

Step-1

Objective is to prove $D_n = D_{n-1} - D_{n-2}$, and find the value of D_{1000} .

Step-2

Tridiagonal matrix:

The tridiagonal matrix is the matrix that has non-zero entries only on the main diagonal, first diagonal above the main diagonal and first diagonal below the main diagonal.

Step-3

(a)

Consider the following tridiagonal matrices,

$$A_1 = [1]$$

$$A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let D_n denotes the determinant of A_n .

The objective is to show that $D_n = D_{n-1} - D_{n-2}$.

Consider;

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Determinant of A_4 is given by;

$$\begin{aligned}
D_4 &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - \left(1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \right) \\
&= 0 - 1 - (0 - 0) \\
&= -1
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
D_3 &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= 0 - 1 \\
&= -1
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
D_2 &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\
&= 1 - 1 \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}
D_4 &= D_3 - D_2 \\
&= -1 - 0 \\
&= -1
\end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$D_n = D_{n-1} - D_{n-2} \quad \forall n \geq 1$$

Step-4

(b)

The objective is to find D_{1000} .

Step-5

From the part (a)

$$D_1 = 1$$

$$D_2 = 0$$

Use $D_n = D_{n-1} - D_{n-2}$ and get;

$$D_3 = D_2 - D_1$$

$$= -1$$

$$D_4 = D_3 - D_2$$

$$= -1$$

Step-6

Similarly

$$D_5 = D_4 - D_3$$

$$= 0$$

$$D_6 = D_5 - D_4$$

$$= 1$$

$$D_7 = D_6 - D_5$$

$$= 1$$

$$D_8 = D_7 - D_6$$

$$= 0$$

$$D_9 = D_8 - D_7$$

$$= -1$$

$$D_{10} = D_9 - D_8$$

$$= -1$$

It can be generalized that $D_{3n+2} = 0$ and

$D_{3n} = D_{3n+1} = -1$, when n is odd.

$D_{3n} = D_{3n+1} = 1$, when n is even.

Now,

$$1000 = 3 \times 333 + 1$$

Since 333 is odd. Hence, $D_{1000} = -1$