

A THEOREM ON CYCLIC MATRICES

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It is well known [1; 444] that if A is a cyclic matrix of order n ; $A = \| a_{j-i+1} \|$; $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$; $a_r = a_s$ for $r \equiv s \pmod{n}$, then its determinant is given by

$$(1) \quad d(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i^{j-1} a_j,$$

where the α_i run through the n -th roots of unity.

The standard proof of (1) breaks down when the a_i belong to a field of characteristic p , $p \mid n$. In attempting to carry over this method to the general case the writer was led to the following Theorem 1. Theorem 2 below, which is an easy consequence of Theorem 1, generalizes (1).

THEOREM 1. *Let $A = \| A_{i-i+1} \|$; $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$; $A_r = A_s$ for $r \equiv s \pmod{n}$ be a cyclic matrix of order n in the A_r , $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$. The A_r are square matrices of order $n_1 \geq 1$; the elements of A are indeterminates. Let p be a rational prime and put $n = p^t m$, $p \nmid m$. Then*

$$d(A) = [d(D)]^{p^t} \pmod{p},$$

where $D = \| D_{i-i+1} \|$; $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, m$; $D_r = D_s$ for $r \equiv s \pmod{m}$, is a cyclic matrix of order m in the D_r . The D_r are themselves matrices of order n_1 given by

$$D_r \equiv \sum_{s=0}^{p^t-1} A_{s+m+r} \quad (r = 1, 2, \dots, m).$$

Proof. For $t = 0$ the theorem is obvious. Assume $t > 0$ and put $n = pm_1$. Partition A into p^2 square submatrices each of order m_1 in the A_r . Note that A is cyclic in these submatrices; in fact, we have $A = \| A'_{j-i+1} \|$; $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, p$, where the A'_i are square matrices of order m_1 in the A_r and $A'_r = A'_s$ for $r \equiv s \pmod{p}$. We now put

$$(2) \quad \| C_{ij} \| = \left\| \begin{pmatrix} j-1 \\ i-1 \end{pmatrix} I \right\| \cdot \| A'_{j-i+1} \| \cdot \left\| \begin{pmatrix} p-i \\ p-j \end{pmatrix} I \right\| \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, p),$$

where $\binom{r}{s}$ denotes the binomial coefficient $r(r-1)\dots(r-s+1)/s!$ and I is the unit matrix of order $n_1 m_1$. The C_{ij} will then be square matrices of order $n_1 m_1$ given by

$$C_{ij} = \sum_{l=1}^p \sum_{k=1}^p \binom{k-1}{i-1} \binom{p-l}{p-j} A'_{i-k+1} \quad (i, j = 1, 2, \dots, p).$$

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