

Web-Supplement for:  
**Solutions to Sparse Multilevel Matrix Problems**

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### S.1 Proof of Theorem 1

In the case of  $m = 2$  the two-level sparse matrix linear system problem is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{A}_{11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2} \\ \hline \mathbf{A}_{12,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,1} & \mathbf{O} \\ \hline \mathbf{A}_{12,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,2} \end{array} \right] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_{2,1} \\ \mathbf{x}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 \\ \mathbf{a}_{2,1} \\ \mathbf{a}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}.$$

which immediately leads to

$$\mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{12,1}\mathbf{x}_{2,1} + \mathbf{A}_{12,2}\mathbf{x}_{2,2} = \mathbf{a}_1$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} = \mathbf{a}_{2,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq 2.$$

It is clear that the same pattern applies for general  $m$ , and we have

$$\mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{x}_1 + \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} = \mathbf{a}_1 \tag{S.1}$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} = \mathbf{a}_{2,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \tag{S.2}$$

Conditions (S.2) immediately imply that

$$\mathbf{x}_{2,i} = \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1}(\mathbf{a}_{2,i} - \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T\mathbf{x}_1), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \tag{S.3}$$

Substitution of (S.3) into (S.1) then leads to the solution for  $\mathbf{x}_1$  as stated in Theorem 1.

For the matrix inverse derivation, we again start with the  $m = 2$  case and note that

$$\left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{A}_{11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2} \\ \hline \mathbf{A}_{12,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,1} & \mathbf{O} \\ \hline \mathbf{A}_{12,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,2} \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{A}^{11} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1} & \mathbf{A}^{12,2} \\ \hline \mathbf{A}^{12,1T} & \mathbf{A}^{22,1} & \times \\ \hline \mathbf{A}^{12,2T} & \times & \mathbf{A}^{22,2} \end{array} \right] = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c|c} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \hline \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} \\ \hline \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \end{array} \right].$$

Observing the pattern from the  $m = 2$  case and then extending to general  $m$  we obtain the system of equations:

$$\mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{A}^{11} + \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i}\mathbf{A}^{12,iT} = \mathbf{I} \tag{S.4}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T\mathbf{A}^{12,i} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{A}^{22,i} = \mathbf{I}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m \tag{S.5}$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T\mathbf{A}^{11} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{A}^{12,iT} = \mathbf{O}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \tag{S.6}$$

From (S.6)

$$\mathbf{A}^{12,iT} = -\mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{11}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \quad (\text{S.7})$$

Substitution of (S.7) into (S.4) gives

$$\mathbf{A}_{11} \mathbf{A}^{11} - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{11} = \mathbf{I}$$

which implies that

$$\mathbf{A}^{11} = \left( \mathbf{A}_{11} - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \right)^{-1}.$$

Substitution of (S.7) into (S.5) gives

$$-\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{11} \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i} \mathbf{A}^{22,i} = \mathbf{I}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m$$

implying that

$$\mathbf{A}^{22,i} = \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{11} \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1}) = \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

For the  $|\mathbf{A}|$  result we first proof:

**Lemma 1.** Let  $\mathbf{M}$  be a symmetric invertible matrix with sub-block partitioning according to the notation

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}_{11} & \mathbf{M}_{12} \\ \mathbf{M}_{12}^T & \mathbf{M}_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{M}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M}^{11} & \mathbf{M}^{12} \\ \mathbf{M}^{12T} & \mathbf{M}^{22} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$|\mathbf{M}| = |(\mathbf{M}^{11})^{-1}| |\mathbf{M}^{22}|.$$

**Proof of Lemma 1.** Lemma 1 is a direct consequence of Theorem 13.3.8 of Harville (2008) concerning the determinant of a matrix with  $2 \times 2$  sub-block partitioning.

From Lemma 1 we have

$$|\mathbf{A}| = |(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| \left| \text{blockdiag}(\mathbf{A}_{22,i}) \right|_{1 \leq i \leq m} = |(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| \prod_{i=1}^m |\mathbf{A}_{22,i}|.$$

## S.2 Proof of Theorem 2

We first note the following simplification:

$$\mathbf{B}_i^T \mathbf{B}_i = \mathbf{B}_i^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{Q}_i^T \mathbf{B}_i = \mathbf{C}_{0i}^T \mathbf{C}_{0i} = \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{C}_{2i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m,$$

where the first equality holds by the orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}_i$  and the second and third equalities hold by Step 1(b) of Theorem 2. A similar sequence of steps can be used to show that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{B}_i^T \dot{\mathbf{B}}_i &= \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i, & \dot{\mathbf{B}}_i^T \dot{\mathbf{B}}_i &= \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i, \\ \mathbf{B}_i^T \mathbf{b}_i &= \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i} & \text{and} & \quad \dot{\mathbf{B}}_i^T \mathbf{b}_i = \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{c}_{1i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m. \end{aligned}$$

These simplifications allow us to represent the non-zero components of  $\mathbf{A}$  and the sub-vectors of  $\mathbf{a}$  as

$$\mathbf{A}_{11} = \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{C}_{2i}), \quad \mathbf{a}_1 = \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i})$$

and

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i} = \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i, \quad \mathbf{A}_{22,i} = \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i, \quad \mathbf{a}_{2,i} = \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{c}_{1i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

The derivation of the inverse matrix problem is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{A}^{11} &= \left( \mathbf{A}_{11} - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{C}_{2i}) - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i (\mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i)^{-1} \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{C}_{2i} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}^T \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\}_{1 \leq i \leq m} \right]^{-1} \\
&= \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{O} \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{Q}^T \mathbf{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{O} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T},
\end{aligned}$$

where the fifth equality holds by Step 2 of Theorem 2, and we have used the orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}$  for the sixth equality. The other components of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  are found by simply substituting the above simplifications into Theorem 1.

The derivation of the solution to the linear system is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{x}_1 &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left( \mathbf{a}_1 - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i} \mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{2,i} \right) \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i}) - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i (\mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i)^{-1} \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} \right\} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}^T \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{c}_{2i}) \right\}_{1 \leq i \leq m} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{O} \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{Q}^T \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{c}_{2i}) \right\}_{1 \leq i \leq m} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{c} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{c},
\end{aligned}$$

where we have used Step 2 of Theorem 2 for the fifth and sixth equalities. The other sub-vectors of  $\mathbf{x}$  are found by simply substituting the above simplifications into Theorem 1.

For the  $|\mathbf{A}|$  result, the  $|\mathbf{A}|$  expression from Theorem 1 implies that

$$|\mathbf{A}| = |(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| \prod_{i=1}^m |\mathbf{A}_{22,i}| = |\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R}| \prod_{i=1}^m |\dot{\mathbf{B}}_i^T \dot{\mathbf{B}}_i| = |\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R}| \prod_{i=1}^m |\mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i|. \quad (\text{S.8})$$

Then

$$|\mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{R}| = |\mathbf{R}^T| |\mathbf{R}| = (|\mathbf{R}|)^2 = (\text{product of the diagonal entries of } \mathbf{R})^2 \quad (\text{S.9})$$

where we have used the result  $|\mathbf{M}^T| = |\mathbf{M}|$  for any square matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  and the fact that the determinant of an upper-triangular matrix is the product of its diagonal entries (Lemma 13.1.1 of Harville, 2008). Replacement  $\mathbf{R}$  with  $\mathbf{R}_i$  in (S.9) and substitution into (S.8) leads to the stated result for  $|\mathbf{A}|$ .

### S.3 Proof of Theorem 3

In the case of  $m = 2$ ,  $n_1 = 2$  and  $n_2 = 3$  the three-level sparse matrix linear system problem is

$$\begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{A}_{11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,12} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,21} & \mathbf{A}_{12,22} & \mathbf{A}_{12,23} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,2} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,11}^T & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,11} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,12}^T & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,12} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,3} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,21}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,21} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,22}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,22} & \mathbf{O} \\
 \mathbf{A}_{12,23}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,3}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,23}
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{x}_1 \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,1} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,11} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,12} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,2} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,21} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,22} \\
 \mathbf{x}_{2,23}
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 \mathbf{a}_1 \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,1} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,11} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,12} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,2} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,21} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,22} \\
 \mathbf{a}_{2,23}
 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For arbitrary values of  $m$  and  $\{n_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}$ , we immediately obtain the following set of equations:

$$\mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{x}_1 + \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} + \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,ij} \mathbf{x}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{a}_1 \quad (\text{S.10})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} + \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{x}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{a}_{2,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m \quad (\text{S.11})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{x}_{2,i} + \mathbf{A}_{22,ij} \mathbf{x}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{a}_{2,ij}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i. \quad (\text{S.12})$$

Conditions (S.12) imply that

$$\mathbf{x}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} (\mathbf{a}_{2,ij} - \mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{x}_{2,i}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i, \quad (\text{S.13})$$

which is the solution for  $\mathbf{x}_{2,ij}$  as stated in Theorem 3. Substituting this result into conditions (S.11) leads to

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{x}_{2,i} + \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} (\mathbf{a}_{2,ij} - \mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{x}_1 - \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{x}_{2,i}) = \mathbf{a}_{2,i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Solving this equation for  $\mathbf{x}_{2,i}$  and using the definitions for  $\mathbf{H}_{12,i}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_{22,i}$  leads to the solution for  $\mathbf{x}_{2,i}$  as stated in Theorem 3. Finally, substitution of the results for  $\mathbf{x}_{2,i}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_{2,ij}$  into condition (S.10) gives the solution for  $\mathbf{x}_1$  stated in Theorem 3.

For the matrix inverse, we again illustrate the problem with  $m = 2$ ,  $n_1 = 2$  and  $n_2 = 3$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,11} & \mathbf{A}_{12,12} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,21} & \mathbf{A}_{12,22} & \mathbf{A}_{12,23} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,2} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,11}^T & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,11} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,12}^T & \mathbf{A}_{12,1,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,12} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,1} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,2} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,3} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,21}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,1}^T & \mathbf{A}_{22,21} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,22}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,2}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,22} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{A}_{12,23}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{12,2,3}^T & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{A}_{22,23} \end{bmatrix} \\
 & \times \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}^{11} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1} & \mathbf{A}^{12,11} & \mathbf{A}^{12,12} & \mathbf{A}^{12,2} & \mathbf{A}^{12,21} & \mathbf{A}^{12,22} & \mathbf{A}^{12,23} \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,1T} & \mathbf{A}^{22,1} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1,1} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1,2} & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,11T} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1,1T} & \mathbf{A}^{22,11} & \times & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,12T} & \mathbf{A}^{12,1,2T} & \times & \mathbf{A}^{22,12} & \times & \times & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,2T} & \times & \times & \times & \mathbf{A}^{22,2} & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,1} & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,2} & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,3} \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,21T} & \times & \times & \times & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,1T} & \mathbf{A}^{22,21} & \times & \times \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,22T} & \times & \times & \times & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,2T} & \times & \mathbf{A}^{22,22} & \times \\ \mathbf{A}^{12,23T} & \times & \times & \times & \mathbf{A}^{12,2,3T} & \times & \times & \mathbf{A}^{22,23} \end{bmatrix} \\
 & = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Observing the pattern for the  $m = 2$ ,  $n_1 = 2$  and  $n_2 = 3$  case and extending to general  $m$  and

$\{n_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq m}$ , we obtain the following system of equations:

$$\mathbf{A}_{11}\mathbf{A}^{11} + \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{A}_{12,i}\mathbf{A}^{12,iT} + \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,ij}\mathbf{A}^{12,ijT} = \mathbf{I} \quad (\text{S.14})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{A}^{22,i} + \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}\mathbf{A}^{12,i,jT} = \mathbf{I}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad (\text{S.15})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,ij} + \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i,j} + \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}\mathbf{A}^{22,ij} = \mathbf{I}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i, \quad (\text{S.16})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{11} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{A}^{12,iT} + \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}\mathbf{A}^{12,ijT} = \mathbf{O}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad (\text{S.17})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{A}^{11} + \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,iT} + \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}\mathbf{A}^{12,ijT} = \mathbf{O}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i, \quad (\text{S.18})$$

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i} + \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{A}^{22,i} + \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}\mathbf{A}^{12,i,jT} = \mathbf{O}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i. \quad (\text{S.19})$$

Rearranging conditions (S.18) we obtain

$$\mathbf{A}^{12,ij} = -(\mathbf{A}^{11}\mathbf{A}_{12,ij} + \mathbf{A}^{12,i}\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j})\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i,$$

from which the result for  $\mathbf{A}^{12,ij}$  stated in Theorem 3 quickly follows. Rearranging conditions (S.17) we obtain

$$\mathbf{A}^{12,i} = -\left(\mathbf{A}^{11}\mathbf{A}_{12,i} + \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}^{12,ij}\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T\right)\mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1}.$$

Substituting the results for each  $\mathbf{A}^{12,ij}$  leads to

$$\mathbf{A}^{12,i} = -\left\{\mathbf{A}^{11}\mathbf{A}_{12,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{A}^{11}\mathbf{A}_{12,ij} + \mathbf{A}^{12,i}\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j})\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1}\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T\right\}\mathbf{A}_{22,i}^{-1}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i.$$

Solving the above set of equations for each  $\mathbf{A}^{12,i}$  and using the definitions of  $\mathbf{H}_{12,i}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_{22,i}$  we obtain the result in Theorem 3. Substituting the results for each  $\mathbf{A}^{12,ij}$  and  $\mathbf{A}^{12,i}$  into (S.14), using the definition of  $\mathbf{H}_{12,i}$  and solving for  $\mathbf{A}^{11}$  leads to its stated result in Theorem 3. Rearranging conditions (S.19) we obtain

$$\mathbf{A}^{12,i,j} = -(\mathbf{A}^{12,iT}\mathbf{A}_{12,ij} + \mathbf{A}^{22,i}\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j})\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i,$$

from which the result for  $\mathbf{A}^{12,i,j}$  stated in Theorem 3 follows quickly. Substitution of these results into the corresponding equations of condition (S.15) leads to

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,i}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i} + \mathbf{A}_{22,i}\mathbf{A}^{22,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1}(\mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i} + \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{A}^{22,i}) = \mathbf{I}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Solving the above set of equations for each  $\mathbf{A}^{22,i}$  and using the definitions of  $\mathbf{H}_{12,i}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_{22,i}$  in equation (7) of the main article we obtain the result in Theorem 3. Rearrangement of (S.16) leads to

$$\mathbf{A}^{22,ij} = \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1}(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_{12,ij}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,ij} - \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \mathbf{A}^{12,i,j}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i.$$

From Lemma 1 in the proof of Theorem 1,

$$|\mathbf{A}| = |(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| \prod_{i=1}^m \left| \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{A}_{22,i} & \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T)_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \right\}^T \\ \text{stack}(\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T)_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} & \text{blockdiag}(\mathbf{A}_{22,ij})_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \end{array} \right|.$$

Application of Lemma 1 and Theorem 1 to the two-level sparse matrices in the last-written expression leads to

$$\left| \begin{array}{cc} \mathbf{A}_{22,i} & \left\{ \text{stack}(\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T)_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \right\}^T \\ \text{stack}(\mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T)_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} & \text{blockdiag}(\mathbf{A}_{22,ij})_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \end{array} \right| = \left| \mathbf{A}_{22,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \right| \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} |\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}|$$

and the stated result for  $|\mathbf{A}|$  follows immediately.

## S.4 Proof of Theorem 4

We first note the following re-expression:

$$\mathbf{B}_{ij}^T \mathbf{B}_{ij} = \mathbf{B}_{ij}^T \mathbf{Q}_{ij} \mathbf{Q}_{ij}^T \mathbf{B}_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D}_{1ij} \\ \mathbf{D}_{2ij} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{D}_{1ij} \\ \mathbf{D}_{2ij} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{2ij}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i,$$

where the first equality holds by orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}_{ij}$  and the second equality holds by Step 1(a)ii of Theorem 4. A similar sequence of steps can be used to show that

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} &= \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}, & \mathbf{B}_{ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} &= \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}, \\ \mathbf{B}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_{ij} &= \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij} & \text{and } \dot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_{ij} &= \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i. \end{aligned}$$

We also have

$$\ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} = \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \mathbf{Q}_{ij} \mathbf{Q}_{ij}^T \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{ij} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_{ij} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij},$$

where the first equality holds by orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}_{ij}$  and the second equality holds by Step 1(a) of Theorem 4. A similar sequence of steps can be used to show that

$$\dot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} = \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{B}_{ij}^T \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij} = \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij} \quad \text{and} \quad \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \mathbf{b}_{ij} = \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij}.$$

The above simplifications allow us to represent the non-zero components of  $\mathbf{A}$  and the sub-vectors of  $\mathbf{a}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{11} &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{2ij}), & \mathbf{a}_1 &= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij}), \\ \mathbf{A}_{22,i} &= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}), & \mathbf{A}_{12,i} &= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}) \\ \mathbf{a}_{2,i} &= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \end{aligned}$$

and, for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n_i$ ,

$$\mathbf{A}_{22,ij} = \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} = \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{12,ij} = \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij}, \quad \mathbf{a}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij}.$$

Furthermore, each  $\mathbf{H}_{22,i}$  matrix takes the form

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{H}_{22,i} &= \mathbf{A}_{22,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{A}_{22,i,j}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}) - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij} (\mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij})^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij} \\
&= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij} \\
&= \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij} \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij} \right\} \\
&= \left( \mathbf{Q}_i \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \right)^T \mathbf{Q}_i \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m,
\end{aligned}$$

where the fifth equality holds by Step 1(b)ii of Theorem 4. Similarly,

$$\mathbf{H}_{12,i} = \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{H}_{12,i} \mathbf{H}_{22,i}^{-1} \mathbf{H}_{12,i}^T = \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

We are now in a position to derive the solutions to the inverse matrix problem:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{A}^{11} &= \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{2ij}) - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} - \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij} (\mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij})^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{1ij} \right\}^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{D}_{2ij} - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} \right] \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\}^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{Q}_i^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} \right] \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{1i} \\ \mathbf{C}_{2i} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{1i} \\ \mathbf{C}_{2i} \end{bmatrix} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{C}_{1i} \right] \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{C}_{2i} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\} \right]^{-1} \\
&= \left\{ \left( \mathbf{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \right)^T \mathbf{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \right\}^{-1} \\
&= \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \right)^{-1} \\
&= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T},
\end{aligned}$$



where the fourth equality holds by orthogonality of each  $\mathbf{Q}_i$ , the fifth equality holds by Step 1(b)ii, the eighth equality holds by Step 2 and the ninth equality holds by orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}$ . The other components of  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  are found by simply substituting the above simplifications into Theorem 3 and using a similar sequence of steps.

For the linear system solution we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{h}_{2,i} &= \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij}) - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij} (\mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij})^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} = \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij} \\ &= \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\dot{\mathbf{D}}_{2ij}) \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{d}_{2ij}) \right\} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{Q}_i^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{d}_{2ij}) \right\} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R}_i \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_{1i} \\ \mathbf{c}_{2i} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{c}_{1i}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \end{aligned}$$

where the fourth and fifth equalities hold by Step 1(b)i and Step 1(b)ii, respectively. Also,

$$\mathbf{A}_{12,ij} \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} \mathbf{a}_{2,ij} = \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij} (\mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij})^{-1} \mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} = \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq m, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n_i.$$

The final task is to derive the expressions in Theorem 4 for the components of  $\mathbf{x}$ . For the first block we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_1 &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} + \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij}) - \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{R}_i^{-T} \mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} - \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{D}_{1ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{1ij} \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{D}_{2ij}^T \mathbf{d}_{2ij} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} \right) \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{d}_{2ij}) \right\} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} \right] \right) \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{D}_{2ij}) \right\}^T \mathbf{Q}_i \mathbf{Q}_i^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq j \leq n_i} (\mathbf{d}_{2ij}) \right\} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} \right] \right) \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left( \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{1i} \\ \mathbf{C}_{2i} \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_{1i} \\ \mathbf{c}_{2i} \end{bmatrix} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} \right] \right) \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m (\mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i} + \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i} - \mathbf{C}_{1i}^T \mathbf{c}_{1i}) \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbf{C}_{2i}^T \mathbf{c}_{2i} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{C}_{2i}) \right\}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{c}_{2i}) \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{A}^{11} \left( \mathbf{Q} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} \right)^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{c}_{2i}) \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{R} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{Q}^T \left\{ \text{stack}_{1 \leq i \leq m} (\mathbf{c}_{2i}) \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T} \mathbf{R}^T \mathbf{c} \\ &= \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{c}, \end{aligned}$$

where the fourth equality holds by the orthogonality of  $\mathbf{Q}_i$ , the fifth equality holds by Step 1(b) and the ninth and eleventh equalities hold by Step 2 of Theorem 4. We get the other sub-vectors of  $\mathbf{x}$  by a similar sequence of computations.

From Theorem 3 we have

$$|\mathbf{A}| = |(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| \prod_{i=1}^m \left( \left| \mathbf{A}_{22,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \right| \prod_{j=1}^{n_i} |\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}| \right).$$

From part 3. of Theorem 4 we have  $\mathbf{A}^{11} = \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{R}^{-T}$  so steps similar to those used for simplification of  $|\mathbf{A}|$  in the proof of Theorem 2 lead to

$$|(\mathbf{A}^{11})^{-1}| = (\text{product of the diagonal entries of } \mathbf{R})^2.$$

From the above arguments involving the  $\mathbf{H}_{22,i}$  matrices,

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \mathbf{A}_{22,i} - \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j} \mathbf{A}_{22,ij}^{-1} \mathbf{A}_{12,i,j}^T \right| &= |\mathbf{H}_{22,i}| = |\mathbf{R}_i^T \mathbf{R}_i| = (|\mathbf{R}_i|)^2 \\ &= (\text{product of the diagonal entries of } \mathbf{R}_i)^2. \end{aligned}$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ . Lastly,

$$|\mathbf{A}_{22,ij}| = |\ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}^T \ddot{\mathbf{B}}_{ij}| = |\mathbf{R}_{ij}^T \mathbf{R}_{ij}| = (|\mathbf{R}_{ij}|)^2 = (\text{product of the diagonal entries of } \mathbf{R}_{ij})^2.$$

for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n_i$ . The stated result for  $|\mathbf{A}|$  immediately follows.

## Reference

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