

# A modern modification of Gjonbalaj-Salihu cornice determinant, transformation to semi-diagonal determinant

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## Abstract

In this paper we will present a modern way of transforming cornice determinants to semi-diagonal determinants. This method is based on Gjonbalaj-Salihu's method to reduce the order of determinants from  $n \times n$  to  $(n - 4) \times (n - 4)$ , but this new method presented has some advantages comparing to Gjonbalaj-Salihu's method of cornice determinants calculation, both those methods decrease the order of determinants for four orders, but this new modification uses only one semi-diagonal multiplication and reduces order of determinants for four orders, instead of Gjonbalaj-Salihu's method which uses four different multiplication

## 1 Gjonbalaj-Salihu method to calculate cornice determinants

**Definition 1.1.** *Every determinant having the second row and  $(n - 1)$ th row, as well as the second column and  $(n - 1)$ th column with elements equal to zero, except the first and last element of these rows/columns, is called the cornice determinant.*

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$$|A_{n \times n}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & a_{1,n-1} & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & a_{n-2,n} \\ a_{n-1,1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{n-1,n} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \cdots & a_{n,n-2} & a_{n,n-1} & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix}, \quad n \geq 5 \quad (1)$$

**Theorem 1.2.** [5] *Every cornice determinant  $|A_{n \times n}|$ ,  $n \times n$ , ( $n \geq 5$ ) can be computed by reducing the order of the determinant by four.*

$$|A_{n \times n}| = (a_{12}a_{21}a_{n,n-1}a_{n-1,n} - a_{12}a_{2,n}a_{n,n-1}a_{n-1,1} - a_{21}a_{n2}a_{n-1,n}a_{1,n-1} + a_{1,n-1}a_{2,n}a_{n2}a_{n-1,1}) \cdot |A_{(n-4) \times (n-4)}|, \quad (2)$$

where

$$|A_{(n-4) \times (n-4)}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} \end{vmatrix} \quad (3)$$

In illustrative form:

$$\begin{aligned} |A_{n \times n}| &= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & a_{1,n-1} & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & a_{n-2,n} \\ a_{n-1,1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{n-1,n} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \cdots & a_{n,n-2} & a_{n,n-1} & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix} = \\ &= (a_{12}a_{21}a_{n,n-1}a_{n-1,n} - a_{12}a_{2,n}a_{n,n-1}a_{n-1,1} - a_{21}a_{n2}a_{n-1,n}a_{1,n-1} + \\ &\quad + a_{1,n-1}a_{2,n}a_{n2}a_{n-1,1}) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

## 2 Semi-diagonal method to calculate determinants of $n$ th order ( $n \geq 5$ )

**Definition 2.1.** Every determinant having the first row elements equal to zero except first element,  $n$ th row elements equal to zero except last element, second column elements equal to zero except second element and  $(n - 1)$ th column elements equal to zero except  $(n - 1)$ th element, we will call semi-diagonal determinant.

$$|A_{n \times n}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \cdots & a_{2,n-2} & 0 & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & a_{n-2,n} \\ a_{n-1,1} & 0 & a_{n-1,3} & \cdots & a_{n-1,n-2} & a_{n-1,n-1} & a_{n-1,n} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (n \geq 5) \quad (5)$$

**Theorem 2.2.** Every cornice determinant can be transformed into the semi-diagonal determinant and the result can be calculated using formula below:

$$|A_{n \times n}| = a_{12} \cdot a_{21} \cdot b_{n-1,n-1} \cdot b_{nn} \cdot |A_{(n-4) \times (n-4)}|, \quad (6)$$

where

$$|A_{(n-4) \times (n-4)}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$b_{n-1,n-1} = a_{n,n-1} - \frac{a_{1,n-1} \cdot a_{n2}}{a_{12}}$$

$$b_{nn} = a_{n-1,n} - \frac{a_{2,n} \cdot a_{n-1,1}}{a_{21}}$$

**Proof:** From equation (1), exchange the first row with the second row and the  $n$ th row with the  $(n - 1)$ th row, we will have:

$$|A_{n \times n}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{2n} \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & a_{1,n-1} & a_{1n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & a_{n-2,n} \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \cdots & a_{n,n-2} & a_{n,n-1} & a_{nn} \\ a_{n-1,1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{n-1,n} \end{vmatrix}, \quad (n \geq 5) \quad (7)$$

Multiply the first row by the  $(-\frac{a_{n-1,1}}{a_{21}})$  and then add to the last row. Next multiply the second row by  $(-\frac{a_{n,2}}{a_{12}})$  and then add to the  $(n-1)$ th row. We get:

$$|A_{n \times n}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & a_{2n} \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & a_{1,n-1} & a_{1n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & a_{n-2,n} \\ b_{n-1,1} & 0 & b_{n-3,3} & \cdots & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} & b_{n-1,n} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & b_{n,n} \end{vmatrix} \quad (8)$$

Multiply the first column by  $(-\frac{a_{2,n}}{a_{21}})$  and then add to the last column. Next multiply the second column by  $(-\frac{a_{1,n-1}}{a_{12}})$  and then add to the  $(n-1)$ th column. We now get:

$$|A_{n \times n}| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & 0 & b_{1n} \\ a_{31} & 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & b_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,1} & 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & b_{n-2,n} \\ b_{n-1,1} & 0 & b_{n-3,3} & \cdots & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} & b_{n-1,n}^* \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & b_{n,n} \end{vmatrix} \quad (9)$$

Now:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |A_{n \times n}| &= a_{21} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} & \cdots & a_{1,n-2} & 0 & b_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & b_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & b_{n-2,n} \\ 0 & b_{n-3,3} & \cdots & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} & b_{n-1,n}^* \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & b_{n,n} \end{vmatrix} = \quad (10) \\
 &= a_{21} \cdot a_{12} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 & b_{3n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 & b_{n-2,n} \\ b_{n-3,3} & \cdots & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} & b_{n-1,n}^* \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & b_{n,n} \end{vmatrix} = \\
 &= a_{21} \cdot a_{12} \cdot b_{nn} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} & 0 \\ b_{n-3,3} & \cdots & b_{n-1,n-2} & b_{n-1,n-1} \end{vmatrix} = \\
 &= a_{21} \cdot a_{12} \cdot b_{nn} \cdot b_{n-1,n-1} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & \cdots & a_{3,n-2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n-2,3} & \cdots & a_{n-2,n-2} \end{vmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

The MATLAB function to calculate cornice determinants using semi-diagonal method is presented below:

```

function d = det - SemiDiagonal(A)
[m, n] = size(A);
if m ~ = n
disp('Matrix A is not square')
d = 0;
return
end
B(n - 1, n - 1) = A(n, n - 1) - A(1, n - 1) * A(n, 2)/A(1, 2);
B(n, n) = A(n - 1, n) - A(2, n) * A(n - 1, 1)/A(2, 1);
if n == 1
d = A;
return
elseif n == 2

```

```

d = A(1, 1) * A(2, 2) - A(1, 2) * A(2, 1);
return
elseif n == 3
d = det(A);
return
elseif n == 4
d = det(A);
return
end
d0 = det(A(3 : n - 2, 3 : n - 2));
if d0 == 0
d = 0;
else
d = A(1, 2) * A(2, 1) * B(n - 1, n - 1) * B(n, n) * d0;
end

```

## References

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