

"Memoirs and Proceedings of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society," Vol. XLIV., Pts. 2, 3; 1900.

"Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy," Series 3, Vol. v., No. 4; Dublin, 1900.

*Linear Substitutions Commutative with a Given Substitution.*

By L. E. DICKSON, Ph.D. Received May 8th, 1900. Communicated May 10th, 1900.

1. The object of this note is to determine the explicit form of all  $m$ -ary linear homogeneous substitutions  $T$  with coefficients in the  $GF[p^n]$  which are commutative with a particular one  $S$ . For the case  $n = 1$ , the number of such substitutions  $T$  has been determined by M. Jordan,\* whose method of proof was, however, limited to the consideration of a particular example. By the use of convenient notations, we may treat the general case with equal ease and, moreover, avoid the separation of the proof into two successive stages. Following M. Jordan, I first give to  $S$  its canonical form†  $S_1$ .

2. Let the characteristic determinant of  $S$  be

$$\Delta(K) \equiv [F_k(K)]^a [F_l(K)]^\beta \dots \quad (m \equiv ka + l\beta + \dots),$$

where  $F_k(K)$ ,  $F_l(K)$ , ... are distinct polynomials belonging to, and irreducible in, the  $GF[p^n]$ . We may exhibit the roots of  $F_k(K) = 0$  and of  $F_l(L) = 0$  in the following notation:—

$$K_0, \quad K_1 \equiv K_0^{p^n}, \quad \dots, \quad K_{k-1} \equiv K_0^{p^{n(k-1)}};$$

$$L_0, \quad L_1 \equiv L_0^{p^n}, \quad \dots, \quad L_{l-1} \equiv L_0^{p^{n(l-1)}}.$$

To simplify the formulæ, we suppose that  $F_k$  and  $F_l$  are the only irreducible factors of  $\Delta(K)$ . The method is, however, seen to be general.

Corresponding to each partition of  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  into positive integers,

\* *Traité des Substitutions*, pp. 128–136.

† "Canonical Form of a Linear Homogeneous Substitution in a Galois Field," *American Journal of Mathematics*, Vol. XXII., No. 2, April, 1900. The proof of the generalization of Jordan's theorem is there made by induction.

we obtain a canonical form of an  $m$ -ary substitution in the  $GF[p^n]$ .

Let

$$\alpha \equiv a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_{r+1}, \quad \beta \equiv b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_{s+1}.$$

It will be convenient to let  $e$  denote any one of the integers

$$(e) \quad 1, \quad a_1 + 1, \quad a_1 + a_2 + 1, \quad \dots, \quad a_1 + a_2 + \dots + a_r + 1;$$

and  $E$  any one of the remaining integers  $\leq \alpha$ . Let  $b$  denote any one of the integers  $1, b_1 + 1, \dots, b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_s + 1$ ; and  $B$  any one of the remaining integers  $\leq \beta$ . The general canonical form may now be written:

$$S_1: \begin{cases} \eta'_{ij} = K_i \eta_{ij} & (i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1; j \text{ any } e) \\ \eta'_{ij} = K_i \eta_{ij} + K_i \eta_{ij-1} & (i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1; j \text{ any } E) \\ \zeta'_{ij} = L_i \zeta_{ij} & (i = 0, 1, \dots, l-1; j \text{ any } b) \\ \zeta'_{ij} = L_i \zeta_{ij} + L_i \zeta_{ij-1} & (i = 0, 1, \dots, l-1; j \text{ any } B). \end{cases}$$

3. An arbitrary linear homogeneous substitution on these indices may be exhibited as follows:

$$(T_1): \begin{cases} \eta'_{ij} = \sum \alpha_{tu}^{ij} \eta_{tu} + \sum \beta_{rv}^{ij} \zeta_{rv} & (i = 0, \dots, k-1; j = 1, \dots, \alpha) \\ \zeta'_{ij} = \sum \gamma_{tu}^{ij} \eta_{tu} + \sum \delta_{rv}^{ij} \zeta_{rv} & (i = 0, \dots, l-1; j = 1, \dots, \beta), \end{cases}$$

where, as henceforth, the summation indices  $t, u, v, w$  run through the series

$$t = 0, 1, \dots, k-1; \quad v = 0, 1, \dots, l-1; \quad u = 1, \dots, \alpha; \quad w = 1, \dots, \beta.$$

We investigate the conditions under which  $T_1$  is commutative with  $S_1$ . Equating the functions by which  $T_1 S_1$  and  $S_1 T_1$  replace  $\eta_{ie}$ , we get

$$K_i \sum_{t,u} \alpha_{tu}^{ie} \eta_{tu} + K_i \sum_{r,v} \beta_{rv}^{ie} \zeta_{rv} \equiv \sum_{t,u} \alpha_{tu}^{ie} K_i \eta_{tu} + \sum_{t,E} \alpha_{tE}^{ie} K_i \eta_{E-1} \\ + \sum_{r,v} \beta_{rv}^{ie} L_r \zeta_{rv} + \sum_{r,B} \beta_{rB}^{ie} L_r \zeta_{B-1}.$$

This identity in the variables  $\eta$  and  $\zeta$  requires

$$K_i \alpha_{tu}^{ie} = K_i \alpha_{tu}^{ie} \quad (u \neq E-1),$$

$$K_i \alpha_{tE-1}^{ie} = K_i \alpha_{tE-1}^{ie} + K_i \alpha_{tE}^{ie},$$

$$K_i \beta_{rv}^{ie} = L_r \beta_{rv}^{ie} \quad (v \neq B-1),$$

$$K_i \beta_{rB-1}^{ie} = L_r \beta_{rB-1}^{ie} + L_r \beta_{rB}^{ie}.$$

For  $t = i$ , the first two equations give merely  $\alpha_{iE}^{ie} = 0$ . For  $t \neq i$ ,

$K_i \neq K_i$ , and the first equation gives  $a_{i,e'-1}^{i,e} = 0$ ,  $e'$  being any integer  $> 1$  of the set  $(e)$ . If  $e'-1$  is an  $E$ , the second equation gives  $a_{i,e'-2}^{i,e} = 0$ ; in the contrary case,  $e'-2 \neq E-1$ , and the same result follows from the first equation. Next, according as  $e'-2$  is or is not an  $E$ , the second or first equation gives  $a_{i,e'-3}^{i,e} = 0$ . Proceeding thus, we find that every  $a_{i,c}^{i,e} = 0$  ( $t \neq i$ ,  $c$  arbitrary).

Since  $K_i \neq L_e$ , the third and fourth equations require, for similar reasons, that every  $\beta_{e,c}^{i,e} = 0$  ( $c$  arbitrary).

It follows that  $T_1$  replaces  $\eta_{i,c}$  by  $\sum_{e'} a_{i,e'}^{i,e} \eta_{i,e'}$ .

Denote by  $e_i$  (or by  $e_i'$ ) an arbitrary  $e$  such that  $e_i+1$  is an  $E$ , and by  $\bar{e}_i$  any one of the remaining  $e$ 's, so that  $\bar{e}_i+1$  is an  $e$ . Equating the functions by which  $T_1 S_1$  and  $S_1 T_1$  replace  $\eta_{i,e_i+1}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} K_i \sum_{t,u} a_{t,u}^{i,e_i+1} \eta_{t,u} + K_i \sum_e a_{i,e}^{i,e_i} \eta_{i,e} + K_i \sum_{e',u} \beta_{e',u}^{i,e_i+1} \zeta_{e',u} \\ \equiv \sum_{t,u} a_{t,u}^{i,e_i+1} K_t \eta_{t,u} + \sum_{t,E} a_{t,E}^{i,e_i+1} K_t \eta_{t,E-1} + \sum_{e',u} \beta_{e',u}^{i,e_i+1} L_e \zeta_{e',u} + \sum_{v,B} \beta_{v,B}^{i,e_i+1} L_v \zeta_{v,B-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Equating the coefficients of the  $\zeta$ 's, we find, as above, that every  $\beta_{e,c}^{i,e_i+1} = 0$  ( $c$  arbitrary). In the second sum of the second member,  $E$  extends over every  $E = e_i'+1$  and every  $E'$  not an  $e+1$ . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} a_{i,\bar{e}_i}^{i,e_i} = 0, \quad a_{i,e_i'}^{i,e_i} = a_{i,e_i'+1}^{i,e_i+1}, \quad a_{i,E'}^{i,e_i+1} = 0 \quad (E' \neq e+1), \\ a_{t,u}^{i,e_i+1} = 0 \quad (t \neq i, u \neq E-1), \\ K_i a_{t,E-1}^{i,e_i+1} = K_t a_{t,E-1}^{i,e_i+1} + K_t a_{t,E}^{i,e_i+1} \quad (t \neq i). \end{aligned}$$

Applying the above argument, the last two equations give

$$a_{t,c}^{i,e_i+1} = 0 \quad (t \neq i, c = 1, \dots, \alpha).$$

Hence  $T_1$  affects  $\eta_{i,e}$  and  $\eta_{i,e_i+1}$  as follows:—

$$\begin{aligned} \eta'_{i,e_i} &= \sum_{e'} a_{i,e'}^{i,e_i} \eta_{i,e'}, \quad \eta'_{i,\bar{e}_i} = \sum_e a_{i,e}^{i,\bar{e}_i} \eta_{i,e}, \\ \eta'_{i,e_i+1} &= \sum_e a_{i,e}^{i,e_i+1} \eta_{i,e} + \sum_{e'} a_{i,e'}^{i,e_i} \eta_{i,e'+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Denote by  $e_2$  (or by  $e_2'$ ) an arbitrary  $e_1$  such that  $e_2+2$  is an  $E$ , and by  $\bar{e}_2$  any one of the remaining  $e_1$ 's so that every  $\bar{e}_2+2$  is an  $e$ . Equating the functions by which  $T_1 S_1$  and  $S_1 T_1$  replace  $\eta_{i,e_2+2}$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} K_i \sum_{t,u} a_{t,u}^{i,e_2+2} \eta_{t,u} + K_i \sum_{e',u} \beta_{e',u}^{i,e_2+2} \zeta_{e',u} + \sum_e a_{i,e}^{i,e_2+1} \eta_{i,e} + \sum_{e_1} a_{i,e_1}^{i,e_2} \eta_{i,e_1+1} \\ = \sum_{t,u} a_{t,u}^{i,e_2+2} K_t \eta_{t,u} + \sum_{t,E} a_{t,E}^{i,e_2+2} K_t \eta_{t,E-1} + \sum_{e',u} \beta_{e',u}^{i,e_2+2} L_e \zeta_{e',u} + \sum_{v,B} \beta_{v,B}^{i,e_2+2} L_v \zeta_{v,B-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Equating the coefficients of the  $\zeta$ 's, we find, as above, that

$$\beta_{v_c}^{i_{e_3}+2} = 0 \quad (v = 0, 1, \dots, l-1; c = 1, \dots, \beta).$$

Equating the coefficients of  $\eta_{tu}$  ( $t \neq i$ ), we find, as formerly, that every

$$a_{tu}^{i_{e_3}+2} = 0 \quad (t \neq i).$$

For  $t = i$ , we note that

$$\sum_E a_{iE}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{iE-1} \equiv \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1+1}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{ie_1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2+2}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{ie_2+1} + \sum_{E'} a_{iE'}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{iE'-1},$$

where  $E'$  runs over the series of  $E$ 's not of the forms  $e_1+1$  or  $e+2$ . But an  $\bar{e}_1+2 \equiv (\bar{e}_1+1)+1$  is an  $e+1$ , and an  $\bar{e}_2+2$  is not an  $E$ . Hence  $E'$  extends over those integers  $\bar{u}$  which are of none of the forms  $e$ ,  $e_1+1$ ,  $e_2+2$ , all three of which are distinct. Hence every

$$\begin{aligned} a_{ie_1}^{i_{e_3}+1} &= a_{ie_1+1}^{i_{e_3}+2}, & a_{i\bar{e}_1}^{i_{e_3}+1} &= 0, & a_{i\bar{e}_2}^{i_{e_3}} &= 0, \\ a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} &= a_{ie_2+2}^{i_{e_3}+2}, & a_{iE'}^{i_{e_3}+2} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $T_1$  affects the indices  $\eta_{ie_1}$ ,  $\eta_{ie_2+1}$ ,  $\eta_{ie_2}$  as follows:—

$$\begin{aligned} \eta'_{i\bar{e}_1} &= \sum_e a_{ie}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie}, \\ \left\{ \begin{aligned} \eta'_{i\bar{e}_2} &= \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_1}, \\ \eta'_{i\bar{e}_2+1} &= \sum_e a_{ie}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie} + \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_1-1}, \end{aligned} \right. \\ \left\{ \begin{aligned} \eta'_{ie_2} &= \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2}, \\ \eta'_{ie_2+1} &= \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1+1}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie_1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2+1}, \\ \eta'_{ie_2+2} &= \sum_e a_{ie}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{ie} + \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1+1}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie_1+1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2+2}. \end{aligned} \right. \end{aligned}$$

Proceeding as before, we separate the  $e_2$  into the categories  $e_3$  and  $\bar{e}_3$ , such that every  $e_3+3$  is an  $E$  and every  $\bar{e}_3+3$  is an  $e$ . We find that no simplification takes place in  $\eta'_{i\bar{e}_1}$ ,  $\eta'_{i\bar{e}_2}$ ,  $\eta'_{i\bar{e}_2+1}$ , nor in  $\eta'_{ie_2}$ ,  $\eta'_{ie_2+1}$ ,  $\eta'_{ie_2+2}$ , when  $e_2$  is an  $\bar{e}_3$ . Simplifications arise when  $e_2$  is an  $e_3$ , viz.:

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \eta'_{ie_2} &= \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2}, \\ \eta'_{ie_2+1} &= \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2+1}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie_2} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2+1}, \\ \eta'_{ie_2+2} &= \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1+2}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{ie_1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2+1}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie_2+1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2}^{i_{e_3}} \eta_{ie_2+2}, \\ \eta'_{ie_2+3} &= \sum_e a_{ie}^{i_{e_3}+3} \eta_{ie} + \sum_{e_1} a_{ie_1+3}^{i_{e_3}+3} \eta_{ie_1+1} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2+2}^{i_{e_3}+2} \eta_{ie_2+2} + \sum_{e_2} a_{ie_2+1}^{i_{e_3}+1} \eta_{ie_2+3}. \end{aligned} \right.$$

The law of the formation of the  $\eta'_{ij}$  is now evident, and may be verified by simple induction. In particular,  $T_1$  replaces each  $\eta_{ij}$  by a function of the  $\eta_{iu}$  alone. Similarly,  $T_1$  replaces each  $\zeta_i$  by a function of the  $\zeta_{iu}$  only.

4. Consider, as an example, a substitution  $S_1$  which involves only the indices  $\eta_{ij}$ , and for which  $a_1 = 3$ ,  $a_2 = 3$ ,  $a_3 = 2$ . Then

$$e = 1, 4, 7; \quad E = 2, 3, 5, 6, 8;$$

$$e_1 = 1, 4, 7; \quad \text{no } \bar{e}_1; \quad e_2 = 1, 4; \quad \bar{e}_3 = 7; \quad \text{no } e_3.$$

The most general substitution  $T_1$  commutative with  $S_1$  has the form

	$\eta_{i1}$	$\eta_{i4}$	$\eta_{i7}$	$\eta_{i2}$	$\eta_{i5}$	$\eta_{i8}$	$\eta_{i3}$	$\eta_{i6}$
$\eta'_{i7} =$	$a_{i1}^{i7}$	$a_{i4}^{i7}$	$a_{i7}^{i7}$					
$\eta'_{i8} =$	$a_{i1}^{i8}$	$a_{i4}^{i8}$	$a_{i7}^{i8}$	$a_{i1}^{i7}$	$a_{i4}^{i7}$	$a_{i7}^{i7}$		
$\eta'_{i1} =$	$a_{i1}^{i1}$	$a_{i4}^{i1}$						
$\eta'_{i2} =$	$a_{i1}^{i2}$	$a_{i4}^{i2}$	$a_{i7}^{i2}$	$a_{i1}^{i1}$	$a_{i4}^{i1}$			
$\eta'_{i3} =$	$a_{i1}^{i3}$	$a_{i4}^{i3}$	$a_{i7}^{i3}$	$a_{i1}^{i2}$	$a_{i4}^{i2}$	$a_{i7}^{i2}$	$a_{i1}^{i1}$	$a_{i4}^{i1}$
$\eta'_{i4} =$	$a_{i1}^{i4}$	$a_{i4}^{i4}$						
$\eta'_{i5} =$	$a_{i1}^{i5}$	$a_{i4}^{i5}$	$a_{i7}^{i5}$	$a_{i1}^{i4}$	$a_{i4}^{i4}$			
$\eta'_{i6} =$	$a_{i1}^{i6}$	$a_{i4}^{i6}$	$a_{i7}^{i6}$	$a_{i1}^{i5}$	$a_{i4}^{i5}$	$a_{i7}^{i5}$	$a_{i1}^{i4}$	$a_{i4}^{i4}$

holding for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$ . By inspection, its determinant equals

$$(a_{i7}^{i7})^3 \begin{vmatrix} a_{i1}^{i1} & a_{i4}^{i1} \\ a_{i1}^{i4} & a_{i4}^{i4} \end{vmatrix}^3.$$

5. The indices  $\eta_{i1}, \dots, \eta_{ia}$  are linear functions of the initial indices  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m$ , having as coefficients polynomials in  $K_i$ . Likewise,  $\zeta_{i1}, \dots, \zeta_{is}$  are linear functions of  $\xi_1, \dots, \xi_m$  involving  $L_i$ . Let us return from the indices  $\eta_{ij}, \zeta_{ij}$  to the initial indices  $\xi_i$ . By hypothesis,  $S_1$  becomes  $S$ , a substitution having its coefficients in the  $GF[p^n]$ . Let  $T_1$

become  $T$ . Under what conditions will  $T$  have its coefficients in the same field? Remembering that  $T_1$  replaces  $\eta_{ij}$ ,  $\zeta_{ij}$  by functions of the respective forms

$$\sum_{u=1}^a a_{iu}^{ij} \eta_{iu}, \quad \sum_{w=1}^b \delta_{iw}^{ij} \zeta_{iw},$$

it is evidently necessary and sufficient that  $a_{iu}^{ij}$  be the same function of  $K_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k-1$  that  $a_{0u}^{0j}$  is of  $K_0$ , and that  $\delta_{iw}^{ij}$  be the same function of  $L_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, l-1$  that  $\delta_{0w}^{0j}$  is of  $L_0$ . Expressed otherwise, these conditions are

$$a_{iu}^{ij} = (a_{0u}^{0j})^{p^{ni}}, \quad \delta_{iw}^{ij} = (\delta_{0w}^{0j})^{p^{ni}}.$$

Hence  $T_1$  is completely determined from the functions by which it replaces  $\eta_{0j}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, \alpha$ ) and  $\zeta_{0j}$  ( $j = 1, \dots, \beta$ ). The final theorem is as follows:—

*To determine the most general  $m$ -ary linear homogeneous substitution  $T$  with coefficients in the  $GF[p^n]$  which is commutative with a particular one  $S$ , we give to  $S$  its canonical form  $S_1$ , which may be expressed as a product,*

$$S_1 \equiv y_0 y_1 \dots y_{k-1} z_0 z_1 \dots z_{l-1} \dots,$$

$y_i, z_i$  denoting the respective substitutions—

$$y_i: \quad \eta_{i+1} = K_i \eta_{i+1}, \quad \eta_{i+1} = K_i (\eta_{i+1} + \eta_{i+1-1}),$$

$$z_i: \quad \zeta_{i+1} = L_i \zeta_{i+1}, \quad \zeta_{i+1} = L_i (\zeta_{i+1} + \zeta_{i+1-1}).$$

Then must  $T_1$  ( $T$  written in the indices  $\eta_{ij}$ ,  $\zeta_{ij}$ ) be expressible as a product

$$T_1 \equiv Y_0 Y_1 \dots Y_{k-1} Z_0 Z_1 \dots Z_{l-1} \dots,$$

where  $Y_0$  affects only the indices  $\eta_{0u}$ , the coefficients being given by the law explained at the end of § 3, and where  $Y_i$  is obtained from  $Y_0$  by raising its coefficients to the power  $p^{ni}$ ; with similar remarks for the substitutions  $Z_i$ .