# Edge-pancyclicity of Möbius cubes * 

Min Xu ${ }^{\text {a,b }}$, Jun-Ming Xu ${ }^{\text {b,* }}$<br>${ }^{\text {a }}$ Institute of Applied Mathematics, Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100080, China ${ }^{\mathrm{b}}$ Department of Mathematics, University of Science and Technology of China, Hefei, Anhui 230026, China

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#### Abstract

The Möbius cube $M_{n}$ is a variant of the hypercube $Q_{n}$ and has better properties than $Q_{n}$ with the same number of links and processors. It has been shown by Fan [J. Fan, Hamilton-connectivity and cycle-embedding of Möbius cubes, Inform. Process. Lett. 82 (2002) 113-117] and Huang et al. [W.-T. Huang, W.-K. Chen, C.-H. Chen, Pancyclicity of Möbius cubes, in: Proc. 9th Internat. Conf. on Parallel and Distributed Systems (ICPADS'02), 17-20 Dec. 2002, pp. 591-596], independently, that $M_{n}$ contains a cycle of every length from 4 to $2^{n}$. In this paper, we improve this result by showing that every edge of $M_{n}$ lies on a cycle of every length from 4 to $2^{n}$ inclusive.


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## 1. Introduction

The hypercube network has proved to be one of the most popular interconnection networks. The Möbius cubes, proposed first by Cull and Larson [1-3], form a class of hypercube variants. Like hypercubes, Möbius cubes are expansible, have a simple routing algorithm, and have a high fault tolerance. The Möbius cubes are superior to the hypercube in having about half of

[^0]the diameter of the hypercube, about two-thirds of the average distance of hypercube. Various properties of Möbius cubes have been extensively investigated in the literature, see, for example, [1-5,7-9,13].

The cycle embedding problem is to find a cycle of given length in graph, which is of practical importance in interconnection networks (see Section 1.3.2 in [11]). Recently, it has been shown by several authors that every edge of $n$-dimensional crossed cube, another variants of the hypercube, lies on a cycle of every length from 4 to $2^{n}$ inclusive for $n \geqslant 2$ (see [6, $10,12,14]$ ).

Fan [5] and Huang et al. [9] have proved that the $n$-dimensional Möbius cube contains a cycle of length
from 4 to $2^{n}$. In this paper, we improve this result by showing the following theorem.

Theorem. Every edge of n-dimensional Möbius cube lies on a cycle of every length from 4 to $2^{n}$ inclusive for $n \geqslant 2$.

Corollary (Fan [5], Huang et al. [9]). Every n-dimensional Möbius cube $M_{n}$ contains a cycle of every length from 4 to $2^{n}$ inclusive for $n \geqslant 2$.

The proof of the theorem is in Section 3. In Section 2, the definition and basic properties of the $n$-dimensional Möbius cube $M_{n}$ are given.

## 2. Möbius cubes

The architecture of an interconnection work is usually represented by a connected simple graph $G=$ ( $V, E$ ), where the vertex-set $V$ is the set of processors and the edge-set $E$ is the set of communication links in the network. The edge connecting two vertices $x$ and $y$ is denoted by $(x, y)$. We follow [11] for graphtheoretical terminology and notation not defined here.

An $n$-dimensional Möbius cube, denoted by $M_{n}$, has $2^{n}$ vertices. Each vertex has a unique $n$-component binary vector on $\{0,1\}$ for an address, also called an $n$-bit string. A vertex $X=x_{1} x_{2} \cdots x_{n}$ connects to $n$ neighbors $Y_{1}, Y_{2}, \ldots, Y_{n}$, where each $Y_{i}$ satisfies one of the following rules:
$Y_{i}=x_{1} \cdots x_{i-1} \bar{x}_{i} x_{i+1} \cdots x_{n} \quad$ if $x_{i-1}=0$,
$Y_{i}=x_{1} \cdots x_{i-1} \bar{x}_{i} \bar{x}_{i+1} \cdots \bar{x}_{n} \quad$ if $x_{i-1}=1$,
where $\bar{x}_{i}$ is the complement of the bit $x_{i}$ in $\{0,1\}$.
More informally, a vertex $X$ connects to a neighbor that differs in a bit $x_{i}$ if $x_{i-1}=0$, and to a neighbor that differs in bits $x_{i}$ through $x_{n}$ if $x_{i-1}=1$. The connection between $X$ and $Y$ is undefined when $i=1$, so we can assume $x_{0}$ is either equal to 0 or equal to 1 , which gives us slightly different network topologies. If we assume $x_{0}=0$, we call the network a " 0 -Möbius cube", denoted by $M_{n}^{0}$; and if we assume $x_{0}=1$, we call the network a "1-Möbius cube", denoted by $M_{n}^{1}$. Figs. 1 and 2 show the 0 -Möbius cube $M_{4}^{0}$ and the 1-Möbius cube $M_{4}^{1}$.


Fig. 1. 0-Möbius cube $M_{4}^{0}$.


Fig. 2. 1-Möbius cube $M_{4}^{1}$.

According to the above definition, it is not difficult to see that $M_{n}^{0}$ (respectively, $M_{n}^{1}$ ) can be recursively constructed from $M_{n-1}^{0}$ and $M_{n-1}^{1}$ by adding $2^{n-1}$ edges. For any vertex $X=x_{1} x_{2} \cdots x_{n-1}$ in $M_{n-1}^{0}$ or $M_{n-1}^{1}$, we construct a new vertex $X^{\prime}=x_{1}^{\prime} x_{2}^{\prime} \cdots x_{n}^{\prime}$, where $x_{2}^{\prime}=x_{1}, x_{3}^{\prime}=x_{2}, \ldots, x_{n}^{\prime}=x_{n-1}$, then assigning $x_{1}^{\prime}=0$ if $X$ is in $M_{n-1}^{0}$, or $x_{1}^{\prime}=1$ if $X$ is in $M_{n-1}^{1}$. So $M_{n}^{0}$ can be constructed by connecting all pairs of vertices that differ only in the first bit, and $M_{n}^{1}$ can be constructed by connecting all pairs of vertices that differ in the first through the $n$th bits. For short, we denote $M_{n}=L \oplus R$, where $L \cong M_{n-1}^{0}$ and $R \cong M_{n-1}^{1}$, and call edges between $L$ and $R$ cross edges. Moreover, we write a cross edge as $\left(u_{L}, u_{R}\right)$, where $u_{L} \in L$ and $u_{R} \in R$. An edge in $M_{n}$ is called a critical edge if its end-vertices differ in only the last bit $x_{n}$.

Note that if $M_{n}=L \oplus R$ then, for any two adjacent $u_{L}$ and $v_{L}$ in $L$, two vertices $u_{R}$ and $v_{R}$ in $R$ are not always adjacent in $R$, and vice versa. However, it is clear from the rules (1) and (2) that if $\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ is a critical edge, then two vertices $u_{R}$ and $v_{R}$ in $R$ must be adjacent in $R$, and vice versa. Critical edges play an important role in the proof of our theorem. A cycle
in $M_{n}$ is called a 2-critical if it contains at least two critical edges. It is easy to see that every vertex in $M_{n}$ is incident with a critical edge and every cross edge lies on a 2-critical cycle of length four.

Lemma. Every edge of $M_{n}$ lies on a 2 -critical cycle of length $2^{n}$ for $n \geqslant 2$.

Proof. We prove the lemma by induction on $n \geqslant 2$. Clearly the result is true for $n=2$ since $M_{2}$ is a cycle of length 4 . Assume that the lemma is true for every $k$ with $2 \leqslant k<n$. Let $M_{n}=L \oplus R$ and $e$ be any edge in $M_{n}$. There are two cases according as $e$ is in $M_{n}^{0}$ or $M_{n}^{1}$.

Case 1. The edge $e$ is in $M_{n}^{0}$.
Subcase 1.1. The edge $e$ is in $L$.
Since $L \cong M_{n-1}^{0}$, by the induction hypothesis, there exists a 2 -critical cycle $C$ of length $2^{n-1}$ in $L$ that contains $e$. Choose a critical edge ( $u_{L}, v_{L}$ ) in $C$ different from $e$ and let $P=C-\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$. Obviously, $e$ is in $P$. From the definition of $L$, we can write $u_{L}=0 B 0$ and $v_{L}=0 B 1$, where $B$ is an $(n-2)-$ bit string. Then $u_{R}=1 B 0$ and $v_{R}=1 B 1$ are adjacent in $R$. By the induction hypothesis, there exists a 2 -critical cycle $C^{\prime}$ of length $2^{n-1}$ in $R$ that contains the edge $\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Let $P^{\prime}=C^{\prime}-\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Then $P+\left(v_{L}, v_{R}\right)+P^{\prime}+\left(u_{R}, u_{L}\right)$ is a 2 -critical cycle of length $2^{n}$ in $M_{n}^{0}$ that contains the edge $e$.

Subcase 1.2. The edge $e$ is in $R$. The proof is similar to Subcase 1.1. The details are here omitted.

Subcase 1.3. The edge $e$ is a cross edge between $L$ and $R$.

Let $e=\left(u_{L}, u_{R}\right), u_{L}=0 B 0$ in $L$ and $u_{R}=1 B 0$ in $R$, where $u$ is an $(n-2)$-bit string. Let $v_{L}=0 B 1$

(a)
and $v_{R}=1 B 1$. Then $\left\langle u_{L}, v_{L}, v_{R}, u_{R}, u_{L}\right\rangle$ is a cycle of length four in $M_{n}^{0}$ and contains $e$.

By the induction hypothesis, there exist a 2 -critical cycle $C$ of length $2^{n-1}$ in $L$ that contains the edge ( $u_{L}, v_{L}$ ) and a 2 -critical cycle $C^{\prime}$ of length $2^{n-1}$ in $R$ that contains the edge $\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Let $P=C-\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ and $P^{\prime}=C^{\prime}-\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Then $P+\left(v_{L}, v_{R}\right)+P^{\prime}+$ ( $u_{R}, u_{L}$ ) is a 2 -critical cycle of length $2^{n}$ in $M_{n}^{0}$ that contains the edge $e$.

Case 2. The edge $e$ is in $M_{n}^{1}$. By the same argument as that used in Case 1, we can prove that the lemma is true for this case, and the details are here omitted.

## 3. Proof of theorem

In this section, we give the proof of theorem stated in Introduction.

Proof. We prove the theorem by induction on $n \geqslant 2$. The theorem is true for $n=2$.

Since $M_{3}^{0} \cong M_{3}^{1}$ from Fig. 3, we only need to prove that every edge of $M_{3}^{0}$ lies on a cycle of every length from 4 to 8 inclusive.

The union of the following four cycles of length four covers all edges of $M_{3}^{0}$.
$\langle 000,001,011,010,000\rangle$,
$\langle 100,101,110,111,100\rangle$,
$\langle 000,001,101,100,000\rangle$,
$\langle 010,011,111,110,010\rangle$.
The union of the following four cycles of length five covers all edges of $M_{3}^{0}$.

(b)

Fig. 3. (a) $M_{3}^{0}$ and (b) $M_{3}^{1}$.
$\langle 000,001,011,111,100,000\rangle$,
$\langle 000,010,011,111,100,000\rangle$,
$\langle 000,100,101,110,010,000\rangle$,
$\langle 001,011,111,110,101,001\rangle$.
The union of the following three cycles of length six covers all edges of $M_{3}^{0}$.
$\langle 000,001,011,111,110,010,000\rangle$,
$\langle 000,010,011,001,101,100,000\rangle$,
$\langle 100,111,110,101,001,000,100\rangle$.
The union of the following three cycles of length seven covers all edges of $M_{3}^{0}$.
$\langle 000,100,101,110,111,011,010,000\rangle$,
$\langle 001,101,100,111,110,010,011,001\rangle$,
$\langle 000,100,111,110,010,011,001,000\rangle$.
The union of the following two cycles of length eight covers all edges of $M_{3}^{0}$.
$\langle 000,001,101,110,010,011,111,100,000\rangle$,
$\langle 000,100,101,001,011,111,110,010,000\rangle$.
Thus the theorem is true for $n=3$.
Assume now that the theorem is true for all $3 \leqslant k<$ $n$. Let $e$ be any edge of $M_{n}$ and let $\ell$ be any integer with $4 \leqslant \ell \leqslant 2^{n}$, where $n \geqslant 4$. To complete the proof of the theorem, we need to show that $e$ is contained in a cycle of length $\ell$ by considering two cases according as $e$ is in $M_{n}^{0}$ or in $M_{n}^{1}$.

Case 1. The edge $e$ is in $M_{n}^{0}$. Let $M_{n}^{0}=L \oplus R$.
Subcase 1.1. The edge $e$ is in $L$. Since $L \cong M_{n-1}^{0}$, we can express $L=L_{0} \oplus R_{0}$, where $L_{0} \cong M_{n-2}^{0}$ and $R_{0} \cong M_{n-2}^{1}$.

If $4 \leqslant \ell \leqslant 2^{n-1}$, by the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle of length $\ell$ in $L \subset M_{n}^{0}$ that contains $e$.

Suppose that $2^{n-1}+1 \leqslant \ell \leqslant 2^{n-1}+3$. By the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle $C$ of length $\ell-3$ in $L$ containing $e$. For $n \geqslant 4$, we have $\ell-3 \geqslant$ $2^{n-1}-2>2^{n-2}$, and so $C$ contains at least two cross edges between $L_{0}$ and $R_{0}$. Thus, we can choose a cross edge $\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ in $C$ different from $e$. Let $\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)=$ $(00 B, 01 B)$, where $B$ is an $(n-2)$-bit string. Then $u_{R}=10 B, w_{R}=11 \bar{B}, \quad v_{R}=11 B$ are in $R$ with $\left(u_{R}, w_{R}\right),\left(w_{R}, v_{R}\right) \in E(R)$ by the rule (2) in the definition of $M_{n}$, i.e., $P^{\prime}=\left\langle v_{R}, w_{R}, u_{R}\right\rangle$ is a path between
$v_{R}$ and $u_{R}$ in $R$. Let $P=C-\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$. Then $P$ contains $e$ and $P+\left(v_{L}, v_{R}\right)+P^{\prime}+\left(u_{R}, u_{L}\right)$ is a cycle of length $\ell$ in $M_{n}^{0}$ containing $e$.

Suppose that $2^{n-1}+4 \leqslant \ell \leqslant 2^{n}$. Let $\ell^{\prime}=\ell-$ $2^{n-1}$. Then $4 \leqslant \ell^{\prime} \leqslant 2^{n-1}$. By lemma, there exists a 2 -critical cycle $C$ of length $2^{n-1}$ in $L$ containing $e$. We can choose a critical edge $\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ different from $e$. Without loss of generality, let $u_{L}=0 B 0$ and $v_{L}=0 B 1$, where $B$ is an $(n-2)$-bit string. Then $u_{R}=1 B 0$ and $v_{R}=1 B 1$ are adjacent in $R$. Let $P=$ $C-\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$. Obviously $e$ lies on $P$. By the induction hypothesis there exists a cycle $C^{\prime}$ of length $\ell^{\prime}$ in $R$ that contains $\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Let $P^{\prime}=C^{\prime}-\left(v_{R}, u_{L}\right)$. Then $P+\left(v_{L}, v_{R}\right)+P^{\prime}+\left(u_{R}, u_{L}\right)$ is a cycle of length $\ell$ in $M_{n}^{0}$ and contains $e$.

Subcase 1.2. The edge $e$ is in $R$. Since $R \cong M_{n-1}^{1}$, we can express $R=L_{1} \oplus R_{1}$, where $L_{1} \cong M_{n-2}^{0}$ and $R_{1} \cong M_{n-2}^{1}$. The proof is similar to Subcase 1.1. The details are here omitted.

Subcase 1.3. The edge $e$ is a cross edge between $L$ and $R$.

Let $e=\left(u_{L}, u_{R}\right)=\left(0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}, 1 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}\right)$. Let $v_{L}=0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n-1} \bar{x}_{n}$ and $v_{R}=1 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n-1} \bar{x}_{n}$. Obviously, $\left\langle u_{L}, v_{L}, v_{R}, u_{R}, u_{L}\right\rangle$ is a cycle of length four in $M_{n}^{0}$ containing $e$. And

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle 0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}, 1 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}, 1 \bar{x}_{2} \bar{x}_{3} \cdots \bar{x}_{n}\right. \\
& \left.\quad 0 \bar{x}_{2} \bar{x}_{3} \cdots \bar{x}_{n}, 0 \bar{x}_{2} x_{3} x_{4} \cdots x_{n}, 0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

is a cycle of length five in $M_{n}^{0}$ containing $e$ for $x_{2}=0$;

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \left\langle 0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}, 1 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}, 1 \bar{x}_{2} \bar{x}_{3} \cdots \bar{x}_{n}\right. \\
& \left.\quad 0 \bar{x}_{2} \bar{x}_{3} \cdots \bar{x}_{n}, 0 x_{2} \bar{x}_{3} \bar{x}_{4} \cdots \bar{x}_{n}, 0 x_{2} x_{3} \cdots x_{n}\right\rangle
\end{aligned}
$$

is a cycle of length five in $M_{n}^{0}$ containing $e$ for $x_{2}=1$.
For $\ell \geqslant 6$, we can write $\ell=\ell_{1}+\ell_{2}$ where $\ell_{1}=2$, $4 \leqslant \ell_{2} \leqslant 2^{n-1}$ or $4 \leqslant \ell_{1} \leqslant 2^{n-1}, 4 \leqslant \ell_{2} \leqslant 2^{n-1}$. Consider the cycle $\left\langle u_{L}, v_{L}, v_{R}, u_{R}, u_{L}\right\rangle$ of length four in $M_{n}^{0}$ containing $e$. By the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle $C$ of length $\ell_{1}$ in $L$ containing ( $u_{L}, v_{L}$ ) if $\ell_{1} \geqslant 4$ and exists a cycle $C^{\prime}$ of length $\ell_{2}$ in $R$ containing $\left(u_{R}, v_{R}\right)$. Let $P=\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ if $\ell_{1}=2$ or $P=C-\left(u_{L}, v_{L}\right)$ if $\ell_{1} \geqslant 4 ; P^{\prime}=C^{\prime}-\left(v_{R}, u_{R}\right)$. Then $P+\left(v_{L}, v_{R}\right)+P^{\prime}+\left(u_{R}, u_{L}\right)$ is a cycle of length $\ell$ in $M_{n}^{0}$ and contains $e$.

Case 2. The edge $e$ is in $M_{n}^{1}$. By the same argument as that used in Case 1, we can prove that the theorem is true for this case, and the details are here omitted.

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    * Corresponding author.

    E-mail address: xujm@ustc.edu.cn (J.-M. Xu).

