

Wydział Nauk Ścisłych i Technicznych
Instytut Matematyki

RAZAK OLAMIDE KOLAWOLE

Numer albumu 359320

**Samuelson-Berkowitz and
Modular Computation Algorithm**

Imię i nazwisko promotora
dr hab. Przemysław Koprowski, prof. UŚ

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Abstract

Gaussian elimination method is a fast and widely-used algorithm for efficient computation of the determinant of square matrices. However, it involves division operation, which can result in coefficients that are not integers. In fact, it forces us to work in the rational domain \mathbb{Q} instead of the integer domain \mathbb{Z} , when we so much desired to have computations in \mathbb{Z} .

This project considers two algorithms, first, a division-free algorithm for obtaining the characteristic polynomial and the determinant of square matrices whose coefficients are in any unital commutative ring \mathcal{R} which is not an integral domain.

The second, a modular computation algorithm for calculating the determinant of square matrices with integer coefficients. Modular reduction is an important technique for speeding up computations. The modular computation algorithm is a fast method which relies on both division-free and non division-free methods.

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1 Introduction

The study of determinant has a rich and long history because of its importance in linear algebra, geometry, computational mathematics etc.. Its background can be traced back to the work of Cardano, Leibnitz, Crammer, Vandermode, Binet, Cauchy, Jacobi, Gauss and many others. Given its importance in physical sciences and engineering, it is not surprising that a galaxy of great mathematicians investigated the determinant from different point of views. Similarly, the concept of characteristic polynomials has a rich history spanning several centuries and various mathematical developments, namely, Viète, Newton, Cayley, Frobenius to mention but a few. The characteristics polynomial have applications in diverse areas such as quantum mechanics for understanding the possible outcomes of measurements and the evolution of quantum states over time and in data analysis to extract meaningful features or reduce the dimension of the data while preserving important structural information (see, [1], [2]).

The most common algorithm for computing the determinant of square matrices is the Gaussian elimination method (GEM for short) and it requires $O(n^3)$ additions, multiplications and divisions. GEM is fast but requires division, so when applied to matrices with integers coefficients, it forces us to work in the field of rationals \mathbb{Q} , it is also affected by the growth sizes of coefficients. Division-free methods avoid these problems but are asymptotically slower. The explicit definition of determinants as the sum of $n!$ products shows that determinant can be obtained without divisions. Moreover, avoiding divisions seems attractive when working over a commutative ring which is not a field. The notion of division free method birth the Samuelson–Berkowitz algorithm which is used for computing the characteristics polynomial and the determinant of square matrices (constant term of the characteristics polynomial) whose entries belong to a unital commutative ring.

Modular reduction is an important tool for speeding up computations in computer arithmetic, symbolic computation, and elsewhere. The technique allows us to reduce a problem that involves large integer or polynomial coefficients to one or more similar problems that only involve small modular coefficients (see, [3]).

Modular computation algorithm is a method employs both division-free and non division-free algorithm in the the computation of the determinant of a square matrix whose coefficients are in \mathbb{Z} .

The project is organized as follows. [Section 2](#) contains essential tools that are explored later. In particular, in [Section 2.1](#) we recall some basic definitions from linear algebra, while in [Section 2.2](#) we state some theorems from linear algebra that are needed for this project. The description, formulation with an example, implementation and complexity of Samuelson Berkowitz algorithm is discussed in [Section 3.1](#), [Section 3.2](#), [Section 3.3](#) and [Section 3.4](#) of [Section 3](#) respectively. We proceed to [Section 4](#) where we describe the modular computation algorithm in [Section 4.1](#), while formulation of the algorithm with an example, implementation and the description of its complexity is done in [Section 4.2](#), [Section 4.3](#) [Section 4.4](#) respectively.

2 Background

This section collects the basic definitions and results needed to write this project.

2.1 Definition of Terms

We shall recall some basic definitions and facts from linear algebra.

An *integral domain* \mathcal{D} is a commutative ring with unity but without a zero divisor

A $n \times n$ *Toeplitz matrix* M is a matrix whose each entries depend on the difference $i - j$ and hence they are constant down all the diagonals.

$$M_{i,j} = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 & a_{-1} & \cdots & a_{-(n-1)} \\ a_1 & a_0 & \cdots & a_{-(n-2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{(n-1)} & a_{(n-2)} & \cdots & a_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We say that a matrix is *lower triangular* if all the values above the main diagonal are zero

Let M be a square matrix of size $n \times n$ with coefficients in some ring \mathcal{R} and I_n denotes the unit matrix of size n . The polynomial $P_M(x) \in \mathcal{R}[x]$ is called the *characteristic polynomial* of M .

$$P_M(x) = \det(xI_n - M) = (-1)^n(x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \dots + a_n)$$

A polynomial $p(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n b_i x^i$ is called a *monic polynomial* of degree n if $b_n = 1$.

Let M be a square matrix of size $n \times n$ with coefficients in some ring \mathcal{R} . The *adjoint matrix* (also known as adjugate) of a square matrix M is a matrix $\text{adj}(M) = ((-1)^{i+j} \cdot \det M_{ij})^T$ for $i, j \leq n$

Let M be a matrix of size $n \times n$ with coefficients in some ring \mathcal{R} . The *determinant* of a square matrix M is defined by the formula

$$\det M = \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot m_{1\sigma(1)} \cdots m_{n\sigma(n)}$$

Let M be an $n \times n$ matrix with coefficients in some ring \mathcal{R} . A *principal submatrix* of a square matrix M is the matrix obtained by deleting any k rows and the corresponding k columns of the matrix M .

The $k \times k$ sub-matrix obtained from matrix M by deleting any $(n - k)$ columns of M and the corresponding $(n - k)$ rows of M is called *k-order principal sub-matrix* of M . That is,

$$M = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} M_{k,k} & C_k \\ \hline R_k & m_{k+1,k+1} \end{array} \right]$$

where R_k, C_k and $m_{k+1,k+1}$ are $k \times (n - k)$, $(n - k) \times k$ and $(n - k) \times (n - k)$ ($k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$) sub-matrices, respectively.

Let n be a positive integer, we say the integers a and b are congruent modulo n , and write $a \equiv b \pmod{n}$, if they have the same remainder on division by n .

2.2 Basic Theorems

In this part, several theorems about determinants and congruence relation are stated and proved. The first theorem is a useful tool for calculating the determinant of a matrix.

Theorem 2.1. (*Laplace expansion*). Let $M = (m_{ij})_{1 \leq i, j \leq n}$ be a square matrix. Denote by M_{ij} a matrix obtained from M after deleting its i -th row and j -th column. Then for every i and j the determinant of M can be expanded into a sum

$$\det M = \begin{cases} \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} m_{ij} \det M_{ij}, & (\text{expansion with respect to } j\text{-th row}) \\ \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} m_{ij} \det M_{ij} & (\text{expansion with respect to } i\text{-th row}) \end{cases}$$

Proof. See [4] for a proof to this theorem. \square

Colorally 2.2. If M is a triangular matrix (either upper or lower-triangular), then $\det M$ is the product of elements on the main diagonal of M

The following establish the fact that there is a relationship between the characteristics polynomial of a square matrix M and its determinant.

Remark 2.3. The constant term of the characteristic polynomial of a matrix M of size $n \times n$ equals $(-1)^n \cdot \det M$.

Since, $P_M(x) = \det(xI_n - M)$, then substituting $x = 0$ gives

$$P_M(0) = \det(-M) = (-1)^n \cdot \det M$$

The next result is a useful tool in the formulation of the Samuelson-Berkowitz algorithm as it provides an alternative expression for the inverse of a matrix in terms of its adjugate and determinant.

Theorem 2.4. Let M be a square $n \times n$ matrix, then

$$M \cdot \text{adj}(M) = \text{adj}(M) \cdot M = \det(M) \cdot I_n \quad (2.1)$$

Proof. If M is a square and non-singular matrix then there is nothing prove because

$$M^{-1} = \frac{\text{adj}(M)}{\det(M)}$$

If on the other hand M is any matrix, then from the definition of determinants and the coefficient of adjoint matrix we write

$$\det M = \sum_i^n (-1)^{i+j} m_{ij} \det M_{ij},$$

$$(\text{adj} M)_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det M_{ji}$$

Multiplication of the coefficient of this adjoint by M gives

$$(M \cdot \text{adj}(M))_{kl} = \sum_i^n (-1)^{i+l} m_{ki} \det M_{li}$$

if $k = l$ then

$$(M \cdot \text{adj}(M))_{kl} = (\text{adj}(M) \cdot M)_{kl} = \sum_i^n (-1)^{i+l} m_{li} \det M_{li} = \det(M) \cdot I$$

If $k \neq l$, then the result will be zero because it's the determinant of a matrix with two equal rows.

The proof is complete. \square

Theorem 2.5. (Cayley–Hamilton). *Every square matrix satisfy its own characteristic equation. That is, if M is a square matrix and $P_M(x)$ is its characteristic polynomial, then $P_M(M) = 0$*

Proof. From (2.1) we have

$$(M - xI) \cdot \text{adj}(M - xI) = \text{adj}(M - xI) \cdot (M - xI) = \det(M - xI) \cdot I,$$

and the adjoint has the form $\text{adj}(M - xI) = P_{ij}(x)$, where $p_{ij}(x)$ are polynomial of degree at most $n - 1$ for $1 \leq i, j \leq n$.

Therefore, the adjoint matrix can be written as

$$\text{adj}(M - xI) = B_0 + B_1x + \dots + B_{n-1}x^{n-1} = (-1)^n(x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n) \cdot I, \quad (2.2)$$

for some $n \times n$ matrices B_0, B_1, \dots, B_{n-1} . Then it follows that

$$(M - xI)(B_0 + B_1x + \dots + B_{n-1}x^{n-1}) = (-1)^n(x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n) \cdot I$$

Equating the coefficient of like powers of x we have

$$\begin{aligned} MB_0 &= (-1)^n a_n I \\ -B_0 + MB_1 &= (-1)^n a_{n-1} I \\ &\vdots \\ -B_{n-2} + MB_{n-1} &= (-1)^n a_1 I \\ -B_{n-1} &= (-1)^n I \end{aligned} \quad (2.3)$$

Multiplying the left hand side of (2.3) by I, M, M^2, \dots, M^n respectively we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} MB_0 &= (-1)^n a_n I \\ -MB_0 + M^2 B_1 &= (-1)^n a_{n-1} M \\ &\vdots \\ -M^{n-1} B_{n-2} + M^n B_{n-1} &= (-1)^n a_1 M^{n-1} \\ -M^n B_{n-1} &= (-1)^n M^n \end{aligned} \quad (2.4)$$

Clearly, the left hand side of (2.4) telescope, so adding all the equations gives

$$P_M(M) = (-1)^n(M^n + a_1 M^{n-1} + \dots + M_n) = 0$$

\square

An important consequence of the Cayley-Hamilton theorem is that any polynomial in a $n \times n$ matrix M can be rewritten as a polynomial whose degree is at most $n - 1$.

The next theorem is the famous Chinese remainder theorem which is important in the computation of determinant through modular computation algorithm.

Theorem 2.6. (*Chinese remainder theorem*) Let t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k be pairwise relatively prime positive integers. Denote $T = t_1 \cdot t_2 \cdots t_k$. Then, for every integers a_1, a_2, \dots, a_k the system of congruence's

$$\begin{cases} a \equiv a_1 \pmod{t_1} \\ a \equiv a_2 \pmod{t_2} \\ \vdots \\ a \equiv a_k \pmod{t_k}. \end{cases} \quad (2.5)$$

has a unique solution a in the set $\{0, 1, \dots, T - 1\}$.

Proof. See (page 5, [5]) for a concise proof of Chinese remainder theorem. \square

Lemma 2.7. Let $m_1, m_2 \in \mathcal{R}$ be two relative prime moduli and $b_1, b_2 \in \mathcal{R}$ two arbitrary elements. The following are equivalent

1. $b_1 \equiv b_2 \pmod{m_1}$ and $b_1 \equiv b_2 \pmod{m_2}$
2. $b_1 \equiv b_2 \pmod{m_1 \cdot m_2}$

Proof. For the proof to this lemma (see, [6]). \square

The next Lemma which express the adjoint of a matrix as a product of the coefficients and powers of a matrix, is a useful tool in the proof of Samuelson's formula

Lemma 2.8. Let M be a $n \times n$ matrix and $P_M(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$ ($a_n = 1$) its characteristic polynomial. Then

$$\text{adj}(xI_n - M) = \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\sum_{i=1}^j a_{n-j+i} \cdot M^i \right) \cdot x^{n-j}$$

Proof. For a concise proof of this lemma (see, page 137 [6]) \square

Theorem 2.9. (*Cauchy theorem*). Let M and N be two matrices of the same size $n \times n$. Then

$$\det(M \cdot N) = \det(M) \cdot \det(N)$$

Proof. If one of the two matrices is singular, then the product AB is singular because

$$\text{rank}(MN) \leq \min(\text{rank}(M), \text{rank}(N))$$

Therefore, $\det(AB) = 0$ and at least one of $\det(A) = 0$ or $\det(MN) = 0$ is zero, so that $\det(M) \cdot \det(N) = 0$

Thus, the theorem holds if at least one of the two matrices is singular. Without any loss of generality, suppose neither of the matrices M and N is singular, then we can write them as products of elementary matrices as follows.

$M = U_1, U_2 \cdots U_n$ and $N = V_1, V_2 \cdots V_n$ where, $U_1, U_2 \cdots U_n$ and $V_1, V_2 \cdots V_n$ are elementary matrices. We recall that the determinant of a product of elementary matrices is equal to the products of their determinants. Therefore, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \det(MN) &= \det(U_1 \cdot U_2 \cdots U_n \cdot V_1 \cdot V_2 \cdots V_n) \\ &= \det(U_1) \cdot \det(U_2) \cdots \det(U_n) \cdot \det(V_1) \cdot \det(V_2) \cdots \det(V_n) \\ &= \det(U_1 \cdot U_2 \cdots U_n) \cdot \det(V_1 \cdot V_2 \cdots V_n) \\ &= \det(M) \cdot \det(N) \end{aligned}$$

This completes the proof. □

3 Samuelson-Berkowitz Algorithm

In this section we describe and formulate the Samuelson-Berkowitz algorithm and for finding the characteristics polynomial and the determinant of any square matrix whose coefficients in a unital commutative ring \mathcal{R} which is not a field.

3.1 Description of Samuelson-Berkowitz Algorithm

The Samuelson-Berkowitz algorithm is an efficient method for computing the characteristic polynomial of a square matrix. It is particularly useful in our case because the Samuelson-Berkowitz algorithm is well behaved when the entries of the matrix belong to a unital commutative ring \mathcal{R} without zero divisors. Given an $n \times n$ matrix, it recursively partitions the matrix into principal sub-matrices until it reaches the 1×1 sub-matrix in the upper left hand corner. It then assembles the coefficients of the characteristic polynomial by taking successively larger vector-matrix products.

The main idea behind Berkowitz's algorithm is Samuelson's formula, which relates the characteristics polynomial of a matrix to the characteristics polynomial of its principal sub-matrix. Thus, the coefficients of the characteristics polynomial of an $n \times n$ matrix M below are computed in terms of the coefficients of the characteristics polynomial of M .

3.2 Formulation of Samuelson-Berkowitz Algorithm

In this part of our project, we shall provide a comprehensive explanation of the formulation of Samuelson-Berkowitz algorithm (adapted from [6], [7]).

Theorem 3.1. (*Samuelson Identity*). Assume that the characteristics polynomial of sub-matrix k is $P_k = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_kx^k$, with $a_k = 1$, then

$$P_{k+1} = (x - m_{k+1,k+1})P_k - \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\sum_{i=1}^j a_{k-j+1} R_k \cdot M_k^{i-1} \right) \cdot x^{k-j} \quad (3.6)$$

Proof. By definition $P_{k+1} = \det(xI_{k+1} - M_{k+1})$, then using the proposed subdivision of M_{k+1} we may write

$$P_{k+1} = \det \left(\begin{pmatrix} xI_k & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} M_k & C_k \\ R_k & m_{k+1,k+1} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Expanding the determinants along the last row using Laplace's formula yield

$$= \sum_j^k (-1)^{j+k+1} \cdot (-m_{k+1,j} \cdot \det D_j + (x - m_{k+1,K+1} \cdot \det(xI_k - M_k))$$

Where, D_j is a $k \times k$ matrix obtained from $(xI_k - M_k|C_k)$ by dropping the j -th column. Expanding each determinant along the last column, again using Laplace's expansion in [Theorem 2.1](#) yield

$$= \sum_{j=1}^k \left((-1)^{j+k+1} \cdot (-m_{k+1,j}) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{i+k} \cdot \det M_{ij} \right) + (x - m_{k+1,K+1}) \cdot P_k$$

Next, the matrix M_{ij} is nothing else but $(xI_k - M_k)$ with the i -th row and j -th column deleted. Rearranging the terms we obtain

$$= (-1) \sum_{j=1}^k \left(m_{k+1,j} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^k (-1)^{i+j} \cdot \det M_{ij} \cdot m_{i,k+1} \right) + (x - m_{k+1,K+1}) \cdot P_k$$

Observe that, $(-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$ is the entry of $\text{adj}(xI_k - M_k)$ located in the j -th row and i -th column. The double sum can now be interpreted as a matrix multiplication so that we have

$$= (x - m_{k+1,k+1}) \cdot P_k - R_k \cdot \text{adj}(xI_k - M_k) \cdot C_k$$

It then follows by [Lemma 2.8](#) that,

$$= (x - m_{k+1,k+1}) \cdot P_k - R_k \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k \left(\sum_{i=1}^j a_{k-j+1} M_k^{i-1} \right) \cdot x^{k-j} \cdot C_k$$

This completes the proof. □

Example 3.2. Compute the determinant and characteristics polynomial of the matrix

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 5 & -7 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

using Samuelson's identity

Employing the Samuelson's formula discussed above we have:

The first principal minor M_1 consists of a single entry at the top-left corner of M , that is $M_1 = 2$. The characteristic polynomial $p_1 = x - 2$.

We subdivide the second principal minor to obtain

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} 2 & 1 \\ \hline 5 & -7 \end{array} \right]$$

From which, $R_1 = (5)$ and $C_1 = -7$, then compute p_2 using the result in [Theorem 3.1](#) and let $p_{i,j}$ denotes the coefficient at x^j in p_i .

$$p_2 = (x - m_{22}) \cdot p_1 - p_{1,1} \cdot R_1 M_1^0 C_1 \cdot x^0 = (x + 7)(x - 2) - 5 = x^2 + 5x - 19$$

Finally, we compute p_3

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 5 & -7 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & 0 & -6 \end{array} \right]$$

where, $R_2 = (3, 0)$, $C_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $m_{33} = -6$, $p_{2,1} = 5$ and $p_{2,2} = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} p_3 &= (x - m_{33}) \cdot p_2 - (p_{2,2} \cdot R_2 M_2^0 C_2 x + (p_{2,1} \cdot R_2 M_2^0 C_2 + p_{2,2} \cdot R_2 M_2^1 C_2) \cdot x^0) \\ &= (x + 6)(x^2 + 5x - 19) - (9x + (45 + 21)) = x^3 + 11x^2 - 2x - 180 \end{aligned}$$

The characteristics polynomial of M is $P_M(x) = x^3 + 11x^2 - 2x - 180$.

It follows by [Remark 2.3](#) that

$$\det M = (-1)^3 P_M(0) = 180$$

Berkowitz Algorithm

Given an $n \times n$ matrix M over a commutative ring \mathcal{R} , Berkowitz algorithm computes an $(n + 1) \times 1$ column vector P_M (characteristics polynomial). That is P_M is $(p_n, p_{n-1}, \dots, p_0)$. The p_i are the coefficients of the $n - th$ degree polynomial given by $\det(xI - M)$.

The main idea in the standard proof of Berkowitz's algorithm (see, [8]) is Samuelson's identity, which relates the characteristics polynomial of a matrix to the characteristics polynomial of its principal sub-matrix.

Let $M = (m_{ij})$ for $1 \leq i, j \leq n$ be a fixed $n \times n$ matrix and M_k be the principal minor of M of size k , for any $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$. That is, M_k is the sub-matrix of M consisting of elements located in the first k rows and columns. In particular, $M_1 = (m_{11})$ and $M_n = M$. Subdivide the minor M_{k+1} into four cells as shown below:

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} M_k & C_k \\ \hline R_k & m_{k+1,k+1} \end{array} \right]$$

where, $C_k = (m_{k+1,1}, \dots, m_{k+1,k})$ is a row vector and $R_k = (m_{1,k+1}, \dots, m_{k,k+1})^T$ is a column vector. Let $P_k = P_{M_k}$ be the characteristic polynomial of the sub-matrix M_k . The idea behind Berkowitz algorithm is to express P_{k+1} in terms of P_k . This way we can recursively build all the successive characteristic polynomials. Let T_k be an $(K + 2) \times (k + 1)$ Toeplitz and lower-triangular matrix, where the entries in the $i - th$ row and $j - th$ column equals:

- $R_k \cdot M_k^{j-i-1} \cdot C_k$ if $i < j - 1$,
- $-m_{k+1,k+1}$ if $i = j - 1$,
- 1 if $i = j$,
- 0 if $i > j$.

The Toeplitz matrix T_k whose the description of it's entries explained above is of the form

$$T_k = \begin{pmatrix} -m_{k+1,k+1} & -R_k C_k & \cdots & R_k M_k^{k-1} C_k \\ 1 & -m_{k+1,k+1} & \cdots & R_k M_k^{k-2} C_k \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & R_k M_k^{k-3} C_k \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (3.7)$$

We define the coefficients of the characteristics polynomial, for a given matrix M , to be the output of Berkowitz's algorithm, i.e., to be the entries of the column vector $P_M = T_1 \cdot T_2 \cdots T_n$.

In other words, if $(l_0 \dots l_{k+1} = 1)$ are the coefficients of the characteristic polynomial P_{k+1} of sub-matrix M_{k+1} and $(w_0, \dots, w_{k+1} = 1)$ the coefficients of the characteristic polynomial P_k of sub-matrix M_{k+1} . The Samuelson's formula can now be interpreted in terms of matrix multiplication as

$$\begin{bmatrix} l_1 \\ l_2 \\ \vdots \\ l_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = T_k \begin{bmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_{k+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

3.3 Implementation of Samuelson-Berkowitz Algorithm

Given a $n \times n$ square matrix M with coefficients in a commutative ring \mathcal{R} , this algorithm computes the characteristic polynomial P_M of M .

1. Initialize $V = \begin{bmatrix} -m_{11} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
2. for every $k \in \{1, \dots, n-1\}$ proceed as follows:
 - a. let M_k be the k -th principal minor of M
 - b. set $R_k = (m_{k+1,1}, \dots, m_{k+1,k})$ and $C_k = (m_{1,k+1}, \dots, m_{k,k+1})^T$
 - c. compute the products

$$-R_k M_k^0 C_k, -R_k M_k^1 C_k \cdots -R_k M_k^{k-1} C_k$$

- d. construct a Toeplitz matrix in (3.7)
- e. update V setting $V = T_k \cdot V$
3. return $P_M(x) = (1, x, \dots, x^{n-1}, x^n) \cdot V$

3.4 Complexity of Samuelson-Berkowitz Algorithm

It is of utmost importance to expatiate on the computations of step (2) in [Section 3.3](#) being the most important step that speed up the algorithm. It can be performed much more efficiently when executed serially by using matrix vector multiplication rather than matrix-matrix multiplications.

More precisely, instead of computing M_k^{k-1} for $1 \leq k \leq n$ we first compute matrix-vector product $M_k^{k-1}C_k$ and then the dot product $R_k M_k^{k-1}C_k$ for $1 \leq k \leq n$. In this case the algorithm is shown to involve less than $\frac{1}{2}n^4 - n^3 + \frac{5}{2}n^2$ arithmetic operations (additions, subtraction and multiplication) of coefficients in the commutative ring \mathcal{R} (see, [9]).

4 Modular Computation Algorithm

This section provides a comprehensive explanation of the formulation of modular algorithm for calculating the determinant of any $n \times n$ matrix with integral coefficients.

4.1 Description of Modular Computation Algorithm

Modular computation algorithm is a method centred around the methods of division-free algorithm and fast division algorithm, for example, Gaussian elimination method. The main idea behind modular computation algorithm is to compute the determinant of square matrix M with coefficients in \mathbb{Z} modulo an odd number of distinct primes p_i , and then use the Gaussian elimination method or any method to find the determinant d_i of the systems obtained and finally use Chinese remainder theorem (see, [Theorem 2.6](#)) to obtain the determinant d of matrix M .

In other words, the determinant of M as a matrix over \mathbb{Z} is equal to the determinant of M regarded as a matrix over $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$, which provides a control on the intermediate computations, since we work over a finite field $p = \{0, \dots, p-1\}$. The immediate question is: **how do we choose p_i** ? For choosing p_i (for odd i) we need an a-priori bound for the determinant of M which is obtained through the Hadamard's inequality.

4.2 Formulation of Modular Computation Algorithm

Let $M = (m_{ij})$ be a matrix of size $n \times n$ and fix a distinct primes p_i (for odd i). For every primes p_i we denote the matrix M modulo p_i by $\overline{m}_{ij} = (m_{ij} \bmod p_i)$. We compute the determinant of $\overline{M} = (\overline{m}_{ij})$ using the fact that congruence's preserves sums and products. By definition of determinants we have

$$\det(\overline{M}) = \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \overline{m}_{i\sigma(i)} = \sum_{\sigma} \text{sgn}(\sigma) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n m_{i\sigma(i)} = \det M \pmod{p_i}$$

The following theorem is a step close to knowing how to determine the primes p_i which is the centre of focus of the modular computation algorithm.

Theorem 4.1. (*Hadamard inequality*). *Let $M = (m_{ij})$ be a matrix of size $n \times n$ with real coefficients, then*

$$|\det M| \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n m_{ij}^2} \quad (4.8)$$

Proof. A very beautiful proof of this theorem which rely on QR decomposition of a non-singular matrix M combined with Cauchy theorem (see, [Theorem 2.9](#)) is provided in (page 144, [6]). \square

The following corollary helps to know the bound of the determinant (Hadamard bound) of the given square matrix.

Colorally 4.2. *Let there be a constant $C > 0$ such that $|m_{ij}| \leq C$ for every $i, j \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, then*

$$|\det(M)| \leq C^n \cdot \sqrt{n^n}$$

Proof. Since m_{ij} are real coefficients then [Theorem 4.1](#) holds and also we have $m_{ij} \leq |m_{ij}| \leq C$, and $m_{ij}^2 \leq C^2$, for every $i, j \leq n$. Then

$$|\det M| \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n m_{ij}^2} \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n C^2} \leq \prod_{j=1}^n \sqrt{n \cdot C^2} = C^n \cdot \sqrt{n^n}$$

This completes the proof. \square

Next, we present an approach whose goal is to control the growth of the intermediate computations when calculating the determinant of M . Let $\det M = d$ and suppose $m = p_1 \cdot p_2 \cdots p_i$ be such that $m > 2 \cdot C^n \cdot \sqrt{n^n}$

We have already observed that a congruence $\det(M \bmod p_i) \equiv \det M \pmod{p_i}$ holds for every prime p_i . [Lemma 2.7](#) asserts that $\det M \equiv d \pmod{m}$. Hadamard's inequality says that if $d < \frac{m}{2}$, then the congruence $d - \det M \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ implies that $d = \det M > 0$. If on the other hand, we have $d > \frac{m}{2}$ (it cannot be equal $\frac{m}{2}$, since the number of primes p_i are odd), then $\det M = d - m < 0$.

4.3 Implementation of Modular Computation Algorithm

Given a matrix $M = (m_{ij})$ with integer entries, this algorithm computes the determinant $\det M$.

1. find a bound C such that $C \geq |m_{ij}|$ for all $i, j \leq n$;
2. find odd primes $p_1 \cdots p_s$, whose product is greater than twice the Hadamard's bound, i.e.
$$m = p_1 \cdots p_s > 2 \cdot C^n \cdot \sqrt{n^n}$$
3. for every $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$ compute the determinant over \mathbb{F}_{p_s} using e.g. Gaussian elimination or any other method;
4. use Chinese remainder theorem in [Theorem 2.6](#) to find a solution d to the system of congruence's $d \equiv d_k \pmod{p_k}$ for every $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, s\}$;
5. if $d > \frac{m}{2}$, then replace it by $d - m$;
6. return the determinant $\det M = d$.

Example 4.3. Compute the determinant of a matrix

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & -1 & 6 \\ 4 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

using algorithm in [Section 4.3](#).

Clearly, from the matrix M , we have, $n = 3$, $C = 9$ and the Hadamard's inequality gives the bound

$$|\det M| \leq 9^3 \cdot \sqrt{3^3} = 3787.995$$

To this end, we consider five primes: 2, 3, 5, 7 and 37, since the product $m = 2 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 7 \cdot 37 = 7,770$ is greater than twice the Hadamard's bound. We will successively compute the determinants modulo each prime using GEM, and then use Chinese remainder theorem in [Theorem 2.6](#) to incrementally solve the resulting system of congruence's.

Firstly, we compute $\det(M \bmod 2)$ as follows:

$$d_1 = \det(M \bmod 2) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

Next, we compute for the remaining primes

$$d_2 = \det(M \bmod 3) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = -6,$$

$$d_3 = \det(M \bmod 5) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = 40,$$

$$d_4 = \det(M \bmod 7) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \\ 4 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = 34,$$

$$d_5 = \det(M \bmod 37) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 2 & 1 \\ 5 & 36 & 6 \\ 4 & 0 & 35 \end{pmatrix} = 10,894.$$

Therefore, it follows that

$$\begin{cases} d \equiv 0 \pmod{2} \\ d \equiv -6 \pmod{3} \\ d \equiv 40 \pmod{5} \\ d \equiv 34 \pmod{7} \\ d \equiv 10,894 \pmod{37}, \end{cases}$$

which can be reduced to

$$\begin{cases} d \equiv 6 \pmod{7} \\ d \equiv 16 \pmod{37}, \end{cases}$$

from which we obtain,

$$d \equiv 90 \pmod{259}$$

Then, $d = 90$ is a unique solution of the system and it is less than half times m . Therefore, $\det M = 90$

4.4 Complexity of Modular Computation Algorithm

Prime numbers are frequent enough to find one with a word length in the same order of magnitude as $O(n^2)$ while computing the determinant of an $n \times n$ matrix over a finite field for each prime p_i using Gaussian elimination has a complexity of $O(n^3)$ and using the Chinese Remainder Theorem has a complexity of $O(n)$ involving simple arithmetic operations.

The complexities of each step demonstrate that the overall complexity of the algorithm is dominated by the step with the highest complexity, which is typically computing determinants *mod* p_i (Step 3) with $O(n^3)$ complexity. For more explanations on the complexity of this algorithm (see, [10]). Therefore, the cost of computations in modular computation algorithm is $O(n^3)$.

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