NOTE: These slides contain *both* Sections 3.1 and 3.2.

3.1 Introduction to Determinants

McDonald Fall 2018, MATH 2210Q, 3.1&3.2 Slides

3.1 Homework: Read section and do the reading quiz. Start with practice problems.

- ***Hand in***: 4, 8, 13, 20, 21, 37, 39.
- Recommended: 11, 31, 32.

Definition 3.1.1. For $n \geq 2$, let $A = [a_{ij}]$ be a $n \times n$ matrix. We define $A_{k\ell}$ to be the $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ matrix obtained by deleting the kth row and ℓth column of A. We also set $\det(a) = a$ for any real number a. The **determinant** of A is the alternating sum

$$|A| = \det A = a_{11} \det A_{11} - a_{12} \det A_{12} + a_{13} \det A_{13} - a_{14} \det A_{14} + \cdots + (-1)^{n+1} \det A_{1n}.$$

Remark 3.1.2. This is a *recursive* definition. That is, we need to know how to compute the determinants of the $A_{k\ell}$ first, before we can compute the determinant of A.

Example 3.1.3. Compute the determinant of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Definition 3.1.4. Given $A = [a_{ij}]$, the (i, j)**-cofactor** of A is the number

$$C_{ij} = (-1)^{i+j} \det A_{ij}$$

Theorem 3.1.5. *The determinant of an $n \times n$ matrix A can be computed by a* **cofactor expansion** *across any row or down any column. The expansion of across the ith row is*

$$|A| = \det A = a_{i1}C_{i1} + a_{i2}C_{i2} + \cdots + a_{in}C_{in}.$$

The cofactor expansion down the jth column is

$$|A| = \det A = a_{1j}C_{1j} + a_{2j}C_{2j} + \cdots + a_{nj}C_{nj}.$$

Example 3.1.6. Use a cofactor expansion across the third row to compute $\det A$ where

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

Example 3.1.7. Compute the determinant of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -2 & 6 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Theorem 3.1.8. *If A is an $n \times n$ triangular matrix, then*

$$\det A = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33}\cdots a_{nn}.$$

Remark 3.1.9. This suggests a nice strategy. Turn A into a triangular matrix! We could try to reduce A to echelon form, U. How are determinants affected by row operations?

3.2 Properties of Determinants

3.2 Homework: Read section and do the reading quiz. Start with practice problems.

- ***Hand in***: 8, 10, 16, 17, 20, 27, 34.
- Recommended: 2, 3, 26, 32, 40.

Theorem 3.2.1 (Row Operations)**.** *Let A be a square matrix.*

(a) *If a multiple of one row of A is added to another to produce B, then* $\det B = \det A$.

(b) *If two rows of A are interchanged to produce B, then* $\det B = -\det A$.

(c) *If one row of A is multiplied by k to produce B, then* $\det B = k \det A$.

Example 3.2.2. Compute $\det A$ where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Example 3.2.3. Compute $\det A$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -8 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & -9 & 5 & 10 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -4 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$.

Suppose an $n \times n$ matrix A can be reduced to echelon form U using only row replacements and row interchanges. Since U is in echelon form, it is triangular, so $\det U = u_{11}u_{22}u_{33}\cdots u_{nn}$.

Proposition 3.2.4. *If an $n \times n$ matrix A can be reduced to echelon form U using only row replacements and k row interchanges, then*

$$\det A = (-1)^k u_{11}u_{22}u_{33}\cdots u_{nn}.$$

Theorem 3.2.5. *A square matrix A is invertible if and only if* $\det A \neq 0$.

Example 3.2.6. Compute $\det A$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 & -5 \\ 0 & 5 & -3 & -6 \\ -6 & 7 & -7 & 4 \\ -5 & -8 & 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$.

Example 3.2.7. Compute $\det A$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 5 & -7 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & 2 \\ -2 & -5 & 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Theorem 3.2.8. *If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices, then* $\det AB = (\det A)(\det B)$.

Example 3.2.9. Verify Theorem 3.2.8 for $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$.

Example 3.2.10. Let A and P be square matrices with P invertible, and show that $\det(PAP^{-1}) = \det A$.

Theorem 3.2.11. *If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then* $\det A^T = \det A$.

Remark 3.2.12. This means we can perform operations on the *columns* of a matrix in the same way that we perform row operations, and expect the same effect on the determinant.

Example 3.2.13. Compute $\det A$, where $A = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 & 5 \\ -4 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$.

Theorem 3.2.14 ("Column" Operations)**.** *Let A be a square matrix.*

(a) *If a multiple of one column of A is added to another to produce B, then* $\det B = \det A$.

(b) *If two columns of A are interchanged to produce B, then* $\det B = -\det A$.

(c) *If one column of A is multiplied by k to produce B, then* $\det B = k \det A$.