

## I General Problem:

Write down a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with no zeros. Compute its determinant, any way you like. Figure out how to check your answer by calculator, or computer, and do so.

Ans

Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix, such that

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \\ 13 & 14 & 15 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow -5R_1 + R_2 \\ R_3 \rightarrow -9R_1 + R_3 \\ R_4 \rightarrow -13R_1 + R_4}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & -4 & -8 & -12 \\ 0 & -8 & -16 & -24 \\ 0 & -12 & -24 & -36 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{4}R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -8 & -16 & -24 \\ 0 & -12 & -24 & -36 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R_3 &\rightarrow 8R_2 + R_3 \\ R_4 &\rightarrow 12R_2 + R_4 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\det(A) \cdot (-1/4) = \det(B)$$

$$\text{Since } \det(B) = 0, \boxed{\det(A) = 0}$$

## II Exercises.

4.4] Use expansion along the third row to express each of the following determinants as a sum of determinants of  $4 \times 4$  matrices. Without expanding further, explain why  $3\alpha = \beta$ . What theorem from the text does this exercise demonstrate?

$$\alpha = \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ 1 & 4 & 2 & 2 & -3 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix}, \quad \beta = \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ 3 & 12 & 6 & 6 & -9 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\alpha = (1) \begin{vmatrix} -13 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 16 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ -42 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 47 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} - (4) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ 31 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} + (2) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & 16 & 99 & 64 \\ 31 & -42 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} - (2) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 5 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 64 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -8 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\beta = (3) \begin{vmatrix} -13 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 16 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ -42 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 47 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} - (12) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & 7 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & -37 & 99 & 64 \\ 31 & 78 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 29 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} + (6) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 9 & 5 \\ 11 & 16 & 99 & 64 \\ 31 & -42 & 55 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & -14 & -8 \end{vmatrix} + (-3) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 9 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 99 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & 55 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -14 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$- (6) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 3 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 64 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & -3 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -8 \end{vmatrix} + (-9) \begin{vmatrix} 24 & -13 & 7 & 9 \\ 11 & 16 & -37 & 99 \\ 31 & -42 & 78 & 55 \\ 62 & 47 & 29 & -14 \end{vmatrix}$$

As it can be observed each of  $a_{3j}$  elements of  $\beta$  is just  $3 \cdot a_{3j}$  elements of  $\alpha$ . This example demonstrates the row scalar theorem such that

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} A \\ cX \\ B \end{bmatrix} = c \cdot \det \begin{bmatrix} A \\ X \\ B \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $A, B$  are some rows of a matrix and  $c$  is some scalar  $\in \mathbb{R}$ .



4.6] This exercise disavows the part of the statement that a matrix with integral entries has integral determinant.

(a) Prove that if all the entries of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix are integers, then its determinant is an integer.

Ans

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ , with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc \in \mathbb{Z}$ .  
 $\therefore$  Hence proved.

(b) Use part (a) and formula (4.2) on page 239 to prove the statement in part (a) for  $3 \times 3$  matrices.

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ , with all entries  $a_{ij}$  to  $a_{3j} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then.

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

because all other determinants are with entries in  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

4.9] Let  $X = [a_1, a_2, a_3]^t$ ,  $Y = [b_1, b_2, b_3]^t$ , and  $Z = [c_1, c_2, c_3]^t$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Let  $X \times Y = [d_1, d_2, d_3]^t$ , where  
 $d_1 = \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$ ,  $d_2 = -\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$ ,  $d_3 = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix}$ ; Prove that  
 $Z^t(X \times Y) = \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}$

Ans Now,  $X \times Y = [a_1, a_2, a_3]^t \times [b_1, b_2, b_3]^t = \left[ \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & a_3 \\ b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}, -\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_3 \end{vmatrix}, \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ b_1 & b_2 \end{vmatrix} \right]^t$   
 $= [a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2, b_1 a_3 - a_1 b_3, a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1]^t \rightarrow (1)$   
 $= [d_1, d_2, d_3]^t$

Now,  $Z^t(X \times Y) = [c_1, c_2, c_3]^t [d_1, d_2, d_3]^t$   
 $= [c_1 d_1, c_2 d_2, c_3 d_3]^t \rightarrow (2)$

L.H.S.  $Z^t(X \times Y) = [c_1(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2), c_2(b_1 a_3 - a_1 b_3), c_3(a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1)]$   
 $= c_1(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) - c_2(a_1 b_3 - a_3 b_1) + c_3(a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \rightarrow (3)$

From L.H.S. eq (2)

$Z^t(X \times Y) = c_1(a_2 b_3 - a_3 b_2) - c_2(a_1 b_3 - a_3 b_1) + c_3(a_1 b_2 - a_2 b_1) \rightarrow (4)$

Hence, from eq (3) and (4), we get

$Z^t(X \times Y) = \begin{vmatrix} c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \end{vmatrix} \quad \therefore \text{QED}$

Vandermonde's Problem.

now reduction to prove that

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & x^2 \\ 1 & y & y^2 \\ 1 & z & z^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$= (y-x)(z-x)(z-y)$ . What has to be true about  $x, y, z$  for the row vectors  $[1, x, x^2]$ ,  $[1, y, y^2]$ , and  $[1, z, z^2]$  to be linearly dependent?

ANS

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & x^2 \\ 1 & y & y^2 \\ 1 & z & z^2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1]{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & x^2 \\ 0 & y-x & y^2-x^2 \\ 0 & z-x & z^2-x^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (1) [(y-x)(z^2-x^2) - (z-x)(y^2-x^2)] \\ &= (1) [(y-x)(z-x)(z+x) - (z-x)(y-x)(y+x)] \\ &= (y-x)(z-x)(z-y) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$ , then

$$\alpha(1, x, x^2) + \beta(1, y, y^2) + \gamma(1, z, z^2) = (0, 0, 0)$$

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 0 \quad \text{--- (i)}$$

$$\alpha x + \beta y + \gamma z = 0 \quad \text{--- (ii)}$$

$$\alpha x^2 + \beta y^2 + \gamma z^2 = 0 \quad \text{--- (iii)}$$

$$(i) \times x - (ii)$$

$$\alpha x + \beta x + \gamma x = 0$$

$$\alpha x + \beta y + \gamma z = 0$$

$$\beta(x-y) + \gamma(x-z) = 0 \quad \text{--- (iv)}$$

$$(iv) \times y - (v)$$

$$\beta y(x-y) + \gamma y(x-z) = 0$$

$$-\beta y(x-y) + \gamma z(x-z) = 0$$

$$\gamma(x-z)(y-z) = 0$$

$$\therefore (x-z) \neq 0 \quad (y-z) \neq 0 \implies \boxed{\gamma = 0}$$

By substituting  $\gamma = 0$  in (iv), we get  $\beta(x-y) = 0$  since  $(x-y) \neq 0$

$$\boxed{\beta = 0}, \text{ and from (i), we get } \boxed{x = 0}$$

$\therefore$  If  $x \neq y \neq z$ , then  $(1, x, x^2)$ ,  $(1, y, y^2)$  &  $(1, z, z^2)$  are linearly independent.



4.12) Use Row-Reduction to compute the following determinants:

(a)  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow -2R_1 + R_2, R_3 \rightarrow -3R_1 + R_3} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow -2R_2 + R_3} \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$   $\therefore \det(A) = \det(\text{REF}(A)) = 0$   
Since 3rd row is zero.

(b)  $\begin{vmatrix} -3 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 7 & 6 & -2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1/3} \begin{vmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 7 & 6 & -2 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow -R_1 + R_2, R_3 \rightarrow -7R_1 + R_3} \begin{vmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ 0 & 14/3 & 5/3 \\ 0 & 32/3 & 8/3 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \cdot 14/3} \begin{vmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5/14 \\ 0 & 32/3 & 8/3 \end{vmatrix}$   
 $\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow -32R_2 + R_3} \begin{vmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5/14 \\ 0 & 0 & -8/7 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \cdot -7/8} \begin{vmatrix} -2/3 & 2/3 & 2/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5/14 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$   
 $\det(\text{REF}(A)) = \det(A) (-1/3) (3/14) (-7/8)$   
Since  $\det(\text{REF}(A)) = 1 \cdot 1 \cdot 1 = 1$  b/c REF(A) is an upper triangular matrix.  
 $\det(A) = 16$

(c)  $\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow 2R_1, R_2 \rightarrow -R_1 + R_2} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow -R_1 + R_4} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$   
 $\xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_3 + R_4} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 7/3 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow \frac{3}{17}R_4} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$   
 $\det(\text{REF}(A)) = \det(A) (1/2) (1/3) (3/17)$   
Since  $\det(\text{REF}(A)) = 1$ ,  $\det(A) = 34$

4.17) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \end{bmatrix}$  represent a  $3 \times 3$  matrix and suppose that  $A_3 = 2A_1 + A_2$ . Use the row scalar and additive properties to prove that  $\det A = 0$ .

Ans  
 $A = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ 2A_1 + A_2 \end{bmatrix}$ , given

$\therefore A = \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ 2A_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_2 \end{bmatrix}$ , Row Additivity Law

$\Rightarrow A = 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$= (2 \cdot 0) + 0$

$= \boxed{0} \therefore \det(A) = 0$ , Hence proved.



4.6(c) Since I know induction, let me prove it for  $n \times n$  instead of  $4 \times 4$  matrices. → optional

- The statement is true for  $n=2$  → basis case.
- Suppose that the statement is true for some  $n-1$
- $\therefore$  Now we know that

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = a_{11} \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} - a_{12} \begin{bmatrix} a_{21} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \\ + \dots \pm a_n \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & \dots & a_{2(n-1)} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{n(n-1)} \end{vmatrix}$$

Since all the determinants are integers from the inductive hypothesis, they are also multiplied by elements  $\in \mathbb{Z}$ . Therefore, the determinants are also integers.