An intertwining operator for dihedral groups

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Joint work with M. S. Ravi

Motivation

V(m) irreducible SU(2)-module over $\mathbb C$

Clebsch-Gordan Decomposition (Vector Space Level)

$$V(m) \otimes V(n) \cong V(|m-n|) \oplus \cdots \oplus V(m+n-2) \oplus V(m+n)$$

Choosing a basis without normalizing (no radicals):

Clebsch-Gordan Coefficients (Vector Level)

$$c_{m,n,k}(i,j) = \sum_{s=0}^{k} (-1)^{s} \binom{i+j-k}{i-s} \binom{m-s}{k-s} \binom{n-k+s}{s}$$

Semi-magic Squares

Observations by Regge (1950s):

Domain of $c_{m,n,k}(i,j)$

The domain space for Clebsch-Gordan coefficients may be parametrized by the set of semi-magic squares of size three.

Regge Symmetries

The symmetry group of these matrices has order 72: generated by row/column switches and transpose.

Clebsch-Gordan coefficents transform well under these symmetries.

In normalized picture, scale by factor of $(-1)^N$ for some N.

Motivating Questions:

1. How much of the theory is **tensor products** and how much is **combinatorics**?

That is, are tensor products in this case an application of a purely combinatorial theory?

2. If so, is there a corresponding "Clebsch-Gordan coefficient" theory for general finite G?

Not in the sense of tensors, but permutation polytopes and semi-magic squares.

First step: need to understand how semi-magic matrices/squares work. So much of this talk is surveying.

Semi-Magic Matrices and Semi-Magic Squares

Definition

M in $M(n, \mathbb{C})$ is called a **semi-magic matrix** with line sum *L* if the sum along every row or column is *L*.

Define MM(n) to be the set of all semi-magic matrices of size n.

Variations:

- **9** Semi-magic squares $\mathbb{M}(n)$: coefficients in \mathbb{N}
- **2 Doubly stochastic**: coefficients in $0 \le x \le 1$, L = 1.

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Example: Permutation matrices

Let P(n) be the group of $n \times n$ matrices with entries

- exactly one 1 in each row and column, and
- 0 otherwise.

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$$P(n) \cong S_n$$
 and $|P(n)| = n!$

- $P^T P = P P^T = I$
- $det(P) = \pm 1$
- semi-magic matrix with line sum 1, and
- if $M = \sum x_i P_i$ then M is a semi-magic matrix with line sum $\sum x_i$.

Birkhoff (1946): Polytope of DS matrices equals the convex hull of P(n).

Example: Circulant matrices

Let Z(n) be the subgroup of $n \times n$ matrices in P(n) with entries

- all 1 along some "diagonal" to the right, and
- 0 otherwise.

Suppose R = (123...n) is the element whose "diagonal" starts in the second entry of the first column. Then R generates all elements of Z(n). Of course, $R^n = I$ and $Z(n) \cong \mathbb{Z}/n$.

Example: R = (1234) in Z(4)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Circulant matrices

Circulant matrices

Let Circ(n) be the commutative algebra generated by R in Z(n).

That is, elements of Circ(n) are **linear combinations** of the linearly independent matrices $I, R, R^2, \ldots R^{n-1}$.

$$Circ(3) = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ c_3 & c_1 & c_2 \\ c_2 & c_3 & c_1 \end{bmatrix}, \qquad L = c_1 + c_2 + c_3$$

Basic Counting Problem: With coefficients in \mathbb{N} , how many elements of Circ(n) have line sum *L*?

Solution: Identify $c_0 I + c_1 R + \cdots + c_{n-1} R^{n-1}$ with $(c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{n-1})$.

Place *L* balls into *n* distinct boxes, giving $\binom{L+n-1}{L}$ squares.

Combinatorial Observations

Binomial coefficient as polynomial in L of degree n-1

$$H_n(L) = \binom{L+n-1}{L} = \frac{(L+n-1)(L+n-2)\dots(L+1)}{(n-1)!}$$

• Generating Function: Binomial series

$$\sum_{L\geq 0} H_n(L) z^L = \frac{1}{(1-z)^n}$$

• Combinatorial Reciprocity:

$$H_n(-L) = (-1)^{n-1} H_n(L-n)$$

and

$$H_n(-1) = H_n(-2) = \ldots = H_n(-n+1) = 0.$$

Three approaches to semi-magic matrices/squares:

 combinatorics/ combinatorial number theory (counting the size of M(n) with fixed line sum L)

McMahon (1916); Stanley; DeLoera, and many others

- linear algebraic approaches (*MM*(*n*) as a Lie algebra/Jordan algebra) Boukas, Feinsilver, Fellouris (2015)
- Our approach: the group algebra $\mathbb{C}[G]$
 - Wedderburn's Theorem for semi-simple algebras over C
 group actions.

Linear Algebra - Vector Spaces

If M_i is in MM(n) with line sum L_i then

- $M_1 + M_2$ is semi-magic with line sum $L_1 + L_2$, and
- cM_1 is semi-magic with line sum cL_i .

So MM(n) is a vector space over \mathbb{C} .

Dimension of MM(n)

dim
$$MM(n) = (n-1)^2 + 1^2$$

P(n) spans MM(n), but is not a basis.

$$(n-1)^2 + 1 < n!$$
 for $n \ge 3$.

Linear Algebra - Dimensions

Dimension of MM(n)

dim
$$MM(n) = (n-1)^2 + 1^2$$

For the subspace with L = 0 (actually a simple ideal), a basis is given by the $(n-1)^2$ linearly independent vectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For the extra dimension, we can use

- identity I_n with L = 1, or
- J_n (all 1s) with L = n.

Eigenvector Formulation

Let $u_1 = (1, 1, ..., 1)^T$ in \mathbb{C}^n . (column vector)

Alternative formulation

M is **row stochastic** with line sum *L* if and only if $Mu_1 = Lu_1$. That is, u_1 is an eigenvector of *M* with eigenvalue *L*.

Alternative formulation

M is **column stochastic** with line sum *L* if and only if $M^T u_1 = L u_1$. That is, u_1 is an eigenvector of M^T with eigenvalue *L*.

Alternative formulation

M is a semi-magic matrix with line sum L if and only if

$$Mu_1 = M^T u_1 = Lu_1.$$

That is, u_1 is an eigenvector of both M and M^T with eigenvalue L.

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Multiplication

Proposition

Suppose M_i are row stochastic with line sums L_i . Then M_1M_2 is also row stochastic with line sum L_1L_2 .

Proof:
$$M_1 M_2 u_1 = M_1 L_2 u_1 = L_2 M_1 u_1 = L_1 L_2 u_1$$
. QED

Note that if M_i are instead column stochastic, then $(M_1M_2)^T = M_2^T M_1^T$ is row stochastic with line sum L_1L_2 .

Conclusions:

- the product of two semi-magic matrices is also semi-magic,
- the line sum map $M \mapsto L_M$ is a linear character $L: MM(n) \to \mathbb{C}$, and
- if G is a subgroup of P(n),
 then products of linear combinations of G are LCs of G.

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Main Example: $G = D_{2n}$



Vertices and orientation for D_8 and D_{10}

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Four Pictures for D_{2n}

- symmetries of regular polygon with n sides,
- as a subgroup of S_n : permutations of the vertices,

$$R = (12...n), \quad C = (1n)(2 n - 1)...$$

- as a subgroup of permutation matrices, and
- finite presentation:

$$|R| = n,$$
 $|C| = 2,$ $CRC = R^{-1}.$

With $0 \le k < n$, every element is of the form

- R^k (rotation), or
- CR^k (reflection).

$Z(n) \subset D_{2n} \subseteq S_n$ as P(n)

The element C is chosen as reflection across the x-axis.

- Multiply by C on left: invert columns, and
- multiply by C on right: invert rows.

With this choice, all reflections CR^k are (-1)-circulant. That is, constant along diagonals to the left.



Two Themes for the Remainder:

$$D_{2n} = Z(n) \cup CZ(n)$$

$$\mathbb{M}(D_{2n}) = Span_{\mathbb{N}}(D_{2n}) \quad (\text{monoid})$$

$$MM(D_{2n}) = Span_{\mathbb{C}}(D_{2n})$$
 (algebra)

- Formula for counting elements in $\mathbb{M}(D_{2n})$ with fixed line sum L.
- Basic structure of $MM(D_{2n})$ as an extension of Circ(n).

Group Algebras

Assume G is a subgroup of $P(n) \cong S_n$.

The group algebra of G

Define $\mathbb{C}[G]$ to be the vector space with basis $\{e_h\}_{h\in G}$. Define multiplication in $\mathbb{C}[G]$ by extending $e_g \cdot e_h = e_{gh}$.

Of course, dim $\mathbb{C}[G] = |G|$.

Consider the map of algebras, extending

$$\Phi:\mathbb{C}[G] o MM(G)\subset MM(n)$$

$$\Phi(e_h)=h.$$

Example: G = Z(n): Linear independence of $\{I, R, \ldots, R^{n-1}\}$

$$\Phi: \mathbb{C}[Z(n)] \xrightarrow{\sim} Circ(n)$$

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Example: $G = D_6 = S_3 \cong P(3)$

If $G = D_6$, then Φ is surjective but not injective to MM(3). By linear algebra, P(3) is a linearly dependent set with dependence relation

$$I + R + R^{2} - C - CR - CR^{2} = 0.$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

dim $\mathbb{C}[S_3] = 6 = 1 + 5 = dim Ker \Phi + dim MM(3)$

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Counting: n odd

Define

$$\chi_{det}: D_{2n} \to \mathbb{C}^*, \qquad \qquad \chi_{det}(P) = \det(P).$$

Then $Ker(\Phi)$ is the span of the element in $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$:

$$\sum_{P\in D_{2n}} \ \chi_{det}(P) \ e_P.$$

In plain language, this says, in $MM(D_{2n})$,

$$\sum$$
 rotations = \sum reflections

or

$$\sum$$
 circulant = \sum (-1)-circulant.

Counting: *n* odd

Model: order rotations before reflections as P_i .

Then we may consider semi-magic squares in $\mathbb{M}(D_{2n})$ as 2n-tuples of natural numbers

$$\sum c_i P_i \quad \mapsto \quad (c_1,\ldots,c_n,c_{n+1},\ldots,c_{2n})$$

subject to the relation

$$v + (1, 1, \dots, 1, 0, 0, \dots, 0) = v + (0, 0, \dots, 0, 1, 1, \dots, 1).$$

Then each semi-magic square is uniquely represented by 2n-tuple with at least one zero in the first n entries.

Counting: *n* odd

Theorem (D.-Ravi)

Suppose *n* is odd.

The number of semi-magic squares in $\mathbb{M}(D_{2n})$ with line sum L equals

$$H_{D_{2n}}(L) = \binom{L+2n-1}{L} - \binom{L+n-1}{L}$$

The corresponding generating function is

$$F_n(x) = \sum_{L \ge 0} H_{D_{2n}}(L) x^L = \frac{1 - x^n}{(1 - x)^{2n}}$$

Proof: Distribute *L* balls to 2n boxes for first term. For uniqueness, remove all 2n-tuples of the form

$$(1, 1, \ldots, 1, 0, 0, \ldots, 0) + (c_1, \ldots, c_{2n}).$$

Counting: n = 2m even

We now have four characters: *triv*, *det*, *sgn*, *sgn* · *det* Now $Ker(\Phi)$ is the span of two elements in $\mathbb{C}[D_{2n}]$:

$$\sum_{P\in D_{2n}} \chi(P) e_P,$$

where χ is *det* and another non-trivial character (parity of *m*). In plain language, these reduce to four groupings,

$$\sum R^{2k} = \sum CR^{2k+2}$$

and

$$\sum R^{2k+1} = \sum CR^{2k}.$$

Counting: n = 2m even

Checkerboards with n = 4:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = C \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Counting: n = 2m even

Theorem (D.-Ravi)

Suppose n = 2m. The number of semi-magic squares in $\mathbb{M}(D_{2n})$ with line sum L has generating function

$$F_n(x) = \frac{(1-x^m)^2}{(1-x)^{2n}}.$$

Proof: 4*m*-tuples, 4 segments

$$(c_1,\ldots,c_m \mid c_{m+1},\ldots,c_{2m} \mid | c_{2m+1},\ldots,c_{3m} \mid c_{3m+1},\ldots,c_{4m})$$

Uniqueness: move 1s between segments 1 and 2 only, 3 and 4 only. Then

$$H_{D_{2n}}(L) = \sum_{k=0}^{L} h_n(k)h_n(L-k),$$

where $h_n(L)$ is the formula for the odd case, but allowing *n* even. Discrete convolution \rightarrow multiply generating functions, \Box

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Combinatorial Reciprocity

Other counting formulas for D_{2n} using polytope theory: Burggraf et al. (2013), Baumeister et al. (2014)

Corollary

This result is the D_{2n} -analogue of the Anand-Dumir-Gupta Conjecture, proven by Stanley in the 1970s.

 $G = S_n$: Explicit polynomials for $\mathbb{M}(n)$ are known only up to n = 9.

Algebras: Intertwining Operator Φ

On $\mathbb{C}[G]$, $G \times G$ acts by $(h_1, h_2) \cdot e_P = e_{h_1 P h_2^{-1}}$. On MM(G), $G \times G$ acts by $(h_1, h_2) \cdot P = h_1 P h_2^{-1}$.

So Φ intertwines the $G \times G$ -actions:

$$(h_1, h_2) \cdot \Phi(e_P) = h_1 P h_2^{-1} = \Phi((h_1, h_2) \cdot e_P).$$

Algebras: Intertwining Operator Φ

With π ranging over a complete set of irreducibles,

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong \bigoplus_{\pi} V_{\pi} \otimes V_{\pi}^*$$

as representations of $G \times G$. So

$$\mathbb{C}[G] \cong Ker(\Phi) \oplus MM(G).$$

Multiplicity one means the items on the left are determined by checking if π occurs in the defining permutation representation ρ .

Basic Case: Orthogonal idempotents for Circ(n)

Here Φ is an isomorphism.

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Describe Im(\Phi) = Circ(n) via Z(n) \times Z(n).
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Z(n) is cyclic (abelian) \rightarrow simultaneously diagonalize to get OIs.

All irreducibles are characters. Let $\omega = e^{2\pi i/n}$. Fix $0 \le k < n$. Then

$$\chi_k(R) = \omega^k$$

is a character of Z(n).

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Projection formula} \qquad P_{\chi} : Circ(n) \to Circ(n)_{\chi} \\ & P_{\chi}(v) = \frac{1}{|G|} \sum_{h \in G} \overline{\chi(h)} \ \pi(h)v \quad \to \quad P_{\chi}(M) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{h \in Z(n)} \overline{\chi(h)} \ hM \\ & \text{Examples: } n = 3, \ M = I \quad \to \quad \text{Orthogonal idempotents} \\ & \chi_0(R) = 1 : \ 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \chi_1(R) = \omega : \ 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \omega^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \omega \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \\ \omega^2 & 1 & \omega \\ \omega & \omega^2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \chi_2(R) = \omega^2 : \ 1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + \omega \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + \omega^2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \\ \omega & 1 & \omega^2 \\ \omega^2 & \omega & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

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Orthogonal Idempotents for Circ(3)

General: Top line is $\chi_k(R^i) = \omega^{ik}$ $(0 \le i < n)$

$$U_{0} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U_{1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \omega & \omega^{2} \\ \omega^{2} & 1 & \omega \\ \omega & \omega^{2} & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad U_{2} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \omega^{2} & \omega \\ \omega & 1 & \omega^{2} \\ \omega^{2} & \omega & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$
Using $1 + \omega + \omega^{2} = 0$,

Orthogonal Idempotents $P_i(M) = U_i M$

$$U_i^2 = U_i, \quad U_i U_j = 0 \ (i \neq j)$$
$$U_0 + U_1 + U_2 = I$$

$$Circ(3) = \mathbb{C}U_0 \oplus \mathbb{C}U_1 \oplus \mathbb{C}U_2 \cong \begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

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Examples: $G = P(n) \cong S_n$

- Φ has a large kernel $(n! > (n-1)^2 + 1)$ but is surjective,
- 3 the permutation representation has two components $(1^2 + (n-1)^2)$, and
- **③** the orthogonal idempotents are relatively easy: $J = all \ 1s$

$$JM = MJ = LJ, J^2 = nJ \rightarrow e_1 = \frac{1}{n}J, e_2 = I - \frac{1}{n}J$$

Orthogonal Idempotents

$$e_1 + e_2 = I,$$
 $e_1 \cdot e_2 = 0,$ $e_i^2 = e_i$

• $\{L = 0\}$ is a simple ideal in MM(n) with dimension $(n-1)^2$.

$$MM(n) = \mathbb{C}J \oplus \{L=0\} \cong \begin{bmatrix} L & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & * \\ 0 & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: D_{2n} (*n* odd)

Character table for D_{2n} (n odd)

<i>D</i> _{2<i>n</i>}	е	$R^{\pm 1}$	$R^{\pm 2}$	 С
$ C_{\sigma} $	1	2	2	 n
χ_{triv}	1	1	1	 1
χ_{det}	1	1	1	 -1
π_2	2	$2\cos(\frac{2\pi}{n})$	$2\cos(\frac{4\pi}{n})$	 0
ρ	n	0	0	 1

There are $\frac{n-1}{2}$ conjugacy classes of type $R^{\pm k}$. With $2 \le j \le \frac{n-1}{2}$ and homomorphisms

$$\phi_j: D_{2n} \to D_{2n}: \qquad R \mapsto R^j, \quad C \mapsto C,$$

Other characters $\rightarrow \pi_{2,j} = \pi_2 \circ \phi_j \rightarrow 2\cos(\frac{2j\pi}{n}).$

$Ker(\Phi)$ and $MM(D_{2n})$

By orthogonality of characters, as representations of $D_{2n} \times D_{2n}$,

- $Ker(\Phi)$ contains one constituent, of type $\chi_{det}\otimes\chi_{det}^*$,
- $MM(D_{2n})$ contains a trivial type and one for each $\pi_{2,j}\otimes\pi^*_{2,j}$

Define $c_t = \cos(\frac{2\pi t}{n})$. Then the orthogonal idempotent for $\pi_{2,j}$ is given by

$$U_{2,j} = P_{2,j}(I) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} 2c_{jk} R^{k} = \frac{1}{n} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & c_{j} & c_{2j} & c_{3j} & \dots \\ c_{j} & 1 & c_{j} & c_{2j} & \dots \\ c_{2j} & c_{j} & 1 & c_{j} & \dots \\ c_{3j} & c_{2j} & c_{j} & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

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Orthogonal Idempotents

$$U_{2,j} = \frac{1}{n} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & c_j & c_{2j} & c_{3j} & \dots \\ c_j & 1 & c_j & c_{2j} & \dots \\ c_{2j} & c_j & 1 & c_j & \dots \\ c_{3j} & c_{2j} & c_j & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & & & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Things worth noting:

- with $\frac{1}{n}J$, the $U_{2,j}$ form a complete set of OIs for $MM(D_{2n})$,
- 2 each $U_{2,j}$ is symmetric and circulant (as a sum of circulants),
- each $U_{2,j}$ is semi-magic with line sum 0,
- each $U_{2,i}$ is the real part of an orthogonal idempotent for Circ(n),
- the imaginary parts are also interesting.

 $1 + \omega + \dots + \omega^{n-1} = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad 1 + \cos(2\pi/n) + \dots + \cos(2\pi(n-1)/n) = 0$

Thank you!

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