CHAPTER

2 Determinants

CHAPTER CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter we will study "determinants" or, more precisely, "determinant functions." Unlike real-valued functions, such as $f(x) = x^2$, that assign a real number to a real variable x, determinant functions assign a real number $f(A)$ to a matrix variable A. Although determinants first arose in the context of solving systems of linear equations, they are no longer used for that purpose in real-world applications. Although they can be useful for solving very small linear systems (say two or three unknowns), our main interest in them stems from the fact that they link together various concepts in linear algebra and provide a useful formula for the inverse of a matrix.

2.1 Determinants by Cofactor Expansion

In this section we will define the notion of a "determinant." This will enable us to give a specific formula for the inverse of an invertible matrix, whereas up to now we have had only a computational procedure for finding it. This, in turn, will eventually provide us with a formula for solutions of certain kinds of linear systems.

Recall from Theorem 1.4.5 that the 2×2 matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

WARNING

It is important to keep in mind that $\det(A)$ is a *number,* whereas A is a *matrix.*

is invertible if and only if $ad - bc \neq 0$ and that the expression $ad - bc$ is called the **determinant** of the matrix A. Recall also that this determinant is denoted by writing

$$\det(A) = ad - bc \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc \tag{1}$$

and that the inverse of A can be expressed in terms of the determinant as

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix} \tag{2}$$

Minors and Cofactors

One of our main goals in this chapter is to obtain an analog of Formula 2 that is applicable to square matrices of *all orders*. For this purpose we will find it convenient to use subscripted entries when writing matrices or determinants. Thus, if we denote a 2×2 matrix as

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

then the two equations in 1 take the form

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} \tag{3}$$

We define the determinant of a 1×1 matrix $A = [a_{11}]$ as $\det[A] = \det[a_{11}] = a_{11}$.

The following definition will be key to our goal of extending the definition of a determinant to higher order matrices.

DEFINITION 1

If A is a square matrix, then the **minor of entry** a_{ij} is denoted by M_{ij} and is defined to be the determinant of the submatrix that remains after the ith row and jth column are deleted from A. The number $(-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$ is denoted by C_{ij} and is called the **cofactor of entry** a_{ij}.

EXAMPLE 1 Finding Minors and Cofactors ◀

Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -4 \\ 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 4 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

WARNING

We have followed the standard convention of using capital letters to denote minors and cofactors even though they are numbers, not matrices.

The minor of entry a_{11} is

$$M_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & -4 \\ 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 4 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 4 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = 16$$

The cofactor of a_{11} is

$$C_{11} = (-1)^{1+1} M_{11} = M_{11} = 16$$

Similarly, the minor of entry a_{32} is

$$M_{32} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & -4 \\ 2 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 4 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 2 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = 26$$

The cofactor of a_{32} is

$$C_{32} = (-1)^{3+2} M_{32} = -M_{32} = -26$$

Historical Note   The term *determinant* was first introduced by the German mathematician Carl Friedrich Gauss in 1801 (see p. 15), who used them to "determine" properties of certain kinds of functions. Interestingly, the term *matrix* is derived from a Latin word for "womb" because it was viewed as a container of determinants.

Historical Note   The term *minor* is apparently due to the English mathematician James Sylvester (see p. 34), who wrote the following in a paper published in 1850: "Now conceive any one line and any one column be struck out, we get… a square, one term less in breadth and depth than the original square; and by varying in every possible selection of the line and column excluded, we obtain, supposing the original square to consist of n lines and n columns, n^2 such minor squares, each of which will represent what I term a "First Minor Determinant" relative to the principal or complete determinant."

Remark   Note that a minor M_{ij} and its corresponding cofactor C_{ij} are either the same or negatives of each other and that the

relating sign $(-1)^{i+j}$ is either $+1$ or -1 in accordance with the pattern in the "checkerboard" array

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + & - & + & \cdots \\ - & + & - & + & - & \cdots \\ + & - & + & - & + & \cdots \\ - & + & - & + & - & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \end{bmatrix}$$

For example,

$$C_{11} = M_{11}, \quad C_{21} = -M_{21}, \quad C_{22} = M_{22}$$

and so forth. Thus, it is never really necessary to calculate $(-1)^{i+j}$ to calculate C_{ij}—you can simply compute the minor M_{ij} and then adjust the sign in accordance with the checkerboard pattern. Try this in Example 1.

EXAMPLE 2 Cofactor Expansions of a 2×2 Matrix ◀

The checkerboard pattern for a 2×2 matrix $A = [a_{ij}]$ is

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - \\ - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

so that

$$C_{11} = M_{11} = a_{22} \qquad C_{12} = -M_{12} = -a_{21}$$
$$C_{21} = -M_{21} = -a_{12} \qquad C_{22} = M_{22} = a_{11}$$

We leave it for you to use Formula 3 to verify that $\det(A)$ can be expressed in terms of cofactors in the following four ways:

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) \quad &= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \\ &= a_{11}C_{11} + a_{12}C_{12} \\ &= a_{21}C_{21} + a_{22}C_{22} \\ &= a_{11}C_{11} + a_{21}C_{21} \\ &= a_{12}C_{12} + a_{22}C_{22} \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Each of last four equations is called a *cofactor expansion* of $\det[A]$. In each cofactor expansion the entries and cofactors all come from the same row or same column of A. For example, in the first equation the entries and cofactors all come from the first row of A, in the second they all come from the second row of A, in the third they all come from the first column of A, and in the fourth they all come from the second column of A.

Definition of a General Determinant

Formula 4 is a special case of the following general result, which we will state without proof.

THEOREM 2.1.1

If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then regardless of which row or column of A is chosen, the number obtained by multiplying the entries in that row or column by the corresponding cofactors and adding the resulting products is always the same.

This result allows us to make the following definition.

DEFINITION 2

If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then the number obtained by multiplying the entries in any row or column of A by the corresponding cofactors and adding the resulting products is called the ***determinant of A***, and the sums themselves are called ***cofactor expansions of A***. That is,

$$\det(A) = a_{1j}C_{1j} + a_{2j}C_{2j} + \ldots + a_{nj}C_{nj}$$

[cofactor expansion along the jth column]

(5)

and

$$\det(A) = a_{i1}C_{i1} + a_{i2}C_{i2} + \ldots + a_{in}C_{in}$$

[cofactor expansion along the ith row]

(6)

EXAMPLE 3   Cofactor Expansion Along the First Row ◄

Find the determinant of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

by cofactor expansion along the first row.

Solution

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 5 & -2 \end{vmatrix} + 0 \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -4 \\ 5 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 3(-4) - (1)(-11) + 0 = -1$$

EXAMPLE 4   Cofactor Expansion Along the First Column ◄

Let A be the matrix in Example 3, and evaluate $\det(A)$ by cofactor expansion along the first column of A.

Solution

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 3 \\ 5 & 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} - (-2) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} + 5 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= 3(-4) - (-2)(-2) + 5(3) = -1$$

Note that in Example 4 we had to compute three cofactors, whereas in Example 3 only two were needed because the third was multiplied by zero. As a rule, the best strategy for cofactor expansion is to expand along a row or column with the most zeros.

This agrees with the result obtained in Example 3.

Charles Lutwidge Dodgson (Lewis Carroll) (1832–1898)

Historical Note   Cofactor expansion is not the only method for expressing the determinant of a matrix in terms of determinants of lower order. For example, although it is not well known, the English mathematician Charles Dodgson, who was the author of *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* and *Through the Looking Glass* under the pen name of Lewis Carroll, invented such a method, called "*condensation*." That method has recently been resurrected from obscurity because of its suitability for parallel processing on computers.
[*Image: Time & Life Pictures/Getty Images, Inc.*]

EXAMPLE 5   Smart Choice of Row or Column   ◀

If A is the 4×4 matrix

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

then to find $\det(A)$ it will be easiest to use cofactor expansion along the second column, since it has the most zeros:

$$\det(A) = 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

For the 3×3 determinant, it will be easiest to use cofactor expansion along its second column, since it has the most zeros:

$$\det(A) = 1 \cdot -2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= -2(1+2)$$
$$= -6$$

EXAMPLE 6   Determinant of an Upper Triangular Matrix   ◀

The following computation shows that the determinant of a 4×4 upper triangular matrix is the product of its diagonal entries. Each part of the computation uses a cofactor expansion along the first row.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & 0 \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{32} & a_{33} & 0 \\ a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= a_{11}a_{22} \begin{vmatrix} a_{33} & 0 \\ a_{43} & a_{44} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= a_{11}a_{22}a_{33}|a_{44}| = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33}a_{44}$$

The method illustrated in Example 6 can be easily adapted to prove the following general result.

THEOREM 2.1.2

If A is an $n \times n$ triangular matrix (upper triangular, lower triangular, or diagonal), then $\det(A)$ is the product of the entries on the main diagonal of the matrix; that is, $\det(A) = a_{11}a_{22} \cdots a_{nn}$.

A Useful Technique for Evaluating 2 × 2 and 3 × 3 Determinants

Determinants of 2×2 and 3×3 matrices can be evaluated very efficiently using the pattern suggested in Figure 2.1.1.
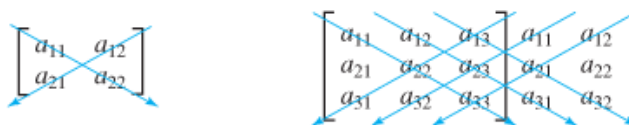

Figure 2.1.1

In the 2×2 case, the determinant can be computed by forming the product of the entries on the rightward arrow and subtracting the product of the entries on the leftward arrow. In the 3×3 case we first recopy the first and second columns as shown in the figure, after which we can compute the determinant by summing the products of the entries on the rightward arrows and subtracting the products on the leftward arrows. These procedures execute the computations

WARNING

The arrow technique only works for determinants of 2×2 and 3×3 matrices.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} - a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= a_{11}(a_{22}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{32}) - a_{12}(a_{21}a_{33} - a_{23}a_{31}) + a_{13}(a_{21}a_{32} - a_{22}a_{31})$$
$$= a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} + a_{12}a_{23}a_{31} + a_{13}a_{21}a_{32} - a_{13}a_{22}a_{31} - a_{12}a_{21}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{23}a_{32}$$

which agrees with the cofactor expansions along the first row.

EXAMPLE 7   A Technique for Evaluating 2 × 2 and 3 × 3 Determinants ◄

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = (3)(-2) - (1)(4) = -10$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & -8 & 9 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 \\ -4 & 5 & 6 & -4 & 5 \\ 7 & -8 & 9 & 7 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= [45 + 84 + 96] - [105 - 48 - 72] = 240$$

Concept Review

• Determinant
• Minor
• Cofactor
• Cofactor expansion

Skills

• Find the minors and cofactors of a square matrix.
• Use cofactor expansion to evaluate the determinant of a square matrix.
• Use the arrow technique to evaluate the determinant of a 2×2 or 3×3 matrix.
• Use the determinant of a 2×2 invertible matrix to find the inverse of that matrix.
• Find the determinant of an upper triangular, lower triangular, or diagonal matrix by inspection.

Exercise Set 2.1

In Exercises 1–2, find all the minors and cofactors of the matrix A.

1.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 6 & 7 & -1 \\ -3 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$M_{11} = 29, \ C_{11} = 29$

$M_{12} = 21, \ C_{12} = -21$

$M_{13} = 27, \ C_{13} = 27$

$M_{21} = -11, \ C_{21} = 11$

$M_{22} = 13, \ C_{22} = 13$

$M_{23} = -5, \ C_{23} = 5$

$M_{31} = -19, \ C_{31} = -19$

$M_{32} = -19, \ C_{32} = 19$

$M_{33} = 19, \ C_{33} = 19$

2.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 & 14 \\ 4 & 1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find

(a) M_{13} and C_{13}.

(b) M_{23} and C_{23}.

(c) M_{22} and C_{22}.

(d) M_{21} and C_{21}.

Answer:

(a) $M_{13} = 0, \ C_{13} = 0$

(b) $M_{23} = -96, \ C_{23} = 96$

(c) $M_{22} = -48, \ C_{22} = -48$

(d) $M_{21} = 72, \ C_{21} = -72$

4. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \\ -3 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find

(a) M_{32} and C_{32}.

(b) M_{44} and C_{44}.

(c) M_{41} and C_{41}.

(d) M_{24} and C_{24}.

In Exercises 5–8, evaluate the determinant of the given matrix. If the matrix is invertible, use Equation 2 to find its inverse.

5. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

22; $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{11} & -\frac{5}{22} \\ \frac{1}{11} & \frac{3}{22} \end{bmatrix}$

6. $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 8 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

7. $\begin{bmatrix} -5 & 7 \\ -7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

59; $\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{59} & -\frac{7}{59} \\ \frac{7}{59} & -\frac{5}{59} \end{bmatrix}$

8. $\begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{6} \\ 4 & \sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 9–14, use the arrow technique to evaluate the determinant of the given matrix.

9. $\begin{bmatrix} a-3 & 5 \\ -3 & a-2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

$a^2 - 5a + 21$

10. $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 7 & 6 \\ 5 & 1 & -2 \\ 3 & 8 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

11. $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 5 & -7 \\ 1 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-65

12. $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & -5 \\ 1 & 7 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

13. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 1 & 9 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-123

14. $\begin{bmatrix} c & -4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & c^2 \\ 4 & c-1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 15–18, find all values of λ for which $\det(A) = 0$.

15.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda - 2 & 1 \\ -5 & \lambda + 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$\lambda = 1$ or -3

16.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda - 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & \lambda - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

17.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda - 1 & 0 \\ 2 & \lambda + 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$\lambda = 1$ or -1

18.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda - 4 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda - 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

19. Evaluate the determinant of the matrix in Exercise 13 by a cofactor expansion along

(a) the first row.

(b) the first column.

(c) the second row.

(d) the second column.

(e) the third row.

(f) the third column.

Answer:

(all parts) $- 123$

20. Evaluate the determinant of the matrix in Exercise 12 by a cofactor expansion along

(a) the first row.

(b) the first column.

(c) the second row.

(d) the second column.

(e) the third row.

(f) the third column.

In Exercises 21–26, evaluate $\det(A)$ by a cofactor expansion along a row or column of your choice.

21.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

-40

22.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

23.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k & k^2 \\ 1 & k & k^2 \\ 1 & k & k^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

0

24.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} k+1 & k-1 & 7 \\ 2 & k-3 & 4 \\ 5 & k+1 & k \end{bmatrix}$$

25.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 4 & 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 2 & 10 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

−240

26.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 9 & 4 & 6 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 27–32, evaluate the determinant of the given matrix by inspection.

27. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

−1

28. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

29. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

0

30. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

31. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 7 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

6

32. $\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 40 & 10 & -1 & 0 \\ 100 & 200 & -23 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

33. Show that the value of the following determinant is independent of θ.

$$\begin{vmatrix} \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0 \\ -\cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) & 0 \\ \sin(\theta) - \cos(\theta) & \sin(\theta) + \cos(\theta) & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

Answer:

The determinant is $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta = 1$.

34. Show that the matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} d & e \\ 0 & f \end{bmatrix}$$

commute if and only if

$$\begin{vmatrix} b & a-c \\ e & d-f \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

35. By inspection, what is the relationship between the following determinants?

$$d_1 = \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & 1 & f \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 = \begin{vmatrix} a+\lambda & b & c \\ d & 1 & f \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

Answer:

$d_2 = d_1 + \lambda$

36. Show that

$$\det(A) = \frac{1}{2} \begin{vmatrix} \mathrm{tr}(A) & 1 \\ \mathrm{tr}(A^2) & \mathrm{tr}(A) \end{vmatrix}$$

for every 2×2 matrix A.

37. What can you say about an nth-order determinant all of whose entries are 1? Explain your reasoning.

38. What is the maximum number of zeros that a 3×3 matrix can have without having a zero determinant? Explain your reasoning.

39. What is the maximum number of zeros that a 4×4 matrix can have without having a zero determinant? Explain your reasoning.

40. Prove that (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), and (x_3, y_3) are collinear points if and only if

$$\begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

41. Prove that the equation of the line through the distinct points (a_1, b_1) and (a_2, b_2) can be written as

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & y & 1 \\ a_1 & b_1 & 1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

42. Prove that if A is upper triangular and B_{ij} is the matrix that results when the ith row and jth column of A are deleted, then B_{ij} is upper triangular if $i < j$.

True-False Exercises

In parts (a)–(i) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) The determinant of the 2×2 matrix $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ is $ad + bc$.

Answer:

False

(b) Two square matrices A and B can have the same determinant only if they are the same size.

Answer:

False

(c) The minor M_{ij} is the same as the cofactor C_{ij} if and only if $i + j$ is even.

Answer:

True

(d) If A is a 3×3 symmetric matrix, then $C_{ij} = C_{ji}$ for all i and j.

Answer:

True

(e) The value of a cofactor expansion of a matrix A is independent of the row or column chosen for the expansion.

Answer:

True

(f) The determinant of a lower triangular matrix is the sum of the entries along its main diagonal.

Answer:

False

(g) For every square matrix A and every scalar c, we have $\det(cA) = c \det(A)$.

Answer:

False

(h) For all square matrices A and B, we have $\det(A + B) = \det(A) + \det(B)$.

Answer:

False

(i) For every 2×2 matrix A, we have $\det(A^2) = (\det(A))^2$.

Answer:

True

2.2 Evaluating Determinants by Row Reduction

In this section we will show how to evaluate a determinant by reducing the associated matrix to row echelon form. In general, this method requires less computation than cofactor expansion and hence is the method of choice for large matrices.

A Basic Theorem

We begin with a fundamental theorem that will lead us to an efficient procedure for evaluating the determinant of a square matrix of any size.

THEOREM 2.2.1

Let A be a square matrix. If A has a row of zeros or a column of zeros, then $\det(A) = 0$.

Proof Since the determinant of A can be found by a cofactor expansion along any row or column, we can use the row or column of zeros. Thus, if we let $C_1, C_2, ..., C_n$ denote the cofactors of A along that row or column, then it follows from Formula 5 or 6 in Section 2.1 that

$$\det(A) = 0 \cdot C_1 + 0 \cdot C_2 + ... + 0 \cdot C_n = 0$$

The following useful theorem relates the determinant of a matrix and the determinant of its transpose.

THEOREM 2.2.2

Let A be a square matrix. Then $\det(A) = \det(A^T)$.

> Because transposing a matrix changes its columns to rows and its rows to columns, almost every theorem about the rows of a determinant has a companion version about columns, and vice versa.

Proof Since transposing a matrix changes its columns to rows and its rows to columns, the cofactor expansion of A along any row is the same as the cofactor expansion of A^T along the corresponding column. Thus, both have the same determinant.

Elementary Row Operations

The next theorem shows how an elementary row operation on a square matrix affects the value of its determinant. In

place of a formal proof we have provided a table to illustrate the ideas in the 3×3 case (see Table 1).

THEOREM 2.2.3

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

(a) If B is the matrix that results when a single row or single column of A is multiplied by a scalar k, then $\det(B) = k \det(A)$.

(b) If B is the matrix that results when two rows or two columns of A are interchanged, then $\det(B) = -\det(A)$.

(c) If B is the matrix that results when a multiple of one row of A is added to another row or when a multiple of one column is added to another column, then $\det(B) = \det(A)$.

The first panel of Table 1 shows that you can bring a common factor from any row (column) of a determinant through the determinant sign. This is a slightly different way of thinking about part (a) of Theorem 2.2.3.

Table 1

Relationship	Operation
$\begin{vmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} & ka_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = k \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$ $\det(B) = k\det(A)$	The first row of A is multiplied by k.
$\begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$ $\det(B) = -\det(A)$	The first and second rows of A are interchanged.
$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11}+ka_{21} & a_{12}+ka_{22} & a_{13}+ka_{23} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$ $\det(B) = \det(A)$	A multiple of the second row of A is added to the first row.

We will verify the first equation in Table 1 and leave the other two for you. To start, note that the determinants on the two sides of the equation differ only in the first row, so these determinants have the same cofactors, C_{11}, C_{12}, C_{13}, along that row (since those cofactors depend only on the entries in the *second* two rows). Thus, expanding the left side by cofactors along the first row yields

$$\begin{vmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} & ka_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = ka_{11}C_{11} + ka_{12}C_{12} + ka_{33}C_{13}$$

$$= k(a_{11}C_{11} + a_{12}C_{12} + a_{33}C_{13})$$

$$= k\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

Elementary Matrices

It will be useful to consider the special case of Theorem 2.2.3 in which $A = I_n$ is the $n \times n$ identity matrix and E (rather than B) denotes the elementary matrix that results when the row operation is performed on I_n. In this special case Theorem 2.2.3 implies the following result.

THEOREM 2.2.4

Let E be an $n \times n$ elementary matrix.

(a) If E results from multiplying a row of I_n by a nonzero number k, then $\det(E) = k$.

(b) If E results from interchanging two rows of I_n, then $\det(E) = -1$.

(c) If E results from adding a multiple of one row of I_n to another, then $\det(E) = 1$.

EXAMPLE 1   Determinants of Elementary Matrices   ◀

The following determinants of elementary matrices, which are evaluated by inspection, illustrate Theorem 2.2.4.

Observe that the determinant of an elementary matrix cannot be zero.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3, \qquad \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -1, \qquad \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1$$

The second row of I_4 The first and last rows of   7 times the last row of I_4
was multiplied by 3. I_4 were interchanged.   was added to the first row.

Matrices with Proportional Rows or Columns

If a square matrix A has two proportional rows, then a row of zeros can be introduced by adding a suitable multiple of one

of the rows to the other. Similarly for columns. But adding a multiple of one row or column to another does not change the determinant, so from Theorem 2.2.1, we must have $\det(A) = 0$. This proves the following theorem.

THEOREM 2.2.5

If A is a square matrix with two proportional rows or two proportional columns, then $\det(A) = 0$.

EXAMPLE 2 Introducing Zero Rows ◄

The following computation shows how to introduce a row of zeros when there are two proportional rows.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 6 & -4 & 8 \\ 3 & 9 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & -2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 9 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \leftarrow$$

The second row is 2 times the first, so we added −2 times the first row to the second to introduce a row of zeros .

Each of the following matrices has two proportional rows or columns; thus, each has a determinant of zero.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ -2 & 8 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 7 \\ -4 & 8 & 5 \\ 2 & -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 4 & -5 \\ 6 & -2 & 5 & 2 \\ 5 & 8 & 1 & 4 \\ -9 & 3 & -12 & 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

Evaluating Determinants by Row Reduction

We will now give a method for evaluating determinants that involves substantially less computation than cofactor expansion. The idea of the method is to reduce the given matrix to upper triangular form by elementary row operations, then compute the determinant of the upper triangular matrix (an easy computation), and then relate that determinant to that of the original matrix. Here is an example.

EXAMPLE 3 Using Row Reduction to Evaluate a Determinant ◄

Evaluate $\det(A)$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & -6 & 9 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution We will reduce A to row echelon form (which is upper triangular) and then apply Theorem 2.1.2.

Even with today's fastest computers it would take millions of years to calculate a 25×25 determinant by cofactor expansion, so

methods based on row reduction are often used for large determinants. For determinants of small size (such as those in this text), cofactor expansion is often a reasonable choice.

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & -6 & 9 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -6 & 9 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$
← The first and second rows of A where interchanged.

$$= -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 2 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$
← A common factor of 3 from the first row was taken through the determinant sign.

$$= -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 10 & -5 \end{vmatrix}$$
← -2 times the first row was added to the third row.

$$= -3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -55 \end{vmatrix}$$
← -10 times the second row was added to the third row.

$$= (-3)(-55) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$
← A common factor of -55 from the last row was taken through the determinant sign.

$$= (-3)(-55)(1) = 165$$

EXAMPLE 4 Using Column Operations to Evaluate a Determinant ◄

Compute the determinant of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 7 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 6 & 3 & 0 \\ 7 & 3 & 1 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution This determinant could be computed as above by using elementary row operations to reduce A to row echelon form, but we can put A in lower triangular form in one step by adding -3 times the first column to the fourth to obtain

$$\det(A) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 7 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 3 & 0 \\ 7 & 3 & 1 & -26 \end{bmatrix} = (1)(7)(3)(-26) = -546$$

Example 4 points out that it is always wise to keep an eye open for column operations that can shorten

computations.

Cofactor expansion and row or column operations can sometimes be used in combination to provide an effective method for evaluating determinants. The following example illustrates this idea.

EXAMPLE 5 Row Operations and Cofactor Expansion ◄

Evaluate $\det(A)$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 5 & -2 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 7 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution By adding suitable multiples of the second row to the remaining rows, we obtain

$$
\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 8 & 0 \end{vmatrix}
$$

$$
= -\begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 8 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \qquad \leftarrow \text{Cofactor expansion along the first column .}
$$

$$
= -\begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 0 & 9 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \qquad \leftarrow \text{We added the first row to the third row .}
$$

$$
= -(-1)\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 9 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \qquad \leftarrow \text{Cofactor expansion along the first column .}
$$

$$
= -18
$$

Skills

- Know the effect of elementary row operations on the value of a determinant.
- Know the determinants of the three types of elementary matrices.
- Know how to introduce zeros into the rows or columns of a matrix to facilitate the evaluation of its determinant.
- Use row reduction to evaluate the determinant of a matrix.
- Use column operations to evaluate the determinant of a matrix.
- Combine the use of row reduction and cofactor expansion to evaluate the determinant of a matrix.

Exercise Set 2.2

In Exercises 1–4, verify that $\det(A) = \det(A^T)$.

1. $A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

2. $A = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

3. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 5 & -3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

4. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -3 \\ -1 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 5–9, find the determinant of the given elementary matrix by inspection.

5. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-5

6. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

7. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-1

8. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

9. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

1

In Exercises 10–17, evaluate the determinant of the given matrix by reducing the matrix to row echelon form.

10. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

11. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

5

12. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

13. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -6 & 9 \\ -2 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

33

14. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & -9 & 6 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & -6 & -2 \\ 2 & 8 & 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

15. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

6

16. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

17. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ -2 & -7 & 0 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-2

18. Repeat Exercises 10–13 by using a combination of row reduction and cofactor expansion.

19. Repeat Exercises 14–17 by using a combination of row operations and cofactor expansion.

Answer:

Exercise 14: 39; Exercise 15: 6; Exercise 16: $-\frac{1}{6}$; Exercise 17: -2

In Exercises 20–27, evaluate the determinant, given that

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = -6$$

20. $\begin{vmatrix} g & h & i \\ d & e & f \\ a & b & c \end{vmatrix}$

21. $\begin{vmatrix} d & e & f \\ g & h & i \\ a & b & c \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

-6

22. $\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ 2a & 2b & 2c \end{vmatrix}$

23. $\begin{vmatrix} 3a & 3b & 3c \\ -d & -e & -f \\ 4g & 4h & 4i \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

72

24. $\begin{vmatrix} a+d & b+e & c+f \\ -d & -e & -f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$

25. $\begin{vmatrix} a+g & b+h & c+i \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

-6

26. $\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ 2d & 2e & 2f \\ g+3a & h+3b & i+3c \end{vmatrix}$

27. $\begin{vmatrix} -3a & -3b & -3c \\ d & e & f \\ g-4d & h-4e & i-4f \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

18

28. Show that

(a)
$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & a_{13} \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = -a_{13}a_{22}a_{31}$$

(b)
$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & a_{14} \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ 0 & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{bmatrix} = a_{14}a_{23}a_{32}a_{41}$$

29.

Use row reduction to show that $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a & b & c \\ a^2 & b^2 & c^2 \end{vmatrix} = (b-a)(c-a)(c-b)$

In Exercises 30–33, confirm the identities without evaluating the determinants directly.

30. $\begin{vmatrix} a_1+b_1t & a_2+b_2t & a_3+b_3t \\ a_1t+b_1 & a_2t+b_2 & a_3t+b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = (1-t^2)\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

31. $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & a_1+b_1+c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & a_2+b_2+c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & a_3+b_3+c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

32. $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1+ta_1 & c_1+rb_1+sa_1 \\ a_2 & b_2+ta_2 & c_2+rb_2+sa_2 \\ a_3 & b_3+ta_3 & c_3+rb_3+sa_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

33. $\begin{vmatrix} a_1+b_1 & a_1-b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2+b_2 & a_2-b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3+b_3 & a_3-b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = -2\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$

34. Find the determinant of the following matrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & b & b \\ b & a & b & b \\ b & b & a & b \\ b & b & b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 35–36, show that $\det(A) = 0$ without directly evaluating the determinant.

35.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 8 & 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 10 & 6 & 5 \\ 4 & -6 & 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

36.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

True-False Exercises

In parts (a)–(f) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) If A is a 4×4 matrix and B is obtained from A by interchanging the first two rows and then interchanging the last two rows, then $\det(B) = \det(A)$.

Answer:

True

(b) If A is a 3×3 matrix and B is obtained from A by multiplying the first column by 4 and multiplying the third column by $\frac{3}{4}$, then $\det(B) = 3 \det(A)$.

Answer:

True

(c) If A is a 3×3 matrix and B is obtained from A by adding 5 times the first row to each of the second and third rows, then $\det(B) = 25 \det(A)$.

Answer:

False

(d) If A is an $n \times n$ matrix and B is obtained from A by multiplying each row of A by its row number, then

$$\det(B) = \frac{n(n+1)}{2} \det(A)$$

Answer:

False

(e) If A is a square matrix with two identical columns, then $\det(A) = 0$.

Answer:

True

(f) If the sum of the second and fourth row vectors of a 6×6 matrix A is equal to the last row vector, then $\det(A) = 0$.

Answer:

True

2.3 Properties of Determinants; Cramer's Rule

In this section we will develop some fundamental properties of matrices, and we will use these results to derive a formula for the inverse of an invertible matrix and formulas for the solutions of certain kinds of linear systems.

Basic Properties of Determinants

Suppose that A and B are $n \times n$ matrices and k is any scalar. We begin by considering possible relationships between $\det(A)$, $\det(B)$, and

$$\det(kA), \quad \det(A+B), \quad \text{and} \quad \det(AB)$$

Since a common factor of any row of a matrix can be moved through the determinant sign, and since each of the n rows in kA has a common factor of k, it follows that

$$\det(kA) = k^n \det(A) \tag{1}$$

For example,

$$\begin{vmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} & ka_{13} \\ ka_{21} & ka_{22} & ka_{23} \\ ka_{31} & ka_{32} & ka_{33} \end{vmatrix} = k^3 \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

Unfortunately, no simple relationship exists among $\det(A)$, $\det(B)$, and $\det(A+B)$. In particular, we emphasize that $\det(A+B)$ will usually *not* be equal to $\det(A) + \det(B)$. The following example illustrates this fact.

> **EXAMPLE 1** det(*A* + *B*) ≠ det(*A*) + det(*B*) ◄
>
> Consider
>
> $$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A+B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$
>
> We have $\det(A) = 1$, $\det(B) = 8$, and $\det(A+B) = 23$; thus
> $$\det(A+B) \neq \det(A) + \det(B)$$

In spite of the previous example, there is a useful relationship concerning sums of determinants that is applicable when the matrices involved are the same except for *one* row (column). For example, consider the following two matrices that differ only in the second row:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Calculating the determinants of A and B we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\det(A)+\det(B)\quad &=(a_{11}a_{22}-a_{12}a_{21})+(a_{11}b_{22}-a_{12}b_{21})\\&=a_{11}(a_{22}+b_{22})-a_{12}(a_{21}+b_{21})\\&=\det\begin{bmatrix}a_{11}&a_{12}\\a_{21}+b_{21}&a_{22}+b_{22}\end{bmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\det\begin{bmatrix}a_{11}&a_{12}\\a_{21}&a_{22}\end{bmatrix}+\det\begin{bmatrix}a_{11}&a_{12}\\b_{21}&b_{22}\end{bmatrix}=\det\begin{bmatrix}a_{11}&a_{12}\\a_{21}+b_{21}&a_{22}+b_{22}\end{bmatrix}$$

This is a special case of the following general result.

THEOREM 2.3.1

Let A, B, and C be $n \times n$ matrices that differ only in a single row, say the rth, and assume that the rth row of C can be obtained by adding corresponding entries in the rth rows of A and B. Then

$$\det(C) = \det(A) + \det(B)$$

The same result holds for columns.

EXAMPLE 2   Sums of Determinants ◀

We leave it to you to confirm the following equality by evaluating the determinants.

$$\det\begin{bmatrix}1&7&5\\2&0&3\\1+0&4+1&7+(-1)\end{bmatrix}=\det\begin{bmatrix}1&7&5\\2&0&3\\1&4&7\end{bmatrix}+\det\begin{bmatrix}1&7&5\\2&0&3\\0&1&-1\end{bmatrix}$$

Determinant of a Matrix Product

Considering the complexity of the formulas for determinants and matrix multiplication, it would seem unlikely that a simple relationship should exist between them. This is what makes the simplicity of our next result so surprising. We will show that if A and B are square matrices of the same size, then

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\ \det(B) \tag{2}$$

The proof of this theorem is fairly intricate, so we will have to develop some preliminary results first. We begin with the special case of 2 in which A is an elementary matrix. Because this special case is only a prelude to 2, we call it a lemma.

LEMMA 2.3.2

If B is an $n \times n$ matrix and E is an $n \times n$ elementary matrix, then

$$\det(EB) = \det(E)\,\det(B)$$

Proof We will consider three cases, each in accordance with the row operation that produces the matrix E.

Case 1 If E results from multiplying a row of I_n by k, then by Theorem 1.5.1, EB results from B by multiplying the corresponding row by k; so from Theorem 2.2.3(a) we have

$$\det(EB) = k\,\det(B)$$

But from Theorem 2.2.4(a) we have $\det(E) = k$, so

$$\det(EB) = \det(E)\,\det(B)$$

Case 2 and 3 The proofs of the cases where E results from interchanging two rows of I_n or from adding a multiple of one row to another follow the same pattern as Case 1 and are left as exercises.

Remark   It follows by repeated applications of Lemma 2.3.2 that if B is an $n \times n$ matrix and $E_1, E_2, ..., E_r$ are $n \times n$ elementary matrices, then

$$\det(E_1 E_2 .. E_r B) = \det(E_1)\,\det(E_2)...\det(E_r)\det(B) \tag{3}$$

Determinant Test for Invertibility

Our next theorem provides an important criterion for determining whether a matrix is invertible. It also takes us a step closer to establishing Formula 2.

THEOREM 2.3.3

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

Proof Let R be the reduced row echelon form of A. As a preliminary step, we will show that $\det(A)$ and $\det(R)$ are both zero or both nonzero: Let $E_1, E_2, ..., E_r$ be the elementary matrices that correspond to the elementary row operations that produce R from A. Thus

$$R = E_r \cdots E_2 E_1 A$$

and from 3,

$$\det(R) = \det(E_r) \cdots \det(E_2)\,\det(E_1)\,\det(A) \tag{4}$$

We pointed out in the margin note that accompanies Theorem 2.2.4 that the determinant of an elementary matrix is nonzero. Thus, it follows from Formula 4 that $\det(A)$ and $\det(R)$ are either both zero or both nonzero, which sets the stage for the main part of the proof. If we assume first that A is invertible, then it follows from Theorem 1.6.4 that $R = I$ and hence that $\det(R) = 1$ ($\neq 0$). This, in turn, implies that $\det(A) \neq 0$, which is what we wanted to show.

It follows from Theorems 2.3.3 and Theorem 2.2.5 that a square matrix with two proportional rows or two proportional columns is not invertible.

Conversely, assume that $\det(A) \neq 0$. It follows from this that $\det(R) \neq 0$, which tells us that R cannot have a row of zeros. Thus, it follows from Theorem 1.4.3 that $R = I$ and hence that A is invertible by Theorem 1.6.4.

EXAMPLE 3   Determinant Test for Invertibility ◀

Since the first and third rows of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

are proportional, $\det(A) = 0$. Thus A is not invertible.

We are now ready for the main result concerning products of matrices.

THEOREM 2.3.4

If A and B are square matrices of the same size, then
$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

Proof   We divide the proof into two cases that depend on whether or not A is invertible. If the matrix A is not invertible, then by Theorem 1.6.5 neither is the product AB. Thus, from Theorem Theorem 2.3.3, we have $\det(AB) = 0$ and $\det(A) = 0$, so it follows that $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$.
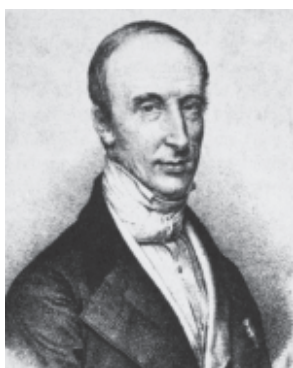
Augustin Louis Cauchy (1789–1857)

Now assume that A is invertible. By Theorem 1.6.4, the matrix A is expressible as a product of elementary matrices, say

$$A = E_1 E_2 \cdots E_r \tag{5}$$

so

$$AB = E_1 E_2 \cdots E_r B$$

Applying 3 to this equation yields

$$\det(AB) = \det(E_1)\det(E_2) \cdots \det(E_r)\det(B)$$

and applying 3 again yields

$$\det(AB) = \det(E_1 E_2 \cdots E_r)\det(B)$$

which, from 5, can be written as $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$.

EXAMPLE 4   Verifying That det(*AB*) = det(*A*), det(*B*)   ◀

Consider the matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 8 \end{bmatrix}, \quad AB = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 17 \\ 3 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$

We leave it for you to verify that

$$\det(A) = 1, \quad \det(B) = -23, \quad \text{and} \quad \det(AB) = -23$$

Thus $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$, as guaranteed by Theorem 2.3.4.

The following theorem gives a useful relationship between the determinant of an invertible matrix and the determinant of its inverse.

If A is invertible, then

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

Proof Since $A^{-1}A = I$, it follows that $\det(A^{-1}A) = \det(I)$. Therefore, we must have $\det(A^{-1})\det(A) = 1$. Since $\det(A) \neq 0$, the proof can be completed by dividing through by $\det(A)$.

Adjoint of a Matrix

In a cofactor expansion we compute $\det(A)$ by multiplying the entries in a row or column by their cofactors and adding the resulting products. It turns out that if one multiplies the entries in any row by the corresponding cofactors from a *different* row, the sum of these products is always zero. (This result also holds for columns.) Although we omit the general proof, the next example illustrates the idea of the proof in a special case.

It follows from Theorems 2.3.5 and 2.1.2 that

$$\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{a_{11}}\frac{1}{a_{22}} \cdots \frac{1}{a_{nn}}$$

Moreover, by using the adjoint formula it is possible to show that

$$\frac{1}{a_{11}}, \quad \frac{1}{a_{22}}, \ldots, \quad \frac{1}{a_{nn}}$$

are actually the successive diagonal entries of A^{-1} (compare A and A^{-1} in Example 3 of Section 1.7).

EXAMPLE 5 Entries and Cofactors from Different Rows ◀

Let

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

Consider the quantity

$$a_{11}C_{31} + a_{12}C_{32} + a_{13}C_{33}$$

that is formed by multiplying the entries in the first row by the cofactors of the corresponding entries in the third row and adding the resulting products. We can show that this quantity is equal to zero by the following trick: Construct a new matrix A' by replacing the third row of A with another copy of the first row. That is,

$$A' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

Let $C'_{31}, C'_{32}, C'_{33}$ be the cofactors of the entries in the third row of A'. Since the first two rows of A and A' are the same, and since the computations of $C_{31}, C_{32}, C_{33}, C'_{31}, C'_{32}$, and C'_{33} involve only entries from the first two rows of A and A', it follows that

$$C_{31} = C'_{31}, \quad C_{32} = C'_{32}, \quad C_{33} = C'_{33}$$

Since A' has two identical rows, it follows from 3 that

$$\det(A') = 0 \tag{6}$$

On the other hand, evaluating $\det(A')$ by cofactor expansion along the third row gives

$$\det(A') = a_{11}C'_{31} + a_{12}C'_{32} + a_{13}C'_{33} = a_{11}C_{31} + a_{12}C_{32} + a_{13}C_{33} \tag{7}$$

From 6 and 7 we obtain

$$a_{11}C_{31} + a_{12}C_{32} + a_{13}C_{33} = 0$$

DEFINITION 1

If A is any $n \times n$ matrix and C_{ij} is the cofactor of a_{ij}, then the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & \cdots & C_{1n} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & \cdots & C_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{n1} & C_{n2} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

is called the **matrix of cofactors from A**. The transpose of this matrix is called the **adjoint of A** and is denoted by adj(A).

EXAMPLE 6   Adjoint of a 3 × 3 Matrix ◄

Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The cofactors of A are

$$\begin{array}{lll} C_{11} = 12 & C_{12} = 6 & C_{13} = -16 \\ C_{21} = 4 & C_{22} = 2 & C_{23} = 16 \\ C_{31} = 12 & C_{32} = -10 & C_{33} = 16 \end{array}$$

so the matrix of cofactors is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 12 & 6 & -16 \\ 4 & 2 & 16 \\ 12 & -10 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

and the adjoint of A is

$$\operatorname{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 4 & 12 \\ 6 & 2 & -10 \\ -16 & 16 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

Leonard Eugene Dickson (1874–1954)

Historical Note   The use of the term *adjoint* for the transpose of the matrix of cofactors appears to have been introduced by the American mathematician L. E. Dickson in a research paper that he published in 1902.
[*Image: Courtesy of the American Mathematical Society*]

In Theorem 1.4.5 we gave a formula for the inverse of a 2×2 invertible matrix. Our next theorem extends that result to $n \times n$ invertible matrices.

THEOREM 2.3.6   Inverse of a Matrix Using Its Adjoint

If A is an invertible matrix, then

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \operatorname{adj}(A) \tag{8}$$

Proof   We show first that

$$A \operatorname{adj}(A) = \det(A) I$$

Consider the product

$$
A \, \text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{j1} & \cdots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & \cdots & C_{j2} & \cdots & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \cdots & C_{jn} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}
$$

The entry in the ith row and jth column of the product $A \, \text{adj}(A)$ is

$$
a_{i1}C_{j1} + a_{i2}C_{j2} + \ldots + a_{in}C_{jn} \tag{9}
$$

(see the shaded lines above).

If $i = j$, then 9 is the cofactor expansion of $\det(A)$ along the ith row of A (Theorem 2.1.1), and if $i \neq j$, then the a's and the cofactors come from different rows of A, so the value of 9 is zero. Therefore,

$$
A \, \text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} \det(A) & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \det(A) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \det(A) \end{bmatrix} = \det(A)I \tag{10}
$$

Since A is invertible, $\det(A) \neq 0$. Therefore, Equation 10 can be rewritten as

$$
\frac{1}{\det(A)}[A \, \text{adj}(A)] = I \quad \text{or} \quad A\left[\frac{1}{\det(A)}\text{adj}(A)\right] = I
$$

Multiplying both sides on the left by A^{-1} yields

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

EXAMPLE 7 Using the Adjoint to Find an Inverse Matrix ◀

Use 8 to find the inverse of the matrix A in Example 6.

Solution We leave it for you to check that $\det(A) = 64$. Thus

$$
A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)}\text{adj}(A) = \frac{1}{64}\begin{bmatrix} 12 & 4 & 12 \\ 6 & 2 & -10 \\ -16 & 16 & 16 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \dfrac{12}{64} & \dfrac{4}{64} & \dfrac{12}{64} \\ \dfrac{6}{64} & \dfrac{2}{64} & -\dfrac{10}{64} \\ -\dfrac{16}{64} & \dfrac{16}{64} & \dfrac{16}{64} \end{bmatrix}
$$

Cramer's Rule

Our next theorem uses the formula for the inverse of an invertible matrix to produce a formula, called **Cramer's**

rule, for the solution of a linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ of n equations in n unknowns in the case where the coefficient matrix A is invertible (or, equivalently, when $\det(A) \neq 0$).

THEOREM 2.3.7 Cramer's Rule

If $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ is a system of n linear equations in n unknowns such that $\det(A) \neq 0$, then the system has a unique solution. This solution is

$$x_1 = \frac{\det(A_1)}{\det(A)}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det(A_2)}{\det(A)}, \ldots, \quad x_n = \frac{\det(A_n)}{\det(A)}$$

where A_j is the matrix obtained by replacing the entries in the jth column of A by the entries in the matrix

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Proof If $\det(A) \neq 0$, then A is invertible, and by Theorem 1.6.2, $\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ is the unique solution of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. Therefore, by Theorem 2.3.6 we have

$$\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{\det(A)}\text{adj}(A)\mathbf{b} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & \cdots & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Multiplying the matrices out gives

$$\mathbf{x} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 C_{11} + b_2 C_{21} + \ldots + b_n C_{n1} \\ b_1 C_{12} + b_2 C_{22} + \ldots + b_n C_{n2} \\ \vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots \\ b_1 C_{1n} + b_2 C_{2n} + \ldots + b_n C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

The entry in the jth row of x is therefore

$$x_j = \frac{b_1 C_{1j} + b_2 C_{2j} + \ldots + b_n C_{nj}}{\det(A)} \tag{11}$$

Now let

$$A_j = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1j-1} & b_1 & a_{1j+1} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2j-1} & b_2 & a_{2j+1} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nj-1} & b_n & a_{nj+1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Since A_j differs from A only in the jth column, it follows that the cofactors of entries $b_1, b_2, \ldots, b_n$ in A_j are the same as the cofactors of the corresponding entries in the jth column of A. The cofactor expansion of $\det(A_j)$ along the jth column is therefore

$$\det(A_j) = b_1 C_{1j} + b_2 C_{2j} + \ldots + b_n C_{nj}$$

Substituting this result in 11 gives

$$x_j = \frac{\det(A_j)}{\det(A)}$$

EXAMPLE 8   Using Cramer's Rule to Solve a Linear System   ◀

Use Cramer's rule to solve

$$
\begin{array}{rcrcrcr}
x_1 & + & & + & 2x_3 & = & 6 \\
-3x_1 & + & 4x_2 & + & 6x_3 & = & 30 \\
-x_1 & - & 2x_2 & + & 3x_3 & = & 8
\end{array}
$$

Gabriel Cramer (1704–1752)

Historical Note   Variations of Cramer's rule were fairly well known before the Swiss mathematician discussed it in work he published in 1750. It was Cramer's superior notation that popularized the method and led mathematicians to attach his name to it.
[*Image: Granger Collection*]

Solution

$$
A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 & 6 \\ -1 & -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad
A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 & 2 \\ 30 & 4 & 6 \\ 8 & -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix},
$$

$$
A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & 2 \\ -3 & 30 & 6 \\ -1 & 8 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad
A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 4 & 30 \\ -1 & -2 & 8 \end{bmatrix}
$$

For $n > 3$, it is usually more efficient to solve a linear system with n equations in n unknowns by Gauss–Jordan elimination than by Cramer's rule. Its main use is for obtaining properties of solutions of a linear system without actually solving the system.

Therefore,

$$cx_1 = \frac{\det(A_1)}{\det(A)} = \frac{-40}{44} = \frac{-10}{11}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det(A_2)}{\det(A)} = \frac{72}{44} = \frac{18}{11},$$

$$x_3 = \frac{\det(A_3)}{\det(A)} = \frac{152}{44} = \frac{38}{11}$$

Equivalence Theorem

In Theorem 1.6.4 we listed five results that are equivalent to the invertibility of a matrix A. We conclude this section by merging Theorem 2.3.3 with that list to produce the following theorem that relates all of the major topics we have studied thus far.

THEOREM 2.3.8 Equivalent Statements

If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then the following statements are equivalent.

(a) A is invertible.

(b) $Ax = 0$ has only the trivial solution.

(c) The reduced row echelon form of A is I_n.

(d) A can be expressed as a product of elementary matrices.

(e) $Ax = b$ is consistent for every $n \times 1$ matrix b.

(f) $Ax = b$ has exactly one solution for every $n \times 1$ matrix b.

(g) $\det(A) \neq 0$.

OPTIONAL

We now have all of the machinery necessary to prove the following two results, which we stated without proof in Theorem 1.7.1:

• Theorem 1.7.1(*c*) A triangular matrix is invertible if and only if its diagonal entries are all nonzero.

- Theorem 1.7.1(*d*) The inverse of an invertible lower triangular matrix is lower triangular, and the inverse of an invertible upper triangular matrix is upper triangular.

Proof of Theorem 1.7.1(c) Let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be a triangular matrix, so that its diagonal entries are

$$a_{11}, a_{22}, \ldots, a_{nn}$$

From Theorem 2.1.2, the matrix A is invertible if and only if

$$\det(A) = a_{11}a_{22} \cdots a_{nn}$$

is nonzero, which is true if and only if the diagonal entries are all nonzero.

Proof of Theorem 1.7.1(d) We will prove the result for upper triangular matrices and leave the lower triangular case for you. Assume that A is upper triangular and invertible. Since

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

we can prove that A^{-1} is upper triangular by showing that $\text{adj}(A)$ is upper triangular or, equivalently, that the matrix of cofactors is lower triangular. We can do this by showing that every cofactor C_{ij} with $i < j$ (i.e., above the main diagonal) is zero. Since

$$C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$$

it suffices to show that each minor M_{ij} with $i < j$ is zero. For this purpose, let B_{ij} be the matrix that results when the *i*th row and *j*th column of A are deleted, so

$$M_{ij} = \det(B_{ij}) \tag{12}$$

From the assumption that $i < j$, it follows that B_{ij} is upper triangular (see Figure Figure 1.7.1). Since A is upper triangular, its $(i+1)$-st row begins with at least *i* zeros. But the *i*th row of B_{ij} is the $(i+1)$-st row of A with the entry in the *j*th column removed. Since $i < j$, none of the first *i* zeros is removed by deleting the *j*th column; thus the *i*th row of B_{ij} starts with at least *i* zeros, which implies that this row has a zero on the main diagonal. It now follows from Theorem 2.1.2 that $\det(B_{ij}) = 0$ and from 12 that $M_{ij} = 0$.

Concept Review
- Determinant test for invertibility
- Matrix of cofactors
- Adjoint of a matrix
- Cramer's rule
- Equivalent statements about an invertible matrix

Skills
- Know how determinants behave with respect to basic arithmetic operations, as given in Equation 1, Theorem 2.3.1, Lemma 2.3.2, and Theorem 2.3.4.
- Use the determinant to test a matrix for invertibility.

- Know how $\det(A)$ and $\det(A^{-1})$ are related.

- Compute the matrix of cofactors for a square matrix A.

- Compute $\text{adj}(A)$ for a square matrix A.

- Use the adjoint of an invertible matrix to find its inverse.

- Use Cramer's rule to solve linear systems of equations.

- Know the equivalent characterizations of an invertible matrix given in Theorem 2.3.8.

Exercise Set 2.3

In Exercises 1–4, verify that $\det(kA) = k^n \det(A)$.

1. $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$; $k = 2$

2. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$; $k = -4$

3. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$; $k = -2$

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

In Exercises 5–6, verify that $\det(AB) = \det(BA)$ and determine whether the equality $\det(A + B) = \det(A) + \det(B)$ holds.

5. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 7 & 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

6. $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 8 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ -2 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -4 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 7–14, use determinants to decide whether the given matrix is invertible.

7. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & 5 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

Invertible

8.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

9.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

Invertible

10.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 0 & 6 \\ 8 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

11.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 8 \\ -2 & 1 & -4 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

Not invertible

12.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 9 & -1 & 4 \\ 8 & 9 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

13.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 8 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

Invertible

14.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & -\sqrt{7} & 0 \\ 3\sqrt{2} & -3\sqrt{7} & 0 \\ 5 & -9 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 15–18, find the values of k for which A is invertible.

15. $A = \begin{bmatrix} k-3 & -2 \\ -2 & k-2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

$$k \neq \frac{5 \pm \sqrt{17}}{2}$$

16. $A = \begin{bmatrix} k & 2 \\ 2 & k \end{bmatrix}$

17.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 \\ k & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$k \neq -1$

18.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ k & 1 & k \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 19–23, decide whether the given matrix is invertible, and if so, use the adjoint method to find its inverse.

19.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & 5 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -5 & -5 \\ -3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

20.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

21.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

22.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 8 & 1 & 0 \\ -5 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

23.
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer:

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -7 & 0 & -1 & 8 \\ 6 & 0 & 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

In Exercises 24–29, solve by Cramer's rule, where it applies.

24. $\begin{aligned} 7x_1 &- 2x_2 &= 3 \\ 3x_1 &+ x_2 &= 5 \end{aligned}$

25. $\begin{aligned} 4x &+ 5y & &= 2 \\ 11x &+ y &+ 2z &= 3 \\ x &+ 5y &+ 2z &= 1 \end{aligned}$

Answer:

$$x = \frac{3}{11}, \quad y = \frac{2}{11}, \quad z = -\frac{1}{11}$$

26. $\begin{aligned} x &- 4y &+ z &= 6 \\ 4x &- y &+ 2z &= -1 \\ 2x &+ 2y &- 3z &= -20 \end{aligned}$

27. $\begin{aligned} x_1 &- 3x_2 &+ x_3 &= 4 \\ 2x_1 &- x_2 & &= -2 \\ 4x_1 & &- 3x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$

Answer:

$$x_1 = -\frac{30}{11}, \quad x_2 = -\frac{38}{11}, \quad x_3 = -\frac{40}{11}$$

28. $\begin{aligned} -x_1 &- 4x_2 &+ 2x_3 &+ x_4 &= -32 \\ 2x_1 &- x_2 &+ 7x_3 &+ 9x_4 &= 14 \\ -x_1 &+ x_2 &+ 3x_3 &+ x_4 &= 11 \\ x_1 &- 2x_2 &+ x_3 &- 4x_4 &= -4 \end{aligned}$

29. $\begin{aligned} 3x_1 &- x_2 &+ x_3 &= 4 \\ -x_1 &+ 7x_2 &- 2x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 &+ 6x_2 &- x_3 &= 5 \end{aligned}$

Answer:

Cramer's rule does not apply.

30. Show that the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \cos\theta & \sin\theta & 0 \\ -\sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is invertible for all values of θ; then find A^{-1} using Theorem 2.3.6.

31. Use Cramer's rule to solve for y without solving for the unknowns x, z, and w.

$$\begin{aligned}
4x &+ y + z + w = 6 \\
3x &+ 7y - z + w = 1 \\
7x &+ 3y - 5z + 8w = -3 \\
x &+ y + z + 2w = 3
\end{aligned}$$

Answer:

$y = 0$

32. Let $Ax = b$ be the system in Exercise 31.

   (a) Solve by Cramer's rule.

   (b) Solve by Gauss–Jordan elimination.

   (c) Which method involves fewer computations?

33. Prove that if $\det(A) = 1$ and all the entries in A are integers, then all the entries in A^{-1} are integers.

34. Let $Ax = b$ be a system of n linear equations in n unknowns with integer coefficients and integer constants. Prove that if $\det(A) = 1$, the solution x has integer entries.

35. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$$

Assuming that $\det(A) = -7$, find

(a) $\det(3A)$

(b) $\det(A^{-1})$

(c) $\det(2A^{-1})$

(d) $\det((2A)^{-1})$

(e) $\det\begin{bmatrix} a & g & d \\ b & h & e \\ c & i & f \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

(a) -189

(b) $-\dfrac{1}{7}$

(c) $-\dfrac{8}{7}$

(d) $-\dfrac{1}{56}$

(e) 7

36. In each part, find the determinant given that A is a 4×4 matrix for which $\det(A) = -2$.

(a) $\det(-A)$

(b) $\det(A^{-1})$

(c) $\det(2A^T)$

(d) $\det(A^3)$

37. In each part, find the determinant given that A is a 3×3 matrix for which $\det(A) = 7$.

(a) $\det(3A)$

(b) $\det(A^{-1})$

(c) $\det(2A^{-1})$

(d) $\det((2A)^{-1})$

Answer:

(a) 189

(b) $\dfrac{1}{7}$

(c) $\dfrac{8}{7}$

(d) $\dfrac{1}{56}$

38. Prove that a square matrix A is invertible if and only if $A^T A$ is invertible.

39. Show that if A is a square matrix, then $\det(A^T A) = \det(A A^T)$.

True-False Exercises

In parts (a)–(l) determine whether the statement is true or false, and justify your answer.

(a) If A is a 3×3 matrix, then $\det(2A) = 2\det(A)$.

Answer:

False

(b) If A and B are square matrices of the same size such that $\det(A) = \det(B)$, then $\det(A + B) = 2\det(A)$.

Answer:

False

(c) If A and B are square matrices of the same size and A is invertible, then

$$\det(A^{-1}BA) = \det(B)$$

Answer:

True

(d) A square matrix A is invertible if and only if $\det(A) = 0$.

Answer:

False

(e) The matrix of cofactors of A is precisely $[\operatorname{adj}(A)]^T$.

Answer:

True

(f) For every $n \times n$ matrix A, we have

$$A \cdot \operatorname{adj}(A) = (\det(A))I_n$$

Answer:

True

(g) If A is a square matrix and the linear system $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ has multiple solutions for x, then $\det(A) = 0$.

Answer:

True

(h) If A is an $n \times n$ matrix and there exists an $n \times 1$ matrix b such that the linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has no solutions, then the reduced row echelon form of A cannot be I_n.

Answer:

True

(i) If E is an elementary matrix, then $E\mathbf{x} = 0$ has only the trivial solution.

Answer:

True

(j) If A is an invertible matrix, then the linear system $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ has only the trivial solution if and only if the linear system $A^{-1}\mathbf{x} = 0$ has only the trivial solution.

Answer:

True

(k) If A is invertible, then $\operatorname{adj}(A)$ must also be invertible.

Answer:

True

(l) If A has a row of zeros, then so does $\operatorname{adj}(A)$.

Answer:

False

Chapter 2 Supplementary Exercises

In Exercises 1–8, evaluate the determinant of the given matrix by (a) cofactor expansion and (b) using elementary row operations to introduce zeros into the matrix.

1. $\begin{bmatrix} -4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-18

2. $\begin{bmatrix} 7 & -1 \\ -2 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$

3. $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 5 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

24

4. $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -3 \\ -4 & -5 & -6 \\ -7 & -8 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$

5. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

-10

6. $\begin{bmatrix} -5 & 1 & 4 \\ 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

7. $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 6 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ -9 & 2 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

Answer:

329

8. $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & -3 & -4 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ -4 & -3 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

9. Evaluate the determinants in Exercises 3–6 by using the arrow technique (see Example 7 in Section 2.1).

Answer:

Exercise 3: 24; Exercise 4: 0; Exercise 5: -10; Exercise 6: -48

10. (a) Construct a 4×4 matrix whose determinant is easy to compute using cofactor expansion but hard to evaluate using elementary row operations.

(b) Construct a 4×4 matrix whose determinant is easy to compute using elementary row operations but hard to evaluate using cofactor expansion.

11. Use the determinant to decide whether the matrices in Exercises 1–4 are invertible.

Answer:

The matrices in Exercises 1–3 are invertible, the matrix in Exercise 4 is not.

12. Use the determinant to decide whether the matrices in Exercises 5–8 are invertible.

In Exercises 13–15, find the determinant of the given matrix by any method.

13. $\begin{vmatrix} 5 & b-3 \\ b-2 & -3 \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

$-b^2 + 5b - 21$

14. $\begin{vmatrix} 3 & -4 & a \\ a^2 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & a-1 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$

15. $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$

Answer:

-120

16. Solve for x.

$$\begin{vmatrix} x & -1 \\ 3 & 1-x \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 2 & x & -6 \\ 1 & 3 & x-5 \end{vmatrix}$$

In Exercises 17–24, use the adjoint method (Theorem 2.3.6) to find the inverse of the given matrix, if it exists.

17. The matrix in Exercise 1.

Answer:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\dfrac{1}{6} & \dfrac{1}{9} \\[2mm] \dfrac{1}{6} & \dfrac{2}{9} \end{bmatrix}$$

18. The matrix in Exercise 2.

19. The matrix in Exercise 3.

Answer:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dfrac{1}{8} & -\dfrac{1}{8} & -\dfrac{3}{8} \\[2mm] \dfrac{1}{8} & \dfrac{5}{24} & -\dfrac{1}{24} \\[2mm] \dfrac{1}{4} & -\dfrac{7}{12} & -\dfrac{1}{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

20. The matrix in Exercise 4.

21. The matrix in Exercise 5.

Answer:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dfrac{1}{5} & \dfrac{2}{5} & -\dfrac{1}{10} \\[2mm] \dfrac{1}{5} & -\dfrac{3}{5} & \dfrac{2}{5} \\[2mm] -\dfrac{2}{5} & \dfrac{6}{5} & -\dfrac{3}{10} \end{bmatrix}$$

22. The matrix in Exercise 6.

23. The matrix in Exercise 7.

Answer:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \dfrac{10}{329} & -\dfrac{2}{329} & \dfrac{52}{329} & -\dfrac{27}{329} \\[2mm] \dfrac{55}{329} & -\dfrac{11}{329} & -\dfrac{43}{329} & \dfrac{16}{329} \\[2mm] -\dfrac{3}{47} & \dfrac{10}{47} & -\dfrac{25}{47} & -\dfrac{6}{47} \\[2mm] -\dfrac{31}{329} & \dfrac{72}{329} & \dfrac{102}{329} & -\dfrac{15}{329} \end{bmatrix}$$

24. The matrix in Exercise 8.

25. Use Cramer's rule to solve for x' and y' in terms of x and y.

$$x = \tfrac{3}{5}x' - \tfrac{4}{5}y'$$
$$y = \tfrac{4}{5}x' + \tfrac{3}{5}y'$$

Answer:

$$x' = \tfrac{3}{5}x + \tfrac{4}{5}y, \quad y' = -\tfrac{4}{5}x + \tfrac{3}{5}y$$

26. Use Cramer's rule to solve for x' and y' in terms of x and y.

$$x = x' \cos\theta - y' \sin\theta$$
$$y = x' \sin\theta + y' \cos\theta$$

27. By examining the determinant of the coefficient matrix, show that the following system has a nontrivial solution if and only if $\alpha = \beta$.

$$
\begin{array}{ccccccc}
x & + & y & + & \alpha z & = & 0 \\
x & + & y & + & \beta z & = & 0 \\
\alpha x & + & \beta y & + & z & = & 0
\end{array}
$$

28. Let A be a 3×3 matrix, each of whose entries is 1 or 0. What is the largest possible value for $\det(A)$?

29. (a) For the triangle in the accompanying figure, use trigonometry to show that

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}
b \cos\gamma & + & c \cos\beta & = & a \\
c \cos\alpha & + & a \cos\gamma & = & b \\
a \cos\beta & + & b \cos\alpha & = & c
\end{array}
$$

and then apply Cramer's rule to show that

$$\cos\alpha = \frac{b^2 + c^2 - a^2}{2bc}$$

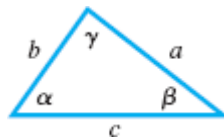(b) Use Cramer's rule to obtain similar formulas for $\cos\beta$ and $\cos\gamma$.

Figure Ex-29

Answer:

(b) $\cos\beta = \dfrac{c^2 + a^2 - b^2}{2ac}, \quad \cos\gamma = \dfrac{a^2 + b^2 - c^2}{2ab}$

30. Use determinants to show that for all real values of λ, the only solution of

$$
\begin{array}{ccccc}
x & - & 2y & = & \lambda x \\
x & - & y & = & \lambda y
\end{array}
$$

is $x = 0, y = 0$.

31. Prove: If A is invertible, then $\mathrm{adj}(A)$ is invertible and

$$[\mathrm{adj}(A)]^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)}A = \mathrm{adj}(A^{-1})$$

32. Prove: If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then

$$\det[\mathrm{adj}(A)] = [\det(A)]^{n-1}$$

33. Prove: If the entries in each row of an $n \times n$ matrix A add up to zero, then the determinant of A is zero. [*Hint:* Consider the product AX, where X is the $n \times 1$ matrix, each of whose entries is one.

34. (a) In the accompanying figure, the area of the triangle ABC can be expressed as

$$\text{area } ABC = \text{area } ADEC + \text{area } CEFB - \text{area} ADFB$$

Use this and the fact that the area of a trapezoid equals $\frac{1}{2}$ the altitude times the sum of the parallel sides to show that

$$\text{area } ABC = \frac{1}{2}\begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

[*Note:* In the derivation of this formula, the vertices are labeled such that the triangle is traced counterclockwise proceeding from (x_1, y_1) to (x_2, y_2) to (x_3, y_3). For a clockwise orientation, the determinant above yields the *negative* of the area.]

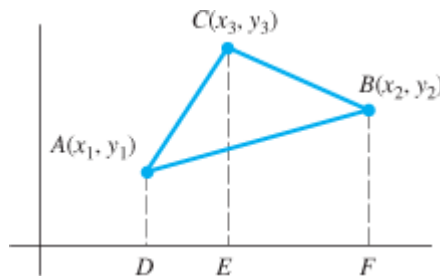(b) Use the result in (a) to find the area of the triangle with vertices $(3, 3)$, $(4, 0)$, $(-2, -1)$.

Figure Ex-34

35. Use the fact that 21,375, 38,798, 34,162, 40,223, and 79,154 are all divisible by 19 to show that

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 & 7 & 5 \\ 3 & 8 & 7 & 9 & 8 \\ 3 & 4 & 1 & 6 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 7 & 9 & 1 & 5 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

is divisible by 19 without directly evaluating the determinant.

36. Without directly evaluating the determinant, show that

$$\begin{vmatrix} \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha & \sin(\alpha+\delta) \\ \sin \beta & \cos \beta & \sin(\beta+\delta) \\ \sin \gamma & \cos \gamma & \sin(\gamma+\delta) \end{vmatrix} = 0$$