



Math 201

Section F03

October 15, 2021

Review of change of basis stuff

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$$\phi_\alpha: V \xrightarrow{\sim} F^n$$

$$v = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_n v_n \mapsto (a_1, \dots, a_n)$$

$$\phi_\beta: W \xrightarrow{\sim} F^m$$

$$w = b_1 w_1 + \dots + b_m w_m \mapsto (b_1, \dots, b_m)$$

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Example

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

What matrix represents the linear function $L_A: F^3 \rightarrow F^3$ with respect to the ordered basis $\alpha = \langle (1, 1, 1), (1, 0, -1), (0, 1, -1) \rangle$?

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For instance,

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If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices, prove that $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$.

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Later: $\operatorname{tr}(A)$ = sum of eigenvalues of A

Determinants

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1. *Multilinear.* The determinant is a linear function with respect to each row:

$$\det(r_1, \dots, r_{i-1}, \lambda r_i + r'_i, r_{i+1}, \dots, r_n) = \lambda \det(r_1, \dots, r_{i-1}, r_i, r_{i+1}, \dots, r_n) + \det(r_1, \dots, r_{i-1}, r'_i, r_{i+1}, \dots, r_n).$$

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3. *Normalized.* $\det(I_n) = \det(e_1, \dots, e_n) = 1$.

Main theorem

Theorem. For each $n \geq 0$, there exists a unique determinant function.

Secret importance of determinants

The determinant of $A \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ is \pm the volume of the parallelepiped spanned by the rows (or columns) of A :

$$P(A) = \left\{ p \in \mathbb{R}^n : p = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i r_i \text{ where } 0 \leq \lambda_i \leq 1 \text{ for all } i \right\}.$$

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The sign defines the *orientation* of the ordered list of rows of A . Multivariable calculus builds on this to compute volumes of more general subsets of \mathbb{R}^n .

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Corollary. Let $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$, and let E be the reduced row echelon form of A . Then there exists a non-zero $k \in F$ such that $\det(A) = k \det(E)$.

Example

Compute the determinant of a general 2×2 matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example

Compute

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ 9 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Example

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -3 & 8 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -3 & 8 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = (4 \cdot 5 \cdot 2 \cdot 3) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1/2 & -3/2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/5 & 3/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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In general: if A has a row of zeros, then $\det(A) = 0$.

Upper-triangular matrices

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

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3. Any square matrix in reduced row echelon form.

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Proof. See today's lecture notes.

Invertibility criterion

Proposition. Let $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$. The following are equivalent:

1. $\det(A) \neq 0$,
2. $\text{rank}(A) = n$,
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- ▶ $\det(A) = k \det(E)$ with $k \neq 0$.
- ▶ $\det(E) \neq 0 \iff E = I_n$