

PARTIALLY ORDERED SETS ASSOCIATED WITH FIBONACCI REPRESENTATIONS

L. CARLITZ AND RICHARD SCOVILLE

1. Introduction. We define the Fibonacci numbers $\{F_n\}$ as usual by means of

$$(1.1) \quad F_0 = 0, \quad F_1 = 1, \quad F_{n+1} = F_n + F_{n-1}, \quad n \geq 1.$$

We let $R_k(N)$ be the number of ways the integer N can be written

$$(1.2) \quad N = \epsilon_2 F_2 + \epsilon_3 F_3 + \cdots, \quad \epsilon_i = 0, 1, i = 2, 3, \cdots,$$

with

$$(1.3) \quad \epsilon_2 + \epsilon_3 + \cdots = k.$$

At least one way is always possible, namely, the Zeckendorf or *canonical* representation [1] of N ,

$$(1.4) \quad N = \epsilon_2 F_2 + \cdots + \epsilon_n F_n, \quad \epsilon_i \epsilon_{i+1} \neq 1, \quad i = 2, 3, \cdots.$$

The purpose of this paper is to continue the study of the numbers $R_k(N)$ and the related polynomials

$$(1.5) \quad R(N, t) = R(N) = \sum t^k R_k(N)$$

along the lines of [1], [2] and [3].

In Section 2 we show that the ways in which N can be written in the form (1.2) give rise to a partially ordered set $G(N)$ or, more precisely, to four partially ordered sets

$$(1.6) \quad \tilde{G}(N) = \begin{bmatrix} G_1(N) & G'_1(N) \\ G_0(N) & G'_0(N) \end{bmatrix}.$$

We introduce a composition of two numbers $N \circ M$ and an associated composition $\tilde{G}(N) \circ \tilde{G}(M)$ and show that

$$(1.7) \quad \tilde{G}(N \circ M) = \tilde{G}(N) \circ \tilde{G}(M).$$

In Section 3 we introduce certain 2×2 matrices $Q(N, t)$ each entry of which is a polynomial in t . We show that

$$(1.8) \quad Q(N \circ M) = Q(M) \cdot Q(N)$$

if N and M are suitably restricted. The composition $N \circ M$ is defined using the Zeckendorf representations (1.4) of N and M . Suppose that

Received December 22, 1972. The first author was partially supported by NSF Grant GP-17031.