

# Discussion 2

CUNY MSDS DATA 605

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**Book:** Beezer: A First Course in Linear Algebra

### Exercise

Doing the computations by hand, find the determinant of the matrix A.

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

### Solution

First, I will reduce the matrix as follows:

Swap matrix rows:  $R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$

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

Cancel leading coefficient in row  $R_2$  by performing  $R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot R_1$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Cancel leading coefficient in row  $R_3$  by performing  $R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 1 \cdot R_1$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Cancel leading coefficient in row  $R_4$  by performing  $R_4 \leftarrow R_4 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot R_1$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Cancel leading coefficient in row  $R_3$  by performing  $R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 1 \cdot R_2$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

Cancel leading coefficient in row  $R_4$  by performing  $R_4 \leftarrow R_4 - \frac{1}{5} \cdot R_3$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{5}{2} & -\frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{4}{5} \end{pmatrix}$$

Since the determinant of the matrix equals the diagonal product of the matrix:

$$\det(A) = 2(-1)\frac{5}{2} \cdot \frac{4}{5}$$

$$\det(A) = -4$$

Now, since I have interchanged two rows, it negates the determinant, therefore multiply the result by  $(-1)^1$ .

$$\det(A) = (-1)^1(-4) = 4$$

## Solving in R

- Defining Matrix

```
A <- matrix(data = c(1,0,1,1,
                     2,2,-1,1,
                     2,1,3,0,
                     1,1,0,1), ncol=4, byrow=TRUE)
```

- Finding determinant in R

```
det(A)
```

```
## [1] 4
```