

Lesson 2: Properties of Determinants of Matrices

1. let $A = (a_{ij})_{n \times n}$ be a diagonal or a triangular matrix then **det(A) is the product of its diagonal elements**

Example:

Find determinants of $A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution:

$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 8 & 4 & 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$ is the upper triangular matrix,

$$\Rightarrow \det(A) = -2 \times 8 \times 1 \times 4 \times 1 \times 9 = -576$$

$B = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ is a diagonal matrix, then $\det(B) = 8 \times 2 \times 4 \times 3 = 192$

2. Interchanging rows or columns of a square matrix changes only the sign of its determinant.

i.e. if $A \xrightarrow{R_i \leftrightarrow R_j} B$ for $i \neq j$, then $|A| = -|B|$

Example: compare determinants of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution: $\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \times 2 = 4$ and $\det(B) = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -4$

Therefore $\det(A) = -\det(B)$

3. Adding constant multiple of a row or column of a square matrix A on to an-other row or column of A doesn't change its determinant.

i.e. $A \xrightarrow{R_i \rightarrow k R_j + R_i} B$, for $i \neq j$ and $k \in R$, then $|A| = |B|$

Example : Compare $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, $k=3$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1+3 & 2+6 & 2+9 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution : $\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -2 - 4 + 9 = 3$

$\det(B) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 1+3 & 2+6 & 2+9 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 2+6 & 2+9 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 1+3 & 2+9 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1+3 & 2+6 \end{vmatrix}$
 $= 5(2+9) - 6(2+6) - 2[4(2+9) - 6(1+3)] + 3[4(2+6) - 5(1+3)]$

$$= 5 \times 11 - 6 \times 8 - 8 \times 11 + 12 \times 4 + 12 \times 8 - 15 \times 4$$

$$= 55 - 48 - 88 + 48 + 96 - 60$$

$$\det(B) = 3$$

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

4. Multiplying a row or column of a square matrix A by any constant k its determinant equals k times $\det(A)$.

$$\text{i.e. } A \xrightarrow{R_i \rightarrow kR_i} B, \text{ then } |B| = k|A|$$

Example : Compare determinants of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 \times 4 & 5 \times 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{Solution: } \det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 5 - 6 = -1 \text{ and } \det(B) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 \times 4 & 5 \times 4 \end{vmatrix} = 5 \times 4 - 2(3 \times 4) = -4$$

$$\therefore |B| = 4|A|$$

5. If A is a square matrix of order n and k is a scalar then: $|kA| = k^n |A|$.

Example:1. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$, if $\det(A) = 3$, then find determinant of $B = \begin{pmatrix} 4a & 4b \\ 4c & 4d \end{pmatrix}$

Solution: $k = 4$ and order of $A = 2$

$$|B| = \begin{vmatrix} 4a & 4b \\ 4c & 4d \end{vmatrix} = 4a(4d) - 4b(4c) = 4^2(ad - bc) = 4^2 \det(A) = 16 * 3 = 48$$

$$2. \text{ let } A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix}, \text{ if } \det(A) = 4, \text{ then find } \det(B), B = \begin{pmatrix} 2a & 2b & 2c \\ 2d & 2e & 2f \\ 2g & 2h & 2i \end{pmatrix},$$

Solution $k = 2$, and order of A is 3×3 , $n = 3$

$$B = 2 \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix}, = 2A \Rightarrow \det(B) = k^n \det(A) = 2^3(4) = 8 * 4 = 32$$

6. If a square matrix A has zero rows or columns then its determinant is zero.

$$\text{Example: find determinant of } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution: $\det(A)$ is determined using second row expansion

$$\det(A) = 0 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 6 \end{vmatrix} - 0 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 6 \end{vmatrix} + 0 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

7. If a square matrix A has identical rows or columns then its determinant is zero.

$$\text{Example: find determinant of } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solution: } \det(A) = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} - 2 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 15 - 6 - 2(12 - 3) + 3(8 - 5)$$

$$= 9 - 18 + 9 = 0$$

$$\therefore \det(A) = 0$$

8. Determinant of a square matrix A and determinant of its transpose is the same.

$$\text{i.e. } |A| = |A^t|$$

$$\text{Example: let } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ then find determinant of } A \text{ and } A^t$$

Solution: $\det(A) = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 4 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 4 - 2 + 4(2) = 10$

$$\det(A^t) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 4 + 2 * 4 = 10$$

9. Determinant of an identity matrix is always 1.

i.e. $\det(I_n) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1^n = 1$

10. let A and B be two square matrices of the same order, then $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B)$

Example: let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ be matrices then show that $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B)$

Solution: $AB = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16+5 & 20+10 \\ 4+2 & 5+4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 21 & 30 \\ 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\det(AB) = \begin{vmatrix} 21 & 30 \\ 6 & 9 \end{vmatrix} = 21 * 9 - 30 * 6 = 189 - 180 = 9$$

$$\det(A) = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 4 * 2 - 5 * 1 = 8 - 5 = 3 \text{ and } \det(B) = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 4 * 2 - 5 * 1 = 8 - 5 = 3$$

$$\text{Then } \det(A) \det(B) = 3 * 3 = 9$$

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

11. For any square matrix A $\det(A^m) = (\det(A))^m$, for $m \in \mathbb{Z}^+$

Example: let A and B are square matrices of order 3 with $|A| = 2$ and $|B| = 5$, then find

A. $\det(A^4)$ B. $(\det(A))^4$ C. $\det(3A^2)$

Solution:

$$\text{A. } \det(A^4) = (\det(A))^4 = 2^4 = 16 \quad \text{C. } \det(3A^2) = 3^3 (\det(A))^2 = 27 * 4 = 108$$

12. Let A be an invertible square matrix, then $\det(A) = \frac{1}{\det(A^{-1})}$

Proof: let A be an invertible matrix with inverse A^{-1} , then

$$AA^{-1} = I \Leftrightarrow \det(AA^{-1}) = \det(I)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det(A) \det(A^{-1}) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)}$$

Example: let A and B be two invertible matrices of order 4 and $\det(A) = 3, \det(B) = 4$, then

Find a. $\det(A^{-1})$ b. $\det(A^{-1}B)$

Solution

$$\text{a. } \det(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\det(A)} = \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{b. } \det(A^{-1}B) = \det(A^{-1}) \det(B) = \frac{\det(B)}{\det(A)} = \frac{4}{\frac{1}{3}} = 12$$

1.3. Inverse of a Square Matrix

i. Ad joint of a Square Matrix

Definition:

Adjoint of a square matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ is defined as the transpose of the matrix $\Delta = (\Delta_{ij})$ where Δ_{ij} is the cofactor of the element a_{ij} .

Adjoint of A is denoted by $\text{Adj}(A) = (\Delta_{ij})^t$

Example: find $\text{Adj}(A)$ if $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Solution: $\Delta_{11} = M_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$

$$\Delta_{12} = -M_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -4$$

$$\Delta_{13} = M_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -12$$

$$\Delta_{21} = -M_{21} = -\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Delta_{22} = M_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -4$$

Now $(\Delta_{ij}) = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{11} & \Delta_{12} & \Delta_{13} \\ \Delta_{21} & \Delta_{22} & \Delta_{23} \\ \Delta_{31} & \Delta_{32} & \Delta_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 & -12 \\ 0 & -4 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\therefore \text{Adj}(A) = (\Delta_{ij})^t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 & -12 \\ 0 & -4 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & -3 \\ -4 & -4 & 3 \\ -12 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

1. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, then find

a. $\det(A)$ b. $\text{Adj}(A)$ c. $A(\text{Adj}(A))$ d. $(\text{Adj}(A))A$

solution:

a. $\det(A) = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} - 1 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 4 - 6 - (3 - 6) + 2(6 - 8) = -3$

b. $\text{Adj}(A) = (\Delta_{ij})^t = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{11} & \Delta_{12} & \Delta_{13} \\ \Delta_{21} & \Delta_{22} & \Delta_{23} \\ \Delta_{31} & \Delta_{32} & \Delta_{33} \end{pmatrix}^t$

$$\Delta_{11} = M_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -2$$

$$\Delta_{12} = -M_{12} = -\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\Delta_{13} = M_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -2$$

$$\Delta_{21} = -M_{21} = -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\Delta_{22} = M_{22} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -3$$

$$\therefore \text{Adj}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} \Delta_{11} & \Delta_{12} & \Delta_{13} \\ \Delta_{21} & \Delta_{22} & \Delta_{23} \\ \Delta_{31} & \Delta_{32} & \Delta_{33} \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -2 \\ 3 & -3 & 0 \\ -5 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^t = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -5 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Delta_{23} = -M_{23} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Delta_{31} = M_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = -3$$

$$\Delta_{32} = -M_{32} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\Delta_{33} = M_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\Delta_{23} = -M_{23} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Delta_{31} = M_{31} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = -5$$

$$\Delta_{32} = -M_{32} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\Delta_{33} = M_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{c. } A(\text{Adj}(A)) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -5 \\ 3 & -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2+3-4 & 3-3+0 & -5+3+2 \\ -6+12-6 & 9-12+0 & -15+12+3 \\ -4+6-2 & 6-6+0 & -10+6+1 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = -3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = -3I = (\text{Adj}(A))A \\
 \therefore A(\text{Adj}(A)) &= (\text{Adj}(A))A = \det(A)I
 \end{aligned}$$

Note: For any non-singular square matrix A : $|A| = |A \times \text{Adj}(A)| = |\text{Adj}(A) \times A|$

- Square matrix A is said to be:
 - ✓ singular *iff* $|A| = 0$
 - ✓ non-singular $|A| \neq 0$