

Determinants

4.2, 4.3, 4.4

Recall that for a 2 x 2 matrix, $A =$

it is only invertible if $ad - bc \neq 0$.

This quantity is called the determinant of A .

Notation:

$$\det(A) = ad - bc$$

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

Definitions

- If A is a square matrix, then the minor of entry a_{ij} is M_{ij} , which is the determinant of the submatrix that remains after deleting row i and column j .
- The *cofactor* of a_{ij} is C_{ij} is $(-1)^{i+j} M_{ij}$

Eg

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Minor of } a_{11} \text{ is } M_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \cdot 3 - 4 \cdot 2 = -2$$

$$\text{Minor of } a_{23} \text{ is } M_{23} = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 8 - 1 = 7$$

$$\text{The cofactor is } a_{23} \text{ is } C_{23} = (-1)^{2+3} M_{23} = -M_{23} = -7$$

Minors - Pattern

To get the cofactors, we use the pattern (shown for a 3x3 matrix below) and apply it to the minors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$$

Definition

The determinant of a square matrix A is obtained by multiplying the entries of any row/column by their corresponding cofactors and adding up these products.

$$\text{Eg } A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eg. Find $\det(B)$

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

Eg. Determinant of a Upper Triangular Matrix

If A is a upper triangular, lower triangular or diagonal matrix, the determinant $\det(A)$ is the product of the entries of the main diagonal.

Find $\det(C)$ for $C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Properties of Determinants

1. $\det(kA) = k^n \det(A)$

Eg. Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ and $k = 3$. Find $\det(3A)$

2. A square matrix A is invertible if and only if $\det(A) \neq 0$

3. If A and B are square matrices of the same size, then
 $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$

Eg. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Show property 3

4. If A is invertible, then:

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

5. Note $\det(A + B) \neq \det(A) + \det(B)$

Definition

For $A_{n \times n}$ and C_{ij} is the cofactor of a_{ij} , then

$$\text{matrix of cofactors} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{12} & \cdots & C_{1n} \\ C_{21} & C_{22} & & C_{2n} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_{n1} & C_{n2} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

The transpose of this matrix is called the adjoint of A

$$\text{adj}(A) = \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Inverse of a Matrix

If A is invertible, then

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

Eg: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 6 & 3 \\ 2 & -4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Its matrix of cofactors is: $\begin{bmatrix} 12 & -(-6) & -16 \\ -(-4) & 2 & -(-16) \\ 12 & -(10) & 16 \end{bmatrix}$

The adjoint of the matrix is: $\text{adj}(A) \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 4 & 12 \\ 6 & 2 & -10 \\ -16 & 16 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det(A) = 2(6 + 6) - (-4)(9 + 1) + 0 = 64$$

$$\text{Therefore } A^{-1} = \frac{1}{64} \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 4 & 12 \\ 6 & 2 & -10 \\ -16 & 16 & 16 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3}{16} & \frac{1}{16} & \frac{3}{16} \\ \frac{3}{32} & \frac{1}{32} & -\frac{5}{32} \\ -\frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix}$$

Eg Find the inverse of $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

Cramer's Rule

If $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$ is a linear system with n unknown and $\det(A) \neq 0$, then:

$$x_1 = \frac{\det(A_1)}{\det(A)}, x_2 = \frac{\det(A_2)}{\det(A)}, \dots, x_n = \frac{\det(A_n)}{\det(A)}$$

Where A_j is the matrix obtained by replacing its j th column with \mathbf{b}

Eg. Use Cramer's Rule to solve

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_3 &= 6 \\-3x_1 + 4x_2 + 6x_3 &= 30 \\-x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= 8\end{aligned}$$

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -3 & 4 & 6 \\ -1 & -2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$\det(A_1) = \begin{vmatrix} 6 & 0 & 2 \\ 30 & 4 & 6 \\ 8 & -2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} =$$

$$\det(A_2) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 6 & 2 \\ -3 & 30 & 6 \\ -1 & 8 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\det(A_3) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 6 \\ -3 & 4 & 30 \\ -1 & -2 & 8 \end{vmatrix}$$

Eg Use Cramer's Rule to solve

$$x + y + z = 5$$

$$2x - 2y + z = 7$$

$$x - y = 2$$

Lab – Unit 4

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1. Find the determinant:

$$\text{a) } A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 8 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{b) } B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. For $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 5 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $k = -2$ verify that $\det(kA) = k^n \det(A)$.

3. Use determinants to decide if the matrix is invertible:

a) $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$

b) $C = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 8 \\ 5 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$

4. Find k so that A is invertible: $A = \begin{bmatrix} k & 2 \\ 8 & k \end{bmatrix}$

5. Find the inverse using the adjoint: $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

6. Solve using Cramer's Rule:

$$2x + 3y + z = 4$$

$$3x - z = -3$$

$$x - 2y + 2z = -5$$