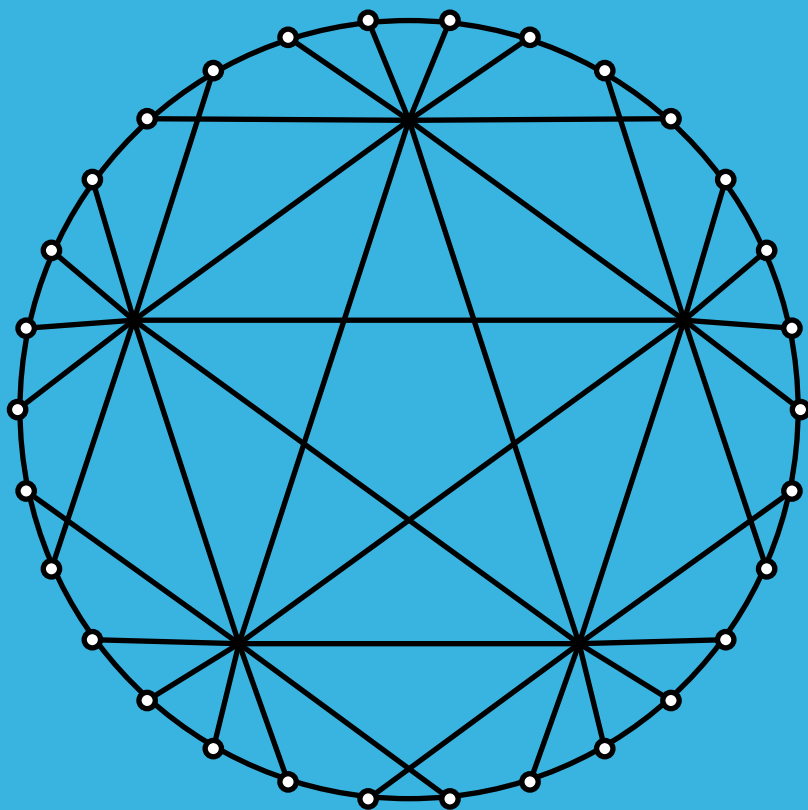


# **BULLETIN of The INSTITUTE of COMBINATORICS and its APPLICATIONS**

**Volume 96  
October 2022**

**Editors-in-Chief:**

**Marco Buratti, Donald Kreher, Ortrud Oellermann, Tran van Trung**



**Duluth, Minnesota, U.S.A.**

**ISSN: 2689-0674 (Online)  
ISSN: 1183-1278 (Print)**



# $4t$ -cycle decomposition of the 2-fold tensor product $(K_m \times K_n)(2)$

R. SAMPATHKUMAR AND T. SIVAKARAN\*

**Abstract.** In this paper, it is shown that if  $t$ ,  $m$  and  $n$  are positive integers with  $t \geq 3$  is odd,  $m \geq 3$ ,  $n \geq 3$  and  $mn \geq 4t$ , then the 2-fold of the tensor product of complete graphs  $K_m$  and  $K_n$ , that is  $(K_m \times K_n)(2)$ , admits a decomposition into cycles of length  $4t$ , whenever  $m \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{t}$ , or  $n \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{t}$ . For any prime  $p$ , a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a  $4p$ -cycle decomposition of  $(K_m \times K_n)(2)$  is also obtained.

## 1 Introduction and definitions

For a simple graph  $G$  and a positive integer  $\lambda$ , the graph  $G(\lambda)$  is the graph obtained from  $G$  by replacing each of its edges by  $\lambda$  parallel edges. For a graph  $G$  and a positive integer  $\lambda$ ,  $\lambda G$  denotes  $\lambda$  mutually vertex disjoint copies of  $G$ . Let  $P_k$  (respectively,  $C_k$ ) denote a path (respectively, cycle) on  $k$  vertices. The complete graph on  $m$  vertices is denoted by  $K_m$ . For a simple graph  $G$ ,  $\overline{G}$  denotes the *complement* of  $G$ .

If  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k$  are edge-disjoint subgraphs of the graph  $G$  such that  $E(G) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k E(H_i)$ , then  $H_1, H_2, \dots, H_k$  *decompose*  $G$  and we write  $G = H_1 \oplus H_2 \oplus \dots \oplus H_k$ . If for each  $i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$ ,  $H_i \cong H$ , then  $G$  has a  $H$ -*decomposition* and we write  $H|G$ . A graph  $G$  has a  $C_k$ -*decomposition* or a  $k$ -*cycle decomposition* whenever  $C_k|G$ . A  $k$ -regular graph  $G$  is *Hamilton cycle decomposable* if  $G$  is decomposable into  $\frac{k}{2}$  Hamilton cycles when  $k$  is even and into  $\frac{k-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles together with a 1-factor when  $k$  is odd. For simple graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , the *tensor product* of  $G$  and  $H$ , denoted by  $G \times H$ , has vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  in which two vertices  $(g_1, h_1)$  and  $(g_2, h_2)$  are adjacent whenever  $g_1g_2 \in E(G)$  and  $h_1h_2 \in E(H)$ .

---

\*Corresponding author: [shivaganesh1431991@gmail.com](mailto:shivaganesh1431991@gmail.com)

**Key words and phrases:** decomposition, tensor product, wreath product

**AMS (MOS) Subject Classifications:** 05C38, 05C51, 05C76

For simple graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , and positive integers  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , the *tensor product* of  $G(\lambda_1)$  and  $H(\lambda_2)$ , denoted by  $G(\lambda_1) \times H(\lambda_2)$ , is  $(G \times H)(\lambda_1 \lambda_2)$ . In particular, for simple graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , and a positive integer  $\lambda$ , the tensor products  $G(\lambda) \times H$  and  $G \times H(\lambda)$  are  $(G \times H)(\lambda)$ .

Clearly, the tensor product is commutative and distributive over edge-disjoint union of graphs; that is,  $G \times H \cong H \times G$ , and if

$$G = H_1 \oplus H_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus H_k$$

then

$$G \times H = (H_1 \times H) \oplus (H_2 \times H) \oplus \cdots \oplus (H_k \times H).$$

Similarly, for simple graphs  $G$  and  $H$ , the *wreath product* of  $G$  and  $H$ , denoted by  $G \circ H$ , has vertex set  $V(G) \times V(H)$  in which two vertices  $(g_1, h_1)$  and  $(g_2, h_2)$  are adjacent whenever  $g_1 g_2 \in E(G)$  or,  $g_1 = g_2$  and  $h_1 h_2 \in E(H)$ .

Clearly,  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$  is isomorphic to the complete  $m$ -partite graph in which each partite set has  $n$  vertices and  $(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n) - E(nK_m) \cong K_m \times K_n$ .

For graph theoretical terms not defined here see [12, 43].

For non-negative integers  $a$  and  $b$  with  $a < b$ , we denote the set

$$\{a, a + 1, a + 2, \dots, b\}$$

by  $[a, b]$ .

Finding a  $C_k$ -decomposition of  $K_{2n+1}$  or  $K_{2n} - F$ , where  $F$  is a 1-factor of  $K_{2n}$ , is completely settled by Alspach et al. [2] and Šajna [36]. An alternate proof for a  $C_{2k+1}$ -decomposition of  $K_{2n+1}$  is obtained by Buratti [19]. Alspach et al. [3] obtained a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a  $k$ -cycle decomposition of  $K_n(2)$ . Smith [39] proved that the necessary conditions are sufficient for the existence of a  $p$ -cycle decomposition of  $K_n(\lambda)$ , where  $p \geq 3$  is a prime. In [17, 18], it is proved that the necessary conditions are sufficient for the existence of  $K_n(\lambda)$  to admit a decomposition into cycles of variable lengths, or into cycles of variable lengths and a 1-factor. In [41], Sotteau proved that  $C_{2k}|K_{a,b}$  whenever the obvious necessary conditions are satisfied. Asplund et al. [8] proved that  $K_{a,b}(\lambda)$  can be decomposed into cycles of different even lengths whenever the necessary conditions are satisfied. In [23], Hanani proved that  $C_3|(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$  whenever the necessary conditions are satisfied. Billington et al. [14] proved that

$C_5|(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$  whenever the necessary conditions are satisfied. Further, for  $k \in \{2, 3, 4\}$ , Cavenagh [21], solved the  $C_{2k}$ -decomposition problem for complete multipartite graphs. Manikandan and Paulraja [28, 29] obtained a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a  $C_p$ -decomposition of  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$ , where  $p \geq 5$  is a prime. In [37, 38, 40], it is proved that the necessary conditions for the existence of  $C_k$ -decomposition,  $k \in \{2p, 3p, p^2\}$ , of  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$  are sufficient. Further, in [35], Muthusamy and Shanmuga Vadivu proved the existence of a  $C_k$ -decomposition of  $(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$  whenever  $k$  is even. Irrespective of the parity of  $k$ , Buratti et al. [20] actually solved the existence problem for a  $k$ -cycle decomposition of  $(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$  whose cycle-set can be partitioned into 2-regular graphs containing all the vertices except those belonging to one part. Horsley [24], studied the decompositions of various graphs into short even-length cycles. Recently, in [10], Bahmanian and Sajna, developed two techniques layering and detachment; using these techniques studied the existence of resolvable cycle decompositions of complete multigraphs and complete equipartite multigraphs. Decompositions of  $(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$  into cycles of variable lengths are considered in [9].

A similar problem of decomposing  $(K_m \times K_n)(\lambda)$ , a proper spanning subgraph of  $(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)(\lambda)$ , into cycles of length  $k$  is considered here. In the study of group divisible designs (respectively, modified group divisible designs), the edge sets of  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$  (respectively,  $K_m \times K_n$ ) is partitioned into complete subgraphs, see [4, 5, 6, 7, 15, 16, 23, 26]. Assaf [5] used modified group divisible designs to construct covering designs, packing designs and group divisible designs with block size 5. For prime  $p \geq 5$ , existence of a  $p$ -cycle decomposition of  $K_m \times K_n$  is effectively used to obtain a  $p$ -cycle decomposition of  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$ , see [28, 29]. Further, Hamilton cycle decomposition of  $K_m \times K_n$  is completely settled by Balakrishnan et al. [11]. Hence the graph  $K_m \times K_n$  is an important regular subgraph of  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$ . For related developments of the study of Hamilton cycle decompositions in tensor products of complete multipartite graphs, or a complete graph and a complete bipartite graph, or a complete bipartite graph and a complete multipartite graph see [27, 30, 31]. Recently, Ganesamurthy et al. [22] obtained a necessary and sufficient condition for the existence of a  $C_{4p}$ -decomposition of  $K_m \times K_n$ , where  $p \geq 3$  is a prime. In [34], Paulraja and Sivakaran obtained a necessary and sufficient condition for the graph  $(K_m \times K_n)(2)$  to admit a  $k$ -cycle decomposition, where  $k \in \{p, 2p, 3p, p^2\}$  and  $p$  is a prime.

The necessary conditions for the existence of a  $C_{4t}$ -decomposition of  $(K_m \times K_n)(\lambda)$  is that  $4t$  divides  $\frac{\lambda mn(m-1)(n-1)}{2}$  and  $\lambda(m-1)(n-1)$ , the degree of each vertex of  $(K_m \times K_n)(\lambda)$ , is divisible by 2, the degree of each vertex of  $C_{4t}$ .

In this paper, we obtain the following results.

**Theorem 1.1.** *Let  $t, m$  and  $n$  be positive integers with  $t \geq 3$  is odd,  $m \geq 3, n \geq 3$  and  $mn \geq 4t$ . Then, the 2-fold of the tensor product of complete graphs  $K_m$  and  $K_n$ , that is,  $(K_m \times K_n)(2)$ , has a  $4t$ -cycle decomposition, whenever  $m \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{t}$  or  $n \equiv 0, 1 \pmod{t}$*

**Theorem 1.2.** *Let  $p, m$  and  $n$  be positive integers with  $p \geq 2$  is prime,  $m \geq 3, n \geq 3$  and  $mn \geq 4p$ . Then,  $C_{4p} | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$  if and only if  $4p | m(m-1)n(n-1)$ .*

## 2 Preliminary results

We use the following notation for the vertices of  $G \times H$ . Let  $V(G) = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$  and  $V(H) = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n\}$ . Then,  $V(G \times H) = \{v_i^j : i = 1, 2, \dots, m \text{ and } j = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , where  $v_i^j = (x_i, y_j)$ .

Write, for  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ ,  $\{x_i\} \times V(H) = \{v_i^1, v_i^2, \dots, v_i^n\}$  by  $V_i$ , the  $i^{\text{th}}$ -layer of vertices of  $G \times H$  corresponding to  $x_i$ .

Consider the complete bipartite graph  $K_{n,n}$  with bipartition  $(V_r, V_s)$ , where  $r, s \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}, r \neq s, V_r = \{v_r^1, v_r^2, \dots, v_r^n\}$  and  $V_s = \{v_s^1, v_s^2, \dots, v_s^n\}$ . For  $\ell \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ , let  $F_\ell(V_r, V_s) = \{v_r^t v_s^{t+\ell} | t = 1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , where addition  $t + \ell$  in the superscript of  $v_s^{t+\ell}$  is taken modulo  $n$  with residues  $1, 2, \dots, n$ . The edge  $v_r^t v_s^{t+\ell} \in F_\ell(V_r, V_s)$  is called an *edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_r$  to  $V_s$* . Note that,  $F_\ell(V_r, V_s) = F_{n-\ell}(V_s, V_r)$ . So, the edge  $v_r^t v_s^{t+\ell}$  is also called an *edge of length  $n - \ell$  from  $V_s$  to  $V_r$* . The *rotation-distance* of two edges  $v_r^{t_1} v_s^{t_1+\ell}, v_r^{t_2} v_s^{t_2+\ell}$  in  $F_\ell(V_r, V_s)$ , where  $t_1, t_2 \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , of same length  $\ell$  from  $V_r$  to  $V_s$  is defined as  $\min\{|t_1 - t_2|, n - |t_1 - t_2|\}$ . Note that, rotation-distances are in  $\{1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor\}$ .

Define a permutation  $\sigma$  on  $V(G \times H)$  ( $= V((G \times H)(2))$ ) as follows: for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m\}$ ,  $\sigma(v_i^j) = v_i^{j+1}$  if  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}$  and  $\sigma(v_i^n) = v_i^1$ .

## 2.1 $P_{2t+1} \times K_3$

**Lemma 2.1.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer, then  $C_{4t} | (P_{2t+1} \times K_3)$ .*

*Proof.* Let the path  $P_{2t+1}$  be  $x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_{2t+1}$  and let  $V(K_3) = \{y_1, y_2, y_3\}$ . Then

$$C = v_1^1 - v_2^3 v_3^2 v_4^3 v_5^2 v_6^3 v_7^2 \dots v_{2t-2}^3 v_{2t-1}^2 v_{2t}^3 \\ - v_{2t+1}^1 - v_{2t}^2 v_{2t-1}^3 v_{2t-2}^2 v_{2t-3}^3 v_{2t-4}^2 v_{2t-5}^3 \dots v_4^2 v_3^3 v_2^2 - v_1^1$$

is a cycle of length  $4t$  in  $P_{2t+1} \times K_3$  containing: for each  $i \in [1, 2t]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{1, 2\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ . Hence,  $\{C, \sigma(C), \sigma^2(C)\}$  is a decomposition of  $P_{2t+1} \times K_3$ .  $\square$

## 2.2 $(P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$

**Lemma 2.2.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer, then  $C_{4t} | (P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* Let the path  $P_{t+1}$  be  $x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_{t+1}$ . First, we find five  $4t$ -cycles of  $(P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$  as follows:

$$C_{4t}^1 = v_1^1 - v_2^2 v_3^3 v_4^2 v_5^3 v_6^2 v_7^3 \dots v_{t-1}^2 v_t^3 - v_{t+1}^4 \\ - v_t^6 v_{t-1}^4 v_{t-2}^6 v_{t-3}^4 v_{t-4}^6 v_{t-5}^4 \dots v_3^6 v_2^4 - v_1^2 \\ - v_2^6 v_3^4 v_4^6 v_5^4 v_6^6 v_7^4 \dots v_{t-1}^6 v_t^4 - v_{t+1}^3 \\ - v_t^2 v_{t-1}^3 v_{t-2}^2 v_{t-3}^3 v_{t-4}^2 v_{t-5}^3 \dots v_3^2 v_2^3 - v_1^1$$

( $C_{4t}^1$  contains: one edge of length 1, two edges of length 2 and one edge of length 4 from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 4, 5\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; two edges of length 1, one edge of length 4 and one edge of length 5 from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ),

$$C_{4t}^2 = v_1^2 - v_2^1 v_3^3 v_4^1 v_5^3 v_6^1 v_7^3 \dots v_{t-1}^1 v_t^3 - v_{t+1}^4 \\ - v_t^5 v_{t-1}^6 v_{t-2}^5 v_{t-3}^6 v_{t-4}^5 v_{t-5}^6 \dots v_3^5 v_2^6 v_1^1 \\ - v_2^5 v_3^6 v_4^5 v_5^6 v_6^5 v_7^6 \dots v_{t-1}^5 v_t^6 - v_{t+1}^3 \\ - v_t^1 v_{t-1}^3 v_{t-2}^1 v_{t-3}^3 v_{t-4}^1 v_{t-5}^3 \dots v_3^1 v_2^3 v_1^2$$

( $C_{4t}^2$  contains: one edge of length 1, one edge of length 4 and two edges of length 5 from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 4, 5\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 3, 5\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^3 = & v_1^1 - v_2^4 v_3^6 v_4^4 v_5^6 v_6^4 v_7^6 \dots v_{t-1}^4 v_t^6 - v_{t+1}^3 \\ & - v_t^5 v_{t-1}^3 v_{t-2}^5 v_{t-3}^3 v_{t-4}^5 v_{t-5}^3 \dots v_3^5 v_2^3 - v_1^6 \\ & - v_2^5 v_3^3 v_4^5 v_5^3 v_6^5 v_7^3 \dots v_{t-1}^5 v_t^3 - v_{t+1}^5 \\ & - v_t^4 v_{t-1}^6 v_{t-2}^4 v_{t-3}^6 v_{t-4}^4 v_{t-5}^6 \dots v_3^4 v_2^6 - v_1^4 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^3$  contains: for each  $\ell \in \{3, 5\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{2, 4\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in [1, 4]$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^4 = & v_1^1 - v_2^3 v_3^4 v_4^3 v_5^4 v_6^3 v_7^4 \dots v_{t-1}^3 v_t^4 - v_{t+1}^2 \\ & - v_t^6 v_{t-1}^1 v_{t-2}^6 v_{t-3}^1 v_{t-4}^6 v_{t-5}^1 \dots v_3^6 v_2^1 - v_1^4 \\ & - v_2^6 v_3^1 v_4^6 v_5^1 v_6^6 v_7^1 \dots v_{t-1}^6 v_t^1 - v_{t+1}^6 \\ & - v_t^3 v_{t-1}^4 v_{t-2}^3 v_{t-3}^4 v_{t-4}^3 v_{t-5}^4 \dots v_3^3 v_2^4 - v_1^1 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^4$  contains: for each  $\ell \in [2, 3]$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{1, 5\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in [2, 5]$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ), and

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^5 = & v_1^1 - v_2^2 v_3^5 v_4^2 v_5^5 v_6^2 v_7^5 \dots v_{t-1}^2 v_t^5 - v_{t+1}^2 \\ & - v_t^6 v_{t-1}^3 v_{t-2}^6 v_{t-3}^3 v_{t-4}^6 v_{t-5}^3 \dots v_3^6 v_2^3 - v_1^2 \\ & - v_2^6 v_3^3 v_4^6 v_5^3 v_6^6 v_7^3 \dots v_{t-1}^6 v_t^3 - v_{t+1}^1 \\ & - v_t^2 v_{t-1}^5 v_{t-2}^2 v_{t-3}^5 v_{t-4}^2 v_{t-5}^5 \dots v_3^2 v_2^5 - v_1^1 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^5$  contains: for each  $\ell \in \{1, 4\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$ , four edges of length 3 from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in [2, 5]$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ).

(For each  $\ell \in [1, 5]$ , we pair the four edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$  as follows: For  $\ell = 1$ , the four edges are:  $v_1^1 v_2^2 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^3 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_1^1 v_2^2$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^3 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_1^1 v_2^2, v_1^2 v_2^3)$  and  $(v_1^1 v_2^2, v_1^2 v_2^3)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1. For  $\ell = 2$ , the four edges are:  $v_1^1 v_2^3$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^4 \in C_{4t}^1$  and  $v_1^1 v_2^3$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^4 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_1^1 v_2^3, v_1^2 v_2^4)$  and  $(v_1^1 v_2^3, v_1^2 v_2^4)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 1 and that for the second pair is 3. For  $\ell = 3$ , the four edges are:  $v_1^1 v_2^4$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^5 \in C_{4t}^3$  and  $v_1^1 v_2^4$ ,  $v_1^2 v_2^5 \in C_{4t}^4$ ; pair these edges as

$(v_1^1 v_2^4, v_1^6 v_2^3)$  and  $(v_1^1 v_2^4, v_1^4 v_2^1)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 1 and that for the second pair is 3. For  $\ell = 4$ , the four edges are:  $v_1^2 v_2^6 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_1^1 v_2^5 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_1^1 v_2^5, v_1^2 v_2^6 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_1^2 v_2^6, v_1^1 v_2^5)$  and  $(v_1^1 v_2^5, v_1^2 v_2^6)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1. For  $\ell = 5$ , the four edges are:  $v_1^1 v_2^6, v_1^2 v_2^5 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_1^1 v_2^6, v_1^2 v_2^5 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_1^1 v_2^6, v_1^2 v_2^5)$  and  $(v_1^1 v_2^6, v_1^2 v_2^5)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1.

For  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in [1, 5]$ , we pair the four edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$  as follows: For  $\ell = 1$ , the four edges are:  $v_i^2 v_{i+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_i^5 v_{i+1}^6 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_i^2 v_{i+1}^4, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^1 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_i^2 v_{i+1}^3, v_i^5 v_{i+1}^6)$  and  $(v_i^3 v_{i+1}^4, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^1)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 3. For  $\ell = 2$ , the four edges are:  $v_i^4 v_{i+1}^6 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_i^1 v_{i+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_i^3 v_{i+1}^5, v_i^4 v_{i+1}^6 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_i^4 v_{i+1}^6, v_i^1 v_{i+1}^3)$  and  $(v_i^3 v_{i+1}^5, v_i^4 v_{i+1}^6)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 3 and that for the second pair is 1. For  $\ell = 3$ , the four edges are:  $v_i^2 v_{i+1}^5, v_i^3 v_{i+1}^6, v_i^5 v_{i+1}^2, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_i^2 v_{i+1}^5, v_i^3 v_{i+1}^6)$  and  $(v_i^5 v_{i+1}^2, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^3)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1. For  $\ell = 4$ , the four edges are:  $v_i^6 v_{i+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_i^3 v_{i+1}^1 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_i^5 v_{i+1}^3, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_i^6 v_{i+1}^4, v_i^3 v_{i+1}^1)$  and  $(v_i^5 v_{i+1}^3, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^4)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 3 and that for the second pair is 1. For  $\ell = 5$ , the four edges are:  $v_i^3 v_{i+1}^2 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_i^6 v_{i+1}^5 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_i^1 v_{i+1}^6, v_i^4 v_{i+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_i^3 v_{i+1}^2, v_i^6 v_{i+1}^5)$  and  $(v_i^1 v_{i+1}^6, v_i^4 v_{i+1}^3)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 3.

For each  $\ell \in [1, 5]$ , we pair the four edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$  as follows: For  $\ell = 1$ , the four edges are:  $v_t^2 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^3 v_{t+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_t^3 v_{t+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^2$  and  $v_t^4 v_{t+1}^5 \in C_{4t}^3$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_t^2 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^3 v_{t+1}^4)$  and  $(v_t^3 v_{t+1}^4, v_t^4 v_{t+1}^5)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1. For  $\ell = 2$ , the four edges are:  $v_t^1 v_{t+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^2$ ,  $v_t^3 v_{t+1}^5 \in C_{4t}^3$ ,  $v_t^6 v_{t+1}^2 \in C_{4t}^4$  and  $v_t^6 v_{t+1}^2 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_t^1 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^6 v_{t+1}^2)$  and  $(v_t^3 v_{t+1}^5, v_t^6 v_{t+1}^2)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 1 and that for the second pair is 3. For  $\ell = 3$ , the four edges are:  $v_t^6 v_{t+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^2$ ,  $v_t^6 v_{t+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^3$ ,  $v_t^3 v_{t+1}^6 \in C_{4t}^4$  and  $v_t^5 v_{t+1}^2 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_t^6 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^3 v_{t+1}^6)$  and  $(v_t^6 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^5 v_{t+1}^2)$ ; first pair is of rotation-distance 3 and that for the second pair is 1. For  $\ell = 4$ , the four edges are:  $v_t^6 v_{t+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_t^5 v_{t+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^3$ ,  $v_t^4 v_{t+1}^2 \in C_{4t}^4$  and  $v_t^3 v_{t+1}^1 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_t^6 v_{t+1}^4, v_t^5 v_{t+1}^3)$  and  $(v_t^4 v_{t+1}^2, v_t^3 v_{t+1}^1)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1. For  $\ell = 5$ , the four edges are:  $v_t^4 v_{t+1}^3 \in C_{4t}^1$ ,  $v_t^5 v_{t+1}^4 \in C_{4t}^2$ ,  $v_t^1 v_{t+1}^6 \in C_{4t}^4$  and  $v_t^2 v_{t+1}^1 \in C_{4t}^5$ ; pair these edges as  $(v_t^4 v_{t+1}^3, v_t^5 v_{t+1}^4)$  and  $(v_t^1 v_{t+1}^6, v_t^2 v_{t+1}^1)$ ; both pairs have rotation-distance 1.)

Consider the sets  $\mathcal{F} = \{C_{4t}^k \mid k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  and  $\mathcal{D} = \{C_{4t}^k, \sigma^2(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^4(C_{4t}^k) \mid k = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$  of cycles of length  $4t$  in  $(P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ . (For every  $i \in [1, t]$  and for every  $\ell \in [1, 5]$ , the union of the cycles in  $\mathcal{F}$  contains four edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$  and we have paired the edges in such a way that no rotation-distance is 2.) It follows that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a decomposition of  $(P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ .  $\square$



### 2.3 $(K_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$

**Lemma 2.3.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer, then  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* As  $t$  is odd,  $K_{t+1}$  is  $P_{t+1}$ -decomposable, and hence

$$K_{t+1} = P_{t+1} \oplus P_{t+1} \oplus \cdots \oplus P_{t+1}.$$

Therefore,

$$(K_{t+1} \times K_6)(2) = (P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2) \oplus (P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2).$$

By Lemma 2.2,  $C_{4t} | (P_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ . Thus,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$ .  $\square$

### 2.4 $(P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer, then  $C_{4t} | (P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* Let the path  $P_{t+1}$  be  $x_1 x_2 x_3 \dots x_{t+1}$ . First, we find three  $4t$ -cycles of  $(P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^1 = & v_1^2 - v_2^3 v_3^1 v_4^3 v_5^1 v_6^3 v_7^1 \dots v_{t-2}^1 v_{t-1}^3 v_t^1 \\ & - v_{t+1}^6 - v_t^5 v_{t-1}^7 v_{t-2}^5 v_{t-3}^7 v_{t-4}^5 v_{t-5}^7 \dots v_4^7 v_3^5 v_2^7 \\ & - v_1^6 - v_2^5 v_3^7 v_4^5 v_5^7 v_6^5 v_7^7 \dots v_{t-2}^7 v_{t-1}^5 v_t^7 - v_{t+1}^2 \\ & - v_t^3 v_{t-1}^1 v_{t-2}^3 v_{t-3}^1 v_{t-4}^3 v_{t-5}^1 \dots v_4^1 v_3^3 v_2^1 - v_1^2 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^1$  contains: for each  $\ell \in \{1, 6\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{2, 5\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in \{1, 2, 5, 6\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ),

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^2 = & v_1^1 - v_2^5 v_3^4 v_4^5 v_5^4 v_6^5 v_7^4 \dots v_{t-2}^4 v_{t-1}^5 v_t^4 \\ & - v_{t+1}^5 - v_t^1 v_{t-1}^2 v_{t-2}^1 v_{t-3}^2 v_{t-4}^1 v_{t-5}^2 \dots v_4^2 v_3^1 v_2^2 \\ & - v_1^5 - v_2^1 v_3^2 v_4^1 v_5^2 v_6^1 v_7^2 \dots v_{t-2}^2 v_{t-1}^1 v_t^2 - v_{t+1}^1 \\ & - v_t^5 v_{t-1}^4 v_{t-2}^5 v_{t-3}^4 v_{t-4}^5 v_{t-5}^4 \dots v_4^4 v_3^5 v_2^4 - v_1^1 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^2$  contains: for each  $\ell \in \{3, 4\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{1, 6\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in \{1, 3, 4, 6\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ), and

$$\begin{aligned} C_{4t}^3 = & v_1^1 - v_2^6 v_3^3 v_4^6 v_5^3 v_6^6 v_7^3 \cdots v_{t-2}^3 v_{t-1}^6 v_t^3 - v_{t+1}^1 \\ & - v_t^4 v_{t-1}^7 v_{t-2}^4 v_{t-3}^7 v_{t-4}^4 v_{t-5}^7 \cdots v_4^7 v_3^4 v_2^7 - v_1^2 \\ & - v_2^4 v_3^7 v_4^4 v_5^7 v_6^4 v_7^7 \cdots v_{t-2}^7 v_{t-1}^4 v_t^7 - v_{t+1}^2 \\ & - v_t^6 v_{t-1}^3 v_{t-2}^6 v_{t-3}^3 v_{t-4}^6 v_{t-5}^3 \cdots v_4^3 v_3^6 v_2^3 - v_1^1 \end{aligned}$$

( $C_{4t}^3$  contains: for each  $\ell \in \{2, 5\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ ; for each  $i \in [2, t-1]$  and for each  $\ell \in \{3, 4\}$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ ; for each  $\ell \in \{2, 3, 4, 5\}$ , one edge of length  $\ell$  from  $V_t$  to  $V_{t+1}$ ).

Consider the sets  $\mathcal{F} = \{C_{4t}^k | k = 1, 2, 3\}$  and  $\mathcal{D} = \{C_{4t}^k, \sigma(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^2(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^3(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^4(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^5(C_{4t}^k), \sigma^6(C_{4t}^k) | k = 1, 2, 3\}$  of cycles of length  $4t$  in  $(P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ . (For every  $i \in [1, t]$  and for every  $\ell \in [1, 6]$ , the union of the cycles in  $\mathcal{F}$  contains two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_i$  to  $V_{i+1}$ .) It follows that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a decomposition of  $(P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ .  $\square$

## 2.5 $(K_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$

**Lemma 2.5.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer, then  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* As  $t$  is odd,  $K_{t+1}$  is  $P_{t+1}$ -decomposable, and hence

$$K_{t+1} = P_{t+1} \oplus P_{t+1} \oplus \cdots \oplus P_{t+1}.$$

Hence,

$$(K_{t+1} \times K_7)(2) = (P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2) \oplus (P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2).$$

By Lemma 2.4,  $C_{4t} | (P_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ . Thus,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ .  $\square$

## 2.6 $(C_t \times K_n)(2)$

Let  $G$  be a simple graph with vertex set  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ . For convenience, we denote an edge  $e$  of  $G$  with ends  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ ,  $i < j$ , as  $x_i x_j$  (instead of  $x_j x_i$ ). Consider its 4-fold  $G(4)$ . For any odd integer  $t$ ,  $t \geq 3$ , our aim

is to find a  $C_{4t}$ -decomposition  $\mathcal{D}$  of the 2-fold tensor product  $(G \times C_t)(2)$  from a specific  $C_4$ -decomposition  $\mathcal{D}_0$  of  $G(4)$ . For this, first write  $G(4)$  as  $H_1(2) \oplus H_{t-1}(2)$  with  $H_1 \cong H_{t-1} \cong G$ . If an edge  $e'$  of  $G(4)$  is in  $H_i(2)$ , for some  $i$ ,  $i \in \{1, t-1\}$ , then we say that  $e'$  is of length  $i$ . Hence, each edge  $e$  of  $G$  duplicates in  $G(4)$  with two edges of length 1 and two edges of length  $t-1$ . Suppose there is a  $C_4$ -decomposition  $\mathcal{D}_0$  of  $G(4)$ .

*Construction:* Let  $C_0$  be any cycle of length 4 in  $\mathcal{D}_0$  and let  $C$  be the subgraph of  $(G \times C_t)(2)$ , arise out of  $C_0$ , by the procedure given below. Let  $e'$  be any edge of  $C_0$  and let  $e$  be the edge corresponding to  $e'$  in  $G$  with ends, say,  $x_i$  and  $x_j$ ,  $i < j$ . If  $e'$  is of length 1, then, for  $C$ , we take the  $t$  edges in  $F_1(V_i, V_j)$ . If the length of  $e'$  is  $t-1$ , then, for  $C$ , we take the  $t$  edges in  $F_{t-1}(V_i, V_j)$ .

This construction yields for each cycle  $C_0$  in  $\mathcal{D}_0$ , a subgraph  $C$  of  $(G \times C_t)(2)$  with  $4t$  edges, and hence, we have a decomposition of  $(G \times C_t)(2)$  into subgraphs of size  $4t$ .

Let  $C = x_{i_1}(\ell_1)x_{i_2}(\ell_2)x_{i_3}(\ell_3)x_{i_4}(\ell_4)x_{i_1}$  be any cycle in  $\mathcal{D}_0$ ; here the edge  $x_{i_j}x_{i_{j+1}}$ ,  $j \in [1, 4]$ , is of length  $\ell_j$  and  $x_{i_5} = x_{i_1}$ , i.e.,  $i_5 = i_1$ . For  $j \in [1, 4]$ , if  $i_j < i_{j+1}$ , then let  $\alpha_j = \ell_j$ ; otherwise  $i_j > i_{j+1}$ , let  $\alpha_j = t - \ell_j$ . As  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4 \in \{1, t-1\}$ ,  $\sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_j \in \{4, t+2, 2t, 3t-2, 4t-4\}$ . If  $\sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_j \neq 2t$ , then, as  $t$  is odd, the subgraph  $C$  is a cycle of length  $4t$ . Otherwise  $\sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_j = 2t$ , then,  $C$  is  $tC_4$ .

*Examples:* First we take  $G = K_6$  with  $V(K_6) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6\}$ . Set  $\mathcal{D}_0 = \{x_2(1)x_6(1)x_4(1)x_5(t-1)x_2, x_3(1)x_6(1)x_5(1)x_1(t-1)x_3, x_4(1)x_6(1)x_1(1)x_2(1)x_4, x_3(1)x_5(t-1)x_2(1)x_4(1)x_3, x_1(t-1)x_3(t-1)x_5(1)x_2(t-1)x_1, x_2(t-1)x_3(1)x_4(t-1)x_6(1)x_2, x_4(1)x_5(1)x_1(1)x_6(t-1)x_4, x_5(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_2(t-1)x_6(1)x_5, x_3(t-1)x_2(t-1)x_6(t-1)x_5(t-1)x_3, x_4(t-1)x_3(1)x_6(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_4, x_1(1)x_4(t-1)x_5(1)x_3(1)x_1, x_2(1)x_3(1)x_1(1)x_4(t-1)x_2, x_4(t-1)x_2(1)x_5(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_4, x_5(t-1)x_6(t-1)x_3(t-1)x_4(t-1)x_5, x_1(t-1)x_6(t-1)x_3(1)x_2(1)x_1\}$ . Then,  $\mathcal{D}_0$  is a 4-cycle decomposition of  $K_6(4) = H_1(2) \oplus H_{t-1}(2)$  with the condition that  $\sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_j \in \{t+2, 3t-2\}$ . Hence, by the above construction,  $C_{4t} | (K_6 \times C_t)(2)$ .

Next we take  $G = K_7$  with  $V(K_7) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6, x_7\}$ . Set  $\mathcal{D}_0 = \{x_2(1)x_6(1)x_3(1)x_7(t-1)x_2, x_3(t-1)x_7(1)x_4(1)x_1(t-1)x_3, x_4(1)x_2(1)x_5(t-1)x_1(1)x_4, x_5(1)x_2(1)x_6(1)x_3(t-1)x_5, x_6(t-1)x_4(1)x_7(t-1)x_3$

$(t-1)x_6, x_7(t-1)x_4(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_5(1)x_7, x_1(t-1)x_6(t-1)x_2(t-1)x_5(1)x_1, x_7(1)x_6(t-1)x_5(1)x_4(t-1)x_7, x_1(1)x_5(1)x_6(t-1)x_7(t-1)x_1, x_4(t-1)x_3(t-1)x_2(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_4, x_5(t-1)x_2(1)x_3(t-1)x_4(1)x_5, x_5(1)x_7(t-1)x_2(1)x_4(t-1)x_5, x_6(t-1)x_1(t-1)x_3(t-1)x_5(t-1)x_6, x_7(1)x_6(t-1)x_4(t-1)x_2(1)x_7, x_1(t-1)x_7(t-1)x_5(1)x_3(1)x_1, x_2(t-1)x_4(1)x_6(1)x_1(t-1)x_2, x_3(t-1)x_2(1)x_7(t-1)x_5(1)x_3, x_3(t-1)x_6(1)x_5(t-1)x_4(1)x_3, x_6(t-1)x_7(1)x_1(1)x_2(t-1)x_6, x_2(1)x_1(1)x_7(1)x_3(1)x_2, x_4(1)x_3(1)x_1(1)x_6(1)x_4\}$ . Then,  $\mathcal{D}_0$  is a 4-cycle decomposition of  $K_7(4) = H_1(2) \oplus H_{t-1}(2)$  with  $\sum_{j=1}^4 \alpha_j \in \{4, t+2, 3t-2, 4t-4\}$ . Once again, by the above construction,  $C_{4t} | (K_7 \times C_t)(2)$ .

The following theorems are used in the proof of Lemma 2.7.

**Theorem 2.1.** [41]. *The bipartite graph  $K_{r,s}$  can be decomposed into cycles of length  $2k$  if and only if  $r$  and  $s$  are even,  $r \geq k$ ,  $s \geq k$ , and  $2k$  divides  $rs$ .*

**Theorem 2.2.** [3]. *Suppose  $n$  and  $k$  are positive integers with  $3 \leq k \leq n$ . Then the complete multigraph  $K_n(2)$  has a decomposition into  $k$ -cycles if and only if  $k|n(n-1)$ .*

**Theorem 2.3.** [13]. *The graph  $C_r \times C_s$  can be decomposed into two Hamilton cycles if and only if at least one of  $r$  and  $s$  is odd.*

**Lemma 2.6.** *If  $n \geq 4$  is an integer, then*

$$K_n(2) = \begin{cases} C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4, & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_6(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_7(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* If  $n \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{4}$ , then, by Theorem 2.2,  $C_4 | K_n(2)$ .

If  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ , then  $n = 4k + 2$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} K_n(2) &= K_{4k+2}(2) \\ &= K_6(2) \oplus \underbrace{K_4(2) \oplus K_4(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_4(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\ &\quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{6,4}(2) \oplus K_{6,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{6,4}(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\ &\quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{4,4}(2) \oplus K_{4,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{4,4}(2)}_{(k-1)(k-2)/2 \text{ times}}. \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.1,  $C_4|K_{6,4}$  and  $C_4|K_{4,4}$ , and hence  $C_4|K_{6,4}(2)$  and  $C_4|K_{4,4}(2)$ . Thus,  $K_n(2) = K_6(2) \oplus C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4$ .

If  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ , then  $n = 4k + 3$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . Therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
 K_n(2) &= K_{4k+3}(2) \\
 &= K_7(2) \oplus \underbrace{K_4(2) \oplus K_4(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_4(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\
 &\quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{7,4}(2) \oplus K_{7,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{7,4}(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\
 &\quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{4,4}(2) \oplus K_{4,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{4,4}(2)}_{(k-1)(k-2)/2 \text{ times}} \\
 &= K_7(2) \oplus \underbrace{K_4(2) \oplus K_4(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_4(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\
 &\quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{3,4}(2) \oplus K_{3,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{3,4}(2)}_{k-1 \text{ times}} \\
 &\quad \quad \oplus \underbrace{K_{4,4}(2) \oplus K_{4,4}(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{4,4}(2)}_{(k-1)+(k-1)(k-2)/2 \text{ times}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.2,  $C_4|K_4(2)$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $C_4|K_{4,4}$ . Hence  $C_4|K_{4,4}(2)$ . Let  $\{a_1, a_2, a_3\}$  and  $\{b_1, b_2\}$  be the partite sets of the bipartite graph  $K_{3,2}(2)$ . Then the 4-cycles  $a_1b_1a_2b_2a_1$ ,  $a_2b_1a_3b_2a_2$  and  $a_3b_1a_1b_2a_3$  decomposes  $K_{3,2}(2)$ . Thus,  $C_4|K_{3,2}(2)$ . Since  $K_{3,4}(2) = K_{3,2}(2) \oplus K_{3,2}(2)$ , we have  $C_4|K_{3,4}(2)$ . Thus,  $K_n(2) = K_7(2) \oplus C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.7.** *If  $t \geq 3$  is an odd integer and  $n \geq 4$ , then  $C_{4t}|(C_t \times K_n)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* We consider three cases.

**Case 1.**  $n \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{4}$ .

Then, by Lemma 2.6,  $K_n(2) = C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4$ . Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
 (C_t \times K_n)(2) &= C_t \times K_n(2) \\
 &= C_t \times (C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4) \\
 &= (C_t \times C_4) \oplus (C_t \times C_4) \oplus \cdots \oplus (C_t \times C_4).
 \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.3,  $C_{4t}|(C_t \times C_4)$ , and hence  $C_{4t}|(C_t \times K_n)(2)$ .

**Case 2.**  $n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}$ .

Then, by Lemma 2.6,  $K_n(2) = C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_6(2)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (C_t \times K_n)(2) &= C_t \times K_n(2) \\ &= (C_t \times C_4) \oplus (C_t \times C_4) \oplus \cdots \oplus (C_t \times C_4) \oplus (C_t \times K_6(2)). \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.3,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times C_4)$ . By the above example,  $C_{4t} | (K_6 \times C_t)(2)$ . Since the tensor product is commutative,  $K_6 \times C_t \cong C_t \times K_6$ , and hence,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_6)(2)$ , equivalently,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_6(2))$ .

Hence,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_n)(2)$ .

**Case 3.**  $n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .

Then, by Lemma 2.6,  $K_n(2) = C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_7(2)$ . Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (C_t \times K_n)(2) &= C_t \times K_n(2) \\ &= (C_t \times C_4) \oplus (C_t \times C_4) \oplus \cdots \oplus (C_t \times C_4) \oplus (C_t \times K_7(2)). \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 2.3,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times C_4)$ . By the above example,  $C_{4t} | (K_7 \times C_t)(2)$ . Since the tensor product is commutative,  $K_7 \times C_t \cong C_t \times K_7$ , and hence,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_7)(2)$ , equivalently,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_7(2))$ .

Hence,  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_n)(2)$ . □

## 2.7 $(K_2 \times K_n)(2)$

**Lemma 2.8.** *If  $n \geq 4$  and  $t \geq 2$  are integers, and  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{2t}$ , then  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_n)(2)$ .*

*Proof.* Then,  $n = 2tk$ , where  $k \geq 1$  is an integer. We consider two cases:

**Case 1.**  $k = 1$ .

First, write  $(K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)$  as  $(K_2 \times K_{2t}) \oplus (K_2 \times K_{2t})$ . Next, write the first  $K_2 \times K_{2t}$  as  $(F_1(V_1, V_2) \cup F_2(V_1, V_2)) \oplus (F_3(V_1, V_2) \cup F_4(V_1, V_2)) \oplus \cdots \oplus (F_{2t-3}(V_1, V_2) \cup F_{2t-2}(V_1, V_2)) \oplus F_{2t-1}(V_1, V_2)$  and the next  $K_2 \times K_{2t}$  as  $(F_2(V_1, V_2) \cup F_3(V_1, V_2)) \oplus (F_4(V_1, V_2) \cup F_5(V_1, V_2)) \oplus \cdots \oplus (F_{2t-2}(V_1, V_2) \cup F_{2t-1}(V_1, V_2)) \oplus F_1(V_1, V_2)$ . For  $i \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots, t-1\}$ , both  $F_{2i-1}(V_1, V_2) \cup F_{2i}(V_1, V_2)$  and  $F_{2i}(V_1, V_2) \cup F_{2i+1}(V_1, V_2)$  are isomorphic to  $C_{4t}$ . Also,  $F_{2t-1}(V_1, V_2) \cup F_1(V_1, V_2)$  is isomorphic to  $C_{4t}$ . Hence, we have  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)$ .

**Case 2.**  $k \geq 2$ .

Clearly,  $K_2 \times K_{2kt}$  can be decomposed into  $k$  copies each isomorphic to  $K_2 \times K_{2t}$  and  $k(k-1)$  copies each isomorphic to  $K_{2t,2t}$ . Hence,

$$K_2 \times K_{2kt} = ((K_2 \times K_{2t}) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_2 \times K_{2t})) \oplus (K_{2t,2t} \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{2t,2t}),$$

and therefore,

$$(K_2 \times K_{2kt})(2) = ((K_2 \times K_{2t})(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)) \oplus (K_{2t,2t})(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_{2t,2t})(2).$$

By Case 1,  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $C_{4t} | K_{2t,2t}$ , and so  $C_{4t} | (K_{2t,2t})(2)$ . Hence,  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_{2kt})(2)$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.9.**  $C_8 | (K_2 \times K_5)(2)$  and  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_7)(2)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $V(K_2) = \{x_1, x_2\}$ ,  $V(K_5) = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_5\}$  and  $V(K_7) = \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_7\}$ .

In  $(K_2 \times K_5)(2)$ ,  $C' = v_1^1 v_2^3 v_1^5 v_2^4 v_1^3 v_2^1 v_1^4 v_2^5 v_1^1$  is a cycle of length 8 and it contains: for each  $\ell \in [1, 4]$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ . Hence,  $\{C', \sigma(C'), \sigma^2(C'), \sigma^3(C'), \sigma^4(C')\}$  is a decomposition of  $(K_2 \times K_5)(2)$ .

In  $(K_2 \times K_7)(2)$ ,  $C'' = v_1^1 v_2^4 v_1^2 v_2^3 v_1^4 v_2^5 v_1^6 v_2^1 v_1^3 v_2^6 v_1^5 v_2^1$  is a cycle of length 12 and it contains: for each  $\ell \in [1, 6]$ , two edges of length  $\ell$  from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$ . Hence,  $\{C'', \sigma(C''), \sigma^2(C''), \sigma^3(C''), \sigma^4(C''), \sigma^5(C''), \sigma^6(C'')\}$  is a decomposition of  $(K_2 \times K_7)(2)$ .  $\square$

## 2.8 $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n$

The following theorems are used in the proof of Lemma 2.10.

**Theorem 2.4.** (see [25]). *Let  $m \geq 3$  be an odd integer.*

(1) *If  $m \equiv 1$  or  $3 \pmod{6}$ , then  $C_3 | K_m$ .*

(2) *If  $m \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ , then  $K_m$  can be decomposed into  $(m(m-1) - 20)/6$  3-cycles and a  $K_5$ .*

Theorem 2.5 is proven in [1] when  $m$  is an odd prime, but one can easily see that the same proof works for any odd integer  $m$ .

**Theorem 2.5.** [1]. *If  $m$  and  $k$  are at least 3, both of them are odd and  $3 \leq k \leq m$ , then  $C_k \circ \overline{K}_m$  admits a  $C_m$ -factorization.*

**Theorem 2.6.** [23]. *If  $m$  and  $n$  are at least 3, then  $C_3|(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)$  if and only if (1)  $(m-1)n$  is even and (2)  $3|m(m-1)n^2$ .*

**Lemma 2.10.** *If  $m \geq 3$  and  $n \geq 3$  are odd integers, then  $C_n|(K_m \circ \overline{K}_n)$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 2.4,  $K_m = K_3 \oplus K_3 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_3$ , if  $m \equiv 1$  or  $3 \pmod{6}$  and  $K_m = K_3 \oplus K_3 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_3 \oplus K_5$ , if  $m \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ . Hence,  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n = (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ , if  $m \equiv 1$  or  $3 \pmod{6}$  and  $K_m \circ \overline{K}_n = (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus (K_5 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ , if  $m \equiv 5 \pmod{6}$ . To prove the lemma, it is enough to prove that  $C_n|(K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n)$  and  $C_n|(K_5 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ . By Theorem 2.5,  $C_n|(K_3 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ . By Theorem 2.6,  $C_3|(K_5 \circ \overline{K}_3)$ . Hence, it is enough to prove that  $C_n|(K_5 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ , for  $n \geq 5$ . As  $C_5|K_5$ , we have  $K_5 \circ \overline{K}_n = (C_5 \circ \overline{K}_n) \oplus (C_5 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ . By Theorem 2.5,  $C_n|(C_5 \circ \overline{K}_n)$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3 Proof of Theorem 1.1

We need following theorems and a lemma for the proof of Theorem 1.1.

**Theorem 3.1.** [2, 36]. *Suppose  $n \geq 3$  and  $k \geq 3$  are positive integers. Then the complete graph  $K_n$  admits a decomposition into  $k$ -cycles if and only if  $n \geq k$ ,  $n$  is odd and  $k|\binom{n}{2}$ .*

**Theorem 3.2.** [42]. *Let  $\lambda, k$  and  $n$  be positive integers. There exists a  $P_{k+1}$ -decomposition of  $K_n(\lambda)$  if and only if  $n \geq k+1$  and  $\lambda n(n-1) \equiv 0 \pmod{2k}$ .*

**Lemma 3.1.** [32]. *If  $s \geq 3$  is an odd integer,  $r \geq 3$  and  $C_r|G$ , then  $C_{rs}|(G \times K_{s+1})$ .*

#### Proof of Theorem 1.1.

By hypothesis,  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{t}$ ,  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{t}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{t}$  or  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{t}$ . Since the tensor product is commutative, we assume that  $m \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{t}$ . As  $t \geq 3$  and  $mn \geq 4t$ , we have  $(m, n) \neq (3, 3)$ . We consider four cases.

**Case 1.**  $m \geq 5$  is odd and  $n \geq 4$ .

As  $m \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{t}$ , we have, by Theorem 3.1,  $C_t|K_m$ . Thus,  $K_m = C_t \oplus C_t \oplus \cdots \oplus C_t$ . Hence,  $(K_m \times K_n)(2) = ((C_t \oplus C_t \oplus \cdots \oplus C_t) \times K_n)(2) = (C_t \times K_n)(2) \oplus (C_t \times K_n)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (C_t \times K_n)(2)$ . By Lemma 2.7,  $C_{4t}|(C_t \times K_n)(2)$ . Thus, we have  $C_{4t}|(K_m \times K_n)(2)$ .



**Case 2.**  $m \geq 4$  is even and  $n \geq 4$ .

We consider two subcases.

**Subcase 2.1.**  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{t}$ .

As  $t$  is odd and  $m$  is even, we have  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{2t}$ . Then,  $m = 2tk$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ .

If  $k = 1$ , then  $K_m = K_{2t}$ . Also,  $K_n = K_2 \oplus K_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_2$ . Hence,  $(K_m \times K_n)(2) = (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2) \oplus (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2)$ . By Lemma 2.8,  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)$ , equivalently,  $C_{4t} | (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2)$ . Hence,  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$ .

So, assume that  $k \geq 2$ . Then,  $K_m = K_{2tk} = kK_{2t} \oplus (K_k \circ \overline{K}_{2t})$ . Hence,  $(K_m \times K_n)(2) = k(K_{2t} \times K_n)(2) \oplus ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_{2t}) \times K_n)(2)$ . By the above particular value for  $k$ , i.e.,  $k = 1$ , we have  $C_{4t} | (K_{2t} \times K_n)(2)$ . To show that  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$ , it is enough if we show that  $C_{4t} | ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_{2t}) \times K_n)(2)$ . First, write  $K_k \circ \overline{K}_{2t}$  as an edge-disjoint union of  $k(k-1)/2$  copies of  $K_{2t,2t}$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $C_{4t} | K_{2t,2t}$ . Now, write each copy of  $K_{2t,2t}$  as an edge-disjoint union of  $t$  copies of  $C_{4t}$ . Finally, write  $K_n$  as the edge-disjoint union of  $n(n-1)/2$  copies of  $K_2$ . Hence, it is enough if we show that  $C_{4t} | (C_{4t} \times K_2)(2)$ . Since  $C_{4t} \times K_2$  is the disjoint union of two copies of  $C_{4t}$ ,  $C_{4t} | (C_{4t} \times K_2)$ , and hence  $C_{4t} | (C_{4t} \times K_2)(2)$ .

**Subcase 2.2.**  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{t}$ .

Then,  $m = tk + 1$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . As  $t$  is odd and  $m$  is even, we have  $k$  is odd.

If  $k = 1$ , then  $(K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2) = K_{t+1} \times K_n(2)$ . By Lemma 2.6,

$$K_n(2) = \begin{cases} C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4, & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_6(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_7(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}; \end{cases}$$

To show that  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2)$ , it is enough if we show that  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times C_4)$ ,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_6(2))$  and  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_7(2))$ . As  $C_4 | C_4$  and  $t \geq 3$  is odd, we have, by Lemma 3.1,  $C_{4t} | (C_4 \times K_{t+1})$ . As  $C_4 \times K_{t+1} \cong K_{t+1} \times C_4$ ,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times C_4)$ .

By Lemmas 2.3 and 2.5, we have, respectively,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_6)(2)$  and  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_7)(2)$ . Hence,  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_6(2))$  and  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_7(2))$ .

So, assume that  $k \geq 3$ . We can write  $K_m = K_{tk+1}$  as

$$\underbrace{K_{t+1} \oplus K_{t+1} \oplus \cdots \oplus K_{t+1}}_{k \text{ times}} \oplus (K_k \circ \overline{K}_t),$$

and hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (K_m \times K_n)(2) = & \underbrace{(K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2) \oplus (K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2)}_{k \text{ times}} \\ & \oplus ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_t) \times K_n)(2). \end{aligned}$$

By the above particular value for  $k$ , i.e.,  $k = 1$ , we have  $C_{4t} | (K_{t+1} \times K_n)(2)$ . To show that  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$ , it is enough if we show that  $C_{4t} | ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_t) \times K_n)(2)$ . By Lemma 2.10,  $C_t | (K_k \circ \overline{K}_t)$ . Hence, it is enough if we show that  $C_{4t} | (C_t \times K_n)(2)$ . This follows from Lemma 2.7.

**Case 3.**  $m = 3$  and  $n \geq 4$ .

As  $3 = m \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{t}$  and  $t \geq 3$ , we have  $t = 3$ . Hence, we need to show  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_n)(2)$ . Equivalently, we have to show  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_n(2))$ . Now, by Lemma 2.6,

$$K_n(2) = \begin{cases} C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4, & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \text{ or } 1 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_6(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 2 \pmod{4}; \\ C_4 \oplus C_4 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_4 \oplus K_7(2), & \text{if } n \equiv 3 \pmod{4}. \end{cases}$$

To show that  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_n(2))$ , we have to show that  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times C_4)$ ,  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_6(2))$  and  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_7(2))$ .

By Theorem 2.3,  $C_{12} | (C_3 \times C_4)$ , i.e.,  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times C_4)$ .

Since  $K_3 = K_2 \oplus K_2 \oplus K_2$ , to show that  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_6(2))$  (respectively,  $C_{12} | (K_3 \times K_7(2))$ ), it is enough if we show that  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_6(2))$  (respectively,  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_7(2))$ ). By Lemma 2.8 (respectively, 2.9),  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_6(2))$  (respectively,  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_7(2))$ ), equivalently,  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_6(2))$  (respectively,  $C_{12} | (K_2 \times K_7(2))$ ).

**Case 4.**  $m \geq 4$  and  $n = 3$ .

We have to show that  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_3)(2)$ ; equivalently, we have to show that  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_3(2))$ .

If  $m \geq 2t + 1$  and  $4t | 2m(m - 1)$ , then, by Theorem 3.2,  $P_{2t+1} | K_m(2)$ . So,  $K_m(2) = P_{2t+1} \oplus P_{2t+1} \oplus \cdots \oplus P_{2t+1}$ . Hence,  $(K_m \times K_3)(2) = (K_m(2) \times$

$K_3) = (P_{2t+1} \times K_3) \oplus (P_{2t+1} \times K_3) \oplus \cdots \oplus (P_{2t+1} \times K_3)$ . By Lemma 2.1,  $C_{4t} | (P_{2t+1} \times K_3)$ , and hence,  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_3)(2)$ . Observe that  $4t | 2m(m-1)$  is same as  $2t | m(m-1)$ ; since  $m \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{t}$  and  $t$  is odd, this divisibility is again same as  $2 | m(m-1)$ , which is clearly true. As  $m \equiv 0$  or  $1 \pmod{t}$ ,  $m$  equals  $kt$  or  $kt+1$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . The inequality  $m \geq 2t+1$  fails only for  $m \in \{t, t+1, 2t\}$ . So, assume that  $m \in \{t, t+1, 2t\}$ .

If  $m = 2t$ , then  $(K_m \times K_3)(2) = (K_{2t} \times K_3)(2) = (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2) \times (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2) \times (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2)$ . By Lemma 2.8,  $C_{4t} | (K_2 \times K_{2t})(2)$ , and hence  $C_{4t} | (K_{2t} \times K_2)(2)$ . Thus,  $C_{4t} | (K_m \times K_3)(2)$ . Hence, assume that  $m \in \{t, t+1\}$ . As  $mn \geq 4t$ , we have  $3m \geq 4t$ , and hence  $m \neq t$ ; also  $m = t+1$  only when  $m = 4$  and  $t = 3$ .

For  $m = 4$  and  $t = 3$ ,  $(K_4 \times K_3)(2) = K_4(2) \times K_3 = (C_4 \times K_3) \times (C_4 \times K_3) \times (C_4 \times K_3)$ ; since  $C_4 | K_4(2)$ , by Theorem 2.2. By Theorem 2.3,  $C_{12} | (C_4 \times K_3)$ . Hence,  $C_{12} | (K_4 \times K_3)(2)$ .

This completes the proof.

## 4 Proof of Theorem 1.2

The proof of the necessity of Theorem 1.2 is obvious, and we prove the sufficiency. We consider two cases.

### Case 1. $p \geq 3$ .

As  $p$  is an odd prime, the hypothesis,  $4p | m(m-1)n(n-1)$ , implies that  $m \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$ ,  $m \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ ,  $n \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  or  $n \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$ . Hence, by Theorem 1.1,  $C_{4p} | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$ .

### Case 2. $p = 2$ .

We have to show that  $C_8 | (K_m \times K_n)(2)$ . As  $8 | m(m-1)n(n-1)$ , we have,  $4 | m(m-1)$  or  $4 | n(n-1)$ . Since the tensor product is commutative, we assume that  $4 | m(m-1)$ . Hence,  $4 | m$  or  $4 | (m-1)$ . We consider two subcases. First, we claim the following.

**Claim 1.** For  $k \geq 2$ ,  $C_8 | ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_4) \times K_n)$ .

First, write  $K_k \circ \overline{K}_4$  as an edge-disjoint union of  $k(k-1)/2$  copies of  $K_{4,4}$ . By Theorem 2.1,  $C_8 | K_{4,4}$ . Now, write each copy of  $K_{4,4}$  as an

edge-disjoint union of 2 copies of  $C_8$ . Finally, write  $K_n$  as the edge-disjoint union of  $n(n-1)/2$  copies of  $K_2$ . Hence, to prove the claim, it is enough if we show that  $C_8|(C_8 \times K_2)$ . Since  $C_8 \times K_2 = 2C_8$ ,  $C_8|(C_8 \times K_2)$ .

It follows from Claim 1 that

**Claim 2.** For  $k \geq 2$ ,  $C_8|((K_k \circ \overline{K_4}) \times K_n)(2)$ .

**Subcase 2.1.**  $4|m$ .

Then,  $m = 4k$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ .

If  $k = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (K_m \times K_n)(2) &= (K_4 \times K_n)(2) = (K_4 \times (K_2 \oplus K_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_2))(2) \\ &= (K_4 \times K_2)(2) \oplus (K_4 \times K_2)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_4 \times K_2)(2). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.8,  $C_8|(K_2 \times K_4)(2)$ , and hence  $C_8|(K_4 \times K_2)(2)$ . Thus,  $C_8|(K_4 \times K_n)(2)$ . So, assume that  $k \geq 2$ . Then

$$K_m = K_{4k} = kK_4 \oplus (K_k \circ \overline{K_4}),$$

and hence,

$$(K_m \times K_n)(2) = k(K_4 \times K_n)(2) \oplus ((K_k \circ \overline{K_4}) \times K_n)(2).$$

By the above particular value for  $k$ , i.e.,  $k = 1$ , we have  $C_8|(K_4 \times K_n)(2)$ . Also, by Claim 2,  $C_8|((K_k \circ \overline{K_4}) \times K_n)(2)$ .

**Subcase 2.2.**  $4|(m-1)$ .

Then  $m = 4k + 1$  for some integer  $k \geq 1$ . If  $k = 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} (K_m \times K_n)(2) &= (K_5 \times K_n)(2) = (K_5 \times (K_2 \oplus K_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_2))(2) \\ &= (K_5 \times K_2)(2) \oplus (K_5 \times K_2)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_5 \times K_2)(2). \end{aligned}$$

By Lemma 2.9,  $C_8|(K_2 \times K_5)(2)$ , and hence,  $C_8|(K_5 \times K_2)(2)$ . Thus,  $C_8|(K_5 \times K_n)(2)$ . So, assume that  $k \geq 2$ . We can write  $K_m = K_{4k+1}$  as

$$\underbrace{K_5 \oplus K_5 \oplus \cdots \oplus K_5}_k \oplus (K_k \circ \overline{K_4}),$$

$k$  times

and hence,

$$(K_m \times K_n)(2) = \underbrace{(K_5 \times K_n)(2) \oplus (K_5 \times K_n)(2) \oplus \cdots \oplus (K_5 \times K_n)(2)}_{k \text{ times}} \oplus ((K_k \circ \overline{K}_4) \times K_n)(2).$$

By the above particular value for  $k$ , i.e.,  $k = 1$ , we have  $C_8|(K_5 \times K_n)(2)$ . Again, by Claim 2,  $C_8|((K_k \circ \overline{K}_4) \times K_n)(2)$ .

This completes the proof.

## 5 Conclusion

The following theorems are used in the proof of Corollary 5.1.

**Theorem 5.1.** [34]. *If  $p \geq 3$  is a prime,  $m, n \geq 3$  and  $k \in \{p, 2p, 3p, p^2\}$ , then  $C_k|(K_m \times K_n)(2)$  if and only if  $k|m(m-1)n(n-1)$  and  $k \leq mn$ .*

**Theorem 5.2.** [33]. *If  $m, n \geq 3$ , then  $C_4|(K_m \times K_n)(\lambda)$  if and only if  $4|\lambda \binom{m}{2}n(n-1)$  and  $(K_m \times K_n)(\lambda)$  is an even regular graph.*

By Theorems 5.1, 5.2 and 1.2, we have:

**Corollary 5.1.** *If  $m, n \geq 3$  and  $3 \leq k \leq 15$ , then  $C_k|(K_m \times K_n)(2)$  if and only if  $k|m(m-1)n(n-1)$  and  $k \leq mn$ .*

**Acknowledgments:** The authors would like to thank the referee for careful reading and suggestions which improved the presentation of the paper. For the second author, this research was supported by the University Grant Commission, Government of India, grant F.4-2/2006(BSR)/MA/19-20/0058 dated 23.06.2020.

## References

- [1] B. Alspach, P.J. Schellenberg, D.R. Stinson and D. Wagner, The Oberwolfach problem and factors of uniform odd length cycles, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, **52** (1989), 20–43.

- [2] B. Alspach and H. Gavlas, Cycle decompositions of  $K_n$  and  $K_n - I$ , *J. Combin. Theory Ser. B*, **81** (2001), 77–99.
- [3] B. Alspach, H. Gavlas, M. Šajna and H. Verrall, Cycle decompositions IV: complete directed graphs and fixed length directed cycles, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, **103** (2003), 165–208.
- [4] A.M. Assaf, Modified group divisible designs, *Ars Combin.*, **29** (1990), 13–20.
- [5] A.M. Assaf, An application of modified group divisible designs, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, **68** (1994), 152–168.
- [6] A.M. Assaf and R. Wei, Modified group divisible designs with block size 4 and  $\lambda = 1$ , *Discrete Math.*, **195** (1999), 15–25.
- [7] A.M. Assaf, Modified group divisible designs with block size 4 and  $\lambda > 1$ , *Australas. J. Combin.*, **16** (1997), 229–238.
- [8] A. Asplund, J. Chaffee and J.M. Hammer, Decompositions of a complete bipartite multigraph into arbitrary cycle sizes, *Graphs Combin.*, **33** (2017), 715–728.
- [9] A. Bahmanian and M. Šajna, Decomposing complete equipartite multigraphs into cycles of variable lengths: The amalgamation-detachment approach, *J. Combin. Des.*, **24** (2016), 165–183.
- [10] A. Bahmanian and M. Šajna, Resolvable cycle decompositions of complete multigraphs and complete equipartite multigraphs via layering and detachment, *J. Combin. Des.*, **29** (2021), 647–682.
- [11] R. Balakrishnan, J.-C. Bermond, P. Paulraja and M.-L. Yu, On hamilton cycle decompositions of the tensor product of complete graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **268** (2003), 49–58.
- [12] R. Balakrishnan and K. Ranganathan, *A Textbook of Graph Theory*, 2nd edn. (Springer, New York, 2012).
- [13] J.-C. Bermond, Hamilton decomposition of graphs, directed graphs and hypergraphs, *Ann. Discrete Math.*, **3** (1978), 21–28.
- [14] E.J. Billington, D.G. Hoffman and B.H. Maenhaut, Group divisible pentagon systems, *Util. Math.*, **55** (1999), 211–219.
- [15] A.E. Brouwer, A. Schrijver and H. Hanani, Group divisible designs with block size four, *Discrete Math.*, **20** (1977), 1–10.
- [16] A.E. Brouwer, A. Schrijver and H. Hanani, Group divisible designs with block size four, *Discrete Math.*, **306** (2006), 939–947.
- [17] D. Bryant, D. Horsley, B. Maenhaut and B.R. Smith, Decompositions of complete multigraphs into cycles of varying lengths, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. B*, **129** (2018), 79–106.

- [18] D. Bryant, D. Horsley and W. Petterson, Cycle decomposition: complete graphs into cycles of arbitrary lengths, *Proc. London Math. Soc.*, **108** (2014), 1153–1192.
- [19] M. Buratti, Rotational  $k$ -cycle systems of order  $v < 3k$ ; another proof of the existence of odd cycle systems, *J. Combin. Des.*, **11** (2003), 433–441.
- [20] M. Buratti, H. Cao, D. Dai and T. Traetta, A complete solution to the existence of  $(k, \lambda)$ -cycle frames of type  $g^u$ , *J. Combin. Des.*, **25** (2017), 197–230.
- [21] N.J. Cavenagh and E.J. Billington, Decompositions of complete multipartite graphs into cycles of even length, *Graphs Combin.*, **16** (2000), 49–65.
- [22] S. Ganesamurthy, R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja, Decompositions of some classes of regular graphs and digraphs into cycles of length  $4p$ , *Australas. J. Combin.*, **79(2)** (2021), 215–233.
- [23] H. Hanani, Balanced incomplete block designs and related designs, *Discrete Math.*, **11** (1975), 255–369.
- [24] D. Horsley, Decomposing various graphs into short even-length cycles, *Ann. Comb.*, **16** (2012), 571–589.
- [25] C.C. Lindner and C.A. Rodger, *Design Theory*, 2nd edn. (CRC Press, New York, 2009).
- [26] A.C.H. Ling and C.J. Colbourn, Modified group divisible designs with block size four, *Discrete Math.*, **219** (2000), 207–221.
- [27] R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja, Hamiltonian decompositions of the tensor product of a complete graph and a complete bipartite graph, *Ars Combin.*, **80** (2006), 33–44.
- [28] R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja,  $C_p$ -decompositions of some regular graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **306** (2006), 429–451.
- [29] R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja,  $C_5$ -decomposition of the tensor product of complete graphs, *Australas. J. Combin.*, **37** (2007), 285–293.
- [30] R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja, Hamilton cycle decompositions of the tensor product of complete multipartite graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **308** (2008), 3586–3606.
- [31] R.S. Manikandan and P. Paulraja, Hamilton cycle decompositions of the tensor products of complete bipartite graphs and complete multipartite graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **310** (2010), 2776–2789.

- [32] R.S. Manikandan, P. Paulraja and T. Sivakaran,  $p^2$ -Cycle decompositions of the tensor product of complete graphs, *Australas. J. Combin.*, **73(1)** (2019), 107–131.
- [33] P. Paulraja and S. Sampath Kumar, Closed trail decompositions of some classes of regular graphs, *Discrete Math.*, **312** (2012), 1353–1366.
- [34] P. Paulraja and T. Sivakaran, Cycle decompositions of the tensor product of complete multigraphs and complete graphs (submitted).
- [35] A. Muthusamy and A. Shanmuga Vadivu, Cycle frames of complete multipartite multigraphs-III, *J. Combin. Des.*, **22** (2014), 473–487.
- [36] M. Šajna, Cycle decompositions III: complete graphs and fixed length cycles, *J. Combin. Des.*, **10** (2002), 27–78.
- [37] B.R. Smith, Decomposing complete equipartite graphs into cycles of length  $2p$ , *J. Combin. Des.*, **16** (2006), 244–252.
- [38] B.R. Smith, Complete equipartite  $3p$ -cycle systems, *Australas. J. Combin.*, **45** (2009), 125–138.
- [39] B.R. Smith, Cycle Decompositions of complete multigraphs, *J. Combin. Des.*, **18** (2010), 85–93.
- [40] B.R. Smith, Decomposing complete equipartite graphs into odd square-length cycles: Number of parts odd, *J. Combin. Des.*, **18** (2010), 401–414.
- [41] D. Sotteau, Decomposition of  $K_{m,n}$  ( $K_{m,n}^*$ ) into cycles (circuits) of length  $2k$ , *J. Combin. Theory Ser. B*, **30** (1981), 75–81.
- [42] M. Tarsi, Decomposition of complete multigraph into simple paths: nonbalanced handcuffed designs, *J. Combin. Theory Ser. A*, **34** (1983), 60–70.
- [43] D.B. West, *Introduction to graph theory*, 2nd edn. (Prentice-Hall of India, New Delhi, 2007).

R. SAMPATHKUMAR

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, ANNAMALAINAGAR  
608 002, INDIA

[sampathmath@gmail.com](mailto:sampathmath@gmail.com)

T. SIVAKARAN

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY, ANNAMALAINAGAR  
608 002, INDIA

[shivaganesh1431991@gmail.com](mailto:shivaganesh1431991@gmail.com)