

# ON THE SEMIGROUP OF ORDER-DECREASING PARTIAL ISOMETRIES OF A FINITE CHAIN

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## Abstract

Let  $\mathcal{I}_n$  be the symmetric inverse semigroup on  $X_n = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and let  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  be its subsemigroups of order-decreasing partial isometries and of order-preserving order-decreasing partial isometries of  $X_n$ , respectively. In this paper we investigate the cycle structure of order-decreasing partial isometry and characterize the Green's relations on  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . We show that  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  is a 0 –  $E$  – unitary ample semigroup. We also investigate the cardinalities of some equivalences on  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  which lead naturally to obtaining the order of the semigroups.<sup>1 2</sup>

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## 1 Introduction and Preliminaries

Let  $X_n = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  and  $\mathcal{I}_n$  be the partial one-to-one transformation semigroup on  $X_n$  under composition of mappings. Then  $\mathcal{I}_n$  is an *inverse* semigroup (that is, for all  $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}_n$  there exists a unique  $\alpha' \in \mathcal{I}_n$  such that  $\alpha = \alpha\alpha'\alpha$  and  $\alpha' = \alpha'\alpha\alpha'$ ). The importance of  $\mathcal{I}_n$  (more commonly known as the symmetric inverse semigroup or monoid) to inverse semigroup theory may be likened to that of the symmetric group  $\mathcal{S}_n$  to group theory. Every finite inverse semigroup  $S$  is embeddable in  $\mathcal{I}_n$ , the analogue of Cayley's theorem for finite groups, and to the regular representation of finite semigroups. Thus, just as the study of symmetric, alternating and dihedral groups has made a significant contribution to group theory, so has the study of various subsemigroups of  $\mathcal{I}_n$ , see for example [1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 19].

A transformation  $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}_n$  is said to be a *partial isometry* if (for all  $x, y \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ )  $|x - y| = |x\alpha - y\alpha|$ ; *order-preserving* (*order-reversing*) if (for all  $x, y \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ )  $x \leq y \implies x\alpha \leq y\alpha$  ( $x\alpha \geq y\alpha$ ); and, is said to be *order-decreasing* if (for all  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ )  $x\alpha \leq x$ . Semigroups of partial isometries on more restrictive but richer mathematical structures have been studied [2, 21]. Recently, the authors in [12] studied the semigroup of partial isometries of a finite chain,  $\mathcal{DP}_n$  and its subsemigroup of order-preserving partial isometries  $\mathcal{ODP}_n$ . Earlier, one of the authors studied the semigroup of partial one-to-one order-decreasing (order-increasing) transformations of

<sup>1</sup>*Key Words*: partial one-one transformation, partial isometries, height, right (left) waist, right (left) shoulder and fix of a transformation, idempotents and nilpotents.

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a finite chain,  $\mathcal{I}_n^-$  [19]. This paper investigates the algebraic and combinatorial properties of  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$ , the semigroups of order-decreasing partial isometries and of order-preserving order-decreasing partial isometries of an  $n$ -chain, respectively.

In this section we introduce basic terminologies and some preliminary results concerning the cycle structure of a partial order-decreasing isometry of  $X_n$ . In the next section, (Section 2) we characterize the classical Green's relations and their starred analogues, where we show that  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  is a (nonregular) 0-E-unitary ample semigroup. We also show that certain Rees factor semigroups of  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  are 0-E-unitary and categorical ample semigroups. In Section 3 we obtain the cardinalities of two equivalences defined on  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . These equivalences lead to formulae for the order of  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  as well as new triangles of numbers not yet recorded in [17].

For standard concepts in semigroup and symmetric inverse semigroup theory, see for example [11, 16, 14]. In particular  $E(S)$  denotes the set of idempotents of  $S$ . Let

$$(1) \quad \mathcal{DDP}_n = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{DP}_n : (\forall x \in \text{Dom } \alpha) \ x\alpha \leq x\}.$$

be the subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{I}_n$  consisting of all order-decreasing partial isometries of  $X_n$ . Also let

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{ODDP}_n = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{DDP}_n : (\forall x, y \in \text{Dom } \alpha) \ x \leq y \implies x\alpha \leq y\alpha\}$$

be the subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  consisting of all order-preserving order-decreasing partial isometries of  $X_n$ . Then we have the following result.

**Lemma 1.1**  *$\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  are subsemigroups of  $\mathcal{I}_n$ .*

**Remark 1.2**  *$\mathcal{DDP}_n = \mathcal{DP}_n \cap \mathcal{I}_n^-$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n = \mathcal{ODP}_n \cap \mathcal{I}_n^-$ , where  $\mathcal{I}_n^-$  is a semigroup of partial one-to-one order-decreasing transformations of  $X_n$ .*

As in [12], we prove a sequence of lemmas that help us understand the cycle structure of order-decreasing partial isometries. These lemmas also seem to be useful in investigating the combinatorial questions in Section 3. First, let  $\alpha$  be in  $\mathcal{I}_n$ . Then the *height* of  $\alpha$  is  $h(\alpha) = | \text{Im } \alpha |$ , the *right [left] waist* of  $\alpha$  is  $w^+(\alpha) = \max(\text{Im } \alpha)$  [ $w^-(\alpha) = \min(\text{Im } \alpha)$ ], the *right [left] shoulder* of  $\alpha$  is  $\varpi^+(\alpha) = \max(\text{Dom } \alpha)$  [ $\varpi^-(\alpha) = \min(\text{Dom } \alpha)$ ], and *fix* of  $\alpha$  is denoted by  $f(\alpha)$ , and defined by  $f(\alpha) = |F(\alpha)|$ , where

$$F(\alpha) = \{x \in X_n : x\alpha = x\}.$$

**Lemma 1.3** [12, Lemma 1.2] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DP}_n$  be such that  $h(\alpha) = p$ . Then  $f(\alpha) = 0$  or 1 or  $p$ .*

**Corollary 1.4** [12, Corollary 1.3] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DP}_n$ . If  $f(\alpha) = p > 1$  then  $f(\alpha) = h(\alpha)$ . Equivalently, if  $f(\alpha) > 1$  then  $\alpha$  is an idempotent.*

**Lemma 1.5** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . If  $i \in F(\alpha)$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ) then for all  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ , such that  $x < i$  we have  $x\alpha = x$ .*

*Proof.* Note that for all  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$  we have  $x\alpha \leq x < i$  and so  $i - x = |i\alpha - x\alpha| = |i - x\alpha| = i - x\alpha \implies x = x\alpha$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.6** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . If  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$  then  $\text{Dom } \alpha \subseteq \{i, i + 1, \dots, n\}$ .*

**Lemma 1.7** [12, Lemma 1.4] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DP}_n$ . If  $1 \in F(\alpha)$  or  $n \in F(\alpha)$  then for all  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ , we have  $x\alpha = x$ . Equivalently, if  $1 \in F(\alpha)$  or  $n \in F(\alpha)$  then  $\alpha$  is a partial identity.*

**Lemma 1.8** [12, Lemma 1.5] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{ODP}_n$  and  $n \in \text{Dom } \alpha \cap \text{Im } \alpha$ . Then  $n\alpha = n$ .*

**Lemma 1.9** [12, Lemma 1.6] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{ODP}_n$  and  $f(\alpha) \geq 1$ . Then  $\alpha$  is an idempotent.*

**Lemma 1.10** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . Then  $x - x\alpha = y - y\alpha$  for all  $x, y \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ .*

*Proof.* let  $x, y \in \text{Dom } \alpha$  be such that  $x > y$ . Then by the order-preserving and isometry properties we see that  $|x - y| = |x\alpha - y\alpha| \implies x - y = x\alpha - y\alpha \implies x - x\alpha = y - y\alpha$ . The case  $x < y$  is similar.  $\square$

## 2 Green's relations and their starred analogues

For the definitions of Green's relations we refer the reader to Howie [?, Chapter 2]. First we have

**Theorem 2.1** *Let  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  be as defined in (1) and (2) respectively. Then  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  are  $\mathcal{J}$ -trivial.*

*Proof.* It follows from [19, Lemma 2.2] and Remark 1.2.  $\square$

Now since  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  contains some nonidempotent elements:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} (x > y)$$

it follows immediately that

**Corollary 2.2** For  $n > 1$ ,  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  are non-regular semi-groups.

On the semigroup  $S$  the relation  $\mathcal{L}^*(\mathcal{R}^*)$  is defined by the rule that  $(a, b) \in \mathcal{L}^*(\mathcal{R}^*)$  if and only if the elements  $a, b$  are related by the Green's relation  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{R})$  in some oversemigroup of  $S$ . The join of the equivalences  $\mathcal{L}^*$  and  $\mathcal{R}^*$  is denoted by  $\mathcal{D}^*$  and their intersection by  $\mathcal{H}^*$ . For the definition of the starred analogue of the Green's relation  $\mathcal{J}$ , see [7] or [19].

A semigroup  $S$  in which each  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -class and each  $\mathcal{R}^*$ -class contains an idempotent is called *abundant* [7].

By [3, Lemma1.6] and [?, Proposition 2.4.2 & Ex. 5.11.2] we deduce the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.3** Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . Then

- (1)  $\alpha \leq_{\mathcal{R}^*} \beta$  if and only if  $\text{Dom } \alpha \subseteq \text{Dom } \beta$ ;
- (2)  $\alpha \leq_{\mathcal{L}^*} \beta$  if and only if  $\text{Im } \alpha \subseteq \text{Im } \beta$ ;
- (3)  $\alpha \leq_{\mathcal{H}^*} \beta$  if and only if  $\text{Dom } \alpha \subseteq \text{Dom } \beta$  and  $\text{Im } \alpha \subseteq \text{Im } \beta$ .

*Proof.* It is enough to observe that  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  are full subsemigroups of  $\mathcal{I}_n$  in the sense that  $E(\mathcal{ODDP}_n) = E(\mathcal{DDP}_n) = E(\mathcal{I}_n)$ .  $\square$

An abundant semigroup  $S$  in which  $E(S)$  is a semilattice is called *adequate* [6]. Of course inverse semigroups are adequate since in this case  $\mathcal{L}^* = \mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{R}^* = \mathcal{R}$ .

As in [6], for an element  $a$  of an adequate semigroup  $S$ , the (unique) idempotent in the  $\mathcal{L}^*$ -class ( $\mathcal{R}^*$ -class) containing  $a$  will be denoted by  $a^*(a^+)$ . An adequate semigroup  $S$  is said to be *ample* if  $ea = a(ea)^*$  and  $ae = (ae)^+a$  for all elements  $a$  in  $S$  and all idempotents  $e$  in  $S$ . Ample semigroups were known as *type A* semigroups.

**Theorem 2.4** Let  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  be as defined in (1) and (2) respectively. Then  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  and  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  are non-regular ample semigroups.

*Proof.* The proofs are similar to that of [19, theorem 2.6].  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5** Let  $S = \mathcal{ODDP}_n$  be as defined in (2). Then  $\alpha \leq_{\mathcal{D}^*} \beta$  if and only if there exists an order-preserving isometry  $\theta : \text{Dom } \alpha \rightarrow \text{Im } \beta$ .

Let  $E' = E \setminus 0$ . A semigroup  $S$  is said to be *0-E-unitary* if  $(\forall e \in E')(\forall s \in S) es \in E' \implies s \in E'$ . The structure theorem for 0-E-unitary inverse semigroup was given by Lawson [15], see also Szendrei [18] and Gomes and Howie [10].

**Theorem 2.6**  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  is a 0 – E – unitary ample subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{I}_n$ .

*Proof.* It follows from [12, Theorem 2.4]. □

**Remark 2.7** Note that  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  is not 0-E-unitary:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \in E(\mathcal{DDP}_n) \text{ but } \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \notin E(\mathcal{DDP}_n).$$

For natural numbers  $n, p$  with  $n \geq p \geq 0$ , let

$$(3) \quad L(n, p) = \{\alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_n : h(\alpha) \leq p\}$$

be a two-sided ideal of  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$ , and for  $p > 0$ , let

$$(4) \quad Q(n, p) = L(n, p)/L(n, p-1)$$

be its Rees quotient semigroup. Then  $Q(n, p)$  is a 0-E-unitary semigroup whose nonzero elements may be thought of as the elements of  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  of height  $p$ . The product of two elements of  $Q(n, p)$  is 0 whenever their product in  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  is of height less than  $p$ .

A semigroup  $S$  is said to be *categorical* [10] if

$$(\forall a, b, c \in S), abc = 0 \implies ab = 0 \text{ or } bc = 0$$

.

**Theorem 2.8** Let  $Q(n, p)$  be as defined in (4). Then  $Q(n, p)$  is a 0 – E – unitary categorical semigroup.

*Proof.* It follows from [12, thrm2.6]. □

**Remark 2.9** Note that  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  is not categorical:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

but

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \text{ and } \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \neq 0.$$

### 3 Combinatorial results

For a nice survey article concerning combinatorial problems in the symmetric inverse semigroup and some of its subsemigroups we refer the reader to Umar [20].

Now recall the definitions of *height* and *fix* of  $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}_n$  from the paragraph after Lemma 1.1. As in Umar [20], for natural numbers  $n \geq p \geq m \geq 0$  we define

$$(5) \quad F(n; p) = |\{ \alpha \in S : h(\alpha) = |Im \alpha| = p \}|,$$

$$(6) \quad F(n; m) = |\{ \alpha \in S : f(\alpha) = m \}|$$

where  $S$  is any subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{I}_n$ . Also, let  $i = a_i = a$ , for all  $a \in \{p, m\}$ , and  $0 \leq i \leq n$ .

**Lemma 3.1** *Let  $S = \mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . Then  $F(n; p_1) = F(n; 1) = \binom{n+1}{2}$  and  $F(n; p_n) = F(n; n) = 1$ , for all  $n \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* Consider  $\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x\alpha \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $x \geq x\alpha$ . If  $x\alpha = i$  then  $x \in \{i, i+1, \dots, n\}$  and so  $x$  has  $n-i+1$  degrees of freedom. Hence there are  $\sum_{i=1}^n (n-i+1) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} = \binom{n+1}{2}$ , order-decreasing partial isometries of height 1. For the second statement, it is not difficult to see that there is exactly one order-decreasing partial isometry of height  $n$ :  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & \dots & n \\ 1 & 2 & \dots & n \end{pmatrix}$  (the identity).  $\square$

**Lemma 3.2** *Let  $S = \mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . Then  $F(n; p) = F(n-1; p-1) + F(n-1; p)$ , for all  $n \geq p \geq 2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_n$  and  $h(\alpha) = p$ . Then it is clear that  $F(n; p) = |A| + |B|$ , where  $A = \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_n : h(\alpha) = p \text{ and } n \notin Dom \alpha \cup Im \alpha \}$  and  $B = \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_n : h(\alpha) = p \text{ and } n \in Dom \alpha \cup Im \alpha \}$ . Define a map  $\theta : \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_{n-1} : h(\alpha) = p \} \rightarrow A$  by  $(\alpha)\theta = \alpha'$  where  $x\alpha' = x\alpha$  ( $x \in Dom \alpha$ ). This is clearly a bijection since  $n \notin Dom \alpha \cup Im \alpha$ . Next, recall the definitions of  $\varpi^+(\alpha)$  and  $w^+(\alpha)$  from the paragraph after Lemma 1.1. Now, define a map  $\Phi : \{ \alpha \in \mathcal{ODDP}_{n-1} : h(\alpha) = p-1 \} \rightarrow B$  by  $(\alpha)\Phi = \alpha'$  where

- (i)  $x\alpha' = x\alpha$  ( $x \in Dom \alpha$ ) and  $n\alpha' = n$  (if  $\varpi^+(\alpha) = w^+(\alpha)$ );
- (ii)  $x\alpha' = x\alpha$  ( $x \in Dom \alpha$ ) and  $n\alpha' = n - \varpi^+(\alpha) + w^+(\alpha) < n$  (if  $\varpi^+(\alpha) > w^+(\alpha)$ ).

In all cases  $h(\alpha') = p$ , and case (i) coincides with  $n \in \text{Dom } \alpha' \cap \text{Im } \alpha'$ ; and case (ii) coincides with  $n \in \text{Dom } \alpha' \setminus \text{Im } \alpha'$ . Note that  $\varpi^+(\alpha) \geq w^+(\alpha)$ , by the order-decreasing property. Thus  $\Phi$  is onto. Moreover, it is not difficult to see that  $\Phi$  is one-to-one. Hence  $\Phi$  is a bijection, as required. This establishes the statement of the lemma.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.3** *Let  $S = \mathcal{ODDP}_n$  and  $F(n; p)$  be as defined in (2) and (5), respectively. Then  $F(n; p) = \binom{n+1}{p+1}$ , where  $n \geq p \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* (By Induction).

Basis Step:  $F(n; 1) = \binom{n+1}{1+1} = \binom{n+1}{2}$  and  $F(n; n) = 1$  are true by Lemma 3.1

Inductive Step: Suppose  $F(n; p)$  is true for all  $n \geq p \geq 1$ .

Consider  $F(n+1; p) = F(n; p-1) + F(n; p) = \binom{n+1}{p} + \binom{n+1}{p+1}$   
 $= \binom{n+2}{p+1} = \binom{(n+1)+1}{p+1}$ , which is the formula for  $F(n+1; p)$ . Hence the statement is true for all  $n \geq p \geq 1$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.4** *Let  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$  be as defined in (2). Then*

$$|\mathcal{ODDP}_n| = 2^{n+1} - (n+1).$$

*Proof.* It is enough to observe that  $|\mathcal{ODDP}_n| = \sum_{p=0}^n F(n; p)$ .

**Lemma 3.5** *Let  $S = \mathcal{ODDP}_n$ . Then  $F(n; m) = \binom{n}{m}$ , for all  $n \geq m \geq 1$ .*

*Proof.* It follows directly from [12, Lemma 3.7] and the fact that all idempotents are necessarily order-decreasing.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.6** *Let  $U_n$  be a subsemigroup of  $\mathcal{I}_n^-$  and  $F(n; m)$  be as defined in (6). Then  $F(n; 0) = |U_{n-1}|$ .*

*Proof.* First, we define a map  $\theta : U_{n-1} \longrightarrow \{\alpha \in U_n : f(\alpha) = 0\}$  by  $\theta(\alpha) = \alpha'$  where for all  $i (> 1)$  in  $\text{Dom } \alpha$ ,

$$i\alpha' = (i-1)\alpha.$$

Since  $n \notin \text{Dom } \alpha$  and  $i\alpha' = (i-1)\alpha < i$  for all  $i > 1$ , it follows that  $i\alpha'$  has the same degrees of freedom as  $(i-1)\alpha$ , for all  $i > 1$ . It is also clear that  $f(\alpha') = 0$ . Thus  $\theta$  is a bijection onto  $\{\alpha \in U_n : f(\alpha) = 0\}$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.7** *The triangles of numbers  $F(n; p)$  and  $F(n; m)$ , are as at the time of submitting this paper not in Sloane[17]. However, the sequence  $F(n+1; m_0) = |\mathcal{ODDP}_n|$  is [17, A000325]. For some computed values of  $F(n; p)$  and  $F(n; m)$  in  $\mathcal{ODDP}_n$ , see Tables 3.1 and 3.2.*

$n \setminus p$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	$\sum F(n; p) =  \mathcal{ODDP}_n $
0	1								1
1	1	1							2
2	1	3	1						5
3	1	6	4	1					12
4	1	10	10	5	1				27
5	1	15	20	15	6	1			58
6	1	21	35	35	21	7	1		121
7	1	28	56	70	56	28	8	1	248

Table 3.1

$n \setminus m$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	$\sum F(n; m) =  \mathcal{ODDP}_n $
0	1								1
1	1	1							2
2	2	2	1						5
3	5	3	3	1					12
4	12	4	6	4	1				27
5	27	5	10	10	5	1			58
6	58	6	15	20	15	6	1		121
7	121	7	21	35	35	21	7	1	248

Table 3.2

**Lemma 3.8** [12, Lemma 3.11] *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DP}_n$ . Then  $\alpha$  is either order-preserving or order-reversing.*

Next, we prove similar results for  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$

**Lemma 3.9** *Let  $\alpha \in \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . For  $1 < i < n$ , if  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$  then for all  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$  we have that  $x + x\alpha = 2i$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$  and suppose  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$ . Obviously,  $i + i\alpha = i + i = 2i$ . If  $x < i$  then  $x\alpha > i$ , for otherwise we would have  $i - x = |i\alpha - x\alpha| = |i - x\alpha| = i - x\alpha \implies x = x\alpha$ , which is a contradiction. Thus,  $i - x = |i\alpha - x\alpha| = |i - x\alpha| = |x\alpha - i| = x\alpha - i \implies x + x\alpha = 2i$ . The case  $x > i$  is similar.  $\square$



**Lemma 3.10** Let  $S = \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . Then  $F(n; m) = \binom{n}{m}$ , for all  $n \geq m \geq 2$ .

*Proof.* It follows directly from [12, Lemma 3.18] and the fact that all idempotents are necessarily order-decreasing.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.11** Let  $S = \mathcal{DDP}_n$ . Then  $F(2n; m_1) = F(2n; 1) = 2^{n+1} - 2$  and  $F(2n - 1; m_1) = F(2n - 1; 1) = 3 \cdot 2^{n-1} - 2$ , for all  $n \geq 1$ .

*Proof.* Let  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$ . Then by Lemma 3.9, for any  $x \in \text{Dom } \alpha$  we have  $x + x\alpha = 2i$ . Thus, by corollary 1.6, there  $2i - 2$  possible elements for  $\text{Dom } \alpha : (x, x\alpha) \in \{(i, i), (i+1, i-1), (i+2, i-2), \dots, (2i-1, 1)\}$ . However, (excluding  $(i, i)$ ) we see that there are  $\sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \binom{i-1}{j} = 2^{i-1}$ , possible partial isometries with  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$ , where  $2i - 1 \leq n \iff i \leq (n+1)/2$ . Moreover, by symmetry we see that  $F(\alpha) = \{i\}$  and  $F(\alpha) = \{n - i + 1\}$  give rise to equal number of decreasing partial isometries. Note that if  $n$  is odd the equation  $i = n - i + 1$  has one solution. Hence, if  $n = 2a - 1$  we have

$$2 \sum_{i=1}^{a-1} 2^{i-1} + 2^{a-1} = 2(2^{a-1} - 1) + 2^{a-1} = 3 \cdot 2^{a-1} - 2$$

decreasing partial isometries with exactly one fixed point; if  $n = 2a$  we have

$$2 \sum_{i=1}^a 2^{i-1} = 2(2^a - 1) = 2^{a+1} - 2$$

decreasing partial isometries with exactly one fixed point.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.12** Let  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$  be as defined in (1). Then

$$|\mathcal{DDP}_n| = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2} - 2^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor} + n + 1.$$

*Proof.* It follows from Proposition 3.6, Lemma 3.10, Proposition 3.11 and the fact that  $|\mathcal{DDP}_n| = \sum_{m=0}^n F(n; m)$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.13** The triangles of numbers  $F(n; m)$  and the sequences  $|\mathcal{DDP}_n| = F(n+1; m_0)$ , are as at the time of submitting this paper not in Sloane [17]. For some computed values of  $F(n; m)$  in  $\mathcal{DDP}_n$ , see Table 3.3.

$n \setminus m$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	$\sum F(n; m) =  \mathcal{DDP}_n $
0	1								1
1	1	1							2
2	2	2	1						5
3	5	4	3	1					13
4	13	6	6	4	1				30
5	30	10	10	10	5	1			66
6	66	14	15	20	15	6	1		137
7	137	22	21	35	35	21	7	1	279

Table 3.3

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