

Linear Algebra

Chapter 4: Determinants

Section 4.3. Computation of Determinants and Cramer's Rule—Proofs of Theorems

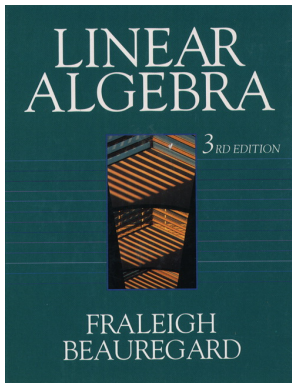


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Page 271 Number 6

Page 271 Number 6. Find $\det(A)$ where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution. We state the elementary row operations and keep track of how they affect the determinant based on Theorem 4.2.A, "Properties of the Determinant." We have:

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

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Page 271 Number 6 (continued 1)

Solution (continued).

$$\left| \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & \end{array} \right| = - \left| \begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \\ 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & \end{array} \right| \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Row Exchange:} \\ R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2 \end{array}$$

$$= - \left| \begin{array}{ccccc|c} -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & 14 & 3 & 0 & 0 & \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & \end{array} \right| \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Row Addition:} \\ R_2 \rightarrow R_2 + 3R_1 \text{ and } R_5 \rightarrow R_5 + R_4 \end{array}$$

Page 271 Number 6 (continued 2)

Solution (continued). ...

$$- \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 14 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 14 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 79/14 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Row Addition:} \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + (3/14)R_2 \end{array}$$

$$= -(-1)(14)(79/14)(1)(6) = \boxed{474} \text{ by Example 4.2.4.}$$

□

Theorem 4.5

Theorem 4.5. Cramer's Rule.

Consider the linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$, where $A = [a_{ij}]$ is an $n \times n$ invertible matrix,

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

The system has a unique solution given by

$$x_k = \frac{\det(B_k)}{\det(A)} \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, \dots, n,$$

where B_k is the matrix obtained from A by replacing the k th column vector of A by the column vector \vec{b} .

Proof. Since A is invertible, we know that the linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a unique solution by Theorem 1.16. Let \vec{x} be this unique solution.

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Proof. Since A is invertible, we know that the linear system $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a unique solution by Theorem 1.16. Let \vec{x} be this unique solution.

Theorem 4.5 (continued 1)

Proof (continued). Let X_k be the matrix obtained from the $n \times n$ identity matrix by replacing its k th column vector by the column vector \vec{x} , so

$$X_k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & x_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & x_2 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & x_3 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & & & & \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & x_k & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ & & & & \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & x_n & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now compute the product AX_k . If $j \neq k$, then the j th column of AX_k is the product of A and the j th column of the identity matrix, which is just the j th column of A . If $j = k$, then the j th column of AX_k is $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$.

Thus AX_k is the matrix obtained from A by replacing the k th column of A by the column vector \vec{b} .

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Proof (continued). That is, AX_k is the matrix B_k described in the statement of the theorem. From the equation $AX_k = B_k$ and Theorem 4.4, “The Multiplicative Property,” we have

$$\det(A) \det(X_k) = \det(B_k).$$

Computing $\det(X_k)$ by expanding by minors across the k th row (applying Theorem 4.2, “General Expansion by Minors”), we see that $\det(X_k) = x_k$ and thus $\det(A)x_k = \det(B_k)$.

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Page 272 Number 26

Page 272 Number 26. Use Cramer's Rule to solve
$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + x_2 &= 5 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solution. We have $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. So $B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$.

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$B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Next, $\det(A) = (3)(1) - (1)(2) = 1$,

$\det(B_1) = (5)(1) - (1)(0) = 5$, and $\det(B_2) = (3)(0) - (5)(2) = -10$. So by Cramer's Rule,

$$x_1 = \frac{\det(B_1)}{\det(A)} = \frac{5}{1} = 5 \text{ and } x_2 = \frac{\det(B_2)}{\det(A)} = \frac{-10}{1} = -10.$$

So $x_1 = 5$ and $x_2 = -10$. \square

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Page 272 Number 18

Page 272 Number 18. Find the adjoint of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 \\ -5 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$.

Solution. First, we compute the 9 cofactors:

$$a'_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 6, \quad a'_{12} = - \begin{vmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -5 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = -6, \quad a'_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ -5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 9,$$

$$a'_{21} = - \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 3, \quad a'_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ -5 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 27, \quad a'_{23} = - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ -5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -3,$$

$$a'_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = -3, \quad a'_{32} = - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 18, \quad a'_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3,$$

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$$\text{so } A' = [a'_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -6 & 9 \\ 3 & 27 & -3 \\ -3 & 18 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \dots$$

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Solution (continued). ... $A' = [a'_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -6 & 9 \\ 3 & 27 & -3 \\ -3 & 18 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and

$$\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 3 & -3 \\ -6 & 27 & 18 \\ 9 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Theorem 4.6

Theorem 4.6. Property of the Adjoint.

Let A be $n \times n$. Then

$$(\text{adj}(A))A = A \text{adj}(A) = (\det(A))\mathcal{I}.$$

Proof. Let $A = [a_{ij}]$. Define B as the matrix which results from replacing Row j of A with Row i of A . Then, by Theorem 4.2.A, "Properties of Determinants,"

$$\det(B) = \begin{cases} \det(A) & \text{if } i = j \text{ (since } B = A) \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j, \text{ by Theorem 4.2.A(3), "Equal Row Property."} \end{cases}$$

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Now we can expand $\det(B)$ about the j th row of B to get by Theorem 4.2, “General Expansion by Minors,” that $\det(B) = \sum_{s=1}^n a_{is}a'_{js}$ and so

$$\sum_{s=1}^n a_{is}a'_{js} = \begin{cases} \det(A) & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j. \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Notice that the (i, j) entry of $A(A')^T$ is $\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}a'_{jk}$ where $A' = [a'_{ij}]$.

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Proof (continued). Since we can express the right-hand side of (2) as $\det(A)\mathcal{I}$, then we have $A(A')^T = A \operatorname{adj}(A) = \det(A)\mathcal{I}$.

Similarly if matrix C results from replacing Column i of A with Column j of A and by computing $\det(C)$ by expanding along the i th column of C we get

$$\sum_{r=1}^n a'_{ri} a'_{rj} = \begin{cases} \det(A) & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases},$$

and so $(A')^T A = \operatorname{adj}(A)A = \det(A)\mathcal{I}$. Hence, $\operatorname{adj}(A)A = A \operatorname{adj}(A) = \det(A)\mathcal{I}$, as claimed. □

Theorem 4.6 (continued)

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Page 272 Number 18

Page 272 Number 18. Find the inverse of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 \\ -5 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ using $\text{adj}(A)$.

Solution. First, we compute $\det(A)$ by expanding along the first row:

$$\det(A) = (3) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} - (0) + (3) \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ -5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3(6) + 3(9) = 45.$$

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So by Corollary 4.3.A, “Formula for A^{-1} ,” we have (using $\text{adj}(A)$ computed above)

$$A^{-1} = \frac{\text{adj}(A)}{\det(A)} = \frac{1}{45} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 3 & -3 \\ -6 & 27 & 18 \\ 9 & -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{15} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 9 & 6 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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So by Corollary 4.3.A, "Formula for A^{-1} ," we have (using $\text{adj}(A)$ computed above)

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□

Page 272 Number 22

Page 272 Number 22. Given that $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and $\det(A^{-1}) = 3$, find the matrix A .

Solution. We know from Corollary 4.3.A, “Formula for A^{-1} ,” that $A^{-1} = \text{adj}(A)/\det(A)$. Now $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$ by Exercise 4.2.31, so $\det(A) = 1/\det(A^{-1}) = 1/3$.

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Solution. We know from Corollary 4.3.A, “Formula for A^{-1} ,” that $A^{-1} = \text{adj}(A)/\det(A)$. Now $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$ by Exercise 4.2.31, so $\det(A) = 1/\det(A^{-1}) = 1/3$. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ then $a'_{11} = a_{22}$, $a'_{12} = -a_{21}$, $a'_{21} = -a_{12}$, and $a'_{22} = a_{11}$. So $A' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{21} \\ -a_{12} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix}$ and $\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix} = \det(A)A^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and so $a_{11} = d/3$, $a_{12} = -b/3$, $a_{21} = -c/3$, and $a_{22} = a/3$.

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Page 272 Number 22. Given that $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and $\det(A^{-1}) = 3$, find the matrix A .

Solution. We know from Corollary 4.3.A, “Formula for A^{-1} ,” that $A^{-1} = \text{adj}(A)/\det(A)$. Now $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$ by Exercise 4.2.31, so $\det(A) = 1/\det(A^{-1}) = 1/3$. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ then $a'_{11} = a_{22}$, $a'_{12} = -a_{21}$, $a'_{21} = -a_{12}$, and $a'_{22} = a_{11}$. So $A' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{21} \\ -a_{12} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix}$ and $\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix} = \det(A)A^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and so $a_{11} = d/3$, $a_{12} = -b/3$, $a_{21} = -c/3$, and $a_{22} = a/3$. Therefore

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d/3 & -b/3 \\ -c/3 & a/3 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \square$$

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Page 272 Number 22. Given that $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and $\det(A^{-1}) = 3$, find the matrix A .

Solution. We know from Corollary 4.3.A, “Formula for A^{-1} ,” that $A^{-1} = \text{adj}(A)/\det(A)$. Now $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$ by Exercise 4.2.31, so

$\det(A) = 1/\det(A^{-1}) = 1/3$. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$ then $a'_{11} = a_{22}$,

$a'_{12} = -a_{21}$, $a'_{21} = -a_{12}$, and $a'_{22} = a_{11}$. So $A' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{21} \\ -a_{12} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix}$ and

$\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix} = \det(A)A^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and so

$a_{11} = d/3$, $a_{12} = -b/3$, $a_{21} = -c/3$, and $a_{22} = a/3$. Therefore

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d/3 & -b/3 \\ -c/3 & a/3 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \square$$

Page 273 Number 36

Page 273 Number 36. Prove that the inverse of a nonsingular upper-triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Solution. Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be a (square) nonsingular upper triangular matrix; that is, $a_{ij} = 0$ for $i > j$. Now the minor matrix A_{ij} (obtained from A by eliminating Row i and Column j from A) is upper triangular for $i < j$:

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									Column j				
	a_{11}	a_{12}	a_{13}	\cdots	$a_{1,i-1}$	a_{1i}	$a_{1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{1,j-1}$	a_{1j}	$a_{1,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{1n}
	0	a_{22}	a_{23}	\cdots	$a_{2,i-1}$	a_{2i}	$a_{2,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{2,j-1}$	a_{2j}	$a_{2,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{2n}
	0	0	a_{33}	\cdots	$a_{3,i-1}$	a_{3i}	$a_{3,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{3,j-1}$	a_{3j}	$a_{3,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{3n}
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	$a_{i-1,i-1}$	$a_{i-1,i}$	$a_{i-1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i-1,j-1}$	$a_{i-1,j}$	$a_{i-1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i-1,n}$
Row i	0	0	0	\cdots	0	a_{ii}	$a_{i,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i,j-1}$	a_{ij}	$a_{i,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{in}
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	$a_{i+1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i+1,j-1}$	$a_{i+1,j}$	$a_{i+1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i+1,n}$
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	$a_{j-1,j-1}$	$a_{j-1,j}$	$a_{j-1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{j-1,n}$
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	a_{jj}	$a_{j,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{jn}
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	$a_{j+1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{j+1,n}$
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	a_{nn}

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Page 273 Number 36. Prove that the inverse of a nonsingular upper-triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Solution. Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be a (square) nonsingular upper triangular matrix; that is, $a_{ij} = 0$ for $i > j$. Now the minor matrix A_{ij} (obtained from A by eliminating Row i and Column j from A) is upper triangular for $i < j$:

									Column j				
	a_{11}	a_{12}	a_{13}	\cdots	$a_{1,i-1}$	a_{1i}	$a_{1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{1,j-1}$	a_{1j}	$a_{1,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{1n}
	0	a_{22}	a_{23}	\cdots	$a_{2,i-1}$	a_{2i}	$a_{2,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{2,j-1}$	a_{2j}	$a_{2,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{2n}
	0	0	a_{33}	\cdots	$a_{3,i-1}$	a_{3i}	$a_{3,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{3,j-1}$	a_{3j}	$a_{3,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{3n}
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	$a_{i-1,i-1}$	$a_{i-1,i}$	$a_{i-1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i-1,j-1}$	$a_{i-1,j}$	$a_{i-1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i-1,n}$
Row i	0	0	0	\cdots	0	a_{ii}	$a_{i,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i,j-1}$	a_{ij}	$a_{i,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{in}
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	$a_{i+1,i+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i+1,j-1}$	$a_{i+1,j}$	$a_{i+1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{i+1,n}$
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	$a_{j-1,j-1}$	$a_{j-1,j}$	$a_{j-1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{j-1,n}$
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	a_{jj}	$a_{j,j+1}$	\cdots	a_{jn}
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	$a_{j+1,j+1}$	\cdots	$a_{j+1,n}$
	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\vdots
	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	0	0	0	\cdots	a_{nn}

Page 273 Number 36 (continued)

Page 273 Number 36. Prove that the inverse of a nonsingular upper-triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Solution (continued). Then, with $i < j$, $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$ minor matrix A_{ij} has a 0 in its (i, i) entry (it is element $a_{i+1,i} = 0$ in matrix A). So for $i < j$, A_{ij} is upper triangular with a 0 on the diagonal. By Example 4.2.4 (the determinant of an upper triangular square matrix is the product of the diagonal entries), $\det(A_{ij}) = 0$ and so cofactor $a_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A_{ij}) = 0$ for $i < j$. So matrix A^{-1} has 0 in entry (i, j) whenever $i < j$. That is, A^{-1} is lower triangular.

Page 273 Number 36 (continued)

Page 273 Number 36. Prove that the inverse of a nonsingular upper-triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Solution (continued). Then, with $i < j$, $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$ minor matrix A_{ij} has a 0 in its (i, i) entry (it is element $a_{i+1,i} = 0$ in matrix A). So for $i < j$, A_{ij} is upper triangular with a 0 on the diagonal. By Example 4.2.4 (the determinant of an upper triangular square matrix is the product of the diagonal entries), $\det(A_{ij}) = 0$ and so cofactor $a_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A_{ij}) = 0$ for $i < j$. So matrix A' has 0 in entry (i, j) whenever $i < j$. That is, A' is lower triangular. Hence $\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T$ is upper triangular. Since A is nonsingular then by Theorem 4.3, “Determinant Criterion for Invertibility,” $\det(A) \neq 0$. By Corollary 4.3.A, “A Formula for the Inverse of an Invertible Matrix,” $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$ and so A^{-1} is also upper triangular. \square

Page 273 Number 36 (continued)

Page 273 Number 36. Prove that the inverse of a nonsingular upper-triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Solution (continued). Then, with $i < j$, $(n - 1) \times (n - 1)$ minor matrix A_{ij} has a 0 in its (i, i) entry (it is element $a_{i+1,i} = 0$ in matrix A). So for $i < j$, A_{ij} is upper triangular with a 0 on the diagonal. By Example 4.2.4 (the determinant of an upper triangular square matrix is the product of the diagonal entries), $\det(A_{ij}) = 0$ and so cofactor $a_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A_{ij}) = 0$ for $i < j$. So matrix A' has 0 in entry (i, j) whenever $i < j$. That is, A' is lower triangular. Hence $\text{adj}(A) = (A')^T$ is upper triangular. Since A is nonsingular then by Theorem 4.3, “Determinant Criterion for Invertibility,” $\det(A) \neq 0$. By Corollary 4.3.A, “A Formula for the Inverse of an Invertible Matrix,” $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$ and so A^{-1} is also upper triangular. \square

Page 273 Number 38

Page 273 Number 38. Let A be an $n \times n$ nonsingular matrix. Prove that $\det(\operatorname{adj}(A)) = \det(A)^{n-1}$.

Solution. By Corollary 4.3.A, “A Formula for A^{-1} ,” $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \operatorname{adj}(A)$.
By Exercise 4.2.31, $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$, so we have

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Solution. By Corollary 4.3.A, “A Formula for A^{-1} ,” $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$. By Exercise 4.2.31, $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$, so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\det(A)} &= \det(A^{-1}) = \det\left(\frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\det(A)^n} \det(\text{adj}(A)) \text{ by Theorem 4.2.A(4), “Scalar} \\ &\quad \text{Multiplication Property,” applied to each of} \\ &\quad \text{the } n \text{ rows of } \text{adj}(A). \end{aligned}$$

So $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = \det(A)^n / \det(A) = \det(A)^{n-1}$, as claimed. □

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Page 273 Number 38

Page 273 Number 38. Let A be an $n \times n$ nonsingular matrix. Prove that $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = \det(A)^{n-1}$.

Solution. By Corollary 4.3.A, “A Formula for A^{-1} ,” $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$. By Exercise 4.2.31, $\det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$, so we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\det(A)} &= \det(A^{-1}) = \det\left(\frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\det(A)^n} \det(\text{adj}(A)) \text{ by Theorem 4.2.A(4), “Scalar} \\ &\quad \text{Multiplication Property,” applied to each of} \\ &\quad \text{the } n \text{ rows of } \text{adj}(A). \end{aligned}$$

So $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = \det(A)^n / \det(A) = \det(A)^{n-1}$, as claimed. □

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Page 273 Number 38 (continued)

Page 273 Number 38. Let A be an $n \times n$ nonsingular matrix. Prove that $\det(\operatorname{adj}(A)) = \det(A)^{n-1}$.

Note. This result also holds if A is an $n \times n$ singular matrix. If A is singular then $\det(A) = 0$ by Theorem 4.3, “Determinant Criterion for Invertibility.” By Exercise 37, A is invertible if and only if $\operatorname{adj}(A)$ is invertible. So $\det(A) = 0$ implies $\det(\operatorname{adj}(A)) = 0$ (again, by Theorem 4.3), and so Exercise 38 holds for nonsingular square matrices as well.