

## The Crossing Numbers of $K_5 + P_n$

Zhenhua SU

*Department of Mathematics, Huaihua University, Hunan 418008, P. R. China*

**Abstract** A join graph denoted by  $G + H$ , is illustrated by connecting each vertex of graph  $G$  to each vertex of graph  $H$ . In this paper, we prove the crossing number of join product of  $K_5 + P_n$  is  $Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 4$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

**Keywords** crossing number; join product; complete graph; path

**MR(2010) Subject Classification** 05C10; 05C38

### 1. Introduction

Let  $G$  be a simple graph, whose vertex set and edge set are denoted by  $V(G)$  and  $E(G)$ , respectively. A drawing of  $G$  is a representation of  $G$  in the plane such that its vertices are represented by distinct points and its edges by simple continuous arcs connecting the corresponding point pairs. For simplicity, we assume that in a drawing (i) no edge crosses itself, (ii) no two edges cross more than once, and (iii) no two edges are incident with the same vertex cross.

The crossing number,  $cr(G)$  is the smallest number of edge crossings in any drawing of  $G$ . It is easy to see that a drawing with minimum number of crossings (an optimal drawing) is always a good drawing. Let  $\phi$  be a drawing of graph  $G$ . We denote the number of crossings in  $\phi$  by  $cr_\phi(G)$ . For definitions not explained in this paper, readers are referred to [1]. By definition and notation about crossing numbers, it is easy to get the following properties:

**Property 1.1** *Let  $D$  be a good drawing of  $G$ , and  $A, B, C$  be mutually edge-disjoint subgraphs of  $G$ . Then*

- (1)  $cr_D(A \cup B, C) = cr_D(A, C) + cr_D(B, C)$ ;
- (2)  $cr_D(A \cup B) = cr_D(A) + cr_D(A, B) + cr_D(B)$ .

**Property 1.2** (1) *Let  $H$  be a subgraphs of  $G$ . Then  $cr(H) \leq cr(G)$ ;*

- (2) *If  $H$  is isomorphic to  $G$ . Then  $cr(H) = cr(G)$ ;*
- (3) *Let  $H$  be the subdivision of  $G$ . Then  $cr(H) = cr(G)$ .*

In fact, computing the crossing number of a graph is NP-complete problem, and the exact values are known only for very restricted classes of graphs. For example, these include the complete bipartite graph  $K_{m,n}$  (see [2,3]) and the complete tripartite graph  $K_{m,n,s}$  (see [4]) and

so on. As a very important result of  $K_{m,n}$ , Kleitman [3] proved that:

$$cr(K_{m,n}) = Z(m, n) = \lfloor \frac{m}{2} \rfloor \lfloor \frac{m-1}{2} \rfloor \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor, \quad m \leq 6, \quad m \leq n.$$

The join product of  $G$  and  $H$ , denoted by  $G + H$ , is illustrated by connecting each vertex of graph  $G$  to each vertex of graph  $H$ . In 2007, Klešč [5] obtained the crossing numbers of join of  $P_n + P_n$ ,  $P_n + C_n$  and  $C_n + C_n$ . And in [6] the crossing numbers of  $G + P_n$  and  $G + C_n$  are also known for the special graph  $G$  of order six. Wang [7] proved the crossing numbers of  $S_m + P_n$  ( $m = 3, 4$ ) and  $S_m + C_n$  ( $m = 3, 4$ ). The up to date results of crossing numbers of  $G$  of order five with  $P_n$  are given in [8].

Let  $P_n$  be the path with  $n$  vertices and  $n - 1$  edges. In this paper, using the result of crossing number of  $cr(K_{5,n}) = Z(5, n)$  by Kleitman, and together with the result of  $cr(K_5 + nK_1) = Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$  by [9], we prove the crossing number of join product  $K_5 + P_n$  is  $Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 4$  for  $n \geq 2$ .

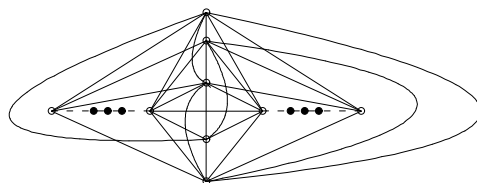


Figure 1 A good drawing of  $K_5 + P_n$

## 2. Some lemmas

In the graph of  $K_5 + P_n$ , denote  $V(K_5 + P_n) = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5\} \cup \{t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n\}$ . Let for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $T^i$  denote the subgraph of  $K_{5,n}$  which consists of the five edges incident with the vertex  $t_i$ . One can easily see that

$$K_5 + P_n = K_5 \cup \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i \right) \cup P_n. \tag{2.1}$$

**Lemma 2.1** ([1]) *Jordan Curve Theorem: Every Jordan curve divides the plane into an “interior” region bounded by the curve and an “exterior” region containing all of the nearby and far away exterior points, so that every continuous path connecting a point of one region to a point of the other intersects with that loop somewhere.*

**Lemma 2.2** ([9]) *For  $n \geq 1$ , we have  $cr(K_5 + nK_1) = Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ .*

**Lemma 2.3** *Let  $K_5 + P_2 = K_5 \cup T^1 \cup P_n$  and  $K_5 + P_3 = K_5 \cup T^1 \cup T^2 \cup P_n$ . Then, we have  $cr(K_5 + P_2) = 9$  and  $cr(K_5 + P_3) = 15$ .*

**Proof** Since  $K_5 + P_2$  is isomorphic to  $K_7$  and  $K_5 + P_3$  is isomorphic to  $K_8 - e$ , and in [2] and [10],  $cr(K_7) = 9$  and  $cr(K_8 - e) = 15$ . So by Property 1.2, we have  $cr(K_5 + P_2) = 9$  and  $cr(K_5 + P_3) = 15$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 2.4** Let  $D$  be a good drawing of the graph  $K_5 \cup T^1 \cup T^2$ . If  $cr_D(T^1, T^2) = 0$ , then  $cr_D(K_5, T^1 \cup T^2) \geq 5$ .

**Proof** Since  $T^1 \cup T^2$  is isomorphic to  $K_{2,5}$  and  $cr_D(T^1 \cup T^2) = 0$ , the subgraph  $T^1 \cup T^2$  induced by  $D$  is isomorphic to Figure 2(a). Obviously, there are two vertices on the boundary of each region, so no matter whether the edges of  $C_5$  belong to  $K_5$  cross each other, by Lemma 2.1, the edges of  $(K_5 - C_5)$  cross the edges of  $T^1 \cup T^2$  at least five times, hence  $cr_D(K_5, T^1 \cup T^2) \geq 5$  and this completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 2.5** ([11]) Let  $\phi$  and  $\varphi$  be the good drawings of graph  $K_{m,n}$ . Then there always holds  $cr_\phi(K_{m,n}) \equiv cr_\varphi(K_{m,n}) \pmod{2}$ , where both  $m$  and  $n$  are odd.

**Lemma 2.6** Let  $D$  be a good drawing of  $K_5 + P_4$ , in which for all  $t_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 4$ ),  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 3$ , and for two different  $i, j \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ ,  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ . Then  $cr_D(K_5 + P_4) \geq 22$ .

**Proof** Since  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 3$ ,  $cr_D(K_5, \bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \geq 3 \cdot 4 = 12$ . As  $\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i$  is isomorphic to  $K_{4,5}$ , we have  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \geq cr(K_{4,5}) = 8$ . Moreover, as  $cr_D(K_5) \geq 1$ , according to Properties 1.1 and 1.2, we have  $cr_D(K_5 + P_4) \geq cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \cup P_4) = cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) + cr_D(K_5, \bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) + cr_D(K_5) + cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i), P_4) \geq 8 + 3 \cdot 4 + 1 = 21$ .



Figure 2 Two drawings of  $T^1 \cup T^2$

To complete the proof of lemma, only proving “ $\geq$ ” of the last formula cannot get “ $=$ ”. If “ $=$ ” holds, then we have  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) = 8$ ,  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) = 3$  ( $1 \leq i \leq 4$ ),  $cr_D(K_5) = 1$  and  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i), P_4) = 0$  are all satisfied. As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) = K_{3,5} \cup T^i$ , and according to Lemma 2.5, we have  $cr_D(K_{3,5}) = 4$  or  $cr_D(K_{3,5}) \geq 6$ . The following are divided into two cases.

**Case 1**  $cr_D(K_{3,5}) = 4$ . Since  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ , there exist  $T^i$  and  $T^j$ , such that  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) = 1$  (otherwise  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \geq 2C_4^2 = 12 > 8$ ). Without loss of generality, let  $cr_D(T^1, T^2) = 1$ . Then the only drawing of  $T^1 \cup T^2$  is shown in Figure 2(b). Obviously,  $t_3, t_4$  are only placed in the regions which are marked with 1 and 2 (otherwise  $cr_D(T^1 \cup T^2, T^3) \geq 5$ , thus  $cr_D(T^1 \cup T^2 \cup T^3) \geq 6$ , turn to the following Case 2). When  $t_3$  is placed in the region 1 or 2,  $T^3$  must satisfy that  $cr_D(T^1, T^3) \geq 1$  and  $cr_D(T^2, T^3) \geq 2$ , or  $cr_D(T^1, T^3) \geq 2$  and  $cr_D(T^2, T^3) \geq 1$ . Then adding the edges of  $T^4$  ( $t_4$  also is only placed in the region 1 or 2), by Lemma 2.1, we always have  $cr_D(T^1 \cup T^2 \cup T^3, T^4) \geq 5$ . So  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \geq 9 > 8$ .

**Case 2**  $cr_D(K_{3,5}) \geq 6$ . Since  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ , we have  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^3 T^i, T^4) \geq 3$ . So  $cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^4 T^i) \geq 6 + 3 = 9 > 8$ .

Thus  $cr_D(K_5 + P_4) \geq 22$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

### 3. The main theorem and proof

**Theorem 3.1** For  $n \geq 2$ , we have  $cr(K_5 + P_n) = Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 4$ .

**Proof** The drawing in Figure 1 shows that  $cr(K_5 + P_n) \leq Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 4$  and that the theorem is true if the equality holds. We prove the reverse inequality by induction on  $n$ . By Lemma 2.3, the theorem is true for  $n = 2$  and  $n = 3$ . Suppose now that for  $n \geq 4$ ,  $cr(K_5 + P_{n-2}) = Z(5, n - 2) + 2(n - 2) + \lfloor \frac{n-2}{2} \rfloor + 4$ , and consider such an optimal drawing  $D$  of  $K_5 + P_n$  that

$$cr_D(K_5 + P_n) \leq Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3. \tag{3.1}$$

**Claim 1** The path  $P_n$  crosses at most two times.

Since  $K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_5 + nK_1$ , by Lemma 2.2 and Properties 1.1 and 1.2, we have  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i)) \geq Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1$ . Moreover, using equality (2.1) and Properties 1.1 and 1.2, we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &= cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i)) + cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) + cr_D(P_n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 1 + cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) + cr_D(P_n). \end{aligned}$$

This together with the assumption (3.1), implies that  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) + cr_D(P_n) \leq 2$ . Hence the path  $P_n$  crosses at most two times.

**Claim 2** For every  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , there holds  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ .

Assume  $T^n$  and  $T^{n-1}$ ,  $cr_D(T^{n-1}, T^n) = 0$ . Using Lemma 2.5,  $cr_D(K_5, T^{n-1} \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . By  $cr(K_{3,5}) = 4$ , and therefore  $cr_D(T^i, T^{n-1} \cup T^n) \geq 4$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n - 2$ . This, together with Eq. (2.1), leads to

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(K_5 + P_{n-2}) + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} cr(T^i, T^{n-1} \cup T^n) + \\ &\quad cr_D(K_5, T^{n-1} \cup T^n) + cr_D(T^{n-1} \cup T^n, P_n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n - 2) + 2(n - 2) + \lfloor \frac{n-2}{2} \rfloor + 4 + 4(n - 2) + 5 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1). Hence  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ .

Next we will divide 4 cases to discuss.

**Case 1** There exists a vertex  $t_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) such that  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) = 0$ .

Without loss of generality, let  $cr_D(K_5, T^n) = 0$ . Then we consider the subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  induced by  $D$ . As  $cr_D(K_5, T^n) = 0$ , there is a disk such that the vertices of  $K_5$  are all placed on the boundary of disk. Assume the vertex  $t_n$  placed in the external of the disk, and the edges of

$K_5$  are all placed in the inner. As  $K_5$  is a complete graph, the subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is shown in Figure 3(a).

Now consider the subgraphs of  $K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^i$ . By Claim 1,  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) + cr_D(P_n) \leq 2$ , this implies that the vertices  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{n-1}$  just placed in the regions which are marked with 1, 2 and 3 (otherwise by Lemma 2.1,  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ , this contradicts the Claim 1).

When  $t_i$  is placed in the region 1, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 4$ , if and only if  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 4$  and the equality  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 0$  holds. When  $t_i$  is placed in the region 2 and 3, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 6$ .

**Subcase 1.1** If there does not exist the vertex  $t_i$  which satisfies  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$  in region 1, then all of  $t_i$  are placed in the regions 1, 2 and 3, and in this case we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . By Eq. (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i\right) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + 5(n-1) + 4 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 1.2** If there exists a vertex  $t_i$  which satisfies  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$  in region 1. Let  $x$  be the number of vertices  $t_i$  which satisfy  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$  (then  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 4$ ). So there are  $(n-1-x)$  vertices  $t_i$  placed in the regions marked 1, 2 and 3, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$  (then by claim 2, we have  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) \geq 1$ ). So using Eq. (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(K_5 + P_{n-1}) + cr_D\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i, T^n\right) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + 2(n-1) + \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor + 4 + 4x + (n-1-x) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + \lfloor \frac{n-1}{2} \rfloor + 3n + 3x + 1 \quad n \geq 4. \end{aligned}$$

This together with assumption (3.1), implies that  $x \leq \frac{n}{3}$ . And as  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5, n-1}$ , so using Eq. (2.1) and together with  $x \leq \frac{n}{3}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i\right) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + 4x + 5(n-1-x) + 5 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Case 2** For every  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , there holds  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 1$ , and there exists a vertex  $t_i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ), such that  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) = 1$ .

Without loss of generality, assume  $cr_D(K_5, T^n) = 1$ . Now consider the good drawings of

$K_5 \cup T^n$ . Next we will explain there is only a good drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$ .

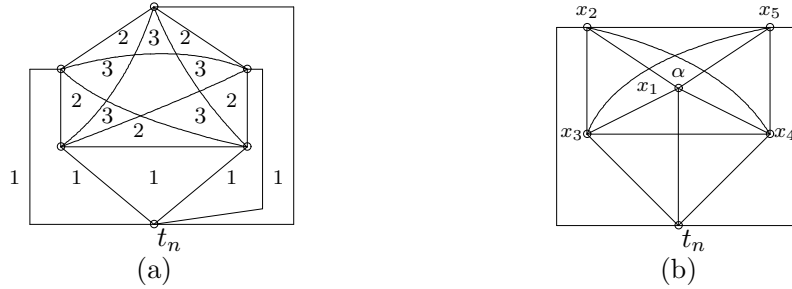


Figure 3 Two drawings of  $K_5 \cup T^n$

First assume the edge  $t_n x_1$  crosses with the edge  $x_3 x_4$ . We can suppose the vertices of  $t_n, x_1, x_3, x_4$  are placed on the plane  $R^2$  as Figure 3(b), and the other 3 vertices of  $K_5$  are placed around the vertices  $t_n, x_1, x_3, x_4$ . But as there is no cross on the other edges incident with vertex  $t_n$ , so  $t_n$  and  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5$  will be connected as shown in Figure 3(b). And there is no cross on the edge  $x_2 x_3$ , otherwise the edge  $x_2 x_3$  crosses the edge  $t_n x_1$  at least once, thus  $cr_D(K_5, T^n) \geq 2$ . This contradicts the Case 2. The similar discussion can be made with the edges  $x_2 x_5$  and  $x_4 x_5$ . So the rest edges  $x_2 x_4, x_3 x_5$  can also be connected as shown in Figure 3(b).

In Figure 3(b), according to Claim 1, the vertices  $t_1, t_2, \dots, t_{n-1}$  will be placed in the regions except  $\alpha$  (otherwise by Lemma 2.1,  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ , leading to a contradiction). Then  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5, n-1}$ , together with  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ , proceeding with the similar calculating to Case 1.1, we get  $cr_D(K_5 + P_n) \geq cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) \geq Z(5, n-1) + 5(n-1) + 4 > Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3$ . This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Case 3** For every  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , there holds  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 2$ , and there exists a vertex  $t_i$ , such that  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) = 2$ .

Without loss of generality, let  $cr_D(K_5, T^n) = 2$ . Next we divide the subdrawings of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  into 3 cases:

(i) Two edges of  $T^n$  cross with one of the edge of  $K_5$ . As the other edges of  $K_5$  do not cross  $T^n$ , together with the structure of  $K_5$ . Then, there is only a good drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$ , see Figure 4(a).

(ii) One edge of  $T^n$  crosses with two edges of  $K_5$ . If one edge of  $T^n$  crosses two adjacent edges of  $K_5$ , the drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is shown in Figure 4(b). If one edge of  $T^n$  crosses with two unadjacent edges  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  of  $K_5$ , where  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  cross each other, the drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is shown in Figure 4(c); If one edge of  $T^n$  crosses with two unadjacent edges  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  of  $K_5$ , where  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  do not cross each other, the drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is not a good drawing.

(iii) Two edges of  $T^n$  cross with two edges of  $K_5$ . Then there is only a good drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$ , see Figure 4(d).

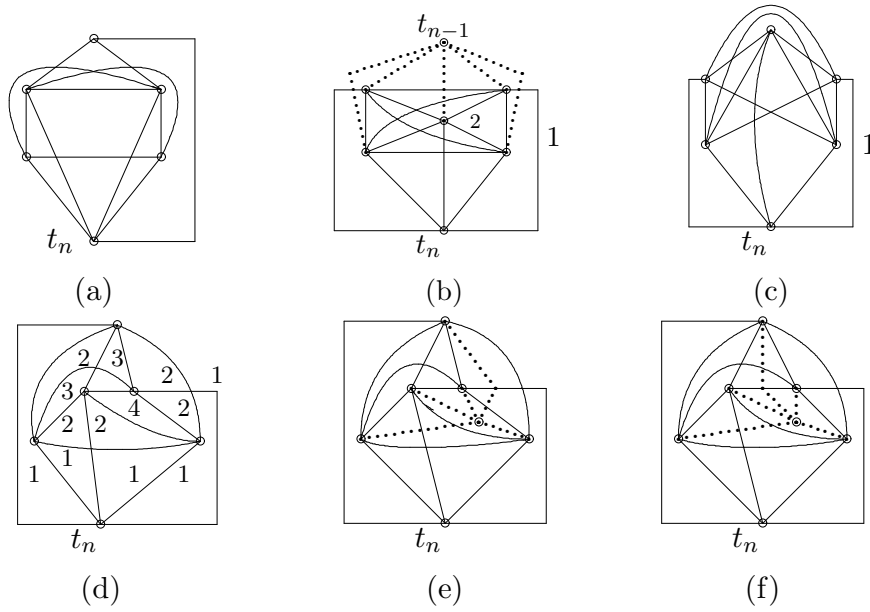


Figure 4 Some drawings of  $K_5 \cup T^n$

**Subcase 3.1** The subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is isomorphic to Figure 4(a). No matter which region the vertex  $t_i$  is placed in, by Claim 2,  $cr_D(T^i, T^j) \geq 1$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ ,  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 5$ . Carrying out the similar calculating to Case 1(1), we can obtain that  $cr_D(K_5 + P_n) \geq Z(5, n-1) + 5(n-1) + 5 > Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3$ . This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.2** The subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is isomorphic to Figure 4(b). If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 1, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 4$  (if and only if  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 2$  and  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 2$  the equality holds). On the other regions, by Claim 2 and together with  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 2$ , it is easy to obtain that  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ .

**Subcase 3.2.1** If there exist the vertices  $t_i$  placed in the region 1 which satisfy  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ . Without loss of generality, let  $cr_D(T^{n-1}, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ . Thus the drawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}$  is shown in Figure 4(b). When  $t_j (1 \leq j \leq n-2)$  is placed in the region 2, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) \geq 6$ . When  $t_j$  is placed in the other regions, there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) \geq 8$ . Let  $x$  be the number of vertices  $t_j$ , which satisfy that  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) \geq 6$ . By Eq. (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-2} T^i\right) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-2} T^i) + \\
 &\quad cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) + cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \\
 &\geq Z(5, n-2) + 6x + 8(n-2-x) + 9 + 2 \\
 &\geq Z(5, n-2) + 8n - 2x - 5
 \end{aligned}$$

This together with the assumption (3.1) results in  $x \geq \frac{3n}{4}$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ , by Eq. (2.1) and  $x \geq \frac{3n}{4}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + 5x + 4(n-1-x) + 5 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3 \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.2.2** There does not exist the vertex  $t_i$  placed in the region 1 which satisfies  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ . Then for all vertices  $t_i$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ ,  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ . Carrying out the similar calculating to case 1(1), we have  $cr_D(K_5 + P_n) \geq Z(5, n-1) + 5(n-1) + 4 > Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3$ . This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.3** The subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is isomorphic to Figure 4(c). If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 1, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 4$  (if and only if  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 2$  and  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 2$  the equality holds). In the other regions, there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . So using the similar method to Figure 4(b), we can get the contradiction with the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.4** The subdrawing of  $K_5 \cup T^n$  is isomorphic to Figure 4(d). By Claim 1, the vertices  $t_i$  are only placed in the regions marked with 1-4 (otherwise  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ ).

- (i) If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 1, there holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 6$ .
- (ii) If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 2, there holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ .
- (iii) If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 3, there holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 4$ , if and only if  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 1$  and the equality  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 3$  holds. Together with  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) \geq 2$ , we always have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ .
- (iv) If  $t_i$  is placed in the region 4, there holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 4$ , if and only if  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 2$  and  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 2$  or  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 3$  and the equality  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 1$  holds.

**Subcase 3.4.1** If there exists a vertex  $t_i$  which is placed in the region 2, then the other vertices  $t_j$  can only be placed in the region 1 and 2 (otherwise  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ ). So for all  $t_i$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ , together with  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 3$  and  $cr_D(K_5, P_n) \geq 1$ , carrying out the similar calculating to Subcase 1.1, we have  $cr_D(K_5 + P_n) \geq Z(5, n-1) + 5(n-1) + 3 + 1 > Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3$ . This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.4.2** If there exists a vertex  $t_i$  which is placed in the region 3, then the other vertices  $t_j$  can only be placed in the region 1 and 3 (otherwise  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ ). So for all  $t_i$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ , yet  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 3$ ,  $cr_D(K_5, P_n) \geq 2$ , so carrying out the similar calculating to Subcase 3.4.1, we



can get the contradiction .

**Subcase 3.4.3** If there exists a vertex  $t_i$  which is placed in the region 4, and there does not exist the vertex  $t_i$  which satisfies  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ , then we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . And the other vertices  $t_j$  can only be placed in the region 1 and 4 (otherwise  $cr_D(K_5 \cup (\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i), P_n) \geq 3$ ). So for all  $t_i$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 5$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-1}$ , and also  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) = 3$ ,  $cr_D(K_5, P_n) \geq 2$ , so carrying out the similar calculating to Subcase 3.4.1, we can get the contradiction.

**Subcase 3.4.4** If there exists a vertex  $t_i$  which is placed in the region 4 which satisfies  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ , then we have two cases  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 2$ ,  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 2$  and  $cr_D(T^i, K_5) = 3$ ,  $cr_D(T^i, T^n) = 1$ . Assume the vertex  $t_{n-1}$  satisfies  $cr_D(T^{n-1}, K_5 \cup T^n) = 4$ . Then, the subdrawings of  $K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}$  is shown in Figures 4(e) and (f).

As the other vertices can only be placed in the region 1 and 4, so for all  $t_i$ , there always holds  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) \geq 7$ . As  $(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-2} T^i)$  is isomorphic to  $K_{5,n-2}$ , and also  $cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) = 7$ ,  $cr_D(K_5, P_n) \geq 2$ , so we get

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-2} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-2} T^i) + \\ &\quad cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n \cup T^{n-1}) + cr_D(K_5, P_n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-2) + 7(n-2) + 7 + 2 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3 \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Subcase 3.4.5** If the vertices  $t_i$  are all placed in the region 1, we have  $cr_D(T^i, K_5 \cup T^n) \geq 6$ . By Eq. (2.1), we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n, \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} T^i) + cr_D(K_5 \cup T^n) \\ &\geq Z(5, n-1) + 6(n-1) + 3 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3. \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1).

**Case 4** For every  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , such that  $cr_D(K_5, T^i) \geq 3$ .

By Lemmas 2.3 and 2.6, the theorem is true for  $n = 2, 3$  and 4. For  $n \geq 5$ , together with Eq. (2.1) and  $cr_D(K_5) \geq 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} cr_D(K_5 + P_n) &\geq cr_D(\bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i) + cr_D(K_5, \bigcup_{i=1}^n T^i) + cr_D(K_5) \\ &\geq Z(5, n) + 3n + 1 \\ &> Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 3, \quad n \geq 5 \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption (3.1). Now the theorem is completed.

Finally, we give a conjecture about the crossing number of join product of  $K_5 + C_n$ .

**Conjecture 3.2** For  $n \geq 3$ , we have  $cr(K_5 + C_n) = Z(5, n) + 2n + \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor + 7$ .

## References

- [1] J. A. BONDY, U. S. R. MURY. *Graph Theory with Applications*. Macmillan, London, 1976.
- [2] R. K. GUY. *Crossing Numbers of Graphs//Graph Theory and Applications*. Lecture Notes in Math., Vol. 303, Springer, Berlin, 1972.
- [3] D. J. KLEITMAN. *The crossing number of  $K_{5,n}$* . J. Combinatorial Theory, 1970, **9**: 315–323.
- [4] Yuanqiu HUANG, Tinglei ZHAO. *The crossing number of  $K_{1,4,n}$* . Discrete Math., 2008, **308**(9): 1634–1638.
- [5] M. KLEŠČ. *The Join of Graphs and Crossing Numbers*. Elsevier Sci. B. V., Amsterdam, 2007.
- [6] M. KLEŠČ. *The crossing numbers of join of the special graph on six vertices with path and cycle*. Discrete Math., 2010, **310**(9): 1475–1481.
- [7] Jing WANG, Yuanqiu HUANG. *The crossing numbers of  $S_m \vee P_n$  and  $S_m \vee C_n$* . Adv. Math. (China), 2011, **40**(5): 631–636. (in Chinese)
- [8] Zhenhua SU, Yuanqiu HUANG. *Crossing number of join of three 5-vertex graphs with  $P_n$* . Appl. Math. J. Chinese Univ. Ser. A, 2014, **29**(2): 245–252. (in Chinese)
- [9] Shengxiang LV, Yuanqiu HUANG. *On the crossing numbers of  $K_5 \times S_n$* . J. Math. Res. Exposition, 2008, **28**(3): 445–459.
- [10] Wenping ZHENG, Xiaohui LIN, Yuansheng YANG, et al. *On the crossing number of  $K_m \times P_n$* . Graphs Combin., 2007, **23**(3): 327–336.
- [11] D. ARCHDEACON, R. RICHTER. *On the parity of crossing numbers*. J. Graph Theory, 1988, **12**(3): 307–310.