

Article ID: 1007- 2985(2010)01- 0004- 03

## On the Cardinalities of Row Space of Some Special Boolean Matrices\*

ZHONG Li-ping<sup>1</sup>, DENG-jian<sup>2</sup>

(1. Student Affair Office, Zhanjiang Normal University, Zhanjiang 524048, Guangdong China; 2. Mathematics and Computational Science School, Zhanjiang Normal University, Zhanjiang 524048, Guangdong China)

**Abstract:** Let  $B_{m \times n}$  be the set of all  $m \times n$  Boolean matrices;  $R(A)$  denote the row space of  $A \in B_n$ ,  $|R(A)|$  denote the cardinality of  $R(A)$ ,  $m, n$  be positive integers, and  $k$  be non negative integers. In this paper, we prove the following three results: (1) let  $A \in B_{n \times n}$ ,  $\forall m$ , (i) if  $A$  is the idempotent matrix, i. e.,  $A^2 = A$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$ ; (ii) if  $A$  is the involutory matrix, i. e.,  $A^2 = I$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$  when  $m$  is an odd number or  $|R(A)| = 2^n$  when  $m$  is an even number; (2) let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$  be  $k$  of the numbers of 1,  $0 \leq k \leq \min\{m, n\}$ , and each row and column is at most one of the numbers of 1 in  $A$ , then  $|R(A)| = 2^k$ ; (3) let  $A \in B_{n \times n}$  be the partitioned matrix as  $A = \begin{pmatrix} O & O \\ O & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = (a_{ij})_{k \times k}$ ,  $a_{ij} = 0 (i > j)$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1 (i \leq j)$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , then  $|R(A)| = k + 1$ .

**Key words:** Boolean matrix; row space; cardinality of a row space; permutation matrix

**CLC number:** O151. 21

**Document code:** A

## 1 Introduction

For any positive  $m, n$ , let  $B_{m \times n}$  denote the set of all  $m \times n$  Boolean matrices. While  $m = n$ , we write  $B_n$ . Then  $B_n$  is a semi-group with the ordinary matrix multiplication and entries using Boolean operation. Let  $R(A)$  denote the row space of  $A \in B_n$ ,  $|R(A)|$  denote the cardinality of  $R(A)$ . Then the cardinality is in  $[1, 2^n]$ . The research of the distribution of cardinality of row space of matrix  $A \in B_n$  has a long time. In 1992, ref. [1] gave the distribution of cardinality of row space of matrix  $A \in B_n$  in interval  $(2^{n-1}, 2^n]$ . Simultaneously, he conjectured that there exists  $A \in B_n$  with  $|R(A)| = m$  for any  $m \in [1, 2^{n-1}]$ . In 1995, ref. [2- 6] showed some results on the cardinalities of row space of Boolean matrices. In this paper, by studying some special Boolean matrices, we obtain three results: (1) let  $A \in B_{n \times n}$ ,  $\forall m$ , (i) if  $A$  is the idempotent matrix, i. e.,  $A^2 = A$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$ ; (ii) if  $A$  is the involutory matrix, i. e.,  $A^2 = I$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$  when  $m$  is an odd number or  $|R(A)| = 2^n$  when  $m$  is an even number; (2) let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$  be  $k$  of the numbers of 1,  $0 \leq k \leq \min\{m, n\}$ , and each row and column is at most one of the numbers of 1 in  $A$ , then  $|R(A)| = 2^k$ ; (3) let  $A \in B_{n \times n}$  be the partitioned matrix as  $A = \begin{pmatrix} O & O \\ O & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = (a_{ij})_{k \times k}$ ,  $a_{ij}$

\* Received date: 2009- 09- 24

**Foundation item:** Zhanjiang Normal University Science Foundation (L0701)

**Biography:** ZHONG Li-ping (1963- ), female, was born in Meizhou City, Guangdong Province, associate professor of Zhanjiang Normal University, M. S. D; research area is algebra theory.

$= 0(i > j)$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1(i \leq j)$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , then  $|R(A)| = k + 1$ .

## 2 Notions and Definitions

Let  $m, n, q, i$  be positive integers, and  $k$  be a nonnegative integer. By  $A_{i^*}$  we denote the  $i$ -th row of  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ , and by  $a_{ij}$  we denote the  $(i, j)$ -entry of  $A$ . Let  $e_i$  be the  $n$ -tuple with 1 in the  $i$ -th coordinate and 0 in other coordinates, and  $\theta$  be the  $n$ -tuple with 0 in all coordinates.

**Definition 1** Let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ . The row space of  $A$ , denoted by  $R(A)$ , is the span of the set of all row of  $A$ . The set  $R(A)$  consists of all sums of rows of  $A$ , including the empty sum, which is the zero vector. The cardinality of  $R(A)$ , denoted by  $|R(A)|$ , is the number of the vectors of  $R(A)$ .

**Definition 2** Let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Define

$$\begin{aligned} R^{+q}(A) &= \{A_{i_1^*} + A_{i_2^*} + \dots + A_{i_k^*} \mid k \geq 1, 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq m, \exists j, i_j = q\}, \\ R^{-q}(A) &= \{A_{i_1^*} + A_{i_2^*} + \dots + A_{i_k^*} \mid k \geq 0, 1 \leq i_1 < \dots < i_k \leq m, \forall j, i_j \neq q\}. \end{aligned}$$

## 3 Lemmas and Main Results

**Lemma 1**<sup>[3]</sup> Let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ ,  $1 \leq q \leq m$ . If  $R^{-q}(A) \cap R^{+q}(A) = \mathbf{f}$ , then

$$|R(A)| = |R^{-q}(A)| + |R^{+q}(A)|.$$

**Lemma 2**<sup>[2]</sup> Let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ . If there exist two permutation matrices  $P, Q$  such that, then  $B = PAQ$ , then  $|R(A)| = |R(B)|$ .

**Theorem 1** Let  $A \in B_n$ ,  $\forall m$ , (i) if  $A$  is the idempotent matrix, i.e.,  $A^2 = A$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$ ; (ii) if  $A$  is the involutory matrix, i.e.,  $A^2 = I$ , then  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$  when  $m$  is an odd number or  $|R(A)| = 2^n$  when  $m$  is an even number.

By the hypothesis, it is easy to show theorem 1.

**Theorem 2** Let  $A \in B_{m \times n}$  be  $k$  of the numbers of 1,  $0 \leq k \leq \min\{m, n\}$ , and each row and column is at most one of the numbers of 1 in  $A$ , then  $|R(A)| = 2^k$ .

**Proof** For  $A$ , there exist two permutation matrices  $P, Q$  such that  $PAQ = \begin{pmatrix} I_k & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} = B$ , then  $|R(A)| = |R(B)| = 2^k$ .

**Corollary 1**  $A \in B_n$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ,

$$A_{k^*} = \begin{cases} e^{i+k-1} & k = 1, 2, \dots, n-i+1, \\ \theta & k = n-i+2, n-i+3, \dots, n, \end{cases}$$

then  $|R(A)| = 2^{n-i+1}$ .

**Proof** Clearly,  $A$  satisfies the conditions of theorem 2,  $k = n-i+1$ . So,

$$|R(A)| = 2^{n-i+1}.$$

**Corollary 2**  $A \in B_n$ ,  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$ ,

$$A_{k^*} = \begin{cases} e^{i+k-i} & k = i, i+1, \dots, n, \\ \theta & k = 1, 2, \dots, i-1, \end{cases}$$

then  $|R(A)| = 2^{n-i+1}$ .

By using the similar proof as corollary 1, we can show  $|R(A)| = 2^{n-i+1}$ .

**Theorem 3** Let  $A \in B_n$  be the partitioned matrix as  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = (a_{ij})_{k \times k}$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq n$ ,  $a_{ij} = 0(i > j)$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1(i \leq j)$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , then  $|R(A)| = k + 1$ .

**Proof** Clearly,  $|R(A)| = |R(A_1)|$ ,  $R^{+1}(A_1) \cap R^{-1}(A_1) = \mathbf{f}$ .

So, by lemma 1,  $|R(A_1)| = |R^{+1}(A_1)| + |R^{-1}(A_1)|$ ,  $|R^{+1}(A_1)| = 1$ ,  $|R^{-1}(A_1)| = k$ . We show  $|R(A)$

$l = k + 1$ .

**Corollary 3** Let  $B = (b_{ij})_n$ ,  $b_{ij} = 0 (i < j)$ ,  $b_{ij} = 1 (i \geq j)$ , then  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then  $|R(B)| = n + 1$ .

By using the similar argument of theorem 3, we can show it.

**Corollary 4**  $A \in B_n$ . If there exist one row and one column in  $A$ , its numbers of 1 is  $i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ,  $1 \leq k \leq n$ , then  $|R(A)| = k + 1$ .

For example,  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $n = 5$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ,  $k = 3$ .  $|R(A)| = 4$ .

**Proof** Because for  $A$ , there exist two permutation matrices  $P, Q$  such that

$$PAQ = \begin{pmatrix} O & O \\ O & A_1 \end{pmatrix} = B, A_1 = (a_{ij})_k, a_{ij} = 0 (i > j), a_{ij} = 1 (i \leq j), i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k.$$

$$|R(A)| = |R(B)| = k + 1.$$

## References:

- [1] KONLECZNY J. On Cardinalities of Row Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Semigroup Forum, 1992, 44: 393–402.
- [2] LI Wen, ZHANG Mo-cheng. On Konieczny Conjecture of Row Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Semigroup Forum, 1995, 50: 37–55.
- [3] ZHONG Li-ping. On Cardinalities of Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Journal of South China Normal University, 1998, 2: 84–87.
- [4] ZHONG Li-ping. On the Contribution of Cardinalities of Row Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Linear Algebra and Its Applications, 1999, 288: 187–198.
- [5] ZHONG Li-ping. Some Result on the Row Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Soochow Journal of Mathematics, 1999, 25 (2): 185–195.
- [6] ZHONG Li-ping, ZHOU Jian-hui. Some Results on the Cardinalities of Row Space of Boolean Matrices [J]. Chinese Quarterly Journal of Mathematics, 2008, 23(4): 582–588.

# 一些特殊结构的布尔矩阵行空间基数

钟莉萍<sup>1</sup>, 邓健<sup>2</sup>

(1. 湛江师范学院学生处, 广东 湛江 524048; 2. 湛江师范学院数学与计算科学学院, 广东 湛江 524048)

**摘要:** 设  $B_{m \times n}$  是所有  $m \times n$  布尔矩阵的集合,  $R(A)$  为  $A \in B_n$  的行空间,  $|R(A)|$  表示行空间  $R(A)$  的基数,  $m, n$  是正整数,  $k$  为非负整数. 证明了如下 3 个结果: (1) 设  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ ,  $\forall m, (i)$  如果  $A$  是幂等矩阵, 即  $A^2 = A$ , 那么  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$ ; (ii) 如果  $A$  是对合矩阵, 即  $A^2 = I$ , 那么当  $m$  是奇数时,  $|R(A^m)| = |R(A)|$ , 当  $m$  是偶数时  $|R(A)| = 2^n$ . (2) 设  $A \in B_{m \times n}$ ,  $A$  含 1 的元素个数为  $k$ ,  $0 \leq k \leq \min\{m, n\}$ , 且  $A$  的每行每列元素中 1 的元素个数最多为 1, 那么  $|R(A)| = 2^k$ . (3) 若  $A \in B_{m \times n}$  是形如  $A = \begin{pmatrix} O & O \\ O & A_1 \end{pmatrix}$  的分块矩阵,  $A_1 = (a_{ij})_{k \times k}$ ,  $a_{ij} = 0 (i > j)$ ,  $a_{ij} = 1 (i \leq j)$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, k$ , 则  $|R(A)| = k + 1$ .

**关键词:** 布尔矩阵; 行空间; 行空间基数; 置换矩阵

**中图分类号:** O151.21

**文献标识码:** A

(责任编辑 向阳洁)