

THE EXISTENCE THEOREM OF ORTHOGONAL MATRICES WITH p NONZERO ENTRIES

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ABSTRACT. It was shown that if Q is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix then Q has at least $4n - 4$ nonzero entries in 1993. In this paper, we show that for each integer p with $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$, there exist a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries. Furthermore, we obtain a method of construction of a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix which has exactly $4n - 4$ nonzero entries. This is a part of the study in sparse matrices.

1. Introduction

By a *pattern* we simply mean the arrangement of zero and nonzero (denoted *) entries in a matrix. An $n \times n$ pattern \mathcal{A} is called *orthogonal* if there is an orthogonal matrix A whose pattern is \mathcal{A} . An $n \times n$ matrix A is *fully indecomposable*, if the rows and columns of A can not be permuted to obtain a matrix of the form

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & O \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

where A_{11} and A_{22} are square and nonempty. Let $\#(A)$ denote the number of nonzero entries in the matrix (or pattern) A . In [BBS], it was shown that if Q is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix then $\#(Q) \geq 4n - 4$. Thus it is clear that if Q is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix then

$$4n - 4 \leq \#(Q) \leq n^2.$$

Equivalently, if Q is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix then the number of zeros in Q is between 0 and $(n - 2)^2$. In [CJLP], it was studied the possible numbers of zeros in an orthogonal matrix.

In this paper, we show that for each integer p with $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$, there exist a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries. We introduce a constructive approach for such matrices.

2. Orthogonal pattern by symbolic Gram-Schmidt procedure

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We say that an $n \times n$ matrix A (or pattern \mathcal{A}) satisfies the *Hall property* if every k columns, $1 \leq k \leq n$, collectively have nonzero entries in at least k rows. It is clear that there are full rank matrices with pattern \mathcal{A} if and only if \mathcal{A} satisfies the Hall property. Note that every lower triangular pattern such that its each main diagonal entry is nonzero satisfies the Hall property. The Gram-Schmidt orthonormalization process can be used to construct the matrix Q of the QR factorization of a matrix A . In [HJOD], it was given how to adapt the *symbolic Gram-Schmidt procedure* to determine Q for a pattern \mathcal{A} under the assumption that \mathcal{A} has the Hall property.

For a $k \times k$ pattern $\mathcal{L} = [l_{ij}]$ defined by

$$l_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i < j, \\ * & \text{if } i = j \text{ or } j = i - 1, \\ 0 \text{ or } * & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

we say that \mathcal{L} is in *echelon form* whenever, for each i and j with $i \geq j + 2$, $l_{ij} = 0$ then $l_{i+1j} = \dots = l_{kj} = 0$ and $l_{i1} = \dots = l_{i,j-1} = 0$ for $j \geq 2$.

Clearly, each pattern \mathcal{L} in echelon form is lower triangular such that its each main diagonal entry is nonzero. For example, if $m = 4$ then each pattern in echelon form is following:

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since each pattern \mathcal{L} in echelon form satisfies Hall property, the next lemma follows from [HJOD].

LEMMA 2.1. *Let \mathcal{L} be an $n \times n$ pattern in echelon form. If \mathcal{Q} is a pattern obtained from \mathcal{L} by symbolic Gram-Schmidt procedure, then \mathcal{Q} is the same as $\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$, and \mathcal{Q} is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal pattern, where $\mathcal{U} = [u_{ij}]$ is the $n \times n$ pattern with*

$$u_{ij} = \begin{cases} * & \text{if } i < j, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

and $\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$ is a pattern which has a zero in a given position only when both patterns are zero in that position.

Note that if we take \mathcal{L} as the $n \times n$ full lower triangular pattern and the $n \times n$ pattern

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & & & & \\ * & * & & & O \\ & * & \ddots & & \\ O & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

respectively, then by Lemma 2.1, we can get the $n \times n$ orthogonal full pattern \mathcal{Q} with $\#(\mathcal{Q}) = n^2$ and the $n \times n$ orthogonal upper Hessenberg pattern \mathcal{Q} with $\#(\mathcal{Q}) = (n^2 + 3n - 2)/2$, respectively, where a matrix is full means all entries in the matrix are nonzero.

THEOREM 2.2. *For each integer p with*

$$\frac{n^2 + 3n - 2}{2} \leq p \leq n^2, \quad (1)$$

there is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries.

Proof. Let \mathcal{L} be an $n \times n$ pattern in echelon form, and let \mathcal{Q} be a pattern obtained from \mathcal{L} by symbolic Gram-Schmidt procedure. Then by Lemma 2.1, \mathcal{Q} is an $n \times n$ fully indecomposable orthogonal pattern. Furthermore,

$$\#(\mathcal{Q}) = \#(\mathcal{L}) + \#(\mathcal{U}) = \#(\mathcal{L}) + \frac{(n-1)n}{2}.$$

It is easy to show that for each integer q with $2n - 1 \leq q \leq \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$, there is a pattern \mathcal{L} in echelon form with exactly q nonzero entries. Thus the theorem follows. ■

Now, we only need to show that for each integer p with

$$4n - 4 \leq p \leq \frac{n^2 + 3n - 2}{2} - 1 \quad (2)$$

there is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries. In order to do this, we shall use the method of weaving and woven matrix which can be found in [Cr].

3. Orthogonal pattern by weaving

In [Cr], R. Craigen introduced a matrix method called *weaving* which is a method for building new matrices from the given one. To every $(0, 1)$ -matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ having row sums r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m and column sums c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n , we adopt the following notations.

$s = s(i, j) :=$ the number of nonzero positions in i th row of A up to j th column,

$t = t(i, j) :=$ the number of nonzero positions in j th column of A up to i th row.

Now let R_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$) have r_i columns \mathbf{u}_s , and C_j ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n$) have c_j rows \mathbf{v}_t^T using the indices s and t introduced above. We define the “*woven product*” $M = (R_1 \cdots R_m) \circledast (C_1 \cdots C_n) = [M_{ij}]$ block entrywise by

$$M_{ij} = \begin{cases} \mathbf{u}_s \mathbf{v}_t^T & \text{if } a_{ij} = 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The matrix A is called the *lattice* of the weaving, and the matrix M obtained by weaving is called a *woven matrix*. Note that the resulting woven matrix depends on the lattice and matrices R_i 's, C_j 's.

Throughout we let $M(A)$ denote a woven matrix obtained by weaving from a given lattice A .

LEMMA 3.1. [C] *Let A be an $m \times n$ lattice having row sums r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m and column sums c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n whose bipartite graph is connected. If R_i ($i = 1, 2, \dots, m$) is a fully indecomposable $r_i \times r_i$ orthogonal matrix and C_j ($j = 1, 2, \dots, n$) is a fully indecomposable $c_j \times c_j$ orthogonal matrix, then the woven matrix $M(A)$ is fully indecomposable orthogonal matrix of order $\#(A)$.*

Now, we are ready to construct orthogonal matrices with p nonzero entries in (2) by weaving.

We are going to prove for odd n and for even n , respectively. Let us consider the odd $n = 2m - 1$ case first.

For each $k = 2, \dots, m$, we define the $m \times m$ (0,1)-matrix $A_k = [a_{ij}]$ with row sums r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m and column sums c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m by

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j; i = 1 \text{ and } j = 2, \dots, k; \\ & j = i + 1 \text{ for } i = k, \dots, m - 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

That is,

$$A_k = \overbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & \cdots & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & & & O & \\ & & & 1 & 0 & & & \\ & & & & 1 & 1 & & \\ & O & & & & 1 & \ddots & \\ & & & & & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}}^{k \text{ times}} \quad (3)$$

Thus $\#(A_k) = 2m - 1$ and $r_1 = k$, $r_2 = \cdots = r_{k-1} = 1$, $r_k = \cdots = r_{m-1} = 2$, $r_m = 1$, $c_1 = 1$, $c_2 = \cdots = c_m = 2$. Take

$$R_1 = \begin{bmatrix} * & \cdots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ * & \cdots & * \end{bmatrix}_{k \times k},$$

$$R_2 = \cdots = R_{k-1} = R_m = C_m = [*], \quad (4)$$

$$R_k = \cdots = R_{m-1} = C_2 = \cdots = C_m = \begin{bmatrix} * & * \\ * & * \end{bmatrix}. \quad (5)$$

Then R_i 's and C_j 's are orthogonal patterns from Lemma 2.1. And since A_k has a connected bipartite graph, the resulting woven matrix $M(A_k)$ is fully indecomposable $(2m - 1) \times (2m - 1)$

orthogonal pattern from Lemma 3.1, and has the following form:

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Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \#(M(A_k)) &= k(2k - 1) + 2(k - 2) + 4(n - k - (k - 2) - 1) + 2 \\ &= 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 7k + 6). \end{aligned}$$

REMARK 3.2. If $k = 2$ in (3) then $\#(M(A_k)) = 4n - 4$ and $M(A_2)$ is an unique orthogonal pattern for an odd n as noted in [BBS].

Note that if we fix the matrices R_i 's ($i \neq 1$) and C_j 's in (4) and (5) then $\#(M(A_k))$ depends on $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern R_1 . Now, fix R_i 's ($i \neq 1$) and C_j 's in (4) and (5), and suppose R_1 has a zero entry. Let x_i denote the number of zero entries in the i th column of R_1 . Then it is clear that

$$\#(M(A_k)) = 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 7k + 6) - (x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + \dots + 2x_k). \tag{6}$$

LEMMA 3.3. For an integer $k \geq 3$, let x_i be an integer such that

$$0 \leq x_i \leq k - i - 1, \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots, k - 2).$$

Then the linear system

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + 2x_{k-2} = t \quad \text{with} \quad x_1 \geq \dots \geq x_{k-2} \tag{7}$$

has a solution for each $t = 0, 1, \dots, k^2 - 4k + 4$.

Proof. Let $\mathbf{x}(t) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-2})$ be a solution of (7). Clearly, for each integer t with $0 \leq t \leq k-2$, $\mathbf{x}(t) = (t, 0, \dots, 0)$ is a solution of (7). We suppose that $t \geq (k-2) + 1$, and let

$$\rho(l) = k - 2 + 2 \sum_{i=3}^l (k - i) \quad (l = 3, 4, \dots, k-1).$$

Then it is easily shown that

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{x}(k-2+2m-1) = (k-3, m, 0, \dots, 0) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x}(k-2+2m) = (k-2, m, 0, \dots, 0) \\ \text{for each } m = 1, 2, \dots, k-3 \text{ if } (k-2)+1 \leq t \leq \rho(3), \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(3)+2m-1) = (k-3, k-3, m, 0, \dots, 0) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(3)+2m) = (k-2, k-3, m, 0, \dots, 0) \\ \text{for each } m = 1, 2, \dots, k-4 \text{ if } \rho(3)+1 \leq t \leq \rho(4), \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(4)+2m-1) = (k-3, k-3, k-4, m, 0, \dots, 0) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(4)+2m) = (k-2, k-3, k-4, m, 0, \dots, 0) \\ \text{for each } m = 1, 2, \dots, k-5 \text{ if } \rho(4)+1 \leq t \leq \rho(5), \\ \dots \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(k-3)+2m-1) = (k-3, k-3, k-4, \dots, k-(k-3), m, 0) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(k-3)+2m) = (k-2, k-3, k-4, \dots, k-(k-3), m, 0) \\ \text{for each } m = 1, 2, \dots, k-(k-2) \text{ if } \rho(k-3)+1 \leq t \leq \rho(k-2), \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(k-2)+2m-1) = (k-3, k-3, k-4, \dots, k-(k-2), m) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x}(\rho(k-2)+2m) = (k-2, k-3, k-4, \dots, k-(k-2), m) \\ \text{for each } m = 1, 2, \dots, k-(k-1) \text{ if } \rho(k-2)+1 \leq t \leq \rho(k-1) = k^2 - 4k + 4 \end{array} \right.$$

is a solution of (7) for each $t = (k-2) + 1, \dots, k^2 - 4k + 4$. Thus the proof is complete. \blacksquare

From Lemma 2.1, for each $k \times k$ pattern \mathcal{L} in echelon form, we know that $\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$ is a fully indecomposable $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern. We take R_1 as $\mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$. Then $x_{k-1} = x_k = 0$. Thus from Lemma 3.3, we may take a solution $\mathbf{x}(t) = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-2}, 0, 0)$ with the same values x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k-2} as ones in the proof of Lemma 3.3 to the system $x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + 2x_k = t$ for each $t = 0, 1, \dots, k^2 - 4k + 4$. This implies that there is a fully indecomposable $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern R_1 such that $x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + 2x_k = t$ for each $t = 0, 1, \dots, k^2 - 4k + 4$.

We denote $R(t) := R_1 = \mathcal{L} + \mathcal{U}$ such that $x_1 + 2x_2 + \dots + 2x_k = t$, and for a suitable pattern \mathcal{L} .

For example, let $k = 5$. Then $R(0) = [*'s]$, and

$$R(1) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \quad R(2) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \quad R(3) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 R(4) &= \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(5) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(6) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, \\
 R(7) &= \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(8) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(9) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$R(k^2 - 4k + 4) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & \cdots & * & * \\ * & * & \cdots & * & * \\ 0 & * & \ddots & * & * \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & * & * \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}.$$

And also, we show that there is a fully indecomposable $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern $R(t)$ for each $t = k^2 - 4k + 5, \dots, k^2 - 3k + 2$. This will be done from $R(k^2 - 4k + 4)$ by the following consecutive way:

In order to get $R(k^2 - 4k + 5)$, permute the column 1 and column 2 of $R(k^2 - 4k + 4)$, and to get $R(k^2 - 4k + 6)$, permute the column 1 and column 3 of $R(k^2 - 4k + 4)$, and so on, and finally in order to get $R(k^2 - 3k + 2)$, we permute the column 1 and column $k - 1$ of $R(k^2 - 4k + 4)$. Then for each $t = k^2 - 4k + 5, \dots, k^2 - 3k + 2$, $R(t)$ is still fully indecomposable $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern.

For example, let $k = 5$. Then

$$R(10) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(11) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & 0 & * & * \\ * & 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}, R(12) = \begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & * & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus we have shown the following lemma.

LEMMA 3.4. *Let $n = 2m - 1$. For $k = 2, 3, \dots, m$, there exists a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal pattern with p nonzero entries such that*

$$4n - 4 + (k^2 - 4k + 4) \leq p \leq 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 7k + 6). \tag{8}$$

In (8), we should note that

$$\begin{aligned}
 & p = 4n - 4 \quad \text{if } k = 2, \\
 & 4n - 3 \leq p \leq 4n - 1 \quad \text{if } k = 3, \\
 & 4n \leq p \leq 4n + 6 \quad \text{if } k = 4, \\
 & 4n + 5 \leq p \leq 4n + 17 \quad \text{if } k = 5, \\
 & \dots \\
 & \frac{n^2 + 10n - 7}{4} \leq p \leq \frac{n^2 + 3n - 2}{2} \quad \text{if } k = m.
 \end{aligned}$$

In particular, for $k - 1$, since

$$4n - 4 + (k^2 - 6k + 9) \leq p \leq 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 11k + 15)$$

we get

$$2k^2 - 11k + 15 - (k^2 - 4k + 4) = k^2 - 7k + 11 > 0 \quad \text{for } k \geq 5.$$

Thus there are orthogonal patterns with the same number of nonzero entries which are overlapped between $k - 1$ and k for $k \geq 5$. The following theorem is an immediate consequence of Theorem 2.2 and Lemma 3.4.

THEOREM 3.5. *For each integer p with $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$, if n is an odd number then there exists a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries.*

Now we only need to consider the even n case. If $n = 2$ or 4 then from Lemma 2.1, there exists a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries such that $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$. Thus we may assume that $n = 2m \geq 6$.

For each $k = 2, \dots, m$, we define the $m \times (m + 1)$ (0,1)-matrix $A'_k = [a_{ij}]$ with row sums r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m and column sums c_1, c_2, \dots, c_{m+1} by

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j; i = 1 \text{ and } j = 2, \dots, k; \\ & j = i + 1 \text{ for } i = k, \dots, m, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

That is,

$$A'_k = \begin{bmatrix} \overbrace{1 \ 1 \ \cdots \ \cdots \ 1 \ 0 \ \cdots \ 0 \ 0}^{k \text{ times}} \\ 1 \ 0 \\ \quad \ddots \ \ddots \quad \quad O \\ \quad \quad 1 \ 0 \\ \quad \quad \quad 1 \ 1 \\ \quad \quad \quad O \quad 1 \ \ddots \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \ddots \ 1 \\ \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 1 \ 1 \end{bmatrix}_{m \times (m+1)}. \quad (9)$$

For $k = m + 1$, define

$$A'_{m+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ & 1 & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & O & \\ & O & & 1 & & \\ & & & & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus $\#(A'_k) = \#(A'_{m+1}) = 2m$, and for $k = 2, \dots, m$,

$$r_1 = k, \ r_2 = \cdots = r_{k-1} = 1, \ r_k = \cdots = r_m = 2, \ c_1 = 1, \ c_2 = \cdots = c_m = 2, \ c_{m+1} = 1.$$

If we take R_i 's and C_j 's as full orthogonal patterns of the order r_i and c_j for each $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ and $j = m + 1$, then the resulting woven matrix $M(A'_k)$ has the form

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Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \#(M(A'_k)) &= k(2k - 1) + 2(k - 2) + 4(n - k - (k - 2) - 2) + 6 \\ &= 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 7k + 6), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\#(M(A'_{m+1})) = (m + 1)n + 2(n - m - 1) = \frac{n^2 + 4n - 4}{2}.$$

REMARK 3.6. If $k = 2$ in (9) then $\#(M(A'_k)) = 4n - 4$ and $M(A'_2)$ is a unique orthogonal pattern for an even n as noted in [BBS].

Now, for a $k \times k$ orthogonal pattern R_1 with a zero entry, let x_i denote the number of zero entries in the i th column of R_1 . Then for full orthogonal patterns R_i ($i \neq 1$) and C_j , we get

$$\#(M(A'_k)) = 4n - 4 + (2k^2 - 7k + 6) - (x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + \dots + 2x_k).$$

If we apply the similar method which was used in the previous odd n for A'_k in (9), we can show that there is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal pattern with p nonzero entries for each p such that

$$4n - 4 \leq p \leq \frac{n^2 + n + 4}{2}.$$

Thus from (2), it is sufficient to show that there is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal pattern with p nonzero entries for each p such that

$$\frac{n^2 + n + 4}{2} + 1 \leq p \leq \frac{n^2 + 3n - 2}{2} - 1. \quad (10)$$

In order to construct those, we shall use A'_{m+1} as a lattice of weaving. For a fully indecomposable $(m+1) \times (m+1)$ orthogonal pattern R_1 with a zero entry, let x_i denote the number of zero entries in the i th column of R_1 . And we take the full orthogonal patterns R_i ($i \neq 1$) and C_j . Then it can be easily shown that

$$\#(M(A'_{m+1})) = \frac{n^2 + 4n - 4}{2} - (x_1 + 2x_2 + 2x_3 + \cdots + 2x_m + x_{m+1}).$$

For $x_1 + 2(x_2 + \cdots + x_m) + x_{m+1} = t$, let $R(t)$ denote an $(m+1) \times (m+1)$ orthogonal pattern obtained with the similar method which was used in the previous odd n case. Then it is shown similarly that there are fully indecomposable orthogonal patterns

$$R(0), R(1), \dots, R((m-1)^2) = R\left(\frac{n^2 - 4n + 4}{4}\right).$$

It follows that there is a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal pattern with p nonzero entries for each p such that

$$\frac{n^2 + 12n - 12}{4} \leq p \leq \frac{n^2 + 4n - 4}{2}. \quad (11)$$

From (10), (11), since

$$\frac{n^2 + n + 4}{2} + 1 - \frac{n^2 + 12n - 12}{4} = \frac{(n-4)(n-6)}{4} \geq 0 \text{ if } n \geq 6,$$

and

$$\frac{n^2 + 4n - 4}{2} - \frac{n^2 + 3n - 2}{2} + 1 = \frac{n-4}{2} > 0 \text{ if } n \geq 6,$$

we have the following theorem.

THEOREM 3.7. *For each integer p with $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$, if n is an even number then there exists a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries.*

This leads us to the existence theorem of orthogonal matrix as following.

THEOREM 3.8. *For each integer p with $4n - 4 \leq p \leq n^2$, there exists a fully indecomposable $n \times n$ orthogonal matrix with exactly p nonzero entries.*

Proof. This follows from Theorem 3.5 and 3.7. ■

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