# On explicit formulas for the principal matrix logarithm 

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#### Abstract

We describe a method for evaluating both the Fibonacci-Hörner and the polynomial decomposition of the principal matrix logarithm, with a view to solve the lifting problem of its explicit computation. The Binet formula for linear recursive sequences serves as a triggering factor for giving the exact formula. We supply some illustrative examples.


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## 1. Introduction

The logarithms of a matrix appear in various fields of mathematics, applied sciences and engineering. Many methods and algorithms are expanded in producing their representations (see $[7,9-11,15,18]$ and references therein). In contrast with the matrix exponential, the definition of the matrix logarithms reveals some significant difficulties. Indeed, for a matrix $B$ in the algebra of square matrices, $M_{d}(\mathbb{K})(\mathbb{K}=\mathbb{R}$ or $\mathbb{C})$, the problem consists in finding a matrix $X \in M_{d}(\mathbb{K})$ satisfying the matrix equation $e^{X}=B$. Any solution of this equation, denoted by $X=\log (B)$, is called $\operatorname{logarithm}$ of $B$. A matrix $B \in M_{d}(\mathbb{K})$ has a logarithm (not necessary real) if and only if $B$ is nonsingular. Nevertheless, the equation $e^{X}=B$ may have infinitely many solutions; see e.g. [7,9-11]. By way of contrast, if $B$ has no eigenvalues on the closed negative real axis, among its infinitely many logarithms, there exists a unique logarithm $X$ called the principal logarithm of $B$ and denoted by $X=\log (B)$. This unique matrix logarithm has all its eigenvalues into the horizontal strip determined by the condition $\left\{\lambda_{i}(X) \in \mathbb{C}:\left|\operatorname{Im}\left(\lambda_{i}(X)\right)\right|<\pi\right\}$ (see $[7,10,11,15]$ ). Meanwhile, the simplest manner to define the principal matrix logarithm is a power series. This definition is based on the fact that the function $\log (z)=\log |z|+\operatorname{iarg}(z)$ is analytical in its principal branch, $|z|>0$ and $|\operatorname{Im}(\log (z))|<\pi$. The series $\log (z)=-\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(1-z)^{n}}{n}$, in the unit disk centered at $z_{0}=1$, can be applied to define the principal matrix logarithm as $\log (B)=-\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\left(I_{d}-B\right)^{n}}{n}$, for $\left\|I_{d}-B\right\|<1$.

The computation of the principal matrix logarithm stills an exciting area, and the main purpose here is to provide methods in order to compute exactly the principal logarithm of a matrix $B \in G L(d, \mathbb{C})$ under some general conditions, where $G L(d, \mathbb{C})$ represents the group of invertible matrices of order $d$. The quote part of our study is exhibited in the usage of techniques involving elementary properties of linear Fibonacci sequences and their Binet formula, which allows us to establish a simpler and explicit formula of the principal matrix logarithm. Our methods are based on the knowledge of an annihilator polynomial $R(z)=z^{r}-a_{0} z^{r-1}-\cdots-a_{r-1}$ of $A=I_{d}-B$, and the Fibonacci-Hörner decomposition of its power matrices $A^{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Our development is released from the general properties of the linear recurrence relations and the Cayley-Hamilton Theorem (Section 2). We introduce the Binet formula for the solutions of linear recurrence relations to obtain an analytical and exact formula for the principal logarithm of a matrix in its Fibonacci-Hörner basis (Section 3). Over and above, illustrative examples, remarks, and comparisons with other known representations for the principal matrix logarithm are also provided.

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## 2. Decompositions of the principal matrix logarithm via recursive relations

### 2.1. Fibonacci-Hörner decomposition and recursiveness

Let $A \in M_{d}(\mathbb{C})$ and $R(z)=z^{r}-a_{0} z^{r-1}-\cdots-a_{r-1}$ a polynomial such that $R(A)=\Theta_{d}$ (the zero matrix of order $d$ ), with $2 \leqslant r \leqslant d$ to avoid trivialities. Following [3,5,13], we have

$$
\begin{equation*}
A^{n}=u_{n} A_{0}+u_{n-1} A_{1}+\cdots+u_{n-r+1} A_{r-1}, \text { for } n \geqslant 0 \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the sequence $\left\{u_{n}\right\}_{n \geqslant-r+1}$ is defined by $u_{0}=1, u_{-r+1}=\cdots=u_{-1}=0$, and $u_{m}=\sum_{k_{0}+2 k_{1}+\cdots+k_{r-1}=m} \frac{\left(k_{0}+\cdots+k_{r-1}\right)!}{k_{0}!\cdots k_{r-1}!} a_{0}^{k_{0}} \cdots a_{r-1}^{k_{r-1}}$, for $m \geqslant 1$, represents its combinatorial expression. Moreover, as shown in [3,4,13], the sequence $\left\{u_{n}\right\}_{n \geqslant-r+1}$ satisfies the linear recursive relation of order $r$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
u_{n+1}=a_{0} u_{n}+\cdots+a_{r-1} u_{n-r+1}, \text { for } n \geqslant 0, \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

with constant coefficients $a_{0}, a_{1}, \cdots, a_{r-1}$ (see [2,8], for example). Sequences (2) are known in the literature as $r$-generalized Fibonacci sequences. The set of matrices $A_{0}=I_{d}, A_{1}, \ldots, A_{r-1}$ from (1) is the so-called Fibonacci-Hörner basis associated to the matrix $A$,

$$
\begin{equation*}
A_{0}=I_{d}, A_{k}=A^{k}-a_{0} A^{k-1}-\ldots-a_{k-1} I_{d},\left(\operatorname{viz} A_{k}=A A_{k-1}-a_{k-1} I_{d}\right) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

for $1 \leqslant k \leqslant r-1$ (see [4,13]). Expression (1) is the so-called Fibonacci-Hörner decomposition of the power matrix $A^{n}$ (see [5]). Furthermore, the polynomial decomposition of $A^{n}$ (for $n \geqslant r$ ) in its power basis $\left\{A^{s}\right\}_{0 \leqslant s \leqslant r-1}$, obtained by a straightforward computation, is

$$
\begin{equation*}
A^{n}=\sum_{p=0}^{r-1}\left(\sum_{j=0}^{p} a_{r-p+j-1} u_{n-r-j}\right) A^{p} \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

(see Proposition 3.1 of [4] and Corollary 2.2 of [13]). For computing explicit representations of the Fibonacci-Hörner decomposition (1) and the polynomial decomposition (4) of the power matrices $A^{n}$, the expression of $u_{m}$ ( $m \geqslant 1$ ) are obtained recursively by using (2). However, we can also get these coefficients by giving (2) under a determinantal form. That is, for $m \geqslant 1$, the determinantal representation of $u_{m}$ using a $m \times m$ upper Hessenberg matrix [12,18], is as follows

$$
u_{m}=\left|\begin{array}{ccccccc}
a_{0} & a_{1} & \ldots & a_{r-1} & 0 & \ldots & 0  \tag{5}\\
-1 & a_{0} & \ldots & a_{r-2} & a_{r-1} & \ldots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ldots & \ddots & \ldots & \ldots & \vdots \\
0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & a_{0} & a_{1} \\
0 & 0 & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & -1 & a_{0}
\end{array}\right| .
$$

Note that for $r+1 \leqslant m$, Expression (5) results from the determinant of a Toeplitz ( $\mathrm{r}+1$ )-banded matrix.
Remark 2.1. The powers of singular matrices $A \in M_{d}(\mathbb{C})$ are also included in the representation (1). For such matrices the polynomial $R(z)$ accomplishes $a_{r-1}=0$. Its Fibonacci-Hörner decomposition is provided by considering in the relation (2) the zero coefficient $a_{r-1}$; see Example 3.2 for more details.

Although the following result is no longer used in the following, drawing one's inspiration from the representation (5) of $u_{m}$, we propose a new determinantal representation for the $n$-th power matrix $A^{n}(n \geqslant r)$ in the power basis.

Proposition 2.2. Under the preceding data we have,

$$
\begin{equation*}
A^{n}=\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} u_{n-r+1}^{(k)} A^{r-1-k}=\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} u_{n-r+1}^{(r-1-k)} A^{k}, \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $u_{n-r+1}^{(k)}$, the determinant of $a(n-r+1) \times(n-r+1)$ matrix, is as the $u_{n-r+1}$ given in Expression (5), but with the first row shifted $k$ positions forward, [12]. Note that $u_{n-r+1}^{(0)}=u_{n-r+1}$ is as given in (5).

Proof. By mathematical induction. Since $R(A)=\Theta_{d}$, the result for $A^{r}$ is trivial. We assume that $A^{n-1}$ has the following representation in the power basis, $A^{n-1}=\sum_{k=0}^{r-1} u_{n-r}^{(k)} A^{r-1-k}$. Therefore, using the induction, we get

$$
A^{n}=u_{n-r}^{(0)} A^{r}+\sum_{k=1}^{r-1} u_{n-r}^{(k)} A^{r-k}=u_{n-r}^{(0)} \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} a_{k} A^{r-1-k}+\sum_{k=0}^{r-2} u_{n-r}^{(k+1)} A^{r-1-k}
$$

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