

This example is set up in Zapf Chancery.

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\DeclareFontFamily{T1}{pzc}{}  
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{pzc}{mb}{it}{<->s*[1.2] pzcmb8t}{}  
\DeclareFontShape{T1}{pzc}{m}{it}{<->ssub * pzc/mb/it}{}  
\usepackage{chancery} % = \renewcommand{\rmdefault}{pzc}  
\renewcommand\shapedefault\itdefault  
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\usepackage[defaultmathsizes]{mathastext}  
\linespread{1.05}
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Typeset with mathastext 1.15d (2012/10/13).

Theorem 1. Let there be given indeterminates $u_i, v_i, k_i, \chi_i, y_i, l_i$, for $1 \leq i \leq n$. We define the following $n \times n$ matrices

$$\mathcal{U}_n = \begin{pmatrix} u_1 & u_2 & \dots & u_n \\ k_1 v_1 & k_2 v_2 & \dots & k_n v_n \\ k_1^2 u_1 & k_2^2 u_2 & \dots & k_n^2 u_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{V}_n = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ k_1 u_1 & k_2 u_2 & \dots & k_n u_n \\ k_1^2 v_1 & k_2^2 v_2 & \dots & k_n^2 v_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where the rows contain alternatively u 's and v 's. Similarly:

$$\mathcal{X}_n = \begin{pmatrix} \chi_1 & \chi_2 & \dots & \chi_n \\ l_1 y_1 & l_2 y_2 & \dots & l_n y_n \\ l_1^2 \chi_1 & l_2^2 \chi_2 & \dots & l_n^2 \chi_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathcal{Y}_n = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 & y_2 & \dots & y_n \\ l_1 \chi_1 & l_2 \chi_2 & \dots & l_n \chi_n \\ l_1^2 y_1 & l_2^2 y_2 & \dots & l_n^2 y_n \\ \vdots & \dots & \dots & \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

There holds

$$\det_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} \left(\frac{u_i y_j - v_i \chi_j}{l_j - k_i} \right) = \frac{1}{\prod_{i, j} (l_j - k_i)} \begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{U}_n & \mathcal{X}_n \\ \mathcal{V}_n & \mathcal{Y}_n \end{vmatrix}_{2n \times 2n} \quad (3)$$

Proof. Let $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$ be $n \times n$ matrices, with \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{C} invertible.

Using $\begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A} & \mathcal{B} \\ \mathcal{C} & \mathcal{D} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathcal{A} & 0 \\ 0 & \mathcal{C} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} I & \mathcal{A}^{-1} \mathcal{B} \\ 0 & \mathcal{C}^{-1} \mathcal{D} \end{pmatrix}$ we obtain

$$\begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{A} & \mathcal{B} \\ \mathcal{C} & \mathcal{D} \end{vmatrix} = |\mathcal{A}| |\mathcal{C}| |\mathcal{C}^{-1} \mathcal{D} - \mathcal{A}^{-1} \mathcal{B}| \quad (4)$$

where vertical bars denote determinants. Let $d(u) = \text{diag}(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ and $p_u = \prod_{1 \leq i \leq n} u_i$. We define similarly $d(v), d(\chi), d(y)$ and p_v, p_χ, p_y . From the previous identity we get

$$\begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{A} d(u) & \mathcal{B} d(\chi) \\ \mathcal{C} d(v) & \mathcal{D} d(y) \end{vmatrix} = |\mathcal{A}| |\mathcal{C}| p_u p_v \left| d(v)^{-1} \mathcal{C}^{-1} \mathcal{D} d(y) - d(u)^{-1} \mathcal{A}^{-1} \mathcal{B} d(\chi) \right| \\ = |\mathcal{A}| |\mathcal{C}| \left| d(u) \mathcal{C}^{-1} \mathcal{D} d(y) - d(v) \mathcal{A}^{-1} \mathcal{B} d(\chi) \right| \quad (5)$$

The special case $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{B} = \mathcal{D}$, gives

$$\begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{A} d(u) & \mathcal{B} d(\chi) \\ \mathcal{A} d(v) & \mathcal{B} d(y) \end{vmatrix}_{2n \times 2n} = \det(\mathcal{A})^2 \det_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} ((u_i y_j - v_i \chi_j) (\mathcal{A}^{-1} \mathcal{B})_{ij}) \quad (6)$$

Let $\mathcal{W}(k)$ be the Vandermonde matrix with rows $(1 \dots 1)$, $(k_1 \dots k_n)$, $(k_1^2 \dots k_n^2)$, \dots , and $\Delta(k) = \det \mathcal{W}(k)$ its determinant. Let

$$\mathcal{K}(t) = \prod_{1 \leq m \leq n} (t - k_m) \quad (7)$$

and let C be the $n \times n$ matrix $(c_{im})_{1 \leq i, m \leq n}$, where the c_{im} 's are defined by the partial fraction expansions:

$$1 \leq i \leq n \quad \frac{t^{i-1}}{\mathcal{K}(t)} = \sum_{1 \leq m \leq n} \frac{c_{im}}{t - k_m} \quad (8)$$

We have the two matrix equations:

$$C = \mathcal{W}(k) \text{diag}(\mathcal{K}'(k_1)^{-1}, \dots, \mathcal{K}'(k_n)^{-1}) \quad (9a)$$

$$C \cdot \left(\frac{1}{l_j - k_m} \right)_{1 \leq m, j \leq n} = \mathcal{W}(l) \text{diag}(\mathcal{K}(l_1)^{-1}, \dots, \mathcal{K}(l_n)^{-1}) \quad (9b)$$

This gives the (well-known) identity:

$$\left(\frac{1}{l_j - k_m} \right)_{1 \leq m, j \leq n} = \text{diag}(\mathcal{K}'(k_1), \dots, \mathcal{K}'(k_n)) \mathcal{W}(k)^{-1} \mathcal{W}(l) \text{diag}(\mathcal{K}(l_1)^{-1}, \dots, \mathcal{K}(l_n)^{-1}) \quad (10)$$

We can thus rewrite the determinant we want to compute as:

$$\left| \frac{u_i y_j - v_i x_j}{l_j - k_i} \right|_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} = \prod_m \mathcal{K}'(k_m) \prod_j \mathcal{K}(l_j)^{-1} \left| (u_i y_j - v_i x_j) (\mathcal{W}(k)^{-1} \mathcal{W}(l))_{ij} \right|_{n \times n} \quad (11)$$

We shall now make use of (6) with $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{W}(k)$ and $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{W}(l)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{u_i y_j - v_i x_j}{l_j - k_i} \right|_{1 \leq i, j \leq n} &= \Delta(k)^{-2} \prod_m \mathcal{K}'(k_m) \prod_j \mathcal{K}(l_j)^{-1} \left| \begin{array}{cc} \mathcal{W}(k) d(u) & \mathcal{W}(l) d(x) \\ \mathcal{W}(k) d(v) & \mathcal{W}(l) d(y) \end{array} \right| \\ &= \frac{(-1)^{\frac{n(n-1)}{2}}}{\prod_{i,j} (l_j - k_i)} \left| \begin{array}{cc} \mathcal{W}(k) d(u) & \mathcal{W}(l) d(x) \\ \mathcal{W}(k) d(v) & \mathcal{W}(l) d(y) \end{array} \right|_{2n \times 2n} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

The sign $(-1)^{n(n-1)/2} = (-1)^{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}$ is the signature of the permutation which exchanges rows i and $n+i$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, \lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor$ and transforms the determinant on the right-hand side into $\begin{vmatrix} \mathcal{U}_n & \mathcal{X}_n \\ \mathcal{V}_n & \mathcal{Y}_n \end{vmatrix}$. This concludes the proof. \square