

# Folded Crossed Cube with Five or More Dimensions Is Not Vertex-Transitive

Kung-Jui Pai\*, Jou-Ming Chang<sup>†</sup> and Jinn-Shyong Yang<sup>‡</sup>

\*Department of Industrial Engineering and Management, Ming Chi University of Technology, New Taipei City, Taiwan

<sup>†</sup>Institute of Information and Decision Sciences, National Taipei University of Business, Taipei, Taiwan

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Information Management, National Taipei University of Business, Taipei, Taiwan

**Abstract**—Kulasinghe and Bettayeb [Inform. Process. Lett. 53 (1995) 33-36] proved that the crossed cube  $CQ_n$  (a synonym called multiply twisted hypercube in that paper) fails to be vertex-transitive for  $n \geq 5$ . In this paper, we study vertex-transitivity on folded crossed cubes  $FCQ_n$  and show that  $FCQ_n$  is vertex-transitive if and only if  $n \in \{1, 2, 4\}$ .

**Keywords**—Vertex-transitivity; Folded Crossed Cubes; Interconnection networks.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Interconnection networks are usually modeled as undirected simple graphs  $G = (V, E)$ , where the vertex set  $V$  and the edge set  $E$  represent the sets of processing elements and communication channels, respectively. One of the central issues of an interconnection network is to consider the symmetry. Formally, an *automorphism* of a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a permutation  $\phi$  on  $V$  such that the pair of vertices  $(u, v)$  form an edge in  $E$  if and only if the pair  $(\phi(u), \phi(v))$  also form an edge in  $E$ . We say that two vertices  $v$  and  $w$  belong to the same *orbit* if there is an automorphism  $\phi$  of  $G$  such that  $\phi(v) = w$ .

**Definition 1.** (See [4], [10].) A graph  $G = (V, E)$  is *vertex-transitive* (also known as *vertex-symmetric*) if for every two vertices  $v, w \in V$ , there exists an automorphism of  $G$  which maps  $v$  to  $w$ . That is, a vertex-transitive graph has just one orbit.

Intuitively, a vertex-transitive graph looks the same when we take a view from every vertex. The vertex-transitive property is advantageous to the design and simulation of some algorithms in graphs. Akers and Krishnamurthy [3] showed that every Cayley graph over a general group is vertex-transitive, and thus is regular. Accordingly, the lack of vertex-transitivity for a class of graphs  $\mathcal{C}$  does remove  $\mathcal{C}$  from the family of Cayley graphs. For example, Abraham and Padmanabhan [1] and Cull and Larson [5] respectively pointed out that topologies for multiprocessor systems such as twisted cubes  $TQ_n$  and Möbius cubes  $MQ_n$  are possessed

of the property of asymmetry. In addition, Kulasinghe and Bettayeb [11] showed that crossed cubes  $CQ_n$  fail to be vertex-transitive for  $n \geq 5$ . Liu et al. [12] found out that although locally twisted cubes  $LTQ_n$  are not vertex-transitive for  $n \geq 4$ , these cubes are in possession of the property of *even-odd-vertex-transitivity*, i.e., each of them has just two orbits for which every pair of vertices with the same parity belong to the same orbit.

In this paper, we investigate the vertex-transitivity of folded crossed cubes (defined later in Section II) and show the following result.

**Theorem 2.** *The folded crossed cube  $FCQ_n$  is vertex-transitive if and only if  $n \in \{1, 2, 4\}$ .*

## II. FOLDED CROSSED CUBES

The  $n$ -dimensional crossed cube  $CQ_n$ , proposed first by Efe [6], [7], is a variant of an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube. One advantage of  $CQ_n$  is that the diameter is only about one half of the diameter of an  $n$ -dimensional hypercube. For more properties of  $CQ_n$ , the reader can refer to [8], [11]

In this paper, we use a unique binary string  $v_{n-1}v_{n-2} \cdots v_1v_0$ , which is also called a *label*, of length  $n$  to identify a vertex  $v$  in  $CQ_n$ . For conciseness, sometimes labels of vertices are also represented by their decimal. Two 2-bit binary strings  $v = v_1v_0$  and  $w = w_1w_0$  are *pair-related*, denoted by  $v \sim w$ , if and only if  $(v, w) \in \{(00, 00), (10, 10), (01, 11), (11, 01)\}$ .  $CQ_n$  is the labeled graph with the following recursively fashion:

**Definition 3.** (See [6], [7].)  $CQ_1$  is the complete graph on two vertices with labels 0 and 1. For  $n \geq 2$ ,  $CQ_n$  consists of two subcubes  $CQ_{n-1}^0$  and  $CQ_{n-1}^1$  such that every vertex in  $CQ_{n-1}^0$  and  $CQ_{n-1}^1$  is labeled by 0 and 1 in its leftmost bit, respectively. Two vertices  $v = 0v_{n-2} \cdots v_1v_0 \in V(CQ_{n-1}^0)$  and  $w = 1w_{n-2} \cdots w_1w_0 \in V(CQ_{n-1}^1)$  are joined by an edge if and only if

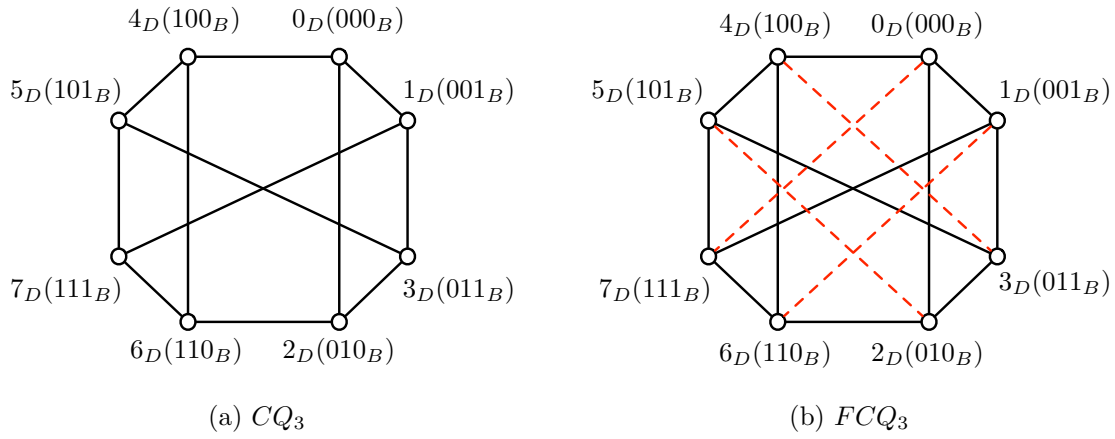


Fig. 1. Crossed cube  $CQ_3$  and folded crossed cube  $FCQ_3$ , where  $v_D$  (respectively,  $v_B$ ) denotes the decimal (respectively, binary) representation of the vertex  $v$ .

- (1)  $v_{n-2} = w_{n-2}$  if  $n$  is even, and
- (2)  $v_{2i+1}v_{2i} \sim w_{2i+1}w_{2i}$  for  $0 \leq i < \lfloor (n-1)/2 \rfloor$ .

Let  $\mathbb{Z}_n = \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$ . Crossed cubes can also be defined equivalently as follows:

**Lemma 4.** (See [6], [7].) *Two vertices  $v = v_{n-1}v_{n-2} \dots v_0$  and  $w = w_{n-1}w_{n-2} \dots w_0$  are joined by an edge in  $CQ_n$  if and only if there exists an integer  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_n$  such that*

- (1)  $v_{n-1}v_{n-2} \dots v_{i+1} = w_{n-1}w_{n-2} \dots w_{i+1}$ ,
- (2)  $v_i \neq w_i$ ,
- (3)  $v_{i-1} = w_{i-1}$  if  $i$  is odd, and
- (4)  $v_{2j+1}v_{2j} \sim w_{2j+1}w_{2j}$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\lfloor i/2 \rfloor}$ .

In the above lemma,  $v$  and  $w$  have the leftmost differing bit at position  $i$ . In this case,  $v$  and  $w$  are said to be the  $i$ -neighbors to each other, and for notational convenience we write  $w = N_i(v)$  or  $v = N_i(w)$ . Also, the edge  $(v, w)$  is called an  $i$ -dimensional edge of  $CQ_n$ .

Inspired by the idea of El-Amawy and Latifi [9] that proposed the so-called folded hypercubes to strengthen the structure of hypercubes, a variation of crossed cubes was first introduced in [13] as follows. The  $n$ -dimensional folded crossed cube, denoted  $FCQ_n$ , is constructed from  $CQ_n$  by adding a set of edges  $(v, w)$  with  $v_{n-1}v_{n-2} \dots v_1v_0 = \bar{w}_{n-1}\bar{w}_{n-2} \dots \bar{w}_1\bar{w}_0$  for  $0 \leq v \leq (2^n - 1)$ . Hence, every edge in such a set is called a complement edge. Similarly, we use  $w = N_*(v)$  or  $v = N_*(w)$  to denote the adjacency of  $v$  and  $w$  in this case. Fig. 3 shows crossed cube  $CQ_3$  and folded crossed cube  $FCQ_3$ , where solid lines indicate normal edges and dashed lines represent complement edges. Refer to [2] for more properties of  $FCQ_n$ .

Throughout this paper, we also use the following notations. Let  $N_G(v)$  denote the set of vertices adjacent to  $v$  in a graph  $G$ , and we omit the subscript  $G$  if it is clear from the context. We use  $P_n = v_0 \rightarrow v_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow v_n$  to stand for a path of length  $n$  starting from  $v_0$ . Moreover,  $P_n = v_0 \xrightarrow{d_1} v_1 \xrightarrow{d_2} \dots \xrightarrow{d_n} v_n$  indicates that vertices  $v_{i-1}$  and  $v_i$  are connected by a  $d_i$ -dimensional edge or a complement edge if  $d_i = *$ . In particular, the notation  $P_n^w$  means that the path  $P_n$  does not pass through a vertex  $w$ .

### III. PROOF OF THE MAIN RESULT

Since  $FCQ_1$  and  $FCQ_2$  are isomorphic to complete graph, respectively, with two vertices and four vertices (i.e.,  $K_2$  and  $K_4$ ), the following lemma is an immediate result.

**Lemma 5.**  $FCQ_1$  and  $FCQ_2$  are vertex-transitive.

**Lemma 6.**  $FCQ_3$  is not vertex-transitive.

**Proof.** Suppose on the contrary that  $FCQ_3$  is vertex-transitive, i.e., there exists an automorphism  $\phi$  of  $FCQ_3$  such that  $\phi(1) = 0$ . From Figure 3(b), we can easily check  $N(1) = \{0, 3, 6, 7\}$  and  $N(0) = \{1, 2, 4, 7\}$ . Let  $G_i$  be the subgraph of  $FCQ_3$  induced by  $N(i)$  for  $i = 0, 1$ . Clearly,  $G_1$  contains a path of length 2 (i.e., the path  $0 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 6$ ), whereas  $G_0$  does not. This contradicts that  $\phi$  is an automorphism of  $FCQ_3$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 7.**  $FCQ_4$  is vertex-transitive.

**Proof.** Let  $e$  be the identity permutation on the vertices of  $FCQ_4$ , i.e.,  $e(i) = i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}_{16}$ . If  $\phi$  is an automorphism of  $G$ , then so is its inverse  $\phi^{-1}$ , and if  $\psi$  is a second automorphism of  $G$ , then the product  $\phi \cdot \psi$  is an automorphism. Hence, to show the result, we only need to provide automorphisms  $\phi_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 15$ , such that  $\phi_i(0) = i$  (i.e.,  $\phi_i^{-1}\phi_j$  maps vertex  $i$  to vertex  $j$  for any  $i, j \in \mathbb{Z}_{16}$ ). The following are the desired automorphism:

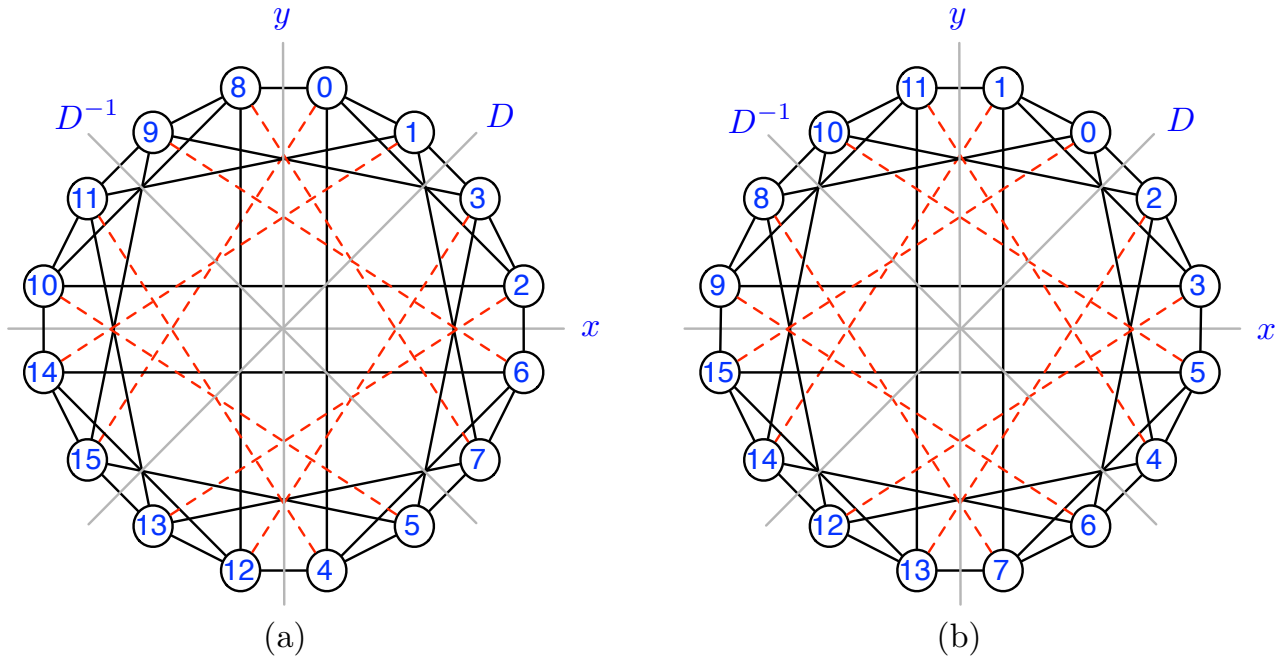


Fig. 2. Illustration of automorphisms of  $FCQ_4$ .

$$\phi_1 = (1, 0, 3, 2, 7, 6, 5, 4, 11, 10, 9, 8, 13, 12, 15, 14)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and 2(b) for illustration);

$$\phi_2 = (2, 3, 0, 1, 10, 11, 8, 9, 6, 7, 4, 5, 14, 15, 12, 13)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its flip on the diagonal  $D$ );

$$\phi_3 = (3, 2, 1, 0, 9, 8, 11, 10, 5, 4, 7, 6, 15, 14, 13, 12)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then flip on the diagonal  $D$ );

$$\phi_4 = (4, 5, 6, 7, 0, 1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 14, 15, 8, 9, 10, 11)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its flip on the  $x$ -axis);

$$\phi_5 = (5, 4, 7, 6, 15, 14, 13, 12, 3, 2, 1, 0, 9, 8, 11, 10)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then rotate 90 degrees in clockwise direction);

$$\phi_6 = (6, 7, 4, 5, 2, 3, 0, 1, 14, 15, 12, 13, 10, 11, 8, 9)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its rotation of 90 degrees in clockwise direction);

$$\phi_7 = (7, 6, 5, 4, 1, 0, 3, 2, 13, 12, 15, 14, 11, 10, 9, 8)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then flip on the  $x$ -axis);

$$\phi_8 = (8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its flip on the  $y$ -axis);

$$\phi_9 = (9, 8, 11, 10, 3, 2, 1, 0, 15, 14, 13, 12, 5, 4, 7, 6)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then rotate 90 degrees in counterclockwise direction);

$$\phi_{10} = (10, 11, 8, 9, 2, 3, 0, 1, 14, 15, 12, 13, 6, 7, 4, 5)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its rotation of 90 degrees in counterclockwise direction);

$$\phi_{11} = (11, 10, 9, 8, 13, 12, 15, 14, 1, 0, 3, 2, 7, 6, 5, 4)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then flip on the  $y$ -axis);

$$\phi_{12} = (12, 13, 14, 15, 8, 9, 10, 11, 4, 5, 6, 7, 0, 1, 2, 3)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its flip on both  $x$ -axis and  $y$ -axis);

$$\phi_{13} = (13, 12, 15, 14, 11, 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 1, 0, 3, 2)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then flip on both  $x$ -axis and  $y$ -axis);

$$\phi_{14} = (14, 15, 12, 13, 6, 7, 4, 5, 10, 11, 8, 9, 2, 3, 0, 1)$$

(see Fig. 2(a) and its flip on the anti-diagonal  $D^{-1}$ );

$$\phi_{15} = (15, 14, 13, 12, 5, 4, 7, 6, 9, 8, 11, 10, 3, 2, 1, 0)$$

(apply  $\phi_1$ , see Fig. 2(b) and then flip on the anti-diagonal  $D^{-1}$ ).  $\square$

**Lemma 8.**  $FCQ_5$  is not vertex-transitive.

**Proof.** Suppose on the contrary that  $FCQ_5$  is vertex-transitive, i.e., there exists an automorphism  $\phi$  of  $FCQ_5$  such that  $\phi(0) = 4$ . By Lemma 4 and the complement edges, we have  $N(0) = \{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 31\}$  and  $N(4) = \{0, 5, 6, 12, 27, 28\}$ . We prove the lemma through the following two claims.

**Claim 1.** Let  $w \in N(4)$  be any vertex. There exist at least three vertices  $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in N(4) \setminus \{w\}$  such that  $v_i$  is connected by a  $P_2^4$  starting from  $w$  in  $FCQ_5$  for  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ .

We directly expatiate on these paths as follows:

For  $w = 0$ , we have  $0 \xrightarrow{*} 31 \xrightarrow{4} 5, 0 \xrightarrow{1} 2 \xrightarrow{2} 6$  and  $0 \xrightarrow{3} 8 \xrightarrow{2} 12$ .

For  $w = 5$ , we have  $5 \xrightarrow{4} 31 \xrightarrow{*} 0, 5 \xrightarrow{*} 26 \xrightarrow{0} 27$  and  $5 \xrightarrow{2} 3 \xrightarrow{*} 28$ .

For  $w = 6$ , we have  $6 \xrightarrow{2} 2 \xrightarrow{1} 0, 6 \xrightarrow{*} 25 \xrightarrow{1} 27$  and  $6 \xrightarrow{3} 14 \xrightarrow{1} 12$ .

For  $w = 12$ , we have  $12 \xrightarrow{2} 8 \xrightarrow{3} 0, 12 \xrightarrow{1} 14 \xrightarrow{3} 6$  and  $12 \xrightarrow{4} 20 \xrightarrow{3} 28$ .

For  $w = 27$ , we have  $27 \xrightarrow{0} 26 \xrightarrow{*} 5, 27 \xrightarrow{1} 25 \xrightarrow{*} 6$  and  $27 \xrightarrow{2} 29 \xrightarrow{0} 28$ .

For  $w = 28$ , we have  $28 \xrightarrow{*} 3 \xrightarrow{2} 5, 28 \xrightarrow{3} 20 \xrightarrow{4} 12$  and  $28 \xrightarrow{0} 29 \xrightarrow{2} 27$ .

**Claim 2.** Let  $w = 1 \in N(0)$ . There exist at most two vertices  $v_1, v_2 \in N(0) \setminus \{1\}$  such that  $v_i$  is connected by a  $P_2^0$  starting from  $w$  in  $FCQ_5$  for  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

By Lemma 4, we observe that

$$N(1) \setminus \{0\} = \{3, 7, 11, 19, 30\}.$$

Moreover,

$$N(3) \setminus \{1\} = \{2, 5, 9, 17, 28\},$$

$$N(7) \setminus \{1\} = \{5, 6, 13, 24, 29\},$$

$$N(11) \setminus \{1\} = \{9, 10, 13, 20, 25\},$$

$$N(19) \setminus \{1\} = \{12, 17, 18, 21, 25\},$$

and

$$N(30) \setminus \{1\} = \{6, 22, 26, 28, 31\}.$$

Thus, we can check that only the two vertices  $2, 31 \in N(0) \setminus \{1\}$  are connected by a  $P_2^0$  starting from  $w$ , i.e.,  $1 \xrightarrow{1} 3 \xrightarrow{0} 2$  and  $1 \xrightarrow{*} 30 \xrightarrow{0} 31$ .

According to the two claims, it contradicts that  $\phi$  is an automorphism of  $FCQ_5$ .  $\square$

In what follows, we will consider the vertex-transitivity on  $FCQ_n$  with higher dimension, i.e.,  $n \geq 6$ . Before this, we need some auxiliary properties.

**Lemma 9.** (See Lemma 5 in [11].) For  $n \geq 6$ , there exists at most one pair of neighbors of vertex 0 in  $CQ_n$  that are not linked by a  $P_3$ .

By Lemma 4, the following two properties can be obtained directly from the adjacency of vertices in  $FCQ_n$ .

**Proposition 10.** For  $v, w \in V(FCQ_n)$ , if  $v_{2k+1}v_{2k} = 01$  and  $w_{2k+1}w_{2k} = 10$  or  $v_{2k+1}v_{2k} = 00$  and  $w_{2k+1}w_{2k} = 11$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$ , then  $v$  and  $w$  cannot be adjacent with the exception of  $(v, w)$  being a complement edge.

**Proposition 11.** For  $v, w \in V(FCQ_n)$ , if  $v_{2k+1}v_{2k} = w_{2k+1}w_{2k} = 01$  or  $v_{2k+1}v_{2k} = w_{2k+1}w_{2k} = 11$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor}$ , then  $v$  and  $w$  cannot be adjacent via an edge with dimension  $i$  for  $i \geq 2k$  or a complement edge.

**Lemma 12.** For  $n \geq 6$ , every vertex  $v \in N(0) \setminus \{1, 2^n - 1\}$  in  $FCQ_n$  is connected by a  $P_3$  starting from  $2^n - 1$ .

**Proof.** Clearly,  $v \in \{2^i : 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ . We expatiate on these paths as follows. If  $v = 2^1$ , we have

$$(2^n - 1) \xrightarrow{2} (2^n - 2^2 - 2^1 - 1) \xrightarrow{*} (2^2 + 2^1) \xrightarrow{2} 2^1.$$

If  $v = 2^i$  for even  $i \geq 2$ , we have

$$(2^n - 1) \xrightarrow{i} (2^n - 2^i - \sum_{j=1}^{i/2} 2^{2j-1} - 1) \xrightarrow{i-1} (2^n - 2^i - 1) \xrightarrow{*} 2^i.$$

If  $v = 2^i$  for odd  $i \geq 3$ , we have

$$(2^n - 1) \xrightarrow{i} (2^n - 2^i - \sum_{j=1}^{\lfloor i/2 \rfloor} 2^{2j-1} - 1) \xrightarrow{i-2} (2^n - 2^i - 1) \xrightarrow{*} 2^i.$$

$\square$

For example, we consider some vertices

$$v \in N(0) \setminus \{1, 2^7 - 1\}$$

in  $FCQ_7$ . If  $v = 2$ , we have

$$1111111_B \xrightarrow{2} 1111001_B \xrightarrow{*} 0000110_B \xrightarrow{2} 0000010_B = v.$$

If  $v = 2^6$ , we have

$$1111111_B \xrightarrow{6} 0010101_B \xrightarrow{5} 0111111_B \xrightarrow{*} 1000000_B = v.$$

If  $v = 2^5$ , we have

$$1111111_B \xrightarrow{5} 1010101_B \xrightarrow{3} 1011111_B \xrightarrow{*} 0100000_B = v.$$

**Lemma 13.** For  $n \geq 6$ , there exists at most two pairs of neighbors of vertex 0 in  $FCQ_n$  that are not linked by a  $P_3$ .

**Proof.** Clearly,  $N_{FCQ_n}(0) = N_{CQ_n}(0) \cup \{2^n - 1\}$ . Lemma 12 shows that there exists a  $P_3$  between vertices  $2^n - 1$  and  $v$  in  $FCQ_n$  for every  $v \in N_{FCQ_n}(0) \setminus \{1, 2^n - 1\}$ . Since Lemma 9 has already shown that there exists at most one pair of vertices  $u, v \in N_{CQ_n}(0) (= N_{FCQ_n}(0) \setminus \{2^n - 1\})$  without linking by a  $P_3$ , the result directly follows no matter whether there is a  $P_3$  or not between vertices 1 and  $2^n - 1$  in  $FCQ_n$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 14.** For  $n \geq 6$ , there exists at least three pairs of neighbors of vertex 1 in  $FCQ_n$  that are not linked by a  $P_3$ .

**Proof.** Since  $n \geq 6$ , by Lemma 4, we have  $N_0(1) = 0$ ,  $N_2(1) = 7$ ,  $N_3(1) = 11$ ,  $N_4(1) = 19$ ,  $N_5(1) = 35$  and  $N_*(1) = 2^n - 2$ . We claim that each of the pairs (7, 11), (19, 35) and (0,  $2^n - 2$ ) does not be linked by a  $P_3$ . For the pair (7, 11), we suppose on the contrary that  $FCQ_n$  contains the following path:

$$v(= 0 \cdots 000111_B = 7_D) \xrightarrow{\alpha} x \xrightarrow{\beta} y \xrightarrow{\gamma} w(= 0 \cdots 001011_B = 11_D).$$

Note that  $\alpha \neq \beta$  and  $\beta \neq \gamma$ . We consider the following cases.

*Case 1:*  $\beta = *$ . In this case,  $\alpha, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}_n$ . Since  $x = N_\alpha(v)$  and  $y = N_\gamma(w)$ , if  $\alpha, \gamma \geq 1$  or  $\alpha = \gamma = 0$ , then  $x$  and  $y$  have the same parity, and thus this contradicts that  $(x, y)$  is a complement edge. For  $\alpha > \gamma = 0$ , since  $w_5w_4 = 00$ , it implies  $y_5y_4 = 00$  and  $x_5x_4 = 11$ . Since  $v_5v_4 = 00$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , by Proposition 10,  $x$  and  $v$  are nonadjacent, a contradiction. A similar argument shows that the condition  $\gamma > \alpha = 0$  also leads to a contradiction.

*Case 2:*  $\beta = 0$ . Clearly, either  $x_0 = \bar{y}_0 = 0$  or  $y_0 = \bar{x}_0 = 0$ . Without loss of generality, we assume  $x_0 = 0$  and  $y_0 = 1$ . Since  $v_0 = 1$  and  $x = N_\alpha(v)$ , either  $\alpha = 0$  or  $\alpha = *$ . Since  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , we only need to consider  $\alpha = *$ . Thus,  $v_5v_4 = 00$  implies  $x_5x_4 = y_5y_4 = 11$ . Also, since  $w_5w_4 = 00$  and  $N_\gamma(y) = w$ , by Proposition 10,  $(y, w)$  must be a complement edge (i.e.,  $\gamma = *$ ). However, this contradicts the fact that  $y_0 = w_0 = 1$ .

*Case 3:*  $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}_n \setminus \{0\}$ . Clearly, either  $x_0 = y_0 = 0$  or  $x_0 = y_0 = 1$ . We first consider  $x_0 = y_0 = 0$ . In this case, we have  $\alpha, \gamma \in \{0, *\}$ . If  $\alpha = \gamma = 0$  (respectively,  $\alpha = \gamma = *$ ), then  $x_3x_2 = 01$  and  $y_3y_2 = 10$  (respectively,  $x_3x_2 = 10$  and  $y_3y_2 = 01$ ). If  $\alpha = 0$  and  $\gamma = *$  (respectively,  $\alpha = *$  and  $\gamma = 0$ ), then  $x_5x_4 = 00$  and  $y_5y_4 = 11$  (respectively,  $x_5x_4 = 11$  and  $y_5y_4 = 00$ ). Since  $(x, y)$  is not a complement edge, by Proposition 10, all of the above situations imply that  $x$  and  $y$  are nonadjacent, a contradiction. Next, we consider  $x_0 = y_0 = 1$ . Since  $v_0 = w_0 = 1$ , we have  $\alpha, \gamma \geq 1$ , and it further implies that  $x_1x_0 = y_1y_0 = 01$ . Since  $(x, y)$  is not a complement edge, by Proposition 11,  $x$  and  $y$  are nonadjacent. This again leads to a contradiction.

For the pair (19, 35), we let  $v = 0 \cdots 010011_B = 19_D$  and  $w = 0 \cdots 100011_B = 35_D$ . To show that  $v$  and  $w$  are not linked by a  $P_3$ , the proof is similar to the above argument by dealing with the second and the third bits of the labels of vertices (e.g.  $v_3v_2$  and  $w_3w_2$ ) instead of the fourth and the fifth bits (e.g.  $v_5v_4$  and  $w_5w_4$ ), and vice versa.

For the pair (0,  $2^n - 2$ ), we suppose on the contrary that  $FCQ_n$  contains the following path:

$$v(= 0 \cdots 000000_B = 0_D) \xrightarrow{\alpha} x \xrightarrow{\beta} y \xrightarrow{\gamma} w(= 1 \cdots 111110_B = 2^n - 2).$$

Note that  $\alpha \neq \beta$  and  $\beta \neq \gamma$ . We first observe that a 0-dimensional edge cannot occur immediately before or after a complement edge because  $(0 \cdots 000000_B = 0_D) \xrightarrow{0} (0 \cdots 000001_B = 1_D) \xrightarrow{*} (1 \cdots 111110_B = 2^n - 2)$  and  $(0 \cdots 000000_B = 0_D) \xrightarrow{*} (1 \cdots 111111_B = 2^n - 1) \xrightarrow{0} (1 \cdots 111110_B = 2^n - 2)$  are paths of length two that connect  $v$  and  $w$  in  $FCQ_n$ . Moreover, we have  $\alpha, \gamma \notin \{0, *\}$ . If  $\beta = *$ , we have  $\alpha, \gamma \geq 1$ . Since  $x = N_\alpha(v)$  and  $y = N_\gamma(w)$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  have the same parity, a contradiction. If  $\beta = 0$ , then either  $x_0 = 1$  or  $y_0 = 1$ , which implies that one of  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  must be contained in the set  $\{0, *\}$ , a contradiction. Finally, we consider  $\beta \in \mathbb{Z}_n \setminus \{0\}$ . Since  $\alpha, \gamma \geq 1$  and  $\alpha \neq \beta$ , the label of vertex  $y$  contains exactly two "1"s, which implies that  $y$  cannot be adjacent to  $w$  in  $FCQ_n$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

**Lemma 15.**  $FCQ_n$  is not vertex-transitive for  $n \geq 6$ .

**Proof.** This is an immediate result of Lemma 13 and Lemma 14.  $\square$

According to Lemmas 5, 6, 7, 8 and 15, we complete the proof of Theorem 2.

#### IV. CONCLUDING REMARKS

An open question arises from this paper is as follows. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph and define a binary relation  $\mathcal{R} = \{(u, v) \in V \times V : u \text{ and } v \text{ have the same orbit}\}$ . Obviously,  $\mathcal{R}$  is an equivalence relation on  $V$ . Let  $Orb(G)$  denote the number of orbits inhabited in a graph  $G$  (i.e., the number of equivalence classes of  $V$  by  $\mathcal{R}$ ). As we have mentioned earlier, Liu et al. [12] showed that locally twisted cubes  $LTQ_n$  always possess two orbits (i.e.,  $Orb(LTQ_n) = 2$ ) for  $n \geq 4$ . In addition, Kulasinghe and Bettayeb [11] showed that  $Orb(CQ_n) \neq 1$  if  $n \geq 5$ . In this paper, we prove that  $Orb(FCQ_n) = 1$  if and only if  $n \in \{1, 2, 4\}$ . It would be an interesting question to determine  $Orb(CQ_n)$  or  $Orb(FCQ_n)$  for arbitrary  $n$ .

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