

# ⑥ Determinants ( $\det(A)$ )

1)  $A$  is  $2 \times 2$  matrix: If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$

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

$\det(A) \neq 0 \iff A$  is invertible

2)  $A$  is  $3 \times 3$  matrix: If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ ,

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

$\det(A) \neq 0 \iff A$  is invertible

3) ~~What~~ to generalise to  $n \times n$  matrices.

Important property!  $\det(A) \neq 0 \iff A$  is invertible

Geometric interpretation.

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{[2 \times 2]}$  Thm  $|\det(A)| =$  Area of parallelogram spanned by  $\vec{a}_1$  and  $\vec{a}_2$

absolute value

where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} - & \vec{a}_1 & - \\ - & \vec{a}_2 & - \end{bmatrix}$



⑦ How both sides change under row operations

Row operation	$\det(A)$	Area
Scale row and add to another	unchanged	unchanged (geometrically, shear)
Interchange rows	$\det \rightsquigarrow -\det$ (determinant changes sign)	unchanged (geometrically, flip)
scale row by $\lambda \neq 0$	$\det \rightsquigarrow \lambda \cdot \det$ (determinant is multiplied by $\lambda$ )	Area $\rightsquigarrow  \lambda  \cdot \text{Area}$ (geometrically, scale)

want to be true for  $\det$  of  $n \times n$  matrix

Inductive definition of  $\det(A)$  for  $n \times n$  matrices

Suppose we already know determinant for  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  or smaller matrices.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

⑧ Fix  $i$ th row,  $j$ -th column  $\rightarrow$  cover them out of  $A \rightsquigarrow$  get  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix  $A_{i,j}$

$$A = \begin{array}{|cccc|} \hline a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \hline a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \dots & a_{in} \\ \hline a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \\ \hline \end{array}$$

*(Note: In the original image, the  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column are crossed out with a large 'X' and the remaining submatrix is boxed.)*

Set  $M_{i,j} = \det(A_{i,j})$   $\leftarrow$  it is called  $(i,j)$ -minor

$C_{i,j} = (-1)^{i+j} M_{i,j} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A_{i,j})$   $\leftarrow$  it is called  $(i,j)$ -cofactor

Def.  $\det(A) = a_{11} C_{11} + a_{12} C_{12} + \dots + a_{1n} C_{1n}$

We obtain cofactor expansion along the first row.

In terms of  $M_{i,j}$ :

$$\det(A) = a_{11} M_{11} - a_{12} M_{12} + \dots + (-1)^{1+n} a_{1n} M_{1n}$$

Notation  $M = (M_{i,j})$   $\leftarrow$   $(i,j)$ -entry is  $M_{i,j}$   
 $\leftarrow$  matrix of minors

$C = (C_{i,j})$   $\leftarrow$   $(i,j)$ -entry is  $C_{i,j}$   
 $\leftarrow$  matrix of cofactors

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### Example

- a) Compute  $M$  and  $C$  matrices  
 b) Compute determinant of  $A$  using cofactor expansion.

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

Solution 1. Compute  $M$  :

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

← only needed for cofactor expansion along the first row.

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

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 & 3 \\ -4 & 3 & -2 \\ -3 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = 1 \cdot 6 + 2 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 3 = \underline{9}$$

Can we use other row for cofactor expansion?

Yes.

$$\det(A) = a_{i1}C_{i1} + a_{i2}C_{i2} + \dots + a_{in}C_{in}$$

Easier computation if use 2nd row for given matrix  $A$  in example

$$\underline{\underline{\det(A)}} = \underbrace{0}_{0} C_{21} + a_{22} C_{22} + \underbrace{0}_{0} C_{23} = 3 \cdot 3 = \underline{9}$$

↑  
need to know only  $C_{22}$

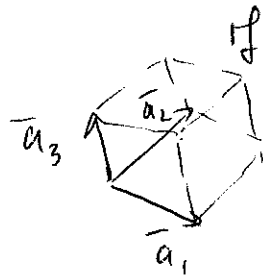
⑩ Can we use column for cofactor expansion?

Yes.

$$\det(A) = a_{1j}C_{1j} + a_{2j}C_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj}C_{nj}$$

Geometric interpretation

$|\det(A)| =$  Volume of parallelepiped constructed on  $\bar{a}_1, \dots, \bar{a}_n$



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \bar{a}_1 & - & - \\ \bar{a}_2 & - & - \\ \bar{a}_n & - & - \end{bmatrix}$$

Formula for the inverse!

Suppose  $A$  is invertible non matrix  
Then  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \cdot C^T$

(Note!  $\det(A) \neq 0$  if  $A$  is invertible)

For previous example

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

We have

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -4 & -3 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$