

• Last time → Determinants

- ↳ Original recursive definition
(reducing det of an $n \times n$ matrix to computation of n det of $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrices)
- ↳ Practical computation via row/column reduction
- ↳ $\det A = 0 \iff A$ - non invertible
- ↳ $\det(AB) = \det A \cdot \det B$

Ex1: Evaluate $\det A$ for $A = \begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & 0 & y \\ 1 & x & 0 & z \\ 0 & 1 & x & w \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & x \end{pmatrix}$

$\det A$ expand along 1st row

$$x \cdot \begin{vmatrix} x & 0 & z \\ 1 & x & w \\ 0 & 1 & x \end{vmatrix} - y \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad (\equiv)$$

= 1 as we have a triangular matrix

$$x \cdot \begin{vmatrix} x & w \\ 1 & x \end{vmatrix} + z \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$= x^2 - w$ $= 1$

$$\equiv x(x(x^2 - w) + z) - y = x^4 - x^2w + xz - y$$

Ex2: If A, B are 3×3 matrices with $\det A = 2$, $\det B = 3$, find $\det(A^2 B^T A^T B^{-2} A^{-3})$

$$\det(A^2 B^T A^T B^{-2} A^{-3}) = \det(A)^2 \cdot \underbrace{\det(B^T)}_{=\det B} \cdot \underbrace{\det(A^T)}_{=\det A} \cdot (\det B)^{-2} \cdot (\det A)^{-3}$$

$$= 2^2 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 3^{-2} \cdot 2^{-3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

Lecture #11

§3.3 Cramer's rule, Volume, and Linear Transformations

Now that we know the determinants, we can actually provide an explicit formula for solutions of the equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$, where A is an invertible square matrix (though in practice, it's very cumbersome to apply it for matrices A of big size)

CLAIM (Cramer's Rule) : Let A be an invertible $n \times n$ matrix.

For any $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the unique solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has entries

$$x_i = \frac{\det A_i(\vec{b})}{\det A}, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n,$$

where $A_i(\vec{b})$ is the $n \times n$ matrix obtained from A by replacing its i^{th} column with \vec{b}

Ex 3: Use Cramer's rule to solve
$$\begin{cases} 2x_1 - 3x_2 = -5 \\ 5x_1 + 2x_2 = 16 \end{cases}$$

► $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $A_1(\vec{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} -5 & -3 \\ 16 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $A_2(\vec{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 5 & 16 \end{pmatrix}$

$\det A = 19$ $\det A_1(\vec{b}) = 38$ $\det A_2(\vec{b}) = 57$

So: $x_1 = \frac{38}{19} = 2$, $x_2 = \frac{57}{19} = 3$

Important Application: explicit formula for A^{-1}

Recall that the j^{th} column of A^{-1} is described as the solution of the equation $A \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{e}_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ← j^{th} spot

Thus, applying Cramer's Rule, we get

$(i, j)^{\text{th}}$ entry of A^{-1} equals $\frac{\det A_i(\vec{e}_j)}{\det A}$

$(j, i)^{\text{th}}$ cofactor
↓

But cofactor expansion down j^{th} column shows $\det A_i(\vec{e}_j) = (-1)^{i+j} \det A_{ji} = C_{ji}$
 A_{ji} obtained from A by deleting j^{th} row, i^{th} column

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All together we obtain:

CLAIM: Let A be an invertible $n \times n$ matrix. Then

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \dots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & \dots & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \dots & C_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

where C_{ji} is the cofactor of A .

Def: The matrix $\begin{pmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \dots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & & & \\ \vdots & & & \\ C_{1n} & & & C_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$ is called the adjugate or adjoint of A , denoted adj A .

So: $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} \cdot \text{adj } A$

! For 2×2 matrices A , this formula exactly coincides with previously discussed $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix}$.

Ex 4: Find the inverse of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 5 & 6 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$C_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -30$, $C_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 5 \\ 5 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = +25$, $C_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = -5$

$C_{21} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 6 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = +18$, $C_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -15$, $C_{23} = -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 5 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = 4$

$C_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 7$, $C_{32} = -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = -5$, $C_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1$

$\det A = 1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 6 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + 5 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = -30 + 5 \cdot 7 = 5$

So: $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} -30 & 18 & 7 \\ 25 & -15 & -5 \\ -5 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & \frac{18}{5} & \frac{7}{5} \\ 5 & -3 & -1 \\ -1 & \frac{4}{5} & \frac{1}{5} \end{pmatrix}$

↑ exactly coincides with Ex 1 from Lecture #9.

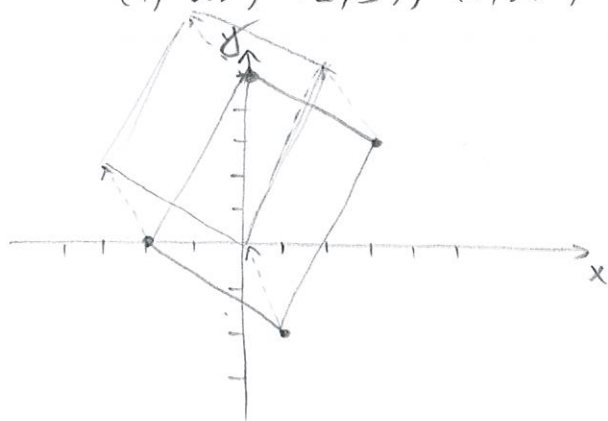
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Determinants also have a very important geometric interpretation.

CLAIM: 1) If A is a 2×2 matrix, the area of the parallelogram determined by the columns of A equals $|\det A|$ the absolute value of $\det A$.

2) If A is a 3×3 matrix, the volume of the parallelepiped determined by the columns of A equals $|\det A|$.

Ex 5: Calculate the area of the parallelogram with 4 vertices: $(1, -2)$, $(3, 3)$, $(10, 5)$, and $(-2, 0)$.



First we translate it to have the origin as one of the vertices. The new parallelogram has the same area and has the following vertices: $(0, 0)$, $(2, 5)$, $(-1, 7)$, $(-3, 2)$

Hence: Area = $|\det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 5 & 2 \end{pmatrix}| = \underline{\underline{19}}$

Another perspective to the above result is via the language of linear transformations:

CLAIM: 1) Let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be the linear transformation determined by a 2×2 matrix A . If S is a parallelogram in \mathbb{R}^2 , then

$$\{\text{Area of } T(S)\} = \{\text{Area of } S\} \cdot |\det A|$$

2) Likewise, if $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ is determined by A , and S is a parallelepiped in \mathbb{R}^3 , then

$$\{\text{Volume of } T(S)\} = \{\text{Volume of } S\} \cdot |\det A|$$

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Approximating any region in \mathbb{R}^2 (resp. in \mathbb{R}^3) by a union of tiny parallelograms (resp. parallelepipeds), we see

the above claim is valid for any region S in \mathbb{R}^2 or \mathbb{R}^3 , i.e.

$$\frac{\text{Area of } T(S)}{\text{Area of } S} = |\det A| \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\text{Volume of } T(S)}{\text{Volume of } S} = |\det A|$$

Important illustration is provided in the following (see Example 5, p. 195 of textbook)

Ex 6: For positive $a, b > 0$, find the area of the region E in \mathbb{R}^2 bounded by the ellipse $\frac{x_1^2}{a^2} + \frac{x_2^2}{b^2} = 1$

Key Observation: E is the image of the unit disk $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ under the linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ determined by the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 \\ 0 & b \end{pmatrix}$

↑
explain!

$$\det A = ab, \quad \text{Area}(D) = \pi \cdot 1^2 = \pi.$$

So: $\text{Area of } E = \pi ab$