vertices of this graph are adjacent. The distance between two distinct vertices  $a$  and  $b$ , denoted by  $d(a, b)$ , is the length of a shortest path connecting them (if such a path does not exist, then  $d(a, b) = \infty$ ). We also define  $d(a, a) = 0$ . The diameter of a graph  $\Gamma$ , denoted by  $\text{diam}(\Gamma)$ , is equal to  $\sup\{d(a, b) : a, b \in V(\Gamma)\}$ . A graph is complete if it is connected with diameter less than or equal to one. The girth of a graph  $\Gamma$ , denoted  $\text{gr}(\Gamma)$ , is the length of a shortest cycle in  $\Gamma$ , provided  $\Gamma$  contains a cycle; otherwise,  $\text{gr}(\Gamma) = \infty$ . We denote the complete graph on  $n$  vertices by  $K^n$  and the complete bipartite graph on  $m$  and  $n$  vertices by  $K^{m,n}$  (we allow  $m$  and  $n$  to be infinite cardinals). We will sometimes call a  $K^{1,m}$  a star graph. For a graph  $\Gamma$ , the degree of a vertex  $v$  in  $\Gamma$ , denoted  $\text{deg}(v)$ , is the number of edges of  $\Gamma$  incident with  $v$ . For a nonnegative integer  $k$ , a graph is called  $k$ -regular if every vertex has degree  $k$ . We say that two (induced) subgraphs  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  of  $\Gamma$  are disjoint if  $\Gamma_1$  and  $\Gamma_2$  have no common vertices and no vertices of  $\Gamma_1$  is adjacent (in  $\Gamma$ ) to some vertex of  $\Gamma_2$ .

## 2. SOME PROPERTIES OF $M(N, I)$

In this section we list some basic properties concerning  $M(N, I)$  where  $N$  is a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and  $I$  is a proper ideal of  $R$ . We show that  $M(N, I)$  is a union of prime submodules of  $M$ . We have the following remark by [10, 2.2 and 2.7].

*Remark 2.1.* Let  $N, L$  be proper submodules of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I, P$  be proper ideals of  $R$ .

- (1) If  $N \subseteq IM$ , then  $M(N, I) = M(0, I) = M(IM)$ . In particular, if  $N, L \subseteq IM$ , then  $M(N, I) = M(L, I)$ .
- (2) If  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  and  $M(N, I) \subseteq M(N, P) \neq M$ , then  $I \subseteq P$ .
- (3) If  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ , then  $N$  is a  $P$ -prime submodule of  $M$  if and only if  $M = M(N, P)$ .
- (4) If  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $R$  and  $M(N, P) \neq M$ , then  $M(N, P)$  is a  $P$ -prime submodule of  $M$  and is the intersection of all  $P$ -prime submodules of  $M$  containing  $N$ .

The following examples show that if  $N$  is a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and  $I$  is a proper ideal of  $R$ , then  $M(N, I)$  is not necessarily a proper submodule of  $M$ .

**Example 2.2.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $M = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $N = 4\mathbb{Z} \times 7\mathbb{Z}$  and  $I = 28\mathbb{Z}$ . It is clear that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ , since  $(1, 0), (0, 1) \in M(N, I)$  but  $(1, 1) \notin M(N, I)$ .

**Example 2.3.** Let  $R = Z_{12}$ ,  $M = Z_6$ .

(a) If  $N = 2Z_6$  and  $I = 3Z_{12}$ . Then  $M(N, I) = IM + N = M$ .

(b) If  $N = 3Z_6$  and  $I = 6Z_{12}$ . Then  $IM = 0$  and since  $3\bar{1} \in N$  and  $3 \notin I$ , so  $\bar{1} \in M(N, I)$ . Thus  $M(N, I) = M$ .

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$ . If  $M(N, I)$  is a proper submodule of  $M$ , then  $M(N, I)$  is an  $S(I)$ -prime submodule of  $M$ . Moreover,  $r \in S(I)$  if and only if  $rm \in M(N, I)$  for every  $m \in M$ .*

*Proof.* We first show that  $(M(N, I) : M) = S(I)$ . Let  $r \in (M(N, I) : M)$ . Then  $rM \subseteq M(N, I)$ . Suppose that  $m \in M - M(N, I)$ , so  $rm \in M(N, I)$  and  $srM \in N + IM$  for some  $s \in R - I$ . Thus  $rs \notin R - I$  since  $m \notin M(N, I)$ . Therefore  $rs \in I$  and so  $r \in S(I)$ . Conversely, assume that  $t \in S(I)$ . So  $tr \in I$  for some  $r \in R - I$ . If  $m \in M$ , then  $r(tm) = (rt)m \in IM \subseteq IM + N$ . This implies that  $tm \in M(N, I)$  for every  $m \in M$ . Thus  $t \in (M(N, I) : M)$ .

Now, let  $rm \in M(N, I)$  for some  $r \in R$  and  $m \in M$  such that  $m \notin M(N, I)$ . The above argument shows that  $tr \in I$  for some  $t \in R - I$ . Therefore  $r \in S(I) = (M(N, I) : M)$ . The "moreover" statement follows directly from the above arguments.  $\square$

Recall that if  $M \neq T(M)$ , then  $T(M)$  is a union of prime submodules ([4, 3.3]). Now, we have the following theorem by the similar method in [4, 3.3].

**Theorem 2.5.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  with  $M \neq M(N, I)$ . Then  $M(N, I)$  is a union of prime submodules of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x \in M(N, I)$ . Set  $S_x = \{L : L \text{ is a submodule of } M, x \in L \subseteq M(N, I), \text{ and } L = \bigcup (IM + N :_M r_\lambda) \text{ for some } \{r_\lambda\} \subseteq R\}$ . Assume that  $rx \in IM + N$  for some  $r \in R - I$ . So  $x \in (IM + N :_M r)$ , then  $S_x \neq \emptyset$ . Partially order  $S_x$  by inclusion. By Zorn's Lemma,  $S_x$  has a maximal element  $L_x$ . It suffices to show that  $L_x$  is a prime submodule.

Let  $L_x = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (IM + N :_M r_\lambda)$  and let  $rm \in L_x$  with  $m \notin L_x$ . If  $rr_\lambda \in R - I$  for every  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , then  $(IM + N :_M r_\lambda) \subseteq (IM + N :_M rr_\lambda)$ . Hence  $L_x \subseteq L'_x = \bigcup_{\lambda \in \Lambda} (IM + N :_M rr_\lambda)$ . Now, let  $m_1, m_2 \in L'_x$ . Then  $m_i \in (IM + N :_M rr_{\lambda_i})$  for  $i = 1, 2$ . So  $rm_i \in (IM + N :_M r_{\lambda_i}) \subseteq L_x$  and hence  $rm_1 + rm_2 \in L_x$ . Thus  $rm_1 + rm_2 \in (IM + N :_M r_\eta)$

for some  $\eta \in \Lambda$ ; so  $m_1 + m_2 \in (IM + N :_M rr_\eta) \subseteq L'_x$ . It is clear that  $L'_x$  is closed under scalar product, so  $L'_x$  is a submodule of  $M$  with  $L'_x \subseteq M(N, I)$ . Thus by maximality of  $L_x$ ,  $L_x = L'_x$ . Since  $rm \in L_x$ , so  $rm \in (IM + N :_M r_\alpha)$  for some  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Hence  $m \in (IM + N :_M rr_\alpha) \subseteq L'_x = L_x$ ; a contradiction. So  $rr_\lambda \in I$  for some  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ . Then  $rr_\lambda M \subseteq IM$  and hence  $rM \subseteq (IM + N :_M r_\lambda) \subseteq L_x$ . So  $M(N, I) = \bigcup_{x \in M(N, I)} L_x$  is a union of prime submodules.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.6.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  with  $M \neq M(N, I)$  and  $M \neq T(M)$ . If  $R$  is not an integral domain and  $L_1 \cap L_2 = 0$  for some prime submodules  $L_1, L_2 \subseteq M(N, I)$ , then either  $P \cap L_1 \neq 0$  or  $P \cap L_2 \neq 0$  for every prime submodule  $P$  of  $M$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L_1$  be a  $P_1$ -prime submodule and  $L_2$  be a  $P_2$ -prime submodule of  $M$ . So  $P_1, P_2 \neq 0$ , since  $R$  is not an integral domain. Therefore  $P_1 P_2 M \subseteq P_1 M \cap P_2 M \subseteq L_1 \cap L_2 = 0$ . Thus  $P_1 P_2 M = 0 \subseteq P$ . This implies that either  $P_1 M \subseteq P$  or  $P_2 M \subseteq P$ , since  $P$  is a prime submodule of  $M$ . Hence either  $0 \neq P_1 M \subseteq P \cap L_1$  or  $0 \neq P_2 M \subseteq P \cap L_2$ , since  $M \neq T(M)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.7.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $P$  be a prime ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, P) \neq M$ . Then for every multiplicatively closed subset  $S$  of  $R$  with  $S \cap P \neq \emptyset$ ,  $S^{-1}(M(N, P)) = S^{-1}M(S^{-1}N, S^{-1}P)$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $m/s \in S^{-1}M(S^{-1}N, S^{-1}P)$  for some  $m \in M$  and  $s \in S$ . So there exists  $r/t \in S^{-1}R - S^{-1}P$  such that  $rm/st \in (S^{-1}P)(S^{-1}M) + S^{-1}N = S^{-1}(PM + N)$ . Thus  $rm/st = x/s'$  for some  $x \in PM + N$  and  $s' \in S$ . Hence  $s''s'rm = s''stx$  for some  $s'' \in S$ . Since  $P$  is a prime ideal of  $R$ , so  $s''s' \notin P$ , then  $rm \in M(N, P)$  by definition. So  $m \in M(N, P)$  since  $r \notin P$  and  $M(N, P)$  is a  $P$ -prime submodule of  $M$  by [10, 2.2]. Conversely, let  $m/s \in S^{-1}(M(N, P))$  for some  $m \in M(N, P)$  and  $s \in S$ . Thus  $tm \in PM + N$  for some  $t \in R - P$ . Then  $t/1 \in S^{-1}R - S^{-1}P$  and  $(t/1)(m/s) = tm/s \in S^{-1}(PM + N) = (S^{-1}P)(S^{-1}M) + S^{-1}N$ . Hence  $m/s \in S^{-1}M(S^{-1}N, S^{-1}P)$ .  $\square$

### 3. THE CASE WHEN $M(N, I)$ IS A SUBMODULE OF $M$

In this section, we study the case when  $M(N, I)$  a submodule of  $M$  (i.e when  $M(N, I)$  is closed under addition). It is clear that if  $M(N, I) = M$ , then  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  is a complete graph. Thus, in this section we suppose that  $M(N, I) \neq M$ . So if  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ , then  $M(N, I)$  is actually a prime submodule of  $M$  by Proposition

**2.4.** We denote  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  the (induced) subgraphs of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  with vertices in  $M(N, I)$  and  $M - M(N, I)$  respectively.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then:*

- (1)  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a complete (induced) subgraph of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and it is disjoint from  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .
- (2) If  $0 \neq IM + N \subsetneq M(N, I)$ , then  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$ .

*Proof.* (1) It is clear by definition that for all  $m, n \in M(N, I)$ , we have  $m + n \in M(N, I)$ ; since  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Thus  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a complete (induced) subgraph of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Now, suppose that  $x \in M(N, I)$  and  $y \in M - M(N, I)$ . If  $x$  and  $y$  are adjacent, then  $x + y \in M(N, I)$  which is a contradiction.

(2) Let  $0 \neq x \in IM + N$  and  $y \in M(N, I) - (IM + N)$ . Then  $0 - x - y - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.2.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .*

- (1) Assume that  $G$  is an induced subgraph of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and let  $m$  and  $m'$  be distinct vertices of  $G$  which are connected by a path in  $G$ . Then there exists a path in  $G$  of length at most 2 between  $m$  and  $m'$ . In particular, if  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected, then  $diam(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2$ .
- (2) Let  $m$  and  $m'$  be distinct elements of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  that are connected by a path. If  $m$  and  $m'$  are not adjacent, then  $m - (-m) - m'$  and  $m - (-m') - m'$  are paths of length 2 between  $m$  and  $m'$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .

*Proof.* (1) It suffices to show that if  $m_1, m_2, m_3$  and  $m_4$  are distinct vertices of subgraph  $G$  and there is a path  $m_1 - m_2 - m_3 - m_4$  from  $m_1$  to  $m_4$ , then  $m_1$  and  $m_4$  are adjacent. So  $m_1 + m_2, m_2 + m_3, m_3 + m_4 \in M(N, I)$  gives  $m_1 + m_4 = (m_1 + m_2) - (m_2 + m_3) + (m_3 + m_4) \in M(N, I)$ ; since  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Thus  $m_1$  and  $m_4$  are adjacent. So if  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected, then  $diam(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2$ .

(2) Since  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$ , then there exists  $x \in M - M(N, I)$  such that  $m - x - m'$  is a path of length 2 by part (1) above. Thus  $m + x, x + m' \in M(N, I)$ . Thus  $m - m' = (m + x) - (x + m') \in M(N, I)$ . Also  $m \neq -m$  and  $m' \neq -m'$ ; since  $m, m + m' \notin M(N, I)$ . Thus  $m - (-m) - m'$  and  $m - (-m') - m'$  are paths of length 2 between  $m$  and  $m'$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected.  
(2) Either  $m + m' \in M(N, I)$  or  $m - m' \in M(N, I)$  for all  $m, m' \in M - M(N, I)$ .  
(3) Either  $m + m' \in M(N, I)$  or  $m + 2m' \in M(N, I)$  for all  $m, m' \in M - M(N, I)$ .  
In particular, either  $2m \in M(N, I)$  or  $3m \in M(N, I)$  (but not both) for all  $m \in M - M(N, I)$ .

*Proof.* (1)  $\Rightarrow$  (2) Assume that there exist  $m, m' \in M - M(N, I)$  such that  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$ . If  $m = m'$ , then  $m - m' \in M(N, I)$ . Otherwise  $m - (-m') - m'$  is a path from  $m$  to  $m'$  by Theorem 3.2 (2), and hence  $m - m' \in M(N, I)$ .

(2)  $\Rightarrow$  (3) Assume that  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$  for some  $m, m' \in M - M(N, I)$ . Since  $(m + m') - m' = m \notin M(N, I)$ , so  $m + 2m' = (m + m') + m' \in M(N, I)$  by assumption. In particular, if  $m \in M - M(N, I)$  then either  $2m \in M(N, I)$  or  $3m \in M(N, I)$ .

(3)  $\Rightarrow$  (1) Let  $m, m' \in M - M(N, I)$  be distinct elements of  $M$  such that  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$ . Then  $m + 2m' \in M(N, I)$  by assumption, so  $2m' \notin M(N, I)$  since  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Hence  $3m' \in M(N, I)$  by hypothesis. Since  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$  and  $3m' \in M(N, I)$ , we conclude that  $m \neq 2m'$ , and so  $m - 2m' - m'$  is a path from  $m$  to  $m'$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  as required.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . If  $|M(N, I)| = \alpha$  and  $|M/M(N, I)| = \beta$  (we allow  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  to be infinite), then:*

- (1) *If  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a disjoint union of  $\beta - 1$  copies of  $K^\alpha$ .*  
(2) *If  $2 \notin S(I)$ , then  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a disjoint union of  $(\beta - 1)/2$  copies of  $K^{\alpha, \alpha}$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Suppose that  $2 \in S(I)$  and  $x \in M - M(N, I)$ . So  $2x \in M(N, I)$  by Proposition 2.4. Since  $(x + m_1) + (x + m_2) = 2x + (m_1 + m_2) \in M(N, I)$  for all  $m_1, m_2 \in M(N, I)$ , so each coset  $x + M(N, I)$  induces a complete subgraph of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Now, we show that distinct cosets form disjoint subgraphs of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . If  $x + m_1$  and  $y + m_2$  are adjacent for some  $m_1, m_2 \in M - M(N, I)$  and  $x, y \in M(N, I)$ , then  $m_1 + m_2 = (x + m_1) + (y + m_2) - (x + y) \in M(N, I)$  and hence  $m_1 - m_2 = (m_1 + m_2) - 2m_1 \in M(N, I)$ , by Proposition 2.4 and since  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . So  $m_1 + M(N, I) = m_2 + M(N, I)$  a contradiction. Thus  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a union of  $\beta - 1$  disjoint (induced) subgraphs  $m + M(N, I)$ , each of which is a  $K^\alpha$ , where  $\alpha = |M(N, I)| =$

$|m + M(N, I)|$ .

(2) Let  $m \in M - M(N, I)$  and  $2 \notin S(I)$ . Then no two distinct elements in  $m + M(N, I)$  are adjacent. Otherwise,  $(m + x) + (m + y) \in M(N, I)$  for some  $x, y \in M(N, I)$ . This implies that  $2m \in M(N, I)$ . So  $2 \in S(I)$  by Proposition 2.4, a contradiction. Also, the two cosets  $m + M(N, I)$  and  $-m + M(N, I)$  are adjacent. So  $(m + M(N, I)) \cup (-m + M(N, I))$  is a complete bipartite subgraph of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . If  $x + m_1$  is adjacent to  $y + m_2$  for some  $x, y \in M - M(N, I)$  and  $m_1, m_2 \in M(N, I)$ , then  $x + y \in M(N, I)$  and so  $x + M(N, I) = -y + M(N, I)$ . Thus  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a union of  $(\beta - 1)/2$  disjoint (induced) subgraphs  $(m + M(N, I)) \cup (-m + M(N, I))$ , each of which is a  $K^{\alpha, \alpha}$ , where  $\alpha = |M(N, I)| = |m + M(N, I)|$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.5.** Let  $R = Z_{18}$ ,  $M = R$ .

- (a) If  $N = \overline{6}Z_{18}$  and  $I = \overline{2}Z_{18}$ , then  $M(N, I) = IM + N = 2Z_{18}$  and  $2 \in S(I) = I$  implies that  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is the complete graph  $K^9$ . ( $\alpha = 9, \beta = 2$ )
- (b) If  $N = \overline{6}Z_{18}$  and  $I = \overline{3}Z_{18}$ , then  $M(N, I) = IM + N = \overline{3}Z_{18}$  and  $2 \notin S(I) = I$  implies that  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is the complete bipartite graph  $K^{6,6}$ . ( $\alpha = 6, \beta = 3$ )

**Theorem 3.6.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then*

- (1)  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is complete if and only if  $|M/M(N, I)| = 2$  or  $|M| = |M/M(N, I)| = 3$ .
- (2)  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected if and only if  $|M/M(N, I)| = 2$  or  $|M/M(N, I)| = 3$ .
- (3)  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  (and hence  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ ) are totally disconnected if and only if  $M(N, I) = \{0\}$  and  $2 \in S(I)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $|M(N, I)| = \alpha$  and  $|M/M(N, I)| = \beta$ .

(1) Let  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  be a complete graph. Then  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a single graph  $K^\alpha$  or  $K^{1,1}$  by Theorem 3.4. If  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $\beta - 1 = 1$ . Thus  $\beta = 2$  and hence  $|M/M(N, I)| = 2$ . If  $2 \notin S(I)$ , then  $\alpha = 1$  and  $(\beta - 1)/2 = 1$ . Thus  $M(N, I) = N + IM = \{0\}$  and  $\beta = 3$ ; hence  $|M| = |M/M(N, I)| = 3$ . Conversely, first suppose that  $M/M(N, I) = \{M(N, I), x + M(N, I)\}$ , where  $x \notin M(N, I)$ . Then  $x + M(N, I) = -x + M(N, I)$  gives  $2x \in M(N, I)$ . Hence there exists  $r \in R - I$  such that  $(2r)m \in IM + N$ . Since  $m \notin M(N, I)$ , then  $2r \in I$  and hence  $2 \in S(I)$ . So,  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a single graph  $K^\alpha$ . Assume that  $|M| = |M/M(N, I)| = 3$ ; If  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $2 \in S(I) = (M(N, I) : M)$  by Proposition 2.4. This implies that  $2 \in (0 : M)$  which is a contradiction



since  $M$  is a cyclic group of order 3.

(2) Let  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  be a connected graph. Then  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a single  $K^\alpha$  or  $K^{\alpha,\alpha}$  by Theorem 3.4. If  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $\beta - 1 = 1$ . So  $|M/M(N,I)| = \beta = 2$ . If  $2 \notin S(I)$ , then  $(\beta - 1)/2 = 1$  gives  $\beta = 3$ , so  $|M/M(N,I)| = \beta = 3$ . Conversely, by part (1) above, we may assume that  $|M/M(N,I)| = 3$ . If  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $2 \in (M(N,I) : M)$  by Proposition 2.4. Now, suppose that  $M/M(N,I) = \{M(N,I), x + M(N,I), y + M(N,I)\}$ , where  $x, y \in M - M(N,I)$ . Since  $M/M(N,I)$  is a cyclic group of order 3, we have  $(x + M(N,I)) + (x + M(N,I)) = y + M(N,I)$ . Thus  $2x - y \in M(N,I)$ ; hence  $y \in M(N,I)$  ( $2x \in M(N,I)$ ), a contradiction. So  $2 \notin S(I)$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a single graph  $K^{\alpha,\alpha}$  by Theorem 3.4.

(3)  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is totally disconnected if and only if it is a disjoint union of  $K^1$ 's. By Theorem 3.4,  $2 \in S(I)$  and  $|M(N,I)| = 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.7.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N,I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 0, 1, 2$  or  $\infty$ . In particular, if  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected, then  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2$ .*

*Proof.* Assume that  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a connected subgraph of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Then  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a singleton, a complete graph, or a complete bipartite graph by Theorem 3.4. Thus  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2$ .  $\square$

Now, we have the following theorem that gives a more explicit description of the diameter of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  by Theorem 3.4 and Theorem 3.6.

**Theorem 3.8.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N,I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .*

- (1)  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 0$  if and only if  $M(N,I) = \{0\}$  and  $|M| = 2$ .
- (2)  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 1$  if and only if either  $M(N,I) \neq \{0\}$  and  $|M/M(N,I)| = 2$  or  $M(N,I) = \{0\}$  and  $|M| = 3$ .
- (3)  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 2$  if and only if  $M(N,I) \neq \{0\}$  and  $|M/M(N,I)| = 3$ .
- (4) Otherwise,  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ .

**Proposition 3.9.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N,I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ . Then  $\text{gr}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3, 4$  or  $\infty$ . In particular,  $\text{gr}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 4$  if  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  contains a cycle.*

*Proof.* Let  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  contains a cycle. Since  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is disjoint union of either complete or complete bipartite graphs by Theorem 3.4,

thus it contains either a 3-cycle or 4-cycle. So  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 4$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .*

- (1) (a)  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  if and only if  $2 \in S(I)$  and  $|M(N, I)| \geq 3$ .
- (b)  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 4$  if and only if  $2 \notin S(I)$  and  $|M(N, I)| \geq 2$ .
- (c) Otherwise,  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ .
- (2) (a)  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  if and only if  $|M(N, I)| \geq 3$ .
- (b)  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 4$  if and only if  $2 \notin S(I)$  and  $|M(N, I)| = 2$ .
- (c) Otherwise  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ .

*Proof.* Apply Theorem 3.4, Proposition 3.9 and Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

#### 4. THE CASE WHEN $M(N, I)$ IS NOT A SUBMODULE OF $M$

The aim of this section is to determine when  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected and we compute  $diam(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M)))$ . We first show that the subgraphs  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  are not disjoint, when  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . Then*

- (1)  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected with  $diam(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 2$ .
- (2) Some vertex of  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is adjacent to a vertex of  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . In particular, the subgraphs  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  are not disjoint.
- (3) If  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected, then  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected.

*Proof.* (1) Let  $x \in M(N, I)$  be a nonzero element. Then  $x$  is adjacent to 0. So  $x - 0 - x'$  is a path in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  between any two nonzero distinct elements  $x, x' \in M(N, I)$ . Since  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ , so  $|M(N, I)| \geq 3$ . Thus there exist nonadjacent vertices  $x, x' \in M(N, I)$ . So  $diam(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 2$ .

(2) Since  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ , so there exists nonzero elements  $x, x' \in M(N, I)$  such that  $x + x' \notin M(N, I)$ . Then  $-x \in M(N, I)$  and  $x + x' \in M - M(N, I)$  are adjacent vertices in  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ , since  $-x + (x + x') = x' \in M(N, I)$ . The "in particular" statement is clear.

(3) Since  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  are connected and there is an edge between  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  and  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ , then there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$  for every element  $x, y \in M$ . Thus  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . Then  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  is connected if and only if  $M = \langle M(N, I) \rangle$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  is connected, and let  $m \in M$ . Then there is a path  $0 - m_1 - m_2 - \dots - m_n - m$  from 0 to  $m$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$ . So  $m_1, m_1 + m_2, \dots, m_{n-1} + m_n, m_n + m \in M(N, I)$ . Hence  $m \in \langle m_1, m_1 + m_2, \dots, m_{n-1} + m_n, m_n + m \rangle \subseteq \langle M(N, I) \rangle$ ; so  $M = \langle M(N, I) \rangle$ . Conversely, suppose that  $M = \langle M(N, I) \rangle$ . We first show that there is a path from 0 to  $x$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  for any  $0 \neq x \in M$ . By hypothesis,  $x = m_1 + m_2 + \dots + m_n$  for some  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M(N, I)$ . Let  $x_0 = 0$  and  $x_k = (-1)^{n+k}(m_1 + \dots + m_k)$  for each integer  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n$ . Then  $x_k + x_{k+1} = (-1)^{n+k+1}m_{k+1} \in M(N, I)$  for each  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$ , and thus  $0 - x_1 - x_2 - \dots - x_{n-1} - x_n = x$  is a path from 0 to  $x$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  of length at most  $n$ . Now, let  $0 \neq x, y \in M$ . Then by the preceding argument, there are paths from  $x$  to 0 and 0 to  $y$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$ . Hence there is a path from  $x$  to  $y$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$ ; so  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  is connected.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . Assume that  $n \geq 2$  be the least integer such that  $M = \langle m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \rangle$  for some  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M(N, I)$  (that is,  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  is connected), then:*

- (1) *If  $n$  is an even integer, then  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))) \leq n$ .*
- (2) *If  $n$  is an odd integer, then  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))) \leq n + 1$ .*
- (3) *If  $M$  is a cyclic  $R$ -module, then  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))) \in \{n, n + 1\}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x$  and  $x'$  be distinct elements of  $M$ . By assumption,  $x = \sum_{i=1}^n r_i m_i$  and  $x' = \sum_{i=1}^n r'_i m_i$  for some  $r_i, r'_i \in R$ .

(1) Let  $n$  be an even integer. Define  $x_0 = x$ ,  $x_n = x'$  and for each integer  $k$  with  $1 \leq k \leq n-1$ ,  $x_k = (-1)^k(\sum_{i=k+1}^n r_i m_i + \sum_{i=1}^k r'_i m_i)$ . So  $x_k + x_{k+1} = (-1)^k m_{k+1}(r_{k+1} - r'_{k+1}) \in M(N, I)$  for each integer  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$ . Then  $x - x_1 - \dots - x_{n-1} - x'$  is a path from  $x$  to  $x'$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  with length at most  $n$ .

(2) Let  $n$  be an odd integer. If  $x' = -x'$ , then we have a path similar to the case (1) above. So we may assume that  $x' \neq -x'$ . If  $x = -x'$ , then the edge  $x - x'$  exists, otherwise we define  $x_k$  similar to case (1) above for each integer  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$ ,  $x_n = -x'$  and  $x_{n+1} = x'$ . So  $x_k + x_{k+1} = (-1)^k m_{k+1}(r_{k+1} - r'_{k+1}) \in M(N, I)$  for each integer  $k$  with  $0 \leq k \leq n-1$  and there is a path  $x - x_1 - \dots - x_{n+1}(= x')$  from  $x$  to  $x'$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N, I}(M))$  with length at most  $n + 1$ .

(3) Suppose that  $M$  is a cyclic module with generator  $m$ . Let  $0 - y_1 -$

$\dots - y_{k-1} - m$  be a path from 0 to  $m$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  of length  $k$ . Thus  $y_1, y_1 + y_2, \dots, y_{k-1} + m \in M(N, I)$ , hence  $m \in \langle y_1, y_1 + y_2, \dots, y_{k-1} + m \rangle \subseteq \langle M(N, I) \rangle$ . Then  $k \geq n$  and the proof is complete.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . Assume that  $n \geq 2$  be the least integer such that  $M = \langle m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \rangle$  for some  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M(N, I)$  and  $M$  be a cyclic  $R$ -module with generator  $m$ . Then*

- (1)  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \in \{d(0, m), d(0, m) - 1\}$ .
- (2) If  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = n$ , then  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \geq n - 2$ .
- (3) If  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = n + 1$ , then  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \geq n - 1$ .

*Proof.* (1) This follows from Theorem 4.3.

(2) Suppose that  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = n$ . Since  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \in \{d(0, m), d(0, m) - 1\}$  by part (1) above, so let  $0 - x_1 - \dots - x_{n-1} - m$  be a shortest path from 0 to  $m$  in  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Then  $x_1 \in M(N, I)$ . If  $x_i \in M(N, I)$  for some  $2 \leq i \leq n-1$ , then  $0 - x_i - x_{i+1} - \dots - x_{n-1} - m$  is a path from 0 to  $m$  whose length is less than  $n$ , a contradiction. So  $x_i \in M - M(N, I)$  for each  $2 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Hence  $x_2 - \dots - x_{n-1} - m$  is a shortest path from  $x_2$  to  $m$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  of length  $n - 2$ . So  $\text{diam}(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \geq n - 2$ .

(3) The proof is similar to part (2) above.  $\square$

Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$ . Recall that two submodules  $L$  and  $K$  of  $M$  are called co-maximal if  $M = L + K$ . Note that if proper subset  $M(N, I)$  of  $M$  contains two co-maximal submodules of  $M$ , then  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ .

**Theorem 4.5.** *Let  $M$  be a finitely generated  $R$ -module and  $n \geq 2$  be the least integer that  $M = \langle m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \rangle$  for some  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$ . Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  contains two co-maximal submodules of  $M$ . Then  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2n$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L, K \subseteq M(N, I)$  be co-maximal submodules of  $M$ . Then  $M = L + K$ ; so  $m_i = x_i + y_i$  for some  $x_i \in L$  and  $y_i \in K$  for every  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . Hence  $M = \langle x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n \rangle$ . Thus  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected with  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2n$  by Theorem 4.2 and Theorem 4.3.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.6.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ .*

- (1) If  $IM + N \neq \{0\}$ , then  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$ . Otherwise  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \in \{3, \infty\}$ .
- (2)  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  if and only if  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$ .
- (3) The (induced) subgraph of  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  with vertices in  $N + IM$  is complete, hence  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  when  $|N + IM| \geq 3$ .
- (4) If  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 4$ , then  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ .
- (5) If  $IM + N \neq 0$  and  $2 \in I$ , then  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \in \{3, \infty\}$ .
- (6) If  $2 \notin I$ , then  $gr(\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \in \{3, 4, \infty\}$ .

*Proof.* (1) Suppose that  $0 \neq x \in IM + N$  and  $y \in M(N, I) - (IM + N)$ . So  $ry \in IM + N$  for some  $r \in R - I$ , thus  $r(x + y) \in IM + N$ . Hence  $x + y \in M(N, I)$  and then  $0 - x - y - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Now, assume that  $IM + N = \{0\}$ , then  $N = IM = \{0\}$ . If  $x + y \in M(0, I)$  for some nonzero distinct elements  $x, y \in M(0, I)$ , then  $0 - x - y - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{0,I}(M))$ , so  $gr(M(\Gamma_{0,I}(M))) = 3$ . Otherwise,  $x + y \in M - M(0, I)$  for all distinct elements  $x, y \in M(0, I)$ . Therefore, each nonzero element  $x \in M(0, I)$  is adjacent to 0, and no two nonzero distinct vertices  $x, y \in M(0, I)$  are adjacent. Thus  $M(\Gamma_{0,I}(M))$  is a star graph with center 0 and  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ .

(2) We need only show that  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  when  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$ . First suppose that  $2x \neq 0$  for some nonzero element  $x \in M(N, I)$ , then  $0 - x - (-x) - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(N, I)$ . So we may assume that  $2x = 0$  for all  $x \in M(N, I)$ . There are elements  $m, m' \in M(N, I)$  such that  $m + m' \notin M(N, I)$ , since  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . So  $2(m + m') = 0$ , this implies that  $2 \in I$ . Let  $m - m_1 - m_2 - m$  be a 3-cycle in  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Then  $m + m_1, m_1 + m_2, m_2 + m \in M(N, I)$ . First suppose that  $m + m_1 \neq 0$  and  $m + m_2 \neq 0$ . Since  $m_1 + m_2 \in M(N, I)$ ; so there exists  $r \in R - I$  such that  $r(m_1 + m_2) \in IM + N$ . Thus  $r(m_1 + m_2 + 2m) \in IM + N$  since  $2 \in I$ . Hence  $0 - (m + m_1) - (m + m_2) - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .

Now suppose that  $m + m_1 \neq 0$  and  $m + m_2 = 0$ , then  $m_2 = -m$  and  $2m \neq 0$  since  $m$  and  $m_2$  are distinct elements. Then  $0 - (m_1 + m) - (m_1 - m) - 0$  is a 3-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  since  $2 \in I$ .

(3) It is clear, since  $N + IM \subseteq M(N, I)$  is a submodule of  $M$ .

(4) This follows by parts (1) and (2) above.

(5) Let  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  contains a cycle and let  $0 \neq x \in IM + N$ . Then there is a path  $m_1 - m_2 - m_3$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . If  $m_1$  and  $m_3$  are adjacent vertices in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ , then the proof is complete. So we may assume that  $m_1 + m_3 \notin M(N, I)$ . If  $m_2 - m_1, m_3 - m_2 \in IM + N$ , then  $m_3 - m_1 \in IM + N$ . Since  $2m_1 \in IM + N$ , thus  $m_1 + m_3 \in IM + N$ , which is a contradiction. So, without loss of generality we may assume that  $m_2 - m_1 \notin IM + N$ . Hence  $(x + m_1) - m_1 - m_2 - (x + m_1)$  is a

3-cycle in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .

(6) Assume that  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  contains a cycle and let  $0 \neq x \in IM + N$ . Then there is a path  $m_1 - m_2 - m_3$  in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Let  $m_1 + m_3 \notin M(N, I)$ . Since  $m_1 \neq m_3$ , then either  $m_1 + m_2 \neq 0$  or  $m_2 + m_3 \neq 0$ . We may assume that  $m_1 + m_2 \neq 0$ . Since  $2 \notin I$ , if  $2m_i = 0$ , then  $m_i \in M(N, I)$  for some  $i = 1, 2, 3$  which is a contradiction. Thus  $m_1 - m_2 - (-m_2) - (-m_1) - m_1$  is a 4-cycle in  $M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .  $\square$

Recall that if  $gr(T(\Gamma(M))) = 4$ , then  $gr(Tor(\Gamma(M))) = \infty$  if  $T(M)$  is not a submodule of  $M$  [12, 3.5]. Also, if  $gr(T(\Gamma_N(M))) = 4$ , then  $gr(M(\Gamma_N(M))) = \infty$ , when  $M(N)$  is not a submodule of  $M$  [2, 4.5]. Now, we provide a proof for the converse of [12, 3.5 (3)] and [2, 4.5 (4)], when  $R$  is not an integral domain and  $M \neq T(M)$ .

**Proposition 4.7.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$  and let  $M \neq T(M)$ . If  $R$  is not an integral domain and  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ , then  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 4$ . Moreover, if  $gr(Tor(\Gamma(M))) = \infty$ , then  $|M(N, I)| = 3$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ . Since  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ , so  $M(N, I) \neq M$ . Then  $M(N, I) = \bigcup_{\alpha \in \Lambda} L_\alpha$ , where each  $L_\alpha$  is a prime submodule of  $M$  and  $|\Lambda| \geq 2$ . If  $gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = \infty$ , then  $x + y \in M - M(N, I)$  for all nonzero distinct elements  $x, y \in M(N, I)$ . So  $|L_\alpha| = 2$  for every  $\alpha \in \Lambda$ . Hence the intersection of any two distinct  $L_\alpha$ 's is  $\{0\}$  and so  $|\Lambda| = 2$  by Proposition 2.6. So  $M(N, I) = L_1 \cup L_2$  for prime submodules  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  of  $M$  with  $L_1 \cap L_2 = 0$  and  $|L_1| = |L_2| = 2$ . So we may assume that  $L_1 = \{0, x\}$  and  $L_2 = \{0, y\}$  where  $2x = 2y = 0$ . So  $|M(N, I)| = 3$  and  $x + y \notin M(N, I)$ . Thus  $0 - x - (x + y) - y - 0$  is a 4-cycle in  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Then  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 4$  by Theorem ??(2).

The "moreover" statement follows directly from the above arguments.  $\square$

**Example 4.8.** Let  $R = \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $M = \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $N = 4\mathbb{Z} \times 7\mathbb{Z}$  and  $I = 28\mathbb{Z}$ . So  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$  by Example 2.2. Also,  $|N + IM| \geq 3$ , then  $gr(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = gr(M(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) = 3$  by Theorem ???. Moreover,  $(1, 1) - (3, 6) - (5, 6) - (1, 1)$  is a 3-cycle in  $\overline{M}(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ .

**Proposition 4.9.** *Let  $N$  be a proper submodule of an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  with  $|M(N, I)| = \alpha$ . Let  $x$  be a vertex of  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$ . Then the degree of  $x$  is either  $\alpha$  or  $\alpha - 1$ . In particular, if  $2 \in S(I)$ , then the graph  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a  $(\alpha - 1)$ -regular graph.*

*Proof.* If  $x$  adjacent to  $y$ , then  $x+y = z \in M(N, I)$  and hence  $y = z-x$  for some  $z \in M(N, I)$ . Now, we have two cases:

**Case 1.** If  $2x \in M(N, I)$ , then  $x$  is adjacent to  $z-x$  for any  $z \in M(N, I) \setminus \{2x\}$ . Thus the degree of  $x$  is  $\alpha-1$ . In particular, if  $2 \in S(I)$ , then  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is a  $(\alpha-1)$ -regular graph by Proposition 2.4.

**Case 2.** Suppose that  $2x \notin M(N, I)$ . Then  $x$  is adjacent to  $z-x$  for any  $z \in M(N, I)$ . Thus the degree of  $x$  is  $\alpha$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 4.10.** *Let  $M$  be an  $R$ -module  $M$  and let  $I$  be a proper ideal of  $R$  such that  $M(N, I)$  is not a submodule of  $M$ . If  $T(\Gamma_I(R))$  is connected, then  $T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))$  is connected for every proper submodule  $N$  of  $M$ . Moreover if  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_I(R))) = n$ , then  $\text{diam}(T(\Gamma_{N,I}(M))) \leq 2n+1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $T(\Gamma_I(R))$  be connected and  $m, n$  be nonzero elements of  $M$ . Then there exists a path  $s-a_1-a_2-\dots-a_{k-1}-1$  from  $s$  to  $1$  of length  $k$  from  $s$  to  $1$  for some nonzero element  $s \in S(I)$ . So  $s, s+a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}+1 \in S(I)$ . Thus  $m-a_{k-1}m-\dots-a_1m-sm-sn-a_1n-\dots-a_{k-1}n-n$  is a path from  $m$  to  $n$  of length at most  $2k+1$  by Proposition 2.4. The "moreover" statement follows directly from the above arguments.  $\square$

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