

**EULERIAN OF THE ZERO DIVISOR GRAPH  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$**

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**Abstract:** The Zero divisor Graph of a commutative ring  $R$ , denoted by  $\Gamma[R]$ , is a graph whose vertices are non-zero zero divisors of  $R$  and two vertices are adjacent if their product is zero. We consider the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$ , for any natural number  $n$  and find out which graphs are Eulerian graphs.

**Keywords and Phrases:** Zero divisor graph, Euler tour, Euler graph.

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### **1. Introduction**

The concept of the Zero divisor graph of a ring  $R$  was first introduced by I. Beck [3] in 1988 and later on Anderson and Livingston [2], Akbari and Mohammadian [1] continued the study of zero divisor graph by considering only the non-zero zero divisors. The concepts of the Euler graph found in [4]. In this paper we introduce the concepts of the Euler graph to the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  and identify which zero divisors graphs are Eulerian.

In this article, section 2, is about the preliminaries and notations related to zero divisor graph of a commutative ring  $R$ , in section 3, we derive the Euler graphs of a zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$ , and in section 4, we discuss about Euler graphs of  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  for any natural number  $n$ .

## 2. Preliminaries and Notations

**Definition 2.1. Zero divisor Graph** [1,2],

Let  $R$  be a commutative ring with unity and  $Z[R]$  be the set of its zero divisors. Then the zero divisor graph of  $R$  denoted by  $\Gamma[R]$ , is the graph(undirected) with vertex set  $Z^*[R] = Z[R] - \{0\}$ , the non-zero zero divisors of  $R$ , such that two vertices  $v, w \in Z^*[R]$  are adjacent if  $vw = 0$ .

**Definition 2.2. Euler tour** [4],

An Euler tour of a graph  $G$  is a tour which includes each edge of the graph  $G$  exactly once.

**Definition 2.3. Euler graph** [4],

A graph  $G$  is called Euler graph or Eulerian if it has an Euler tour.

**Theorem 2.4.** [4] A connected graph is Euler iff the degree of every vertex is even.

## 3. Eulerian of The zero divisor graph $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$

In this section, we discuss the Eulerian of the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$  where  $p$  is a prime number.

To start with, we consider the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  for  $n = p^2$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}]$  is a Euler graph if and only if  $p > 2$ .

**Proof.** Consider zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}]$ .

The vertex set is  $A = \{kp \mid k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1\}$  and so  $|A| = (p-1)$ .

As product of any two vertices is zero, they are adjacent and so the corresponding graph is a complete graph on  $(p-1)$  vertices that is,  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}] = K_{p-1}$ .

As the graph is complete, the degree of each and every vertex of it is  $(p-1)$ .

If  $p > 2$  then every prime greater than 2 is odd and hence the degree of each vertex is even. Thus  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^2}]$  is Eulerian.

For  $p = 2$  then the corresponding graph has no Euler path as it consists of only one vertex, thus  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_4]$  is not Eulerian.

**Theorem 3.2.** The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}]$  is not an Euler graph, for any prime  $p$ .

**Proof.** Consider the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}]$ .

Here, we divide the elements(vertices) of  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}]$  into two disjoint sets namely mul-

tuples of  $p$  and the multiples of  $p^2$  which are given by

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{kp \mid k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^2 - 1 \text{ and } k \nmid p\} \\ B &= \{lp^2 \mid l = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p - 1\} \end{aligned}$$

with cardinality  $|A| = p(p - 1)$  and  $|B| = (p - 1)$ .

As every element of  $A$  is adjacent only with the elements of  $B$ , the degree of each and every vertex of  $A$  is  $(p - 1)$  which is even.

Also every element of  $B$  is adjacent with itself and with every element of  $A$ .

Therefore the degree of each and every vertex of  $B$  is given by  $|A| + |B| - 1$  that is  $(p^2 - 2)$  which is odd.

Hence  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}]$  is not Eulerian.

If  $p = 2$ , then degree of each vertex of  $A$  is  $p - 1$  which is odd. Therefore the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^3}]$  is not an Euler graph.

With similar arguments, we prove the more general case in the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.3.** *The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$  is not Eulerian, for any prime  $p$ .*

**Proof.** We divide the elements(vertices) of  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$  into  $n - 1$  disjoint sets namely multiples of  $p$ , multiples of  $p^2$ ... multiples of  $p^{n-1}$ , given by

$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &= \{k_1p \mid k_1 = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^{n-1} - 1 \text{ and } k_1 \nmid p\} \\ A_2 &= \{k_2p^2 \mid k_2 = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^{n-2} - 1 \text{ and } k_2 \nmid p^2\} \\ A_i &= \{k_i p^i \mid k_i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^{n-i} - 1 \text{ and } k_i \nmid p^i\} \end{aligned}$$

with cardinality  $|A_i| = (p^{n-i} - p^{n-i-1})$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 1$ .

Also the smallest set is  $A_{n-1}$  of order  $p - 1$ .

Now the degree of an element  $v_i$  in  $A_i$  is  $p^i - 2$  which is odd  $\forall i = \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$  a greatest integer part function, since the elements of  $A_i$  are adjacent with itself and also with  $A_j$  for  $j \geq \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ .

We can make a similar argument for all other sets i.e., every element of  $A_i$  is adjacent with every element of  $A_{n-j}$  where  $j \leq i$ , therefore the degree of every vertex of  $A_i$  is  $\sum_{j=1}^i (p^{n-j} - p^{n-j-1}) - 1 = (p^{n-1} - 2)$  which is odd.

Hence the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$  is not Eulerian.

If  $p = 2$ , then the degree of an element  $v_1$  in  $A_1$  is  $p - 1$ , which is odd. Therefore, for any prime, the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^n}]$  is not Eulerian.

#### 4. Eulerian of the zero divisor graph $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$

In this section we discuss the Eulerian of the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  where  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$ .

To start with, we consider  $n = pq$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{pq}]$  is a Euler graph iff  $p$  and  $q$  are odd.*

**Proof.** Consider the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{pq}]$ .

clearly  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{pq}]$  is a complete bipartite graph, the vertex sets are given by

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{kp \mid k = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p-1 \text{ and } k \nmid q\} \\ B &= \{lq \mid l = 1, 2, 3, \dots, q-1 \text{ and } l \nmid p\} \end{aligned}$$

with cardinality  $|A| = (p-1)$  and  $|B| = (q-1)$ .

If  $p$  and  $q$  are odd, then  $(p-1)$  and  $(q-1)$  are even implies the degree of every vertex of the graph is even and thus the respective graph is an Euler graph.

If  $p$  or  $q = 2$ , then clearly the graph is not Eulerian as the degree of the atleast one vertex is odd.

**Theorem 4.2.** *The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^\alpha q^\beta}]$  is not Eulerian for all  $\alpha, \beta \neq 1$ .*

**Proof.** Consider the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^\alpha q^\beta}]$ .

Here, we divide the vertices of  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^\alpha q^\beta}]$  into disjoint sets namely multiples of  $p^i$ , multiples of  $q^j$  and multiples of  $p^i q^j$  given by

$$\begin{aligned} A_{p^i} &= \{r_i p^i \mid r_i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^i - 1 \text{ and } r_i \nmid p^i\} \\ A_{q^j} &= \{s_j q^j \mid s_j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, q^j - 1 \text{ and } s_j \nmid q^j\} \\ A_{p^i q^j} &= \{t_{ij} p^i q^j \mid t_{ij} = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p^i q^j - 1 \text{ and } t_{ij} \nmid p^i \text{ and } t_{ij} \nmid q^j\}. \end{aligned}$$

Then the order of the sets are  $|A_{p^i}| = (p^i - 1)$ ,  $|A_{q^j}| = (q^j - 1)$  and  $|A_{p^i q^j}| = (p^i - 1)(q^j - 1)$ .

Assume that both  $p$  and  $q$  are odd primes.

Since every element of the set  $A_{p^i}$  is adjacent with the elements of  $A_{p^j}$ , the degree of each and every vertex of the set  $A_{p^i}$  is  $(q^j - 1)$ .

Similarly the degree of each and every vertex of the set  $A_{p^j}$  is  $(p^i - 1)$  and the degree of each and every vertex of the set  $A_{p^i q^j}$  is  $|A_{p^i}| + |A_{p^j}| + |A_{p^i q^j}| - 1 = (p^i - 1) + (q^j - 1) + (p^i - 1)(q^j - 1) = (p^i q^j - 2)$ , which is odd.

Thus the degree of the vertices of the corresponding sets is odd.

Hence the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_{p^\alpha q^\beta}]$  is not Eulerian.

If one of  $p$  or  $q = 2$ , then also the graph is not Eulerian as the degree of the atleast one vertex is  $(p^i - 1)$  or  $(q^j - 1)$  which is odd. Also the degree of the elements of  $A_p$  is  $(p-1)$  as the elements of these set are adjacent only with the elements of the set  $A_{p^{\alpha-1} q^\beta}$ .

**Theorem 4.3.** *The zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  where  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  is not Eulerian for  $\alpha_i \geq 2$  where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ .*

**Proof.** Consider a zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  where  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$ .

Here, we divide the elements(vertices) of  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  into the corresponding disjoint sets of product of all possible powers of given primes like set of powers of  $p_j^i$ , set of product of powers of  $p_i^r p_j^s$  and so on.

Among these sets, we consider the sets of the form

$$A_i = \{m(p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_i^{\alpha_{i-1}} p_i^{\alpha_{i+1}} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k})\} \text{ with } |A_i| = p_i^{\alpha_i} - 1.$$

Now consider the set  $A_{p_i^{\alpha_i}} = \{t p_i^{\alpha_i} \mid t \nmid p_i^{\alpha_i}\}$ .

Assume that all the primes are odd.

Since the elements of  $A_{p_j^i}$  are adjacent only with the vertices of  $A_j$ , the degree of each and every vertex of the set  $A_{p_j^i}$  is  $p_i^{\alpha_i} - 1$  which is odd. Hence the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  where  $n = p_1^{\alpha_1} p_2^{\alpha_2} \dots p_k^{\alpha_k}$  is not Eulerian for  $\alpha_i \geq 2$  where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ . If one of  $p_i = 2$ , then also the graph is not Eulerian as the degree of the atleast one vertex is  $p_i^{\alpha_i} - 1$ , which is odd.

## 5. Conclusion

We conclude that the zero divisor graph  $\Gamma[\mathbb{Z}_n]$  is Eulerian if and only if either  $n = p^2$  or  $n = pq$  where  $p$  and  $q$  are distinct primes. Otherwise not a Eulerian.

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