



## Hankel Matrices and Lattice Paths

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### Abstract

Let  $H$  be the Hankel matrix formed from a sequence of real numbers  $S = \{a_0 = 1, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$ , and let  $L$  denote the lower triangular matrix obtained from the Gaussian column reduction of  $H$ . This paper gives a matrix-theoretic proof that the associated Stieltjes matrix  $S_L$  is a tri-diagonal matrix. It is also shown that for any sequence (of nonzero real numbers)  $T = \{d_0 = 1, d_1, d_2, d_3, \dots\}$  there are infinitely many sequences such that the determinant sequence of the Hankel matrix formed from those sequences is  $T$ .

**1. Introduction.** In this paper we give a matrix-theoretic proof (Theorem 2.1) of one of the main theorems in [1]. In Section 2 we discuss the connection between the decomposition of a Hankel matrix and Stieltjes matrices, and in Section 3 we discuss the connection between certain lattice paths and Hankel matrices. Section 4 presents an explicit formula for the decomposition of a Hankel matrix.

**Definition 1.1.** Let  $S = \{a_0 = 1, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$  be a sequence of real numbers. The Hankel matrix generated by  $S$  is the infinite matrix

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & \cdot \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & \cdot \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & \cdot \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 & \cdot \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 & a_8 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Definition 1.2.** A lower triangular matrix

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{20} & l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{30} & l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{40} & l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

is said to be a Riordan matrix if there exist Taylor series  $g(x) = 1 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n + \dots$  and  $f(x) = x + b_2x^2 + b_3x^3 + \dots + b_nx^n + \dots$  such that for every  $k \geq 0$  the  $k$ -th column has ordinary generating function  $g(x)(f(x))^k$ .

**Definition 1.3.** The Stieltjes matrix of a lower triangular matrix  $L$  is the matrix  $S_L$  which satisfies  $LS_L = L^r$  where  $L^r$  is the matrix obtained from  $L$  by deleting the first row of  $L$ .

Thus

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{20} & l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{30} & l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{40} & l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} S_L = \begin{bmatrix} l_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{20} & l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{30} & l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{40} & l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

and so

$$S_L = L^{-1}L^r = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ -l_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ \times & -l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ \times & \times & -l_{32} & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ \times & \times & \times & -l_{43} & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} l_{10} & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{20} & l_{21} & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{30} & l_{31} & l_{32} & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ l_{40} & l_{41} & l_{42} & l_{43} & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ \times & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ \times & \times & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ \times & \times & \times & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$b_0 = l_{10}, \quad b_k = l_{k+1,k} - l_{k,k-1}, \quad k > 0,$$

$$c_0 = l_{2,0} - l_{1,0}^2, \quad c_k = (l_{k,k-1}l_{k+1,k} - l_{k+1,k-1}) - l_{k+1,k}^2 + l_{k+2,k}, \quad k > 0.$$

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $L$  and  $S_L$  be as in Definition 1.3. We define

$$D_L = \begin{bmatrix} d_0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & d_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & d_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_3 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & d_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

to be the diagonal matrix with diagonal entries given by  $d_0 = 1$ ,  $d_{k+1} = d_k c_k$  for  $k > 0$ .

## 2. Stieltjes and Hankel Matrices.

The following two theorems are proved in [1].

**Theorem 2.1.** Let  $L$  be a lower triangular matrix and let  $D = D_L$  be the diagonal matrix with nonzero diagonal entries  $\{d_i\}$  as in Definition 1.4. Then  $LDL^t$  is a Hankel matrix if and only if  $S_L$  is a tri-diagonal matrix, i.e. if and only if

$$S_L = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $b_0 = l_{1,0}$ ,  $c_0 = d_1$ ,  $b_k = l_{k+1,k} - l_{k,k-1}$ ,  $c_k = \frac{d_{k+1}}{d_k}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ .

PROOF. Let  $H = LDL^t$  be a Hankel matrix. Then

$$\begin{aligned} L &= H(DL^t)^{-1}, \\ L^r &= (H(DL^t)^{-1})^r = H^r(DL^t)^{-1}, \\ S_L &= L^{-1}L^r = L^{-1}(H^r(DL^t)^{-1}) = (L^{-1}H^r)(DL^t)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $H$  is a Hankel matrix, deleting the first row has the same effect as deleting the first column.

$$L^{-1}H = DL^t = \begin{bmatrix} d_0 & d_0 l_{10} & d_0 l_{20} & d_0 l_{3,0} & d_0 l_{4,0} & \cdot \\ 0 & d_1 & d_1 l_{21} & d_1 l_{31} & d_1 l_{41} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & d_2 & d_2 l_{32} & d_2 l_{42} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_3 & d_3 l_{43} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & d_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$L^{-1}H^r = L^{-1}H^c = (L^{-1}H)^c = \begin{bmatrix} d_0 l_{10} & d_0 l_{20} & d_0 l_{30} & d_0 l_{4,0} & \cdot \\ d_1 & d_1 l_{21} & d_1 l_{31} & d_1 l_{41} & \cdot \\ 0 & d_2 & d_2 l_{32} & d_2 l_{42} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & d_3 & d_3 l_{43} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$S_L = (L^{-1}H)^c(DL^t)^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} d_0 l_{10} & d_0 l_{20} & d_0 l_{30} & d_0 l_{4,0} & \cdot \\ d_1 & d_1 l_{21} & d_1 l_{31} & d_1 l_{41} & \cdot \\ 0 & d_2 & d_2 l_{32} & d_2 l_{42} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & d_3 & d_3 l_{43} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{d_0} & \times & \times & \times & \times & \cdot \\ 0 & \frac{1}{d_1} & \times & \times & \times & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{d_2} & \times & \times & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{d_3} & \times & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{d_4} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$b_0 = l_{1,0}, \quad c_0 = \frac{d_1}{d_0} = d_1, \quad b_k = l_{k+1,k} - l_{k,k-1}, \quad c_k = \frac{d_{k+1}}{d_k}, \quad k \geq 1.$$

Conversely, let  $S_L$  be a tri-diagonal matrix and let  $H = LDL^t$ . Then  $L^{-1}H^r = L^{-1}(LDL^t)^r = L^{-1}(L^r DL^t) = (L^{-1}L^r)DL^t = S_L DL^t$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} d_0 & d_0 l_{10} & d_0 l_{20} & d_0 l_{3,0} & d_0 l_{4,0} & \cdot \\ 0 & d_1 & d_1 l_{21} & d_1 l_{31} & d_1 l_{41} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & d_2 & d_2 l_{32} & d_2 l_{42} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d_3 & d_3 l_{43} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & d_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} (L^{-1}H^r)_{n,k} &= c_{n-1}d_{n-1}l_{k,n-1} + b_n d_n l_{k,n} + d_{n+1} l_{k,n+1} \\ &= \frac{d_n}{d_{n-1}} d_{n-1} l_{k,n-1} + b_n d_n l_{k,n} + c_n d_n l_{k,n+1} \\ &= d_n (l_{k,n-1} + b_n l_{k,n} + c_n l_{k,n+1}) \\ &= d_n l_{k+1,n} = (DL^t)_{n,k+1} = (DL^t)_{n,k}^c = (L^{-1}H)_{n,k}^c = (L^{-1}H^c)_{n,k}. \end{aligned}$$

We have shown that  $L^{-1}H^r = L^{-1}H^c$ , and so  $H^r = H^c$ . Hence  $H$  is a Hankel matrix.  $\blacksquare$

**Theorem 2.2.**  $L$  is a Riordan matrix (i.e.  $b_k = b_1 = b$  and  $c_k = c_1 = c$  for  $k \geq 1$ ) if and only if  $f = x(1 + bf + cf^2)$  and

$$g = \frac{1}{1 - xb_0 - xc_0 f},$$

where  $f, g$  are as in Definition 1.2.

See [1] for the proof.

**Corollary 2.3.** Let  $T = \{d_0 = 1, d_1, d_2, d_3, \dots\}$  be any sequence of (nonzero) real numbers. Then there exists a sequence  $S = \{a_0 = 1, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$  such that  $T$  is equal to the sequence of diagonal entries of  $D$  in the decomposition  $H = LDL^t$  of the Hankel matrix generated by  $S$ .

PROOF. As in Theorem 2.1, let  $c_0 = d_1$ ,  $c_k = \frac{d_{k+1}}{d_k}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , and form the Stieltjes matrix

$$S_L = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

where the  $b_i$ s are arbitrary. By Definition 1.3 there is a lower triangular matrix  $L$  such that  $LS_L = L^r$ . Let  $S$  be the sequence formed by the first column of  $L$  and let  $H$  denote the Hankel matrix generated by  $S$ . By Theorem 2.1 the diagonal entries of  $D$  in the decomposition  $H = LDL^t$  form the sequence  $T$ . ■

**Example 2.4.** Let  $T = \{1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 42, 132, \dots\}$  be the Catalan sequence ([A000108](#) in [2]) and let

$$S_L = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{2} & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{14}{5} & 0 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$LDL^t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 14 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{11}{2} & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & \cdot \\ 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 14 & \cdot \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 14 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 0 & 14 & 0 & \frac{167}{2} & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} = H.$$

### 3. Lattice Paths and Hankel Matrices

We consider those lattice paths in the Cartesian plane running from  $(0, 0)$  that use steps from  $S = \{u = (1, 1), h = (1, 0), d = (1, -1)\}$  with assigned weights 1 for  $u$ ,  $w_1$  for  $h$  and  $w_2$  for  $d$ . Let  $L(n, k)$  be the set of paths that never go below the  $x$ -axis and end at  $(n, k)$ . The weight of a path is the product of the weights of its steps. Let  $l_{n,k}$  be the sum of the weights of all the paths in  $L(n, k)$ . See also [3], [4].

**Theorem 3.1.** Let  $L = (l_{n,k})_{n,k \geq 0}$ . Then  $L$  is a lower triangular matrix, the Stieltjes matrix of  $L$  is

$$S_L = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ w_2 & w_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & w_2 & w_1 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & w_2 & w_1 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & w_2 & w_1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $H = LDL^t$  is the Hankel matrix generated by the first column of  $L$  and  $d_k = w_2^k$  for  $k > 0$ .

PROOF. From Theorem 2.1. ■

**Example 3.2.** For  $w_1 = 0$ ,  $w_2 = 1$ ,  $L$  is the Catalan matrix. For  $w_1 = t$ ,  $w_2 = 1$ ,  $L$  is the  $t$ -Motzkin matrix. In both cases  $D$  is the identity matrix. For example, when  $t = 1$ ,

$$L = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 4 & 5 & 3 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 9 & 12 & 9 & 4 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$LDL^t = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 9 & \cdot \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 9 & 21 & \cdot \\ 2 & 4 & 9 & 21 & 51 & \cdot \\ 4 & 9 & 21 & 51 & 127 & \cdot \\ 9 & 21 & 51 & 127 & 323 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} = H$$

where  $S = \{1, 1, 2, 4, 9, 21, 51, \dots\}$  is the Motzkin sequence [A001006](#).

**Theorem 3.3.** If  $w_1, w_2$  depend on the height  $k$ , i.e.  $w_1(k) = b_k$  and  $w_2(k+1) = c_k$ , then

$$S_L = \begin{bmatrix} b_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ c_0 & b_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & c_1 & b_2 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & c_2 & b_3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & c_3 & b_4 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $H = LDL^t$  is the Hankel matrix generated by the first column of  $L$  and  $d_k = \prod_{i \leq k} c_i$ .

PROOF. From Theorem 2.1. ■

See Example 2.4 for an illustration.

#### 4. Gaussian Column Reduction

Let  $S = \{a_0 = 1, a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$  be a sequence of real numbers and let  $H$  denote the Hankel matrix generated by  $S$ . All the results in this section are well-known in matrix theory. We shall express the entries of  $L$  in term of  $S$ . We assume that  $H$  is positive definite.

**Lemma 4.1.** The decomposition of a positive definite Hankel matrix  $H = LDU$  is unique and  $U = L^t$ , where  $L$  is a lower triangular matrix with diagonal entries 1,  $D$  is a diagonal matrix and  $U$  is an upper triangular matrix with diagonal entries 1.

PROOF. Let  $LDU = H = L_1 D_1 U_1$ . Then  $DUU_1^{-1} = L^{-1} L_1 D_1$  is both an upper and lower triangular matrix, hence  $UU_1^{-1} = L^{-1} L_1 = I$  is the infinite identity matrix. ■

Let  $H_n$  be the truncated submatrix of  $H$  with  $n \geq 0$ . For example,

$$H_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad H_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 & a_8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $H_n(k)$  be the matrix obtained from  $H_n$  by replacing the last column of  $H_n$  by  $a_k, a_{k+1}, a_{k+2}, \dots, a_{k+n}$ . For example,

$$H_3(1) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_1 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_2 \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_3 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad H_3(5) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_5 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_6 \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & a_7 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $h_i = \det H_i$  and define an infinite upper triangular matrix  $R = (r_{n,k})$  in term of  $(n, k)$ -cofactor of  $H_k$  by  $r_{n,k} = 0$  for  $k < n$ , and

$$r_{n,k} = \frac{1}{h_{k-1}} (-1)^{n+k+2} \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & \cdot & a_{k-1} \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & \cdot & a_k \\ a_2 & a_3 & a_4 & \cdot & a_{k+1} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_{n-1} & a_n & a_{n+1} & \cdot & a_{k+n-2} \\ a_{n+1} & a_{n+2} & a_{n+3} & \cdot & a_{k+n} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ a_k & a_{k+1} & a_{k+2} & \cdot & a_{k+k} \end{bmatrix}$$

for  $k \geq n$ . For example,

$$r_{2,4} = \frac{1}{h_3} (-1)^{(2+4)+2} \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ a_3 & a_4 & a_5 & a_6 \\ a_4 & a_5 & a_6 & a_7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Remark 4.2.**  $HR = LD$ , where  $L = (l_{n,k})$  is the Gaussian column reduction of the Hankel matrix  $H$  and  $D$  is the diagonal matrix with diagonal entries  $\{d_i\}$ ,  $R^{-1} = L^t$  with  $d_i = \frac{h_i}{h_{i-1}}$  and  $l_{n,k} = \frac{1}{h_{k-1}} \det H_k(n)$ .

**Remark 4.3.** If  $L$  is a Riordan matrix, then for  $i \geq 1$ ,  $c = c_i = \frac{d_{i+1}}{d_i} = \frac{h_{i+1}h_{i-1}}{h_i h_i}$  and  $b = b_i = l_{i+1,i} - l_{i,i-1} = \frac{1}{h_{i-1}} \det H_i(i+1) - \frac{1}{h_{i-2}} \det H_{i-1}(i)$  is a recurrence relation for the sequence  $S$ .

**Example 4.4.** Let  $S = \{1, 3, 13, 63, 321, 1683, 8989, 48639, 265729, \dots\}$  be the central Delannoy numbers [A001850](#) and let  $H$  be the Hankel matrix generated by  $S$ . Then

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 63 & \cdot \\ 3 & 13 & 63 & 321 & \cdot \\ 13 & 63 & 321 & 1683 & \cdot \\ 63 & 321 & 1683 & 8989 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 5 & -9 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & -6 & 21 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -9 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$LD = HR = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 13 & 24 & 8 & 0 & \cdot \\ 63 & 132 & 72 & 16 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$R^t HR = D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 16 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$L = HRD^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 13 & 6 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 63 & 33 & 9 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$

$$S_L = L^{-1}L^r = R^t L^r = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ -3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 5 & -6 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ -9 & 21 & -9 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 13 & 6 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 63 & 33 & 9 & 1 & \cdot \\ 321 & 180 & 62 & 12 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 4 & 3 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 1 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix},$$



$$\begin{aligned}
LDL^t &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 13 & 6 & 1 & 0 & \cdot \\ 63 & 33 & 9 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & 0 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 16 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 63 & \cdot \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 33 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 9 & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 13 & 63 & \cdot \\ 3 & 13 & 63 & 321 & \cdot \\ 13 & 63 & 321 & 1683 & \cdot \\ 63 & 321 & 1683 & 8989 & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} = H.
\end{aligned}$$

**Remark 4.5.** If  $H$  is the Hankel matrix corresponding to a sequence  $S$ , then by Theorem 3.1 and Theorem 3.3 we may use lattice paths to find  $L$ , the Gaussian column reduction of  $H$ .

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(Mentions sequences [A000108](#), [A001006](#), and [A001850](#).)

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