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# Multidecomposition of Cartesian Product of Some Graphs into Even Cycles and Matchings

# P. Kandan<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Mathematics, Annamalai University, Annamalainagar 608 002, India

**Abstract.** Let  $C_{2p}$  and  $pK_2$  denote a cycle with 2p edges and p vertex-disjoint edges, respectively. For graphs G, H' and H'', a (H', H'')-multidecomposition of G is a partition of the edge set of G into copies of H' and copies of H'' with at least one copy of H' and at least one copy of H''. In this paper, we investigate  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition of the Cartesian product of paths, cycles and complete graphs, for some values  $p \ge 3$ .

### 1. Introduction

All graphs considered here are finite undirected simple graphs only. For the discussions, some terminologies and notations are needed. Let  $P_n$  for the path on n vertices,  $C_n$  for the cycle on n vertices,  $K_n$ for the complete graph on n vertices, and  $pK_2$  for p vertex-disjoint edges. Let  $V(P_n) = V(C_n) = V(K_n) =$  $\{0, 1, 2, ..., n - 1\}, E(P_n) = \{\{i, i + 1\} : i \in \{0, 1, 2, ..., n - 2\}\}$  and  $E(C_n) = E(P_n) \cup \{\{n - 1, 0\}\}.$ 

A *decomposition* of a graph *G* is a collection  $\mathscr{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_s\}$  of nonempty subgraphs of *G* such that the sets  $E(G_1), E(G_2), \ldots, E(G_s)$  form a partition of E(G), where  $E(G_i)$  and E(G) are, respectively, the edge sets of  $G_i$  and G; denote this by  $G = G_1 \oplus G_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus G_s$ .

Consider a decomposition  $\mathscr{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_s\}$  of *G*. If, for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ ,  $G_i \cong H$ , then say that *H divides G* and denote it by *H*|*G*, and the collection  $\mathscr{G}$  is called a *H-decomposition of G* or a *H-design of G*.

Consider a decomposition  $\mathscr{G} = \{G_1, G_2, \ldots, G_s\}$  of  $G; s \ge 2$ . If there exists  $\ell \in \{1, 2, \ldots, s - 1\}$  such that, for every  $i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, \ell\}, G_i \cong H'$  and for every  $i \in \{\ell + 1, \ell + 2, \ldots, s\}, G_i \cong H''$ , and if  $H' \not\cong H''$ , then say that the graph-pair (H', H'') divides G, and the collection  $\mathscr{G}$  is called a (H', H'')-multidecomposition of G or a (H', H'')-multidesign of G.

The *Cartesian product*  $H_1 \square H_2$  of two graphs  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is the simple graph with  $V(H_1) \times V(H_2)$  as its vertex set and two vertices  $(u_1, v_1)$  and  $(u_2, v_2)$  are adjacent in  $H_1 \square H_2$  if and only if either  $u_1 = u_2$  and  $v_1$  is adjacent to  $v_2$  in  $H_2$ , or  $u_1$  is adjacent to  $u_2$  in  $H_1$  and  $v_1 = v_2$ .

The study of the (G, H)-multidecomposition was introduced by Abueida and Daven in [2]. Abueida and Daven [4] investigated the problem of the  $(K_k, S_k)$ -multidecomposition of the complete graph  $K_n$ . In [5] Priyadharsini and Muthusamy gave necessary and sufficient conditions for the existence of the  $(G_n, H_n)$ multidecomposition of  $\lambda K_n$  where  $G_n, H_n \in \{C_n, P_{n-1}, S_{n-1}\}$ , where  $S_n$  denote the star on n + 1 vertices. The graph multidecomposition problems has been widely studied (see [6 – 10]). Abueida and Daven

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Email address: kandan2k@gmail.com (P. Kandan)

[3] have recently established necessary and sufficient conditions for  $(C_4, 2K_2)$ -multidecomposition of the Cartesian products  $P_m \Box P_n$ ,  $P_m \Box C_n$ ,  $P_m \Box K_n$ ,  $C_m \Box C_n$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  and  $K_m \Box K_n$ . On this extension, we have consider  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition of the above Cartesian products, for some values of  $p \ge 3$ .

#### 2. Cartesian Product of Paths

In this section, we have proved that  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a ( $C_{2p}$ ,  $pK_2$ )-multidecomposition, for some values of  $p \ge 3$ .

As  $g.c.d.(|E(C_{2p})|, |E(pK_2)|) = g.c.d.(2p, p) = p$  and  $|E(P_m \Box P_n)| = 2mn - m - n$ . If  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ multidecomposition, then p divides 2mn - m - n. Observe that, if either  $m \equiv 0 \mod p \equiv n$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod p \equiv n$ ,
then p|(2mn - m - n). Note that, for p = 3, 3|(2mn - m - n) if and only if either  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3 \equiv n$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ . For p = 4, 4|(2mn - m - n) if and only if  $(m \mod 4, n \mod 4) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$ . For p = 5, 5|(2mn - m - n) if and only if  $(m \mod 5, n \mod 5) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (4, 2)\}$ .

**Theorem 2.1.** For integers  $m, n \ge p$  and  $(m, n) \ne (3, 3)$ , either  $m \equiv 0 \mod p \equiv n$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod p \equiv n$  then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2\nu}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition for all  $p \ge 3$ .

**Theorem 2.2.** For integers  $m, n \ge 3$  and  $(m, n) \ne (3, 3)$ ,  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $(m, n) \ne (3, 3)$  and either  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3 \equiv n$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

**Theorem 2.3.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$  and  $(m, n) \ne (2, 2)$ ,  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $(m \mod 4, n \mod 4) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 2), (3, 3)\}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$  and  $(m, n) \ne (2, 2)$ ,  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $(m \mod 5, n \mod 5) \in \{(0, 0), (1, 1), (2, 4), (4, 2)\}$ .

Proof of Theorem 2.1 follows from Lemmas 2.5 to 2.9; proof of Theorem 2.2 follows from Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 2.10; proof of Theorem 2.3 follows from Theorem 2.1 and Lemmas 2.11 and 2.12; proof of Theorem 2.4 follows from Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 2.13.

**Lemma 2.5.** If  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ , and if  $(p, n) \neq (3, 3)$ , then  $P_p \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* Consider two cases.

Case 1.  $n \equiv 0 \mod 2$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}\}$ , the cycle  $C_{2p}(j) = (0, 2j)(0, 2j + 1)(1, 2j + 1)(2, 2j + 1) \cdots (p - 1, 2j + 1)(p - 1, 2j)(p - 2, 2j)(p - 3, 2j) \cdots (1, 2j)(0, 2j)$  is isomorphic to  $C_{2p}$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-4}{2}\}$ , the graph  $M_p^1(j) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} (i, 2j+1)(i, 2j+2)$  is isomorphic to  $pK_2$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}\}$ , the graph  $M_p^2(j) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{p-2} (i, 2j)(i, 2j + 1)$  is a matching of cardinality p-2. Furthermore,  $\bigcup_{j=0}^{\frac{n-2}{2}} M_p^2(j)$  is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n}{2}(p-2)$ . If p is odd, then  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$  and  $n \equiv 0 \mod 2$  implies that  $\frac{n}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$  and therefore  $\frac{n}{2}(p-2) \equiv 0 \mod p$ . If p is even, then  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$  implies that  $\frac{n}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$ .

 $0 \mod \frac{p}{2}$ ; this together with  $p - 2 \equiv 0 \mod 2$  implies that  $\frac{n}{2}(p - 2) \equiv 0 \mod p$ . In any case,  $\frac{n}{2}(p - 2) \equiv 0 \mod p$ . Consequently,  $(pK_2)|(\bigcup_{j=0}^{\frac{n-2}{2}} M_p^2(j))$ . Hence,  $\{C_{2p}(j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}\}\} \cup \{M_p^1(j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-4}{2}\}\} \cup \{\bigcup_{j=0}^{\frac{n-2}{2}} M_p^2(j)\}$  form a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition of  $P_p \Box P_n$ .

Case 2.  $n \equiv 1 \mod 2$ .

Subcase 2.1.  $p \neq 3$ .

For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}$ , the cycle  $C_{2p}(j) = (0, 2j)(0, 2j + 1)(1, 2j + 1)(2, 2j + 1) \cdots (p - 1, 2j + 1)(p - 1, 2j)(p - 2, 2j)(p - 3, 2j) \cdots (0, 2j)$  is isomorphic to  $C_{2p}$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}$ , the graph  $M_p^1(j) = \bigoplus_{i=0}^{p-1} (i, 2j + 1)(i, 2j + 2)$  is

isomorphic to  $pK_2$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}$ , the graph  $M_p^2(j) = \bigoplus_{i=1}^{p-2} (i, 2j)(i, 2j+1)$  is a matching of cardinality p-2. For each  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}$ ,  $M_p^2(j) \cup \{(j, n-1)(j+1, n-1), (\frac{p-1}{2}+j, n-1)(\frac{p+1}{2}+j, n-1)\} = M_p^3(j)$  is isomorphic to  $pK_2$ . Furthermore,  $\bigcup_{j=\frac{p-1}{2}}^{\frac{n-3}{2}} M_p^2(j)$  is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n-p}{2}(p-2)$ .  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$  and  $n \equiv 1 \mod 2$  implies

that  $p \equiv 1 \mod 2$ . Thus  $\frac{n-p}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$ . Consequently,  $(pK_2) | (\bigcup_{j=\frac{p-1}{2}}^{\frac{n-3}{2}} M_p^2(j))$ . Hence,  $\{C_{2p}(j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}\} \cup$ 

$$\{M_p^1(j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{\bigcup_{j=\frac{p-1}{2}}^{\frac{n-3}{2}} M_p^2(j)\} \cup \{M_p^3(j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \text{ form a } (C_{2p}, pK_2) \text{ multidecomposition}$$

of  $P_p \Box P_n$ .

Subcase 2.2. p = 3.

 $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$  and  $n \equiv 1 \mod 2$  implies that  $n \equiv 3 \mod 6$ .

For  $j \in \{0, 1, ..., \frac{n-3}{2}\}$ , the cycle  $\hat{C}_6(j) = (0, 2j)(0, 2j + 1)(1, 2j + 1)(2, 2j)(1, 2j)(0, 2j)$  is isomorphic to  $C_6$ . For  $j \in \{0, 1, ..., \frac{n-3}{2}\}$ , the graph  $M_3^1(j) = (0, 2j + 1)(0, 2j + 2) \oplus (1, 2j + 1)(1, 2j + 2) \cup (2, 2j + 1)(2, 2j + 2)$ , the graph  $M_3^2 = (0, n - 1)(1, n - 1) \oplus (1, n - 2)(1, n - 3) \oplus (1, n - 4)(1, n - 5)$ , the graph  $M_3^3 = (1, n - 1)(2, n - 1) \oplus (1, n - 6)(1, n - 7) \oplus (1, n - 8)(1, n - 9)$ , and for  $n \ge 15$  and  $j \in \{0, 1, ..., \frac{n-15}{6}\}$ , the graph  $M_3^4(j) = (1, 6j)(1, 6j + 1) \oplus (1, 6j + 4)(1, 6j + 5)$  are all isomorphic to  $3K_2$ .

 $\{C_6(j): j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{M_3^1(j): j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{M_3^3\} \cup \{M_3^4(j): n \ge 15 \text{ and } j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{n-15}{6}\}\}$  form a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition of  $P_3 \Box P_n$ .

**Lemma 2.6.** If  $m \equiv 0 \mod p \equiv n$  and if  $(m, n) \neq (3, 3)$ , then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* As  $(m,n) \neq (3,3)$ , either  $(p,n) \neq (3,3)$  or  $(m,p) \neq (3,3)$ . Without loss of generality assume that  $(p,n) \neq (3,3)$ . Observe that  $P_m \Box P_n = \frac{m}{p}(P_p \Box P_n) \oplus \frac{m-p}{p}(nK_2)$ . By Lemma 2.5,  $P_p \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition. As  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ ,  $(pK_2)|(nK_2)$  and hence,  $(pK_2)|[\frac{m-p}{p}(nK_2)]$ . Thus  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 2.7.**  $P_4 \Box P_4$  admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

*Proof.*  $P_4 \Box P_4 =$  the 6-cycle  $(0,0)(0,1)(0,2)(1,2)(1,1)(1,0)(0,0) \oplus$  the 6-cycle  $(2,1)(2,2)(2,3)(3,3)(3,2)(3,1)(2,1) \oplus$  the  $3K_2 \{(0,1)(1,1), (0,2)(0,3), (1,2)(1,3)\} \oplus$  the  $3K_2 \{(2,0)(2,1), (3,0)(3,1), (2,2)(3,2)\} \oplus$  the  $3K_2 \{(0,3)(1,3), (1,2)(2,2), (2,0)(3,0)\} \oplus$  the  $3K_2 \{(1,0)(2,0), (1,1)(2,1), (1,3)(2,3)\}$ .

**Lemma 2.8.** If  $k \equiv 1 \mod p$ , and if  $k \neq p + 1$ , then  $(pK_2)|P_k$ .

*Proof.* For each  $j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{k-1-p}{p}\}$ , consider  $\bigcup_{i=0}^{p-1} \{i(\frac{k-1}{p}) + j, i(\frac{k-1}{p}) + 1 + j\}$ . It is a matching of cardinality p. Hence  $(pK_2)|P_k$ .

**Lemma 2.9.** If  $m \equiv 1 \mod p \equiv n$  with  $m, n \geq 4$ , then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition for all  $p \geq 3$ .

*Proof.* If (m, n) = (4, 4), then p = 3 and hence the lemma follows by Lemma 2.7. Hence, assume that  $(m, n) \neq (4, 4)$ . Observe that  $P_m \Box P_n = a$  path  $(m-1, 0)(m-2, 0) \dots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2) \dots (0, n-2)(0, n-1)$  $\oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m-1\}\} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(0, j)(1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-1\}\} \oplus (P_{m-1} \Box P_{n-1})$ .

Since  $m - 1 \equiv 0 \mod p \equiv n - 1$ , by Lemma 2.6,  $P_{m-1} \square P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $(m, n) \neq (4, 4)$ . Again, since  $m - 1 \equiv 0 \mod p \equiv n - 1$ , the matchings  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, ..., m - 1\}\}$  and  $\{(0, j)(1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, ..., n - 1\}\}$  are each divisible by  $pK_2$ . Finally, by Lemma 2.8, the path  $(m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0) \dots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2) \dots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)$  is divisible by  $pK_2$  since its order  $\equiv 1 \mod p$  and  $\neq p + 1$ .

### **Lemma 2.10.** There is no $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition for $P_3 \square P_3$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $P_3 \square P_3$  admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition. Then the removal of the edges of any  $C_6$  from  $P_3 \square P_3$  is a forest and it contains three mutually adjacent edges. These three mutually adjacent edges are edges of two  $3K_2$ 's in the multidecomposition, a contradiction.

**Lemma 2.11.** If  $m \equiv 2 \mod 4 \equiv n, m, n \geq 2 \pmod{(m, n)} \neq (2, 2)$ , then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* If m = 2 and  $n \ge 6$ , then  $P_2 \square P_n$  admits a ( $C_8, 4K_2$ ) multidecomposition as follows.  $P_2 \square P_n = a$  $\frac{n-6}{4}$ 

cycle  $\bigoplus_{j=0}^{4} \{(0,4j+1)(0,4j+2)(0,4j+3)(0,4j+4)(1,4j+4)(1,4j+3)(1,4j+2)(1,4j+1)(0,4j+1)\} \oplus a \text{ matching} \}$ 

 $\{(0, 0)(1, 0), (0, 2)(1, 2), (0, 3)(1, 3), (0, n-1)(1, n-1)\} \oplus$  the remaining edges are form a matching with cardinality  $\frac{n+2}{4}$  which is divisible by 4. Now for the remaining values of (m, n), observe that  $P_m \Box P_n =$  a path  $(m - 1, 1)(m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0) \dots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2) \dots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)(1, n - 1) \oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, m - 2\}\} \oplus$  a matching  $\{(0, j)(1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}\} \oplus (P_{m-1} \Box P_{n-1})$ .

Since  $m - 1 \equiv 1 \mod 4 \equiv n - 1$ , by Lemma 2.9,  $P_{m-1} \Box P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition. Again, since  $m - 2 \equiv 0 \mod 4 \equiv n - 2$ , the matchings  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, ..., m - 2\}\}$  and  $\{(0, j)(1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, ..., n - 2\}\}$  are each divisible by  $4K_2$ . Finally, by Lemma 2.8, the path  $(m - 1, 1)(m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0) \dots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2) \dots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)(1, n - 1)$  is divisible by  $4K_2$  since its order  $\equiv 1 \mod 4$ .

**Lemma 2.12.** If  $m \equiv 3 \mod 4 \equiv n, m, n \geq 3 \pmod{(m, n)} \neq (3, 3)$ , then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* Observe that  $P_m \Box P_n = a$  path  $(m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0) \ldots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0) (0, 1)(0, 2) \ldots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1) \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m - 3\}\} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, \ldots, m - 3\}\} \cup \{(m - 1, 0)(m - 1, 1)\} \cup \{(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, 1)\}\} \oplus \{P_{m-1} \Box P_{n-1}\}$ .

Since  $m - 1 \equiv 2 \mod 4 \equiv n - 1$ , by Lemma 2.11,  $P_{m-1} \Box P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition. Again, since  $m - 3 \equiv 0 \mod 4 \equiv n - 3$ , the matchings  $\{(i, 0)(i, 1) : i \in \{1, 2, ..., m - 3\}\}$  and  $[\{(0, j)(1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, ..., n - 1\}\} \cup \{(m - 1, 0)(m - 1, 1)\} \cup \{(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, 1)\}\}$  are each divisible by  $4K_2$ . Finally, by Lemma 2.8, the path  $(m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0) \dots (2, 0)(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2) \dots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)$  is divisible by  $4K_2$  since its order  $\equiv 1 \mod 4$ .

**Lemma 2.13.** If  $m \equiv 2 \mod 5$  and  $n \equiv 4 \mod 5$ , then  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* Observe that  $P_m \square P_n = a$  path  $(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1) \dots (0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)(1, n - 1) \oplus (2, 0)(1, 0)(1, 1) \dots (1, n - 2)(1, n - 1)(2, n - 1) \oplus the <math>2(\frac{m-2}{5})$ -cycle  $\{(5i + 2, 2j)(5i + 2, 2j + 1)(5i + 3, 2j + 1)(5i + 4, 2j + 1)(5i + 5, 2j + 1)(5i + 6, 2j + 1)(5i + 6, 2j)(5i + 5, 2j)(5i + 4, 2j)(5i + 3, 2j)(5i + 2, 2j) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, (\frac{m-2}{5}) - 1\}, j \in \{0, 1\}\} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, j)(i + 1, j) : i \in \{0, 1\}, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}\} \cup \{(5i + k, 2j)(5i + k, 2j + 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, (\frac{m-2}{5}) - 1\}, j \in \{0, 1\}\} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, j)(i + 1, j) : i \in \{0, 1\}, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}\} \cup \{(5i + k, 2j)(5i + k, 2j + 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, (\frac{m-2}{5}) - 1\}, j \in \{0, 1\}\} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, 2j - 1)(i, 2j) : i \in \{2, 3, \dots, m - 1\}, j \in \{1, 2\}\} \oplus (P_{m-2} \square P_{n-4}).$ 

Since  $m-2 \equiv 0 \mod 5$  and  $n-4 \equiv 0 \mod 5$ , by Lemma 2.9,  $P_{m-2} \Box P_{n-4}$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition. Again, since  $2(m-2) \equiv 0 \mod 5$ , the matchings  $\{(i, 2j - 1)(i, 2j) : i \in \{2, 3, \dots, m-1\}, j \in \{1, 2\}\}$  and  $(n-2) + 3(\frac{m-2}{5}) + 2((\frac{m-2}{5})-1) = (n-4) + (m-2) \equiv 0 \mod 5$ ,  $\{(i, j)(i+1, j) : i \in \{0, 1\}, j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n-2\}\} \cup \{(5i+k, 2j)(5i+k, 2j)(5i+k, 2j)(5i+k, 2j)(5i+1, 2j)(5i+2, 2j+1) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, (\frac{m-2}{5})-1\}, j \in \{0, 1\}, k \in \{3, 4, 5\}\} \cup \{(5i+1, 2j)(5i+2, 2j+1) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, (\frac{m-2}{5})-1\}, j \in \{0, 1\}\}$  are each divisible by  $5K_2$ . Finally, by Lemma 2.8, the path  $(1, 0)(0, 0)(0, 1) \dots (0, n-2)(0, n-1)(1, n-1)$  $(2, 0)(1, 0)(1, 1) \dots (1, n-2)(1, n-1)(2, n-1)$  is divisible by  $5K_2$  since its order  $\equiv 1 \mod 5$ .

#### 3. Cartesian Product of a Path and a Cycle

In this section, we have proved that  $P_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, fpr some values of  $p \ge 3$ .

As  $g.c.d.(|E(C_{2p})|, |E(pK_2)|) = g.c.d.(2p, p) = p$  and  $|E(P_m \Box C_n)| = (2m - 1)n$ . If  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ multidecomposition, then p divides (2m - 1)n. Note that, if either  $2m \equiv 1 \mod p$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$  then p|((2m - 1)n). For p = 3, 3|((2m - 1)n) if and only if either  $m \equiv 2 \mod 3$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . For p = 4, 4|((2m - 1)n) if and only if  $n \equiv 0 \mod 4$ . For p = 5, 5|((2m - 1)n) if and only if either  $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 5$ . **Theorem 3.1.** For integers  $m \ge 2$ ,  $n \ge 3$ , and  $p \ge 3$ , if  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ , then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 3.2.** If  $k \equiv 0 \mod p$ , and if  $k \neq p$  then  $(pK_2)|C_k$ .

*Proof.* Let k = pr, r is a positive integer. For each  $j \in \{0, 1, ..., r-1\}$ , consider  $\bigcup_{i=0}^{p-1} \{ri + j, ri + j + 1\}$ . It is a matching of cardinality p. Hence,  $(pK_2)|C_k$ .

*Proof of Theorem* 3.1. Let  $m = \ell p + s$ , where  $s \in \{0, 1, ..., p - 1\}$ . Decompose  $P_m \square C_n$  as follows: (i)  $P_{\ell p} \square P_n$  with vertex set  $\{0, 1, ..., \ell p - 1\} \times \{0, 1, ..., n - 1\} \oplus$  (ii) a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., \ell p - 1\}\}$  of cardinality  $\ell p \oplus$  (iii)  $\bigoplus_{i=\ell p-1}^{m-1}$  (a matching  $\{(i, j)(i + 1, j) : j \in \{0, 1, ..., n - 1\}\}$  of cardinality  $n \oplus (iv) \bigoplus_{i=\ell p}^{m-1}$  (a cycle  $(i, 0)(i, 1)(i, 2) \dots (i, n - 1)(i, 0)$  of cardinality n). If  $(\ell p, n) \neq (3, 3)$ , i.e.,  $(\ell, p, n) \neq (1, 3, 3)$ , then by Theorem 2.1 graph (i) admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition. Clearly, graph (ii) and each graph in (iii) admits a  $pK_2$ -decomposition. By Lemma 3.2, if  $n \neq p$ , then each graph in (iv) admits a  $pK_2$ -decomposition. Thus it is enough to consider the following two cases. *Case 1. n = p.* 

Consider the following subcases

Subcase 1.1. For n = p, assume p and s are odd. Let  $m = \ell p + s$ , where  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ . Decompose  $P_m \square C_n$  as follows: (i)  $P_{\ell p} \square P_p$  with vertex set  $\{0, 1, \dots, \ell p-1\} \times \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ , by Theorem 2.1 graph (i) admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition  $\oplus$  (ii) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j)(\ell p, 2j+1) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p-1, \ell p-1)(\ell p, \ell p-1)\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (iii) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p-1, 0)(\ell p, 0)\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{p-1}{2}, \frac{p+1}{2}, \dots, p-2\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (iv) a matching  $\{(\ell p-1, j)(\ell p, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p, 0)(\ell p, p-1), (p-1, 0)(p-1, p-1)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (v) the subgraphs  $\frac{s-1}{2}$  times  $P_2 \square C_p$ , for each  $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{s-1}{2}\}$ , decompose  $P_2 \square C_p$  into  $pK_2$  as follows: (a) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, 2j)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+1) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, \ell p-1)(\ell p+2t+1, \ell p-1)\} \oplus$  (b) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, 2j+1)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 2j+1)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t+1, 0)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (c) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, j)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t+1, 0)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (c) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, j)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t+1, 0)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (c) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, j)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t+1, 0)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (c) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, j)(\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t, p-1), (\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t, p-1), (\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t, p-1), (\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t, p-1), (\ell p+2t+1, 2j+2) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\}$  of  $\ell = 2$ .

2t + 1, 0  $(\ell p + 2t + 1, p - 1)$  of cardinality  $p \oplus \bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{n-2}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(\ell + 2i + 1, j)(\ell + 2i + 2, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}$ ) of cardinality n).

Now assume *p* is odd and *s* is even. Except the last decomposition of the above, the remaining are same, that is decomposition of  $P_m \square C_n$  is (i) $\oplus$  (ii)  $\oplus$  (iii)  $\oplus$  (iv)  $\oplus$  (v) the subgraphs  $\frac{s}{2}$  times  $P_2 \square C_p$ , for each  $t \in \{1, 2, \ldots, \frac{s}{2} - 1\}$ , decompose  $P_2 \square C_p$  into  $pK_2$  as follows: (a) a matching  $\{(\ell p + 2t, 2j)(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 1) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 1) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, \ell p - 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, \ell p - 1)\} \oplus$  (b) a matching  $\{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 1, 2j + 2) : j \in \{0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 2j + 2)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 2j + 2) : j \in (0, 1, \ldots, \frac{p-3}{2}\}\}$ 

$$\{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 0)(\ell p + 2t, p-1), (\ell p + 2t + 1, 0)(\ell p + 2t + 1, p-1)\} \text{ of cardinality } p \oplus \bigoplus_{i=1}^{n} (a \text{ matching } \{(\ell + 2i + 1, j)(\ell + 2i + 2, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}\} \text{ of cardinality } n\}.$$

Subcase 1.2. For n = p, assume p and s are even. Let  $m = \ell p + s$ , where  $s \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ . Decompose  $P_m \Box C_n$  as follows: (i)  $P_{\ell p} \Box P_p$  with vertex set  $\{0, 1, \dots, \ell p-1\} \times \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ , by Theorem 2.1 graph (i) admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition  $\oplus$  (ii) the subgraphs  $\frac{s}{2}$  times  $P_2 \Box C_p$ , for each  $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{s}{2} - 1\}$ , decompose  $P_2 \Box C_p$  into  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$  as follows: (a) a matching  $\{(\ell p + 2t, j)(\ell p + 2t + 1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p + 2t, 0)(\ell p + 2t, p - 1), (\ell p + 2t + 1, 0)(\ell p + 2t + 1, p - 1)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (b) a cycle  $(\ell p + 2t, 0)(\ell p + 2t, 2) \dots (\ell p + 2t, n - 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, n - 1) \dots (\ell p + 2t + 1, 1)(\ell p + 2t + 1, 0)(\ell p + 2t, 0)$  of cardinality  $2p \oplus$  (iii) for each  $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{s}{2} - 1\}$ , a matching  $\{(\ell p + 2t - 1, j)(\ell p + 2t, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p - 1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus (iv)$  a matching  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\ell p-1} \{((i, 0)(i, p-1))\}$  of cardinality  $\ell p$ .

Now assume *p* is even and *s* is odd. Decompose  $P_m \square C_n$  as follows: (i)  $P_{\ell p} \square P_p$  with vertex set  $\{0, 1, \dots, \ell p-1\}$  ×  $\{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$ , by Theorem 2.1 graph (i) admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition  $\oplus$  (ii) the subgraphs  $\frac{s-1}{2}$  times  $P_2 \square C_p$ , for each  $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{s-1}{2}\}$ , decompose  $P_2 \square C_p$  into  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$  as follows: (a) a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t-1, j)(\ell p+2t, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, p-2\}\} \cup \{(\ell p+2t-1, 0)(\ell p+2t-1, p-1), (\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t, p-1)\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (b) a cycle  $(\ell p+2t-1, 0)(\ell p+2t-1, 2) \dots (\ell p+2t-1, p-1)(\ell p+2t, p-1) \dots (\ell p+2t, 1)(\ell p+2t, 0)(\ell p+2t-1, 0)$  of cardinality  $2p \oplus$  (iii) for each  $t \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{s-1}{2}\}$ , a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t-2, j)(\ell p+2t-1, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (iv) for each  $t \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{s-3}{2}\}$ , a matching  $\{(\ell p+2t, j)(\ell p+2t+1, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (v) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j)(\ell p, 2j + 1) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\} \cup \{(i, 0)(i, p-1) : i \in \{\frac{lp}{2}, \frac{lp}{2} + 1, \dots, lp-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $p \oplus$  (vi) a matching  $\{(\ell p, 2j+1)(\ell p, 2j+2) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \frac{p}{2} - 1\}\}$ 

*Case 2.*  $(\ell, p, n) = (1, 3, 3)$ .  $P_{\ell p+s} \Box C_n = P_{3+s} \Box C_3$ , if s = 0,  $P_3 \Box C_3$ , is decomposable into  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition as

(i) a cycle  $(0, 0)(0, 1)(0, 2)(1, 2)(1, 1)(1, 0) \oplus$  (ii) a matching  $\{(0, 0)(0, 2), (1, 2)(2, 2), (2, 0)(2, 1)\} \oplus$  (iii) a matching  $\{(0, 1)(1, 1), (1, 0)(2, 0), (2, 1)(2, 2)\} \oplus$  (iv) a matching  $\{(1, 0)(1, 2), (1, 1)(2, 1), (2, 0)(2, 2)\}$ . Now assume that  $s \ge 1$ , consider the following two subcases.

Subcase 2.1. For *m* is even,  $P_{3+s} \square C_3$ , is decomposable into  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition as (i)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-2}{2}}$  (a cycle (2i, 0)(2i, 1)(2i, 2)(2i + 1, 2)(2i + 1, 1)(2i + 1, 0) of cardinality 6)  $\oplus$  (ii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-2}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(2i, 0)(2i, 2), (2i, 1)(2i + 1, 1), (2i + 1, 0)(2i + 1, 2)\}$  of cardinality 3)  $\oplus$  (iii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-4}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(2i + 1, 0)(2i + 2, 0), (2i + 1, 1)(2i + 2, 1), (2i + 1, 2)(2i + 2, 2)\}$  of cardinality 3).

Subcase 2.2. For *m* is odd,  $P_{3+s} \Box C_3$ , is decomposable into  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition as (i)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-3}{2}}$  (a cycle (2i, 0)(2i, 1)(2i, 2)(2i + 1, 2)(2i + 1, 1)(2i + 1, 0) of cardinality 6)  $\oplus$  (ii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-3}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(2i, 0)(2i, 2), (2i, 1)(2i + 1, 1)(2i + 2, 1), (2i + 1, 0)(2i + 1, 2)\}$  of cardinality 3)  $\oplus$  (iii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-7}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(2i + 1, 0)(2i + 2, 0), (2i + 1, 1)(2i + 2, 1), (2i + 2, 1), (2i + 2, 1), (2i + 2, 2), (2i + 1, 2)\}$  of cardinality 3)  $\oplus$  (iii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\frac{m-7}{2}}$  (a matching  $\{(2i + 1, 0)(2i + 2, 0), (2i + 1, 1)(2i + 2, 1), (2i + 2, 2), (2i + 2,$ 

1, 1), (2i + 1, 0)(2i + 1, 2)} of cardinality 3)  $\oplus$  (iii)  $\bigoplus_{i=0}^{\infty}$  (a matching {(2i + 1, 0)(2i + 2, 0), (2i + 1, 1)(2i + 2, 1), (2i + 1, 2)(2i + 2, 2)} of cardinality 3)  $\oplus$  (iv) a matching {(m - 1, 0)(m - 1, 1), (m - 1, 2)(m - 2, 2), (m - 3, 2)(m - 4, 2)} of cardinality 3  $\oplus$  (v) a matching {(m - 1, 1)(m - 1, 2), (m - 1, 0)(m - 2, 0), (m - 3, 0)(m - 4, 0)} of cardinality 3  $\oplus$  (vi) a matching {(m - 1, 2), (m - 1, 2), (m - 3, 1)(m - 4, 1)} of cardinality 3.

**Theorem 3.3.** For integers  $m \ge 5$  and  $n \ge 4$ ,  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $m \equiv 2 \mod 3$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ .

**Theorem 3.4.** For integers  $m, n \ge 4$ ,  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $n \equiv 0 \mod 4$ .

**Theorem 3.5.** For integers  $m, n \ge 3$ ,  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if  $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 5$ .

Proof of Theorem 3.3. follows from Lemmas 3.6., 3.7., Theorem 3.1. and  $P_2 \square C_6 = \text{the 6-cycle } (0,0)(0,1)(0,2)$ (0,3)(0,4)(0,5)(0,0)  $\oplus$  the 6-cycle (1,0)(1,1)(1,2)(1,3)(1,4)(1,5)(1,0)  $\oplus$  the 3 $K_2$  {(0,0)(1,0), (0,1)(1,1), (0,2)(1,2)}  $\oplus$  the 3 $K_2$  {(0,3)(1,3), (0,4)(1,4), (0,5)(1,5)}; proof of Theorem 3.4. follows from Theorem 3.1.; proof of Theorem 3.5. follows from Lemmas 3.8. to 3.11. and Theorem 3.1.. **Lemma 3.6.** If  $m \equiv 2 \mod 3 \equiv n$ , with  $m, n \geq 6$  then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* As  $m - 1 \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n - 1$ , by Theorem 2.1,  $P_{m-1} \square P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_{m-1} \square P_{n-1}$  from  $P_m \square C_n$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., m-1\}\} \cup \{(m-2, 1)(m-1, 1)\}$  of cardinality  $m+1 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(m-2, j)(m-1, j) : j \in \{0, 2, 3, ..., n-2\}$  of cardinality  $n - 2 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, n - 2)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{1, 2, ..., m - 2\}\}$  of cardinality  $m - 2 \oplus a$  path  $(0, n - 2)(0, n - 1)(1, n - 1)(2, n - 1) \dots (m - 2, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 2)(m - 1, n - 3) \dots (m - 1, 1)(m - 1, 0)$  of length m + n - 1. All these matchings are divisible by  $3K_2$  and by Lemma 2.8, the path is also divisible by  $3K_2$ . Thus  $P_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 3.7.** If  $m \equiv 2 \mod 3$  and if  $n \equiv 1 \mod 3$ , with  $m \geq 5$ ,  $n \geq 4$  then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ multidecomposition.

*Proof.* For  $(m, n) \neq (5, 4)$ . As  $m-1 \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ , by Theorem 2.1,  $P_{m-1} \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecompos -ition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_{m-1} \Box P_n$  from  $P_m \Box C_n$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., m-1\}\} \cup \{(m-2, 1)(m-1, 1)\}$  of cardinality  $m + 1 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(m-2, j)(m-1, j) : j \in \{0, 2, 3, ..., n-1\}$  of cardinality  $n-1 \oplus$  a path  $(m-1, 0)(m-1, 1)(m-1, 2) \dots (m-1, n-2)(m-1, n-1)$  of length n-1. Both the matchings are divisible by  $3K_2$  and by Lemma 2.8, the path is also divisible by  $3K_2$ . For m = 5 and n = 4. Since by Lemma 2.7,  $P_4 \Box P_4$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_4 \Box P_4$  from  $P_5 \Box C_4$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(4, 0)(4, 3), (4, 1)(4, 2), (3, 0)(3, 3)\}$  of cardinality  $3 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(4, 0)(4, 1), (4, 2), (3, 3)(4, 3)\}$  of cardinality 6. Thus  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 3.8.** If  $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$  and if  $n \equiv 1 \mod 5$ , then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* As  $m - 3 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \equiv n - 1$ , by Theorem 2.1,  $P_{m-3} \square P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_{m-3} \square P_{n-1}$  from  $P_m \square C_n$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, n-2)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, n-2)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, n-2)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus a$  path  $(0, n-1)(1, n-1)(2, n-1) \dots (m - 4, n-1)(m - 3, n-1)(m - 3, 0)(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, n-1)(m - 1, n-1)(m - 1, 0)$  of length  $m + 2 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus a$  path  $(m - 3, 0)(m - 3, 1) \dots (m - 3, n - 1)$  of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus a$  path  $(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, 1) \dots (m - 2, n - 1)$  of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus a$  path  $(m - 1, 0)(m - 1, 1) \dots (m - 1, n - 1)$  of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(m - 4, j)(m - 3, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 2\}\}$  of cardinality  $n - 1 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(m - 3, j)(m - 2, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 2\}\}$  of cardinality  $n - 1 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(m - 3, j)(m - 2, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 2\}\}$  of cardinality n - 1 All the matchings are divisible by  $5K_2$  and by Lemma 2.8, all the paths are divisible by  $5K_2$ . Thus  $P_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 3.9.** If  $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$  and if  $n \equiv 2 \mod 5$ , then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* As  $m - 2 \equiv 1 \mod 5 \equiv n - 1$ , by Theorem 2.1,  $P_{m-2} \square P_{n-1}$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_{m-2} \square P_{n-1}$  from  $P_m \square C_n$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, n - 2)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, n - 2)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, n - 2)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, \dots, m - 4\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus$  a path  $(0, n - 1)(1, n - 1)(2, n - 1) \dots (m - 3, n - 1)(m - 3, 0)(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 1)(m - 1, 0)$  of length  $m + 2 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus$  a path  $(m - 2, 0)(m - 2, 1) \dots (m - 2, n - 2)$  of length  $n - 2 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus$  a path  $(m - 1, 0)(m - 1, 1) \dots (m - 1, n - 2)$  of length  $n - 2 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(m - 3, 1)(m - 2, 1), (m - 2, 0)(m - 1, 0), (m - 3, n - 2)(m - 3, n - 1), (m - 2, n - 2)(m - 2, n - 1), (m - 1, n - 2)(m - 1, n - 1)\}$  of cardinality  $5 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(m - 3, j)(m - 2, j) : j \in \{2, 3, \dots, n - 1\}\}$  of cardinality  $n - 2 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(m - 2, j)(m - 1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}\}$  of cardinality n - 2. All the matchings are divisible by  $5K_2$  and by Lemma 2.8, all the paths are divisible by  $5K_2$ . Thus  $P_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 3.10.** If  $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$  and if  $n \equiv 3 \mod 5$ , then  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Proof.* As  $m - 3 \equiv 0 \mod 5 \equiv n - 3$ , by Theorem 2.1,  $P_{m-3} \square P_{n-3}$  admits a  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_{m-3} \square P_{n-3}$  from  $P_m \square C_n$  results in the subgraph: a matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., m - 4\}\}$  of cardinality  $m - 3 \oplus$  a matching  $\{(i, n - 4)(i, n - 3) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., m - 4\}$  of cardinality m - 3

⊕ a matching {(*i*, *n* − 3)(*i*, *n* − 2) : *i* ∈ {2,3,...,*m* − 2} of cardinality *m* − 3 ⊕ a matching {(*i*, *n* − 2)(*i*, *n* − 1) : *i* ∈ {0,1,...,*m*−4} of cardinality *m* − 3 ⊕ a matching {(0, *n* − 3)(0, *n* − 2), (1, *n* − 3)(1, *n* − 2), (*m* − 3, *n* − 2)(*m* − 3, *n* − 1), (*m* − 2, *n* − 2)(*m* − 2, *n* − 1), (*m* − 1, *n* − 2)(*m* − 1, *n* − 1)} of cardinality 5 ⊕ a path (0, *n* − 3)(1, *n* − 3)(2, *n* − 3)...(*m*−1, *n*−3)(*m*−1, *n*−2)(*m*−2, *n*−2)(*m*−3, *n*−2)...(2, *n*−2)(1, *n*−2)(0, *n*−2) of length 2*m*−1 ≡ 0 mod 5 ⊕ a path (0, *n*−1)(1, *n*−1)(2, *n*−1)...(*m*−3, *n*−1)(*m*−3, 0)(*m*−2, *n*−1)(*m*−1, *n*−1)(*m*−1, 0) of length *m* + 2 ≡ 0 mod 5 ⊕ a path (*m*−3, 0)(*m*−3, 1)...(*m*−3, *n*−4)(*m*−3, *n*−3) of length *n*−3 ≡ 0 mod 5 ⊕ a path (*m*−2, 0)(*m*−2, 1)...(*m*−2, *n*−4)(*m*−2, *n*−3) of length *n*−3 ≡ 0 mod 5 ⊕ a path (*m*−1, *n*−4) of cardinality *n*−3 ⊕ a matching {(*m*−2, *j*)(*m*−2, *j*) : *j* ∈ {0, 1, ..., *n*−4} of cardinality *n*−3 ⊕ a matching {(*m*−2, *j*)(*m*−1, *j*) : *j* ∈ {0, 1, ..., *n*−4} of cardinality *n*−3 ⊕ a matching are divisible by 5*K*<sub>2</sub>. Thus *P*<sub>*m*□C*n* admits a (*C*<sub>10</sub>, 5*K*<sub>2</sub>)-multidecomposition.</sub>

# **Lemma 3.11.** If $m \equiv 3 \mod 5$ and if $n \equiv 4 \mod 5$ , then $P_m \Box C_n$ admits a $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

#### 4. Cartesian Product of Cycles

In this section, we have proved that  $C_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, for some values of  $p \ge 3$ .

If  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, then p divides  $|E(C_m \Box C_n)| = 2mn$  and hence for prime p, either  $m \equiv 0 \mod p$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ . By symmetry, assume that  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ . By Theorem 3.1,  $P_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition. The deletion of the edges of  $P_m \Box C_n$  from  $C_m \Box C_n$  results in  $nK_2$ . As  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ ,  $(pK_2)|(nK_2)$ . Hence,  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition. Thus,

**Theorem 4.1.** For integers  $m, n \ge p$  and for prime  $p \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if either  $m \equiv 0 \mod p$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ .

For  $p = 3, 5, C_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ ,  $(C_{10}, 5K_2)$ -multidecomposition respectively by Theorem 4.1.

**Theorem 4.2.** For integers  $m, n \ge 4$ ,  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition if and only if either  $m \equiv 0 \mod 2$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 2$ .

*Proof.* By symmetry, assume that  $n \equiv 0 \mod 2$ . Consider two cases.

*Case 1.* If  $n \equiv 0 \mod 4$ , then  $C_m \square C_n = P_m \square C_n \oplus nK_2$ . By Theorem 3.4.,  $P_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition and by lemma 2.8.,  $(4K_2)|(nK_2)$ . Thus  $C_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Case 2.* If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$ , Consider four cases.

Sub case 2.1. If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 4 \equiv m$  then  $C_m \Box C_n = P_m \Box P_n \oplus nK_2 \oplus mK_2 = P_m \Box P_n \oplus (n-2)K_2 \oplus (m-2)K_2 \oplus 4K_2$  by choosing the edges  $\{(0,0)(m-1,0), (0,1)(m-1,1), (1,0)(1,n-1), (2,0)(2,n-1)\}$  of  $4K_2$  from  $nK_2$  and  $mK_2$  and since  $(n-2) \equiv 0 \mod 4 \equiv (m-2)$ , by lemma 2.8.,  $(4K_2)|((n-2)K_2)$  and  $(4K_2)|((m-2)K_2)$  and by Lemma 2.11.,  $P_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition. Thus  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

Sub case 2.2. If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$  and  $m \equiv 0 \mod 4$  then  $C_m \Box C_n = C_m \Box P_n \oplus mK_2$ , since  $m \equiv 0 \mod 4$ , by Theorem 3.4,  $C_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition and by lemma 2.8.,  $(4K_2)|(mK_2)$ . Thus  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

Sub case 2.3. If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$  and  $m \equiv 1 \mod 4$  then  $C_m \square C_n = P_m \square P_{n-1} \oplus a$  matching  $\{(0, j)(m - 1, j) : j \in \{0, 1, ..., n-1\}\} \cup \{(1, n-2)(1, n-1), (2, n-2)(2, n-1)\}$  of cardinality  $(n+2) \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 2, 3, ..., m-1\}\}$  of cardinality  $(m-1) \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, n-2)(i, n-1) : i \in \{0, 3, 4, ..., m-1\}\} \cup \{(1, 0)(1, n-1)\}$  of cardinality (m - 1). Since by lemma 2.9.,  $P_m \square P_{n-1}$  admits  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition and by lemma 2.8.,  $4K_2|(n+2)K_2$  and  $4K_2|(m-1)K_2$ . Thus  $C_m \square C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

Sub case 2.4. If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 4$  and  $m \equiv 3 \mod 4$  then  $C_m \Box C_n = P_{m-1} \Box P_n \oplus a$  path  $(m - 2, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 2) \dots (m - 1, 0)(0, 0)(0, n - 1)$  of length  $n + 2 \oplus a$  matching  $\{(m - 1, j)(m - 2, j) : j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n - 2\}\} \cup \{(1, 0)(1, n - 1), (2, 0)(2, n - 1), (0, n - 1)(m - 1, n - 1)\}$  of cardinality  $(n + 2) \oplus a$  matching  $\{(i, 0)(i, n - 1) : i \in \{3, 4, \dots, m - 1\}\}$  of cardinality  $(m - 3) \oplus a$  matching  $\{(0, j)(m - 1, j) : j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n - 2\}\}$  of cardinality (n - 2). Since by lemma 2.11.  $P_{m-1} \Box P_n$  admits  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition, by lemma 2.8.,  $4K_2|P_{n+3}$  and  $4K_2|(n + 2)K_2, 4K_2|(m - 3)K_2$ . Thus  $C_m \Box C_n$  admits a  $(C_8, 4K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

#### 5. Cartesian Product of a Path and a Clique

In this section, we have proved that  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, for some values of  $p \ge 3$ .

If  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, then p divides  $|E(P_m \Box K_n)| = \frac{mn(n+1)}{2} - n$ . Observe that, if  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ , then  $p|(\frac{mn(n+1)}{2} - n)$  and for all odd integers  $p \ge 3$ , if  $m \equiv 1 \mod p \equiv n$  then  $p|(\frac{mn(n+1)}{2} - n)$ .

**Theorem 5.1.** For integers  $m \ge 2$ ,  $n \ge 3$  and for an odd integer  $p \ge 3$ , then  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 1 \mod p \equiv n$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

*Case 1.* If *n* is even.

As *n* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n}{2}$  Hamilton paths. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod p$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $P_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $pK_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $pK_2$ 's results in  $P_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 2.1, it clearly admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Case 2.* If *n* is odd.

As n + 1 is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_{n+1}$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; consequently, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod p$  and the near 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n-1}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$ . First decompose each of the m disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $P_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $pK_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the near 1-factor into  $pK_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $pK_2$ 's results in  $P_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 2.1, it clearly admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

If  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition, then 3 divides  $|E(P_m \Box K_n)| = \frac{mn(n+1)}{2} - n$  and hence either  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

**Lemma 5.2.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a ( $C_6, 3K_2$ )-multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

*Proof.* Consider two cases. *Case 1.* For  $n \equiv 4 \mod 6$ . *Subcase 1.1.*  $n \neq 4$ . Proof follows from Theorem 5.1.

Subcase 1.2. n = 4. By lemma 2.9.,  $P_m \Box P_4$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition and the deletion of the edges of  $P_m \Box P_4$ from  $P_m \Box K_4$  results in  $mP_4$ . Clearly,  $(3K_2)|(2P_4)$  and  $(3K_2)|(3P_4)$ , by lemma 2.8.. Using this one can find a decomposition of  $mP_4$  by  $3K_2$ . *Case 2.* For  $n \equiv 1 \mod 6$ .

Proof follows from Theorem 5.1.

**Theorem 5.3.** For integers  $m \ge 2$ ,  $n \ge 3$  and  $p \ge 3$ ,  $P_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

*Case 1.* If *n* is odd.

As *n* is odd, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles. Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $P_m \square K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $pK_2$ 's, by lemma 3.2.. The deletion of the edges of these  $pK_2$ 's results in  $P_m \square C_n$ , and by Theorem 3.1., it clearly admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

*Case 2.* If *n* is even.

As *n* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-2}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $n \equiv 0 \mod p$  and the 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n}{2} \equiv 0 \mod p$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $P_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $pK_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the 1-factor into  $pK_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $pK_2$ 's results in  $P_m \Box C_n$ , and by Theorem 3.1, it clearly admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition.

# 6. Cartesian Product of a Cycle and a Clique

In this section, we have proved that  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, for p = 3.

If  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition, then 3 divides  $|E(C_m \Box K_n)| = \frac{mn(n+1)}{2}$  and hence neither  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n \mod m \equiv 2 \mod 3$  and  $n \equiv 1 \mod 3$ .

**Lemma 6.1.** For integers m,  $n \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

Case 1. For  $n \equiv 3 \mod 6$ .

As *n* is odd, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles. Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . Decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box C_n$ , and by Theorem 4.1., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition. *Case 2.*  $n \equiv 0 \mod 6$ .

As *n* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-2}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $n \equiv 0 \mod 6$  and the 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n}{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $3K_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the 1-factor into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box C_n$ , and by Theorem 4.1, it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

**Lemma 6.2.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3$  and  $n \equiv 1 \mod 3$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

Case 1. For  $n \equiv 4 \mod 6$ .

As *n* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n}{2}$  Hamilton paths. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $n - 1 \equiv 3 \mod 6$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 3.3., it clearly admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

Case 2.  $n \equiv 1 \mod 6$ .

As n + 1 is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_{n+1}$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; consequently, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $n - 1 \equiv 0 \mod 6$  and the near 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n-1}{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . First decompose each of the m disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the near 1-factor into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 3.3., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

**Lemma 6.3.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3$  and  $n \equiv 2 \mod 3$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

Case 1. For  $n \equiv 2 \mod 6$ .

As *n* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n}{2}$  Hamilton paths. First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's, by choosing one edge from each Hamilton path, with cardinality  $m, m \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 3.1., it clearly admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

Case 2.  $n \equiv 5 \mod 6$ .

As n + 1 is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_{n+1}$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; consequently, there is a decomposition of  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor. Note that the near 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n-1}{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . First decompose each of the *m* disjoint  $K_n$ 's in  $C_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the near 1-factor into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box P_n$  and, by Theorem 3.3., it clearly admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

**Lemma 6.4.** If  $n \equiv 2 \mod 3$ , and if  $n \neq 6$ , then  $(3K_2)|K_n - \mathscr{P}$ .

*Proof.* For even *n*, first decompose  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n}{2}$  Hamilton paths, let one of the Hamilton path be  $\mathscr{P} = \{0, 1, n - 1, 2, n - 2, 3, n - 3, \dots, \frac{n}{2} - 2, \frac{n}{2} + 2, \frac{n}{2} - 1, \frac{n}{2} + 1, \frac{n}{2}\}$  after removing this Hamilton path, from the remaining Hamilton path deleting the following edges  $\{(\frac{3n}{4} + i, \frac{n}{4} + i) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}\}$  if  $\frac{n}{2}$  is even and  $\{(\frac{3n+2}{4} + i, \frac{n+2}{4} + i) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-2}{2}\}\}$  if  $\frac{n}{2}$  is odd from each Hamilton path. Which is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{n-2}{2}$ , leaves  $2P_{\frac{n}{2}}$ , each of the length  $\frac{n-2}{2}$ , as *n* is even,  $n \equiv 2 \mod 3$ , implies  $\frac{n}{2} \equiv 1 \mod 3$ , by the Lemma 2.8.,  $3K_2|P_{\frac{n}{2}}$ , hence  $(3K_2)|K_n - \mathscr{P}$ .

For odd *n* first decompose  $K_n$  into  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  Hamilton paths and a near one factor,let one of the Hamilton path be  $\mathscr{P} = \{0, 1, n-1, 2, n-2, 3, n-3, \dots, \frac{n-1}{2} - 2, \frac{n-1}{2} + 3, \frac{n-1}{2} - 1, \frac{n-1}{2} + 2, \frac{n-1}{2}, \frac{n-1}{2} + 1\}$  after removing this Hamilton path, from the remaining Hamilton path deleting the following edges  $\{(\frac{3(n-1)}{4} + i, \frac{n-5}{4} + i) : i \in \{2, 3, \dots, \frac{n-1}{2}\}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is even,  $\{(\frac{3(n+1)}{4} + i, \frac{n+1}{4} + i) : i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is odd, gives two disjoint paths. For each  $i \in \{2, 3, \dots, \frac{n-1}{2}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is even, on combining the vertices  $\{\frac{3(n-1)}{4} + i\}$  and  $\{\frac{n-5}{4} + i\}$  gives the path  $P_{n-1}(i)$  each of order  $n - 1 \equiv 1 \mod 3$ . For each  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, \frac{n-3}{2}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is odd, on combining the vertices  $\{\frac{3(n+1)}{4} + i\}$ 

and  $\{\frac{n+1}{4} + i\}$  gives the path  $P_{n-1}(i)$ , each of order  $n-1 \equiv 1 \mod 3$ . Hence by lemma 2.8.,  $3K_2|P_{n-1}(i)$ . After removing one  $3K_2$ :  $\{(\frac{n-1}{2}, n)(\frac{3(n-1)}{4} + 1, \frac{n-1}{4} - 1)(\frac{3(n-1)}{4}, \frac{n-1}{4})\}$  from  $\{(\frac{3(n-1)}{4} + i, \frac{n-5}{4} + i) : i \in \{2, 3, ..., \frac{n-1}{2}\}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is even, union the near one factor  $\{((n-1)-i, n+i) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., \frac{n-3}{2}\}\}$  gives the path  $P_{n-4}$  of order  $n-4 \equiv 1 \mod 3$ . Hence by lemma 2.8.,  $3K_2|P_{n-4}(i)$ . Similarly after removing two disjoint paths  $\{\frac{n-1}{2}, n, n-1, \frac{n-3}{2}\} \cup \{\frac{3n-1}{4}, \frac{n-3}{4}, \frac{3n-1}{4} - 1, \frac{n-3}{4} + 1\}$  from  $\{(\frac{3(n+1)}{4} + i, \frac{n+1}{4} + i) : i \in \{1, 2, ..., \frac{n-3}{2}\}\}$  if  $\frac{n-1}{2}$  is odd, union the near one factor  $\{((n-1)-i, n+i) : i \in \{0, 1, ..., \frac{n-3}{2}\}\}$  gives the path  $P_{n-7}$  of order  $n-7 \equiv 1 \mod 3$ . Hence by lemma 2.8.,  $3K_2|P_{n-7}(i)$ . Now by choosing the edges  $\{(n, \frac{n-1}{2})(n-1, \frac{n-3}{2})(\frac{n-3}{4}, \frac{3n-1}{4} - 1)\}$  and  $\{(n, n-1)(\frac{3n-1}{4}, \frac{n-3}{4})(\frac{3n-1}{4} - 1, \frac{n-3}{4} + 1)\}$  are matching and isomorphic to  $3K_2$ . Thus  $(3K_2)|K_n - \mathcal{P}$ .

**Lemma 6.5.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3$  and  $n \equiv 2 \mod 3$ .

*Proof.* After removing *m*-times  $K_n - \mathscr{P}$  from  $C_m \Box K_n$ , One have  $C_m \Box P_n$ , by the Lemma 6.4., $(3K_2)|K_n - \mathscr{P}$  and by the Theorem 3.2.,  $C_m \Box P_n$  admits a ( $C_6, 3K_2$ )-multidecomposition. Hence  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a ( $C_6, 3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

**Lemma 6.6.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 2 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

*Proof.* After removing m-times  $K_n - \mathscr{P}$  from  $C_m \Box K_n$ , one have  $C_m \Box P_n$ , by the Lemma 6.4.,  $(3K_2)|K_n - \mathscr{P}_n$  and by the Theorem 3.2.,  $C_m \Box P_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition. Hence  $C_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition.

#### 7. Cartesian Product of Cliques

In this section, we have proved that  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_{2p}, pK_2)$ -multidecomposition, for p = 3.

If  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition, then 3 divides  $|E(K_m \Box K_n)| = \frac{mn(m+n-2)}{2}$  and hence either  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3$  or  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$  or  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

**Lemma 7.1.** For integers m,  $n \ge 2$ ,  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a (C<sub>6</sub>, 3K<sub>2</sub>)-multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

Case 1. For  $m \equiv 0 \mod 6$ .

As *m* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_m$  into  $\frac{m-2}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor. Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $m \equiv 0 \mod 6$ . First decompose each of the *n* disjoint  $K_m$ 's in  $K_m \square K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $3K_2$ 's by Lemma 3.2 and the 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{m}{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \square K_n$  and, by Lemma 6.1,6.2 and 6.3., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition. *Case 2*. For  $m \equiv 3 \mod 6$ .

As *m* is odd, there is a decomposition of  $K_m$  into  $\frac{m-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles. Note that each Hamilton cycle is of length  $m \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . Decompose each of the *n* disjoint  $K_m$ 's in  $K_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton cycles and in each layer except one Hamilton cycle decompose each of the remaining Hamilton cycles into  $3K_2$ 's by Lemma 3.2.. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $C_m \Box K_n$  and, by Lemma 6.1,6.2 and 6.3., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

**Lemma 7.2.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ .

*Proof.* Since  $K_m \Box K_n = K_n \Box K_m$  and  $n \equiv 0 \mod 3$ , by Lemma 7.1.,  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a ( $C_6, 3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

**Lemma 7.3.** For integers  $m, n \ge 2$ ,  $K_m \Box K_n$  admits a  $(C_6, 3K_2)$ -multidecomposition if  $m \equiv 1 \mod 3 \equiv n$ .

Proof. Consider two cases.

Case 1. For  $m \equiv 4 \mod 6$ .

As *m* is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_m$  into  $\frac{m}{2}$  Hamilton paths. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $m - 1 \equiv 3 \mod 6$ . First decompose each of the *n* disjoint  $K_m$ 's in  $K_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $P_m \Box K_n$  and, by Lemma 5.2., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ ) multidecomposition.

# Case 2. For $m \equiv 1 \mod 6$ .

As m + 1 is even, there is a decomposition of  $K_{m+1}$  into  $\frac{m-1}{2}$  Hamilton cycles and a 1-factor; consequently, there is a decomposition of  $K_m$  into  $\frac{m-1}{2}$  Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor. Note that each Hamilton path is of length  $m - 1 \equiv 0 \mod 6$  and the near 1-factor is a matching of cardinality  $\frac{m-1}{2} \equiv 0 \mod 3$ . First decompose each of the n disjoint  $K_m$ 's in  $K_m \Box K_n$  into Hamilton paths and a near 1-factor and in each layer except one Hamilton path decompose each of the remaining Hamilton paths into  $3K_2$ 's, also in each layer decompose the near 1-factor into  $3K_2$ 's. The deletion of the edges of these  $3K_2$ 's results in  $P_m \Box K_n$  and, by Lemma 5.2., it clearly admits a ( $C_6$ ,  $3K_2$ )-multidecomposition.

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