

chapter 2 : Determinant of matrices

2.1 Def The determinant of matrix is scalar

For $n=1$ $A = (a_{11})$ $\det(A) = a_{11}$

For $n=2$ $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ $\det(A) = \frac{\det}{a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}}$

For $n=3$ $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix}$ $\det(A) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}^{1+2} + (-1)^{1+3} a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix}$

Expansion based on the first row

Def:

The **determinant** of an $n \times n$ matrix A , denoted $\det(A)$, is a scalar associated with the matrix A that is defined inductively as

$$\det(A) = \begin{cases} a_{11} & \text{if } n = 1 \\ a_{11}A_{11} + a_{12}A_{12} + \cdots + a_{1n}A_{1n} & \text{if } n > 1 \end{cases}$$

where

$$A_{1j} = (-1)^{1+j} \det(M_{1j}) \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

are the cofactors associated with the entries in the first row of A .

2.1 Determinant of a matrix

① Def: $\det(A) = a_{11}A_{11} + a_{12}A_{12} + \dots + a_{1n}A_{1n}$ — expansion on the first row

$A_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(M_{ij})$: cofactor of A

M_{ij} : determinant of an $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix obtained from A by deleting i th row and j th column

② Theorem

2.1.1 If A is an $n \times n$ matrix with $n \geq 2$, then $\det(A)$ can be expressed as a cofactor expansion using any row or column of A .

$$\begin{aligned}\det(A) &= a_{i1}A_{i1} + a_{i2}A_{i2} + \dots + \underbrace{a_{in}A_{in}}_{\text{Expansion on } i\text{th row}} \\ &= \underbrace{a_{1j}A_{1j} + a_{2j}A_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj}A_{nj}}_{\text{Expansion on } j\text{th column}}\end{aligned}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, \dots, n$.

Proof:

Theorem 2.1.2 If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$.

Proof: let A be an $n \times n$ matrix, we prove the theorem by math induction

(i) for $n=1$ $A^T = A$, $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$

(ii) Assume the theorem hold for any $k \times k$ matrix. We study the case $k+1$

By Def $\det(A) = a_{11} \underbrace{\det(M_{11})}_{\substack{1 \\ 1}} - a_{12} \det(M_{12}) + \dots + (-1)^{k+2} \det(M_{k+1})$

$$\begin{aligned}&= a_{11} \det(M_{11}^T) - a_{12} \det(M_{12}^T) + \dots + (-1)^{k+2} \det(M_{k+1}^T) \\&= \det(A^T) \quad (\text{expansion on the first row})\end{aligned}$$

Theorem 2.1.3 If A is an $n \times n$ triangular matrix, then the determinant of A equals the product of the diagonal elements of A .

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & 0 \\ * & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ & * & a_{33} \\ & & \ddots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33}\dots a_{nn}$$

Theorem 2.1.4 Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix.

- (i) If A has a row or column consisting entirely of zeros, then $\det(A) = 0$.
- (ii) If A has two identical rows or two identical columns, then $\det(A) = 0$.

③ Calculation

proof: $\det(EA) = \det(E) \times \det(A)$, for any elementary matrix

Lemma 2.2.1 Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. If A_{jk} denotes the cofactor of a_{jk} for $k = 1, \dots, n$, then

$$a_{i1}A_{j1} + a_{i2}A_{j2} + \dots + a_{in}A_{jn} = \begin{cases} \det(A) & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

Elementary matrix

Type I: $\det(E_I) = -1$ (interchange two rows)

Type II: $\det(E_{II}) = k$ ($r_n = kr_n$)

Type III: $\det(E_{III}) = 1$ ($r_i = r_i + kr_j$)

2.2 properties of Determinant

① operations

$$\det(EA) = \det(E) \det(A)$$

② Calculation

$$E_k \cdots E_2 E_1 A = U$$

$$\det(E_k) \cdots \det(E) \det(A) = \det(U)$$

2.2 properties of Determinant

① operation $\Rightarrow \det(EA) = \det(E)\det(A)$ $\det(E) = \begin{cases} -1 & k \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

② Calculation

$$E_k \cdots E_1 A = U$$

$$\det(A) = \frac{\det(U)}{\det(E_k) \det(E_{k-1}) \cdots \det(E_1)}$$

③ Theorem

Theorem 2.2.2 An $n \times n$ matrix A is singular if and only if

$$\det(A) = 0$$

Proof: $E_k \cdots E_1 A = U$, if A is singular, the last row of U must be 0

so $\det(U) = 0$, and $\det(E_1) \cdots \det(E_k) \det(A) = \det(U) = 0$

$$\text{So } \det(A) = 0$$

if $\det(A) = 0$, and A is nonsingular, $E_k \cdots E_1 A = I$

$$\det(E_1) \det(E_2) \cdots \det(E_k) \det(A) = 1$$

abide contradict with the assumption $\det(A) = 0$

The following are equivalent

Theorem 1.5.2 Equivalent Conditions for Nonsingularity

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. The following are equivalent:

- (a) A is nonsingular.
- (b) $Ax = \mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution $\mathbf{0}$.
- (c) A is row equivalent to I .
- (d) $Ax = b$ has a unique solution for any b .
- (e) $\det(A) \neq 0$

Theorem 2.2.3 If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices, then

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

Proof: if A is nonsingular

$$E_k \cdots E_1 A = I$$

$$A = E_1^{-1} \cdots E_k^{-1}$$

$$\det(AB) = \det(E_1^{-1} \cdots E_k^{-1} B) = \det(E_1^{-1} \cdots E_k^{-1}) \det(B) = \det(A) \det(B)$$

if A is singular

$$E_k \cdots E_1 A = U \quad A = E_1^{-1} \cdots E_k^{-1} U, \text{ and the last row of } U \text{ must be 0}$$

$$\det(AB) = \det(E_1^{-1} \cdots E_k^{-1} UB) = \det(E_1^{-1}) \cdots \det(E_k^{-1}) \det(UB)$$

since the last row of UB is also zero

$$\text{then } \det(AB) = 0 = \det(A) \det(B)$$

④ Properties:

$$(i) \det(A^n) = (\det(A))^n$$

$$(ii) \text{ if } A \text{ invertible } \det(A^{-1}A) = \det(A^{-1}) \det(A) = 1$$

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

$$(iii) \det(kA) = k^n \det(A)$$

$$(iv) \det(A^T A) = \det(A^T) \det(A) = [\det(A)]^2 \quad \text{only if } A \text{ is a square matrix}$$

if A is a $m \times n$ matrix

$$\begin{vmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ 0 & A_{22} \end{vmatrix} = \det(A_{11}) \det(A_{22})$$

2.3 Cramer's rule

$$A_{n \times n} x = b$$

① Adjoint matrix

Cofactor: $A_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(M_{ij}) \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$

Adjoint of A : $\text{adj}(A) = (A_{ij})^T$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & \cdots & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix}^T$$

② Theorem let A be an $n \times n$ nonsingular matrix

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

$$A \cdot \text{adj}(A) = (C_{ij})$$

$$C_{ij} = \sum a_{il} A_{jl} = \begin{cases} 0 & i \neq j \\ \det(A) & i=j \end{cases} \Rightarrow \text{so } C = \det(A) \cdot I = \begin{bmatrix} \det(A) & & & \\ & \ddots & 0 & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & \det(A) \end{bmatrix}$$

So $A \cdot \text{adj}(A) = \det(A) \cdot I$, therefore $A \cdot \frac{\text{adj}(A)}{\det(A)} = I$

③ Cramer's rule

$$x_i = \frac{\det(A_i)}{\det(A)}$$

$$A_i = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & b_{1i} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & \cdots & b_{2i} & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & b_{ni} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{: replace } n\text{th column by } b$$

Proof: $Ax=b \Rightarrow x = A^{-1}b \Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A) \cdot b$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & \cdots & A_{2n} \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_i = \frac{1}{\det A} (A_{1i}b_1 + A_{2i}b_2 + \cdots + A_{ni}b_n)$$