

In The Name of God.
The Merciful, The Compassionate.

Properties of Determinants

notes on Gilbert Strang videos, Lecture 18

1 Properties of determinants

1. $\det(I) = 1$
2. Exchange rows: reverse the sign of \det . So, \det of permutation matrices are 1 or -1 .
3. a) $\det(\text{multiply a row of } A \text{ by } t) = t\det(A)$.
b) $\det(A \text{ with its } \text{row}_i + \vec{r}) = \det(A) + \det(A \text{ with } \text{row}_i \text{ replaced by } \vec{r})$
 $\implies \det \text{ is linear for each row.}$
4. Two equal rows $\rightarrow \det = 0$, proof by exchanging rows
5. Subtract $l * \text{row}_i$ from row_k : \det doesn't change
6. Row of zeros: $\det = 0$, proof by multiplying zero row by a scalar t
7. $\det(U)$ (upper triangular) $= \prod_i U_{(i,i)} := (\pm)$ product of pivots.
 - proof: kill off diagonal with row operations (suppose $d_i \neq 0$: if it is zero we will get a zero row and $\det = 0$)
The result is a diagonal matrix: the product of the elements is the \det . by property 3.a.
8. $\det(A)$ is zero exactly when A is singular.
9. $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$
 $\Rightarrow \det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$
 $\Rightarrow \det(A^2) = \det(A)^2$
 $\Rightarrow \det(2A) = 2^n \det(A)$
10. $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$
proof: $|A| = |LU| \Rightarrow |A^T| = |U^T L^T| = |U^T| |L^T|$