

A Short Proof of the Generalized Formula

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There is a family of triangles $T(m; n, k) = 1 + m \cdot k \cdot (n - k)$ for $0 \leq k \leq n$ and some fixed integer m . The corresponding matrices inverse $M = T^{-1}$ are given by:

$M(m; n, n) = 1$ for $n \geq 0$, and $M(m; n, n-1) = m \cdot (1 - n) - 1$ for $n > 0$, and

$M(m; n, k) = (-1)^{n-k} \cdot (m \cdot k \cdot (k+1) + 1) \cdot m \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{n-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1)$ for $0 \leq k \leq n-2$.

Proof:

(1) Because of $\det(T(m; n, k)) = 1 \neq 0$ the matrix inverse $M = T^{-1}$ exists.

(2) Matrix product: $T * M = \sum_{r=k}^n T(m; n, r) \cdot M(m; r, k)$, because T and M are lower triangular matrices.

Case $k = n$: Entries of main diagonal.

$$\sum_{r=n}^n T(m; n, r) \cdot M(m; r, n) = T(m; n, n) \cdot M(m; n, n) = 1.$$

Case $k = n-1$: Entries of first subdiagonal.

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{r=n-1}^n T(m; n, r) \cdot M(m; r, n-1) &= T(m; n, n-1) \cdot M(m; n-1, n-1) + T(m; n, n) \cdot M(m; n, n-1) \\ &= (1 + m \cdot (n-1)) \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot (m \cdot (1-n) - 1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Case $k \leq n-2$: Entries of lower subdiagonals.

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \sum_{r=k}^n (1 + m \cdot r \cdot (n-r)) \cdot M(m; r, k) \\ &= (1 + m \cdot k \cdot (n-k)) \cdot 1 + (1 + m \cdot (k+1) \cdot (n-k-1)) \cdot (-m \cdot k - 1) + \\ &\quad \sum_{r=k+2}^n (1 + m \cdot r \cdot (n-r)) \cdot (-1)^{r-k} \cdot (m \cdot k \cdot (k+1) + 1) \cdot m \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\ &= -m \cdot (n-k-1) \cdot (m \cdot k \cdot (k+1) + 1) + \\ &\quad \sum_{r=k+2}^n (1 + m \cdot r \cdot (n-r)) \cdot (-1)^{r-k} \cdot (m \cdot k \cdot (k+1) + 1) \cdot m \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1). \end{aligned}$$

For integers k, m holds: $m \cdot k \cdot (k+1) + 1 \neq 0$. So we have an equivalent equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
m \cdot (n - k - 1) &= \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot (m + m^2 \cdot r \cdot n - m^2 \cdot r^2) \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot ((m \cdot n + m - 1) + (m \cdot r - 1) \cdot ((m \cdot n + m - 2) - (m \cdot (r+1) - 1))) \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= (m \cdot n + m - 1) \cdot \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-2} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&\quad + (m \cdot n + m - 2) \cdot \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{r-1} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= (m \cdot n + m - 1) \cdot \sum_{r=k}^{n-2} (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&\quad - ((m \cdot n + m - 1) - 1) \cdot \sum_{r=k+1}^{n-1} (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= (m \cdot n + m - 1) \cdot \left(\sum_{r=k}^{n-2} (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - \sum_{r=k+1}^{n-1} (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \right) \\
&\quad + \sum_{r=k+1}^{n-1} (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - \sum_{r=k+2}^n (-1)^{r-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^r (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= (m \cdot n + m - 1) \cdot \left(\prod_{i=k+1}^k (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) + (-1)^{n-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^{n-1} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \right) \\
&\quad + \left(- \prod_{i=k+1}^{k+1} (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - (-1)^{n-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^n (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \right) \\
&= (m \cdot n + m - 1) + (-1)^{n-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^n (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) - (m \cdot (k+2) - 1) - (-1)^{n-k} \cdot \prod_{i=k+1}^n (m \cdot (i+1) - 1) \\
&= m \cdot (n - k - 1) \quad \text{with empty product} = 1. \qquad \qquad \qquad \text{q.e.d.}
\end{aligned}$$