

## Lecture 12 Determinants

If  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  square matrix, its determinant  $\det(A)$  is a number.

I). If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ , then

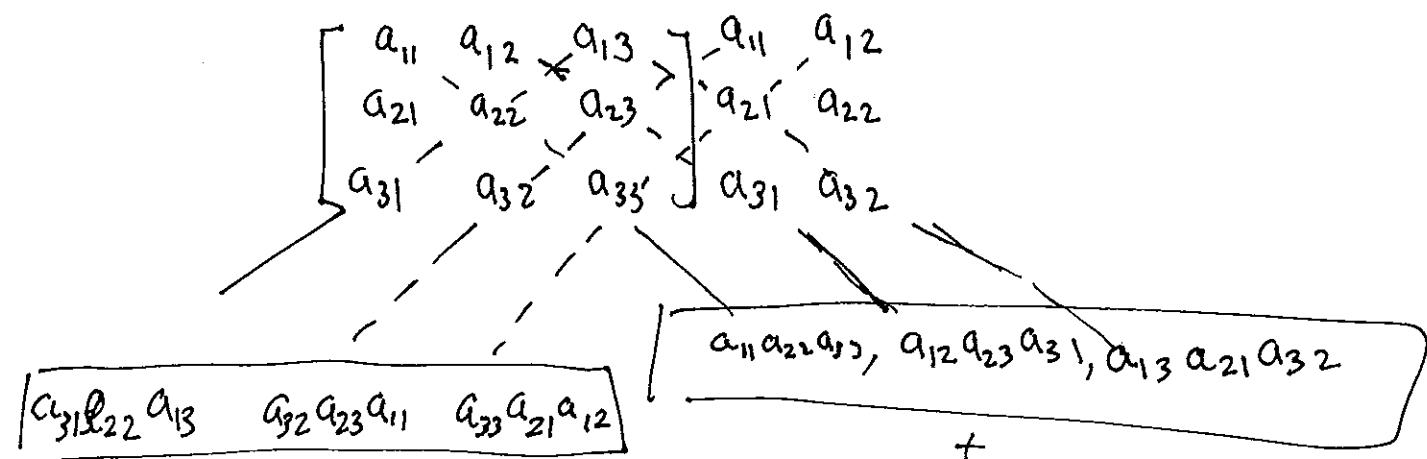
$$\det(A) = ad - bc$$

Ex.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$   $\det(A) = 1 \times 4 - 2 \times 3 = 4 - 6 = -2$ .

II) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) = & a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} \\ & - a_{31} a_{22} a_{13} - a_{32} a_{23} a_{11} - a_{33} a_{21} a_{12} \end{aligned}$$

It can be memorized via the following picture



Ex.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Row operations}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Row operations}} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \times 3 \times 1.$$

$$\cancel{2} = 2 \times 1 \times 1 \quad 0 \quad -3 = -1 \times 3 \times 1$$

$$\det(A) = 0 + 0 + 6 - (2 + 0 + (-3))$$

$$= 6 - (-1)$$

$$= 7$$

Exercise : 7.1.1. (b)

7.1.2 (c)

(Before defining  $\det(A)$  for a general  $A$ , we introduce

### III) Minors and Cofactors

i) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. The  $(i,j)$ th minor of  $A$ , denoted by  $M_{ij}$ , is the determinant of the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix that is obtained by deleting the  $i$ th row and the  $j$ th column of  $A$ .

Ex Find the minors of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$M_{11} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$M_{11} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \times 1 - 2 \times 2 = 3 - 4 = -1$$

$$M_{12} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$M_{12} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \times 1 - 2 \times 3 = 4 - 6 = -2$$

$$M_{13} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 2 & 3 \\ \hline 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$M_{13} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 4 \times 2 - 3 \times 3 = 8 - 9 = -1$$

$$M_{21} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{21} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \times 1 - 3 \times 2 = 2 - 6 = -4$$

$$M_{22} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{22} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 1 - 9 = -8$$

$$M_{23} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{23} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 1 \times 2 - 2 \times 3 = 2 - 6 = -4$$

$$M_{31} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{31} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 4 - 9 = -5$$

$$M_{32} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{32} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = 2 - 12 = -10$$

$$M_{33} : \begin{array}{|ccc|} \hline & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ & 4 & 3 & 2 \\ \hline 3 & 2 & 1 & \\ \hline \end{array} M_{33} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 3 - 8 = -5$$

ii) Def. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix, the  $(i,j)$  cofactor, denoted by  $C_{ij}$  is defined to be  $C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$

Sign of  $(-1)^{i+j}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + & - \\ - & + & - & + \\ + & - & + & - \\ - & + & - & + \end{bmatrix} \quad 4 \times 4$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix} \quad 3 \times 3$$

Example cont'd

$$M_{ij} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -1 \\ -4 & -8 & -4 \\ -5 & -10 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(-1)^{i+j} \quad \begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C_{ij} \quad \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 4 & -8 & 4 \\ -5 & 10 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

iii) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{ij} \end{pmatrix}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. The determinant  $\det(A)$  of  $A$  can be computed as follows.

(1) Pick a row, say  $i$ , and add all  $(i, j)^{\text{th}}$  cofactor, for various  $j$ , multiply by  $a_{ij}$ .

$$\det(A) = a_{i1} \cdot c_{i1} + a_{i2} c_{i2} + \dots + a_{in} c_{in}$$

or

(2) Pick a column, say  $j$ , add all  $(i, j)$  cofactor for various  $i$ , multiply by  $a_{ij}$ .

$$\det(A) = a_{1j} c_{1j} + a_{2j} c_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj} c_{nj}.$$

Ex. continued : Use the new def to compute the determinant of the matrix A in previous example.

$$\text{row 1} : \begin{array}{cccc} a_{1j} & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ c_{1j} & -1 & 2 & -1 \end{array} \frac{-1 + 4 + -3}{=0}$$

$$\text{row 2} : \begin{array}{cccc} a_{2j} & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ c_{2j} & 4 & -8 & 4 \end{array} \frac{16^+ - 24^+ + 8}{=0}$$

$$\text{row 3} : \begin{array}{cccc} a_{3j} & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ c_{3j} & -5 & 10 & -5 \end{array} \frac{-5^+ + 20^+ - 5}{=0}$$

$$\underline{\text{Column 1}} \quad a_{i1} \quad 1 \quad 4 \quad 3$$

$$c_{i1} \quad \begin{array}{r} -1 \quad 4 \quad -5 \\ \hline -1 + 16^+ -15 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Column 2} \quad a_{i2} \quad 2 \quad 3 \quad 2$$

$$c_{i2} \quad \begin{array}{r} 2 \quad -8 \quad 10 \\ \hline 4^+ -24^+ 20 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Column 3} \quad a_{i3} \quad 3 \quad 2 \quad 1$$

$$c_{i3} \quad \begin{array}{r} -1 \quad 4 \quad -5 \\ \hline -3 + 8^+ -5 = 0 \end{array}$$

Original def.

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|cc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$27 + 4 + 8 \quad 3 + 12 + 24 \quad \therefore \det(A) = 39 - 39 = 0.$$

Why the various computations lead to the same answer?

It requires more advanced math beyond the scope of this course.  
Instead, we put this observation as a theorem.

THM Expanding / computing the determinant of an  $n \times n$  matrix

along any row or column always gives the same  
answer, which is the determinant.

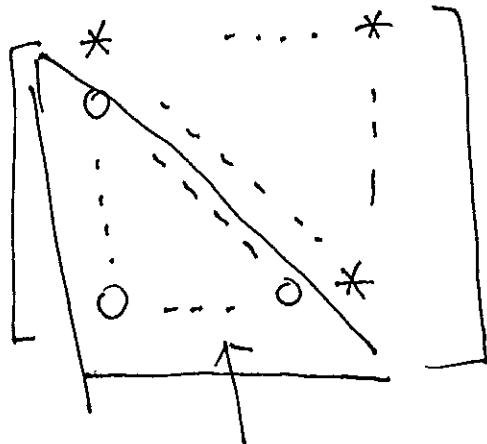
Exercise 7.2.1 (c), (f), 7.2.2.  $M_{32}$ ,  $C_{3,2}$ .

7.2.3 (b), (c).

## IV) The determinant of a triangular matrix.

Def. A square matrix  $A$  is upper triangular if  $a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } i > j$

It looks like



entries below the diagonal are zero

THM If  $A$  is upper triangular, then

$$\det(A) = \text{product of the diagonal entries}$$

$$= a_{11} a_{22} \dots a_{nn}$$

EX  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 16 \\ 0 & 12 & 6 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 33 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det(A) = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times (-1) = -6$$

of diagonal entries

Similar one can define lower triangular and its determinant is still product

Exercise 7.3.1 (c).

IV) Determinants and row operations

$$A \xrightarrow[\text{operation}]{\text{a row}} B$$

$$\det(A) \leftrightarrow \det(B)$$

How to relate?

THM (1) If  $B$  is obtained from  $A$  by switching two rows, then

$$-\det(A) = \det(B)$$

(2) If  $B$  is obtained from  $A$  by multiplying one row by a non zero scalar  $k$ , then

$$\det(B) = k \det(A)$$

(3) If  $B$  is obtained from  $A$  by adding a multiple of one row to another row, then

$$\det(B) = \det(A).$$

VI)

## Properties of determinants

THM Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then

$A$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

Corollary Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Then the homogeneous system  $Ax = 0$  has non-trivial solutions if and only if  $\det(A) = 0$ .

THM Let  $A, B$  be  $n \times n$  matrices. Then

$$\det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B).$$

Example  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$      $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$      $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 11 & 4 \\ -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det(A) = 2 - (-3) \cdot 2 = 8 \quad \det(B) = 3 \cdot 1 - 4 \cdot 2 = -5, \quad \det(AB) = -40$$

$$\det(A) \cdot \det(B) = 8 \cdot (-5) = -40 = \det(AB).$$

Prop .  $\det(I) = 1,$

.  $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)}.$

.  $\det(A^k) = \det(A)^k$

.  $\det(kA) = k^n \det(A),$  if A  $n \times n$  matrix

.  $\det(A^T) = \det(A).$

. If A has a row/column consisting of only zeros,  
then  $\det(A) = 0.$

. If A has two rows linearly dependent, then

$$\det(A) = 0.$$

Exercise. 7.5.10, 7.5.13.

THM Consider the cofactor matrix  $\text{Cof}(A)$  of  $A$

THM

$$\text{Cof}(A) = [C_{ij}] = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & \dots & C_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{n1} & \dots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$C_{ij}$  the  $(i,j)^{\text{th}}$  cofactor of  $A$

$$(A) \stackrel{i+j}{\sim} M_{ij},$$

$M_{ij}$  the ~~the~~  $(i,j)^{\text{th}}$  minor of  $A$ .

Let  $\text{adj}(A) := (\text{Cof}(A))^T$ , the classical adjoint of  $A$ .

Ex  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $\text{Cof}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 4 & -8 & 4 \\ -5 & 10 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$   $\text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 & -5 \\ +2 & -8 & 10 \\ -1 & 4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$

Ex  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$   $C = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -2 & 6 \\ 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$   $\text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 & 27 \\ -2 & -2 & 8 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

THM If  $A$  is invertible, then

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \cdot \text{adj}(A).$$

$$\text{Ex. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -2 & 6 \\ 4 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 9 & 2 \\ -2 & -2 & 8 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 & 0 \end{vmatrix}}{12+0+0} = 12$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \cdot \text{adj}(A) = \frac{1}{12} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 & 9 \\ -2 & -2 & 8 \\ 6 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{6} \\ -\frac{1}{6} & -\frac{1}{6} & \frac{2}{3} \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Verify that  $A \cdot A^{-1} = I$ .

Exercise. 7.6.1. B, 7.6.4.

VIII) Cramer's rule: Self study

Exercise: 7.7.4.