

The n-Wiener Polynomials of the Cartesian Product of a Complete Graph with some Special Graphs

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ABSTRACT

The n-Wiener polynomials of the Cartesian products of a complete graph K_t with another complete graph K_r , a star graph S_r , a complete bipartite graph $K_{r,s}$, a wheel W_r , and a path graph P_r are obtained in this paper. The n-diameters and the n-Wiener indices of $K_t \times K_r$, $K_t \times S_r$, $K_t \times K_{r,s}$, $K_t \times W_r$ and $K_t \times P_r$ are also obtained.

Keywords: n-distance, n-diameter, n-index, n-Wiener polynomial.

متعددات وينر- n لجداءات بيان تام مع بيانات خاصة

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المخلص

تضمن هذا البحث إيجاد متعددات وينر- n لجداءات بيان تام K_t مع بيانات خاصة مثل البيان التام K_r , نجمة S_r , وبيان ثنائي التجزئة تام $K_{s,r}$, وعجلة W_r ودرج P_r . كما تضمن إيجاد قطر- n ودليل وينر- n لكل من الجداءات $K_t \times K_r$, $K_t \times S_r$, $K_t \times K_{s,r}$, $K_t \times W_r$, $K_t \times P_r$.
الكلمات المفتاحية: المسافة- n، القطر- n، دليل- n، متعددة حدود وينر- n.

1. Introduction.

We follow the terminology of [5] and [6]. Let v be a vertex of a connected graph G and let S be an $(n-1)$ -subset of vertices of $V(G)$, $n \geq 2$, then the **n-distance** $d_n(v,S)$ is defined as follows[7]

$$d_n(v,S) = \min\{d(v,u) : u \in S\}. \quad \dots(1.1)$$

Sometimes, we refer to the n-distance of the pair (v,S) in G by $d_n(v,S | G)$. The **n-diameter** $\text{diam}_n G$ of G is defined by

$$\text{diam}_n G = \max\{d_n(v,S) : v \in V(G), S \subseteq V(G), |S| = n-1\}. \quad \dots(1.2)$$

It is clear that for all $2 \leq m \leq n \leq p$,

$$\text{diam}_n G \leq \text{diam}_m G \leq \text{diam} G. \quad \dots(1.3)$$

The **n-Wiener index** of G denoted by $W_n(G)$ is defined as

$$W_n(G) = \sum_{(v,S)} d_n(v,S), \quad \dots(1.4)$$

where the summation is taken over all pairs (v,S) for which $v \in V(G)$, $S \subseteq V(G)$ and $|S|=n-1$. The **n-average distance** $\mu_n(G)$ is defined as

$$\mu_n(G) = W_n(G)/p \binom{p-1}{n-1}, \quad 3 \leq n \leq p. \quad \dots(1.5)$$

Let v be any vertex of G , then **the n-distance of v** denoted $d_n(v|G)$ or simply $d_n(v)$ is defined as

$$d_n(v) = \sum_{S \subseteq V(G)} d_n(v,S), \quad |S|=n-1. \quad \dots(1.6)$$

The Wiener polynomial of G with respect to the n -distance, which is called n -Wiener polynomial and defined as below.

Definition 1.1.[2]. Let $C_n(G,k)$ be the number of pairs (v,S) , $|S|=n-1, 3 \leq n \leq p$, such that $d_n(v,S)=k$, for each $0 \leq k \leq \delta_n$. Then, **the n-Wiener polynomial** $W_n(G;x)$ is defined by

$$W_n(G;x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\delta_n} C_n(G,k)x^k, \quad \dots(1.7)$$

in which δ_n is the n -diameter of G .

One may easily see [2] that for $3 \leq n \leq p$, the number of all (v,S) pairs is

$$p \binom{p}{n-1}, \text{ and [1]}$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\delta_n} C_n(G,k) = p \binom{p-1}{n-1}, \quad C_n(G,0) = p \binom{p-1}{n-2}, \quad \dots(1.8)$$

$$C_n(G,1) = p \binom{p-1}{n-1} - \sum_{v \in V(G)} \binom{p-1-\deg_G(v)}{n-1} \quad \dots(1.9)$$

Definition 1.2[1] Let v be a vertex of G , and let $C_n(v,G,k)$ be the number of $(n-1)$ -subsets of vertices of G such that

$$d_n(v,S|G)=k, \quad \text{for } n \geq 3, 0 \leq k \leq \delta_n.$$

Then, **the n-Wiener polynomial of vertex v** , denoted by $W_n(v,G;x)$ is defined as

$$W_n(v,G;x) = \sum_{k \geq 0} C_n(v,G,k)x^k. \quad \dots(1.10)$$

It is clear that for all $k \geq 0$,

$$\sum_{v \in V(G)} C_n(v,G,k) = C_n(G,k), \quad \dots(1.11)$$

and

$$\sum_{v \in V(G)} W_n(v, G, x) = W_n(G; x). \quad \dots(1.12)$$

There are many classes of graphs G in which for each $k, 1 \leq k \leq \delta_n$, $C_n(v, G, k)$ is the same for every vertex $v \in V(G)$; such graphs are called [1] **vertex-n-distance regular**. If G is of order p and it is vertex-n-distance regular, then

$$W_n(G; x) = p W_n(v, G; x), \quad \dots(1.13)$$

where v is any vertex of G .

The authors of references [2],[3] and [4] obtained the n-Wiener polynomials of some special graphs and some types of composite graphs. In this paper, we obtain n-Wiener polynomials of the Cartesian products $K_t \times K_r$, $K_t \times S_r$, $K_t \times K_{r,s}$, $K_t \times W_r$ and $K_t \times P_r$.

2. The Cartesian Product of a Complete Graph and a Star

Let K_t be a complete graph with $V(K_t) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_t\}$, and S_r be a star of center v_0 and end vertices v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1} . Each vertex of $K_t \times S_r$ is an ordered pair (u_i, v_j) , $1 \leq i \leq t, 0 \leq j \leq r-1$. Let K_t^j be the clique graph [6] of order t of vertex set $\{(u_i, v_j) : i=1, 2, \dots, t, 0 \leq j \leq r-1\}$. The graph $K_t \times S_r$ is depicted in Fig. 2.1.

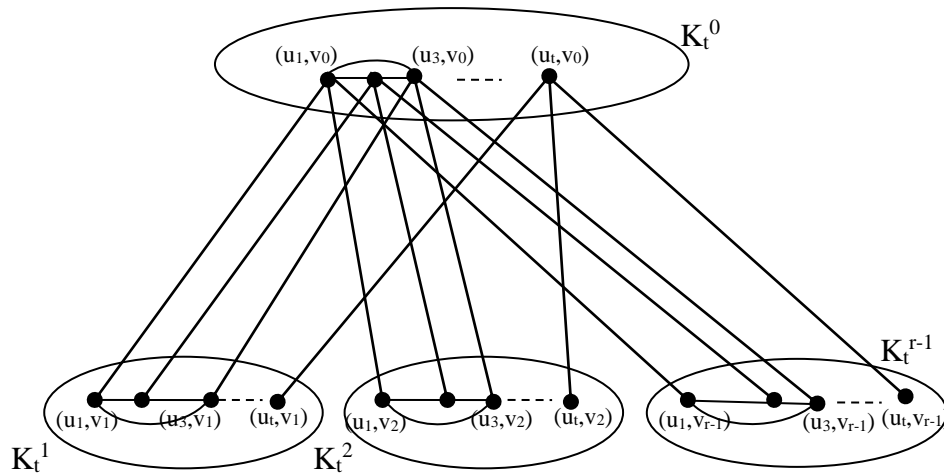


Fig. 2.1. The graph $K_t \times S_r$.

It is clear that $0 \leq d((u_i, v_j), (u_l, v_m)) \leq 3$. Thus,
 $\text{diam}_n K_t \times S_r \leq \text{diam} K_t \times S_r \leq 3$.

Proposition 2.1. For $t \geq 2, r \geq 3$, the n-diameter of $K_t \times S_r$ is given by

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times S_r = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{if } 2 \leq n \leq (t-1)(r-2)+1, \\ 2, & \text{if } 1+(t-1)(r-2) < n \leq t(r-1), \\ 1, & \text{if } t(r-1) < n \leq rt. \end{cases}$$

Proof. The proof is clear from Fig. 2.1. ■

The following theorem gives us the n -Wiener polynomial of $K_t \times S_r$. It is clear that the order of $K_t \times S_r$ is $p=rt$.

Theorem 2.2. For $t \geq 2, r \geq 3, 3 \leq n \leq rt$,

$$\begin{aligned} W_n(K_t \times S_r; x) = & p \binom{p-1}{n-2} + [p \binom{p-1}{n-1} - t(r-1) \binom{p-t-1}{n-1} - t \binom{p-t-r+1}{n-1}]x \\ & + t \left[\binom{p-t-r+1}{n-1} + (r-1) \left\{ \binom{p-t-1}{n-1} - \binom{p-2t-r+2}{n-1} \right\} \right] x^2 \\ & + t(r-1) \binom{p-2t-r+2}{n-1} x^3. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. It is clear that each vertex of K_t^0 is of degree $r+t-2$, and each vertex of $K_t^j, 1 \leq j \leq r-1$, is of degree t . Therefore, by (1.9) we obtained $C_n(K_t \times S_r, 1)$ as given in the theorem.

To find $C_n(K_t \times S_r, 3)$, we notice that there are $(t-1)(r-2)$ vertices each of distance 3 from each vertex (u, v) of $K_t^j, 1 \leq j \leq r-1$. Thus,

$$C_n(K_t \times S_r, 3) = t(r-1) \binom{(t-1)(r-2)}{n-1}.$$

Finally, by (1.8) and Proposition 2.1, we get

$$\begin{aligned} C_n(K_t \times S_r, 2) = & p \binom{p-1}{n-1} - C_n(K_t \times S_r, 1) - C_n(K_t \times S_r, 3) \\ = & t \left[\binom{p-t-r+1}{n-1} + (r-1) \binom{p-t-1}{n-1} - (r-1) \binom{p-2t-r+2}{n-1} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the proof. ■

Corollary 2.3. For $t \geq 2, r \geq 3, 3 \leq n \leq rt$,

$$W_n(K_t \times S_r) = p \binom{p-1}{n-1} + t \left[(r-1) \binom{p-t-1}{n-1} + \binom{p-t-r+1}{n-1} + (r-1) \binom{p-2t-r+2}{n-1} \right]. \quad \blacksquare$$

3. The Cartesian Product of Complete Graphs

Let K_t and K_r be disjoint complete graphs, and let $(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2) \in V(K_t \times K_r)$, then it is clear that $\text{diam } K_t \times K_r = 2$.

Thus,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times K_r \leq 2, \quad 2 \leq n \leq rt.$$

If $u_1 \neq u_2$ and $v_1 \neq v_2$, then $(u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)$ are non-adjacent in $K_t \times K_r$; and $(u_1, v_1), (u_1, v_2), (u_2, v_2)$ is a path of length 2. Therefore,

$$d((u_1, v_1), (u_2, v_2)) = 2.$$

The degree of each vertex (u_1, v_1) is $r+t-2$. Thus, the number of vertices of distance 2 from (u_1, v_1) is $rt-r-t+1$. Hence, we have the following result.

Proposition 3.1. For $t, r \geq 2$,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times K_r = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } 2 \leq n \leq rt-r-t+2, \\ 1 & \text{if } rt-r-t+3 \leq n \leq rt. \end{cases}$$

Now, we find the n -Wiener polynomial of $K_t \times K_r$.

Theorem 3.2. For $r, t \geq 2, 3 \leq n \leq rt$

$$W_n(K_t \times K_r; x) = rt \binom{rt-1}{n-2} + rt \left[\binom{rt-1}{n-1} - \binom{rt-r-t+1}{n-1} \right] x + rt \binom{rt-r-t+1}{n-1} x^2.$$

Proof. It is clear that $K_t \times K_r$ is vertex- n -distance regular. Thus,

$$C_n(K_t \times K_r, 2) = rt C_n((u_1, v_1), K_t \times K_r, 2).$$

Since the number of vertices of distance 2 from (u_1, v_1) is $rt-r-t+1$, and there is no vertex of distance more than 2 from (u_1, v_1) , then

$$C_n((u_1, v_1), K_t \times K_r, 2) = \binom{rt-r-t+1}{n-1}.$$

The constant term and the coefficient of x follow from (1.8) and (1.9). ■

Corollary 3.3. For $r, t \geq 2, 3 \leq n \leq rt$,

$$W_n(K_t \times K_r) = rt \left[\binom{rt-1}{n-1} + \binom{rt-r-t+1}{n-1} \right]. \blacksquare$$

4. The Cartesian Product of a Complete Graph and a Complete Bipartite Graphs

Let $K_{r,s}$ be a complete bipartite graph of bipartite sets of vertices $V_1 = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r\}, V_2 = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_s\}; r \geq s$, and let

$$V(K_t) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_t\},$$

then it is clear that in $K_t \times K_{r,s}$

$$d((u_i, v_h), (u_j, v_k)) = 3 \text{ when } i \neq j, h \neq k,$$

because there is a shortest path

$$(u_i, v_h), (u_j, v_h), (u_j, w), (u_j, v_k), w \in V_2.$$

Similarly,

$$d((u_i, w_h), (u_j, w_k)) = 3 \text{ when } i \neq j, h \neq k.$$

Moreover,

$$d((u_i, v_h), (u_i, v_k)) = d((u_i, w_h), (u_i, w_k)) = 2.$$

Therefore,

$$\text{diam } K_t \times K_{r,s} = 3,$$

and so

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times K_{r,s} \leq 3, 2 \leq n \leq p, p = t(r+s).$$

For any vertex (u_i, v_h) , the number of vertices of distance 3 from (u_i, v_h) in $K_t \times K_{r,s}$ is $(t-1)(r-1)$. Similarly, there are $(t-1)(s-1)$ vertices of distance 3 from (u_i, w_k) . Moreover, the degree of each vertex of $K_t \times K_{r,s}$ is either $r+t-1$ or $s+t-1$.

Thus, we have the following result.

Proposition 4.1. For $t, r, s \geq 2$, $r \geq s$, then the n -diameter of $K_t \times K_{r,s}$ is given

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times K_{r,s} = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{for } 2 \leq n \leq tr-t-r+2, \\ 2, & \text{for } tr-t-r+3 \leq n \leq p-t-s, \\ 1, & \text{for } p-t-s+1 \leq n \leq p. \end{cases}$$

■

The next theorem determines the n -Wiener polynomial of $K_t \times K_{r,s}$.

Theorem 4.2. For $t, r, s \geq 2$, $3 \leq n \leq p$, $p = t(r+s)$,

$$\begin{aligned} W_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}; x) = & p \binom{p-1}{n-2} + [p \binom{p-1}{n-1} - st \binom{p-r-t}{n-1} - rt \binom{p-s-t}{n-1}] x \\ & + \{ rt [\binom{p-s-t}{n-1} - \binom{rt-t-r+1}{n-1}] + st [\binom{p-r-t}{n-1} - \binom{ts-t-s+1}{n-1}] \} x^2 \\ & + [rt \binom{rt-t-r+1}{n-1} + st \binom{ts-t-s+1}{n-1}] x^3. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. $C_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}, 0)$ and $C_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}, 1)$ are obtained from (1.8) and (1.9). To find the other coefficients, we notice that $C_n((a,b), K_t \times K_{r,s}, k)$ is the same for every vertex $(a,b) \in V(K_t) \times V_1$, and $C_n((c,d), K_t \times K_{r,s}, k)$ is the same for every vertex $(c,d) \in V(K_t) \times V_2$, for $k=2,3$. Since the number of vertices of distance 3 from vertex (a,b) is $(t-1)(r-1)$, and the number of vertices of distance 3 from vertex (c,d) is $(t-1)(s-1)$, then we get the coefficient of x^3 as given in the statement of the theorem.

Finally, $C_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}, 2)$ is obtained using the relation (1.8) and the coefficients already obtained. This completes the proof. ■

Corollary 4.3. For $t, r, s \geq 2$, and $3 \leq n \leq p$ in which $p = t(r+s)$,

$$W_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}) = p \binom{p-1}{n-1} + rt \left[\binom{p-s-t}{n-1} + \binom{rt-t-r+1}{n-1} \right]$$

$$+st\left[\binom{p-r-t}{n-1} + \binom{ts-t-r+1}{n-1}\right].$$

Proof. The n-Wiener index is obtained from $W_n(K_t \times K_{r,s}; x)$ by taking the derivative with respect to x , and then put $x=1$, and simplified the expression. ■

5. The Cartesian Product of a Complete Graph and a Wheel

Let W_r be a wheel of order $r \geq 4$ and let its center be denoted by v_0 and its other vertices be v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{r-1} . Moreover, let $V(K_t) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_t\}$. The order of $K_t \times W_r$ is $p=rt$, and in $K_t \times W_r$

$$\begin{aligned} \deg(u_i, v_j) &= t+2, \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq t, 1 \leq j \leq r-1, \\ \deg(u_i, v_0) &= t+r-2. \end{aligned}$$

One can easily see that in $K_t \times W_r$

$$\begin{aligned} d((u_i, v_0), (u_j, v_h)) &= 2, \text{ for } i \neq j, h \neq 0, \\ d((u_i, v_h), (u_j, v_m)) &= 3, \text{ for } i \neq j, h \neq m, h, m \neq 0, \end{aligned}$$

because $(u_i, v_h), (u_j, v_h), (u_j, v_0), (u_j, v_m)$ is a shortest $(u_i, v_h)-(u_j, v_m)$ when $v_h v_m \notin W_r$. Thus,

$$\text{diam } K_t \times W_r = 3, \text{ when } r \geq 5.$$

Thus, for $r \geq 5, t \geq 2$,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times W_r \leq 3.$$

Since for each vertex $(u_i, v_h), 1 \leq i \leq t, h \neq 0$ there are $(t-1)(r-4)$ vertices of distance 3 from (u_i, v_h) , and $\deg(u_i, v_h) = t+2$, then we have the following result.

Proposition 5.1. For $t \geq 2, r \geq 5$, the n-diameter of $K_t \times W_r$ is given by

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times W_r = \begin{cases} 3, & \text{for } 2 \leq n \leq 1+(t-1)(r-4), \\ 2, & \text{for } 2+(t-1)(r-4) \leq n \leq p-t-2, \\ 1, & \text{for } p-t-1 \leq n \leq p. \end{cases} \quad \blacksquare$$

The following theorem gives us the n-Wiener polynomial of $K_t \times W_r$.

Theorem 5.2. For $t \geq 2, r \geq 5, 3 \leq n \leq p, p=tr$

$$\begin{aligned} W_n(K_t \times W_r; x) &= p \binom{p-1}{n-2} + [p \binom{p-1}{n-1} - t(r-1) \binom{p-t-3}{n-1} - t \binom{p-r-t+1}{n-1}] x \\ &+ [t(r-1) \binom{p-t-3}{n-1} + t \binom{p-t-r+1}{n-1} - t(r-1) \binom{p-r-4t+4}{n-1}] x^2 \\ &+ t(r-1) \binom{p-r-4t+4}{n-1} x^3. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. The coefficients of x^0 and x are obtained using (1.8) and (1.9). To obtain the coefficient of x^3 , we notice that for any $(u_i, v_0), 1 \leq i \leq t$ and every

$(n-1)$ -set of vertices S , $d_n((u_i, v_0), S) \leq 2$. But for every vertex (u_i, v_j) , $1 \leq i \leq t$, $1 \leq j \leq r-1$, there are $(t-1)(r-4)$ vertices each of distance 3 from (u_i, v_j) .

Therefore, there are $\binom{p-r-4t+4}{n-1}$ sets S , $|S|=n-1$, such that $d_n((u_i, v_j), S)=3$.

Thus,

$$C_n(K_t \times W_r, 3) = t(r-1) \binom{p-r-4t+4}{n-1}.$$

We obtain $C_n(K_t \times W_r, 2)$ by using (1.8). Hence, the proof. ■

Corollary 3.4.3. For $t \geq 2$, $r \geq 5$ and $3 \leq n \leq rt$,

$$W_n(K_t \times W_r) = p \binom{p-1}{n-2} + t(r-1) \binom{p-t-3}{n-1} + t \binom{p-r-t+1}{n-1} + t(r-1) \binom{p-r-4t+4}{n-1}$$

Proof. The proof follows from Theorem 5.2 and the fact

$$W_n(K_t \times W_r) = W_{\square_n}(K_t \times W_{r,1}). \quad \blacksquare$$

6. The Cartesian Product of a Path and a Complete Graph

Let P_r , $r \geq 2$ be a path graph of order r and

$$P_r: v_1, v_2, \dots, v_r,$$

and let

$$V(K_t) = \{u_1, u_2, \dots, u_t\}, \quad t \geq 3.$$

The Cartesian product $K_t \times P_r$ is shown in Fig. 6.1. The following proposition determines the n -diameter of $K_t \times P_r$.

Proposition 6.1. For $r \geq 2$, $t \geq 3$, $2 \leq n \leq rt$,
 $\text{diam}_n K_t \times P_r = r + 1 - \lceil n/t \rceil$.

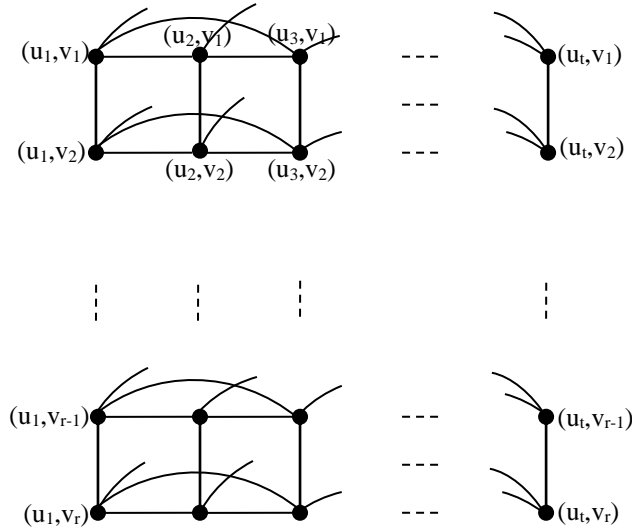


Fig.6.1. The graph $K_t \times P_r$

Proof. From Fig. 6.1, we notice that $d_n((u,v),S)$, $|S|=n-1$ has maximum value when (u,v) is one of the vertices in $A_1 \cup A_r$, where

$$A_i = \{(u_j, v_i) : j=1, 2, \dots, t\},$$

and S is the $(n-1)$ -set of vertices farthest from (u,v) in $K_t \times P_r$. Thus, we may take the vertex (u_1, v_r) , and S consisting of vertices of A_1, A_2, \dots, A_i and some vertices of $A_{i+1} - \{(u_1, v_{i+1})\}$ when

$$it \leq n-1 \leq t(i+1)-1;$$

and when

$$2 \leq n \leq t, \text{ then } S \subseteq A_1 - \{(u_1, v_1)\}.$$

In the last case,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times P_r = r;$$

and in general case of n ,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times P_r = r-i, \quad it+1 \leq n \leq (i+1)t.$$

One can easily see that

$$i = \lceil n/t \rceil - 1.$$

Hence, in any case of the value of n ,

$$\text{diam}_n K_t \times P_r = r + 1 - \lceil n/t \rceil. \quad \blacksquare$$

Now, we obtain the n -Wiener polynomial of $K_t \times P_r$ in the following two theorems.

Theorem 6.2. Let $r=2s$, $s \geq 1$, $t \geq 3$ and $3 \leq n \leq rt$. Then

$$W_n(K_t \times P_r; x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\delta_n} C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) x^k,$$

where

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, 0) = rt \binom{rt-1}{n-2},$$

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, 1) = rt \binom{rt-1}{n-1} - 2t \binom{rt-t-1}{n-1} - t(r-2) \binom{rt-t-2}{n-1},$$

for $2 \leq k \leq s$

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t \left[2 \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \left\{ \binom{\alpha+t-ti}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-ti}{n-1} \right\} + 2 \left\{ \binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-tk}{n-1} \right\} \right. \\ \left. + (s-k) \left\{ \binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-tk-1}{n-1} \right\} \right],$$

for $k \geq s+1$

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t \sum_{i=1}^s \left\{ \binom{\alpha+t-i}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-i}{n-1} \right\},$$

in which

$$\alpha = p - t(k-1) - 1.$$

Proof. $C_n(K_t \times P_r, 0)$ and $C_n(K_t \times P_r, 1)$ are obtained from (1.8) and (1.9). For $2 \leq k \leq \delta_n$ we shall consider three cases for the values of k .

(1) If $2 \leq k < s$, then for each $1 \leq i \leq s$ the number of vertices of distance k from any vertex, say (u_j, v_i) , of A_i is t and the number of vertices of distance more than k from (u_j, v_i) is $p - t(i+k-1) - 1 = \alpha - ti$ when $1 \leq i \leq k-1$ which gives us

$$a = \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \binom{t}{j} \binom{\alpha-ti}{n-1-j} \quad \dots(6.1)$$

If $i=k$, then there are $2t-1$ vertices of distance k from (u_j, v_i) , and there are $p - t(2k-1) - 1$ vertices of distance more than k . This gives us

$$\begin{aligned} b &= \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \binom{2t-1}{j} \binom{p-2kt+t-1}{n-1-j} \\ &= \binom{p-2kt+3t-2}{n-1} - \binom{p-2kt+t-1}{n-1} \\ &= \binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-kt}{n-1}. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(6.2)$$

If $k+1 \leq i \leq s$, then there are $2t$ vertices of distance k from (u_j, v_i) and there are $p - t(2k-1) - 2$ vertices of distance more than k . This gives us

$$\begin{aligned} c &= \sum_{i=k+1}^s \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \binom{2t}{j} \binom{p-2kt+t-2}{n-1-j} \\ &= (s-k) \left[\binom{p-2kt+3t-2}{n-1} - \binom{p-2kt+t-2}{n-1} \right] \\ &= (s-k) \left[\binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-kt-1}{n-1} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad \dots(6.3)$$

Since $r=2s$ and each A_i consists of t vertices,

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t(a+b+c) \text{ when } 2 \leq k < s.$$

(2) If $k=s$, then using the same reasoning as in case (1) we find that (6.1) and (6.2) are true for this case, and (6.3) does not hold. Thus,

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t(a+b) \text{ when } k=s.$$

(3) If $k \geq s+1$, then it is clear that both (6.2) and (6.3) do not hold. Thus,

$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t\alpha$ when $k \geq s+1$.
 Substituting a , b and c , we get the required results. ■

Theorem 6.3. Let $r=2s+1$, $s \geq 1$, $t \geq 3$ and $3 \leq n \leq rt$.
 Then

$$W_n(K_t \times P_r; x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\delta_n} C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) x^k,$$

where

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, 0) = rt \binom{rt-1}{n-2},$$

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, 1) = rt \binom{rt-1}{n-1} - 2t \binom{rt-t-1}{n-1} - t(r-2) \binom{rt-t-2}{n-1},$$

for $2 \leq k \leq s$

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 4t \left[\sum_{i=1}^{k-1} \left\{ \binom{\alpha+t-i}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-i}{n-1} \right\} + \binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-tk}{n-1} \right]$$

$$+ t(r-2k) \left\{ \binom{\alpha+2t-tk-1}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-tk-1}{n-1} \right\},$$

for $k=s+1$,

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t \sum_{i=1}^s \left\{ \binom{\alpha+t-i}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-i}{n-1} \right\} + t \binom{2t-2}{n-1}$$

for $s+1 < k \leq \delta_n$,

$$C_n(K_t \times P_r, k) = 2t \sum_{i=1}^s \left\{ \binom{\alpha+t-i}{n-1} - \binom{\alpha-i}{n-1} \right\},$$

in which

$$\alpha = p - t(k-1) - 1.$$

Proof. The proof of $C_n(K_t \times P_r, k)$ for $k \neq s+1$ is similar to that for even r given in Theorem 6.2. For $k=s+1$ we add the number of pairs $((u_j, v_{s+1}), S)$ of n -distance $s+1$, which equals $\binom{2t-2}{n-1}$ for each $1 \leq j \leq t$. ■

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