

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 4 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R_1 - 5R_2 \\ R_3 - 2R_2 \end{array} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -6 & 0 & -16 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & -4 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{k1} A_{k1} = a_{21} A_{21} = \\
 &= 1 \cdot (-1)^{2+1} \begin{vmatrix} -6 & 0 & -16 \\ -1 & 3 & -4 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} R_2 - 3R_3 \end{array} = - \begin{vmatrix} -6 & 0 & -16 \\ -7 & 0 & -7 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = - \sum_{k=1}^3 a_{k2} A_{k2} = -a_{32} A_{32} = \\
 &= -1 \cdot (-1)^{3+2} \begin{vmatrix} -6 & -16 \\ -7 & -7 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -6 & -16 \\ -7 & -7 \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{8)}{=} -7 \begin{vmatrix} -6 & -16 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{8)}{=} 14 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 14(3-8) = -70.
 \end{aligned}$$

Method 2 (Laplace expansion by the 4th row):

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det A &= \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 4 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \begin{array}{l} 5 \quad -6 \quad 5 \quad -1 \\ 1 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 3 \\ 2 \quad -7 \quad 5 \quad -1 \\ 0 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 0 \end{array} = \sum_{k=1}^4 a_{4k} A_{4k} = a_{43} A_{43} = 1 \cdot (-1)^{4+3} \begin{vmatrix} 5 & -6 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & -7 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{6)}{=} \\
 &\stackrel{6)}{=} - \begin{vmatrix} 5 & -6 & -16 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -7 & -7 \end{vmatrix} = - \sum_{k=1}^3 a_{2k} A_{2k} = -a_{21} A_{21} = -1 \cdot (-1)^{2+1} \begin{vmatrix} -6 & -16 \\ -7 & -7 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -6 & -16 \\ -7 & -7 \end{vmatrix} = -70.
 \end{aligned}$$

## 2.7. INVERSE MATRIX

Let  $A$  be a real square matrix of order  $n$ .

The matrix  $A$  is a **regular** if  $\det A \neq 0$ . The matrix  $A$  is **singular** if  $\det A = 0$ .

Only regular matrix has an inverse matrix.

For a regular matrix  $A$  of order  $n$  there is a unique matrix  $B$  such that

$$A \cdot B = B \cdot A = I_n,$$

where  $I_n$  is a unit matrix of order  $n$ . The matrix  $B$  is also a regular matrix of order  $n$ , marked by  $A^{-1}$ , and is called **the inverse matrix** of the matrix  $A$ .

## 2.8. DETERMINING THE INVERSE MATRIX BY CALCULATING DETERMINANTS

The **inverse** matrix  $A^{-1}$  of a regular matrix  $A$  of order  $n$  can be determined by the formula:

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{21} & \cdots & A_{n1} \\ A_{12} & A_{22} & \cdots & A_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{1n} & A_{2n} & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $A_{ij}$  is the **cofactor** of the element  $a_{ij}$  of the matrix  $A$ .

