

# On Fibonacci $(p, r)$ -cubes

Jian-Xin Wei<sup>1,✉</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Mathematics and Statistics Science, Ludong University, Yantai, Shandong, 264025, P.R. China

## ABSTRACT

In this paper, it is pointed out that the definition of ‘Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cube’ in many papers (denoted by  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ ) is incorrect. The graph  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not the same as the original one (denoted by  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ ) introduced by Egiazarian and Astola. First, it is shown that  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  have different recursive structure. Then, it is proven that all the graphs  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cubes. However, only a small part of graphs  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cube. It is also shown that  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  have different medianicity. Finally, several questions are listed for further investigation.

*Keywords:* Fibonacci cube, Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cube, Partial cube, Median graph

*2020 Mathematics Subject Classification:* 05C75, 68R10.

## 1. Introduction

Let  $B = \{0, 1\}$  and for  $n \geq 1$  set

$$\mathcal{B}_n = \{b_1 b_2 \dots b_n \mid b_i \in B, i \in 1 : n\}.$$

An element of  $\mathcal{B}_n$  is called a *binary word* of length  $n$  (or simply a *word*). All words considered of this paper are binary.

The  $n$ -dimensional *hypercube*  $Q_n$  is the graph whose vertex set is  $\mathcal{B}_n$ , and two vertices are adjacent if and only if they differ in precisely one coordinate. The cube  $Q_3$  is shown in Figure 1(a). Hypercubes play an important role in many areas of discrete mathematics and computer science. An excellent survey on hypercubes can be found in [15].

✉ Corresponding author.

*E-mail addresses:* [wjx0426@163.com](mailto:wjx0426@163.com) (Jian-Xin Wei).

Received 08 July 2024; accepted 20 December 2024; published 31 December 2024.

DOI: [10.61091/ars161-13](https://doi.org/10.61091/ars161-13)

© 2024 The Author(s). Published by Combinatorial Press. This is an open access article under the CC BY license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

The *Fibonacci cube*  $\Gamma_n$  [7] can be obtained from  $Q_n$  by removing all vertices that contain two consecutive 1s. It is a graph family that have been studied as alternatives for the classical hypercube topology for interconnection networks. The graph  $\Gamma_5$  is shown in Figure 1 (b). For more results on application and structure of  $\Gamma_n$ , see the survey [12] and the recent book [4].

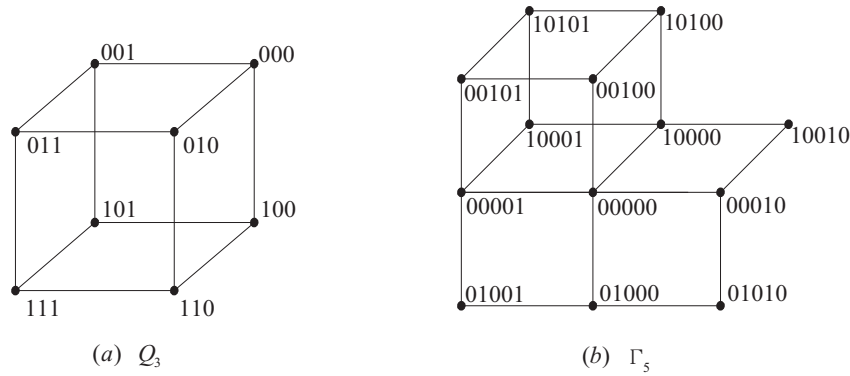


Fig. 1. The hypercube  $Q_3(a)$ , and the Fibonacci cube  $\Gamma_5(b)$

When Fibonacci cubes were introduced, they soon became increasingly popular. Numerous variants and generalizations of Fibonacci cubes, the so called *Fibonacci-like cube*, are proposed and investigated such as in papers [1, 5, 8, 17, 20, 26]. Recently, many other Fibonacci-like cubes have also been introduced and studied, such as generalized Fibonacci cubes [9], generalized Lucas cubes [10], daisy cubes [13], Pell graphs [16], Fibonacci-run graph [3], Fibonacci  $p$ -graph [23], Metallic cubes [2] and Lucas-run graph [22].

In the present paper, a special attention is given to the graphs called ‘Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes’. It was first introduced by Egiazarian and Astola [5]. In many papers, such as [12, 14, 18, 19, 25] and others, although it is pointed out that the graphs studied comes from [5], we find that it is not the same as given in [5]. For convenience, the graphs studied in [5] are called  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes, and the graphs studied in [12, 14, 18, 19, 25] are called  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes.

Let  $p \geq 1$  and  $r \geq 1$ . Then for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\alpha = a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$  is called a  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -word ([5], where it is called Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -code) if the following hold:

- (1) if  $a_i = 1$  then  $a_{i+1} = \dots = a_{i+(p-1)} = 0$ , i.e. there is at least  $p - 1$  0s between two 1s (which is called ‘consecutive’ 1s); and
- (2) there are no more than  $r$  ‘consecutive’ 1s in  $\alpha$ , i.e. ones, between which there are exactly  $p - 1$  zeroes.

For examples,  $(100)^4 0^3 (100)^3 0 (100)^2 10$  is a  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(3, 4)$ -word of length 33, but  $(100)^4 0^3 (100)^5 010$  is not a  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(3, 4)$ -word.

**Definition 1.1.** [5] Let  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  be the set of all the  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -words of length  $n$ . Then the  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cube  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is the graph defined on the vertex set  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$ , and two vertices being adjacent if they differ exactly in one coordinate.

It is easily seen that if  $(p, r) = (1, 1)$ , then a  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -word is a word that contain no two consecutive 1s. Therefore, the  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(1, 1)$ -cube  $O\Gamma_n^{(1,1)}$  is just the

classical Fibonacci cube  $\Gamma_n$ . The graphs  $O\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$  and  $O\Gamma_6^{(2,1)}$  are shown in Figure 2 (a) and (b), respectively.

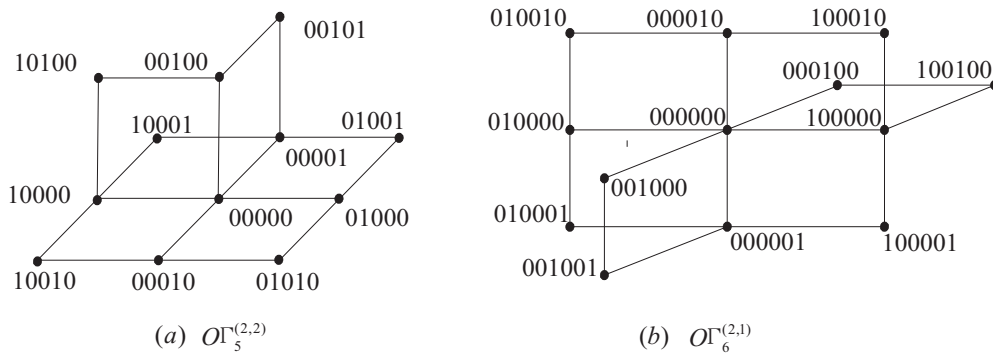


Fig. 2.  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes  $O\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$ (a) and  $O\Gamma_6^{(2,1)}$ (b)

As mentioned above, the ‘Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes’ studied in [12, 14, 18, 19, 25] will be called  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes. They are defined as follows.

Let  $p, r$  and  $n$  be any positive integers. Then an  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -word of length  $n$  is a word of length  $n$  in which there are at most  $r$  consecutive 1s and at least  $p$  element 0s between two sub-words composed of (at most  $r$ ) consecutive 1s.

**Definition 1.2.** [19] Let  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  denote the set of all  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -words of length  $n$ . Then the  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cube  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is the graph defined on the vertex set  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  and two vertices are adjacent if they differ in exactly one coordinate.

Note that the cubes  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is considered for  $n \geq p$  and  $n \geq r$  in the above papers. As  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not always trivial for the case  $n < r$  or  $n < p$ , we consider the graph  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  for all  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$  in this paper.

For examples, the graphs  $I\Gamma_5^{(3,2)}$  and  $I\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$  are shown in Figure 3 (a) and (b), respectively. Obviously,  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(1, 1)$ -cube  $I\Gamma_n^{(1,1)}$  is just the classical Fibonacci cube  $\Gamma_n$ .

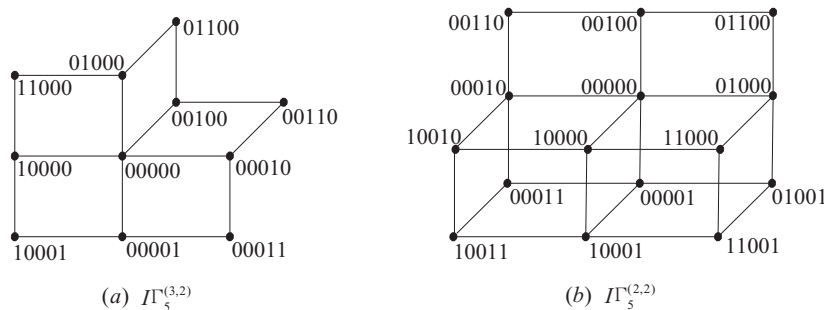


Fig. 3.  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes  $I\Gamma_5^{(3,2)}$ (a) and  $I\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$ (b)

We think that the main difference between the definitions of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is the meaning of ‘consecutive’ 1s: the  $r$  ‘consecutive 1s’ in a vertex of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  means the sub-word  $(10^{p-1})^r$ , but the  $r$  ‘consecutive 1s’ in a vertex of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  means the sub-word  $1^r$ .

For a binary word  $\chi$ , we set  $\chi^0 = \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is the empty word. For convenience, if  $n = 0$ , then let  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  be the graphs with only one vertex  $\lambda$ .

Many Fibonacci like-cubes and some sub-cubes of hypercubes can be obtained from hypercubes by some word forbidden to appear in the words of hypercubes. From the point of view, the following note holds:

**Remark 1.3.** The cube  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be obtained from  $Q_n$  by removing all vertices that contain the words  $(10^{p-1})^r 1$  or  $10^s 1$  for  $s \leq p - 2$  (if  $p \geq 2$ ); and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be obtained from  $Q_n$  by removing all vertices that contain the words  $1^{r+1}$  or  $10^s 1$  for  $s \leq p - 1$ .

From Remark 1.3 and Definitions 1.1 and 1.2,  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are not isomorphic in general. For example,  $O\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$  (Figure 2 (a)) is not isomorphic to  $I\Gamma_5^{(2,2)}$  (Figure 3 (b)). This fact can be further illustrated by the results of Sections 3 and 4 in the paper.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Sect. 2, some necessary definitions and known results are introduced. In Sect. 3, the recursive structures of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are given. In Sect. 4, the graphs  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  which are partial cube and median graphs are determined. In the last section, some questions on  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are listed for further investigation.

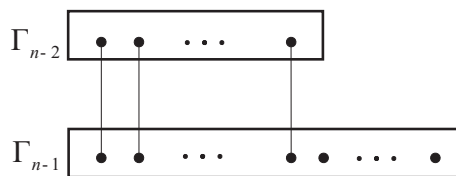
## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, some definitions, notion and results needed in the paper are given. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a set of some words. Then  $\alpha\mathcal{A}$  is the set of the words obtained from  $\mathcal{A}$  by appending a fixed word  $\alpha$  in front of each of the elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Recall that *Fibonacci numbers* are defined as  $F_0 = 0, F_1 = 1$ , and  $F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}_n$  be the vertex set of Fibonacci cube  $\Gamma_n$ . Then for  $n \geq 2$  the well known decomposition of Fibonacci cube can be obtained as follows [7], where  $\mathcal{F}_0 = \{\lambda\}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_1 = \{0, 1\}$ :

$$\mathcal{F}_n = 0\mathcal{F}_{n-1} \cup 10\mathcal{F}_{n-2}. \tag{1}$$

The name of the cubes  $\Gamma_n$  is justified with the fact that for any  $n \geq 0, |\mathcal{F}_n| = F_{n+2}$  [7]. By Eq. (1), the size of  $\Gamma_n$  can be shown in Eq. (2) for  $n \geq 2$ , and the recursive structure can be illustrated in Figure 4:

$$|E(\Gamma_n)| = |E(\Gamma_{n-1})| + |E(\Gamma_{n-2})| + F_n. \tag{2}$$



**Fig. 4.** The recursive structure of  $\Gamma_n$

The *distance*  $d_G(\alpha, \beta)$  between vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of a graph  $G$  is the length of a shortest  $\alpha, \beta$ -path. Given two words  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of the same length, their Hamming distance  $H(\alpha, \beta)$

is the number of coordinates in which they differ. Let  $H$  and  $G$  be arbitrary (connected) graphs. Then a mapping  $f : V(H) \rightarrow V(G)$  is an *isometric embedding* if  $d_H(u, v) = d_G(f(u), f(v))$  holds for any  $u, v \in V(H)$ .

A *partial cube* is a connected graph that admits an isometric embedding into a hypercube [6]. It is well known that if  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are vertices of  $Q_n$ , then  $d_{Q_n}(\alpha, \beta) = H(\alpha, \beta)$ . So we know that if  $G$  is a partial cube, then  $d_G(\alpha, \beta) = H(\alpha, \beta)$  for any vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of  $G$ . There are more studies on determining which graphs are partial cubes. For example, some generalized Fibonacci and Lucas cubes [9, 10] as partial cubes are shown in [21, 24].

Let  $r \geq p+2$  and  $n \geq r$ . Then for some  $t$  with  $p \leq t \leq r-2$ , there exist vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  such that  $10^t1$  and  $11^t1$  appear in the same coordinates of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , respectively. For convenience, we call there is a *distance-barrier* between the above vertices  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . It can be shown that  $d_{I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha, \beta) \neq H(\alpha, \beta)$  by Remark 1.3. By the following result we know that not all  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cubes.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $p \geq 2$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  be any vertices of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . Then  $d_{I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha, \beta) = H(\alpha, \beta)$  if and only if there does not exist distance-barrier between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ .*

A *median* of vertices  $u, v, w \in V(G)$  is a vertex of  $G$  that simultaneously lies on a shortest  $u, v$ -path, a shortest  $u, w$ -path, and a shortest  $v, w$ -path. The graph  $G$  is called a *median graph* if every triple of its vertices has a unique median. It is well known that a median graph must be a partial cube ([6], Proposition 12.4), and hypercube  $Q_n$  is a median graph for every  $n \geq 1$  ([6], Proposition 3.7).

A subgraph  $H$  of a graph  $G$  is *median-closed* if, with any triple of vertices of  $H$ , their median is also in  $H$ . The following result gives a useful tool to prove that a graph is a median graph ([6], Corollary 14.9).

**Theorem 2.2.** [6] *A graph is a median graph if and only if it is a median-closed induced subgraph of a hypercube.*

It was shown that all Fibonacci cubes  $\Gamma_n$  are median graphs (of course are partial cubes) [11]. In this paper, the question for determining which  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cubes and median graphs is solved completely.

Now we turn to consider some basic properties of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  in the rest of this section. By Definitions 1.1 and 1.2, the following results hold obviously.

**Proposition 2.3.** *Let  $r, r', p, p', n, n'$  be positive integers,  $s = \min \{r, r'\}$  and  $t = \min \{p, p'\}$ . Then*

- (a)  $O\Gamma_n^{(1,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(1,r)} \cong Q_n$  for  $n \leq r$ ;
- (b)  $O\Gamma_n^{(1,1)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(1,1)} \cong \Gamma_n$ ;
- (c)  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong O\Gamma_n^{(p,r')}$  for  $n \leq sp$ , and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong O\Gamma_n^{(p',r)}$  for  $n \leq t$ ; and
- (d)  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r')}$  for  $n \leq s$ , and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p',r)}$  for  $n \leq t + 1$ .

By Proposition 2.3 (1) and (2),  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  for some special  $p$  and  $r$ . For examples,

$O\Gamma_3^{(1,3)} \cong I\Gamma_3^{(1,3)} \cong Q_3$  (as shown in Figure 1 (a)) and  $O\Gamma_5^{(1,1)} \cong I\Gamma_5^{(1,1)} \cong \Gamma_5$  (as shown in Figure 1 (b)). It is obvious that all those graphs are connected. In general, we have the following result.

**Proposition 2.4.** *Let  $p, r$  and  $n$  be positive integers. Then both the graphs  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are connected.*

**Proof.** First we show that  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is connected. It is obvious that  $0^n$  is a vertex of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  for any  $p, r$  and  $n$ . We claim that every vertex  $\alpha$  of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is connected with  $0^n$  by a  $\alpha, 0^n$ -path. In fact, let  $\alpha = a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$  be any vertex of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  differing from  $0^n$ , and  $a_{i_1} = \dots = a_{i_t} = 1$ , where  $t \geq 1$  and  $i_1 \leq \dots \leq i_t$ . Then the word  $\alpha_j$  obtained from  $\alpha$  by changing  $a_{i_1}, \dots, a_{i_j}$  from 1 to 0 is also a vertex of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , where  $j = 1, \dots, t$ . Obviously,  $\alpha_t = 0^n$ . If  $j = 1$ , then  $\alpha$  and  $0^n$  are adjacent vertices. Now suppose that  $j \geq 2$ . Then  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow \alpha_{j-1} \rightarrow 0^n$  is a path in  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , and so  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is connected.

Similarly, we can show that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is connected by the facts that  $0^n$  is a vertex of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , and for any vertex  $\alpha$  of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  differing from  $0^n$ , there exist a  $\alpha, 0^n$ -path. This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3. Recursive Structure of $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ and $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$

Although some of the structure of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  was studied [5], we list them here to show they are different from that of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .

#### 3.1. Vertex sets of $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ and $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$

Recall that  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  are the vertex sets of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , respectively.

**3.1.1. Vertex set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .** In paper [5], it is shown that for  $n \geq pr + 1$ , the set  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  can be defined recursively by

$$O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = \bigcup_{i=0}^r (10^{p-1})^i 0 O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}, \tag{3}$$

with  $O\mathcal{F}_0^{(p,r)} = \{\lambda\}$ . For example, the first five (from  $n = 1$ ) sets  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(2,2)}$  are thus:

- $\{0, 1\},$
- $\{00, 01, 10\},$
- $\{000, 001, 010, 100, 101\},$
- $\{0000, 0001, 0010, 0100, 0101, 1000, 1001, 1010\},$
- $\{00000, 00001, 00010, 00100, 00101, 01000, 01001, 01010, 10000, 10001, 10010, 10100\}.$

If  $p = 1$  and  $r = 1$ , then we have  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(1,1)} = 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(1,1)} \cup 10O\mathcal{F}_{n-2}^{(1,1)}$  by Eq. (3). This means that Eq. (1) can be obtained from Eq. (3) by Proposition 2.3(2).

For convenience, if  $n \geq 1$  and  $-p \leq n - pi - 1 < 0$  for some  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq r$ ), then let  $(10^{p-1})^i 0 O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}$  be the set containing only one word, and this word is the prefix of

length  $n$  of  $(10^{p-1})^i 0$ ; if  $n - pi - 1 < -p$ , then let  $(10^{p-1})^i 0 O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)} = \emptyset$ . This means that Eq. (3) also holds for  $1 \leq n \leq pr$ , and so we have

$$|O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}| = \sum_{i=0}^r |O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}|, \tag{4}$$

where  $|O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}| = 1$  if  $-p \leq n - pi - 1 < 0$ , and  $|O\mathcal{F}_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}| = 0$  if  $n - pi - 1 < -p$ .

In paper [5], *Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -number*  $OF_n^{(p,r)}$  is defined as follows with  $OF_n^{(p,r)} = 0$  if  $n \leq 0$ , and  $OF_n^{(p,r)} = 1$  if  $1 \leq n \leq p + 1$ :

$$OF_n^{(p,r)} = \sum_{i=0}^r OF_{n-pi-1}^{(p,r)}. \tag{5}$$

It is easily seen that if  $p = r = 1$ , then  $OF_n^{(p,r)} = F_n$ . By Eqs. (4) and (5), it is known that  $|V(O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)})| = |O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}| = OF_{n+p+1}^{(p,r)}$ . By this result and Proposition 2.3(2),  $|V(\Gamma_n)| = |\mathcal{F}_n| = |O\mathcal{F}_n^{(1,1)}| = OF_{n+1+1}^{(1,1)} = F_{n+2}$  holds for the classical Fibonacci cubes [7].

**3.1.2. Vertex set of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .** On the vertex set of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , we have the following result.

**Theorem 3.1.** *Let  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1, n \geq p + r$  and  $I\mathcal{F}_0^{(p,r)} = \{\lambda\}$ . Then  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  satisfies:*

$$I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)} \cup 10^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)} \cup \dots \cup 1^r 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-r}^{(p,r)}. \tag{6}$$

**Proof.** It is easy to see that  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} \supseteq 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)} \cup 10^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)} \cup \dots \cup 1^r 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-r}^{(p,r)}$ . Let  $\alpha \in I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  and suppose that the coordinate of the first 0 of  $\alpha$  is  $i$ . Then  $1 \leq i \leq r + 1$  by the definition of  $I$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -word and then the following holds. If  $i = 1$ , then  $\alpha = 0\beta$  for some  $\beta \in I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$ . If  $2 \leq i \leq r + 1$ , then  $\alpha$  has the form of  $1^{i-1} 0^p \gamma$ , where  $\gamma \in I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-(i-1)}^{(p,r)}$ . It implies that  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} \subseteq 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)} \cup 10^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)} \cup \dots \cup 1^r 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-r}^{(p,r)}$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

It is easy to see that if  $p = 1$  and  $r = 1$ , then Eq. (1) can be obtained from Eq. (6) by Proposition 2.3 (2).

For convenience, if  $1 \leq n < p + i$  for some  $i \in [r]$ , then let  $1^i 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)}$  be the set consisting of only the word which is the prefix of length  $n$  of  $1^i 0^p$ . It can be seen that if  $i < j$  and  $n < p + i$ , then  $1^i 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)} = 1^j 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}$ . So for  $n < i$ , let  $1^i 0^p I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)} = \emptyset$ . Then for  $1 \leq n < p + r$ , the set  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  also can be determined by Eq. (6).

For example, the first few  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(2,2)}$  are thus:

$$\begin{aligned} I\mathcal{F}_1^{(2,2)} &= \{0, 1\}, \\ I\mathcal{F}_2^{(2,2)} &= \{00, 01, 10, 11\}, \\ I\mathcal{F}_3^{(2,2)} &= \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 110\}, \\ I\mathcal{F}_4^{(2,2)} &= \{0000, 0001, 0010, 0011, 0100, 0110, 1000, 1001, 1100\}, \\ I\mathcal{F}_5^{(2,2)} &= \{00000, 00001, 00010, 00011, 00100, 00110, 01000, 01001, 01100, 10000, 10001, \\ &10010, 10011, 11000, 11001\}. \end{aligned}$$

By Theorem 3.1 and the above analysis, the following result holds.

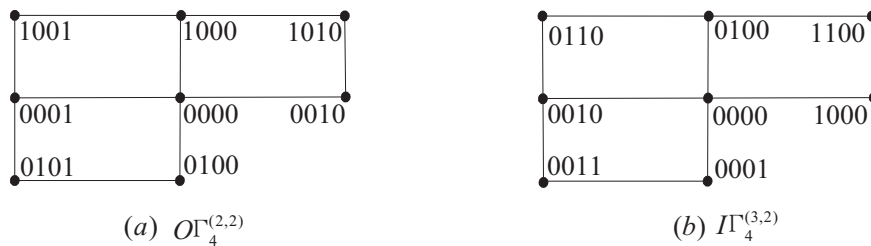
**Corollary 3.2.** Setting  $|I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}|=0$  for  $n < -p$  and  $|I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}|=1$  for  $-p \leq n \leq 0$ , we have

$$|I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}|=|I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}|+|I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)}|+\dots+|I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-r}^{(p,r)}|. \tag{7}$$

By Eqs. (3) and (6), it is easy to see that if  $p = 1$  or  $r = 1$ , then  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  and so  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . For  $p > 1, r > 1$  and  $n = 0$  or  $1$ ,  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . But for  $n > 1$ ,  $|I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}| > |O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}|$  by Eqs. (4) and (7). So the following result holds.

**Corollary 3.3.** Let  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 0$ . Then  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \not\cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  if and only if  $p > 1, r > 1$  and  $n > 1$ .

The above result implies that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \not\cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  from the general sense. However, there are exist some  $p > 1$  and  $p' > 1, r > 1$  and  $r' > 1$ , and  $n > 1$  and  $n' > 1$  such that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_{n'}^{(p',r')}$ . For example, it can be shown that  $O\Gamma_4^{(2,2)} \cong I\Gamma_4^{(3,2)}$ , as illustrated in Figure 5.



**Fig. 5.** Graphs  $O\Gamma_4^{(2,2)}$ (a) and  $I\Gamma_4^{(3,2)}$ (b)

**3.2. Edge sets of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$**

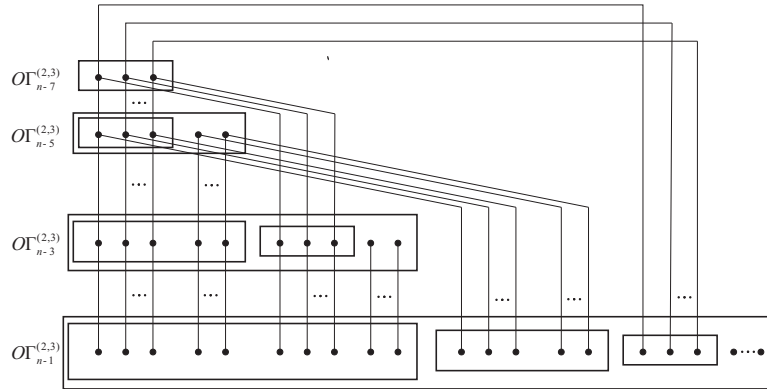
The recursive structure on the edge sets of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are studied in this subsection.

**3.2.1. Edge set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .** We show that the iterative formula of the size of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  previously given ([5], Property 2) was erroneous and determine its correct expression. First we take  $O\Gamma_n^{(2,3)}$  as an example to understand easily the structure of the edge set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . By Eq. (3), for  $n \geq 7$ ,  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(2,3)} = 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(2,3)} \cup 100O\mathcal{F}_{n-3}^{(2,3)} \cup 10100O\mathcal{F}_{n-5}^{(2,3)} \cup 1010100O\mathcal{F}_{n-7}^{(2,3)}$ .

Inside each subgraph of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  induced by  $(10)^t O\mathcal{F}_{n-2t-1}^{(p,r)}$  the edges are inherited from  $O\Gamma_{n-2t-1}^{(p,r)}$ ,  $t = 0, 1, 2$  and  $3$ . We need to determine the edges between these four subgraphs. Let  $0 \leq i < j \leq 3$ . Then by the fact  $0(10)^{j-i-1} O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)} \subseteq O\mathcal{F}_{n-2i-1}^{(p,r)}$ , it is known that  $(10)^i 00(10)^{j-i-1} O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}$  is a subset of  $(10)^i O\mathcal{F}_{n-2i-1}^{(p,r)}$ . It is easily seen that  $(10)^j 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)} = (10)^i 10(10)^{j-i-1} O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a vertex of  $(10)^j 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}$ . Then  $\alpha = (10)^i 10(10)^{j-i-1} \beta$  for some  $\beta \in O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}$ . Obviously, there exist a vertex  $\alpha' = (10)^i 00(10)^{j-i-1} \beta \in O\mathcal{F}_{n-2i-1}^{(p,r)}$ , and so  $\alpha$  is adjacent to  $\alpha'$ . Therefore, there are  $|O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}|$  edges between the subsets  $(10)^j 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-2j-1}^{(p,r)}$  and  $(10)^i 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-2i-1}^{(p,r)}$ . So we know that the decomposition of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be shown as in Figure 6, and



$$\begin{aligned}
 |E(O\Gamma_n^{(2,3)})| &= |E(O\Gamma_{n-1}^{(2,3)})| + |E(O\Gamma_{n-3}^{(2,3)})| \\
 &\quad + |E(O\Gamma_{n-5}^{(2,3)})| + |E(O\Gamma_{n-7}^{(2,3)})| \\
 &\quad + |O\mathcal{F}_{n-3}^{(2,3)}| + 2|O\mathcal{F}_{n-5}^{(2,3)}| + 3|O\mathcal{F}_{n-7}^{(2,3)}| \\
 &= \sum_{t=0}^3 t = 0 \left( |E(I\Gamma_{n-2t-1}^{(2,3)})| + t|V(I\Gamma_{n-2t-1}^{(2,3)})| \right).
 \end{aligned}$$



**Fig. 6.** The decomposition of  $O\Gamma_n^{(2,3)}$

In general, we can get the structure of the edge set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  as follows. By Eq. (3) we know that the vertex set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be decomposed into  $r + 1$  disjoint subsets for  $n \geq pr + 1$ :  $O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = \bigcup_{t=0}^r (10^{p-1})^t 0O\mathcal{F}_{n-pt-1}^{(p,r)}$ . So the graph  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be decomposed into  $r + 1$  disjoint subgraphs isomorphic to  $O\Gamma_{n-pt-1}^{(p,r)}$  for  $t = 0, 1, \dots, r$ , respectively. Further, for  $0 \leq i < j \leq r$ , it can be found that there are  $|V(O\Gamma_{n-jp-1}^{(p,r)})| = |O\mathcal{F}_{n-jp-1}^{(p,r)}|$  edges connecting the subgraphs  $O\Gamma_{n-ip-1}^{(p,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_{n-jp-1}^{(p,r)}$  (of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ ). So there are  $\sum_{t=0}^r (t|O\mathcal{F}_{n-pt-1}^{(p,r)}|)$  edges between these  $r + 1$  subgraphs. So we have the following result.

**Theorem 3.4.** *Let  $n \geq pr + 1$ . Then*

$$|E(O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)})| = \sum_{t=0}^r (|E(O\Gamma_{n-pt-1}^{(p,r)})| + t|O\mathcal{F}_{n-pt-1}^{(p,r)}|). \tag{8}$$

**3.2.2. Edge set of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .** First, we also take  $I\Gamma_n^{(2,3)}$  as an example to better understand the structure of the edge set of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . By Eq. (6), we know that  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(2,3)}$  can be decomposed into four disjoint subsets for  $n \geq 5$ :  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(2,3)}$ ,  $100I\mathcal{F}_{n-3}^{(2,3)}$ ,  $1100I\mathcal{F}_{n-4}^{(2,3)}$  and  $11100I\mathcal{F}_{n-5}^{(2,3)}$ .

Inside each subgraph of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  induced by  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(2,3)}$  and  $1^t 00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}$  ( $t \in [3]$ ) the edges are inherited from  $I\Gamma_{n-1}^{(2,3)}$  and  $I\Gamma_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}$ , respectively. Now we consider the edges between the above four subsets. It is easily seen that  $01^{t-1}00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)} \subset 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(2,3)}$ . So for every vertex  $\alpha \in 1^t 00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}$ , there exist a vertex  $\alpha' \in 01^{t-1}00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}$  such that there is an edge between  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha'$ . So there are  $|I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}|$  edges between  $1^t 00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}$  and  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(2,3)}$  for  $t \in [3]$ . Suppose  $1 \leq i < j \leq 3$ ,  $\beta \in 1^j 00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-j}^{(2,3)}$  and  $\beta' \in 1^i 00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-i}^{(2,3)}$ . If

$j - i \geq 2$ , then  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  are not adjacent in  $\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . If  $j = i + 1$ , then by the fact  $1^{j-1}000I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-j}^{(2,3)} \subset 1^i00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-i}^{(2,3)}$ , we know that there exist a vertex  $\beta'' \in 1^i00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-i}^{(2,3)}$  such that  $\beta'$  and  $\beta''$  are adjacent in  $\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . This implies that for  $1 \leq i < j \leq 3$ , there exist edges between  $1^j00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-j}^{(2,3)}$  and  $1^i00I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-i}^{(2,3)}$  only if  $j = i + 1$ , and there are  $|I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-j}^{(2,3)}|$  edges between them. Hence, we know that the decomposition of  $\Gamma_n^{(2,3)}$  can be shown as in Figure 7, and  $|E(\Gamma_n^{(2,3)})| = |E(\Gamma_{n-1}^{(2,3)})| + \sum_{t=1}^3 (|E(\Gamma_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)})| + 2|I\mathcal{F}_{n-2-t}^{(2,3)}|) - |I\mathcal{F}_{n-3}^{(2,3)}|$ .

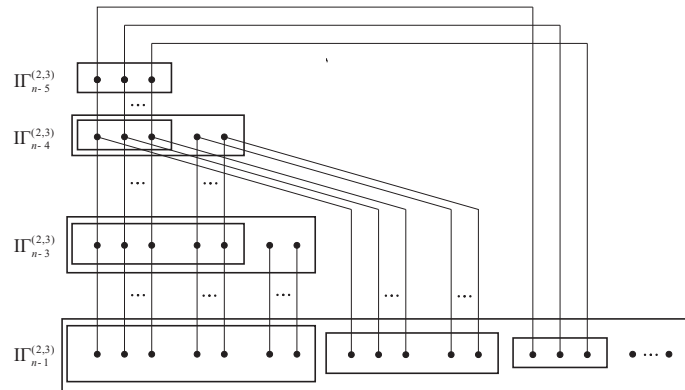


Fig. 7. The decomposition of  $\Gamma_n^{(2,3)}$

In general, we have the following result.

**Theorem 3.5.**  $n \geq p + r$ . Then

$$|E(\Gamma_n^{(p,r)})| = |E(\Gamma_{n-1}^{(p,r)})| + \sum_{t=1}^r (|E(\Gamma_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)})| + 2|I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}|) - |I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)}|. \tag{9}$$

**Proof.** By Eq. (6),  $I\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)} = 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)} \cup 10^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)} \cup \dots \cup 1^r0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-r}^{(p,r)}$ . So the graph  $\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  can be decomposed into  $r + 1$  disjoint subgraphs isomorphic to  $\Gamma_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$  (induced by the set  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$ ) and  $\Gamma_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$  (induced by the set  $1^t0^{p-1}I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$ ) for  $t \in [r]$ , respectively. To achieve the desired result, we need to consider the edges between the above subgraphs. First, we consider  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$  and  $1^t0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$ ,  $t \in [r]$ . Let  $\alpha$  be a vertex of  $1^t0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$ . Then  $\alpha = 1^t0^p\alpha'$  for some  $\alpha' \in I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$ . It can be seen that the vertex  $\beta = 01^{t-1}0^p\alpha' \in 0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$ , and so there are  $|I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}|$  edges between  $0I\mathcal{F}_{n-1}^{(p,r)}$  and  $1^t0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}$ . Now we consider the edges between  $1^i0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)}$  and  $1^j0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}$  for  $1 \leq i < j \leq r$ . Obviously, if  $j \geq i+2$ , then there is not edges between them. Suppose  $j = i+1$  and let  $\alpha \in 1^j0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}$ . Then  $\alpha = 1^j0^p\alpha' = 1^i10^p\alpha'$  for some  $\alpha' \in I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}$ . As  $\beta = 1^i00^p\alpha' \in 1^i0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)}$  and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are adjacent, we know that there are  $|I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}|$  edges between  $1^i0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-i}^{(p,r)}$  and  $1^j0^pI\mathcal{F}_{n-p-j}^{(p,r)}$  for  $j = i + 1$ . Therefore, there are altogether  $2 \sum_{t=1}^r |I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-t}^{(p,r)}| - |I\mathcal{F}_{n-p-1}^{(p,r)}|$  edges connecting these  $r + 1$  subgraphs. This completes the proof.  $\square$

If  $p = 1$  and  $r = 1$ , then by Eqs. (8) and (9) we have

$$|E(O\Gamma_n^{(1,1)})| = |E(O\Gamma_{n-1}^{(1,1)})| + |E(O\Gamma_{n-2}^{(1,1)})| + |O\mathcal{F}_{n-2}^{(1,1)}|, \text{ and}$$

$$|E(I\Gamma_n^{(1,1)})| = |E(I\Gamma_{n-1}^{(1,1)})| + |E(I\Gamma_{n-2}^{(1,1)})| + |I\mathcal{F}_{n-2}^{(1,1)}|,$$

respectively. This means that Eq. (2) can be obtained from both Eqs. (8) and (9).

### 4. Relation to Hypercubes

Both partial cubes and median graphs are important and well-studied classes of graphs. The graphs  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  which are partial cubes and median graphs are determined.

#### 4.1. $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ and $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ as partial cubes

Both graphs  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are induced subgraphs of hypercubes. It is natural to ask whether they can be isometrically embedded into hypercubes. First we consider  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .

**Theorem 4.1.** *Let  $p \geq 1$  and  $r \geq 1$ . Then for any  $n \geq 1$ ,  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube.*

**Proof.** Let  $\alpha = a_1a_2 \dots a_n$  and  $\beta = b_1b_2 \dots b_n$  be any two vertices of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . Suppose that the Hamming distance  $H(\alpha, \beta)$  between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  is  $s$ , and  $a_{i_j} \neq b_{i_j}$  for all  $j \in [s]$ . The desired result can be obtained by showing  $d_{O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha, \beta) = H(\alpha, \beta)$  for all  $s \geq 1$ . This can be shown by using induction on  $s$ . Obviously if  $s = 1$ , then  $d_{O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha, \beta) = 1 = H(\alpha, \beta)$  by Definition 1.1. Suppose that  $s \geq 2$  and  $d_{O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\mu, \nu) = H(\mu, \nu)$  holds for any two vertices  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  with  $H(\mu, \nu) = s - 1$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $a_{i_1} = 1$  and  $b_{i_1} = 0$ . Let  $\alpha'$  be the word obtained from  $\alpha$  by changing  $a_{i_1}$  from 1 to 0. Then  $H(\alpha, \alpha') = 1$ ,  $H(\alpha', \beta) = s - 1$  and  $\alpha'$  is a  $O$ -Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -word of length  $n$ , that is,  $\alpha' \in O\mathcal{F}_n^{(p,r)}$ . As  $d_{O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha', \beta) = H(\alpha', \beta) = s - 1$  by the induction hypothesis, we know  $d_{O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}}(\alpha, \beta) = H(\alpha, \alpha') + H(\alpha', \beta) = 1 + s - 1 = s$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

By Theorem 4.1, all  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cubes. However, this does not hold for  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . For  $n \geq p$  and  $n \geq r$ , the cubes  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  which are partial cubes have been determined [25]. Now for all the cases  $n \geq 1$ ,  $p \geq 1$  and  $r \geq 1$ , the results are listed as follows.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube if and only if it is one of the following cases:*

- (a)  $p = 1, r \geq 1$ , and  $n \geq 1$ ;
- (b)  $p \geq 2, r \leq p + 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ ; and
- (c)  $p \geq 2, r \geq p + 2$  and  $n < r$ .

**Proof.** First we consider the case  $p = 1$  and  $r \geq 1$ . If  $n \geq r$ , then  $I\Gamma_n^{(1,r)}$  is a partial cube ([25], Lemma 2.2). If  $n < r$ , then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong Q_n$  by Proposition 2.3, and so  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube. It means that if (a) holds, then  $I\Gamma_n^{(1,r)}$  is a partial cube.

If  $p \geq 2$  and  $r \leq p + 1$ , then it is obvious that there is not a distance-barrier between any two vertices of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . So if (b) holds, then  $I\Gamma_n^{(1,r)}$  is partial cube by Lemma 2.1.

Now we turn to consider the case  $p \geq 2$  and  $r \geq p+2$ . If  $n \geq r$ , then it was shown that  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not a partial ([25], Lemma 2.5). If  $n < r$ , then there is not a distance-barrier between any two vertices of  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , and so  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube by Lemma 2.1.

According to the above analysis,  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube if and only if one of (a), (b) and (c) holds.  $\square$

#### 4.2. $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ and $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ as median graphs

It is well known that a median graph must be a partial cube. In this subsection, we show that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  (resp.  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ ) being median graphs is only a small part of the  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  (resp.  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ ) which are partial cubes.

Note that for  $n \geq p$  and  $n \geq r$ , the graphs  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  which are median graphs has been determined [18]. For the cases  $p \geq 1$ ,  $r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ , graphs  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  as median graphs are list as follows.

**Theorem 4.3.** *Let  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a median graph if and only if it is one of the following cases:*

- (a)  $p = 1, r \geq 2$  and  $r \geq n \geq 1$ ;
- (b)  $p \geq 2, r \geq 3$  and  $2 \geq n \geq 1$ ; and
- (c)  $r \leq p, r \leq 2$  and  $n \geq 1$ .

**Proof.** We distinguish three cases: (1)  $p = 1$  and  $r \geq 2$ , (2)  $p \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 3$ , and (3)  $r \leq p$  and  $r \leq 2$ . It has been shown that if (1) or (3) holds for  $n \geq p$  and  $n \geq r$ , or (2) hold for  $n \geq 3$ , then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not a median graph ([25], Lemma 4.2 and Corollary 4.4).

If (1) holds and  $n < r$ , then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong Q_n$  by Proposition 2.3(1). It is obvious that if (2) happens and  $2 \geq n \geq 1$ , then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong Q_n$ . It is well known that  $Q_n$  is a median graph. If  $n < p$  and (3) holds, then  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(n,r)}$  by Proposition 2.3 (3). It has been known that  $I\Gamma_n^{(n,r)}$  is a median graph if (3) happens ([25], Corollary 4.4). According to the above analysis,  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a median graph if and only if (a), (b), or (c) holds.  $\square$

The following result determines the graphs  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  which are median graphs.

**Theorem 4.4.** *Let  $p \geq 1, r \geq 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a median graph if and only if one of the following cases holds:*

- (a')  $p \geq 1, r = 1$  and  $n \geq 1$ ;
- (b')  $p = 1, r \geq 2$  and  $r \geq n \geq 1$ ; and
- (c')  $p \geq 2, r \geq 2$  and  $n \leq pr$ .

**Proof.** We also distinguish three cases by  $p$  and  $r$ : (1')  $p \geq 1$  and  $r = 1$ , (2')  $p = 1$  and  $r \geq 2$ , and (3')  $p \geq 2$  and  $r \geq 2$ . By Corollary 3.3, we know that  $O\Gamma_n^{(1,r)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(1,r)}$  and  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,1)} \cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,1)}$ . So if (a') or (b') holds, then  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a median graph by Theorem 4.3 (a) and (c). Now we turn to consider case (3'). For the case  $p \geq 2, r \geq 2$  and  $n \leq pr$ , let

$$\begin{aligned}\chi &= x_1 x_2 \dots x_n, \\ \eta &= y_1 y_2 \dots y_n, \\ \rho &= p_1 p_2 \dots p_n,\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\omega = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n,$$

where  $\chi, \eta$  and  $\rho$  are vertices of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , and  $\omega$  is the median of  $\chi, \eta$  and  $\rho$ . It is well known that the median of the triple in  $Q_n$  is obtained by the majority rule ([6], Proposition 3.7): the  $i$ th coordinate of the median is equal to the element that appears at least twice among the  $x_i, y_i$ , and  $p_i$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that among  $x_1, y_1$  and  $p_1$  there are at least two 1s. Then  $w_1 = 1$ . Suppose the second 1 contained in  $\omega$  is  $w_i$ . As  $\chi, \eta$  are vertices of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and there are at least two 1 among  $x_i, y_i$  and  $p_i$ , we know  $i \geq p + 1$ . By considering the coordinate of the next element 1 in  $\omega$ , we can find that the number of 0s between two 1 is at least  $p - 1$  in  $\omega$ . Since the length of  $\omega$  is not more than  $pr$ , there are at most  $r$  consecutive '1' in  $\omega$ . Therefore,  $\omega$  is a vertex of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ , and so  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is a median graph for this case.

For any  $p \geq 2, r \geq 2$  and  $n > pr$ , let

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha &= 10^{p-1} 10^{p-1} 0(0^{p-1} 1)^{r-2} 0^{n-pr-1}, \\ \beta &= 10^{p-1} 00^{p-1} 1(0^{p-1} 1)^{r-2} 0^{n-pr-1},\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\gamma = 00^{p-1} 10^{p-1} 1(0^{p-1} 1)^{r-2} 0^{n-pr-1}.$$

Then  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are vertices of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . Set

$$\mu = 10^{p-1} 10^{p-1} 1(0^{p-1} 1)^{r-2} 0^{n-pr-1}.$$

It is easy to see that  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  are pairwise at distance 2 in  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ . By the majority rule, the unique candidate for their median is  $\mu$ . Since there are  $r + 1$  'consecutive' 1s in  $\mu$ , it does not belong to  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and so  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not median-closed induced subgraph of hypercube. Hence,  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  is not a median graph by Theorem 2.2 for this case. This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 5. Concluding Remarks

In this section, two questions are listed for further study of  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  and  $I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$ .

Corollary 3.3 shows that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \not\cong I\Gamma_n^{(p,r)}$  for almost all of  $p$  and  $r$ . However, there may be some  $p, r, n$  and  $p', r', n'$  such that  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_{n'}^{(p',r')}$ . As an example,  $O\Gamma_4^{(2,2)} \cong I\Gamma_4^{(3,2)}$  is shown in Figure 5. A natural question that arises is the following:

**Question 5.1.** For which values of  $p, r, n$  and  $p', r', n'$ ,  $O\Gamma_n^{(p,r)} \cong I\Gamma_{n'}^{(p',r')}$ ?

The *eccentricity*  $e(v)$  of a vertex  $v$  of a graph  $G$  is the maximum of its distances to other vertices in  $G$ , and the *diameter*  $d(G)$  of  $G$  are the maximum of the vertex eccentricities. The diameter of  $OG_n^{(p,r)}$  was determined ([5], Property 4). But the diameter of  $IG_n^{(p,r)}$  has not been studied. So the following questions are listed.

**Question 5.2.** *What is the diameter of  $IG_n^{(p,r)}$ ?*

As mentioned above the diameter of a graph  $G$  is the greatest distance between any two vertices in  $G$ . Theorem 4.1 shows that every graph  $OG_n^{(p,r)}$  is a partial cube, and so the distance between any two vertices of  $OG_n^{(p,r)}$  is the Hamming distance of them. However, Theorem 4.2 shows that only a small part of all graphs  $IG_n^{(p,r)}$  are partial cube. Therefore, it seems that determining the diameter of  $IG_n^{(p,r)}$  is a rather difficult task.

## Conflict of interest

The author declares no conflict of interest.

## References

- [1] E. Aragno and N. Z. Salvi. Widened fibonacci cubes. *Rivista di Matematica della Università di Parma*, 3:25–35, 2000. <https://www.rivmat.unipr.it/fulltext/2000-3/03.pdf>.
- [2] T. Došlić and L. Podrug. Metallic cubes. *Discrete Mathematics*, 347:113851, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2023.113851>.
- [3] Ö. Egecioğlu and V. Iršič. Fibonacci-run graphs i: basic properties. *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, 295:70–84, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dam.2021.02.025>.
- [4] Ö. Egecioğlu, S. Klavžar, and M. Mollard. *Fibonacci cubes with applications and variations*. World Scientific, 2023.
- [5] K. Egiazarian and J. Astola. On generalized fibonacci cubes and unitary transforms. *Applicable Algebra in Engineering, Communication and Computing*, 8:371–377, 1997. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s002000050074>.
- [6] R. Hammack, W. Imrich, and S. Klavžar. *Handbook of product graphs*. CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 2nd edition, 2011.
- [7] W. J. Hsu. Fibonacci cubes—a new interconnection topology. *IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems*, 4:3–12, 1993. <https://doi.org/10.1109/71.205649>.
- [8] W. J. Hsu, M. J. Chung, and A. Das. Linear recursive networks and their applications in distributed systems. *IEEE Transactions on Parallel and Distributed Systems*, 6(8):1–8, 1997. <https://doi.org/10.1109/71.598343>.
- [9] A. Ilić, S. Klavžar, and Y. Rho. Generalized fibonacci cubes. *Discrete Mathematics*, 312:2–11, 2012. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2011.02.015>.
- [10] A. Ilić, S. Klavžar, and Y. Rho. Generalized lucas cubes. *Applicable Analysis and Discrete Mathematics*, 6:82–94, 2012. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/43666158>.

- 
- [11] S. Klavžar. On median nature and enumerative properties of fibonacci-like cubes. *Discrete Mathematics*, 299:145–153, 2005. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2004.02.023>.
- [12] S. Klavžar. Structure of fibonacci cubes: a survey. *Journal of Combinatorial Optimization*, 25:505–522, 2013. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10878-011-9433-z>.
- [13] S. Klavžar and M. Mollard. Daisy cubes and distance cube polynomial. *European Journal of Combinatorics*, 80:214–223, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejc.2018.02.019>.
- [14] S. Klavžar and Y. Rho. Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes as cartesian products. *Discrete Mathematics*, 328:23–26, 2014. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2014.03.027>.
- [15] F. T. Leighton. *Introduction to parallel algorithms and architectures: arrays, trees, hypercubes*. Morgan Kaufmann, San Mateo, California, 1992.
- [16] E. Munarini. Pell graphs. *Discrete Mathematics*, 342:2415–2428, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2019.05.008>.
- [17] E. Munarini, C. P. Cippo, and N. Z. Salvi. On the lucas cubes. *The Fibonacci Quarterly*, 39:12–21, 2001. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00150517.2001.12428753>.
- [18] L. Ou and H. Zhang. Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes which are median graphs. *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, 161:441–444, 2013. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dam.2012.09.008>.
- [19] L. Ou, H. Zhang, and H. Yao. Determining which fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes can be z-transformation graphs. *Discrete Mathematics*, 311:1681–1692, 2011. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2011.04.002>.
- [20] H. Qian and J. Wu. Enhanced fibonacci cubes. *The Computer Journal*, 39:331–345, 1996. <https://doi.org/10.1093/comjnl/39.4.331>.
- [21] J. Wei. Proof of a conjecture on 2-isometric words. *Theoretical Computer Science*, 855:68–73, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tcs.2020.11.026>.
- [22] J. Wei. Lucas-run graphs. *Bulletin of the Malaysian Mathematical Sciences Society*, 47:178, 2024. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40840-024-01776-3>.
- [23] J. Wei and Y. Yang. Fibonacci and lucas  $p$ -cubes. *Discrete Applied Mathematics*, 322:365–383, 2022. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.dam.2022.09.004>.
- [24] J. Wei, Y. Yang, and G. Wang. Circular embeddability of isometric words. *Discrete Mathematics*, 343:112024, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.disc.2020.112024>.
- [25] J. Wei and H. Zhang. Fibonacci  $(p, r)$ -cubes which are partial cubes. *Ars Combinatoria*, 115:197–209, 2014.
- [26] J. Wu and Y. Yang. The postal network: a recursive network for parameterized communication model. *Journal of Supercomputing*, 19:143–161, 2001. <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1011171605490>.