# Rhotrix Linear Transformation 

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Received September 20, 2012; revised October 26, 2012; accepted November 6, 2012


#### Abstract

This paper considers rank of a rhotrix and characterizes its properties, as an extension of ideas to the rhotrix theory rhomboidal arrays, introduced in 2003 as a new paradigm of matrix theory of rectangular arrays. Furthermore, we present the necessary and sufficient condition under which a linear map can be represented over rhotrix.


Keywords: Rhotrix; Rank; Rhotrix Rank; Linear Transformation; Rhotrix Linear Transformation

## 1. Introduction

By a rhotrix $A$ of dimension three, we mean a rhomboidal array defined as

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

where, $a, b, c, d, e \in \mathfrak{R}$. The entry $c$ in rhotrix $A$ is called the heart of $A$ and it is often denoted by $h(A)$. The concept of rhotrix was introduced by [1] as an extension of matrix-tertions and matrix noitrets suggested by [2]. Since the introduction of rhotrix in [1], many researchers have shown interest on development of concepts for Rhotrix theory that are analogous to concepts in Matrix theory (see [3-9]). Sani [7] proposed an alternative method of rhotrix multiplication, by extending the concept of row-column multiplication of two dimensional matrices to three dimensional rhotrices, recorded as follows:

$$
\begin{aligned}
A \circ B & =\left\langle\begin{array}{ccc} 
& a & \\
b & h(A) & d \\
e &
\end{array}\right\rangle \circ\left\langle\begin{array}{ccc} 
& f \\
g & h(B) & i \\
j
\end{array}\right\rangle, \\
& =\left\langle\begin{array}{ccc}
a f+d g \\
b f+e g & h(A) h(B) & a i+d j \\
b i+e j
\end{array}\right.
\end{aligned}
$$

where, $A$ and $B$ belong to set of all three dimensional rhotrices, $R_{3}(\Re)$.

The definition of rhotrix was later generalized by [6] to include any finite dimension $n \in 2 Z^{+}+1$. Thus; by a rhotrix $A$ of dimension $n \in 2 Z^{+}+1$, we mean a rhomboidal array of cardinality $\frac{1}{2}\left(n^{2}+1\right)$. Implying a rhotrix $R$ of dimension $n$ can be written as

$$
R_{n}=\left\langle\begin{array}{ccccccc} 
& & & a_{11} & & & \\
& & a_{21} & c_{11} & a_{12} & & \\
& \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \\
a_{t 1} & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & a_{t t} \\
& \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \ldots & \\
& & a_{t t-1} & c_{t-1 t-1} & a_{t-1 t} & &
\end{array}\right\rangle
$$

The element $a_{i j}(i, j=1,2, \cdots, t)$ and $c_{k l}(k, l=1,2, \cdots, t-1)$ are called the major and minor entries of $R$ respectively. A generalization of row-column multiplication method for $n$-dimensional rhotrices was given by [8]. That is, given any $n$-dimensional rhotrices $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$ and $Q_{n}=\left\langle b_{i j}, d_{k l}\right\rangle$, the multiplication of $R_{n}$ and $Q_{n}$ is as follows:

$$
R_{n} \circ Q_{n}=\left\langle\sum_{i, j=1}^{t}\left(a_{i j} b_{i j}\right), \sum_{k, l=1}^{t-1}\left(c_{k l} d_{k l}\right)\right\rangle, t=\frac{(n+1)}{2} .
$$

The method of converting a rhotrix to a special matrix called "coupled matrix" was suggested by [9]. This idea was used to solve systems of $n \times n$ and $(n-1) \times(n-1)$ matrix problems simultaneously. The concept of vectors and rhotrix vector spaces and their properties were introduced by [3] and [4] respectively. To the best of our knowledge, the concept of rank and linear transformation of rhotrix has not been studied. In this paper, we consider the rank of a rhotrix and characterize its properties. We also extend the idea to suggest the necessary and sufficient condition for representing rhotrix linear transformation.

## 2. Preliminaries

The following definitions will help in our discussion of a
useful result in this section and other subsequent ones.

### 2.1. Definition

Let $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$ be an $n$-dimensional rhotrix. Then, $a_{i j}$ is the $(i, j)$-entries called the major entries of $R_{n}$ and $c_{k l}$ is the $(k, l)$-entries called the minor entries of $R_{n}$.

### 2.2. Definition 2.2 [7]

A rhotrix $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$ of $n$-dimension is a coupled of two matrices $\left(a_{i j}\right)$ and $\left(c_{k l}\right)$ consisting of its major and minor matrices respectively. Therefore, $\left(a_{i j}\right)$ and $\left(c_{k l}\right)$ are the major and minor matrices of $R_{n}$.

### 2.3. Definition

Let $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$ be an $n$-dimensional rhotrix. Then, rows and columns of $\left(a_{i j}\right)\left(\left(c_{k l}\right)\right)$ will be called the major (minor) rows and columns of $R_{n}$ respectively.

### 2.4. Definition

For any odd integer $n$, an $n \times n$ matrix $\left(a_{i j}\right)$ is called a filled coupled matrix if $a_{i j}=0$ for all $i, j$ whose sum $i+j$ is odd. We shall refer to these entries as the null entries of the filled coupled matrix.

### 2.5. Theorem

There is one-one correspondence between the set of all $n$-dimensional rhotrices over $F$ and the set of all $n \times n$ filled coupled matrices over $F$.

## 3. Rank of a Rhotrix

Let $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$, the entries $a_{r r}(1 \leq r \leq t)$ and $c_{s s}(1 \leq s \leq t-1)$ in the main diagonal of the major and minor matrices of $R$ respectively, formed the main diagonal of $R$. If all the entries to the left (right) of the main diagonal in $R$ are zeros, $R$ is called a right (left) triangular rhotrix. The following lemma follows trivially.

### 3.1. Lemma

Let $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$, is a left (right) triangular rhotrix if and only if $\left(a_{i j}\right)$ and $\left(c_{k l}\right)$ are lower (upper) triangular matrices.

## Proof

This follows when the rhotrix $R_{n}$ is being rotated through $45^{\circ}$ in anticlockwise direction.

In the light of this lemma, any $n$-dimensional rhotrix $R$ can be reduce to a right triangular rhotrix by reducing its major and minor matrix to echelon form using ele-
mentary row operations. Recall that, the rank of a matrix $A$ denoted by $\operatorname{rank}(A)$ is the number of non-zero row(s) in its reduced row echelon form. If $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$, we define rank of $R$ denoted by $\operatorname{rank}(R)$ as:

$$
\begin{equation*}
\operatorname{rank}(R)=\operatorname{rank}\left(a_{i j}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(c_{k l}\right) \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

It follows from Equation (3) that many properties of rank of matrix can be extended to the rank of rhotrix. In particular, we have the following:

### 3.2. Theorem

Let $R_{n}=\left\langle a_{i j}, c_{k l}\right\rangle$, and $Q_{n}=\left\langle b_{i j}, d_{k l}\right\rangle$, be any two $n$-dimensional rhotrices, where $n \in 2 Z^{+}+1$. Then

1) $\operatorname{rank}(R) \leq n$;
2) $\operatorname{rank}(R+S) \leq \operatorname{rank}(R)+\operatorname{rank}(S)$;
3) $\operatorname{rank}(R)+\operatorname{rank}(S)-n \leq \operatorname{rank}(R \circ S)$;
4) $\operatorname{rank}(R \circ S) \leq \min \{\operatorname{rank}(R), \operatorname{rank}(S)\}$.

## Proof

The first two statements follow directly from the definition. To prove the third statement, we apply the corresponding inequality for matrices, that is,
$\operatorname{rank}(A B) \geq \operatorname{rank}(A)+\operatorname{rank}(B)-n$, where $A$ is $m \times n$ and $B$ is $n \times p$. Thus,

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{rank}(R S)= & \operatorname{rank}\left[\left(a_{i j}\right)\left(b_{i j}\right)\right]+\operatorname{rank}\left[\left(c_{k l}\right)\left(d_{k l}\right)\right] \\
\geq & {\left[\operatorname{rank}\left(a_{i j}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(b_{i j}\right)-\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)\right] } \\
& +\left[\operatorname{rank}\left(c_{k l}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(d_{k l}\right)-\left(\frac{n+1}{2}\right)+1\right] \\
= & \operatorname{rank}(R)+\operatorname{rank}(S)-n .
\end{aligned}
$$

For the last statement, consider

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{rank}(R S) \\
& =\operatorname{rank}\left[\left(a_{i j}\right)\left(b_{i j}\right)\right]+\operatorname{rank}\left[\left(c_{k l}\right)\left(d_{k l}\right)\right] \\
& \leq \min \left\{\left(a_{i j}\right), \operatorname{rank}\left(b_{i j}\right)\right\}+\min \left\{\left(c_{k l}\right), \operatorname{rank}\left(d_{k l}\right)\right\} \\
& \leq \min \left\{\left(a_{i j}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(c_{k l}\right),\left(b_{i j}\right)+\operatorname{rank}\left(d_{k l}\right)\right\} \\
& =\min \{\operatorname{rank}(R)+\operatorname{rank}(S)\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

### 3.3. Example

Let

$$
A=\left\langle\begin{array}{ccccc} 
& & 1 & & \\
& 0 & 2 & -2 & \\
1 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\
& -2 & 1 & 1 &
\end{array}\right\rangle
$$

Then, the filled coupled matrix of $A$ is given by

$$
m(A)=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 2 \\
0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 2
\end{array}\right)
$$

Now reducing $m(A)$ to reduce row echelon form (rref) , we obtain

$$
\operatorname{rref}(m(A))=\left(\begin{array}{ccccc}
1 & 0 & -2 & 0 & 2 \\
0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right)
$$

which is a coupled of $(2 \times 2)$ and $(3 \times 3)$ matrices, i.e.

$$
A(\text { say })=\left(\begin{array}{ll}
2 & 0 \\
0 & 3
\end{array}\right) \text { and } B(\text { say })=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & -2 & 2 \\
0 & 3 & 1 \\
0 & 0 & 0
\end{array}\right) \text { respec- }
$$

tively.
Notice that,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \operatorname{rank}(A)+\operatorname{rank}(B) \\
& =2+2=4=\operatorname{rank}(\operatorname{rref}(m(A)))
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence, $=\operatorname{rank}(A)=4$.

## 4. Rhotrix Linear Transformation

One of the most important concepts in linear algebra is the concept of representation of linear mappings as matrices. If $V$ and $W$ are vector spaces of dimension $n$ and $m$ respectively, then any linear mapping $T$ from $V$ to $W$ can be represented by a matrix. The matrix representation of $T$ is called the matrix of $T$ denoted by $m(T)$. Recall that, if $F$ is a field, then any vector space $V$ of finite dimension $n$ over $F$ is isomorphic to $F^{n}$. Therefore, any $n \times n$ matrix over $F$ can be considered as a linear operator on the vector space $F^{n}$ in the fixed standard basis. Following this ideas, we study in this section, a rhotrix as a linear operator on the vector space $F^{n}$. Since the dimension of a rhotrix is always odd, it follow that, in representing a linear map $T$ on a vector space $V$ by a rhotrix, the dimension of $V$ is necessarily odd. Therefore, throughout what follows, we shall consider only odd dimensional vector spaces. For any $n \in 2 Z^{+}+1$ and $F$ be an arbitrary field, we find the coupled $F^{t}, F^{t-1}$ of $F^{t}$
$F^{t}=\left\{\left(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}\right) \mid \alpha_{1}, \cdots, \alpha_{t} \in F\right\}$ and
$F^{t-1}=\left\{\left(\beta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \cdots, \beta_{t}\right) \mid \beta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1} \in F^{t-1}\right\}$ by

$$
\begin{aligned}
\left(F^{t}, F^{t-1}\right)=\{ & \left\{\left(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}, \beta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1}\right):\right. \\
& \left.\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}, \beta_{1}, \beta_{2}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1} \in F^{t}\right\} .
\end{aligned}
$$

It is clear that $\left(F^{t}, F^{t-1}\right)$ coincides with $F^{n}$ and so, if $n \in 2 Z^{+}+1$, any $n$-dimensional vector spaces $V_{1}$ and $V_{2}$ is of dimensions $\frac{n+1}{2}$ and $\frac{n+1}{2}-1$ respectively. Less obviously, it can be seen that not every linear map $T$ of $F^{n}$ can be represented by a rhotrix in the standard basis. For instance, the map

$$
T: F^{3} \rightarrow F^{3}
$$

defined by

$$
T(x, y, z)=(x-y, x+z, y+z)
$$

is a linear mapping on $F^{3}$ which cannot be represented by a rhotrix in the standard basis. The following theorem characterizes when a linear map $T$ on $F^{n}$ can be represented by a rhotrix.

### 4.1. Theorem

Let $n \in 2 \mathrm{Z}^{+}+1$ and $F$ be a field. Then, a linear map $T: F^{n} \rightarrow F^{n}$ can be represented by a rhotrix with respect to the standard basis if and only if $T$ is defined as

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T\left(x_{1}, y_{1}, x_{2}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}, x_{t}\right) \\
& =\left(\alpha_{1}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right)\right. \\
& \quad \alpha_{2}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{2}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \cdots, \\
& \left.\quad \beta_{t-1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \alpha_{t}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where $t=\frac{n+1}{2}, \alpha_{1}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}$ and $\beta_{1}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1}$ are any linear map on $F^{t}$ and $F^{t-1}$ respectively.

## Proof:

Suppose $T: F^{n} \rightarrow F^{n}$ is defined by

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T\left(x_{1}, y_{1}, x_{2}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}, x_{t}\right) \\
& =\left(\alpha_{1}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right)\right. \\
& \quad \alpha_{2}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{2}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \cdots \\
& \left.\quad \beta_{t-1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \alpha_{t}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right)\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

where, $t=\frac{n+1}{2}, \alpha_{1}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}$ and $\beta_{1}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1}$ are any linear map on $F^{t}$ and $F^{t-1}$ respectively, and consider the standard basis
$\{(1,0, \cdots, 0),(0,1,0, \cdots, 0), \cdots,(0,0, \cdots, 1)\}$. Note that, for $1 \leq i \leq t$ and $1 \leq j \leq t-1$. Since $\alpha_{i}, \beta_{j}$ are linear maps, $\alpha_{i}(0, \cdots, 0)=\beta_{j}(0, \cdots, 0)=0$. Thus,
$\left.\begin{array}{rl}T(1,0, \cdots, 0)= & {\left[\alpha_{1}(1,0, \cdots, 0), 0, \cdots, \alpha_{t}(1,0, \cdots, 0)\right]} \\ T(1,0, \cdots, 0)= & {\left[0, \beta_{1}(1,0, \cdots, 0), \cdots, \beta_{t-1}(1,0, \cdots, 0)\right]} \\ \vdots \\ T(0, \cdots, 0,1)= & {\left[0, \beta_{1}(0, \cdots, 0,1), \cdots, \beta_{t-1}(0, \cdots, 0), 1\right]} \\ T(0, \cdots, 0,1)=\left[\alpha_{1}(0, \cdots, 0,1), 0, \cdots, \alpha_{t}(0,0, \cdots, 0,1)\right]\end{array}\right\}$
Let $\alpha_{i j}=\alpha_{j}\left(0, \cdots,_{i^{\text {in - position }}}, \cdots, 0\right)$ for
$(1 \leq i, j \leq t)$ and $\beta_{k l}=\beta_{l}\left(0, \cdots,{ }_{j^{\text {ln -position }}}^{1}, \cdots, 0\right)$
for ( $1 \leq k, l \leq t-1$ ). Then from (5), we have the matrix of $T$ is

$$
\left(\begin{array}{ccccccc}
\alpha_{11} & 0 & \alpha_{12} & \ldots & \alpha_{1 t-1} & 0 & \alpha_{1 t}  \tag{6}\\
0 & \beta_{11} & 0 & \ldots & 0 & \beta_{1 t-1} & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\
0 & \beta_{t-1 t} & 0 & \ldots & 0 & \beta_{t-1 t-1} & 0 \\
\alpha_{t 1} & 0 & \alpha_{t 2} & \ldots & \alpha_{t-1} & 0 & \alpha_{t t}
\end{array}\right) .
$$

This is a filled coupled matrix from which we obtain the rhotrix representation of $T$ as $\left\langle\alpha_{i j}, \beta_{k l}\right\rangle$.

Conversely:
Suppose $T: F^{n} \rightarrow F^{n}$ has a rhotrix representation $\left\langle\alpha_{i j}, \beta_{k l}\right\rangle$ in the standard basis. Then, the corresponding matrix representation of $T$ is the filled coupled given in (6) above. Thus, we obtain the system

$$
\left.\begin{array}{c}
T(1,0, \cdots, 0)=\left(\alpha_{11}, 0, \alpha_{12}, \cdots, \alpha_{1 t-1}, 0, \alpha_{1 t}\right) \\
T(1,0, \cdots, 0)=\left(0, \beta_{t t-1}, 0, \cdots, \beta_{1 t-1}, 0\right) \\
\vdots  \tag{7}\\
T(0, \cdots, 0,1)=\left(0, \beta_{t-1 t}, 0, \cdots, \beta_{t-1 t-1}, 0\right) \\
T(0, \cdots, 0,1)=\left(\alpha_{t 1}, 0, \alpha_{t 2}, \cdots, \alpha_{t-1}, 0, \alpha_{t t}\right)
\end{array}\right)
$$

From this system, it follows that for each $\left(x_{1}, y_{1}, x_{2}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}, x_{t}\right) \in F^{n}$ we have the linear transformation $T$ defined by

$$
\begin{array}{rl}
T & T\left(x_{1}, y_{1}, x_{2}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}, x_{t}\right) \\
= & \left(\alpha_{1}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right),\right. \\
& \alpha_{2}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right), \beta_{2}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \cdots, \\
& \left.\beta_{t-1}\left(y_{1}, y_{2}, \cdots, y_{t-1}\right), \alpha_{t}\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \cdots, x_{t}\right)\right),
\end{array}
$$

where, $t=\frac{n+1}{2}, \alpha_{1}, \cdots, \alpha_{t}$ and $\beta_{1}, \cdots, \beta_{t-1}$ are any linear map on $F^{t}$ with $\alpha_{j}\left(0, \cdots,{ }_{i^{\text {th }} \text {-position }}^{1}, \cdots, 0\right)=\alpha_{i j}$ for
$(1 \leq i, j \leq t)$ and $\beta_{l}\left(0, \cdots, \underset{j^{\text {th }}-\text { position }}{1}, \cdots, 0\right)=\beta_{k l}$ for $(1 \leq k, l \leq t-1)$.

### 4.2. Example

Consider the linear mappings $T: \mathfrak{R} \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}$ define by $T(x, y, z)=(2 x-z, 4 y, x-3 z)$. To find the rhotrix of $T$ relative to the standard basis. We proceed by finding the matrices of $T$. Thus,

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T(1,0,0)=(2,0,1) \\
& T(0,1,0)=(0,4,0) \\
& T(0,0,1)=(-1,0,-3)
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, by definition of matrix of $T$ with respect to the standard basis, we have

$$
m(T)=\left(\begin{array}{ccc}
2 & 0 & 1 \\
0 & 4 & 0 \\
-1 & 0 & -3
\end{array}\right)
$$

which is a filled coupled matrix from which we obtain the rhotrix of $T$ in $R_{3}, r(T)=\left\langle\begin{array}{ccc}2 & \\ -1 & 4 & 1 \\ & -3\end{array}\right\rangle$.

Now starting with the rhotrix $r(T)=\left\langle\begin{array}{ccc} & 2 & \\ -1 & 4 & 1 \\ & -3\end{array}\right\rangle$
the filled coupled matrix of $r(T)$ is $\left(\begin{array}{ccc}2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -3\end{array}\right)$.
And so, defining $T: R_{3} \rightarrow R_{3}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& T(1,0,0)=2(1,0,0)+0(0,1,0)+1(0,0,1) \\
& T(0,1,0)=0(1,0,0)+4(0,1,0)+0(0,0,1) \\
& T(0,0,1)=-1(1,0,0)+0(0,1,0)-3(0,0,1)
\end{aligned}
$$

Thus, if $(x, y, z)=x(1,0,0)+y(0,1,0)+z(0,0,1)$.
Therefore,

$$
\begin{aligned}
T(x, y, z) & =x T(1,0,0)+y T(0,1,0)+z T(0,0,1) \\
& =x(2,0,1)+y(0,4,0)+z(-1,0,-3) \\
& =(2 x-z, 4 y, x-3 z)
\end{aligned}
$$

## 5. Conclusion

We have considered the rank of a rhotrix and characterize its properties as an extension of ideas to the rhotrix theory rhomboidal arrays. Furthermore, a necessary and sufficient condition under which a linear map can be represented over rhotrix had been presented.

## 6. Acknowledgements

The Authors wish to thank Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria for financial support towards publication of this article.

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