

12. *proof.* Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & A_2 \\ A_3 & A_4 \end{pmatrix}$, 则根据 $M = AMA^T$ 知

$$-A_2 A_1^T + A_1 A_2^T = 0 \quad (1), \quad -A_2 A_3^T + A_1 A_4^T = I_n \quad (2),$$

$$-A_4 A_1^T + A_3 A_2^T = -I_n \quad (3), \quad -A_4 A_3^T + A_3 A_4^T = 0 \quad (4).$$

若 A_1 可逆结合 A 的分块可知 $|A| = |A_1| |A_4 - A_3 A_1^{-1} A_2|$ (5)

由(1)可知 $A_2 = A_1 A_2^T (A_1^{-1})^T$ 代入(2)可得到 $A_4 - A_3 A_1^{-1} A_2 = (A_1^{-1})^T$ (6)

联合(5)(6)可知 $|A| = |A_1| |A_4 - A_3 A_1^{-1} A_2| = |A_1| |(A_1^{-1})^T| = 1.$

若当 A_1 不可逆时, 考虑摄动法处理即可. 从而有 $\det(A) = 1.$

□