

MA1114 17/11/21

$\det(A) \neq 0$ iff A invertible & $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$ & etc .

Theorem

$A \in M_{n \times n}$ is invertible $\Leftrightarrow \det(A) \neq 0$

Proof

$R = E_1 E_2 \dots E_r A$ be reduced echelon form of A

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \det(R) &= \det(E_1 \dots E_r A) \\ &= \det(E_1) \dots \det(E_r) \det(A) \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

" \Rightarrow " suppose A is invertible

$$\Rightarrow R = I_n$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 = \det(I_n) = \det(E_1) \dots \det(E_r) \det(A)$$

since $\det(E_i) \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A) = \det(E_1)^{-1} \dots \det(E_r)^{-1} \neq 0$$

" \Leftarrow " suppose $\det(A) \neq 0$

$$(*) \Rightarrow \det(A) \neq 0$$

$\Rightarrow R$ does not contain a row of zeros

$\Rightarrow A$ is invertible .

Theorem

If $A, B \in M_{n,n}$ then $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$

Proof

case 1: A is singular (A is not invertible)

recall AB is invertible $\Leftrightarrow A$ and B is invertible

$$\begin{aligned}\text{so } AB \text{ is also singular} &\Rightarrow \det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B) \\ &= 0 \cdot \det(B) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

case 2: A is invertible

Then $A = E_1 E_2 \dots E_k$ for some elementary matrices E_1, E_2, \dots, E_k
(by proposition)

$$\Rightarrow AB = E_1 E_2 \dots E_k B$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow \det(AB) &= \det(E_1 E_2 \dots E_k B) \\ &= \det(E_1) \det(E_2) \dots \det(E_k) \det(B)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{since } \det(A) &= \det(A I_n) \\ &= \det(E_1 \dots E_k I_n) \\ &= \det(E_1) \dots \det(E_k) \\ \text{so } \det(AB) &= \det(A) \det(B)\end{aligned}$$

Proposition 3.57

If $A \in M_{n,n}$ is invertible then $\det(A^{-1}) = \det(A)^{-1}$

Proof

$$A^{-1}A = I_n$$

$$\text{so } \det(A^{-1}A) = \det(I_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(AB) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{implies } \det(A^{-1})\det(A) = 1$$

$$\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \quad \text{since } \det(A) \neq 0 \quad \square$$