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# On improvements of Fischer's inequality and Hadamard's inequality for $K_0$ -matrices

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# Abstract

In this paper, the class of  $K_0$ -matrices, which includes positive definite matrices, totally positive matrices, *M*-matrices and inverse *M*-matrices, is first introduced and the refinements of Fischer's inequality and Hadamard's inequality for  $K_0$ -matrices are obtained. Some previous well-known results for totally nonnegative matrices can be regarded as the special case of this paper. **MSC:** 15A15

**Keywords:** totally nonnegative matrix;  $K_0$ -matrix; Fischer's inequality; Hadamard's inequality

# **1** Introduction

All matrices considered in this paper are real. For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A, \alpha, \beta \subseteq \langle n \rangle = \{1, 2, ..., n\}$ , the submatrix of A lying in rows indexed by  $\alpha$  and the columns indexed by  $\beta$  will be denoted by  $A[\alpha, \beta]$ . If  $\alpha = \beta$ , then the principal submatrix  $A[\alpha, \alpha]$  is abbreviated to  $A[\alpha]$ . For any  $\alpha \subseteq \langle n \rangle$ , let  $\alpha^c$  denote the complement of  $\alpha$  relative to  $\langle n \rangle$ , and let  $|\alpha|$  denote the cardinality of  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha = \emptyset$ , we define det  $A[\emptyset] = 1$ . We use  $S_n$  for the symmetric group on  $\langle n \rangle$ .

An  $n \times n$  matrix A is called a  $P_0$ -matrix (P-matrix) if all the principal minors of A are nonnegative (positive). A P-matrix A is called 1-minor symmetric if det  $A[\alpha, \beta] \cdot \det A[\beta, \alpha] \ge$ 0, whenever  $|\alpha| = |\beta| = 1 + |\alpha \cap \beta|$ . Of course, each of the P-matrices, such as positive definite matrices (PD), totally positive matrices (TP), M-matrices (M) and inverse M-matrices ( $M^{-1}$ ), is 1-minor symmetric, see [1]. We have known that the following multiplicative principal minor inequalities are classical for PD, M and  $M^{-1}$  matrices:

Hadamard: det  $A \leq \prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii}$ ;

Fischer: det  $A \leq \det A[S] \cdot \det A[S^c]$ , for  $\forall S \subseteq \langle n \rangle$ ;

Koteljanskii: det $A[S \cup T] \cdot \det A[S \cap T] \le \det A[S] \cdot \det A[T]$ , for  $\forall S, T \subseteq \langle n \rangle$ .

These inequalities also hold for totally nonnegative matrices (TN), see [1-6].

The study of multiplicative principal minor inequalities has been actively going on for many years, many authors have done various wonderful works on this topic, see [7–11]. In [11], Zhang and Yang improved Hadamard's inequality for totally nonnegative matrices as follows:



©2013Li; licensee Springer. This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited. If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n$  totally nonnegative matrix with  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} > 0$ , then

$$\det A \le \min\left\{\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} - \max_{1 \ne \sigma \in S_n} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right)^{1/2}, \min_{k \in \langle n \rangle} a_{kk} \prod_{\substack{i=1\\i \ne k}}^{n} \left(a_{ii} - \frac{a_{ik} a_{ki}}{a_{kk}}\right)\right\}.$$
 (1.1)

Hadamard's inequality for some subclasses of  $P_0$ -matrices is an important inequality in matrix analysis, inequality (1.1) is the generalization of Hadamard's inequality for totally nonnegative matrices. It is a noticeable problem to generalize inequality (1.1) for totally nonnegative matrices to other classes of matrices. In this paper we give some new upper bounds of Fischer's inequality and Hadamard's inequality for a subclass of  $P_0$ -matrices and extend the corresponding results due to Zhang and Yang (see [11]).

# 2 Some lemmas

To avoid triviality, we always assume n > 1. We will need important Sylvester's identity for determinants (see [12]).

**Lemma 2.1** [12] Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix,  $\alpha \subseteq \langle n \rangle$ , and suppose  $|\alpha| = k$   $(1 \le k \le n - 1)$ . Define the  $(n-k) \times (n-k)$  matrix  $B = (b_{ij})$ , with  $i, j \in \alpha^c$ , by setting  $b_{ij} = \det A[\alpha \cup \{i\}, \alpha \cup \{j\}]$ for every  $i, j \in \alpha^c$ . B is called the Sylvester matrix of A associated with  $A[\alpha]$ . Then Sylvester's identity states that for each  $\delta, \gamma \subseteq \alpha^c$ , with  $|\delta| = |\gamma| = l$ ,

$$\det B[\delta,\gamma] = \left(\det A[\alpha]\right)^{l-1} \det A[\alpha \cup \delta, \alpha \cup \gamma].$$
(2.1)

For convenience, we introduce the following definition.

**Definition 2.1** A  $P_0$ -matrix (*P*-matrix) *A* is called a  $K_0$ -matrix (*K*-matrix) if every principal submatrix of *A* satisfies Koteljanskii's inequality.

Obviously, each principal submatrix of a  $K_0$ -matrix (*K*-matrix) is a  $K_0$ -matrix (*K*-matrix). Of course, each of the matrices *PD*, *TP*, *M* and  $M^{-1}$  is a *K*-matrix, the totally nonnegative matrices are  $K_0$ -matrices. In fact, an evident necessary and sufficient condition for a *K*-matrix was given in [1].

**Lemma 2.2** [1] A P-matrix satisfies Koteljanskii's inequality if and only if it is 1-minor symmetric.

There are *K*-matrices that lie in none of the classes *PD*, *TP*, *M* and  $M^{-1}$ , *e.g.*,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Lemma 2.3** If an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is a  $K_0$ -matrix, then  $a_{ij}a_{ji} \ge 0$  for  $\forall i, j \in \langle n \rangle$ .

*Proof* For  $\forall i, j \in \langle n \rangle$ , i < j, we consider the submatrix  $A[\{i, j\}]$  of the  $K_0$ -matrix A. Since  $A[\{i, j\}]$  is a  $K_0$ -matrix, by the Hadamard's inequality, we have

$$\det A\bigl[\{i,j\}\bigr] = a_{ii}a_{jj} - a_{ij}a_{ji} \leq a_{ii}a_{jj},$$

therefore

$$a_{ij}a_{ji} \ge 0$$
 for  $\forall i, j \in \langle n \rangle$ .

This completes the proof.

**Lemma 2.4** Let A be a K-matrix, B be the Sylvester matrix of A associated with  $A[\alpha]$ , then B is a K-matrix.

*Proof* For  $\forall \delta \subseteq \alpha^c$ , with  $|\delta| = l$ , by Sylvester's identity (2.1), we have

$$\det B[\delta,\delta] = \left(\det A[\alpha]\right)^{l-1} \det A[\alpha \cup \delta, \alpha \cup \delta] > 0,$$

this means that *B* is a *P*-matrix.

For  $\forall \delta'$ ,  $\gamma \subseteq \alpha^c$ , with  $|\delta'| = |\gamma| = 1 + |\delta' \cap \gamma| = k_1$ , by Sylvester's identity (2.1), we have

$$\det B[\delta', \gamma] \det B[\gamma, \delta']$$
  
=  $(\det A[\alpha])^{2k_1-2} \det A[\alpha \cup \delta', \alpha \cup \gamma] \det A[\alpha \cup \gamma, \alpha \cup \delta'] > 0.$  (2.2)

Obviously,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \alpha \cup \delta' \right| &= \left| \alpha \right| + \left| \delta' \right| = 1 + \left| \alpha \right| + \left| \delta' \cap \gamma \right| \\ &= 1 + \left| \left( \alpha \cup \delta' \right) \cap \left( \alpha \cup \gamma \right) \right|, \\ \left| \alpha \cup \gamma \right| &= \left| \alpha \right| + \left| \gamma \right| = 1 + \left| \alpha \right| + \left| \delta' \cap \gamma \right| \\ &= 1 + \left| \left( \alpha \cup \delta' \right) \cap \left( \alpha \cup \gamma \right) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

That is,

$$\left|\alpha \cup \delta'\right| = \left|\alpha \cup \gamma\right| = 1 + \left|\left(\alpha \cup \delta'\right) \cap \left(\alpha \cup \gamma\right)\right|.$$

By Lemma 2.2 and (2.2), we conclude that B is 1-minor symmetric, therefore B is a K-matrix.

**Lemma 2.5** If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n K_0$ -matrix, then

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} \ge \left[\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad for \ each \ \sigma \in S_n.$$

$$(2.3)$$

*Proof* For each  $\sigma \in S_n$ , by Lemma 2.3, we obtain

$$a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i} \geq 0$$
 for  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Since each  $2 \times 2$  principal minor of *A* is nonnegative, we have

$$a_{ii}a_{\sigma(i)i\sigma(i)} \ge a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i} \ge 0$$
 for  $\forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,

thus

$$\left(\prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii}\right)^2 \ge \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i},$$

hence inequality (2.3) follows.

# 3 Main results

In this section, we give some new upper bounds for Fischer's inequality and Hadamard's inequality, and extend the corresponding results due to Zhang and Yang (see [11]).

**Theorem 3.1** If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n K_0$ -matrix, with  $\prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} > 0$ , then

$$\det A \le \det A[\alpha] \cdot \det A[\alpha^c] \left( 1 - \max_{\substack{i \in \alpha \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}} \right).$$
(3.1)

*Proof* If *A* is singular, (3.1) is valid obviously. If *A* is a nonsingular  $K_0$ -matrix, by Fisher's inequality, we know that *A* is a *P*-matrix, therefore *A* is a *K*-matrix. Now we prove (3.1) for the *K*-matrix by induction on *n*. When n = 2, it is very easy to see that the result is valid. We suppose that the result is valid for all  $m \times m$  (m < n and  $n \ge 3$ ) *K*-matrices, let *k* be the cardinality of  $\alpha$ . Note that  $\alpha$  and  $\alpha^c$  are symmetric in inequality (3.1). Without loss of generality, we assume  $k \ge 2$ . Let

$$\max_{\substack{i \in \alpha \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij} a_{ji}}{a_{ii} a_{jj}} = \frac{a_{i_1 j_1} a_{j_1 i_1}}{a_{i_1 i_1} a_{j_1 j_1}},$$

where  $i_1 \in \alpha$  and  $j_1 \in \alpha^c$ .

For any  $r \in \alpha$  and  $r \neq i_1$ , let  $\omega = \alpha - \{r\}$ , and  $S = (S_{ij})$  be the  $(n - k + 1) \times (n - k + 1)$  Sylvester matrix of A associated with  $A[\omega]$ . By Lemma 2.4, S is a K-matrix. Clearly,  $S_{rr} = \det A[\alpha]$ , then, by Fisher's inequality, we have

$$\det S \le S_{rr} \cdot \det S[\alpha^c] = \det A[\alpha] \cdot \det S[\alpha^c], \tag{3.2}$$

where  $\alpha^c = \langle n \rangle - \alpha$ . It follows from Sylvester's identity (2.1) and (3.2) that

$$\det A = \frac{\det S}{(\det A[\omega])^{n-k}} \le \frac{\det A[\alpha] \cdot \det S[\alpha^c]}{(\det A[\omega])^{n-k}}.$$
(3.3)

Let  $\beta = \langle n \rangle - \{r\}$ , from Sylvester's identity (2.1), we obtain

$$\det S[\alpha^{c}] = \left(\det A[\omega]\right)^{n-k-1} \cdot \det A[\beta].$$
(3.4)

Thus, by the inductive hypothesis, we have

$$\det A[\beta] \le \det A[\omega] \cdot \det A[\alpha^c] \left( 1 - \max_{\substack{i \in \omega \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}} \right).$$
(3.5)

From (3.3), (3.4) and (3.5), it follows that

$$\det A \le \det A[\alpha] \cdot \det A[\alpha^c] \left( 1 - \max_{\substack{i \in \omega \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}} \right).$$
(3.6)

Clearly,

$$\max_{\substack{i \in \omega \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}} = \max_{\substack{i \in \alpha \\ j \in \alpha^c}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}}.$$
(3.7)

Combining (3.6) and (3.7), we obtain inequality (3.1).

**Example 3.1** Now, we consider a  $4 \times 4$  *K*-matrix that lies in none of the classes *PD*, *TP*, *M* and  $M^{-1}$ . Let

 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 15 & 5 & 0 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 & 9 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & 11 \\ -1 & 5 & 15 & 30 \end{pmatrix}.$ 

Then *A* is 1-minor symmetric and *A* is a *P*-matrix. By Lemma 2.2, we know that *A* is a *K*-matrix. Let  $\alpha = \{1, 2\}$ , then  $\alpha^c = \{3, 4\}$ . By calculating, we have

$$\det A = 36 < \det A[\{1,2\}] \cdot \det A[\{3,4\}] \left(1 - \max_{\substack{i \in \{1,2\}\\j \in \{3,4\}}} \frac{a_{ij}a_{ji}}{a_{ii}a_{jj}}\right) = \frac{1,800}{7},$$

therefore inequality (3.1) holds.

Let  $A[\alpha] = A[\{k\}]$  ( $k \in \langle n \rangle$ ), by Theorem 3.1 and the induction, we can obtain the following conclusion.

**Corollary 3.2** If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n K_0$ -matrix, with  $\prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} > 0$ , then

$$\det A \leq \min_{k \in \langle n \rangle} a_{kk} \prod_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^{n} \left( a_{ii} - \frac{a_{ik}a_{ki}}{a_{kk}} \right).$$

If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is a totally nonnegative matrix with  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} > 0$ , Corollary 3.2 is certainly valid, so Corollary 3.2 is the generalization of Theorem 3 in [11].

**Theorem 3.3** If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n K_0$ -matrix, then

$$\det A \le \prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} - \max_{1 \neq \sigma \in S_n} \left( \prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i} \right)^{1/2}.$$
(3.8)

*Proof* If *A* is singular, by Lemma 2.3 and Lemma 2.5, we know (3.8) is valid. If *A* is a nonsingular  $K_0$ -matrix, then *A* is a *K*-matrix. We suppose that *A* is a *K*-matrix in the following.

If n = 2, then equality in (3.8) holds. If n > 2, then first we prove the following conclusion:

For any  $1 \neq \sigma \in S_n$ , there exists  $k_0 \neq \sigma(k_0)$  such that

$$\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \le a_{k_0\sigma(k_0)} a_{\sigma(k_0)k_0} \prod_{i=1, i \ne k_0, \sigma(k_0)}^{n} a_{ii}.$$
(3.9)

Case 1. If  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i} = 0$ . For any  $1 \neq \sigma \in S_n$ , by Lemma 2.3, we know that (3.9) certainly holds.

Case 2. If  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i} > 0$ . Let  $T = \{k | \sigma(k) \neq k\}$ , then  $|T| \ge 2$ , it is easy to see that (3.9) is true even with the equality sign for |T| = 2. Now we assume that |T| > 2.

Suppose that there exists  $1 \neq \sigma \in S_n$ , for any  $k \neq \sigma(k)$ , such that

$$\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} > a_{k\sigma(k)} a_{\sigma(k)k} \prod_{i=1, i \neq k, \sigma(k)}^{n} a_{ii}.$$
(3.10)

Then multiplying all the possible inequalities in (3.10) yields

$$\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{|T|}{2}} > \prod_{k \in T} \left[a_{k\sigma(k)} a_{\sigma(k)k} \prod_{i=1, i \neq k, \sigma(k)}^{n} a_{ii}\right].$$
(3.11)

Let  $S = \langle n \rangle - T$ . If  $S \neq \emptyset$ , by (3.11) we have

$$\left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{|T|}{2}} \left[\prod_{i\in S} a_{ii}\right]^{|T|} > \left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right] \cdot \left[\prod_{i\in S} a_{ii}\right]^{|T|} \prod_{i\in T} a_{ii}^{|T|-2}.$$
(3.12)

If  $S = \emptyset$ , by (3.11) we have

$$\left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{|T|}{2}} > \left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right] \cdot \prod_{i\in T} a_{ii}^{|T|-2}.$$
(3.13)

By (3.12) and (3.13), we have

$$\left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} > \prod_{i\in T} a_{ii}.$$
(3.14)

On the other hand, since the principal submatrix A[T] of A is a K-matrix, applying Lemma 2.5 to A[T] yields

$$\left[\prod_{i\in T} a_{i\sigma(i)}a_{\sigma(i)i}\right]^{\frac{1}{2}} \le \prod_{i\in T} a_{ii},\tag{3.15}$$

which is a contradiction to (3.14), therefore (3.9) holds.

By Fisher's inequality (3.1) and (3.9), we have

$$\det A \leq \det A \left[ \left\{ k_0, \sigma(k_0) \right\} \right] \cdot \det A \left[ \left\{ k_0, \sigma(k_0) \right\}^c \right]$$
$$\leq \left[ a_{k_0 k_0} a_{\sigma(k_0) \sigma(k_0)} - a_{\sigma(k_0) k_0} a_{k_0 \sigma(k_0)} \right] \cdot \prod_{i=1, i \neq k_0, \sigma(k_0)} a_{ii}$$
$$\leq \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} - \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}},$$

therefore (3.8) holds.

If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is a totally nonnegative matrix, Theorem 3.3 is certainly valid too, so Theorem 3.3 is the generalization of Theorem 4 in [11].

**Example 3.2** Now we consider the previous *K*-matrix. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

By calculating we have

$$\det A = 2 \le \prod_{i=1}^{3} a_{ii} - \max_{1 \ne \sigma \in S_3} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^{3} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i} \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} = 24 - \max\{4, 9, \sqrt{6}, 4, \sqrt{6}\} = 15,$$

therefore inequality (3.8) holds.

By Corollary 3.2 and Theorem 3.3, we get the following result.

**Corollary 3.4** If  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n \times n K_0$ -matrix, with  $\prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii} > 0$ , then

$$\det A \leq \min\left\{\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} - \max_{1 \neq \sigma \in S_n} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right)^{1/2}, \min_{k \in \langle n \rangle} a_{kk} \prod_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^{n} \left(a_{ii} - \frac{a_{ik} a_{ki}}{a_{kk}}\right)\right\}.$$

If A is a totally nonnegative matrix, Corollary 3.4 is valid, so we obtain the result in [11].

**Corollary 3.5** [11] *If*  $A = [a_{ij}]$  *is an*  $n \times n$  *totally nonnegative matrix, with*  $\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} > 0$ , *then* 

$$\det A \leq \min\left\{\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{ii} - \max_{1 \neq \sigma \in S_n} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n} a_{i\sigma(i)} a_{\sigma(i)i}\right)^{1/2}, \min_{k \in \langle n \rangle} a_{kk} \prod_{\substack{i=1 \\ i \neq k}}^{n} \left(a_{ii} - \frac{a_{ik} a_{ki}}{a_{kk}}\right)\right\}.$$

**Competing interests** 

The author declares that he has no competing interests.

### Authors' contributions

The studies and manuscript of this paper was written by YL independently.

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