

## On the characteristic roots and heart of a class of rhotrices over a finite field \*

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**Abstract** Matrices play an important role in various branches of mathematics such as coding theory, combinatorics and cryptography. Rhotrices are represented by coupled matrices. The use of rhotrices in cryptography doubles the security of messages which travel over insecure channels. We consider rhotrices of 3-dimension and derive some properties related to their characteristic roots. Further, we take a special class of rhotrices of  $n$ -dimension and discuss its properties.

**Key words** Rhotrix, Finite field, Coupled matrix, Eigen values.

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### 1 Introduction

The concept of rhotrix was introduced by Ajibade [2] in 2003. A rhotrix is defined as a mathematical array, which is in some way, between  $(2 \times 2)$ -dimension

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $(3 \times 3)$ -dimension

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$$

matrices. The rhotrix of dimension three is defined by

$$R_3 = \left\{ \left\langle \begin{matrix} a & & \\ b & c & d \\ & e & \end{matrix} \right\rangle : a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \quad (1.1)$$

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Here,  $h(R_3) = c$  is the heart of rhotrix and all the entries of rhotrix are real numbers. Ajibade [2] also discussed the following operations of addition and scalar multiplication.

Let  $R_5 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & a & & & \\ & b & c & d & \\ e & f & h(R_5) & h & i \\ & j & k & l & \\ & & m & & \end{array} \right\rangle$  and  $Q_5 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & n & & & \\ & o & p & q & \\ r & s & h(Q_5) & u & v \\ & w & x & y & \\ & & z & & \end{array} \right\rangle$  be 5-dimensional rhotrices,

then the addition of these rhotrices is defined as

$$\begin{aligned} R_5 + Q_5 &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & a & & & \\ & b & c & d & \\ e & f & h(R_5) & h & i \\ & j & k & l & \\ & & m & & \end{array} \right\rangle + \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & n & & & \\ & o & p & q & \\ r & s & h(Q_5) & u & v \\ & w & x & y & \\ & & z & & \end{array} \right\rangle \\ &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & a+n & & & \\ & b+o & c+p & d+q & \\ e+r & f+s & h(R_5)+h(Q_5) & h+u & i+v \\ & j+w & k+x & l+y & \\ & & m+z & & \end{array} \right\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (1.2)$$

The scalar multiplication  $\alpha R_5$  for the real scalar  $\alpha$  is defined as

$$\alpha R_5 = \alpha \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & a & & & \\ & b & c & d & \\ e & f & h(R_5) & h & i \\ & j & k & l & \\ & & m & & \end{array} \right\rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & \alpha a & & & \\ & \alpha b & \alpha c & \alpha d & \\ \alpha e & \alpha f & \alpha h(R_5) & \alpha h & \alpha i \\ & \alpha j & \alpha k & \alpha l & \\ & & \alpha m & & \end{array} \right\rangle. \quad (1.3)$$

The row-column multiplication of rhotrices is discussed in [6] as follows:

For  $R_3 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a & \\ b & c & d \\ & e & \end{array} \right\rangle$  and  $Q_3 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & f & \\ g & h & j \\ & k & \end{array} \right\rangle$ ,

$$R_3 \circ Q_3 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a & \\ b & c & d \\ & e & \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & f & \\ g & h & j \\ & k & \end{array} \right\rangle = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & af+dg & \\ bf+eg & ch & aj+dk \\ & bj+ek & \end{array} \right\rangle.$$

A method of converting a rhotrix to a coupled matrix is discussed in [8]. Various problems involving the  $m \times m$  and the  $(m-1) \times (m-1)$  matrices can be easily solved by coupled matrix simultaneously, see [4, 15]. The heart-oriented multiplication is discussed in [1, 5].

The row-column multiplication of  $n$ -dimensional rhotrices is discussed by Sani [7]. The rhotrix of  $n$ -dimension is given by

$$R_n = \left\langle \begin{array}{cccccc} & & & a_{11} & & \\ & & a_{21} & c_{11} & a_{12} & \\ & a_{31} & c_{21} & a_{22} & c_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{n1} & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & a_{n-1n-2} & c_{n-1n-2} & a_{n-1n-1} & c_{n-2n-1} & a_{n-2n} \\ & & & a_{nn-1} & c_{n-1n-1} & a_{n-1n} & \\ & & & & a_{nn} & & \end{array} \right\rangle = \langle a_{ij}, c_{lk} \rangle,$$

The total number of elements in  $R_n$  ( $n$  is always an odd number  $\geq 3$ ) is given by  $|R_n| = \frac{n^2+1}{2}$ , where  $R_n = \langle a_{ij}, c_{lk} \rangle$  is the coupled matrix with  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, t$ ;  $l, k = 1, 2, \dots, t-1$  for  $t = \frac{n+1}{2}$ .

Further, for two coupled rhotrices  $R_n = \langle a_{i_1 j_1}, c_{l_1 k_1} \rangle$  and  $Q_n = \langle b_{i_2 j_2}, d_{l_2 k_2} \rangle$ , the multiplication is defined as

$$R_n \circ Q_n = \langle a_{i_1 j_1}, c_{l_1 k_1} \rangle \circ \langle b_{i_2 j_2}, d_{l_2 k_2} \rangle = \left\langle \sum_{i_2 j_1=1}^t (a_{i_1 j_1} b_{i_2 j_2}), \sum_{l_2 k_1=1}^{t-1} (c_{l_1 k_1} d_{l_2 k_2}) \right\rangle. \quad (1.4)$$

The inverse of the rhotrix

$$R_3 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a & \\ b & e & d \\ & c & \end{array} \right\rangle$$

is defined as

$$R_3^{-1} = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & \frac{c}{ac-bd} & \\ -\frac{b}{bd-ac} & \frac{1}{e} & -\frac{d}{bd-ac} \\ & \frac{a}{ac-bd} & \end{array} \right\rangle. \quad (1.5)$$

Matrices are important in cryptography. Some cryptosystems are based on matrices, such as Hill cipher, see [3]. The rhotrices are represented as coupled matrices. Therefore, the use of rhotrix in cryptography means the use of the double matrices which increase the security of the cipher. The properties of rhotrices are discussed in [9-14, 16].

We discuss some properties of rhotrices  $R_n = \langle a_{ij}, c_{lk} \rangle$  over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$  which satisfies the following condition:

$$\mathbf{P} : \alpha_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i+j = \text{even,} \\ 0 & \text{if } i+j = \text{odd.} \end{cases} \quad (1.6)$$

## 2 The main results

**Theorem 2.1.** *Let  $R$  be a rhotrix of 3-dimension which satisfies the condition  $\mathbf{P}$  of (1.6) and  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be the characteristic roots of  $R$ . Then  $\lambda_1^2, \lambda_2^2, \lambda_3^2$  are the characteristic roots of  $R^2$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .*

**Proof.** Let

$$R = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a_{11} & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ & a_{22} & \end{array} \right\rangle \quad (2.1)$$

be the rhotrix satisfying the condition  $\mathbf{P}$  of (1.6). Now, the characteristic roots of  $R$  are given by

$$|R - \lambda I| = 0,$$

That is,

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} - \lambda & & \\ 0 & c_{11} - \lambda & 0 \\ a_{22} - \lambda & & \end{array} \right| = 0.$$

This gives

$$\lambda^3 + (a_{11} + a_{22} + c_{11})\lambda^2 + (a_{11}c_{11} + a_{22}c_{11} + a_{22}a_{11})\lambda + (a_{11}a_{22}c_{11}) = 0. \quad (2.2)$$

Since,  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  are the characteristic roots of  $R$ , therefore, there exists a non-zero vector  $X$  such that

$$RX = \lambda X,$$

where,  $X = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is a non-zero vector corresponding to the characteristic roots  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ .

Thus, we get

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a_{11} & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ & a_{22} & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.3)$$

Multiplying both sides by  $R$ , we get

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a_{11} & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ & a_{22} & \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a_{11} & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ & a_{22} & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & a_{11} & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ & a_{22} & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix},$$

that is,

$$\left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11}a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11}c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22}a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (2.4)$$

Using (2.3) in (2.4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11}a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11}c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22}a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \right), \\ &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \right)^2 \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}, \\ &= \left( \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^2 \\ \lambda_2^2 \\ \lambda_3^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

Since,  $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  is a non-zero vector, therefore, it is clear from the above equation that  $\lambda_1^2, \lambda_2^2, \lambda_3^2$  are the characteristic roots of the rhotrix  $R^2$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.2.** Let  $R$  be a rhotrix of 3-dimension satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6). Then there exists an invertible rhotrix  $S$ , such that  $S^{-1}RS$  and  $R$  have the same characteristic roots (eigenvalues).

**Proof.** Let the rhotrix be

$$R = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle.$$

Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be its characteristic roots. Therefore,

$$\lambda^3 + (a_{11} + a_{22} + c_{11})\lambda^2 + (a_{11}c_{11} + a_{22}c_{11} + a_{22}a_{11})\lambda + (a_{11}a_{22}c_{11}) = 0.$$

Let the rhotrix

$$S = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} b_{11} & & \\ 0 & d_{11} & 0 \\ b_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle$$

be non-singular.

Therefore, the inverse of  $S$  rhotrix is given by

$$S^{-1} = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{1}{b_{11}} & & \\ 0 & \frac{1}{d_{11}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{b_{22}} & & \end{array} \right\rangle. \quad (2.6)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} S^{-1}RS &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{1}{b_{11}} & & \\ 0 & \frac{1}{d_{11}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{b_{22}} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} b_{11} & & \\ 0 & d_{11} & 0 \\ b_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle, \\ &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} \frac{1}{b_{11}} & & \\ 0 & \frac{1}{d_{11}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{b_{22}} & & \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11}b_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11}d_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22}b_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle, \\ &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{array} \right\rangle. \end{aligned} \quad (2.7)$$

Therefore, the characteristic equation of  $S^{-1}RS$  is given by

$$|S^{-1}RS - \lambda| = 0,$$

i.e.,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & & \\ 0 & c_{11} - \lambda & 0 \\ a_{22} - \lambda & & \end{vmatrix} = 0,$$

which gives

$$\lambda^3 + (a_{11} + a_{22} + c_{11})\lambda^2 + (a_{11}c_{11} + a_{22}c_{11} + a_{22}a_{11})\lambda + (a_{11}a_{22}c_{11}) = 0. \quad (2.8)$$

It is clear from (2.2) and (2.8) that the characteristic roots of  $R$  and  $S^{-1}RS$  are the same.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.3.** Let  $R$  be a rhotrix of 3-dimension satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6). Also  $\lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$  be the set of characteristic roots of the rhotrix  $R$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Then  $\frac{|R|}{\lambda_i}$  (for some  $i = 1, 2, 3$ ) is the characteristic root of the rhotrix  $R$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\lambda = \{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$  be the set of characteristic roots of rhotrix

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{pmatrix}.$$

The determinant of the rhotrix  $R$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} |R| &= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ 0 & c_{11} & 0 \\ a_{22} & & \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (a_{11}a_{22}c_{11}) \end{aligned} \quad (2.9)$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{|R|}{\lambda_i} = \frac{(a_{11}a_{22}c_{11})}{\lambda_i}. \quad (2.10)$$

Since  $c_{11}$  is one of the characteristic roots of  $R$  among  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$ , thus taking  $\lambda_i = c_{11}$  and putting in (2.10), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{|R|}{\lambda_i} &= \frac{(a_{11}a_{22}c_{11})}{c_{11}} \\ &= a_{11}a_{22}. \end{aligned} \quad (2.11)$$

Putting the value of  $\frac{|R|}{\lambda_i}$  from (2.11) in the characteristic equation of  $R$  given in (2.2), we get

$$(a_{11}a_{22})^3 + (a_{11} + a_{22} + c_{11})(a_{11}a_{22})^2 + (a_{11}c_{11} + a_{22}c_{11} + a_{22}a_{11})(a_{11}a_{22}) + (a_{11}a_{22}c_{11}) = 0. \quad (2.12)$$

Therefore, it is clear from (2.12) that  $\frac{|R|}{\lambda_i}$  satisfies the equation (2.2). This implies that  $\frac{|R|}{\lambda_i}$  is the characteristic root of  $R$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 2.4.** Let  $R_n$  be a rhotrix over finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6). Then,  $H(R_n^2) = 1$ .

**Proof.** Let the rhotrix  $R_n$  be given by

$$R_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & & & & & \\ & a_{21} & & & & \\ & c_{21} & & & & \\ & a_{31} & & & & \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{(n-1)1} & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \sum a_{\frac{(n-1)}{2}} \frac{(n-1)}{2} \\ a_{n1} & c_{(n-1)1} & \dots & \dots & \sum a_{\frac{(n+1)}{2}} \frac{(n-1)}{2} & \sum c_{\frac{(n-1)}{2}} \frac{(n-1)}{2} \\ a_{n2} & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \sum a_{\frac{(n+1)}{2}} \frac{(n+1)}{2} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ & a_{n(n-2)} & & c_{n(n-1)} & & a_{(n-1)(n-1)} \\ & & & a_{n(n-1)} & & c_{(n-1)(n-1)} \\ & & & & & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\begin{array}{cccccccccccc}
0 & & & & & & & & & & & \\
0 & \sum_{i=1, j=3}^n a_{ij} a_{ji} & & & & & & & & & & \\
0 & \sum_{i=1, j=3}^n c_{ij} c_{ji} & 0 & & & & & & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & & \\
0 & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & \sum_{j=n}^n \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} a_{ji} & \rangle & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & & & & \\
\cdots & \cdots & 0 & & & & & & & & & \\
0 & \sum_{j=n}^n \sum_{i=3}^n a_{(i-2)j} a_{ji} & & & & & & & & & & \\
0 & & & & & & & & & & & 
\end{array} \quad (2.14)$$

Obviously, the heart of the rhotrix  $R_n^2$  is

$$H(R_n^2) = \sum_{i,j=1}^n c_{\frac{(n-1)}{2} i} c_{j \frac{(n-1)}{2}}, \quad (2.15)$$

where  $\frac{(n-1)}{2}$  is always even.

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i,j=1}^n c_{\frac{(n-1)}{2} i} c_{j \frac{(n-1)}{2}} &= c_{1i} c_{j1} + c_{2i} c_{j2} + c_{3i} c_{j3} + \cdots + c_{\frac{(n-1)}{2} i} c_{j \frac{(n-1)}{2}}, \\
&= c_{11} c_{11} + c_{13} c_{31} + c_{15} c_{51} + c_{21} c_{12} + \cdots + c_{\frac{(n-1)}{2} n} c_{n \frac{(n-1)}{2}}. \quad (2.16)
\end{aligned}$$

By using the condition **P** of (1.6) in (2.16) the terms like  $c_{12} c_{21}$  become zero. Similarly, all the terms with  $i+j =$  an odd number are zero and only the terms for which  $i+j =$  an even number survive. Since these terms are always odd in number, therefore, it is clear from (2.16) that sum of all these terms is equal to 1 over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ . Hence, we conclude that heart of rhotrix  $R_n^2$  is always equal to 1.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.5.** Let  $R_n$  be a rhotrix satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6). Then, there exist a sub-rhotrix

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} 0 & & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & & \end{array} \right\rangle, \text{ for } n = 4k_1 \pm 1, \text{ where } k_1 \text{ is an even number,} \\ \left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} 1 & & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & & \end{array} \right\rangle, \text{ for } n = 4k_2 \pm 1, \text{ where } k_2 \text{ is an odd number,} \end{array} \right. \quad (2.17)$$

of  $R_n^2$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

**Proof.** Let the rhotrix  $R_n$  be

Since,  $R_n^2 = R_n R_n$ , therefore,





For  $n = 5$ , the entries of  $R_n^2$  are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{and } \sum_{n=5} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 C_{\frac{(n-3)}{2},i} C_{j,\frac{(n-1)}{2}} &= c_{21}c_{11} + c_{22}c_{21} \\ &= 0 + 0 \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is a sub-rotatrix of  $R_n^2$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

Similarly, for  $n = 7$ , the entries of  $R_n^2$  are as follows:

$$\sum_{n=7} \sum_{i,j=1}^3 C_{\frac{(n-3)}{2}i} C_{j\frac{(n-3)}{2}} = C_{21}C_{12} + C_{22}C_{22} + C_{23}C_{32}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 0 + 1 + 0 \\
&= 1, \\
\sum_{n=7} \sum_{i,j=1}^4 a_{\frac{(n-1)}{2}i} a_{j\frac{(n-1)}{2}} &= a_{31}a_{13} + a_{32}a_{23} + a_{33}a_{33} + a_{34}a_{43} \\
&= 1 + 0 + 1 + 0 \\
&= 0, \\
\sum_{n=7} \sum_{i,j=1}^4 a_{\frac{(n-3)}{2}i} a_{j\frac{(n-3)}{2}} &= a_{21}a_{12} + a_{22}a_{22} + a_{23}a_{32} + a_{24}a_{42} \\
&= 0 + 1 + 0 + 1 \\
&= 0, \\
\sum_{n=7} \sum_{i,j=1}^4 a_{\frac{(n-1)}{2}i} a_{j\frac{(n-3)}{2}} &= a_{31}a_{12} + a_{32}a_{22} + a_{33}a_{32} + a_{34}a_{42} \\
&= 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 \\
&= 0,
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{and } \sum_{n=7} \sum_{i,j=1}^4 a_{\frac{(n-3)}{2}i} a_{j\frac{(n-1)}{2}} &= a_{21}a_{13} + a_{22}a_{23} + a_{23}a_{33} + a_{24}a_{43} \\
&= 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 \\
&= 0,
\end{aligned}$$

Clearly,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is a sub-rhotrix of  $R_n^2$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ .

Therefore, in the same way for other values of  $n$ , we conclude the desired result of (2.17) for  $R_n^2$  rhotrix.  $\square$

### 3 Illustrations

Here, we illustrate some results given in section 2 with the help of examples.

**Example 3.1.** Let  $R_5$  be a rhotrix satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6) and let it given by

$$R_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Now,  $R_5^2 = R_5 R_5$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \\
&= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & & & & \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ & & & & 2 \end{pmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since, all the entries of above rhotrix belong to the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , therefore, we get

$$R_5^2 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccc} & & 0 & & \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & 0 \end{array} \right\rangle. \quad (3.1)$$

Clearly, the heart of matrix  $R_5^2$  over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$  is 1. Further, from (3.1) it is concluded that, there is a sub-rhotrix of  $R_5^2$  of the form  $\left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & 1 & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 1 & \end{array} \right\rangle$ .

**Example 3.2.** Let  $R$  be a rhotrix of 7-dimensions satisfying the condition **P** of (1.6) and suppose it is given by

$$R_7 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & 1 & & & \\ & & & 0 & 1 & 0 & \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & & & 1 \end{array} \right\rangle.$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} R_7^2 &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & 1 & & & \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & 1 \end{array} \right\rangle \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & 1 & & & \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & & & 1 \end{array} \right\rangle, \\ &= \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & 2 & & & \\ & & 0 & 2 & 0 & & \\ & 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 & \\ 0 & & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ & & 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 2 \\ & & & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ & & & & & 2 \end{array} \right\rangle. \end{aligned}$$

After reducing all the entries over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_2$ , we get

$$R_7^2 = \left\langle \begin{array}{ccccccc} & & & 0 & & & \\ & & 0 & 0 & 0 & & \\ & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ & & & & & 0 \end{array} \right\rangle. \quad (3.2)$$

Therefore, it is clear from (3.2) that there exist a sub-rhotrix of  $R_7^2$  which is of the form  $\left\langle \begin{array}{ccc} & 0 & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ & 0 & \end{array} \right\rangle$ .

## 4 Conclusion

We considered the rhotrices of 3-dimensions and derived some properties related to their characteristic roots. Further, we discussed results related to the heart and sub-rhotrix of  $n$ -dimensional rhotrices.

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