

## July 12 (Lecture 16)

**Overview:** After finishing up with linear maps between abstract vector spaces, we'll move on to briefly studying a tool that we'll use in the next (and last) big section of the course, the determinant of a matrix.

### Learning Goals:

- Compute the range and null space of linear maps between abstract vector spaces.
- Compute determinants of square matrices in multiple ways.
- Relate determinants to invertibility.

**As you're getting settled:** ◦ HW8 solutions Q1 to be fixed.

- Homework 9 is due *next* Tuesday (the 20th), at 11:30 pm.
- Test 2 is on Thursday! July 15. It will be available on Crowdmark 10:00 am to 8:00 pm Pacific time but you'll only get 1.5 hours to do it, same as last time. I've posted practice problems on Brightspace.
- You will be able to use (and are expected) to use a computer to compute RREFs and matrix-multiplication on Test 2, unless a question explicitly states otherwise.

$1 \times 1: A = [a]$  is invertible  $\iff a \neq 0, A^{-1} = [1/a]$ .

## Chapter 5

# Determinants

We saw that for  $1 \times 1$  and  $2 \times 2$  matrices...

$2 \times 2: A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  is invertible  $\iff ad - bc \neq 0, A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$ .

Can we generalize to  $n \times n$  matrices?

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**Definition.** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. For each row  $i$  and column  $j$ , the  $(i, j)$ -th *submatrix* of  $A$ , denoted  $A(i, j)$ , is the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix obtained by removing row  $i$  and column  $j$  from  $A$ .

**Example.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & 9 \\ -1 & 5 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute

$A(1, 3)$  and  $B(2, 2)$ .

$$A(1, 3) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 9 \\ -1 & 5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B(2, 2) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 13 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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**Definition.** Let  $A$  be a square matrix ( $n \times n$  for  $n \geq 1$ ). We define the *determinant* of  $A$ , denoted  $\det(A)$ , recursively:

◦ If  $n=1$ , then  $\det(A) = a_{11}$ .  $\leftarrow$  Base Case.

◦ If  $n \geq 2$ , then  $\det(A) = a_{11}c_{11} + \dots + a_{1n}c_{1n}$ , where  $c_{ij}$  is the  $(i, j)$ -*cofactor* of  $A$ , defined by  $c_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det(A(i, j))$ .

Sign Pattern:  $\begin{bmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{bmatrix}$

★ *Notation.* Sometimes we write  $\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$ . ← try not to do this! As it can be confusing. !!

**Example.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Compute the determinants of  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$ .

$$\det(A) = 2((-1)^{1+1} \det[2]) + 1((-1)^{1+2} \det[1]) = 2 \cdot 2 - 1 \cdot 1 = 4 - 1 = 3.$$

$\begin{bmatrix} a & d & b & (-c) \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} = ad - bc$

$$\det(B) = 3 \det[3] - 9 \det[1] = 3^2 - 9 = 0.$$

$$\det(C) = 0 \det \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 13 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 5 & 13 \end{bmatrix} + 1 \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ 5 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= -(-13 - 15) + (-2 - 20) = 28 - 22 = 6.$$

**Example.** Let  $F = \begin{bmatrix} k & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & k \\ 1 & k & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $\det(F)$ .  $k$  is some real number.

$$\det(F) = k \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 & k \\ k & -2 \end{bmatrix} - 1 \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & k \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \det [\dots]$$

$$= k(-6 - k^2) - (-k) = -5k - k^3 = -k(k^2 + 5).$$

p. 312 **Theorem (5.1.1).** The determinant of an  $n \times n$  matrix may be computed by a cofactor expansion along any row or column, not just along the first row (i.e. the definition).

Row 1: two 0's, not bad.  
but Col 3 has three 0's! ✓

**Example.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $\det(A)$ .

Expand along col 3!

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= 0 \det[\dots] - \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} \\ 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} + 0 \det[\dots] - 0 \det[\dots] \\ &= - (0 \det[\dots] - 2 \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{14} \\ a_{22} & a_{24} \end{bmatrix} + 1 \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{14} \\ a_{22} & a_{24} \end{bmatrix}) \\ &= 2(10-4) = 2(6) = 12. \end{aligned}$$

$a_{12} - a_{22} = 0$

• expand along row 1

p. 314 **Theorem.** Let  $A$  be a square matrix.

(5.1.2) If a row or column of  $A$  is all 0's, the  $\det(A) = 0$ .

(5.1.3) If  $A$  is upper or lower triangle, the  $\det(A) = a_{11} a_{22} \dots a_{nn}$   
(then product of the main diagonal entries).

(5.1.4)  $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$

*Proof of 5.1.3.* If  $A$  is upper- $\Delta$ , use 1<sup>st</sup> column expansion.

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ \downarrow & \dots & \\ 0 & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = a_{11} \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & & \\ \downarrow & \dots & \\ 0 & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} + 0's \dots = \dots = a_{11} a_{22} \dots a_{nn}.$$

□

**Example.**

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = 0. \quad \left| \quad \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = (1)(3)(6) = 18. \quad \left| \quad \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{A^T}{=} \star$$

$$= \det(A^T) = 12.$$

## More Properties of Determinants

We can use row operations to compute determinants!

p. 317, 319, 320 **Theorem.** Let  $A$  be a square matrix.

$$(5.2.1) \text{ If } A \xrightarrow{aR_i} B, \text{ then } \det(B) = a \det(A). \rightarrow \det(A) = \frac{1}{a} \det(B)$$

$$(5.2.2) \text{ If } A \xrightarrow{R_i \leftrightarrow R_j} B, \text{ then } \det(B) = -\det(A).$$

$$(5.2.3) \text{ If } A \text{ has two equal rows, then } \det(A) = 0.$$

$$(5.2.4) \text{ If } A \xrightarrow{R_i + aR_i} B, \text{ then } \det(B) = \det(A).$$

All of the above hold if we replace "row" by "column" (including "column operations").

**Example.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & -6 & 9 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 & -4 \\ -1 & 3 & -4 & 4 \\ 2 & \neq 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute  $\det(A)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= 3 \det(\text{new}) = \frac{1}{3} \det(A) \\ &\stackrel{\substack{\frac{1}{3}R_1 \\ R_3 \leftrightarrow R_2 \\ R_4 - 2R_2}}{=} 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 0^+ & 1^- & -2 & 3 \\ 1^- & -2 & 4 & -4 \\ 0^+ & 1^- & 0^+ & 0^- \\ 0 & 4 & -8 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\text{3rd row expansion}}{=} (3)(-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & -4 \\ 0 & -8 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\stackrel{\text{1st column expansion}}{=} (-3)(-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ -8 & 10 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{R_2 - 4R_1}{=} 3 \det \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= (3)(-2)(-2) = 12. \end{aligned}$$

(df 3.5.4)

p. 324 **Theorem** (5.2.5). Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. The following are equivalent:

2.  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ .

10.  $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

*Proof.* ( $\Rightarrow$ ) If  $\text{rank}(A) = n$ , then  $\text{RREF}(A) = I_n$ , so  $\det(A) = (\text{non-zero factors}) \cdot \det(I_n) \neq 0$ .  
 $\det(I_n) = 1$

( $\Leftarrow$ ) If  $\text{rank}(A) < n$ , then  $\text{RREF}(A)$  has a 0 on the main diagonal, so  $\det(A) = (\text{factors}) \cdot (\dots 0) = 0$ .



**Example.** Consider  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ . Which of  $A, B$  are invertible? Just compute the determinants!

$$\det(A) = 4 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 4(1+6) = 28 \neq 0. \rightarrow A \text{ is invertible!}$$

$$\det(B) = (1)(6) - (2)(3) = 6 - 6 = 0. \Rightarrow B \text{ is not invertible!}$$

(note that  $\text{rank}(B) = 1 < 2$ .)

Note: Unfortunately, the determinant does not tell us what  $A^{-1}$  actually is, only that it exists (or not).

p. 325 **Theorem (5.2.7).** Let  $A, B \in M_{n,n}(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$ .

**Example.** Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Compute

$\det(AB)$ .

Use Theorem 5.2.7!

$$\begin{aligned} \det(AB) &= \det(A)\det(B) = ((1)(5)(-6)) \det \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{c_1 - 2c_2}{=} -30 \det \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ -4 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\stackrel{\text{2nd row op}}{=} -30(2) \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = -60(21 + 8) = -1740. \end{aligned}$$

**Example.** Idea behind Theorem 5.2.7:

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -7 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $RA = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 \end{bmatrix}$ , which is the same

matrix we'd get if we did  $R_3 - 7R_1$ .

Then  $\det(RA) = \det(A)$ , by Theorem 5.2.5.

df. section 3.6.

All row operations can be represented by multiplication by "elementary" matrices, and if a matrix is invertible then it is actually the product of elementary matrices.

So we could just repeatedly apply Theorem 5.2.1, 5.2.2, and 5.2.4 to get Theorem 5.2.7.