

3.2 Properties of Determinants

(1) If A is an $n \times n$ triangular matrix
(all entries are 0 either above or below the diagonal),
then

$$\det(A) = a_{11}a_{22} \cdots a_{nn}$$

EX $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \det(A) = 1 \times 4 \times 6 = 24$

(2) Suppose two rows of a matrix are interchanged.
The determinant changes sign.

$$\underbrace{\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}}_A = - \underbrace{\begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{11} & a_{12} \end{vmatrix}}_B$$

$$\det(A) = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$$

$$\det(B) = a_{21}a_{12} - a_{11}a_{22} = -\det(A)$$

(3) Suppose one row of a matrix is multiplied by K . The determinant changes by a factor of K .

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} \\ ka_{21} & ka_{22} \end{vmatrix} = ka_{11}a_{22} - ka_{12}a_{21}$$

$$= k(a_{11}a_{22} - a_{21}a_{12})$$

$$= k \begin{vmatrix} ka_{11} & ka_{12} \\ ka_{21} & ka_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

(4) If a multiple of one row of a matrix is *ADDED* to another row, the determinant does not change.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

Add c times R_1 to R_2

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ ca_{11} & ca_{12} + a_{22} \end{vmatrix} &= a_{11}(ca_{12} + a_{22}) \\ &\quad - a_{12}(ca_{11} + a_{21}) \\ &= ca_{11}a_{12} + a_{11}a_{22} \\ &\quad - ca_{12}a_{21} - a_{12}a_{21} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

EX Use row operations to find the

$$\text{determinant of } \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

Apply row operations to reduce the matrix to echelon form, keeping track of any changes to the determinant.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = (-1) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Rows 1+3 Exchanged}$$

$$= (-1) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & -10 & -21 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Add } -4 \times R_1 \text{ to } R_2$$

$$2(-1)^2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -10 & -21 \end{vmatrix} \xleftarrow{\text{(No change)}} = (-1)^2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & -10 & -21 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Rows 2,3 Exchanged}$$

$$2(-1)^2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = (-1)^2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{Add } 5 \times R_2 \text{ to } R_3$$

$$\begin{aligned} 2(-1)^2(1)(1)(-1) &= (-1)^2 \times (1)(2)(-1) \\ -2 &= -2 \end{aligned}$$

(5) Suppose $A \sim U$ with no row scalings
(row interchanges, row replacement)

where U is in echelon form. Then

$$\det(A) = (-1)^r \det(U) \quad r = \# \text{ row interchanges}$$

(6) $\det(A) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \det(U) = 0 \Leftrightarrow$ there

is a zero on the diagonal of $U \Leftrightarrow$

A will not have n pivot columns \Leftrightarrow

A is not invertible.

Determinant Properties (Continued)

$$(7) \quad \det(AB) = \det(BA)$$

$$\underline{\text{EX}} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 9 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(AB) = 5 \times 4 - 2 \times 9 = 2$$

$$BA = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 \\ 6 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(BA) = (-1)(10) - (6)(-2) = 2$$

$$(8) \quad \det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

$$\underline{\text{EX}} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det A = -2 \quad \det B = -1$$

$$\det(A)\det(B) = (-2)(-1) = 2 = \det(AB)$$

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Note:} \quad & \quad \quad \quad \# \quad \# \\ & = \det(B)\det(A) \\ & = \det(BA) \end{aligned}$$

$$(9) \quad \det(A^T) = \det(A)$$

$$(10) \quad \det(A^{-1}) = 1/\det(A)$$