

1B03 - LINEAR ALGEBRA 1 (CO1) Lecture 11

WS19

Last Time Determinants by Cofactor Expansion

- A - $n \times n$ matrix.
- Pick a **row** or **column** of A
- Go along the chosen **row** (or go down the chosen **column**) multiplying entries by their Cofactors : $C_{i,j} = (-1)^{i+j} M_{i,j}$ \leftarrow Minor of $a_{i,j} = \det(A[i,j])$.
- Add up the resulting products = $\det(A)$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1j} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2j} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & a_{i2} & \cdots & a_{ij} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nj} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Useful trick for working out $(-1)^{i+j}$:

They form a chequerboard :

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

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

etc.

Useful insight : $a_{ij} C_{i,j} = 0$ if $a_{ij} = 0$ so

Pick a row/column with lots of zeros!

Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 6 & 7 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}. \quad \text{Find } \det(A).$$

Notice: row 4 & column 3 have lots of zeros, so pick one to expand along/down (doesn't matter which) — we'll choose column 3

$$\det(A) = +0 - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + 0 - 0$$

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

$$= -2 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = -2 \left(\frac{3(-2)(-1)}{2(0)} \right) = -12.$$

Notice that $\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 3(-2)(-1)$

Fact The determinant of any upper triangular, lower triangular (or diagonal) matrix is $a_{11} \cdot a_{22} \cdot \dots \cdot a_{nn}$ $\left(\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ & a_{22} & \\ & & \dots \\ & & & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \right)$.

Remember Matrix A , U.T. or L.T. or diagonal
is invertible iff all diagonal entries
(if and only if) $\rightarrow a_{ii} \neq 0$

Notice this is the same as saying $\det(A) \neq 0$.

(Consistent with $\det(A) \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow A$ invertible
which we will justify in general later.)

A neat trick for 3×3 matrices ONLY.

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

Solution

The diagram shows the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ with red arrows indicating the expansion of the determinant. The red arrows show the main diagonal path (3, -2, 0) and the two other paths (3, 3, 1) and (2, 0, -3). Green arrows show the two paths (2, 3, -3) and (-1, 0, 1).

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A) &= 3(-2)(0) + 2(3)(-3) + (-1)(0)(1) \\ &\quad - (-1)(-2)(-3) - (3)(3)(1) - 2(0)(0) \\ &= 0 - 18 + 0 + 6 - 9 - 0 = - \end{aligned}$$

2.2 Evaluating determinants by Row Reduction

E.R.O.s

Suppose $A \xrightarrow{\text{E.R.O.}} B$. What happens to $\det(A)$?

Depends on E.R.O. ∴

E.R.O.

$\det(B)$

- (1) Scale a row of A by $k \neq 0$. $\rightarrow \det(B) = k \det(A)$.
- (2) Add a ^{scalar multiple of} row of A to another row of A . $\rightarrow \det(B) = \det(A)$.
- (3) Swap over any two rows of A $\rightarrow \det(B) = -\det(A)$

Look at special case $A = I$, $B = E$ (elementary).

$$\det(I) = 1 \quad \text{so in case (1) } \det(E) = k$$

$$(2) \det(E) = 1$$

$$(3) \det(E) = -1$$

For each type of E.R.O.

$$A \xrightarrow{\text{E.R.O.}} B = EA \quad \text{so} \\ \text{\& elem. matrix} = E \quad \det(B) = \det(E) \det(A)$$

Notice $\det(\text{el. matrix}) \neq 0$.

Notice also: if $\det(A) = 0$ then after ERO \det stays 0.