



# CH 6.1 Intro to Determinants

$$\text{Let } A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | \\ \vec{u} & \vec{v} & \vec{w} \\ | & | & | \end{bmatrix}$$

A fails to be invertible if  $\text{img } A$  isn't all of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , meaning that  $\vec{u}, \vec{v}$ , and  $\vec{w}$  are contained in some plane  $V$ . In this case,  $\vec{v} \times \vec{w}$ , being perpendicular to  $V$ , is perpendicular to  $\vec{u}$ , so that

$$\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = 0$$

**Def 6.1.1:** The determinant of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix

If  $A = [\vec{u} \ \vec{v} \ \vec{w}]$ , then

$$\det A = \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w})$$

A  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  is **invertible** iff  $\det A \neq 0$

**Theorem 6.1.2:** Sarrus's rule

To find  $\det A_{3 \times 3}$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{31} & a_{32} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\det A = a_{11} a_{22} a_{33} + a_{12} a_{23} a_{31} + a_{13} a_{21} a_{32} - a_{13} a_{22} a_{31} - a_{11} a_{23} a_{32} - a_{12} a_{21} a_{33}$$

**Ex 5**

Is  $F(A) = \det A$  from the linear space  $\mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  a linear transformation?

No.

$$F(I_3 + I_3) = F(2I_3) = 8$$

$$F(I_3) + F(I_3) = 2 \neq 8$$

## Alternating property

Turns out that  $\det B = -\det A$  can be obtained by **swapping** any two **columns** or any two **rows**.

$$\det B = \det [\vec{u} \ \vec{w} \ \vec{v}] = \vec{u} \cdot (\vec{w} \times \vec{v}) = -\vec{u} \cdot (\vec{v} \times \vec{w}) = -\det [\vec{u} \ \vec{v} \ \vec{w}] = -\det A$$

# Determinant of an $n \times n$ matrix

We cannot generalize Sarrus's rule for an  $n \times n$  matrix.

Note that each of the six terms in Sarrus's rule is the product of one entry from each row and column

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

There are only  $n!$  permutations of these 'patterns' in an  $n \times n$  matrix.

We have,  $\det A = \sum \pm \text{prod } P$

The signs are related to the alternating property.

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = -\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{31} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{31} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_{23} \end{bmatrix} = a_{31} a_{12} a_{23} = a_{12} a_{23} a_{31}$$

Alternatively,

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

0 inversions      2 inversions      2 inversions

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

3 inversions      1 inversion      1 inversion

The number of inversions are the number of times one # out of 2 in a pattern is to the right and above the other.

Thus,

$$\det A = \sum (-1)^{(\# \text{ of inversions in } P)} \text{prod } P.$$

#### Theorem 6.1.4: Determinant of a triangular matrix.

The determinant of an upper or lower triangular matrix is the product of the diagonal entries of the matrix.

In particular, the determinant of a diagonal matrix is the product of its diagonal entries.