

1 Question 1

Consider

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 3 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

1.1 Parts

- (a) Find $\det(A)$ and $\det(B)$

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= (6)(3) - (1)(-2) = 18 + 2 = 20 \\ \det(B) &= (5)(-7) - (3)(-2) = -35 + 6 = -29 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Create new matrices by interchanging columns. Find the determinant. Conjecture about how the swap affected the determinant

$$A' = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B' = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ -7 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A') = (-2)(1) - (3)(6) = -2 - 18 = -20$$

$$\det(B') = (-2)(3) - (5)(-7) = -6 + 35 = 29$$

When we transpose the columns it seems like we're flipping the sign on the determinant. This is easy to double check so, let's have a look before moving on

$$\det(A) = \det \left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \right) = ad - bc = -\det(A') = -\det \left(\begin{bmatrix} b & a \\ d & c \end{bmatrix} \right) = -(ad - bc)$$

The intuition holds, atleast for a 2x2 matrix.

- (c) Create new matrices by interchanging rows. Find the determinant.

$$A'' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B'' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -7 \\ 5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A'') = (1)(-2) - (3)(6) = -2 - 18 = -20$$

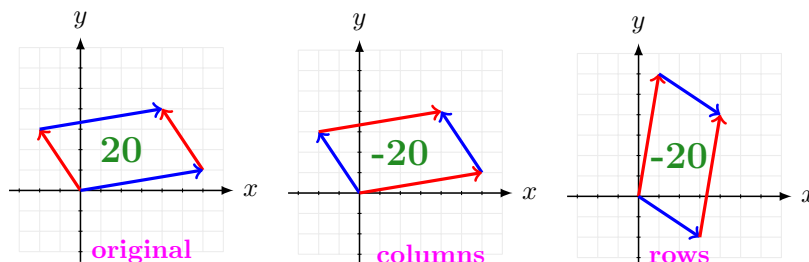
$$\det(B'') = (3)(-2) - (-7)(5) = -6 + 35 = 29$$

Again. Seems we're swapping sign. To borrow from the method above

$$\det(A) = \det \left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \right) = ad - bc = -\det(A'') = -\det \left(\begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ a & b \end{bmatrix} \right) = -(ad - bc)$$

The intuition holds, atleast for a 2x2 matrix.

- (d) Consider the original matrix. Draw the parallelogram formed by the matrix with interchanged rows.¹



Basis vectors We're keeping colors here so that the changes make some sense. From this too, we're quite easily able to see that interchanging either will cause us to form the parallelogram based on new basis vectors. If we changed columns, we still have the same c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n they're just disordered. Differently, if we interchange rows, we get a different set of constants with we span.

Determinant As was demonstrated above, we flip the sign of the determinant. It's...the same shape, it has the same area, but, as we've changed the orientation of the basis vectors, we're now getting negative determinants.

2 Question 2

Given

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 8 & 9 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & -1 & 6 \\ 9 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Wanted We want two properties of the determinant that we can gleam from the given.

Linear multiple row Looking at C we can see that we don't seem to have dependent columns, but we do have linearly dependent rows as

$$2C_{1,j} = C_{2,j} \quad \forall j \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$$

¹Totally borrowing from Jack

Calculating the determinant

$$\det(C) = 3(18 - 32) - 2(-2)(48) + (1)(-4)(54) = 0$$

Property We can say that in this example atleast, that the existence of atleast one row being a linear multiple might have caused the determinant to be 0

Row of all 0 Looking now at D we can see something even more obvious. Even though this still simply follows from rows being linear multiples, it'd

$$\det(D) = (0)(10 + 9) - \dots = 0$$

Property If we have a row of all zero's we will have a determinant of 0. I could flesh this out, but, we can easily brain check quickly as, while taking the determinant, no matter which row for a 2x2 or 3x3, one of the terms we're multiplying by will be 0 for each term.