

# Lecture 18

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## *Determinant*

## 行列式

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# Roadmap of Semester

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**Segment 1** Solving linear systems (Lec 3-15);

**Segment 2**

**Next [Lec 16-20]:** Three relatively independent parts:

—**Orthogonality.** Least squares; orthogonal matrix (Lect 16,17)

—**Determinant.** [Important tool!] Lec 18

—**Linear transformation.** [Advanced math perspective of matrix]

They are not directly related to solving system/problem,  
but are **fundamental and useful tools.**

**Segment 3**

**Lec 21-26: Eigenvalues and singular values.**

# Today's Lecture: Outline

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Main topic: Determinant

1. Motivation: Condition for Invertibility
2. Definition of Determinants by Geometry and Derivation
3. Properties of Determinants

Strang's book: Sec 5

Other classes:  
(Motivation)  
↓  
Definitions  
↓  
Properties

This class:  
Motivation  
↓  
Desired Properties  
↓  
Definition

# Today's Lecture: Learning Goals

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After the lecture, you should be able to

1. Tell the geometrical meaning of determinant
2. Use the properties to compute determinant of a matrix

## **Advanced goal:**

Learn how to compute a complicated quantity based on simple properties. ["Simplification Framework"]



# Review

# Recall: Equivalent Conditions for Invertibility

## Theorem 15.2+ (Equivalent Conditions for Invertibility)

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

The following statements are equivalent:

1.  $A$  is **invertible**
2. The linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has a unique solution  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$
3.  $A$  is a product of elementary matrices
4.  $A$  has  $n$  pivots; or equivalently:  $\text{rank}(A) = n$
5. The columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^n$
6. The columns of  $A$  are linearly independent
7. The columns of  $A$  form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
8.  $\dim(C(A)) = n$
9.  $\dim(N(A)) = 0$  or  $N(A) = \{\mathbf{0}\}$

→ not computable directly



# Part I Motivation

# Recall: Homework Problems

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Homework problem: When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad ad - bc \neq 0$$

# Recall: Homework Problems

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Homework problem: When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible?

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

**Answer:** Iff  $ad - bc \neq 0$ .

Advantage over the 9 conditions in Thm 15.2:

**Closed-form expression to judge** invertibility

**Remark:** We had an expression of inverse, but:

- no expression of “judging invertibility”;
- rely on an algorithm.

# Motivation: Find an Invertibility Condition

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a real square matrix

**Question 18.1: [extension of invertibility condition]**

Can we extend  $(ad - bc)$  to  $n \times n$  matrix, i.e. find a **determinant**

**condition**  $\det(\cdot) : \mathbb{R}^{n \times n} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  (actually a function) such that

$\det(A) = 0$  iff  $A$  is invertible?

「331」

to help determine  
invertibility  
(other things)

**Question 18.2: WHAT is  $ad - bc$  ?**

The fundamental understanding can help answer Q1.



# How to Tackle Q2 at all?

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Open-ended questions are often hard.

But there are patterns.

Powerful view to tackle such “what is” question:

**GEOMETRY!**

# Understanding $ad - bc$

Homework problem: When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible?

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

**Answer:** Iff  $ad - bc \neq 0$

**Question 18.2:** WHAT is  $ad - bc$  ?

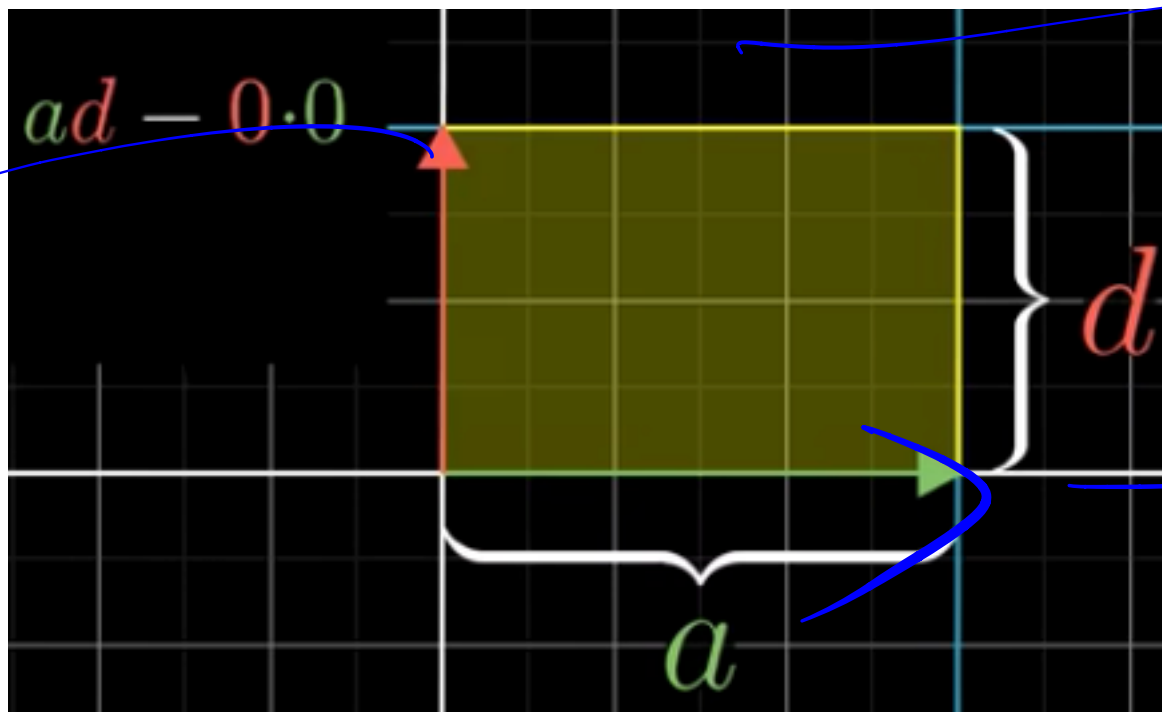
Understand by GEOMETRY! (By Cauchy)

**Special case:**  $b = c = 0$

$$ad - bc = a \cdot d$$

$ad$  relation  
 $\left( \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ d \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Area  
of  $\square$



$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} d \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$



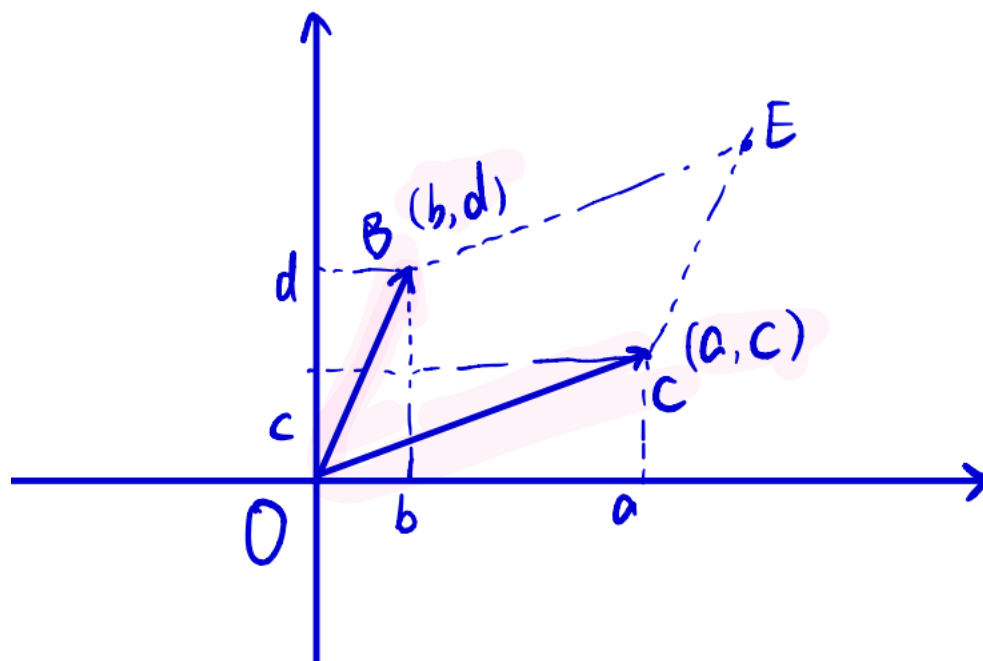
# Understanding $ad - bc$

Homework problem: When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Answer: Iff } ad - bc \neq 0.$$

**Question 18.2: WHAT is  $ad - bc$  ?**

Understand by GEOMETRY! (By Cauchy)



Last page: rectangular. (if  $b=c=0$ ).

For general  $a, b, c, d$ , column vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} b \\ d \end{bmatrix}$  form parallelogram OCEB

Exercise Try to find the relation of  $ad - bc$  and parallelogram OCEB

relation  $\rightarrow$  PARA  $\left( \begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} b \\ d \end{bmatrix} \right)$ .

# Understanding $ad - bc$

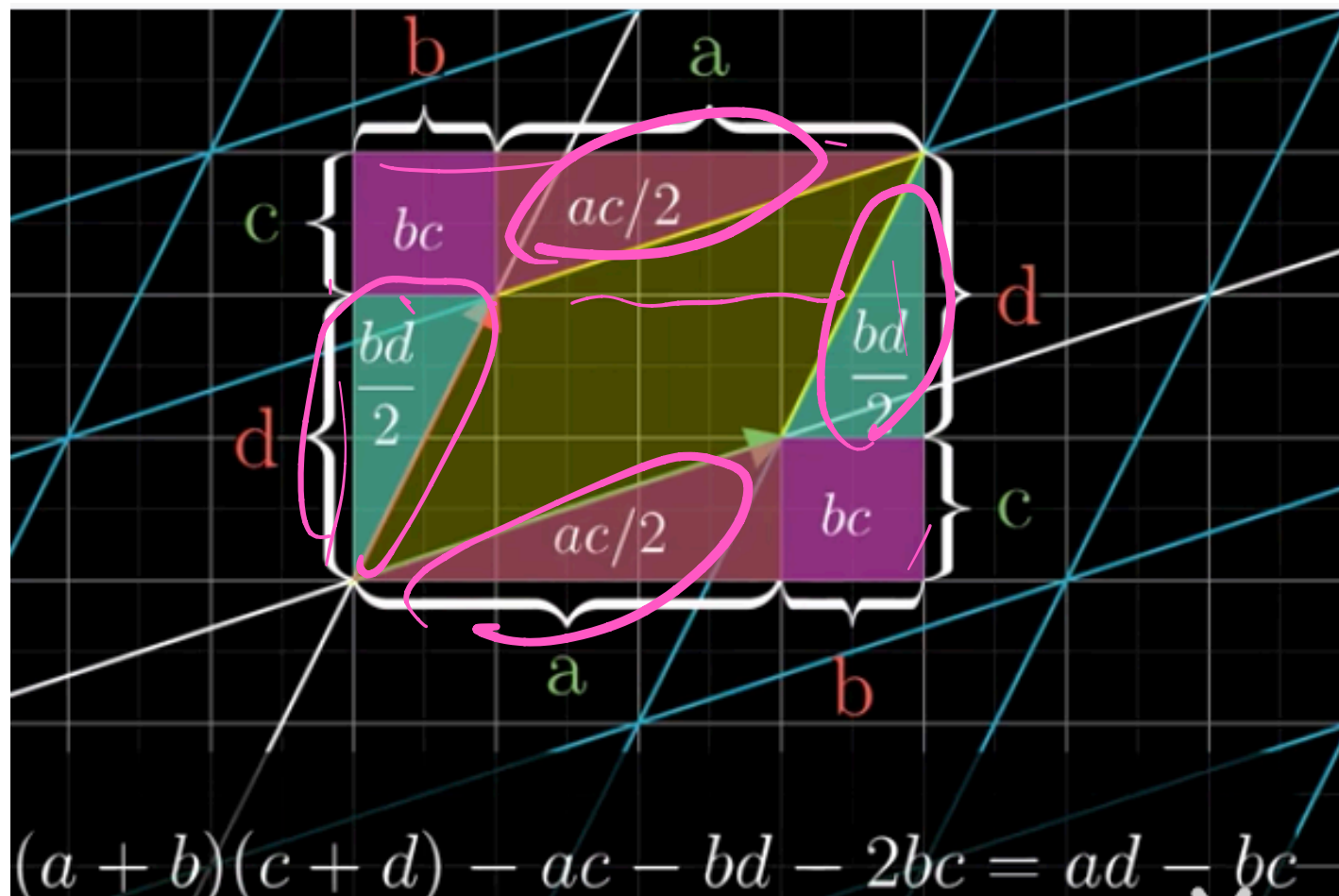
Homework problem: When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Answer: Iff } ad - bc \neq 0$$

**Question 18.2: WHAT is  $ad - bc$  ?**

Understand by GEOMETRY! (By Cauchy)

**Answer: The area of a parallelogram formed by the column vectors!**



Claim

$ad - bc =$  Area of parallelogram  
formed by columns  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} b \\ d \end{bmatrix}$ .

$=$  (Area of big rectangle)

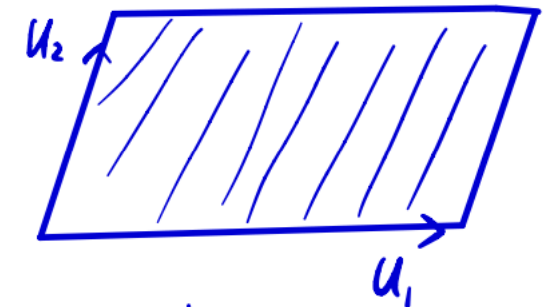
$-$  (Area of small parts)

$= ad - bc$

# Degenerate $ad - bc$

**Question 18.2: WHAT is  $ad - bc$ ?**

Area of the parallelogram  
(formed by two column vectors from the matrix)!



↓ degenerate (same)



What does  $ad - bc = 0$  mean?

It means the area of the parallelogram is **0**.

Equivalently, the two column vectors are parallel;

(same line)  
dependent,

Equivalently, the matrix is NOT invertible.

# Understanding $ad - bc$

**Question 18.2: WHAT is  $ad - bc$  ?** Area of the parallelogram

When is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix invertible? Iff  $ad - bc \neq 0$ .

**New Interpretation:**  $A$  is invertible iff the area of the parallelogram is non-zero.

Logic chain (逻辑链): (geometry)

We observe:  $ad - bc$  is the area of the parallelogram of columns.

$ad - bc = 0 \Leftrightarrow$  the area of the parallelogram of columns = 0.

$\Leftrightarrow$  columns on the same line

$\Leftrightarrow$  column dependent

$\Leftrightarrow$   $A$  not invertible.

We knew (from homework; algebraic proof)

$ad - bc = 0 \Leftrightarrow A$  not invertible.

# Extension to Higher Dimension

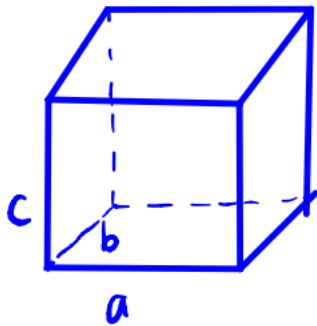
## Question 18.1: [extension of invertibility condition]

Can we extend  $(ad - bc)$  to  $n \times n$  matrix, i.e. find function  $\det()$  s.t.

$\det(A) = 0$  iff  $A$  is invertible?

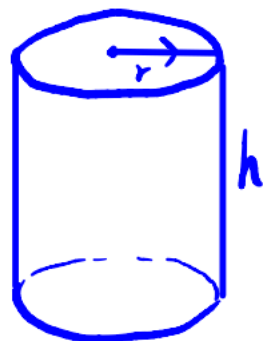
Answer: Let's extend the geometrical meaning of "area" to higher dimension!

Examples of computing volume:



Cuboid [长方体]

$$V = abc$$



Cylinder [圆柱体]

$$V = h \cdot (\text{Area of disk}) \\ = h \cdot \pi r^2$$

extend  
↓  
Volume (体积)

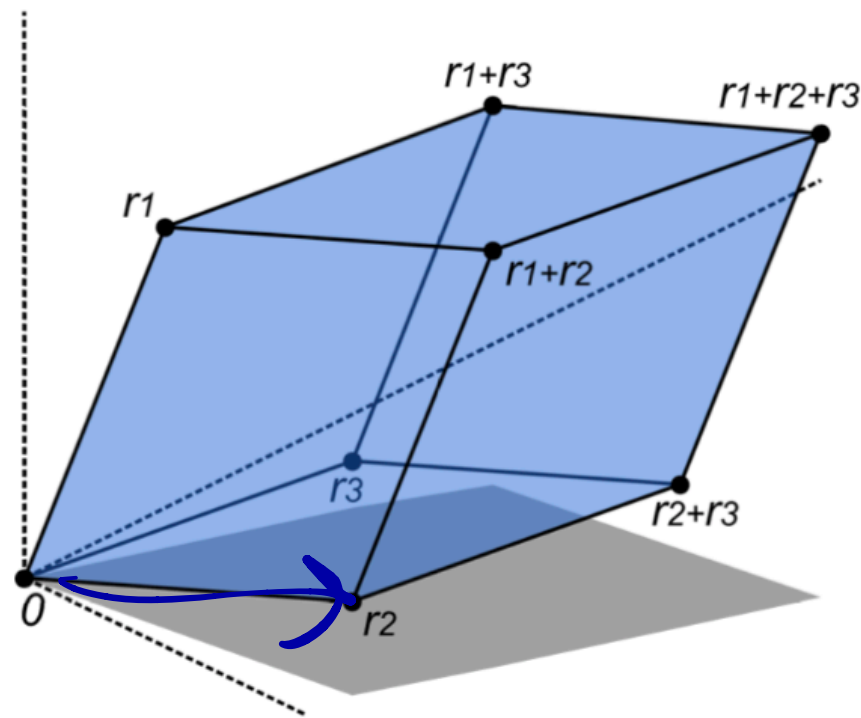
# Extension to Higher Dimension

## Question 18.1: [extension of invertibility condition]

Can we extend  $(ad - bc)$  to  $n \times n$  matrix, i.e. find function  $\det()$  s.t.

$\det(A) \neq 0$  iff  $A$  is invertible?

**Answer:** Let's extend the **geometrical meaning** of "area" to higher dimension!



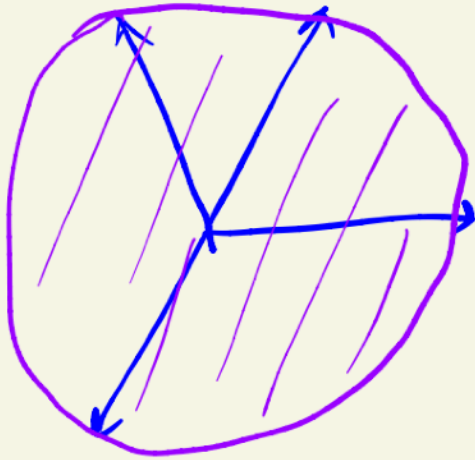
"Volume"!

Volume of polytope formed by  $\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \vec{r}_3$ ,  
if  $A = [\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \vec{r}_3] \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$

# Higher Dimension

Higher dimension (dim = 4, 5, 100?)

<http://HighDimsetformedbyvectorsHigherd.me>



$n$  column vectors of  $A \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
form a set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

"Volume" is the indicator of  
the size of the set, i.e.,  
measuring how large the set is.

Remark. [for reading] The set is  $\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \vec{v}_i : 0 \leq \alpha_i \leq 1, i=1, \dots, n \right\}$ .  
It's a polytope.

(高维多面体)



# Part II Properties and Expression of Determinant (1) Decomposition



# Extension to Higher Dimension

## Question 18.1: [extension of invertibility condition]

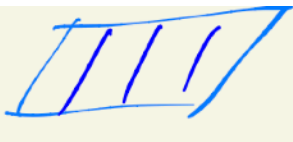
Can we extend  $(ad - bc)$  to  $n \times n$  matrix, i.e. find function  $\det()$  s.t.  
 $\det(A) = 0$  iff  $A$  is invertible?




“Volume”!



How to compute the “volume”? (of polytope)

**Philosophy:** If you find it hard to think about the general case, then it's helpful to start with the simplest special case...

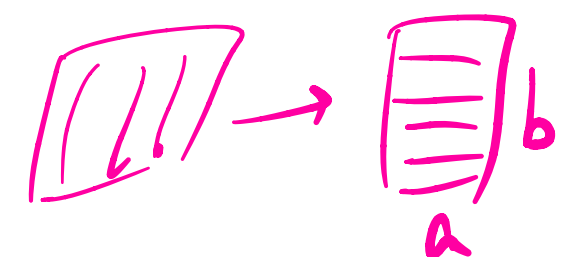
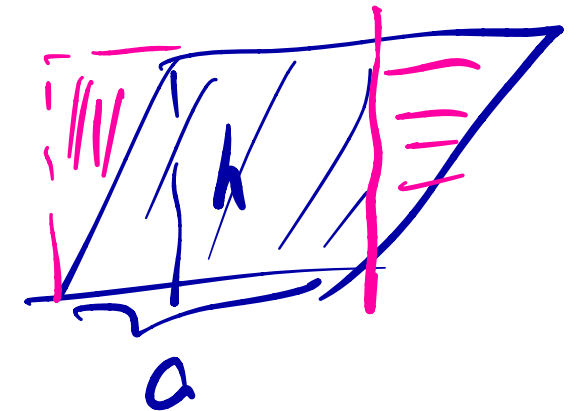
# Recall: How to Compute Area from Beginning?

→ How did we calculate area of  ?

1) Simplify: Relate  to  

2) Basic "area": Know areas of  

(area)



# An Original-Unit Framework

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How to compute “volume”?

**Idea: Simplify!**

**An Original-Unit Framework [or you name it]**

**(Req1) Relate** A to simpler matrices  $B_i$ .

简化

**(Req2) Building block:** Compute the “volume” of simpler matrices

基本单元

Is this enough?

# An Simplification Framework

How to compute “volume”?

**Idea: Simplify!**

**An Simplification Framework [or you name it]**

**(Req1) Relate** A to simpler matrices  $B_i$ .

简化

**(Req2) Building block:** Compute the “volume” of simpler matrices

基本单元

Is this enough?

**(Req3) Original-Unit Property:** Relation of  $\det(A)$  and  $\det(B_i)$ .

原始-单元关系

Critical !!

Next 1 hour

"Volume" has properties,

→ Extract these properties;

→ Use properties to compute determinant

# 2x2 determinants.

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- Row operation of 2x2 matrix

Step 1 2x2

- Multiply by  $\alpha$ : 
$$\begin{bmatrix} \alpha a & \alpha b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\alpha a \cdot d - \alpha b \cdot c = \alpha(ad - bc)$$

Step 2 Geometry: Provide a geometrical interpretation;  
Geometrical properties can generalize.

This leads to a generalization of 2x2 property.

Step 3 Desired property of  $n \times n$  matrix.

# (Req3) Relating Original and Units

(Req3) **Original-Unit Property:** Relation of  $\det(A)$  and  $\det(B_i)$ .

原始-单元关系

**Notation:** Denote  $|A| = \det(A)$

## Desired Property P1:

The determinant is a linear function of each row separately.

When  $n = 2$  :

(P1.1) **multiply row 1 by any number  $t$**

$$\begin{vmatrix} ta & tb \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

(P1.2) **Add row 1 of  $A$  to row 1 of  $B$ :**

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

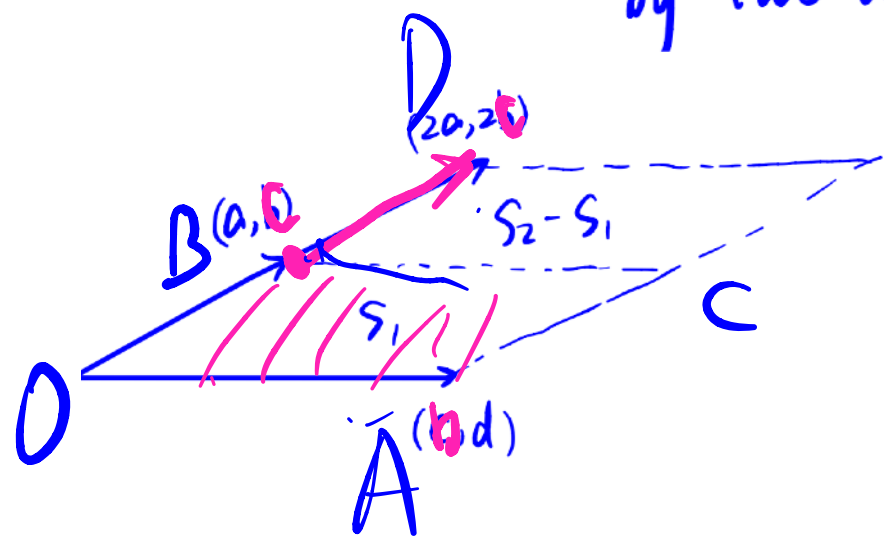
# P1.1 Scaling a Row

multiply row 1 by any number  $t$

$$\begin{vmatrix} ta & tb \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

Step 2:  
Verify:

Geometrically: Denote  $PRL[(a,b), (c,d)]$  as the parallelogram formed by two vectors  $(a,b), (c,d)$ .



What's the relation of the areas of  
 $OACB = \text{PARA} \left( \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix} \right)$   
 and  
 $OACD = \text{PARA} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 2a \\ 2b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix} \right)$

Step 3:  
In high-dim, volume doubles if one side doubles.

Algebraic property:  $\begin{vmatrix} a_1 \cdot t \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_m \end{vmatrix}$



# Exercise

(row-wise scaling).

What  $\Rightarrow$   $\begin{vmatrix} 2a & 2b \\ 2c & 2d \end{vmatrix} ?$

$$= 2 \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}. \quad T \text{ or } F.$$

$$= 2 \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ 2c & 2d \end{vmatrix} = 4 \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}.$$

# Sum of rows (just one row).

Step 1 Algebra for  $2 \times 2$  case.

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

||

$$(a_1 + a_2)d - (b_1 + b_2)c = (a_1d - b_1c) + (a_2d - b_2c)$$

Remark  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$

# P1.2 Adding Single Row

Step 1 algebraic

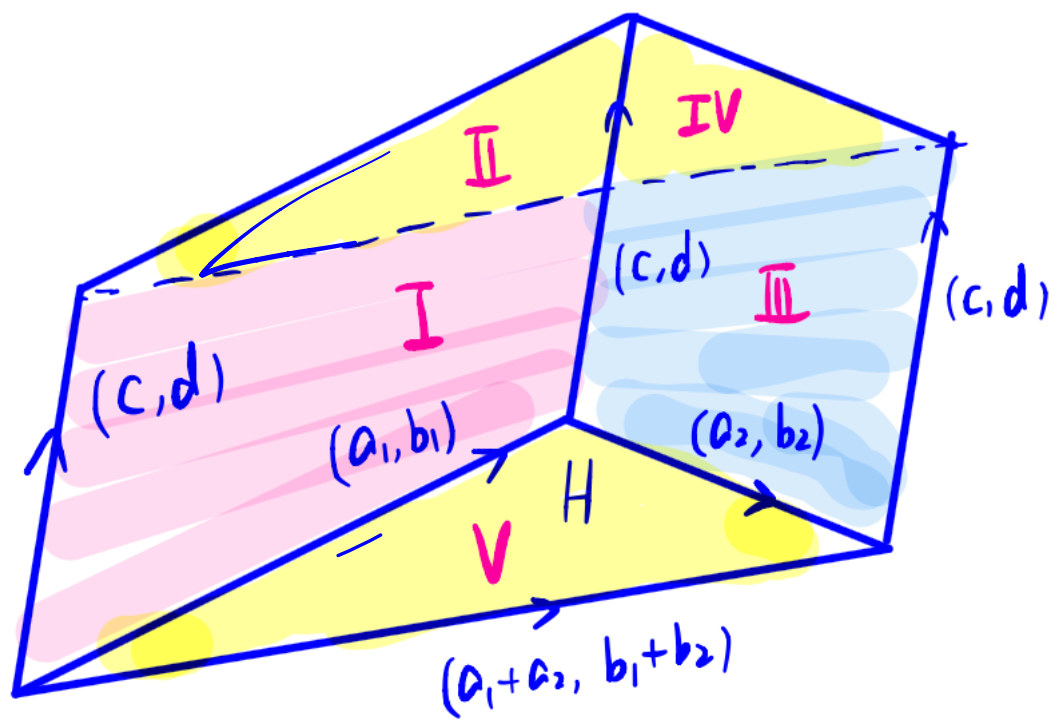
Add row 1 of A to row 1 of B:

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c & d \end{vmatrix}$$

Verify:

$$\text{Area of PAR}[(a_1 + a_2, b_1 + b_2), (c, d)] = \text{Area of PAR}[(a_1, b_1), (c, d)] + \text{Area of PAR}[(a_2, b_2), (c, d)]$$

$S_0 = S_1 + S_2$



$$\begin{cases} S_0 = I + II + V \\ S_1 = I + II \\ S_2 = II + IV \end{cases} \Rightarrow S_0 = S_1 + S_2$$

$V = II + IV$   
(yellow).

High-dim

This relation should be true.

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} \vec{a}_1 \\ \vec{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{a}_m \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} \vec{b}_1 \\ \vec{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{a}_m \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} \vec{a}_1 + \vec{b}_1 \\ \vec{a}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \vec{a}_m \end{pmatrix}$$

# Sum instead of Single-row-sum

$$\det(A+B) = \det(A) + \det(B)? \quad T \text{ or } F?$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + a_2 & b_1 + b_2 \\ c_1 + c_2 & d_1 + d_2 \end{vmatrix}$$

|| 4 term

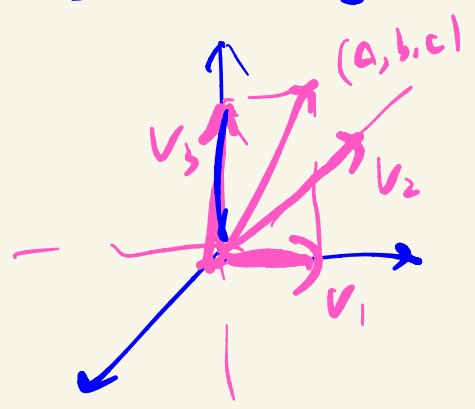
$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ c_1 & d_1 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} a_2 & b_2 \\ c_2 & d_2 \end{vmatrix}$$

2 terms

Row Decomposition

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix} = \det \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & b & 0 \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix} + \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & c \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$[a \ b \ c] = [a \ 0 \ 0] + [0 \ b \ 0] + [0 \ 0 \ c]$$



# Applying to n=3

(Req1) Relate A to simpler matrices  $B_i$ .

简化

$$A = \text{Row-Sum}(B_1, B_2, B_3)$$

row decomposition relation (NOT  $A = B_1 + B_2 + B_3$ )

(Req3) Original-Unit Property: Relation of  $\det(A)$  and  $\det(B_i)$ .

原始-单元关系

$$|A| = |B_1| + |B_2| + |B_3|$$

Together:

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$



# Part III Properties and Expression of Determinant (2) Size Reduction



# Idea

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & x & x \\ 0 & x & x \end{bmatrix} + \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$

"block" diagonal

→ special case of  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$

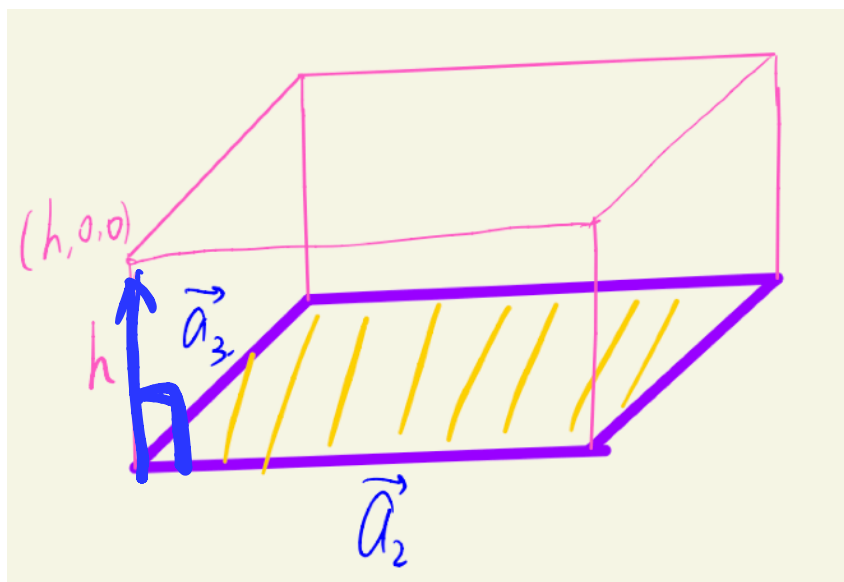
all-zero column,

# Tool 2: Determinant of Block Matrix

Desired Property P3 Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} h & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$ , Then  $\det(A) = h \cdot \det(B)$ .

$1 \times 1$        $1 \times (n-1)$   
 $\downarrow$        $\uparrow$   
 $n \times n$      $(n-1) \times 1$      $(n-1) \times (n-1)$

We verify it for  $n=3$ , i.e.,  $A = \begin{bmatrix} h & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ 0 & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} h \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \text{span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x \\ x \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x \\ x \end{bmatrix} \right)$



Volume of  $\text{poly} \left( \begin{bmatrix} h \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ a_{22} \\ a_{32} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ x \\ x \end{bmatrix} \right)$

$$= \text{height} \times \text{bottom area}$$

$$= h \cdot \text{Area}(\text{PARA}(\vec{a}_2, \vec{a}_3))$$

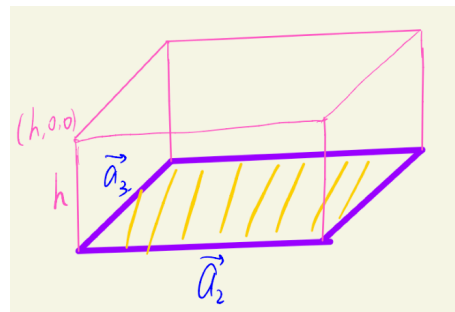
$$= h \cdot \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

"parallelogram" + "vertical line"

$\vec{a}_2 \otimes \vec{a}_3 \times \vec{h}$  (bottom area x height)

# Corollary: All-Zero Rows or Columns

Corollary: If one row or column of a square matrix  $A$  is zero, then  $\det(A) = 0$ .



Volume of parallelogram (2D)  
 = 0  
 (= height  $\times$  area =  $0 \times \text{area} = 0$ )

Alternative Proof: Using  $0 = -0 = (-1) \cdot 0$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} \vec{0} & \vec{a}_2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{K} \det \begin{bmatrix} (-1) \cdot \vec{0} & \vec{a}_2 \end{bmatrix} \stackrel{\text{Prop 1.1}}{=} \frac{-1 \cdot \det[\vec{0} \ \vec{a}_2]}{-1} \Rightarrow K = 0.$$

# Reducing $n \times n$ to $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ Matrix

Applying Desired Property 1.2 (along 1st column), we get

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ d & e & f \\ g & p & q \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & e & f \\ 0 & p & q \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ d & e & f \\ g & p & q \end{vmatrix}$$

Use <http://wegetlgyaodefgpg-HITObYGro20.lu>  
 $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ d \\ g \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} d \\ e \\ p \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ d \\ g \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ d \\ g \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= a \cdot \begin{vmatrix} e & f \\ p & q \end{vmatrix}$$

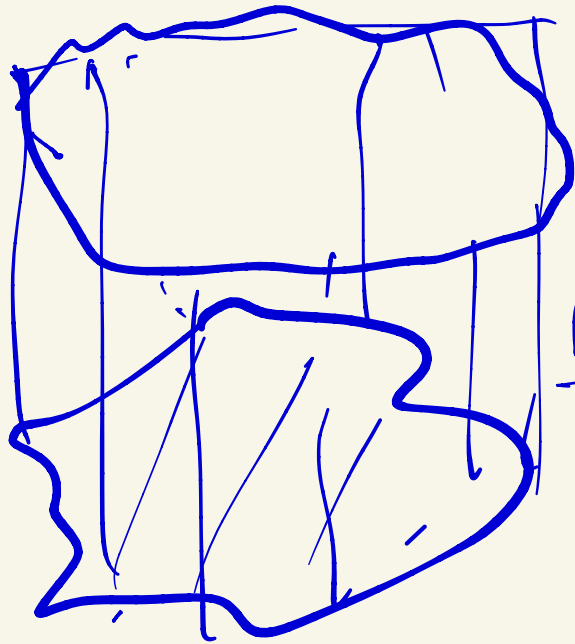
$= 0$

Reduce to  $2 \times 2$  matrix det.

In general: reduce  $(n \times n)$  to  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$ .

Extension of high school

Volume formula,



height x Area

3D volume

↓ relation

2D area

# Computing Each Term: Reduce Size

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & & \\ & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} & a_{12} & \\ a_{21} & & \\ a_{31} & & \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} & & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & \end{vmatrix}.$$

1st term

(Req2) Building block: Compute the "volume" of simpler matrices

基本单元

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

same shape of  $\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 & 0 \\ x & + & x \\ x & + & x \end{pmatrix}$

0 pr rate

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & x & x \\ a_{32} & x & x \end{vmatrix} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

Operation:

Column exchange

# Desired Property 3: Swapping Columns

## Desired Property P3:

Swapping columns  $\rightarrow$  *changes the sign of* the determinant.

Check  $n=2$ :  $\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \equiv ad - bc = - \begin{vmatrix} b & a \\ d & c \end{vmatrix} = -(bc - ad)$ .

*relation* *negative*

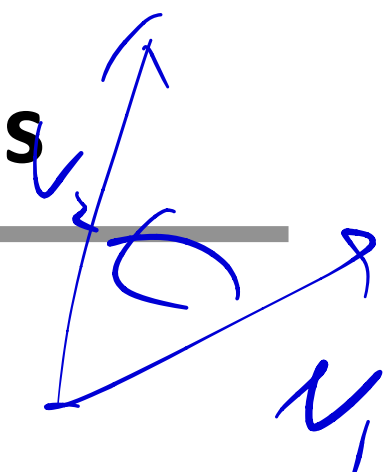
Not that we enforce P3, but P3 needs to be this form.

Otherwise, contradict definition of  $n=2$ .

## Apply to $n=3$ :

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & \text{---} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & \text{---} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \equiv \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{23} & \text{---} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} & \text{---} \end{bmatrix} = -a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

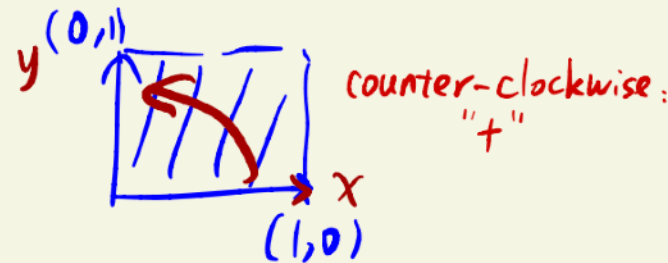
# Geometry Interpretation of Swapping Columns



$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc,$$

→ "area"

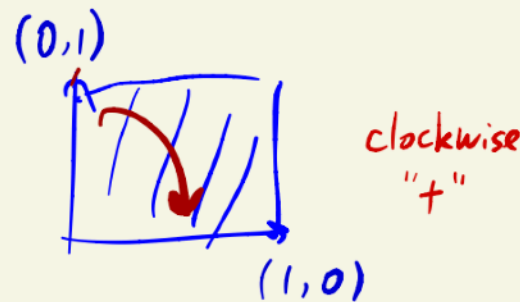
E.g.  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1.$



$$\det[\underline{e}_1, \underline{e}_2] = 1 \quad +$$

+

E.g.  $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -1$



$$\det[e_2, e_1] = -1, \quad -$$

-

order matters.

Two determinants are different;  
 Both are rectangulars formed by  $e_1, e_2$ .  
 How to differentiate?

**New interpretation: Oriented Area**

(↺ ↻ ↻ ↻ ↻)

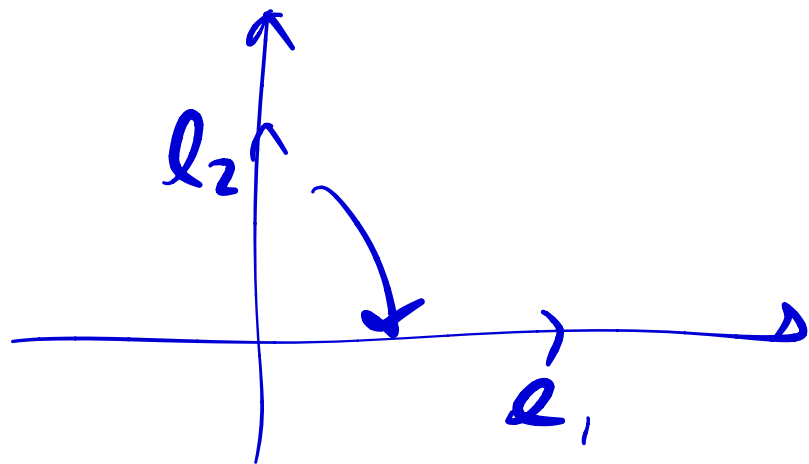
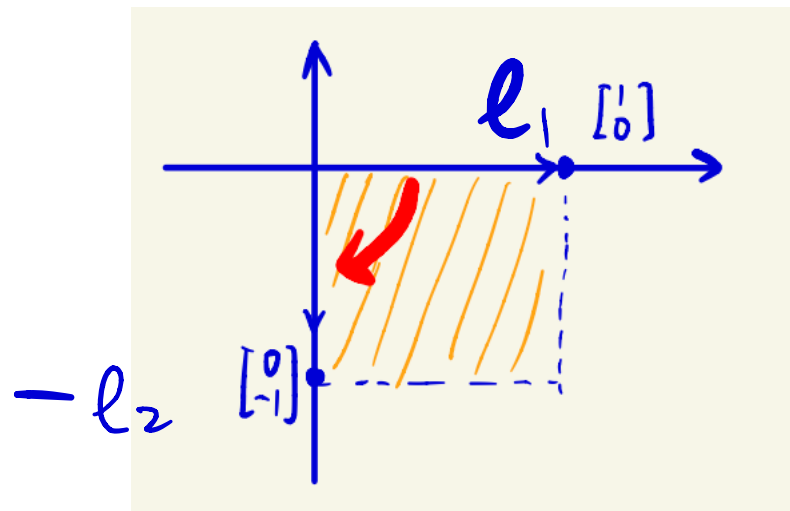


# Geometry Interpretation of Swapping Columns

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = -1, \quad \det [e_1, -e_2] = -1.$$

Two column vectors  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  form a square with area 1.

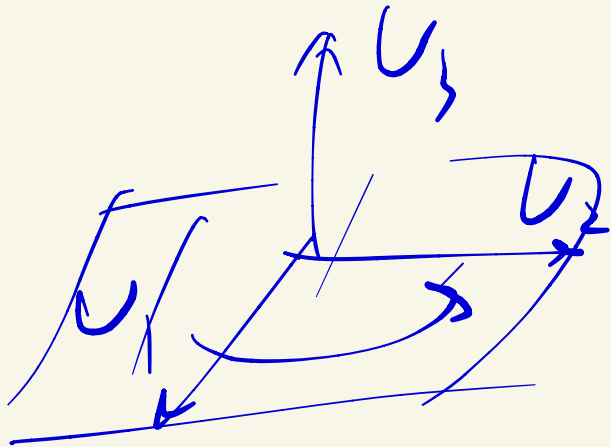
Under the new interpretation: oriented area = -1



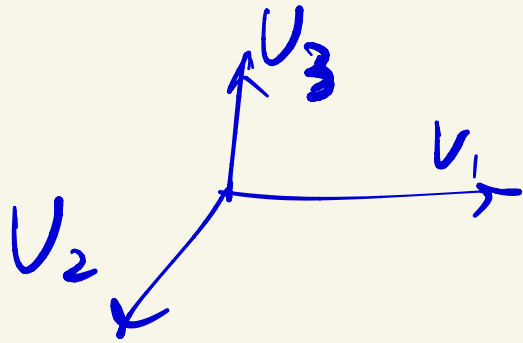
$e_1 \rightarrow -e_2$   
clockwise.

$$\begin{aligned} \det (e_1, -e_2) \\ = \det (e_2, e_1) \end{aligned}$$

# 3D Case (orientation)



$$\det(e_1, e_2, e_3) = 1.$$



$$\det(e_2, e_1, e_3) = -1$$

Sth you learned  
before (NOT  
in math class).

Right-hand rule,

↓  
Biology

# Third Term: Swapping Columns Once → \_\_\_\_\_

2nd term:

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{12} & a_{23} \\ a_{21} & a_{33} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{23} \\ a_{21} & a_{33} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = -a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

3rd term:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} a_{13} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{23} & a_{22} & a_{21} \\ a_{33} & a_{32} & a_{31} \end{vmatrix} = -a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{21} \\ a_{32} & a_{31} \end{vmatrix} = a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix}$$

# Wrap-up: Compute Determinant for n=3

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \stackrel{①}{=} \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

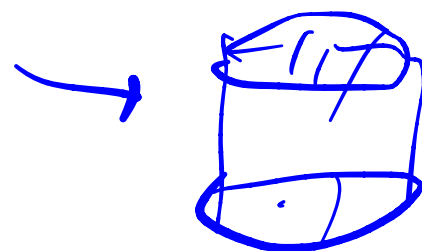
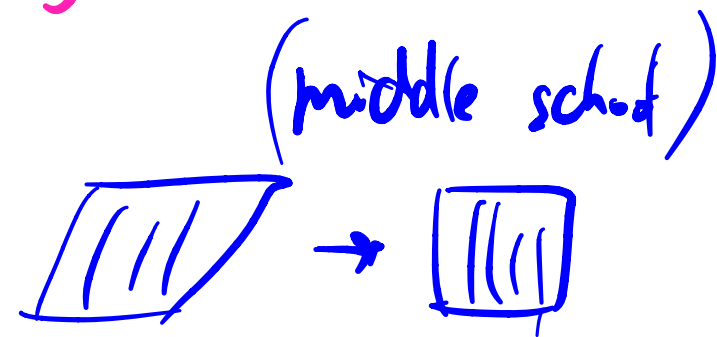
$$\stackrel{②}{=} a_{11} \begin{vmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} - a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} + a_{13} \begin{vmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{vmatrix}$$

alternating sign (交错符号)

Key idea.

① Reduce to simpler forms. (orthogonal vec)

② Reduce to smaller size.



height x area  
(high school)

# Understanding via Simplification Framework

(Req1) **Relate**  $A$  to simpler matrices  $B_i$ .

简化

$$\begin{bmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ a_{21} & \times & \times \\ a_{31} & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \times & 0 & 0 \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix}$$

(Req2) **Building block**: Compute the "volume" of simpler matrices

基本单元

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_{12} & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{vmatrix} = a_{12} \begin{vmatrix} \times & \times \\ \times & \times \end{vmatrix}$$

②

(Req3) **Original-Unit Property**: Relation of  $\det(A)$  and  $\det(B_i)$ .

原始-单元关系

$$\begin{vmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ a_{21} & \times & \times \\ a_{31} & \times & \times \end{vmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \times & 0 & 0 \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{bmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \\ \times & \times & \times \end{vmatrix}$$

# To generalize: Notation of Cofactor

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \boxed{a_{11}} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\
 a_{21} & \boxed{a_{22}} & \boxed{a_{23}} \\
 a_{31} & \boxed{a_{32}} & \boxed{a_{33}}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 a_{11} & \boxed{a_{12}} & a_{13} \\
 \boxed{a_{21}} & a_{22} & \boxed{a_{23}} \\
 \boxed{a_{31}} & a_{32} & \boxed{a_{33}}
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 a_{11} & a_{12} & \boxed{a_{13}} \\
 \boxed{a_{21}} & \boxed{a_{22}} & a_{23} \\
 \boxed{a_{31}} & \boxed{a_{32}} & a_{33}
 \end{array}$$

$M_{11}$ 
 $M_{12}$ 
 $M_{13}$

Rewrite the formula:

Denote  $M_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$  = matrix obtained by deleting  
1st row & 1st column

Cofactor  
of  $a_{11}$

$M_{12} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{21} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$  = matrix obtained by deleting  
1st row & 2nd column of  $M$

Cofactor  
of  $a_{12}$

$M_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} \end{bmatrix}$  =  
1st row & 3rd column of  $M$ .

Cofactor  
of  $a_{13}$

$$\det(A) = a_{11}|M_{11}| - a_{12}|M_{12}| + a_{13}|M_{13}|.$$

# How to DEFINE $\det(\cdot)$ ?

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ x & \dots & & x \\ \vdots & & & \\ x & & & x \end{pmatrix}$$

(volume)

Recursive def.

(递归定义)

should be

$$\det(M_{11}) \cdot a_{11} - a_{12} \det(M_{12})$$

→ enough

$$+ a_{13} \det(M_{13}) + a_{14} \det(M_{14})$$

$$\dots + (-1)^{1+n} a_{1n} \det(M_{1n}) \quad \textcircled{1}$$

$$\det(M_{11}) = a_{22} \det(\hat{M}_{22}) - a_{23} \det(\hat{M}_{23}) + \dots$$

same principle  $\Rightarrow$  ①

cofactor of  $a_{22}$  in  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix  $M$

Recurive in Python / C, ... →

$n!$

$$n! = (n-1)! \cdot n$$



# Definition of $\det(A)$

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a real square matrix

Denote by  $M_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$  a matrix formed by deleting the  $i$ -th row and  $j$ -th column of  $A$ , called cofactor of  $a_{ij}$

## Definition 18.1 (Determinant)

For a scalar  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , define  $\det(\alpha) = \alpha$ .

For any  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  with  $n \geq 2$  define

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{1+j} \det(M_{1j}) a_{1j} = a_{11} \det(M_{11}) - a_{12} \det(M_{12}) - \dots$$

This is a recursive definition! [递归方式的定义]

Can expand along any row.  $= (-1)^{k+1} a_{k1} \det(M_{k1}) + (-1)^{k+2} \det(M_{k2}) a_{k2} + \dots$

$\underbrace{M_{ij}}_{\text{cofactor of } a_{ij}}$

Property: (Expand along any row & col)

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{k+j} \det(M_{kj}) a_{kj}.$$

[ This can be proved from the definition;  
skip the proof ]

# Properties

**It is not hard to verify:**

$\det()$  defined in Definition 18.1 satisfy the two desired properties.

**Property P0 [transpose]**  $\det(A^T) = \det(A)$ .

**Property P1 [row/column-linear]**

The determinant is a linear function of each row & each col.

**Property P2: [row/column exchange]**

Swapping columns or rows change the sign of the determinant.

# Examples of the Laplace Expansion

## Example

$$|A| = \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} = ad - bc$$

$$|A| = \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = a \begin{vmatrix} e & f \\ h & i \end{vmatrix} - b \begin{vmatrix} d & f \\ g & i \end{vmatrix} + c \begin{vmatrix} d & e \\ g & h \end{vmatrix}$$
$$= aei + bfg + cdh - ceg - bdi - afh$$

6 terms

# Examples of the Laplace Expansion

## Example

Evaluate

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 0 & 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$


$$(-1)^{5 \cdot 2} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \cdot (-1)^{6 \cdot 3} \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = -2 \cdot 3 \cdot (10 - 12) = 12$$

$(-1)^{1+4}$

expand along any rows & columns.







# Summary Today (Write Your Own)

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**One sentence summary:**

**Detailed summary:**

# Review Questions

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How many **properties** do we have today?

What are they?

Which ones are most nontrivial **in your opinion**?

Why do we study determinant?

Do you ~~know~~ something that you don't know before?

What is it?

## **Advanced questions:**

If you were to compute the “volume”, how would you compute it?

Can you think of a different approach (different from using Property P1)?

# Summary Today (Write Your Own)

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## One sentence summary:

We learned determinants.

## Detailed summary:

### Motivation:

- $ad - bc \neq 0$  is a simple criterion for invertibility.
- To extend it, we notice it indicates “area” of parallelogram.
- Motivating question: how to compute/define “volume” of polytope?

### Computing “volume”:

- Overall idea: “Simplification” framework
- Properties: linear over rows/columns; swapping columns changes sign.
- Definition: Laplacian expansion over 1st row.

### Properties:

- $\det(AB) = \det(A) \det(B)$
- $\det(A) \neq 0$  iff  $A$  is invertible