

## Lecture 6: Determinants (book: 3.1, 3.2).

Previous lecture: the inverse of a matrix.

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Application of the inverse matrix: Cryptography.

Imitation game. A is used to encrypt the message.

Hill algorithm.

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

ATTACK-Now.

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \\ T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} T \\ A \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 20 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A \\ T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} A \\ T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 41 \\ 61 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} C \\ K \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} - \\ N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 27 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix} \dots$$

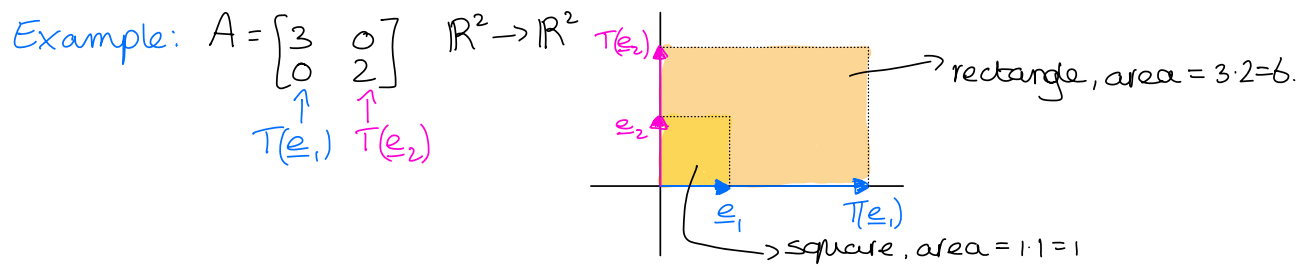
$$\begin{bmatrix} A^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 41 \\ 61 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ T \end{bmatrix}.$$

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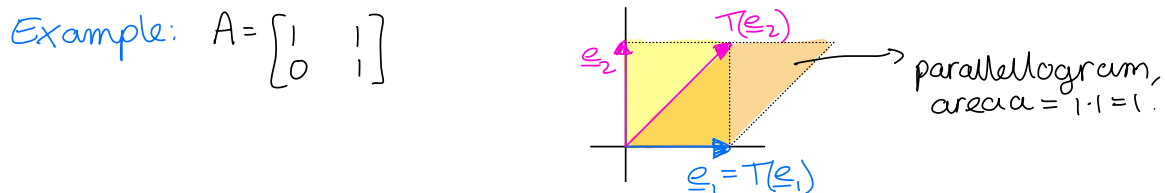
Inverse of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$

\* If  $ad - bc \neq 0$ , then A is invertible and  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$ .  
 $\hookrightarrow$  determinant.

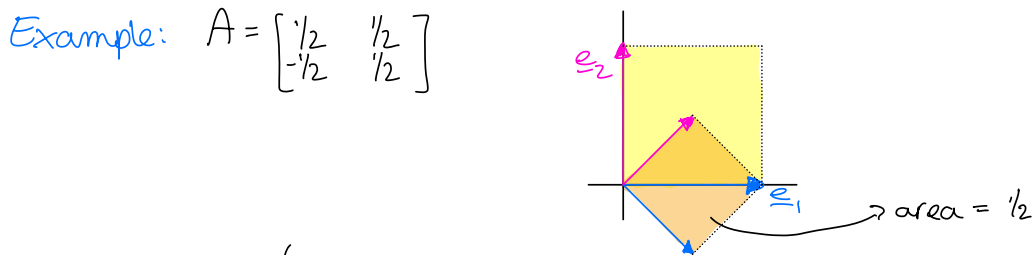
\* If  $ad - bc = 0$ , then A is not invertible  
 $\hookrightarrow$  singular.



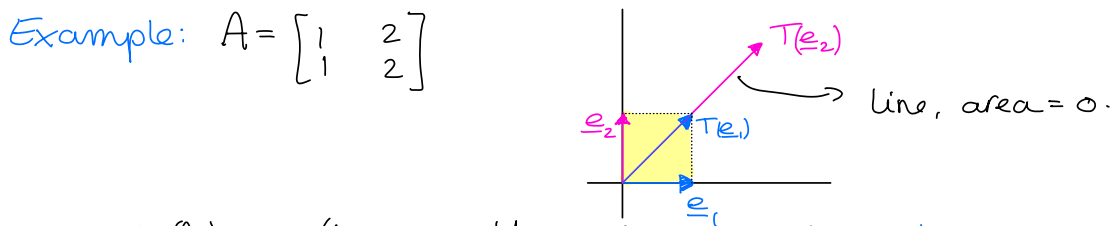
So,  $A$  is stretching objects in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .  
 The stretching/scaling factor is  $6 = \det(A)$ .  
 $\hookrightarrow > 1$  because the area increases.



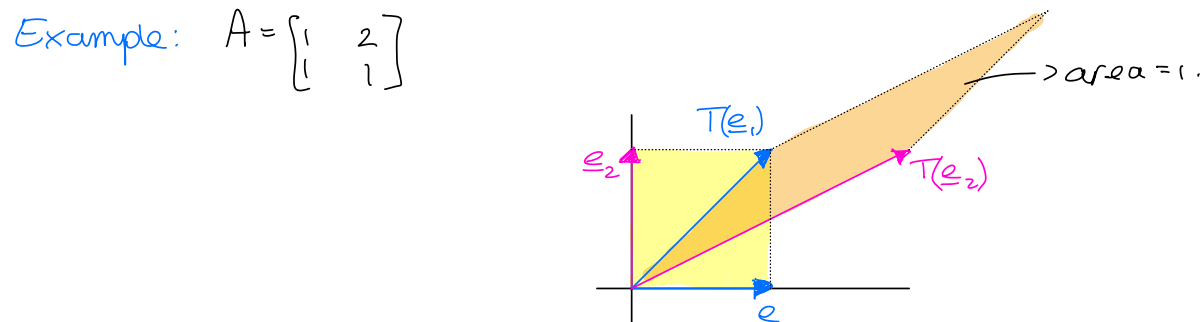
So,  $\det(A) = 1$  (because the area stays the same).



So,  $\det(A) = 1/2$  (because the area squishes with a factor  $1/2$ )



So,  $\det(A) = 0$  (because the unit square is crushed in a line).



The orientation of space has been "inverted".  
 So,  $\det(A) = -1$ .

The **determinant** of a square ( $n \times n$ ) matrix is a **scalar** associated with the matrix.

Notation:  $\det(A)$   $|A|$ .

It measures how the transformation  $T: \underline{x} \rightarrow A\underline{x}$  "scales" space:  
\* in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  it measures the change in **areas** of objects by  $T$ .  
\* in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  it measures the change in **volumes** of objects by  $T$ .

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$\det(A)=0 \Rightarrow$  spaces are "flattened" / we are losing one dimension  
 $\Rightarrow$  range  $\neq$  codomain  
 $\Rightarrow$  transformation is not surjective (onto).  
 $\Rightarrow A$  is **not** invertible.

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How to **compute** the **determinant**?

\* **Gaussian** elimination.

\* **cofactor** expansion.

Recall  $\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc$ .

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**Cofactor expansion** for an  $n \times n$  matrix:

\* Focus on a specific row  $i$  or column  $j$ .

\* For example, for row  $i$ :

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \cdot C_{ij}.$$

\*  $a_{ij}$ : entry of  $A$  at location  $(i,j)$

\*  $C_{ij}$ :  $(i,j)$ -cofactor  $= (-1)^{i+j} \cdot \det(A_{ij})$

\*  $A_{ij}$ : submatrix obtained by removing row  $i$  and column  $j$ .

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

Cofactor expansion across the **first row**

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= 3 \cdot (-1)^{1+1} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 5 \cdot (-1)^{1+2} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 1 \cdot (-1)^{1+3} \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 3 \cdot 2 - 5 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 0 = 6. \end{aligned}$$

Cofactor expansion across the **first column**.

$$\det(A) = 3 \cdot (-1)^{1+1} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 0 + 0 = 3 \cdot 2 = 6.$$

So, be **smart**: choose a row/column with **many** 0s.

**Triangular matrix**: the entries below/above the main diagonal are all 0s.

upper triangular  $\swarrow$  lower triangular

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & 0 \\ * & * & * & * \end{bmatrix}$$

**Diagonal matrix**: a square matrix whose nondiagonal entries are all 0s.

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & * & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & * & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

For triangular or diagonal matrices, the determinant equals the product of the entries on the main diagonal.

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & * & * & * \\ 0 & * & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = a_{11} \cdot a_{22} \cdot a_{33} \cdot a_{44} \cdot \dots \cdot a_{nn}$$

REF is upper triangular.

So, maybe we can use Gaussian elimination to compute the determinant?

How do row operations change the determinant?

\* two rows of A are interchanged to produce B:  
 $\det(B) = -\det(A)$ .

\* one row of A is multiplied by k to produce B:  
 $\det(B) = k \cdot \det(A)$

\* a multiple of one row of A is added to another row to produce B:  $\det(B) = \det(A)$ .

Example:  $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 4 & -3 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3} -1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 4 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2: R_2 - 2 \cdot R_1} =$

$$-1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & -11 & -2 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3: R_3 + 5/11 \cdot R_2} -1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & -11 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1/11 \end{vmatrix} = (-1) \cdot 2 \cdot (-11) \cdot 1/11 = 2$$

square matrix  $A$  **not invertible**

$\Rightarrow A$  is not row equivalent to  $I_n$ .

$\Rightarrow$  a pivot is missing.

$\Rightarrow \det(\text{REF of } A) \stackrel{0}{=}$

$\Rightarrow \det(A) = (-1)^{\# \text{swaps}} \det(\text{REF of } A) = (-1)^{\# \text{swaps}} \cdot 0 = 0$

$\Rightarrow \det(A) = 0$ .

Conclusion: square matrix  $A$  is **not invertible**  $\Leftrightarrow \det(A) = 0$ .

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**Properties** of determinants:

\*  $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$

\*  $\det(AB) = \det(A) \cdot \det(B)$  (Thm 6).

\* but  $\det(A+B) \neq \det(A) + \det(B)$  in general.

\*  $\det(c \cdot A) = c^n \cdot \det(A)$

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**Theorem:**  $\det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)}$  (for all invertible matrices).

**Proof:**

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

$$\Rightarrow \det(I_n) = \det(A \cdot A^{-1})$$

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

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

□

Summary (so far):

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with columns  $\underline{a}_1, \underline{a}_2, \dots, \underline{a}_n$ .

$$m \geq n: \begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix}$$

The following statements are equivalent:

- ①  $A$  has a pivot in every column
- ②  $A$  has  $n$  pivot positions
- ③ There are no free variables
- ④  $A\underline{x} = \underline{0}$  has only the trivial sol.
- ⑤  $\{\underline{a}_1, \underline{a}_2, \dots, \underline{a}_n\}$  is linearly indep.
- ⑥  $T: \underline{x} \mapsto A\underline{x}$  is one-to-one/injective

$$m \leq n: \begin{bmatrix} A \end{bmatrix}$$

The following statements are equivalent:

- Ⓐ  $A$  has a pivot in every row.
- Ⓑ  $A$  has  $m$  pivot positions.
- Ⓒ The echelon form of  $A$  does not contain a row of all zeros.
- Ⓓ  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  is consistent for every  $\underline{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ .
- Ⓔ  $\text{Span}\{\underline{a}_1, \underline{a}_2, \dots, \underline{a}_n\} = \mathbb{R}^m$ .
- Ⓕ  $T: \underline{x} \mapsto A\underline{x}$  is onto/surjective.

The Invertible Matrix Theorem:

If  $A$  is square ( $n=m$ ), then statements ② and ⑥ are equivalent.  
Hence, the following statements are equivalent for square matrices

\* ① - ⑥, Ⓐ - Ⓕ

\*  $A$  is invertible

\* There is a matrix  $C$  such that  $CA = I_n$  and  $AC = I_n$

\*  $A$  is row equivalent to  $I_n$ .

\*  $A^T$  is invertible.

\*  $\det A \neq 0$