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# Edge-fault-tolerant bipanconnectivity of hypercubes

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**Abstract:** It was shown that for any two vertices u and v of the hypercube  $Q_n(n \ge 4)$  with at most n-1 faulty edges, which are not incident with the same vertex if they are exactly n-1, there exists a fault-free uv-path of length l with  $d_{Q_n}(u,v)+4 \le l \le 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d_{Q_n}(u,v))$ . This improves some known results.

Key words: Hamiltonian path; fault-tolerance; hypercube; bipanconnectivity

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## 超立方体网络的边容错二部泛连通度

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摘要:证明了对于至多有n-1条故障边的容错超立方体网络 $Q_n$ ,如果它正好有n-1条故障边但不关联于同一个顶点,那么对于 $Q_n$ 中任意两点u 和v,存在一条长为l 的uv 非故障路,路长l 满足 $d_{Q_n}(u,v)+2 \leqslant l \lesssim 2^n-1$  且  $2|(l-d_{Q_n}(u,v))$ . 这改进了许多已知结果.

关键词:哈密尔顿路;容错;超立方体网络;二部泛连通性

### **0** Introduction

It is well-known that when the underlying topology of an interconnection network is modelled by a connected graph G = (V, E), where V is the set of processors and E is the set of communication links in the network, study of the structure of G is of quite great interest.

A graph G is panconnected if for any two different vertices u and v in G there exists a uv-path of length l with  $d_G(u,v) \leq l \leq |V(G)| - 1$ ,

where  $d_G(u,v)$  is the distance between u and v in G. A bipartite graph G, since it contains no cycles of odd length, is bipanconnected if for any two different vertices u and v in G there exists a uv-path of length l with  $d_G(u,v) \leqslant l \leqslant |V(G)|-1$  and  $2|(l-d_G(u,v))$ .

A graph G is k-edge-fault-tolerant panconnected if the resulting graph by deleting any k edges from G is panconnected. A subgraph of G is fault-free if it contains no faulty edges in G.

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#### 1 Main results

In this paper, we consider the hypercube  $Q_n$  and show that for any two different vertices u and v of  $Q_n$  ( $n \ge 4$ ) with at most n-1 faulty edges, which are not incident with the same vertex if they are exactly n-1, there exists a fault-free uv-path of length l with  $d_{Q_n}(u,v)+4 \le l \le 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d_{Q_n}(u,v))$ .

As consequences of our results, we immediately obtain Li et al's result that  $Q_n$  is bipanconnected and (n-2)-edge-fault-tolerant edge-bipancyclic<sup>[1]</sup>, and Wang's result that  $FQ_n$  is (n-1)-edge-fault-tolerant Hamiltonian<sup>[3]</sup>.

The proof of our main theorem is in Section 2. Throughout this paper, we follow Xu<sup>[4]</sup> for graph-theoretical terminologies and notations not defined here.

# 2 Edge-fault-tolerant bipanconnectivity of $Q_n$

The *n*-dimensional hypercube  $Q_n$  is a graph with  $2^n$  vertices, each vertex with a distinct binary string  $u_n \cdots u_2 u_1$  on the set  $\{0,1\}$ . Two vertices are linked by an edge if and only if their strings differ in exactly one bit. As a topology for an interconnection network of a multiprocessor system, the hypercube structure is a widely used and well-known interconnection model since it possesses many attractive properties<sup>[2,4]</sup>. In particular,  $Q_n$  is vertex-transitive and edgetransitive with diameter n.

By definition, for any  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ ,  $Q_n$  can be expressed as  $Q_n = L_k \odot R_k$ , where  $L_k$  and  $R_k$  are the two (n-1)-subcubes of  $Q_n$  induced by the vertices with the k position being 0 and 1, respectively. We call edges between  $L_k$  and  $R_k$  k-dimensional, which form a perfect match of  $Q_n$ . Use  $u_L$  and  $u_R$  to denote the two vertices in  $L_k$  and  $R_k$ , respectively, linked by the k-dimensional edge  $u_L u_R$  in  $Q_n$ . For a subset F of  $E(Q_n)$  and any  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , we always express  $Q_n$  as  $Q_n = L_k \odot R_k$ , and let  $F_L = F \cap E(L_k)$ ,  $F_R = F \cap E(R_k)$ . Clearly,

for any edge e of  $Q_n$ , there is some  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  such that e is k-dimensional. Let  $E_k$  be all k-dimensional edges in  $Q_n$ . Clearly,

$$E(Q_n) = E_1 \cup E_2 \cup \cdots \cup E_n$$
.

**Lemma 2. 1**<sup>[5]</sup> If  $Q_n(n \ge 2)$  has at most n-2 faulty edges, then for any two different vertices u and v there exists a fault-free uv-path of length l with  $d_{Q_n}(u,v)+2 \le l \le 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d_{Q_n}(u,v))$ .

**Theorem 2.2** Let F be a set of faulty edges in  $Q_n(n \ge 4)$ . If  $|F| \le n-1$ , and all edges in F are not incident with the same vertex if |F| = n-1, then for any two different vertices u and v there exists a fault-free uv-path of length l with  $d(u,v)+4 \le l \le 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d(u,v))$ .

**Proof** We prove this theorem by induction on  $n \ge 4$ . For n = 4, we have verified this conclusion with a computer by the depth first search method within a polynomial time. Suppose that the theorem is true for m with  $4 \le m < n$ . Let F be a subset of  $E(Q_n)$ , and without loss of generality, |F| = n - 1 and suppose that all edges in F are not incident with the same vertex. Let u and v be the two vertices in  $Q_n$  and we need to construct a uv-path of length l in  $Q_n - F$  with  $d(u, v) + 4 \le l \le 2^n - 1$  and  $2 \mid (l - d(u, v))$ .

Let  $F_k = F \cap E_k$ . We choose  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  according to the following rules:

( [] ) If it is possible, we choose any k such that  $|F_k| \ge 2$ .

( $\prod$ ) Otherwise, the n-1 faulty edges are on different dimensions. We choose k such that the k-dimensional faulty edge is incident with maximum faulty edges.

We express  $Q_n = L_k \odot R_k$ . Let  $F_L = F \cap L_k$ ,  $F_R = F \cap R_k$ . Then  $F = F_k \cup F_L \cup F_R$ ,  $|F_k| \ge 1$ ,  $|F_L| \cup |F_R| \le n-2$  and there are no n-2 faulty edges in L or R which are incident with the same vertex.

Case 1  $u,v \in L$  (or R).

Since  $|F_L| \leq n-2$ , by the induction hypothesis, there is a *uv*-path  $P_w$  of length l in L with

$$d(u,v) + 4 \le l \le 2^{n-1} - 1,$$
  
  $2 \mid (l - d(u,v)).$ 

Let  $P_L$  be a uv-path of length  $l_L$  in L with  $2^{n-1}-6 \leqslant l_L \leqslant 2^{n-1}-1$  and  $2 \mid (l_L-d(u,v))$ . Since  $2^{n-1}-6 > 2(n-1)$  when  $n \geqslant 5$ , there exists an edge xy of  $P_L$  such that  $\{xx_R, yy_R, x_Ry_R\} \cap F = \emptyset$ . By the induction hypothesis, there is an  $x_Ry_{R-1}$  path  $P_{x_Ry_R}$  of odd length  $l_R$  in R with  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$ . Then  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$ . Then  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  is a  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  of length  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  in  $1 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  and  $2 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  and  $2 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}$ .

Case 2  $u \in L$ ,  $v \in R$  (or  $u \in R$ ,  $v \in L$ ). Subcase 2. 1 Assume  $d_Q(u,v) \geqslant 2$ .

Suppose that one of the two edges  $\{uu_R, vv_L\}$  is fault-free. Without loss of generality,  $uu_R$  is fault-free. It is clear that  $d(u,v)=1+d(u_R,v)$ .

By the induction hypothesis, there is a  $u_Rv$ -path  $P_{u_Rv}$  of length  $l_L$  with  $d(u_R,v)+4 \leqslant l_L \leqslant 2^{n-1}-1$  and  $2 \mid (l_L-d(u_R,v))$ . Thus  $uu_R+P_{u_Rv}$  is a uv-path of length l with  $d(u,v)+4 \leqslant l \leqslant 2^{n-1}$  and  $2 \mid (l-d(u,v))$ .

We construct a uv-path of length l with  $2^{n-1}+1 \leqslant l \leqslant 2^n$  and  $2 \mid (l-d(u,v))$  as follows. Select a fault-free k-dimensional edge  $x_L x_R$  in  $Q_n$ . By the induction hypothesis, there is a  $ux_L$ -path  $P_{ux_L}$  of length  $l_L$  with  $(n-1)+4 \leqslant l_L \leqslant 2^{n-1}-1$  and  $2 \mid l_L-d(u,x_L)$  in L since  $d(u,x_L) \leqslant n-1$ . Similarly, there is an  $x_R v$ -path  $P_{x_R v}$  of length  $l_R$  with  $(n-1)+4 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}-1$  and  $2 \mid (l_R-d(x_R,v))$  in R. Thus  $P_{ux_L}+x_Lx_R+P_{x_R v}$  is a uv-path of length  $l=l_L+l_R+1$  in  $Q_n-F$  with  $2^{n-1}+1 \leqslant l \leqslant 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d(u,v))$ .

When the two edges  $\{uu_R, vv_L\}$  are both faulty, then  $|F_k| \ge 2$ ,  $|F_L| \bigcup |F_R| \le n-3$ .

There exists a neighbor vertex  $x_L$  of u in L such that  $\{ux_L, x_Lx_R\} \cap F = \emptyset$  and  $x_R \neq v$ . It is clear that  $d(u,v) \geqslant d(x_R,v)$ . By Lemma 2.1, there is an  $x_Rv$ -path  $P_{x_Rv}$  of length  $l_R$  with  $d(x_R,v)+2 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1}-1$  and  $2 \mid l_R-d(x_R,v)$  in R. Since the edge  $ux_L$  is fault-free and  $|F_L| \leqslant n-3$ , there is a  $ux_L$ -path  $P_{ux_L}$  of odd length  $l_L=1$ ,  $3,5,\cdots,2^{n-1}-1$  in L. Thus  $P_{ux_L}+x_Lx_R+P_{x_Rv}$  is a uv-path of length  $l=l_L+l_R+1$  in  $Q_n-F$  with  $d(u,v)+4 \leqslant l \leqslant 2^n-1$  and  $2 \mid (l-d(u,v))$ .

**Subcase 2.2** Assume  $d_{Q_n}(u,v) = 1$ . Without

loss of generality, let  $|F_L| \ge |F_R|$ .

Assume  $|F_k| \ge 2$ . Note that every neighbor x of u is adjacent to neighbor  $x_R$  of v. If there exists a vertex x adjacent to v in R such that  $\{xv, xx_L\} \cap F = \emptyset$ , by Lemma 2.1, there is a vx-path  $P_R$  of odd length  $l_R$  in R with  $1 \le l_R \le 2^{n-1} - 1$  and there is a  $ux_L$ -path  $P_L$  of odd length  $l_L$  in L with  $3 \le l_L \le 2^{n-1} - 1$ . Then  $P_L + xx_L + P_R$  is a uv-path of odd length l in  $Q_n - F$  with  $5 \le l \le 2^n - 1$ .

Notice that  $|F_L| \geqslant |F_R|$ , if we can not choose a vertex x adjacent to v in R such that  $\{xv, xx_L\} \cap F = \emptyset$ , then every  $xx_L \in F_k$  and  $|F_k| = n - 1$ ,  $|F_L| = |F_R| = 0$ . There exists a vertex y in L such that  $uy + yy_R + y_Rv$  is a uv-path of length 5 in  $Q_n - F$ . There is a uy-path  $P_L$  of even length  $l_L$  in L with  $2 \leqslant l_L \leqslant 2^{n-1} - 1$  and there is a  $vy_R$ -path  $P_R$  of even length  $l_R$  in R with  $2 \leqslant l_R \leqslant 2^{n-1} - 1$ . Then  $P_L + yy_R + P_R$  is a uv-path of odd length l in  $Q_n - F$  with  $1 \leqslant l \leqslant 2^n - 1$ .

Assume  $|F_k|=1$ . At least two incident edges with u in L are fault-free. There exists a neighbor x of u in L such that  $xx_R \notin F_k$ . By the induction hypothesis, there is a ux-path  $P_L$  of odd length  $l_L=1$ ,  $2^{n-1}-1$  in  $L-F_L$ . Since  $|F_R| < n-3$ , by Lemma 2.1, there is a  $vx_R$ -path  $P_R$  of odd length  $l_R$  in  $R-F_R$  with  $3 \le l_R \le 2^{n-1}-1$ . Then  $P_L+xx_R+P_R$  is a uv-path of odd length l in  $Q_n-F$  with  $5 \le l \le 2^n-1$ .

This completes the proof of Theorem 2.2.  $\square$ 

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