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**A SPECIAL CLASS OF MATRICES**

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**1. Introduction.** Let  $D$  be an integral domain,  $K$  its quotient field,  $D^n$  the set of all  $n$ -by-1 matrices over  $D$ , and  $A$  an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix over a field containing  $K$ . We say that  $A$  has *property  $P_D$*  if and only if, for all nonzero  $u$  in  $D^n$ , the vector  $Au$  has at least one component in  $D^* = D - \{0\}$ . The setting in which this property arose is detailed in [1], where we investigated the case where  $D$  was either  $\mathbb{Z}$ , the rational integers, or the ring of integers of an algebraic number field of class-number one. Now, if  $P$  is a permutation matrix,  $T$  is lower triangular with only ones in the diagonal, and  $N$  is nonsingular and over  $D$ , then  $A = PTN$  has property  $P_D$ . It was shown in [1] that for  $D = \mathbb{Z}$  there are matrices not of the form  $PTN$  which have property  $P_D$ ; but, at least in the case of the ring of integers of an algebraic number field of class-number one, we found the necessary but far from sufficient condition, that  $\det A$  be in  $D^*$ . Our present purpose is to extend this to all algebraic number fields and also to prove necessary and sufficient conditions for property  $P_D$  in certain cases.

**THEOREM I.** *Let  $D$  be a domain whose quotient field  $K$  is algebraic over its prime field. Let  $A$  be an  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix, where  $n \leq \#(K)$ .<sup>1</sup> Then:*

- (i) *If  $K$  is of prime characteristic, then  $A$  has property  $P_D$  if and only if  $A = PTN$ , where  $P$ ,  $T$  and  $N$  are as above:*
- (ii) *If  $D$  is Dedekind and  $K$  is a finite algebraic extension of the rationals, then for  $A$  to have  $P_D$  we must have  $\det A \in D^*$ .*

**THEOREM II.** *If  $D = D_1[t]$ , where  $t$  is transcendental over  $D_1$ , if  $\#(D_1) > n$ , and if  $A$  has  $P_D$ , then the rows of  $A$  can be so ordered that the matrices  $A_r$  of the first  $r$  rows of  $A$  have all  $r$ -by- $r$  minors in  $D$  and not all zero, for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . In particular, the first row is over  $D$ , and  $\det A \in D^*$ .*

If in addition we have only principal ideals, then we can reduce all but one element of the first row to zero and prove by induction:

**COROLLARY.** *If  $D = F[t]$ , where  $\#(F) > n$ , so  $K$  is a simple transcendental extension, then  $A$  has  $P_D$  if and only if  $A = PTN$ , where  $P$ ,  $T$  and  $N$  are as above.*

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<sup>1</sup>  $\#(K)$  = cardinality of  $K$ .

We can improve Theorem II to an if and only if statement, as long as  $D_1[t]$  is a Gaussian domain.

**THEOREM III.** *If  $D = F[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k]$ , where the  $t_i$  are algebraically independent over the field  $F$ , and  $\#(F) > n$ , then a matrix  $A$  has  $P_D$  if and only if  $A = PLV$ , where  $P$  is a permutation matrix,  $L$  is a diagonal matrix over  $D^*$ , while  $V$  is nonsingular and such that for  $r = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , the first  $r$  rows of  $V$  have their  $r$ -by- $r$  minors in  $D$  and without common divisor.*

2. We try to reduce down to the case that  $A$  is over  $K$ .

**LEMMA. I.** *Let  $B$  be an  $r$ -by- $n$  matrix over a field containing  $K$ , where  $\#(K) \geq n \geq r$ , and assume that there is a subspace  $V$  of  $K^n$  of dimension  $r$  such that, for all nonzero  $u$  in  $V$ ,  $Bu$  has a component in  $K^*$ . Then  $B = PTB_1$ , where  $P$  is a permutation matrix,  $T$  is triangular with only ones on the diagonal, and  $B_1$  is  $r$ -by- $n$  and such that, for all  $u$  in  $V$ , the product  $B_1u$  has all its components in  $K$  and is 0 only when  $u = 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $L_i$  note the subspace of  $V$  consisting of those  $u$  in  $V$  such that the  $i$ th component of  $Bu$  is in  $K$ . Then the relation between  $B$  and  $V$  implies that  $V = \bigcup L_i$ , the union over those  $i$  such that for  $u$  in  $L_i$  the component  $(Bu)_i$  is not always zero. We first show that some  $L_i = V$ . Assume that to be false: hence  $V$  is the union of at most  $r$  proper subspaces, say  $V = H_1 \cup \dots \cup H_m$ ,  $m \leq r \leq n$ ,  $m$  minimal. By choosing  $u, v$  so that  $u \in H_1$ ,  $v \in H_2 \cup \dots \cup H_m$ ,  $u \notin H_2 \cup \dots \cup H_m$ ,  $v \notin H_1$ , we ensure that the plane  $Ku + Kv$  equals the union of at most  $m$  lines through the origin. This is clearly impossible if the field  $K$  is infinite. If  $\#(K) = q$ , then we should require that  $q^2 \leq n(q-1) + 1$ , that is,  $q + 1 \leq m \leq n$ , whereas we assumed that  $q \geq n$ . Hence some row of  $B$  has all its inner products with  $V$  in  $K$  and not all zero. Permute the rows so that the first row,  $R_1^i$ , has this property. Then the lemma is proved for  $r = 1$ , and we are ready for induction on  $r$ ; the matrix  $C$  of the last  $r - 1$  rows of  $B$  has the correct inner product property relative to  $W = V \cap (KR_1)^{\perp}$ , a space of dimension  $r - 1$ . Hence,  $C = T_1C_1$ , where  $T_1$  is triangular of order  $r - 1$  with only ones on the diagonal, while the rows  $S_2^i, \dots, S_r^i$  of  $C_1$  are such that all  $S_j^i u$  are in  $K$  whenever  $u \in W$ . Since we have not yet chosen the first column of our final  $T$ , we can still modify the  $S_j$  by multiples of  $R$ : for all  $a_j$  in any field containing  $K$ , the row  $S_j^i - a_j R_1^i$  has the same inner product on  $W$  as  $S_j^i$ . Let  $S_1$  be a vector in  $V$  but not in  $W$ , so that  $R$  and  $S_1$  are not perpendicular. We can then choose  $a_j$  so that  $(S_j^i a_j R_1^i)S_1 = 0$ , so that the rows  $R_j^i = S_j^i - a_j R_1^i$  have all inner products in  $K$  with a basis for  $V$  over  $K$ , hence

the same with all vectors in  $V$ . The result now follows, with  $T$  obtained from  $T_1$  by putting the row  $(1, 0, \dots, 0)$  on top and the column  $(1, a_2, \dots, a_n)^t$  to the left, while  $B_1$  has rows  $R_1^i, \dots, R_r^i$ . Finally, if some nonzero  $u$  in  $V$  were perpendicular to all the  $R$ , it would be perpendicular to all the rows of  $B$  and thus violate the hypothesis.

**COROLLARY 1.** *If  $\#(K) \geq n$ , and if  $A$  has property  $P_K$ , then  $A = PTA_1$ , where  $T$  is lower triangular with only ones on the diagonal, while  $A_1$  is nonsingular over  $K$ . As usual,  $P$  is a permutation matrix.*

*Proof.* This is the case  $r = n$ , so  $V = K^n$  and the deduction is immediate.

**COROLLARY 2.** *If  $\#(K) \geq n$ , then  $A$  has  $P_D$  implies  $\det A \in K^*$ .*

3. *Proof of Theorem I.* We note first that, if  $A$  has  $P_D$  and  $R$  is any sub-domain of  $D$ , then  $A$  has property  $P$  relative to the intersection of  $D$  with the ring obtained from  $R$  by adjoining the elements of  $A$ . Hence we can take  $D$  to be a sub-domain of a finite extension of the prime field. In case  $K$  is purely algebraic, this intersection is a finite algebraic extension of the prime field. However, this procedure may spoil the Dedekind property, so we only use this for *part (i)*. There, we are now down to the case where  $D$  is a sub-domain of a finite field and therefore is itself a finite field. This part of Theorem I follows now from Corollary 1 above, with  $D = K$ . For *part (ii)* we proceed as follows. In the preceding section we saw that if  $A$  has  $P_D$  then  $\det A \in K^*$ , and now we shall show that  $\det A \in D^*$  in the case that  $D$  is a Dedekind ring and  $K$  is an algebraic number field. The usual case is when  $D$  is the ring of integers of  $K$ , of course. First, we shall replace  $A$  by a matrix over  $K$ . Permute the rows so that  $A = TA_1$ , as in Corollary 1. Now, if  $1, \xi_1, \dots, \xi_N$  is a basis for the  $K$ -module obtained by adjoining to  $K$  all the elements of  $T$ , then  $A = (T_1 + \xi_2 T_2 + \dots + \xi_N T_N)A_1$ , where the  $T_i$  are over  $K$ , are strictly lower triangular for  $i \geq 2$ , and  $T_1$  is lower triangular with only ones on the diagonal. The matrix  $T_1 A_1$  is over  $K$ , has the same determinant as  $A$ , and it has  $P_D$ . For, by the independence of  $1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_N$  over  $K$ ,  $(Au)_i \in K$  if and only if  $(Au)_i = (T_1 A_1 u)_i \in K$ , for  $u \in K^n$ . So we are down to the case that  $A$  is over  $K$ . If  $\det A$  is not in  $D$ , some prime ideal  $\mathfrak{P}$  must occur to a negative power in the factorisation of the ideal  $(\det A)$ . Since every element of  $D$  can be expressed as  $\pi^\nu u/v$ , where  $\pi \in \mathfrak{P}$ ,  $\pi \notin \mathfrak{P}^2$ ,  $u$  and  $v$  are in  $D$  but not in  $\mathfrak{P}$ , while  $\nu$  is a rational integer, the ring  $D_{\mathfrak{P}} = \{a/b \mid a, b \in D, b \notin \mathfrak{P}\}$  is a discrete valuation ring in which every element is a unit times a power of  $\pi$  the only ideals being  $D \supset (\pi) \supset (\pi^2) \supset \dots$ . Since it is easily shown that  $A$  has property  $P$  relative to  $D_{\mathfrak{P}}$ , we are now down to the

case that  $D$  is a discrete valuation ring with prime element  $\pi$ , and  $\det A$  is a unit times a negative power of  $\pi$ . By multiplying a row of  $A$  by an appropriate element of  $D^*$ , we can ensure that  $\det A = \pi^{-1}$ , if we wish. Things now proceed as in Lemma 3 of [1]. Multiply the  $i$ th row of  $A$  by  $\pi^{a_i}$ , where the  $d_i$  are such that the ensuing matrix is over  $D$ . Since  $D$  is a principal ideal ring, we can triangularize this new matrix  $B$ . It has the property that for all nonzero  $u$  in  $D^n$ , some component  $(Bu)_i$  is a nonzero multiple of  $\pi^{a_i}$ ; also,  $\det B = \pi^{\sum a_i - 1}$ . These properties are shown to be contradictory. If the residue class field  $D/\mathfrak{P}$  has degree  $f$  over  $Z/\mathfrak{P} \cap Z = Z/pZ$ , it has  $p^f$  elements. Then, the number of residue classes mod  $\mathfrak{P}^a$  is  $p^{af}$ . By absorbing unit factors, we can assume that the diagonal elements of  $B$  are  $\pi^{a_i}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , so that  $\sum a_i < \sum d_i$ . We let  $\alpha_i, \delta_i$  run over complete residue systems mod  $\pi^{a_i}$  and mod  $\pi^{d_i}$ , respectively: then the number of vectors  $\alpha$  is  $(p^f)^{\sum a_i}$  and the number of  $\delta$  is  $(p^f)^{\sum d_i}$ . Hence there are more  $\delta$  than  $\alpha$ . As in [1], one now shows that for given  $\delta$  there is one and only one  $\alpha$  such that the equation  $Bu = \alpha + \delta$  is solvable with  $u$  in  $D^n$ . Then, we find distinct  $\delta, \delta'$  and some  $\alpha$  such that  $Bu = \delta + \alpha$  and  $Bu' = \delta' + \alpha$ , where  $u$  and  $u'$  are in  $D^n$ . Hence,  $B(u - u') = \delta - \delta'$ , and each component of  $\delta - \delta'$  is either zero or indivisible by  $\pi^{a_i}$ . This contradicts the  $P$ -property for  $B$  and establishes at last that we must have had  $\det A \in D^*$ .

4. *The case  $D = D_1[t]$ .* We saw in Lemma I, Corollary 2, that if  $A$  has  $P_D$  then we can permute the rows and reduce  $A$  to the form  $TA_1$ , where  $T$  is lower triangular with only ones on the diagonal, while  $A_1$  is nonsingular and over  $K$ . We now note that  $TA_1 = TEEA_1$ , where  $E$  is any elementary matrix with  $E^2 = I$ ; hence we can add  $K$ -multiples of columns of  $T$  to other columns, doing the corresponding row-operation on  $A_1$ . Hence, we may assume that the sub-diagonal elements of  $T$  are either zero or outside  $K$ .

LEMMA II. *If  $A$  has  $P_D$ , where  $D = D_1[t]$ ,  $\#(D_1) > n$  and  $t$  is transcendental over  $D_1$ , then some row of  $A$  must have all its elements in  $D$ .*

*Proof.* We have  $A = TA_1$ , as above. Some rows of  $T$ , such as the first, have only one nonzero component, and it is 1. By permutation of the columns of  $T$  (and hence of the rows of  $A_1$ ) and also the rows of  $T$ , we can put things in the form:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} I_s & & & 0 \\ & t_{s+1,1} \cdots 1 & & 0 \\ & & 1 & \\ & t_{n1} & & 1 \end{pmatrix} A_1.$$

Thus, the first  $s$  rows of  $A_1$  are also rows of  $A$ , and the last  $n - s$  rows of  $T$  involve elements outside  $K$ . We shall show that if none of the first  $s$  rows in over  $D$ , then we can find a vector  $u \in D^n$  such that the first  $s$  components of  $Au$  are in  $K$  but not in  $D$ , while the last  $n - s$  components are not even in  $K$ . In general, if we want an element  $\underline{u}$  of  $K^n$  to be such that the last  $n - s$  components of  $Au$  are not in  $K$ , we want  $b = A_1 u$  to be in  $K^n$  but such that none of  $t_{i1}b_1 + \cdots t_{i,i-1}b_{i-1} + b_i$  is in  $K$ , for  $s < i \leq n$ . Since the coefficients  $t_{i1}, \dots, t_{i,i-1}$  are not all zero and the nonzero ones are outside  $K$ , these conditions amount to making  $b$  avoid  $n - s$  subspaces of  $K^n$ . Thus,  $u = A_1^{-1}b$  must avoid at most  $n - 1$  hyperplanes of  $K^n$ . So we are finished as soon as we have found  $u$  in  $D^n$  such that the first  $s$  components of  $A_1 u$  are outside  $D$ , and with  $u$  avoiding a given set of hyperplanes. There are two cases, according as the matrix  $A_s$  of the first  $s$  rows of  $A$  has a common denominator out of  $D_1$  or not.

(1) *Case when*

$$A_s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a_{11}(t)}{d}, \dots, \frac{a_{1n}(t)}{d} \\ \frac{a_{s1}(t)}{d}, \dots, \frac{a_{sn}(t)}{d} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $d \in D_1$ ,  $a_{ij}(t) \in D_1[t]$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq s$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ , and  $d$  is not a divisor of all the coefficients of  $a_{i1}, \dots, a_{in}$ , for each  $i$  from 1 to  $s$ . We choose  $u^t = (t, t^{N_2}, \dots, t^{N_n})$ , where  $1, N_2, \dots, N_n$  are in ascending order and so far apart that the terms in  $\sum_j a_{ij}(t)t^{N_j}$  do not combine, since their terms are of vastly different degrees. Hence,  $d$  does not divide all the coefficients of  $\sum_j a_{ij}t^{N_j}$ , as required.

(ii) *Case when*

$$A_s = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a_{11}(t)}{a(t)} & \dots & \frac{a_{1n}(t)}{a(t)} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{a_{s1}(t)}{a(t)} & \dots & \frac{a_{sn}(t)}{a(t)} \end{pmatrix}, s \leq n,$$

where for no value of  $i$  does  $d(t)$  divide all of  $a_{i1}(t), \dots, a_{in}(t)$ . The approach in (i) needs modification, since  $d(t)$  might be just a power of  $t$ . We begin by showing that if  $\sum_{i=1}^n a_i(t)(t - \alpha)^{N_i}$  is divisible by  $d(t)$ , then, for  $N_1, \dots, N_n$  sufficiently spaced, each  $a_i(t)(t - \alpha)^{N_i}$  is divisible by  $d(t)$ . Since we could change to the new transcendental  $t - \alpha$  over  $D_1$ , we need only treat the case  $\alpha = 0$ . Let  $d = \max$  degree among  $d(t), a_1(t), \dots$ . If

$$d(t)(q_1(t) + \dots + q_n(t)) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i(t)t^{N_i}, \dots (*)$$

where  $N_{i-1} + d < N_i$ ,  $i = 2, \dots, n$ , and  $q_\nu(t)$  involves only terms of degree greater than  $N_{\nu-1}$  but not greater than  $N_\nu + d$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{The terms on the right side of } (*) \text{ of degree not greater than } N_1 + d \\ &= a_1(t)t^{N_1} \\ &= \text{terms on left side of } (*) \text{ of degree less than } N_2 \\ &= d(t)q_1(t). \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $d(t) \mid a_1(t)t^{N_1}$ , and so on. Hence, if for some  $i$  we have  $\sum_{\nu=1}^n a_{i\nu}(t)(t - \alpha)^{N_\nu}$  divisible by  $d(t)$ , then  $d(t) \mid a_{i\nu}(t)(t - \alpha)^{N_\nu}$ ,  $1 \leq \nu \leq n$ . By cancelling the factors  $t - \alpha$  which may occur in  $d(t)$ , we deduce that the complementary factor in  $d(t)$  must divide some row of the  $a_{i\nu}$ . So, if we can pick more  $\alpha$  than there are rows, we'd need some row divisible by so much that  $d(t)$  would have to divide each  $a_{i\nu}(t)$ . We assumed that  $\#(D_1) > n$  for exactly this reason. So, for some  $\alpha \in D_1$  and for all  $N_1, \dots, N_n$  sufficiently large and far apart, all of  $\sum_{\nu=1}^n a_{i\nu}(t)(t - \alpha)^{N_\nu}$  are indivisible by  $d(t)$ . As to avoiding hyperplanes of  $K^n$ : these have the form  $h_1x_1 + \dots + h_nx_n = 0$ , where  $h_i \in D_1[t]$ . Since for  $N_1, \dots, N_n$  far enough apart, the terms of the  $h_i(t)t^{N_i}$  don't overlap, we cannot have  $\sum h_i(t)t^{N_i} = 0$ . As usual, the change  $t \rightarrow t - \alpha$  is no problem, so Lemma II is proved.

For our purpose, somewhat more than the above is needed. A mild generalisation of Lemma II is now proved.

**LEMMA III.** *Let  $B$  be an  $r$ -by- $n$  matrix over a field containing  $D_1(t)$ , and assume that there is an  $r$ -dimensional subspace  $V$  of  $K^n$ , where  $K = D_1(t)$ , such that for all nonzero  $u$  in  $D_1[t]^n \cap V$  some component of  $Bu$  is in  $D_1[t]$  and is nonzero. Then, some row of  $B$  is such that its inner product with  $D_1[t]^n \cap V$  is always in  $D_1[t]$  and is not always zero.*

*Proof.* Since every nonzero element of  $V$  goes into  $D^n$ , where  $D = D_1[t]$ , on being multiplied by a suitable element of  $D$ , we know that Lemma I applies to  $B$  and  $V$ . Hence, as in the remarks immediately before Lemma II, we know that by permuting the rows of  $B$  we can put it in the form  $B = TB_1$ , where  $T$  is  $r$ -by- $r$ , is triangular with only ones on the diagonal and every sub-diagonal entry is either 0 or outside  $K$ , while  $B_1$  is such that for all nonzero  $u$  in  $V$ , the product  $B_1u$  is nonzero and in  $K^r$ . As in Lemma II, we can order the rows of  $T$  so that the ones in  $K$  come first:

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} I & & \\ t_{s1}, 1 & & \\ & 1 & \\ & & 1 \end{pmatrix} B_1,$$

where the last  $r - s$  (possibly 0) rows of  $T$  involves elements outside  $K$ .

The first  $s(\geq 1)$  rows of  $B_1$  coincide with those of  $B$ , and we now show that one of these has the desired property. If not, then for the  $i$ th row  $R_i^t$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq s$ , we can find a nonzero  $u_i$  in  $D^n \cap V$ , such that  $R_i^t u_i$  is not in  $D$ . Consider now the matrix  $B_1 U$ , where  $U$  is  $n$ -by- $s$ , consisting of the columns  $u_1, \dots, u_s$ ;  $B_1 U$  is  $r$ -by- $s$ , is over  $K$ , and the first  $s$  rows each contain an element outside  $D$ . Hence, as before, we can choose  $N_1, \dots, N_s$  so far apart that  $B_1 U((t - \alpha)^{N_1}, \dots, (t - \alpha)^{N_s})^t$  has its first  $s$  components outside  $D$  and such that the last  $r - s$  components of  $T B_1 U((t - \alpha)^{N_1}, \dots, (t - \alpha)^{N_s})^t$  are not even in  $K$ . But the vector  $u = \sum_{i=1}^s (t - \alpha)^{N_i} u_i \in D^n \cap V$ , and we've just shown that  $Bu$  has no component in  $D$ . This contradiction shows that one of the first  $s$  rows of  $B$  has its inner product with  $D^n \cap V$  always in  $D$ . It cannot be perpendicular to  $V$ , as there are nonzero elements of  $V$  perpendicular to all the other rows of  $B$ , by dimensions, and we excluded having all rows of  $B$  perpendicular to some nonzero element of  $V$ .

**COROLLARY.** *If  $A$  has property  $P_D$ , where  $D = D_1[t]$  and  $\#(D_1) > n$ , as before, then the rows of  $A$  can be so arranged that  $R_i^t$  is over  $D$ , and for  $k = 1, \dots, n - 1$ , for all  $u$  in  $D^n$  and perpendicular to the first  $k$  rows of  $A$ , we have  $R_{k+1}^t \cdot u$  in  $D$ , not always zero.*

*Proof.* By Lemma II we may assume the first row is over  $D$ . Assume that the first  $k$  rows have been arranged as desired, for some  $k \geq 1$ ; we can then proceed to the choice of  $R_{k+1}^t$  by applying Lemma III to the matrix of the last  $n - k$  rows of  $A$ , with  $V$  the subspace of  $K^n$  orthogonal to the first  $k$  rows of  $A$ .

This necessary condition for  $P_D$ , in the simple transcendental case, has the virtue of being patently sufficient. It also makes evident the Corollary to Theorem II: when  $D = F[t]$ , so that all ideals are principal, matrices with  $P_D$  are essentially just nonsingular matrices over  $D$ , apart from permuting the rows and pre-multiplying by the usual triangular  $T$ . However, it is not easy to see how this criterion for general  $D_1[t]$  would be checked, nor does it seem an obvious deduction that  $\det A \in D^*$ .

*Theorem II will now be deduced.* Since we already know that  $\det A \neq 0$ , the  $r$ -by- $r$  minors of the first  $r$  rows of  $A$  cannot all be zero. Hence, we need only show that if the rows have been arranged as in the corollary above, then all the  $r$ -by- $r$  minors of the first  $r$  rows are in  $D$ , for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ . By looking at an  $r$ -by- $r$  sub-matrix of the first  $r$  rows of  $A$ , we see that its orthogonality properties should imply that its determinant is in  $D$ , and so it will suffice to prove:

**LEMMA IV.** *Let  $B$  be  $r$ -by- $r$  over some field containing  $K$ , such that the first row is over  $D$  and, for  $k = 1, \dots, r - 1$ , all  $u$  perpen-*



dicular to the first  $k$  rows of  $B$  and in  $D^r$  have an inner product with the  $k + 1$ st row in  $D$ . Then  $\det B \in D$ .

*Proof.* The case  $r = 1$  is trivial, so induction can begin. By the case  $r - 1$ , all the minors of the last row are in  $D$ . Since these numbers give a vector in  $D^r$  perpendicular to the first  $r - 1$  rows and having inner product  $\det B$  with the last row, we are done. The proof of Theorem II is now complete.

It is not a sufficient condition on  $A$  for  $P_D$ , to have all these  $r$ -by- $r$  minors in  $D$  and not all zero, for  $1 \leq r \leq n$ , as the example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x^2 & -xy \\ 0 & x^{-2} \end{pmatrix}$$

soon shows. In preparation for the proof of the last theorem, we shall show that the extra condition, that the  $r$ -by- $r$  minors be in  $D$  and without common divisor, is sufficient in the cases when  $D = D_1[t]$  is a unique factorisation ring, for example when  $D = F[t_1, t_2, \dots, t_k]$ .

**LEMMA V.** *Let  $D$  be a unique factorisation domain with quotient field  $K$ , and let  $A$  be an  $r$ -by- $n$  matrix of rank  $r$  such that, for  $1 \leq k \leq r$ , the  $k$ -by- $k$  minors of the first  $k$  rows of  $A$  are all in  $D$  and without common divisor. Then the first row is, of course, over  $D$  and, for  $1 \leq k < r$ , and for all  $u$  in  $D^n$  and perpendicular to the first  $k$  rows of  $A$ , the inner product  $R_{k+1}^t \cdot u$  is in  $D$ .*

*Proof.* Since we use induction on  $r$ , it is necessary only to deal with the case of  $u$  perpendicular to the first  $r - 1$  rows of  $A$ . Consider the equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11}, \dots, a_{1n} \\ \cdot \quad \cdot \quad \cdot \\ a_{r1}, \dots, a_{rn} \\ \\ I_{n-r} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ u_n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ p \\ u_{r+1} \\ u_n \end{pmatrix}$$

To show  $p \in D$ , we multiply both sides by  $(C_1, \dots, C_n)$ , these being the co-factors of the  $r$ th column of the  $n$ -by- $n$  matrix: hence

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1r} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{ri} & \dots & a_{rr} \end{vmatrix} u_r = C_r p + C_{r+1} u_{r+1} + \dots + C_n u_n.$$

But  $C_r$  equals the minor formed with the first  $r - 1$  rows and columns,

while  $C_{r+1}, \dots, C_n$  are also equal to cofactors from the first  $r - 1$  rows. Thus,  $C_r p \in D$ . Since changing the order of the columns of  $A$  does not alter the truth of the hypotheses, we know that for all the minors  $C$  at the  $(r - 1)$ st stage,  $Cp \in D$ . But these minors are without common divisor. Hence  $p \in D$ , as required.

**COROLLARY.** *Every matrix of the form  $PLV$ , as in Theorem III, has property  $P_D$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $P$  serves only to permute the rows, we may ignore it. Then we observe that since  $L$  is triangular with elements of  $D^*$  on the diagonal, the orthogonality property for  $V$  of Lemma III, Corollary, is not changed by going to  $LV$ . Thus, it is enough to use Lemma V with  $r = n$ .

*Proof of Theorem III.* We have just proved the “sufficiently” part of the theorem. So now assume  $A$  has  $P_D$ . By Lemma III we can order the rows of  $A$  so that for all  $u \in D^n$  and perpendicular to the first  $k$  rows,  $R_{k+1}^i \cdot u \in D$  and is not always zero. By using only those  $u$  with  $n - k$  entries  $u_{i_1}, \dots, u_{i_{n-k}}$  equal to zero, we see that the matrix obtained by erasing columns  $i_1, \dots, i_{n-k}$  and the last  $n - k$  rows of  $A$  has the orthogonality property. By Lemma IV we deduce that the first  $k$  rows of  $A$  have all  $k$ -by- $k$  minors in  $D$ . We now put  $A$  in the form  $LV$  by taking common factors as follows. We examine the first row of  $A$ : it is over  $D$ , so we take out the common factors. Proceed inductively: assume that factors have been take out so that the co-factors for the first  $k$  rows are without common divisor, for  $1 \leq k < r$ , and the new matrix still has the orthogonality property. If the minors of the  $r$  rows are not relatively prime, divide the  $r$ th row by the common factor. Lemma V shows that the orthogonality property is not lost by this process, so we can continue. This completes the proof of Theorem III.

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