

A Theorem on Bordering Symmetrical Determinants whose Elements are of the form $a^r a^s$

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1. The following is a generalization of a theorem stated by Professor H. S. Uhler and demonstrated by the writer in the *American Mathematical Monthly* of October 1927.

Let N denote the bordered symmetrical determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 & b_{11} & b_{21} & \dots & b_{k1} \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & b_{12} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{k2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & b_{1p} & b_{2p} & \dots & b_{kp} \\ b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1p} & c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1k} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2p} & c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & \dots & b_{kp} & c_{k1} & c_{k2} & \dots & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix}$$

where $n > k, k > p$ and $c_{rs} = \sum_{j=1}^{j=n} a_{r,j} a_{s,j}$ and the "a"'s belong to the matrix

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \dots & a_{kn} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then N equals $(-1)^p$ times the sum of the squares of $\binom{n}{k-p}$ determinants of order k every one of which has for the first k columns the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & \dots & b_{1p} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & \dots & b_{2p} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & \dots & b_{kp} \end{pmatrix}$$

and the remaining $k - p$ monomial columns constitute collectively one of the combinations of n columns of the matrix M taken $k - p$ at a time.

2. In as much as the generality of the proof is not destroyed, for simplicity a special value of p is chosen. Let $p = 2$, and denote

$$d_{rs} \equiv \sum_{j=1}^{j=p} b_{r,j} b_{s,j}.$$

The result of compounding the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \dots & a_{kn} \end{pmatrix}$$

with its conjugate is a square matrix. The determinant $D_{b_{11} b_{12}}$ of this matrix¹ is

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{vmatrix} d_{11} + c_{11} & d_{12} + c_{12} & \dots & d_{1k} + c_{1k} \\ d_{21} + c_{21} & d_{22} + c_{22} & \dots & d_{2k} + c_{2k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ d_{k1} + c_{k1} & d_{k2} + c_{k2} & \dots & d_{kk} + c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} \\ = & \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \dots & a_{kk} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1, k+1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{k1} & a_{k3} & \dots & a_{k, k+1} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \dots \\ + & \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & a_{11} & \dots & a_{1, k-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & a_{k1} & \dots & a_{k, k-1} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \begin{vmatrix} b_{12} & a_{11} & \dots & a_{1, k-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k2} & a_{k1} & \dots & a_{k, k-1} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \dots \\ + & \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & a_{11} & \dots & a_{1, k-2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & a_{k1} & \dots & a_{k, k-2} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & a_{11} & \dots & a_{1, k-3} a_{1, k-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & a_{k1} & \dots & a_{k, k-3} a_{k, k-1} \end{vmatrix}^2 \\ & + \dots (1) \end{aligned}$$

3. The left-hand side of (1) is composed:

First, of a determinant without any d 's, that is $|c_{11} c_{22} \dots c_{kk}|$.

Secondly, the sum of kp determinants derived from determinants having each one column of d 's. That is

$$\begin{aligned} b_{11} & \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k1} & c_{k2} & \dots & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + b_{12} \begin{vmatrix} b_{12} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ b_{k2} & c_{k2} & \dots & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + \\ b_{21} & \begin{vmatrix} c_{11} & b_{11} & c_{13} & \dots & c_{1k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ c_{k1} & b_{k1} & c_{k3} & \dots & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + b_{22} \begin{vmatrix} c_{11} & b_{12} & c_{13} & \dots & c_{1k} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ c_{k1} & b_{k2} & c_{k3} & \dots & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + \dots (2) \end{aligned}$$

¹ Scott and Mathews, *Theory of Determinants*, p. 54.

If the 1st, $(p + 1)$, $(2p + 1) . . .$ terms are grouped and the 2nd, $(p + 2)$, $(2p + 2) . . .$ terms are grouped likewise, the above sum takes the form

$$- \begin{vmatrix} 0 & b_{11} & b_{21} & . & . & . & b_{k1} \\ b_{11} & c_{11} & c_{12} & . & . & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k1} & c_{k1} & c_{k2} & . & . & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} 0 & b_{12} & b_{22} & . & . & . & b_{k2} \\ b_{12} & c_{11} & c_{12} & . & . & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k2} & c_{k1} & c_{k2} & . & . & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix}$$

By the theorem referred to in the beginning of this paper, the last two determinants are equivalent to the sum

$$\begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & a_{11} & . & . & . & a_{1, k-1} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k1} & a_{k1} & . & . & . & a_{k, k-1} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & a_{11} & . & . & . & a_{1, k-2} & a_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k1} & a_{k1} & . & . & . & a_{k, k-2} & a_{kk} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \dots$$

$$+ \begin{vmatrix} b_{12} & a_{11} & . & . & . & a_{1, k-1} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k2} & a_{k1} & . & . & . & a_{k, k-1} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \begin{vmatrix} b_{12} & a_{11} & . & . & . & a_{1, k-2} & a_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k2} & a_{k1} & . & . & . & a_{k, k-2} & a_{kk} \end{vmatrix}^2 + \dots$$

Thirdly, of the sum of $2! \binom{k}{2}$ determinants derived from determinants having each two columns of “d”’s at a time, that is:

$$b_{11} b_{22} \begin{vmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & c_{13} & . & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & c_{k3} & . & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + b_{12} b_{21} \begin{vmatrix} b_{12} & b_{11} & c_{13} & . & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k2} & b_{k1} & c_{k3} & . & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} +$$

$$b_{21} b_{32} \begin{vmatrix} c_{11} & b_{11} & b_{12} & c_{14} & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ c_{k1} & b_{k1} & b_{k2} & c_{k4} & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + b_{22} b_{31} \begin{vmatrix} c_{11} & b_{12} & b_{11} & c_{14} & . & c_{1k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . \\ c_{k1} & b_{k2} & b_{k1} & c_{k4} & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} + \dots$$

from which we obtain

$$(-1)^p \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & b_{11} & b_{21} & . & . & . & b_{k1} \\ 0 & 0 & b_{12} & b_{22} & . & . & . & b_{k2} \\ b_{11} & b_{12} & c_{11} & c_{12} & . & . & . & c_{1k} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & c_{21} & c_{22} & . & . & . & c_{2k} \\ . & . & . & . & . & . & . & . \\ b_{k1} & b_{k2} & c_{k1} & c_{k2} & . & . & . & c_{kk} \end{vmatrix} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

Lastly, all the determinants having $p + 1$ or more, columns of d’s are equal to zero, for they will have two or more columns the same.

4. *The right-hand side* of (1) is composed, first of the sum of $\binom{n}{k}$ determinants without b 's and is equivalent to the determinant of the square matrix obtained by compounding the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{1n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{k1} & a_{k2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & a_{kn} \end{pmatrix}$$

with its conjugate; and hence is equal to $|c_{11} c_{22} \dots c_{kk}|$. This corresponds to the first determinant considered on the left side of (1).

The second group of $p \binom{n}{k-1}$ determinants of the right side, having each one column of b 's, is equivalent to (2). Therefore the remaining terms of the right side are equivalent to (3), the only determinant left on the left side. Hence the theorem.