

Computer Sciences Department
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
1210 West Dayton Street
Madison, Wisconsin 53706

ON AN ALGEBRAIC IDENTITY
WITH APPLICATIONS TO OPERATOR THEORY

by

John H. Halton* and Joel D. Pincus**

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*Computer Sciences Department, The University of Wisconsin, Madison.

**Mathematics Department, State University of New York, Stony Brook, N.Y.

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1. Let \mathcal{A} be a commutative algebra on the field \mathbb{C} of complex numbers. Let superscripts $+$ and $-$ denote a pair of operations on \mathcal{A} to \mathcal{A} , such that, for any $\kappa, \kappa_1, \kappa_2, \dots, \kappa_n$ in \mathcal{A} and a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n in \mathbb{C} ,

$$(\kappa^+)^+ = (\kappa^+)^- = \kappa^+ \quad \text{and} \quad (\kappa^-)^+ = (\kappa^-)^- = \kappa^-, \quad (1)$$

$$\left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_j \kappa_j\right)^{\pm} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j (\kappa_j^{\pm}), \quad (2)$$

and

$$\left(\prod_{j=1}^n \kappa_j\right)^{\pm} = \prod_{j=1}^n (\kappa_j^{\pm}). \quad (3)$$

Let Δ denote the corresponding difference-operator,

$$\Delta \kappa = \kappa^+ - \kappa^-; \quad (4)$$

so that, by (1) - (3),

$$\Delta (\kappa^{\pm}) = \Delta (\Delta \kappa) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad (\Delta \kappa)^{\pm} = \Delta \kappa, \quad (5)$$

$$\Delta \left(\sum_{j=1}^n a_j \kappa_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_j (\Delta \kappa_j), \quad (6)$$

and

$$\Delta \left(\prod_{j=1}^n \kappa_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\prod_{p=1}^{j-1} \kappa_p^-\right) \Delta \kappa_j \left(\prod_{q=j+1}^n \kappa_q^+\right), \quad (7)$$

where we note that, in (7), the order of the factors κ_j is arbitrary, since \mathcal{A} is commutative, but the order is the same in every term on the right-hand side of (7). Let

$$\mathcal{N} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{A}: \varphi^+ = \varphi\}. \quad (8)$$

Then it is easily verified that, equivalently,

$$\mathcal{N} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{A}: (\exists \kappa \in \mathcal{A}) \varphi = \kappa^+ \text{ or } \varphi = \kappa^-\}; \quad (9)$$

that \mathcal{N} is a subalgebra of \mathcal{A} ; and that, for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{N}$,

$$\varphi^\dagger = \varphi \text{ and } \Delta\varphi = 0. \quad (10)$$

2. As an example of the foregoing abstract structure, we may take \mathcal{A} to be the class of all complex-valued functions of two real variables (x, ξ) ; such that, as functions of x , they are Hölder-continuous in an interval R of the real line \mathbb{R} (where R may be all of \mathbb{R}), and so are in $L^2(R)$, and, as functions of ξ , their limits, as $\xi \rightarrow 0$ from above and from below, exist for each x . Such functions will be denoted by the alternative notations $\kappa(x, \xi)$ and $\kappa_{\xi}(x)$. The operations

$$\kappa^{\dagger}(x) = [\kappa(x, \xi)]^{\dagger} = \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \kappa(x, \pm\eta), \quad (11)$$

for all κ in \mathcal{A} and all x in R , clearly have all the required properties (1) - (3); and then \mathcal{N} is the class of all functions in \mathcal{A} which are constant with respect to ξ (that is, do not depend on ξ):

$$\mathcal{N} = \{\varphi \in \mathcal{A}: \varphi(x, \xi) = \varphi(x)\}, \quad (12)$$

where, therefore,

$$\varphi(x) = \lim_{\eta \downarrow 0} \varphi(x, \eta). \quad (13)$$

We note, too, that the Plemelj formulae ([9]; or [5], Section 74) yield that

$$\wedge \left[\int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{f(x, u) du}{x + i\epsilon - u} \right] = -2\pi i f(x, x). \quad (14)$$

3. If \tilde{M} denotes an $(n \times n)$ matrix with elements

$$(\tilde{M})_{ij} = \mu_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}, \quad (15)$$

then we can define its determinant in the usual way:

$$\begin{aligned} D = \det \tilde{M} &= \left| \mu_{11} \mu_{12} \cdots \mu_{1n} \right| = \begin{vmatrix} \mu_{11} & \mu_{12} & \cdots & \mu_{1n} \\ \mu_{21} & \mu_{22} & \cdots & \mu_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \mu_{n1} & \mu_{n2} & \cdots & \mu_{nn} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \sum_{\rho \in P_n} \varepsilon_{\rho} \mu_{\rho(1)1} \mu_{\rho(2)2} \cdots \mu_{\rho(n)n}; \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where P_n denotes the set of all permutations ρ of $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ and ε_{ρ} is the parity-index of the permutation ρ (taking values ± 1).

Thus it is clear that $D \in \mathcal{A}$ also. Further, by (6), (7), and (16), we see that

$$\Delta D = \sum_{j=1}^n \left| \mu_{11}^- \mu_{12}^- \cdots \mu_{i(j-1)}^- (\Delta \mu_{ij}) \mu_{i(j+1)}^+ \cdots \mu_{in}^+ \right|. \quad (17)$$

Suppose now that \tilde{N} is another $(n \times n)$ matrix with elements

$$(\tilde{N})_{ij} = v_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}, \quad (18)$$

and suppose further that, for all $i, j \in N$,

$$\Delta^{\mu}_{ij} = \Delta v_{ij}. \quad (19)$$

If we write

$$F = \det (\underline{\underline{M}} - \underline{\underline{N}}); \quad (20)$$

then, by (6), (17), and (19), we see that

$$\Delta F = 0. \quad (21)$$

We shall seek various representations of F and consequent identities arising from (21).

If there exists a matrix $\underline{\underline{H}}$ with elements

$$(\underline{\underline{H}})_{ij} = \eta_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}, \quad (22)$$

which satisfies the matrix equation

$$\underline{\underline{M}}\underline{\underline{H}} = \underline{\underline{N}}, \quad (23)$$

then $\underline{\underline{M}} - \underline{\underline{N}} = \underline{\underline{M}}(\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{H}})$; so that, since the determinant of a product of square matrices equals the product of their respective determinants, we get, by (16), that

$$F = D \det (\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{H}}). \quad (24)$$

To expand $\det (\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{H}})$, we observe that a determinant is a linear function of each of its columns (compare (16)): thus $\det (\underline{\underline{I}} - \underline{\underline{H}})$ is the sum, over all ways of selecting certain columns (say the p columns

indexed with $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p \in N$; where

$$1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_p \leq n, \quad (25)$$

to be specific) from \underline{H} and the remaining columns from \underline{I} , of $(-1)^p$

(to allow for the fact that $-\underline{H}$ occurs in the original determinant)

times a determinant of the form

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{1j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{1j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{1j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{2j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{2j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{2j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & \eta_{(j_1-1)j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_1-1)j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_1-1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_1j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_1j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_1j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_1+1)j_1} & 1 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_1+1)j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_1+1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_2-1)j_1} & 0 & \dots & 1 & \eta_{(j_2-1)j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_2-1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_2j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_2j_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_2j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_2+1)j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_2+1)j_2} & 1 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_2+1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_p-1)j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_p-1)j_2} & 0 & \dots & 1 & \eta_{(j_p-1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_pj_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_pj_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{j_pj_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_p+1)j_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_p+1)j_p} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{(j_p+1)j_p} & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{nj_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{nj_2} & 0 & \dots & 0 & \eta_{nj_p} & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{vmatrix} \cdot (26)$$

If we now expand every determinant (26) by each of the columns selected from \underline{I} , and note that the p -rowed minors of a matrix vanish whenever p exceeds the rank of the matrix [4,6], we obtain

Theorem 1. If \underline{H} is any $(n \times n)$ matrix with elements $(\underline{H})_{ij} = \eta_{ij}$, then

$$\det(\underline{I} - \underline{H}) = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} \eta_{JJ}^{(p)}; \quad (27)$$

where Q_p denotes the set of all $\binom{n}{p}$ distinct unordered selections of p indices from $N = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, $J = \{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p\}$ satisfies (25), and $\eta_{JJ}^{(p)}$ is the corresponding p -rowed principal minor of \underline{H} ,

$$\eta_{JJ}^{(p)} = \begin{vmatrix} \eta_{j_1 j_1} & \eta_{j_1 j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{j_1 j_p} \\ \eta_{j_2 j_1} & \eta_{j_2 j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{j_2 j_p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \eta_{j_p j_1} & \eta_{j_p j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{j_p j_p} \end{vmatrix} \in \mathcal{A}. \quad (28)$$

It follows immediately from (24) and (27) that

$$F = D \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} \eta_{JJ}^{(p)}. \quad (29)$$

4. We proceed by demonstrating an explicit ordering of the sets in Q_p . We define two integer-valued functions on Q_p :

$$\ell_p(J) = \ell_p(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p) = j_1 + j_2 n + j_3 n^2 + \dots + j_p n^{p-1}, \quad (30)$$

and

$$\lambda_p(J) = \lambda_p(j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p) = 1 + \binom{j_1-1}{1} + \binom{j_2-1}{2} + \dots + \binom{j_p-1}{p}; \quad (31)$$

where the set J satisfies the relation (25).

Theorem 2. The function λ_p defined in (31) puts the sets $J \in Q_p$ in one-to-one correspondence with the integers $1, 2, \dots, \binom{n}{p}$.

Proof. By (25), no two distinct sets in Q_p have the same index (30). Thus the function ℓ_p puts the sets of Q_p in one-to-one correspondence with a certain set of positive integers (however, these integers are not consecutive.) The ordering of Q_p corresponding to increasing numerical order under ℓ_p is that which we shall impose: it is the lexical ordering of the 'words' $j_p j_{p-1} \dots j_2 j_1$. The ordering condition

$$\ell_p(I) < \ell_p(J), \quad (32)$$

for any $I, J \in Q_p$, both ordered as in (25), holds if there is an r (necessarily unique) taking one of the values $1, 2, \dots, p$, such that

$$i_r < j_r \text{ and } (\forall s > r) i_s = j_s. \quad (33)$$

For a given r , the number of sets I satisfying (33) for a fixed J is equal to the number of ways of selecting the r indices i_1, i_2, \dots, i_r all (by (25) for I) less than j_r ; namely, $\binom{j_r-1}{r}$. Thus, the total

number of sets I satisfying (32) (that is, preceding J in the imposed ordering of Q_p) is clearly $\lambda_p(J) - 1$, by (31). The assertion of the theorem follows. \parallel

Let

$$c = c(n, p) = \binom{n}{p} \text{ and } q = q(n, p) = \binom{n-1}{p-1}. \quad (34)$$

The $(c \times c)$ matrix $\tilde{H}^{(p)}$ with elements

$$\eta_{IJ}^{(p)} = \begin{vmatrix} \eta_{i_1 j_1} & \eta_{i_1 j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{i_1 j_p} \\ \eta_{i_2 j_1} & \eta_{i_2 j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{i_2 j_p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \eta_{i_p j_1} & \eta_{i_p j_2} & \cdots & \eta_{i_p j_p} \end{vmatrix} \in \mathcal{A}, \quad (35)$$

which are p -rowed minors of \tilde{H} ; where the sets I and J of indices are ordered by λ_p ; is called the p -th compound matrix of \tilde{H} (so that $\tilde{H}^{(1)} = \tilde{H}$ and $\tilde{H}^{(n)} = \det \tilde{H}$.) The minors $\eta_{JJ}^{(p)}$ defined in (28) and occurring in (27) and the expansion (29) of F are obviously the diagonal elements of $\tilde{H}^{(p)}$. Thus we may write (27) and (29) in the forms

$$\det (\tilde{I} - \tilde{H}) = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\tilde{H})} (-1)^p \text{trace } \tilde{H}^{(p)} \quad (36)$$

and

$$F = D \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\tilde{H})} (-1)^p \text{trace } \tilde{H}^{(p)}. \quad (37)$$

The Binet-Cauchy theorem [4] asserts that, if $\underline{M}\underline{H} = \underline{N}$ as in (23), then

$$\underline{M}^{(p)} \underline{H}^{(p)} = \underline{N}^{(p)}, \quad (38)$$

where $\underline{M}^{(p)}$ and $\underline{N}^{(p)}$ are the p -th compounds of \underline{M} and \underline{N} , respectively. Write

$$D^{(p)} = \det \underline{M}^{(p)}. \quad (39)$$

Let D_{ij} denote the determinant obtained by replacing the i -th column of D by the j -th column of \underline{N} ; and similarly, let $D_{IJ}^{(p)}$ denote the determinant obtained by replacing the $\lambda_p(I)$ -th column of $D^{(p)}$ by the $\lambda_p(J)$ -th column of $\underline{N}^{(p)}$ (these are the columns respectively indexed by the sets I and J in Q_p .) Then the Leibnitz-Cramer rule tells us that, if $D = \det \underline{M} \neq 0$, then the solution \underline{H} of (23) is given by

$$\eta_{ij} = D_{ij} / D; \quad (40)$$

and similarly, if $D^{(p)} = \det \underline{M}^{(p)} \neq 0$, then the solution $\underline{H}^{(p)}$ of (38) is given by

$$\eta_{IJ}^{(p)} = D_{IJ}^{(p)} / D^{(p)}. \quad (41)$$

From this, we derive yet another form of Theorem 1 and of the expan-

sion of F : by (27), (29) and (41),

$$\det (\underline{I} - \underline{H}) = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} D_{JJ}^{(p)} / D^{(p)} \quad (42)$$

and

$$F = [D/D^{(p)}] \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} D_{JJ}^{(p)}. \quad (43)$$

It is well-known [4, 6, 7] that a determinant can be expanded by any column or row;

$$\left. \begin{aligned} D &= \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{i+k} \mu_{ki} C(\mu_{ki}), \\ \text{and} \\ D &= \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+k} \mu_{ki} C(\mu_{ki}); \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (44)$$

where $C(\mu_{ki})$ denotes the complementary minor to μ_{ki} in D ; so that (if c denotes the complement in N)

$$C(\mu_{ki}) = \mu_{\{k\}^c \{i\}^c}^{(n-1)}. \quad (45)$$

It is further well-known that (44) can be extended to yield that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{i+k} \mu_{ki'} C(\mu_{ki'}) &= \delta_{ii'} D, \\ \text{and} \\ \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+k} \mu_{k'i} C(\mu_{k'i}) &= \delta_{kk'} D. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (46)$$

The Laplace expansion theorem [4, 6, 7] states that, if

$$\sigma_p(J) = \sum_{s=1}^p j_s, \quad (47)$$

then

$$D = \sum_{K \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} \mu_{KI}^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}),$$

and

$$D = \sum_{I \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} \mu_{KI}^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)});$$

(48)

where $C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)})$ is the $(n-p)$ -rowed minor complementary to the p -rowed minor $\mu_{KI}^{(p)}$ of D ; so that

$$C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}) = \mu_{K'I'C}^{(n-p)}. \quad (49)$$

It is easily shown, by a proof analogous to that used to extend (44)

to (46), that we can extend (48) to yield that

$$\sum_{K \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} \mu_{KI'}^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI'}^{(p)}) = \delta_{II'} D,$$

and

$$\sum_{I \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} \mu_{K'I}^{(p)} C(\mu_{K'I}^{(p)}) = \delta_{KK'} D;$$

(50)

where, because of the internal ordering (25) imposed on the sets in

Q_p ,

$$\delta_{II'} = \delta_{i_1 i'_1} \delta_{i_2 i'_2} \cdots \delta_{i_p i'_p}. \quad (51)$$

Finally, we observe that, since $\mu_{KI}^{(p)}$ is an entry in the compound determinant $D^{(p)}$, we may apply (46) to $D^{(p)}$, with the notation $C^{(p)}(\mu_{KI}^{(p)})$ for the minor of $D^{(p)}$ complementary to $\mu_{KI}^{(p)}$, to obtain that

and

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \sum_{K \in Q_p} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K)} \mu_{KI}^{(p)} C^{(p)}(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}) &= \delta_{II'} D^{(p)}, \\ \sum_{I \in Q_p} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K)} \mu_{K'I}^{(p)} C^{(p)}(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}) &= \delta_{KK'} D^{(p)}. \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (52)$$

Theorem 3. The minors complementary to $\mu_{KI}^{(p)}$ in D and in $D^{(p)}$ are related by

$$\frac{C^{(p)}(\mu_{KI}^{(p)})}{C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)})} = \frac{D^{(p)}}{D} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \lambda_p(I) + \sigma_p(K) + \lambda_p(K)}. \quad (53)$$

Proof. We use the second equation in (50) (the sum by rows) and the first equation in (52) (the sum by columns) to derive the relation:

$$\begin{aligned} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K)} DC^{(p)}(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}) &= \sum_{K' \in Q_p} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K')} \delta_{KK'} DC^{(p)}(\mu_{K'I}^{(p)}) \\ &= \sum_{I', K' \in Q_p} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K') + \sigma_p(I') + \sigma_p(K)} \mu_{K'I'}^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI'}^{(p)}) C^{(p)}(\mu_{K'I}^{(p)}) \\ &= \sum_{I' \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I') + \sigma_p(K)} \delta_{II'} D^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI'}^{(p)}) = (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} D^{(p)} C(\mu_{KI}^{(p)}). \end{aligned}$$

From the extreme members of this chain of equalities, the relation (53) follows at once. \square

The Sylvester-Franke theorem [4, 7] asserts that

$$D^{(p)} = D^q, \quad (54)$$

where q is defined as in (34). This means that we may replace $D^{(p)}/D$ by D^{q-1} in (42), (43), and (53), for instance.

Consider now the sum by columns (the first equation) in (52).

In view of the definition of $D_{IJ}^{(p)}$, it is clear that

$$\sum_{K \in Q_p} (-1)^{\lambda_p(I) + \lambda_p(K)} v_{KJ}^{(p)} C_{KI}^{(p)} = D_{IJ}^{(p)}. \quad (55)$$

Similarly, if D_{IJ} denotes the determinant obtained by replacing the i_s -th column of D by the j_s -th column of \tilde{N} , for $s = 1, 2, \dots, p$, the sum by columns (the first equation) in the Laplace expansion (48) of D yields the equation

$$\sum_{K \in Q_p} (-1)^{\sigma_p(I) + \sigma_p(K)} v_{KJ}^{(p)} C_{KI}^{(p)} = D_{IJ}. \quad (56)$$

Theorem 4. With the notation defined above,

$$D_{IJ}^{(p)}/D^{(p)} = D_{IJ}/D. \quad (57)$$

Proof. If we apply (53) to the left-hand side of (55), we obtain $D^{(p)}/D$ times the left-hand side of (56). From the corresponding relation of the right-hand sides of (55) and (56), the result (57) follows immediately. \perp

From (41) and (57), we get

$$\eta_{IJ}^{(p)} = D_{IJ}/D; \quad (58)$$

and (42) and (43), by (57), become

$$\det (\underline{I} - \underline{H}) = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} D_{JJ} / D \quad (59)$$

and

$$F = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\underline{H})} (-1)^p \sum_{J \in Q_p} D_{JJ} \quad (60)$$

5. The concept of a p-th compound matrix extends to arbitrary rectangular matrices: if \underline{H} were defined as an $(m \times n)$ matrix, then $\underline{H}^{(p)}$ would be the $\binom{m}{p} \times \binom{n}{p}$ matrix whose elements are $\eta_{IJ}^{(p)}$, just as in (35), with $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_p\}$ ($1 \leq i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_p \leq m$) a p-index subset of $\{1, 2, \dots, m\}$, ordered in $\underline{H}^{(p)}$ as a row-index by λ_p ; and with $J = \{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p\}$ ($1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_p \leq n$) a p-index subset of $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$, ordered in $\underline{H}^{(p)}$ as a column-index, also by λ_p . With this definition, the Binet-Cauchy theorem [4], invoked for the product of square matrices in (38), holds for arbitrary feasible products of rectangular matrices.

Certain important properties of matrices will be required below (see [4, 6, 7].) First, if \underline{X} and \underline{Y} are any two matrices, so dimensioned that both products \underline{XY} and \underline{YX} are feasible, then

$$\text{trace } \underline{XY} = \text{trace } \underline{YX}. \quad (61)$$

Secondly,

$$(-\underline{H})^{(p)} = (-1)^p \underline{H}^{(p)}. \quad (62)$$

Thirdly, if the superscript T denotes the transpose of a matrix, then

$$\text{trace } (c\tilde{H}^T) = \text{trace } (c\tilde{H}) = c \text{ trace } \tilde{H} \quad (63)$$

and

$$(\tilde{H}^T)^{(p)} = (\tilde{H}^{(p)})^T. \quad (64)$$

Fourthly, we may define the p -th compound of a matrix to have zero trace and zero determinant if p exceeds the dimensions of the matrix. In fact, it follows directly from the definition of the rank of a matrix that

$$\tilde{H}^{(p)} = \underline{0} \text{ if } p > \text{rank } (\tilde{H}). \quad (65)$$

We can now derive

Theorem 5. If \tilde{X} and \tilde{Y} are $(m \times n)$ and $(n \times m)$ matrices, respectively; then

$$\det (\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \tilde{X}\tilde{Y}) = \det (\tilde{I}^{(n)} + \tilde{Y}\tilde{X}), \quad (66)$$

where $\tilde{I}^{(m)}$ and $\tilde{I}^{(n)}$ respectively denote the $(m \times m)$ and the $(n \times n)$ unit matrices.

Proof. By Theorem 1, in the form (36), with $-\tilde{X}\tilde{Y}$ for \tilde{H} , and by (62) with (63), we get that, if $u \geq \max(m, n)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \det (\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \tilde{X}\tilde{Y}) &= \sum_{p=0}^m (-1)^p \text{trace } (-\tilde{X}\tilde{Y})^{(p)} \\ &= \sum_{p=0}^u \text{trace } (\tilde{X}\tilde{Y})^{(p)}, \end{aligned} \quad (67)$$

since $\text{rank } (\underline{X}\underline{Y}) \leq m \leq u$. Similarly,

$$\det (\underline{I}^{(n)} + \underline{Y}\underline{X}) = \sum_{p=0}^u \text{trace } (\underline{Y}\underline{X})^{(p)}. \quad (68)$$

Now, by the Binet-Cauchy theorem,

$$(\underline{X}\underline{Y})^{(p)} = \underline{X}^{(p)} \underline{Y}^{(p)} \quad \text{and} \quad (\underline{Y}\underline{X})^{(p)} = \underline{Y}^{(p)} \underline{X}^{(p)}. \quad (69)$$

Thus, by (61), the results (67)-(69) combine to yield (66). \parallel

Note. The result (66) follows from an observation due to Noble [8], and the authors are grateful to him for bringing it to their attention. He states the following result as an exercise.

Theorem 6. (B. Noble.) If \underline{A} , \underline{B} , \underline{C} , and \underline{D} are respectively $(m \times m)$, $(m \times n)$, $(n \times m)$, and $(n \times n)$ matrices, with \underline{A} and \underline{D} non-singular; then

$$\det \underline{A} \det (\underline{D} + \underline{C}\underline{A}^{-1}\underline{B}) = \det \underline{D} \det (\underline{A} + \underline{B}\underline{D}^{-1}\underline{C}). \quad (70)$$

Proof. The determinantal identity,

$$\begin{aligned} \det \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A} & \underline{O} \\ \underline{C} & \underline{D} \end{array} \right] & \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A}^{-1} & \underline{O} \\ \underline{O} & \underline{D}^{-1} \end{array} \right] \\ \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A} & \underline{B} \\ -\underline{C} & \underline{D} \end{array} \right] & \end{array} \right\} \\ = \det \left\{ \begin{array}{cc} \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A} & \underline{B} \\ -\underline{C} & \underline{D} \end{array} \right] & \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A}^{-1} & \underline{O} \\ \underline{O} & \underline{D}^{-1} \end{array} \right] \\ \left[\begin{array}{cc} \underline{A} & \underline{O} \\ \underline{C} & \underline{D} \end{array} \right] & \end{array} \right\} \end{aligned} \quad (71)$$

(where $\underset{\sim}{0}$ denotes blocks of zero elements of appropriate dimensions), holds because the determinant of a feasible product of square matrices equals the product of the respective determinants, and is therefore independent of the order of the matrices. On multiplying-out the block-matrices in (71), we get that

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} \underset{\sim}{A} & \underset{\sim}{B} \\ \underset{\sim}{0} & (\underset{\sim}{D} + \underset{\sim}{C}\underset{\sim}{A}^{-1}\underset{\sim}{B}) \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} (\underset{\sim}{A} + \underset{\sim}{B}\underset{\sim}{D}^{-1}\underset{\sim}{C}) & \underset{\sim}{B} \\ \underset{\sim}{0} & \underset{\sim}{D} \end{bmatrix}; \quad (72)$$

and now the theorem follows, by the Laplace expansion of these determinants. \ddagger

Our Theorem 5 is now seen to be a particular case of Theorem 6, with $\underset{\sim}{A} = \underset{\sim}{I}^{(m)}$, $\underset{\sim}{B} = \underset{\sim}{Y}$, $\underset{\sim}{C} = \underset{\sim}{X}$, and $\underset{\sim}{D} = \underset{\sim}{I}^{(n)}$.

6. We now return to the example presented in §2. Let

$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{N}^m; \quad (73)$$

so that, if $\varphi, \psi \in \mathcal{M}$, their inner product is given by

$$(\varphi, \psi) = \sum_{s=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} \varphi_s(y) \psi_s(y) * dy, \quad (74)$$

where the asterisk $*$ denotes the conjugate complex quantity. Thus

\mathcal{M} is the direct sum of m replicas \mathcal{N}_s of \mathcal{N} :

$$\mathcal{M} = \sum_{s=1}^m \oplus \mathcal{N}_s. \quad (75)$$

We may now define the space \mathcal{F} , bearing the same relation to \mathcal{M} as \mathcal{A} does to \mathcal{N} : if $\underline{\omega} \in \mathcal{F}$, it will have m components $\omega_r \in \mathcal{A}$, with $r = 1, 2, \dots, m$, with values denoted by $\omega_{\xi r}(x)$; and $\underline{\omega}$ itself will sometimes be written in the form $\underline{\omega}_{\xi}$, to emphasize the dependence on the parameter ξ .

We can now define vectors and matrices whose elements are in \mathcal{F} , and linear operators mapping \mathcal{F} into \mathcal{F} . If \underline{T} denotes such an operator (also written \underline{T}_{ξ}), it will have a kernel function $T_{\xi rs}(x, y)$, such that

$$(\underline{T}_{\xi} \underline{\omega})_r(x) = \sum_{s=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} T_{\xi rs}(x, y) \omega_{\xi s}(y) dy, \quad (76)$$

for all $\underline{\omega} = \underline{\omega}_{\xi} \in \mathcal{F}$. We shall also define a simple linear operator Γ_{ξ} mapping linear operators on \mathcal{F} to \mathcal{F} into other such operators, by

$$(\Gamma_{\xi} \underline{T})_{rs}(x, y) = \frac{T_{\xi rs}(x, y)}{x + i\xi - y}, \quad (77)$$

for all linear operators \underline{T} . Related to this is the linear functional g_{ξ} , defined by

$$[g_{\xi}(\varphi)](x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\varphi(y) dy}{x + i\xi - y} \quad [g_{\xi}(\varphi) \in \mathcal{A}], \quad (78)$$

for all $\varphi \in \mathcal{N}$, and more generally by

$$[g_{\xi}(\Lambda)]_{ij}(x) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\lambda_{ij}(y) dy}{x + i\xi - y} = [g_{\xi}(\lambda_{ij})](x), \quad (79)$$

where $\underline{\Lambda}$ is any matrix with elements $\lambda_{ij} \in \mathcal{N}$. We note, by the Plemelj formula (14), that

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \Delta [g_{\xi}(\varphi)](\mathbf{x}) &= -2\pi i \varphi(\mathbf{x}) \\ \Delta [g_{\xi}(\underline{\Lambda})]_{ij}(\mathbf{x}) &= -2\pi i \lambda_{ij}(\mathbf{x}); \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (80)$$

$$\text{or} \quad \Delta [g_{\xi}(\varphi)] = -2\pi i \varphi \quad (81)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \Delta [g_{\xi}(\underline{\Lambda})] = -2\pi i \underline{\Lambda}; \quad (82)$$

$$\text{or, more abstractly,} \quad \Delta g_{\xi} = -2\pi i. \quad (83)$$

With these preliminaries, let us define the $(n \times n)$ matrix \underline{K} with elements $(\underline{K})_{ij} = \kappa_{ij} \in \mathcal{A}$, defined by

$$\kappa_{\xi ij}(\mathbf{x}) = \delta_{ij} - [g_{\xi}(\underline{A}\underline{B}^{\dagger})]_{ij} = \delta_{ij} - \sum_{r=1}^m \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\alpha_{ir}(y)\beta_{jr}(y)^* dy}{x + i\xi - y}; \quad (84)$$

where \dagger denotes the Hermitian conjugate-transpose, $\underline{B}^{\dagger} = (\underline{B}^*)^T$ or $(\underline{B}^{\dagger})_{rj} = \beta_{jr}^*$, and \underline{A} and \underline{B} are $(n \times m)$ matrices with elements

$$(\underline{A})_{ir} = \alpha_{ir} \in \mathcal{N} \text{ and } (\underline{B})_{js} = \beta_{js} \in \mathcal{N}. \quad (85)$$

Let $\underline{\Phi}$ be an $(n \times n)$ diagonal matrix with elements

$$(\underline{\Phi})_{ij} = \delta_{ij} \varphi_j \quad (\varphi_j \in \mathcal{N}), \quad (86)$$

$$\text{and write} \quad \underline{M} = \underline{K}\underline{\Phi} \quad (87)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \underline{N} = -\underline{A}g_{\xi}(\underline{B}^{\dagger}\underline{\Phi}). \quad (88)$$

Then the formulae (81) - (83) give

$$[\Delta(\mu_{\xi ij})](x) = 2\pi i \sum_{t=1}^m \alpha_{it}(x) \beta_{jt}(x) \varphi_j^*(x) = [\Delta(v_{\xi ij})](x),$$

in accordance with (19).

Let us suppose that, for all sufficiently small values of ξ and for almost all values of x in R , the matrix \underline{K} defined in (84) is non-singular. Then the equation

$$\underline{K} \underline{\Theta} = \underline{\Theta} - g_{\xi} (A \underline{B})^{\dagger} \underline{\Theta} = \underline{A} \quad (89)$$

has a unique solution $\underline{\Theta} = \underline{K}^{-1} \underline{A}$, for almost all choices of $x \in R$. $\underline{\Theta}$ will have elements $\theta_{\xi ir} \in \mathcal{A}$, with $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $r = 1, 2, \dots, m$. Let us further suppose that the matrix $\underline{\Phi}$ is also non-singular (that is, $\varphi_1(x) \varphi_2(x) \cdots \varphi_n(x) \neq 0$) for almost all values of $x \in R$. Then we may define the $(n \times n)$ matrix

$$\underline{H} = -\underline{\Phi}^{-1} \underline{\Theta} g_{\xi} (B \underline{\Phi})^{\dagger}, \quad (90)$$

for almost all $x \in R$ and all sufficiently small values of ξ .

Now, by (87) - (90),

$$\underline{M} \underline{H} = \underline{K} \underline{\Phi} \underline{H} = -\underline{K} \underline{\Theta} g_{\xi} (B \underline{\Phi})^{\dagger} = -\underline{A} g_{\xi} (B \underline{\Phi})^{\dagger} = \underline{N};$$

that is, we have

Theorem 7. If $\underline{\Phi}$ is non-singular for almost all $x \in R$ and if \underline{K} (defined in (84)) is non-singular for almost all $x \in R$ and for all

sufficiently small ξ ; then \underline{H} (defined by (89) and (90)) is the solution of (23), for \underline{M} and \underline{N} defined in (87) and (88).

We now return to \mathcal{M} and \mathcal{H} , and define operators \underline{V} and \underline{G}_{ξ} by

$$\underline{V}(x, y) = \underline{A}(x)^T \underline{B}(y)^* \text{ or } V_{rs}(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_{ir}(x) \beta_{is}(y)^* \quad (91)$$

and

$$\underline{G}_{\xi}(x, y) = \underline{A}_{\xi}(x)^T \underline{B}(y)^* \text{ or } G_{\xi rs}(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_{\xi ir}(x) \beta_{is}(y)^*. \quad (92)$$

Then (89) yields

$$\underline{B}(y)^{\dagger} \underline{G}_{\xi}(x) - \underline{B}(y)^{\dagger} [g_{\xi}(\underline{A} \underline{B})](x) \underline{A}_{\xi}(x) = \underline{B}(y)^{\dagger} \underline{A}(x);$$

or, by (79), (91), and (92),

$$\begin{aligned} G_{\xi rs}(x, y) - \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{t=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_{is}(y) \int_R \frac{\alpha_{it}(u) \beta_{jt}(u)^*}{x + i\xi - u} du \theta_{\xi jr}(x) \\ = V_{rs}(x, y), \end{aligned}$$

which reduces, by (76), (77), (91), and (92), to the equation

$$G_{\xi rs}(x, y) - \sum_{t=1}^m \int_R (\Gamma_{\xi} G_{\xi})_{rt}(x, u) V_{ts}(u, y) du = V_{rs}(x, y);$$

that is, we get

Theorem 8. With \underline{V} defined as in (91), the operator equation

$$\underline{G}_{\xi} = (1 + \Gamma_{\xi} \underline{G}_{\xi}) \underline{V} \quad (93)$$

has the solution (92) (in terms of \underline{A} defined by (84) and (89).)

The equation (93) is called Friedrichs' equation [2,3].

We note from (89) and (92) that G_{ξ}^{\sim} is not dependent on Φ .

Let us choose for Φ the matrix

$$\Psi = \psi \tilde{I}^{(n)}, \tag{94}$$

and write similarly

$$\Lambda = \psi \tilde{I}^{(m)}; \tag{95}$$

where $\tilde{I}^{(n)}$ and $\tilde{I}^{(m)}$ are respectively $(n \times n)$ and $(m \times m)$ unit matrices, and we have taken all the $\varphi_i = \psi$. Following the definition (76) we shall write

$$(\tilde{T}_{\xi}^{\sim} M)_{rs}(x) = \sum_{t=1}^m \int_R T_{\xi rt}(x, y) u_{\xi ts}(y) dy. \tag{96}$$

Theorem 9. With the notation defined above, if F is defined as in (20), with M and N defined as in (87) and (88), and Φ takes the value Ψ ; for any \tilde{A} , \tilde{B} , and ψ ; then

$$F = (\det \tilde{K}) \psi^{n-m} \det[(\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma_{\xi}^{\sim} G_{\xi}^{\sim} \tilde{\Lambda})]. \tag{97}$$

or
$$F = (\det \tilde{K}) \psi^n \sum_{p=0}^m \text{trace} (\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi}^{\sim} G_{\xi}^{\sim} \tilde{\Lambda})^{(p)}, \tag{98}$$

Proof. By (16), (24), (87), (88), (90), and (94), with Theorem 5,

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \det(\tilde{K}\Psi) \det[\tilde{I}^{(n)} + \Psi^{-1} \odot g_{\xi}^{\dagger}(\tilde{B}\Psi)] \\ &= (\det \tilde{K}) (\det \Psi) \det[\tilde{I}^{(m)} + g_{\xi}^{\dagger}(\tilde{B}\Psi)\Psi^{-1} \odot]. \end{aligned} \tag{99}$$

Now, by (77), (79), (92), and (95),

$$\begin{aligned}
[g_{\xi}(\tilde{B}^{\dagger}\tilde{\Psi})\tilde{\Psi}^{-1}\tilde{\Theta}]_{sr}(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\beta_{is}(y)^* \psi(y)}{x + i\xi - y} dy [\psi(x)]^{-1} \theta_{\xi ir}(x) \\
&= \int_{\mathbb{R}} (\Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi})_{rs}(x, y) \psi(y) dy [\psi(x)]^{-1} \\
&= (\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda})_{rs}(x). \tag{100}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, by (99) and (100), and since the determinant of a matrix equals the determinant of its transpose,

$$\begin{aligned}
F &= (\det \tilde{K}) (\det \tilde{\Psi}) \det [\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} (\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi}) \tilde{\Lambda}] \\
&= (\det \tilde{K}) (\det \tilde{\Psi}) (\det \tilde{\Lambda}^{-1}) \det [(\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi}) \tilde{\Lambda}]. \tag{101}
\end{aligned}$$

Since, by (94) and (95),

$$\det \tilde{\Psi} = \psi^n \quad \text{and} \quad \det \tilde{\Lambda} = \psi^m, \tag{102}$$

it follows from (101) that (97) holds.

Now, by the formula (36), with \tilde{H} replaced by $-\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda}$, and using (62) and (63), we see that

$$\det[\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} (\tilde{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi}) \tilde{\Lambda}] = \sum_{p=0}^{\text{rank}(\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda})} \text{trace}(\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda})^{(p)}; \tag{103}$$

whence (98) is obtained, when we note that

$$\text{rank}(\tilde{\Lambda}^{-1} \Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda}) = \text{rank}(\Gamma_{\xi} \tilde{G}_{\xi} \tilde{\Lambda}) \leq m, \tag{104}$$

since the matrix is $(m \times m)$. \ddagger

Theorem 10. With the same notation as in Theorem 9,

$$(\det \underline{K})^+ \det[(\underline{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma^+ \underline{G}^+) \underline{\Lambda}] = (\det \underline{K})^- \det[(\underline{I}^{(m)} + \Gamma^- \underline{G}^-) \underline{\Lambda}]. \quad (105)$$

Further, if $m = 1$, we have the operator equation

$$(\det \underline{K})^+ (1 + \Gamma^+ G^+) = (\det \underline{K})^- (1 + \Gamma^- G^-). \quad (106)$$

Proof. We simply apply equations (4) and (21) to (97), to get

(105). If $m = 1$, the equation simplifies to

$$(\det \underline{K})^+ (1 + \Gamma^+ G^+) \psi = (\det \underline{K})^- (1 + \Gamma^- G^-) \psi, \quad (107)$$

where G_ξ is now a scalar operator. Since ψ is an arbitrary function, this yields the operator equation (106). \ddagger

Note. The particular case represented by (106) was proved, independently and by a different argument, by Carey [1].

7. We now turn to another question associated with the example examined in §§2 and 6. With the notation of §6 and the assumption that $\underline{K}_\xi(\mathbf{x})$ is invertible, we seek an $(l \times m)$ matrix $\underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x})$, with elements

$$(\underline{Z})_{ur} = \zeta_{ur} \in \mathcal{A}, \quad (108)$$

such that, for all m -vectors $\underline{\varphi}(\mathbf{x})$, with elements $\varphi_r \in \mathcal{N}$,

$$\Delta \{ \underline{Z}_\xi (1 + \Gamma_\xi \underline{G}_\xi) \underline{\varphi} \} = 0, \quad (109)$$

that is

$$\Delta \{ \underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x}) \underline{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}) + \underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x}) \int_{\mathcal{R}} \frac{\underline{G}_\xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \underline{\varphi}(\mathbf{y})}{\mathbf{x} + i\xi - \mathbf{y}} d\mathbf{y} \} = 0. \quad (110)$$

By (89) and (92),

$$\underline{G}_\xi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^T \underline{K}_\xi(\mathbf{x})^W \underline{B}(\mathbf{y})^*, \quad (111)$$

where W denotes the transposed inverse, $\underline{K}^W = (\underline{K}^{-1})^T$; so (110)

becomes

$$\Delta \{ \underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x}) \underline{\varphi}(\mathbf{x}) + \underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x}) \underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^T \underline{K}_\xi(\mathbf{x})^W \int_{\mathcal{R}} \frac{\underline{B}(\mathbf{y})^* \underline{\varphi}(\mathbf{y})}{\mathbf{x} + i\xi - \mathbf{y}} d\mathbf{y} \} = 0. \quad (112)$$

Suppose now that $\underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^* \underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^T$ is invertible almost everywhere in \mathcal{R} , and consider

$$\underline{Z}_\xi(\mathbf{x}) = \underline{P}(\mathbf{x}) \underline{K}_\xi(\mathbf{x})^T [\underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^* \underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(\mathbf{x})^*, \quad (113)$$

for some $(l \times n)$ matrix $\underline{P}(x)$ with elements $(\underline{P})_{ui} = \rho_{ui} \in \mathcal{AP}$. Then (112) reduces, by (81) - (84), and since $\underline{K}^T \underline{K}^W = \underline{I}^{(n)}$, to

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \{ \underline{P}(x) \underline{K}_{\xi}^T(x) [\underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) \\ &\quad + \underline{P}(x) \underline{K}_{\xi}^T(x) [\underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T \underline{K}_{\xi}^T(x) \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\underline{B}(y) \underline{\varphi}(y)}{x + iy - y} dy \} \\ &= 2\pi i \underline{P}(x) \underline{B}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T [\underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) \\ &\quad - 2\pi i \underline{P}(x) \underline{B}(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) \\ &= 2\pi i \underline{P}(x) \underline{B}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T [\underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) - \underline{I}^{(m)} \underline{\varphi}(x). \end{aligned} \quad (114)$$

Thus (114) will be satisfied, for all $\underline{\varphi}(x)$, if $\underline{B}(x)^T \underline{B}(x)^*$ is invertible almost everywhere in \mathbb{R} and if we choose

$$\underline{P}(x) = \underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T [\underline{B}(x)^T \underline{B}(x)^*]^{-1} \underline{B}(x)^T; \quad (115)$$

and so, by (113),

$$\underline{Z}_{\xi}(x) = \underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T [\underline{B}(x)^T \underline{B}(x)^*]^{-1} \underline{B}(x)^T \underline{K}_{\xi}^T(x) [\underline{A}(x) \underline{A}(x)^T]^{-1} \underline{A}(x) \underline{\varphi}(x). \quad (116)$$

However, if both $\underline{A} \underline{A}^T$ and $\underline{B}^T \underline{B}^*$ are to be invertible, necessary and sufficient conditions are that both \underline{A} and \underline{B} be of full rank; so that both $n \leq m$ and $m \geq n$, that is, $m = n$. But then \underline{A} and \underline{B} will be invertible square matrices, and a simpler solution suffices, since (114) holds exactly: we may take $\underline{P} = \underline{I}^{(n)}$

and so

$$\underline{Z}_{\xi}(x) = \underline{K}_{\xi}(x)^T \underline{A}(x)^W . \quad (117)$$

Note that the invertibility of \underline{B} is no longer required, here. Thus we obtain

Theorem 11. Sufficient conditions, for the existence of a matrix
 $\underline{Z}_{\xi}(x)$ satisfying (109) or (110), are that $m = n$ and that $\underline{A}(x)$ and
 $\underline{K}_{\xi}(x)$ be invertible for almost all x in \mathbb{R} and all sufficiently small
 ξ . Then (117) provides the solution.

In this case,

$$\det \underline{Z}_{\xi}(x) = \det \underline{K}_{\xi}(x) / \det \underline{A}(x). \quad (118)$$

We have thus found solutions to our problem when $m = 1$ (Theorem 10) and when $m = n$ (Theorem 11). One more case readily yields a solution: when $n = 1$. In that case, \underline{A} and \underline{B} are respectively, the m -dimensional row-vectors $\underline{\alpha}^T$ and $\underline{\beta}^T$ with elements

$$(\underline{A})_{1r} = (\underline{\alpha})_r = \alpha_r \in \mathcal{N} \text{ and } (\underline{B})_{1r} = (\underline{\beta})_r = \beta_r \in \mathcal{N}, \quad (119)$$

and $\underline{K}_{\xi}(x)$ is a scalar,

$$\underline{K}_{\xi}(x) = \kappa_{\xi}(x) = 1 - \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\underline{\alpha}(y)^T \underline{\beta}(y)^*}{x + i\xi - y} dy; \quad (120)$$

and, further, we note that the scalar quantity

$$\underline{\alpha}(y)^T \underline{\beta}(y)^* = \sum_{r=1}^m \alpha_r(y) \beta_r(y)^* = \underline{\beta}^\dagger \underline{\alpha}. \quad (121)$$

We now get

Theorem 12. When $n = 1$, a solution of (109), for $\kappa_\xi(x)$ non-zero almost everywhere in \mathbb{R} for all sufficiently small ξ , is given by

$$\underline{z}_\xi(x) = \kappa_\xi(x) \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x). \quad (122)$$

Proof. Substituting (122) in the left-hand side of (112), for the case of $n = 1$, yields

$$\begin{aligned} & \Delta \left\{ \kappa_\xi(x) \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) + \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\alpha}(x) \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{\underline{\beta}(y)^\dagger \underline{\varphi}(y)}{x + i\xi - y} dy \right\} \\ &= 2\pi i \underline{\alpha}(x)^T \underline{\beta}(x)^* \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) - 2\pi i \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\alpha}(x) \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) \\ &= 2\pi i [\underline{\alpha}(x)^T \underline{\beta}(x)^* - \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\alpha}(x)] \underline{\beta}^\dagger(x) \underline{\varphi}(x) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the commutativity of scalar multiplication and the identity (121). \dashv

In this case, we have, by (91), that

$$\underline{V}(x, y) = \underline{A}(x)^T \underline{B}(y)^* = \underline{\alpha}(x) \underline{\beta}(y)^\dagger. \quad (123)$$

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