

Finishing Chapter 3. Next chapter is Chapter 6. We'll come back to chapter 5 and then finish with 7.

Cramer's Rule:

Definition of determinant $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

$$\det A = \sum_{i=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det A_{ij} \quad \text{expanding on column } j$$

or

$$\det A = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{i+j} a_{ij} \det A_{ij} \quad \text{expanding on row } i$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & a_{14} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & a_{24} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & a_{34} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} & a_{44} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(-1)^5 = -1$$

$$\det A = a_{13} \det A_{13} - a_{23} \det A_{23} + a_{33} \det A_{33} - a_{43} \det A_{43}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} a_{13} \\ a_{23} \\ a_{33} \\ a_{43} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \det A_{13} \\ -\det A_{23} \\ \det A_{33} \\ -\det A_{43} \end{bmatrix}$$

↑
column of A

↑
something else

The determinant of A is equal to the dot product of a column of A with something else.

Conclusion is that $\det A$ is a linear function of any column. That is,

$$\det A = f \left(\begin{bmatrix} a_{13} \\ a_{23} \\ a_{33} \\ a_{43} \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} \det A_{13} & -\det A_{23} & \det A_{33} & -\det A_{43} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} a_{13} \\ a_{23} \\ a_{33} \\ a_{43} \end{bmatrix}$$

Example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

I know $\det A$ is a linear function of that column...

$$\det A = -3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 5 & 7 \end{bmatrix} + 4 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 7 \end{bmatrix} - 6 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} -14 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = -42 + 28 = -14.$$

$$\frac{42}{28} \\ \hline 14$$

PROOF Denote the columns of A by $\mathbf{a}_1, \dots, \mathbf{a}_n$ and the columns of the $n \times n$ identity matrix I by $\mathbf{e}_1, \dots, \mathbf{e}_n$. If $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$, the definition of matrix multiplication shows that

$$A(I_i(\mathbf{x})) = A[\mathbf{e}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{x} \ \cdots \ \mathbf{e}_n] = [A\mathbf{e}_1 \ \cdots \ A\mathbf{x} \ \cdots \ A\mathbf{e}_n]$$

$$= [\mathbf{a}_1 \ \cdots \ \mathbf{b} \ \cdots \ \mathbf{a}_n] = A_i(\mathbf{b})$$

By the multiplicative property of determinants,

$$(\det A)(\det I_i(\mathbf{x})) = \det A_i(\mathbf{b})$$

The second determinant on the left is simply x_i . (Make a cofactor expansion along the i th row.) Hence $(\det A) x_i = \det A_i(\mathbf{b})$. This proves (1) because A is invertible and $\det A \neq 0$. ■

$I_i(\mathbf{x})$ ← means take the matrix I and replace the i th column with the vector \mathbf{x} .

Suppose $n=3$, then

$$I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$I_2(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & 0 \\ 0 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Q: what is $\det I_2(\mathbf{x})$?

Seems reasonable to expand on the second column... BUT

even better expand the 2nd row...

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & 0 \\ 0 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = -0 \det \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} + x_2 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 0 \det \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} = x_2$$

Q: What is $\det I_3(x)$? expand on 3rd row

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & x_1 \\ 0 & 1 & x_2 \\ 0 & 0 & x_3 \end{bmatrix} = 0 \det \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} - 0 \det \begin{bmatrix} ? \\ ? \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = x_3$$

Q: What is $A I_2(x)$?

standard basis vectors...

$$A I_2(x) = A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 & 0 \\ 0 & x_2 & 0 \\ 0 & x_3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \approx A \begin{bmatrix} e_1 & x & e_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A e_1 & A x & A e_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} A e_1 & b & A e_3 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & b & a_3 \end{bmatrix} = A_2(b)$$

$$A I_2(x) = A_2(b)$$

If $A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \end{bmatrix}$ then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Cramer's rule puts this all together...

$$A I_j(x) = A_j(b) \quad \text{for any column } j$$

$$\det(A I_j(x)) = \det A_j(b)$$

$$(\det A) (\det I_j(x)) = \det A_j(b)$$

$$(\det A) x_j = \det A_j(b)$$

$$x_j = \frac{\det A_j(b)}{\det A}$$

Cramer's rule...

If trying to solve $Ax=b$

Note: The advantage of Cramer's rule is that it's an explicit formula for the solution of $Ax=b$.

This is not an efficient way to find x , but it could have theoretical uses...

Cramer's Rule

Let A be an invertible $n \times n$ matrix. For any b in \mathbb{R}^n , the unique solution x of $Ax = b$ has entries given by

$$x_i = \frac{\det A_i(b)}{\det A}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n \quad (1)$$

Use Cramer's rule to find an explicit formula for A^{-1} .
To know the matrix corresponding to A^{-1} I need to know

$$Av_1 = e_1, \quad Av_2 = e_2, \quad \dots, \quad Av_n = e_n$$

Then

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix}$$

↑ solve all of these using Cramer's rule to find A^{-1} explicitly...

Example $n=3$

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \det A_1(e_1) & \det A_1(e_2) & \det A_1(e_3) \\ \det A_2(e_1) & \det A_2(e_2) & \det A_2(e_3) \\ \det A_3(e_1) & \det A_3(e_2) & \det A_3(e_3) \end{bmatrix} / \det A$$

almost done, but these determinants can be simplified...

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det A_2(e_3) =$$

column

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & 0 & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & 1 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = -1 \det \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

expand on 2nd column.

these turn out to be the cofactors of A