

THE SOUTH CHINA NORMAL UNIVERSITY  
School of Mathematical Sciences  
Numerical Analysis ( 2023-2024 The Second Term)

**Homework 4:**

Due Date: April 24, 2024 (Wednesday)

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**§3.3 Upper-triangular Linear Systems**

**Exercise 1.** Solve the upper-triangular system and find the value of the determinant of the coefficient matrix.

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 - x_4 &= 8 \\ 4x_2 - x_3 + 2x_4 &= -3 \\ 2x_3 + 3x_4 &= 11 \\ 5x_4 &= 15 \end{aligned}$$

**Solve** Solving for  $x_4$  in the last equation yields

$$x_4 = \frac{15}{5} = 3.$$

Using  $x_4 = 3$  in the third equation, we obtain

$$x_3 = \frac{11 - 3 \cdot 3}{2} = 1.$$

Now  $x_3 = 1$  and  $x_4 = 3$  are used to find  $x_2$  in the second equation:

$$x_2 = \frac{-3 - 2 \cdot 3 + 1}{4} = -2.$$

Finally,  $x_1$  is obtained using the first equation:

$$x_1 = \frac{8 + 3 - 1 - 4}{3} = 2.$$

And the determinant of the coefficient matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 & -2 & 1 & -4 \\ 0 & 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \cdot 4 \cdot 2 \cdot 5 = 120.$$

□

**Exercise 2.**

(a) Consider the two upper-triangular matrices

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ 0 & b_{22} & b_{23} \\ 0 & 0 & b_{33} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Show that their product  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AB}$  is also upper triangular.

(b) Let  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  be two  $N \times N$  upper-triangular matrices. Show that their product is also upper triangular.

**Solve** (a) Since

$$\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}b_{11} & a_{11}b_{12} + a_{12}b_{22} & a_{11}b_{13} + a_{12}b_{23} + a_{13}b_{33} \\ 0 & a_{22}b_{22} & a_{22}b_{23} + a_{23}b_{33} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{33}b_{33} \end{pmatrix},$$

the product of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  is also upper triangular.

(b) Consider the product  $\mathbf{C} = (c_{ij})_{N \times N}$  of two upper-triangular matrices  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})_{N \times N}$  and  $\mathbf{B} = (b_{ij})_{N \times N}$ ,  $c_{ij}$  with  $i > j$  is given by

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} a_{ik}b_{kj} + \sum_{k=i}^n a_{ik}b_{kj} = 0,$$

since  $a_{ik} = 0$  when  $k \leq i - 1$  and  $b_{kj} = 0$  when  $k \geq i > j$ . Hence  $\mathbf{C}$  is an upper triangular.  $\square$