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# Edge-pancyclicity and Hamiltonian laceability of the balanced hypercubes <sup>☆</sup>

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## Abstract

The balanced hypercube  $BH_n$  is a variant of the hypercube  $Q_n$ . Huang and Wu proved that  $BH_n$  has better properties than  $Q_n$  with the same number of links and processors. In particular, they showed that there exists a cycle of length  $2^l$  in  $BH_n$  for all  $l$ ,  $2 \leq l \leq 2n$ . In this paper, we improve this result by showing that  $BH_n$  is edge-pancyclic, which means that for arbitrary edge  $e$ , there exists a cycle of even length from 4 to  $2^{2n}$  containing  $e$  in  $BH_n$ . We also show that the balanced hypercubes are Hamiltonian laceable.

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## 1. Introduction

The hypercube network has proved to be one of the most popular interconnection networks. The balanced hypercube, proposed by Huang and Wu [9], forms a hypercube variant. Like hypercubes, balanced hypercubes are bipartite graph and vertex-transitive [9,14]. The balanced hypercubes are superior to the hypercube in having smaller diameter of the hypercube, supporting an efficient reconfiguration without changing the adjacent relationship among tasks [14]. The variously desired properties of balanced hypercubes have been extensively investigated in the literature [9,14].

In interconnection networks, the problem of simulating one network by another is modelled as a graph embedding problem. There are several reasons why such an embedding is important [15]. For example, there are a number of efficient algorithms for solving some applications problems and best communication patterns for their executions. For these algorithms, the existence of certain topological structures guarantee the desired performance. Thus, for such applications, it is desired to provide logically a specific topological structure

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throughout the execution of the algorithm in the network design. On the other hand, some algorithms may be developed for another architecture for which it fits perfectly. In such a scenario one might wish to implement the same algorithm with little additional programming effort. For this purpose, the original architecture should be embedded into the new network.

In all the embedding problems, the cycle embedding problem is one of the most popular problems. It is to find a cycle of given length in graph. A graph  $G$  is called *pancyclic* [2] if there exists a cycle of every length from 3 to  $|V(G)|$ . A graph is *bipartite graph* if its vertex-set can be partitioned into two disjoint subsets such that each edge is incident to two vertices from different subsets. A bipartite graph  $G$  is called *bipancyclic* if there exists a cycle of every length from 4 to  $|V(G)|$ . The pancyclicity is an important metric in embedding cycles of any length into the topology of network. Large amount of related work appeared in the literature [4–7,10,12]. The concept of pancyclicity was extended to vertex-pancyclicity by Hobbs [8] and edge-pancyclicity by Alspach and Hare [1]. A graph  $G$  is called *vertex-pancyclic* if for any vertex  $u$ , there exists a cycle of every length from 3 to  $|V(G)|$  containing  $u$ ; and *edge-pancyclic* if for any edge  $e$ , there exists a cycle of every length from 3 to  $|V(G)|$  containing  $e$ . Obviously, every edge-pancyclic graph is vertex-pancyclic. A bipartite graph  $G$  is *vertex-bipancyclic* if for any vertex  $u$ , there exists a cycle of every even length from 4 to  $|V(G)|$  containing  $u$ . Similarly, a bipartite graph  $G$  is called *edge-bipancyclic* if for any edge  $e$ , there exists a cycle of every even length from 4 to  $|V(G)|$  containing  $e$ . Wu and Huang [14] proved that the  $n$ -dimensional balanced hypercube  $BH_n$  is bipartite graph and there exists a cycle of length  $2^l$  in  $BH_n$  for all  $l$ ,  $2 \leq l \leq 2n$ . In this paper, we improve this result by showing that  $BH_n$  is edge-bipancyclic.

We also study the Hamiltonian laceability of balanced hypercubes. A path is called a *Hamilton path* if it contains all vertex of  $G$ . A graph  $G$  is said to be *Hamiltonian connected* if there exists a Hamiltonian path between any two vertices of  $G$ . It is easy to see that any bipartite graph with at least three vertices is not Hamiltonian connected. For this reason, Simmons [13] introduced the concept of Hamiltonian laceable for Hamiltonian bipartite graphs. A Hamiltonian bipartite graph is *Hamiltonian laceable* if there is Hamiltonian path between any two vertices in different bipartite sets. Obviously, the Hamilton cycle can be embedded in the Hamiltonian connected graphs. Then the Hamiltonian connectivity is also important metric in embedding Hamiltonian cycle into the topology of network. There are many desirable results about the Hamiltonian connectivity of some interconnection networks [5,11]. In this paper, we prove that the balanced hypercubes are Hamiltonian laceable.

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we give the definition and basic properties of the  $n$ -dimensional balanced hypercube  $BH_n$ . In Sections 3 and 4, we discuss the edge-bipancyclicity and Hamiltonian laceability of  $BH_n$ , respectively. In Section 5, we conclude the paper.

## 2. Balanced hypercubes

The architecture of an interconnection network 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 joining two vertices  $x$  and  $y$  is denoted by  $(x, y)$ . We will follow graph-theoretical terminologies and notations used in [3].

An  $n$ -dimensional *balanced hypercube* [14], denoted by  $BH_n$ , has  $2^{2n}$  vertices, each of them has a unique  $n$ -component vector on  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$  for an address, which is also called an  $n$ -bit string. A vertex  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$  is adjacent to the following  $2n$  vertices, where  $1 \leq i \leq n - 1$ ,

$$((a_0 + 1) \bmod 4, a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_i, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}), \quad (1)$$

$$((a_0 - 1) \bmod 4, a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, a_i, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}), \text{ and}$$

$$((a_0 + 1) \bmod 4, a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, (a_i + (-1)^{a_0}) \bmod 4, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}), \quad (2)$$

$$((a_0 - 1) \bmod 4, a_1, \dots, a_{i-1}, (a_i + (-1)^{a_0}) \bmod 4, a_{i+1}, \dots, a_{n-1}).$$

Fig. 1 demonstrates two balanced hypercubes of dimension one and two. Clearly, the balanced hypercube  $BH_n$  can be constructed from four copies of  $BH_{n-1}$  by adding a new dimension as the  $n$ th index of every vertex in  $BH_n$ .

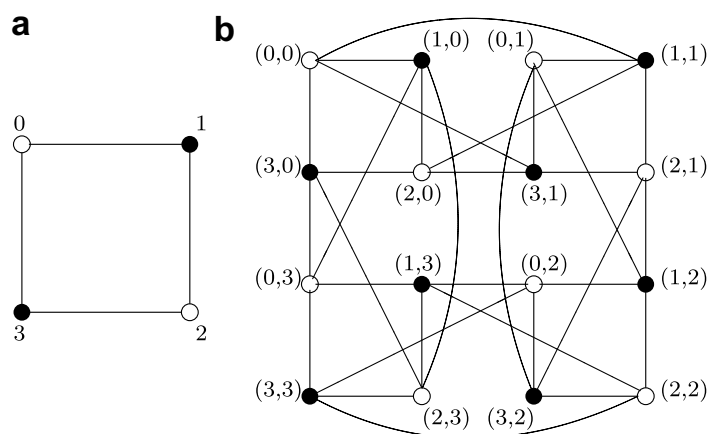


Fig. 1. Two balanced hypercubes: (a)  $BH_1$ , and (b)  $BH_2$ .

We use  $BH_{n-1}^i$  to denote the subgraph of  $BH_n$  which induced by the vertex-set  $\{(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, i) | a_j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}, 0 \leq j \leq n-2\}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 3$ . Obviously,  $BH_{n-1}^i \cong BH_{n-1}$  for  $0 \leq i \leq 3$ .

Wu and Huang [14] gave an equivalent definition of  $BH_n$  which can be recursively constructed as follows:

- (1)  $BH_1$  is a cycle with vertex-set  $\{0, 1, 2, 3\}$ .
- (2)  $BH_{k+1}$  is constructed from four copies of  $BH_k$ :  $BH_k^0, BH_k^1, BH_k^2$  and  $BH_k^3$ . Every vertex  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, i)$  in  $BH_k^i$  ( $0 \leq i \leq 3$ ) has two extra adjacent vertices:
  - (2.1)  $BH_k^{i+1}$ :  $(a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, i + 1)$  and  $(a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, i + 1)$  if  $a_0$  is even.
  - (2.2)  $BH_k^{i-1}$ :  $(a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, i - 1)$  and  $(a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}, i - 1)$  if  $a_0$  is odd.

Obviously,  $BH_n$  has  $2^{2n}$  vertices, each of which has  $2n$  adjacent vertices. Since  $BH_n$  is a bipartite graph, the vertex-set  $V_1 = \{a = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) | a \in V(BH_n) \text{ and } a_0 \text{ is odd}\}$  and  $V_2 = \{a = (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1}) | a \in V(BH_n) \text{ and } a_0 \text{ is even}\}$  make the desired partition. In Fig. 1 (and other figures too), we use black nodes to denote the vertices in  $V_1$  and white nodes to denote the vertices in  $V_2$ .

### 3. Edge-bipancyclicity of balanced hypercubes

In this section, we consider the edge-bipancyclicity of balanced hypercubes. We will prove a stronger result than that obtained by Wu and Huang [14]. For this purpose, we need the following lemma.

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $(u, v)$  be an edge of  $BH_n$ . Then  $(u, v)$  is contained in a cycle  $C$  of length 8 in  $BH_n$  such that  $|E(C) \cap E(BH_{n-1}^i)| = 1$  where  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $BH_n$  is transitive, without loss of generality, we assume  $u = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$ . We consider three different cases with respect to edge  $(u, v)$  in the following.

Case 1.  $v = (v_0, 0, \dots, 0)$  where  $v_0 = \pm 1$ . In this case it can be verified that

$$\begin{aligned} (v, u) &+ ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)) + ((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)) \\ &+ ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) + ((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) \\ &+ ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) + ((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) \\ &+ ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 0)(= v)) \end{aligned}$$

makes the desired cycle.

Case 2.  $v = \left( v_0, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{i-1}, 1, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{n-i-1} \right)$  where  $v_0 = \pm 1$  and  $1 \leq i \leq n-2$ . In this case it can be verified that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & (v, u) \\
 & +((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)) \\
 & +\left((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), \left(0, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{i-1}, 3, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{n-i-2}, 1\right)\right) \\
 & +((0, 0, \dots, 0, 3, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) \\
 & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 2, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) \\
 & +((0, 0, \dots, 0, 2, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) \\
 & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) \\
 & +((0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, 0, \dots, 0, 0)(= v))
 \end{aligned}$$

makes the desired cycle.

Case 3.  $v = \left(v_0, \overbrace{0, \dots, 0}^{n-2}, 1\right)$  where  $v_0 = \pm 1$ . In this case, it can be verified that

$$\begin{aligned}
 (u, v) & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1)) + ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) \\
 & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 2)) + ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) \\
 & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 3)) + ((0, 0, \dots, 0, 3), (v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 0)) \\
 & +((v_0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 0)(= u))
 \end{aligned}$$

makes the desired cycle. The Lemma follows.

For simplicity of the presentation, we use  $\langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$  to denote the cycles constructed in Lemma 1, where  $(u^0, v^0) \in E(BH_{n-1}^0)$ ,  $(u^1, v^1) \in E(BH_{n-1}^1)$ ,  $(u^2, v^2) \in E(BH_{n-1}^2)$  and  $(u^3, v^3) \in E(BH_{n-1}^3)$ . See Fig. 2. We are now ready to present one of the main results of this paper.  $\square$

**Theorem 1.** *The balanced hypercube  $BH_n$  is edge-bipancyclic.*

**Proof.** We prove the theorem by mathematical induction on  $n \geq 1$ . The theorem is true for  $n = 1$ . For  $n = 2$ , since  $BH_2$  is vertex-transitive, we only need to prove that each edge incident to  $(0, 0)$  is on a cycle of length  $2i$  for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, 8$ .

It can be verified that the union of the following two cycles of length  $2i$  covers all edges adjacent to  $(0, 0)$  for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, 8$ .

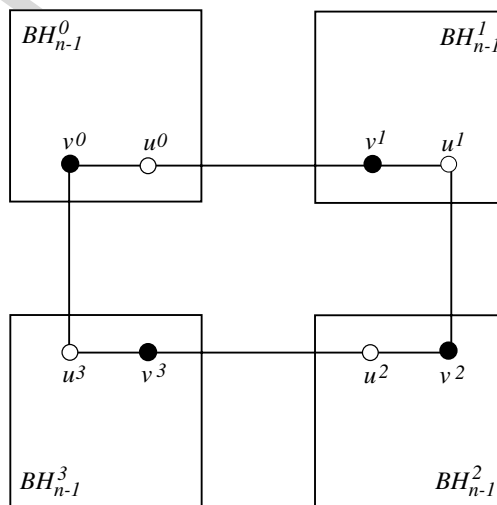


Fig. 2. The cycle  $\langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$ .

- two cycles of length 4  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 1), (2, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 6  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 1), (0, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 8  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 1), (0, 1), (3, 2), (2, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 1), (0, 1), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 10  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 3), (1, 3), (0, 2), (1, 2), (2, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (0, 3), (3, 3), (2, 2), (3, 2), (0, 2), (1, 2), (2, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 12  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 3), (1, 3), (2, 3), \\ (3, 3), (2, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 0), (2, 3), (1, 3), (0, 3), \\ (3, 3), (2, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 14  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 3), (1, 3), (2, 3), (3, 3), \\ (2, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (3, 1), (2, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 0), (2, 3), (1, 3), (0, 3), (3, 3), \\ (2, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$
- two cycles of length 16  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \langle (0, 0), (1, 0), (2, 0), (3, 0), (0, 3), (1, 3), (2, 3), (3, 3), (2, 2), \\ (1, 2), (0, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (3, 1), (2, 1), (1, 1), (0, 0) \rangle, \\ \langle (0, 0), (3, 0), (2, 0), (1, 0), (2, 3), (1, 3), (0, 3), (3, 3), (2, 2), \\ (1, 2), (0, 2), (3, 2), (0, 1), (1, 1), (2, 1), (3, 1), (0, 0) \rangle; \end{array} \right.$

Thus the theorem is true for  $n = 2$ .

Assume now that the theorem is true for all  $2 \leq k < n$ . Let  $e = ((0, 0, \dots, 0), v)$  be any edge of  $BH_n$  incident to  $(0, 0, \dots, 0)$  and let  $\ell$  be any even integer with  $4 \leq \ell \leq 2^{2n}$ , where  $n \geq 3$ . Since  $BH_n$  is vertex-transitive, to complete the proof of theorem, it suffices to show that there exists a cycle of length  $\ell$  in  $BH_n$  containing  $e$ . We consider two cases separately in the following.

Case 1. The vertex  $v$  is in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . If  $4 \leq \ell \leq 2^{2(n-1)}$ , by the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle of length  $\ell$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0 \subseteq BH_n$  that contains  $e$ . We consider two subcases separately in the following.

Case 1.1.  $2^{2(n-1)} + 2 \leq \ell \leq 2^{2(n-1)} + 6$ . For  $n \geq 3$ , we have  $\ell - 6 \geq 4$ . By the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle  $C^0$  of length  $\ell - 6$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$  containing  $e$ . Thus, we can choose an edge  $(u^0, v^0)$  in  $C^0$  different from  $e$  where the first index of  $u$  is even. By Lemma 1, there exists a cycle  $C' = \langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$  of length 8 such that  $(u^0, v^0) \in E(BH_{n-1}^0)$ ,  $(u^1, v^1) \in E(BH_{n-1}^1)$ ,  $(u^2, v^2) \in E(BH_{n-1}^2)$  and  $(u^3, v^3) \in E(BH_{n-1}^3)$  (refer to Fig. 2). Let  $P^0 = C^0 - (u^0, v^0)$  and  $P' = C' - (u^0, v^0)$ . Thus  $P^0 + P'$  makes a cycle of length  $\ell$  in  $BH_n$  containing  $e$ . Specially, let  $C$  to denote the cycle of length  $2^{2(n-1)} + 6$  containing  $e$ .

Case 1.2.  $2^{2(n-1)} + 8 \leq \ell \leq 2^{2n}$ . Let  $\ell' = \ell - 2^{2(n-1)}$ . For  $\ell' \geq 8$ , we can write  $\ell' = \ell_1 + \ell_2 + \ell_3$  where  $\ell_1, \ell_2$ , and  $\ell_3$  satisfy one of the following conditions:

- $\ell_1 = 2, \ell_2 = 2, \ell_3 \geq 4$  or
- $\ell_1 = 2, \ell_2 \geq 4, \ell_3 \geq 4$  or
- $\ell_1 \geq 4, \ell_2 \geq 4, \ell_3 \geq 4$ .

Consider the cycle  $C$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} + 6$  containing  $e$ . By the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle  $C_1$  of length  $\ell_1$  in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  containing  $(u^1, v^1)$  if  $\ell_1 \geq 4$ , there exists a cycle  $C_2$  of length  $\ell_2$  in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  containing  $(u^2, v^2)$  if  $\ell_2 \geq 4$ , and there exists a cycle  $C_3$  of length  $\ell_3$  in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  containing  $(u^3, v^3)$ . Let

$$P_1 = \begin{cases} (u^1, v^1) & \text{if } \ell_1 = 2, \\ C_1 - (u^1, v^1) & \text{if } \ell_1 \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

$$P_2 = \begin{cases} (u^2, v^2) & \text{if } \ell_2 = 2, \\ C_2 - (u^2, v^2) & \text{if } \ell_2 \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

$$P_3 = C_3 - (u^3, v^3).$$

Then  $P^0 + (u^0, v^1) + P_1 + (u^1, v^2) + P_2 + (u^2, v^3) + P_3 + (u^3, v^0)$  is a cycle of length  $\ell$  in  $BH_n$  and contains edge  $e$ .

Case 2. The vertex  $v$  is in  $BH_{n-1}^1$ . In this case, note  $v = (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$  or  $v = (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$ . We consider four cases separately in the following.

Case 2.1.  $\ell = 4$ . In this case,  $\langle (0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (2, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 0) \rangle$  is a cycle of length four in  $BH_n$  and contains the edges  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$  and  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$ .

Case 2.2.  $\ell = 6$ . In this case,  $\langle (0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 2), (2, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1), (0, 0, \dots, 0, 0) \rangle$  is a cycle of length six in  $BH_n$  and contains the edges  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$  and  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$ .

Case 2.3.  $\ell = 8$ . By Lemma 1, there exists desired cycle containing the edge  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$  and  $((0, 0, \dots, 0, 0), (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1))$ , respectively. Specially, use  $\langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$  to denote the desired cycle containing  $(u^0, v^1)$  where  $u^0 = u = (0, 0, \dots, 0)$  and  $v^1 = v = (1, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$  or  $v^1 = v = (3, 0, \dots, 0, 1)$ .

Case 2.4.  $10 \leq \ell \leq 2^{2n}$ . In this case, we can write  $\ell = \ell_0 + \ell_1 + \ell_2 + \ell_3$  where  $\ell_i$  satisfies one of the following conditions for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3$ :

$$\ell_0 = 2, \ell_1 = 2, \ell_2 = 2, \ell_3 \geq 4 \quad \text{or}$$

$$\ell_0 = 2, \ell_1 = 2, \ell_2 \geq 4, \ell_3 \geq 4 \quad \text{or}$$

$$\ell_0 = 2, \ell_1 \geq 4, \ell_2 \geq 4, \ell_3 \geq 4 \quad \text{or}$$

$$\ell_0 \geq 4, \ell_1 \geq 4, \ell_2 \geq 4, \ell_3 \geq 4.$$

By the induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle  $C^0$  of length  $\ell_0$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$  that contains  $(v^0, u^0)$  if  $\ell_0 \geq 4$ , a cycle  $C_1$  of length  $\ell_1$  in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  that contains  $(v^1, u^1)$  if  $\ell_1 \geq 4$ , a cycle  $C_2$  of length  $\ell_2$  in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  that contains  $(v^2, u^2)$  if  $\ell_2 \geq 4$ , and a cycle  $C_3$  of length  $\ell_3$  in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  that contains  $(v^3, u^3)$ . Let

$$P_0 = \begin{cases} (v^0, u^0) & \text{if } \ell_0 = 2, \\ C_0 - (v^0, u^0) & \text{if } \ell_0 \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

$$P_1 = \begin{cases} (v^1, u^1) & \text{if } \ell_1 = 2, \\ C_1 - (v^1, u^1) & \text{if } \ell_1 \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

$$P_2 = \begin{cases} (v^2, u^2) & \text{if } \ell_2 = 2, \\ C_2 - (v^2, u^2) & \text{if } \ell_2 \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

$$P_3 = C_3 - (v^3, u^3).$$

Then  $(u^0, v^1) + P_1 + (u^1, v^2) + P_2 + (u^2, v^3) + P_3 + (u^3, v^0) + P_0$  is a cycle of length  $\ell$  in  $BH_n$  and contains  $e$ . Then Theorem 1 follows.  $\square$

From Theorem 1 we can deduce the following corollary due to Wu and Huang [14].

**Corollary.** *There exists a cycle of length  $2^l$  in the balanced hypercube  $BH_n$  for all  $l, 2 \leq l \leq 2n$ .*

#### 4. Hamiltonian laceability of balanced hypercubes

In this section, we consider the Hamiltonian laceability of the balanced hypercubes and present another main result of this paper. For this purpose, we first prove the following lemma.



**Lemma 2.** Let  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-1})$  be any vertex of  $BH_n$ , then there exists a Hamiltonian cycle that contains the path  $\langle (a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0 + 2, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}) \rangle$ .

**Proof.** We prove the lemma by mathematical induction on  $n \geq 1$ . The theorem is true for  $n = 1$ . Assume the theorem is true for all  $1 \leq k < n$ . Since  $n \geq 2$ , then the vertices  $(a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})$ ,  $(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})$ ,  $(a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})$  and  $(a_0 + 2, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})$  are in  $BH_{n-1}^{a_{n-1}}$ . Assume without loss of generality that  $a_{n-1} = 0$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a cycle  $C_0$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that contains the path  $\langle (a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0 + 2, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0) \rangle$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . Since  $n \geq 2$ , there exists an edge  $(u^0, v^0) \in E(C_0)$  such that at most one of vertices  $u^0$  and  $v^0$  can be in  $\{(a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1}), (a_0 + 2, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, a_{n-1})\}$ , where the first index of  $u^0$  is even. By Lemma 1, there exists a cycle  $C' = \langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$  of length 8 such that  $(u^0, v^0) \in E(BH_{n-1}^0)$ ,  $(u^1, v^1) \in E(BH_{n-1}^1)$ ,  $(u^2, v^2) \in E(BH_{n-1}^2)$  and  $(u^3, v^3) \in E(BH_{n-1}^3)$ , (refer to Fig. 2). By Theorem 1, there exists a cycle  $C_1$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  containing  $(u^1, v^1)$ , a cycle  $C_2$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  containing  $(u^2, v^2)$  and a cycle  $C_3$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  containing  $(u^3, v^3)$ . Let  $P_0 = C_0 - (u^0, v^0)$ ,  $P_1 = C_1 - (u^1, v^1)$ ,  $P_2 = C_2 - (u^2, v^2)$  and  $P_3 = C_3 - (u^3, v^3)$ . Then

$$P_0 + (u^0, v^1) + P_1 + (u^1, v^2) + P_2 + (u^2, v^3) + P_3 + (u^3, v^0),$$

is a Hamiltonian path of  $BH_n$  containing the path  $\langle (a_0 - 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0 + 1, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0), (a_0 + 2, a_1, \dots, a_{n-2}, 0) \rangle$ . The lemma follows.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** The balanced hypercubes  $BH_n$  are Hamiltonian laceable for  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proof.** We prove the theorem by induction on  $n \geq 1$ . The theorem is true for  $n = 1$ . Assume the theorem is true for all  $1 \leq k < n$ . Suppose  $x = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1})$  and  $y = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-1})$  be any two vertices such that  $x_0 + y_0$  is odd. Since  $BH_n$  is vertex-transitive, without loss of generality, we assume that  $x_0 = 0$  and  $x_{n-1} = 0$  which means that  $y_0$  is odd and  $y \in V_1, x \in V_2$ . We will consider three cases.

- Case 1.  $y_{n-1} = 0$ . In this case,  $x$  and  $y$  lie in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_0$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  joining  $x$  and  $y$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . Thus, we can choose an edge  $(u^0, v^0)$  in  $P_0$  where the first index of  $u^0$  is even. By Lemma 1 (and refer to Fig. 2), there exists a cycle  $C' = \langle v^0, u^0, v^1, u^1, v^2, u^2, v^3, u^3, v^0 \rangle$  of length 8 such that  $(u^0, v^0) \in E(BH_{n-1}^0)$ ,  $(u^1, v^1) \in E(BH_{n-1}^1)$ ,  $(u^2, v^2) \in E(BH_{n-1}^2)$  and  $(u^3, v^3) \in E(BH_{n-1}^3)$ . By Theorem 1, there exists a cycle  $C_1$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  that contains  $(u^1, v^1)$ , a cycle  $C_2$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  that contains  $(u^2, v^2)$  and a cycle  $C_3$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  that contains  $(u^3, v^3)$ . Let  $P'_0 = P_0 - (u^0, v^0)$ ,  $P_1 = C_1 - (u^1, v^1)$ ,  $P_2 = C_2 - (u^2, v^2)$  and  $P_3 = C_3 - (u^3, v^3)$ . Then  $P'_0 + (u^0, v^1) + P_1 + (u^1, v^2) + P_2 + (u^2, v^3) + P_3 + (u^3, v^0)$  is a path of length  $2^{2n} - 1$  in  $BH_n$  that joins  $x$  and  $y$ .
- Case 2.  $y_{n-1} = 1$  or  $y_{n-1} = 3$ . In this case, without loss of generality, we assume  $y_{n-1} = 1$ . Then  $x$  lies in  $BH_{n-1}^0$  and  $y$  lies in  $BH_{n-1}^1$ . Let  $v^0$  be an arbitrary vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^0$  with the odd first index. By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_0$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $x$  and  $v^0$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . Let  $u^3$  be a vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  such that  $(v^0, u^3) \in E(BH_n)$ . Then the first index of  $u^3$  is even. Choose an arbitrary vertex  $v^3$  with the odd first index in  $BH_{n-1}^3$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_3$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $u^3$  and  $v^3$ . Let  $u^2$  be a vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  such that  $(v^3, u^2) \in E(BH_n)$ . Then the first index of  $u^2$  is even. Choose an arbitrary vertex  $v^2$  with the odd first index in  $BH_{n-1}^2$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_2$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $u^2$  and  $v^2$ . Let  $u^1$  be a vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  such that  $(v^2, u^1) \in E(BH_n)$ . Then the first index of  $u^1$  is even. By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_1$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $u^1$  and  $y$ . Then  $P_0 + (v^0, u^3) + P_3 + (v^3, u^2) + P_2 + (v^2, u^1) + P_1$  is a path of length  $2^{2n} - 1$  in  $BH_n$  that joins  $x$  and  $y$  (see Fig. 3).
- Case 3.  $y_{n-1} = 2$ . In this case,  $x$  lies in  $BH_{n-1}^0$  and  $y$  lies in  $BH_{n-1}^2$ . Let  $y^0 = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 0)$  be a vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a path  $P_0$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $x$  and  $y^0$  in  $BH_{n-1}^0$ . Let  $x^0$  be the second-last vertex of  $P_0$  and choose  $y^1$  be a vertex in  $BH_{n-1}^1$  such that  $(y^1, x^0) \in E(BH_n)$ . Then the first index of  $y^1$  is odd. Let  $x^1 = (y_0 + 1, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 1)$ , then  $(x^1, y) \in E(BH_n)$  and  $(x^1, (y_0 + 2, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 2)) \in E(BH_n)$ . By induction hypothesis, there exists a

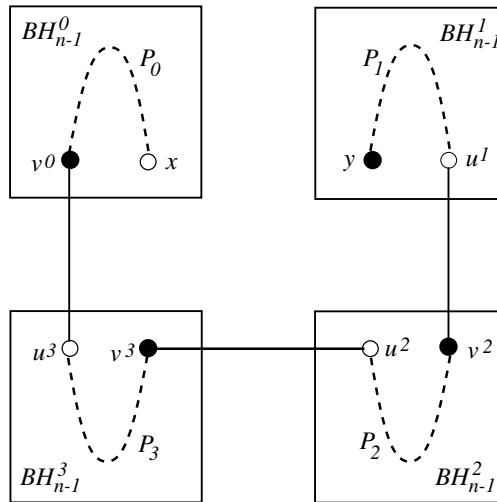


Fig. 3. The path of length  $2^{2n} - 1$  in  $BH_n$  that joins  $x$  and  $y$ .

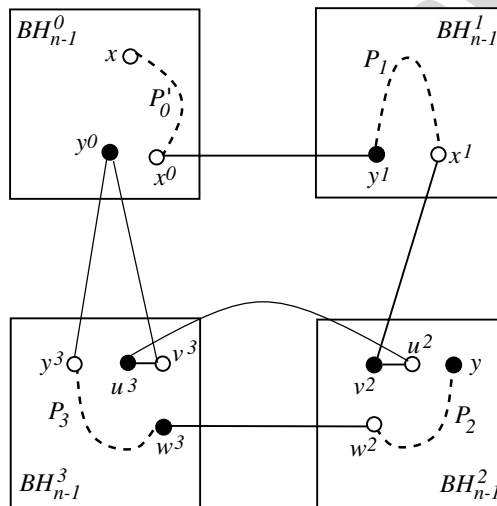


Fig. 4. The path of length  $2^{2n} - 1$  in  $BH_n$  joining  $x$  and  $y$ .

path  $P_1$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)} - 1$  that joins  $y^1$  and  $x^1$ . For convenience, let  $u^2 = (y_0 + 1, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 2)$ ,  $v^2 = (y_0 + 2, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 2)$ ,  $w^2 = (y_0 + 3, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 2)$ ,  $y^3 = (y_0 - 1, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 3)$ ,  $u^3 = (y_0, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 3)$ ,  $v^3 = (y_0 + 1, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 3)$  and  $w^3 = (y_0 + 2, y_1, \dots, y_{n-2}, 3)$ . By Lemma 2, there exists a cycle  $C_2$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^2$  that contains the path  $\langle y, u^2, v^2, w^2 \rangle$  and exists a cycle  $C_3$  of length  $2^{2(n-1)}$  in  $BH_{n-1}^3$  that contains the path  $\langle y^3, u^3, v^3, w^3 \rangle$ . Let  $P'_0 = P_0 - \langle y^0, x^0 \rangle$ ,  $P_2 = C_2 - \langle y, u^2, v^2, w^2 \rangle$  and  $P_3 = C_3 - \langle y^3, u^3, v^3, w^3 \rangle$ . Then  $P'_0 + \langle x^0, y^1 \rangle + P_1 + \langle x^1, v^2 \rangle + \langle v^2, u^2 \rangle + \langle u^2, u^3 \rangle + \langle u^3, v^3 \rangle + \langle v^3, y^0 \rangle + \langle y^0, y^3 \rangle + P_3 + \langle w^3, w^2 \rangle + P_2$  is a path of length  $2^{2n} - 1$  in  $BH_n$  that joins  $x$  and  $y$  (see Fig. 4). The proof of Theorem 2 is complete.  $\square$

### 5. Conclusions

The balanced hypercube, proposed by Huang and Wu [9], forms a hypercube variant that give better performance with the same number of edges and vertices. It has been shown that there exists a cycle of length  $2^l$  in  $BH_n$  for all  $l, 2 \leq l \leq 2n$ . In this paper, we improve this result by showing that  $BH_n$  is edge-pancyclic which means that for arbitrary edge  $e$ , there exists a cycle of even length from 4 to  $2^{2n}$  each containing  $e$  in  $BH_n$ . We also show that the balanced hypercubes are Hamiltonian laceable.



Since the vertex-connectivity and the edge-connectivity of  $BH_n$  is  $2n$ , the balanced hypercube is still connected when some edges and vertices are broken. The cycle embedding problem of  $BH_n$  has been discussed regarding faulty vertices [14]. But regarding faulty edges, it is not known if there exists desired cycles in  $BH_n$ , this needs further study.

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