

Cramer's rule, inverse matrix, and volume

Many applications of det. Let's see how it is used!

Formula for A^{-1}

For 2×2 :

$$\text{we know } \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\underline{ad-bc}} \begin{bmatrix} \underline{d} & \underline{-b} \\ \underline{-c} & \underline{a} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\det A$ involves cofactors of A

$$(C_{11} = \det(d) = d, C_{12} = -c, C_{21} = -b$$

$$C_{22} = a \Rightarrow \text{cofactor matrix } C = \begin{bmatrix} d & -c \\ -b & a \end{bmatrix})$$

Guess A^{-1} for general $n \times n$ matrix:

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det A} C^T \rightarrow (\text{product of } n-1 \text{ entries})$$

↓
(product of n entries)

(Now, it is possible that A^{-1} cancels with A)

$$(\text{For } 2 \times 2, A^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad-bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix})$$

(Much easier to see from this than elimination)

PJ of inverse formula:

Same as proving $AC^T = (\det A)I$

$$D = AC^T = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & \dots & c_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n1} & \dots & c_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$d_{11} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{1j} c_{j1} = \det A$$

\vdots

\vdots

$$d_{nn} = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{nj} c_{jn} = \det A$$

Next, we want to show that all off-diagonal terms are zero

Say, row 2 of A & row 1 of C
(col 1 of C^T)

$$d_{21} = a_{21}c_{11} + a_{22}c_{12} + \dots + a_{2n}c_{1n}$$

This is cofactor rule of a new matrix A^{21}

$$A' = \begin{bmatrix} a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

Obviously, $\det A' = 0$

In general,

$$d_{ij} = a_{i1}c_{j1} + a_{i2}c_{j2} + \dots + a_{in}c_{jn}$$

\det of A^{ij} (replace j th row of A by

$$\Rightarrow \det A^{\hat{i}\hat{j}} = 0 \quad \text{for all } \hat{i} \neq \hat{j} \quad (\hat{i} \text{th row of } A)$$

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

(This formula helps answer how inverse changes when the matrix changes)

Cramer's rule for $\underline{x} = A^{-1} \underline{b}$

If A is nonsingular & $A \underline{x} = \underline{b}$, then

$$\underline{x} = A^{-1} \underline{b}$$

Applying inverse formula $A^{-1} = C^T / \det A$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{x} = C^T \underline{b} / \det A$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow x_j &= b_1 C_{1j} + b_2 C_{2j} + \dots + b_n C_{nj} \\ &= \det B_j / \det A \end{aligned}$$

where we get B_j from A by replacing the j th col. from \underline{b}

(Usually less efficient than Elimination but more insights)

$|\det A| = \text{volume of box}$

Claim: $|\det A| = \text{volume of box}$
whose edges are the row vectors
of A (or col. vector since $\det A = \det A^T$)

Pf: Show that volume of box satisfies
property 1-3 of $|\det A|$

property 1: If $A = I$, the box is a
unit cube $\Rightarrow \text{vol.} = 1 = |\det I|$

(If $A = Q$, the box is a unit cube
with diff. orientation & $\text{vol.} = 1 = |\det Q|$)

($\because Q$ is an orthogonal matrix $\Rightarrow Q^T Q = I$
 $\Rightarrow (\det Q)^2 = 1 \Rightarrow \det Q = \pm 1$)

property 2: exchanging two rows of
 A does NOT change the vol. & $|\det A|$

property 3:

chk 2×2 first:

$$\begin{vmatrix} t x_1 + y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \\ y_1 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} ?$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} x_1 + x_1' & y_1 + y_1' \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} x_1' & y_1' \\ x_2 & y_2 \end{vmatrix} ?$$

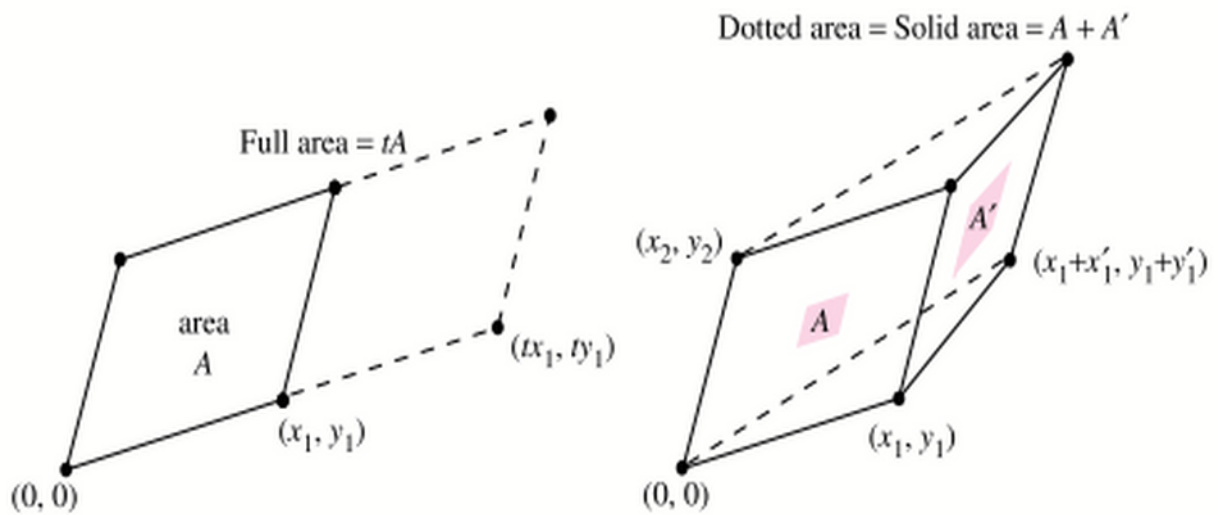


Figure 36: Areas obey the rule of linearity (keeping the side (x_2, y_2) constant).

Can be generalized to n dim box, e.g.,
 3×3

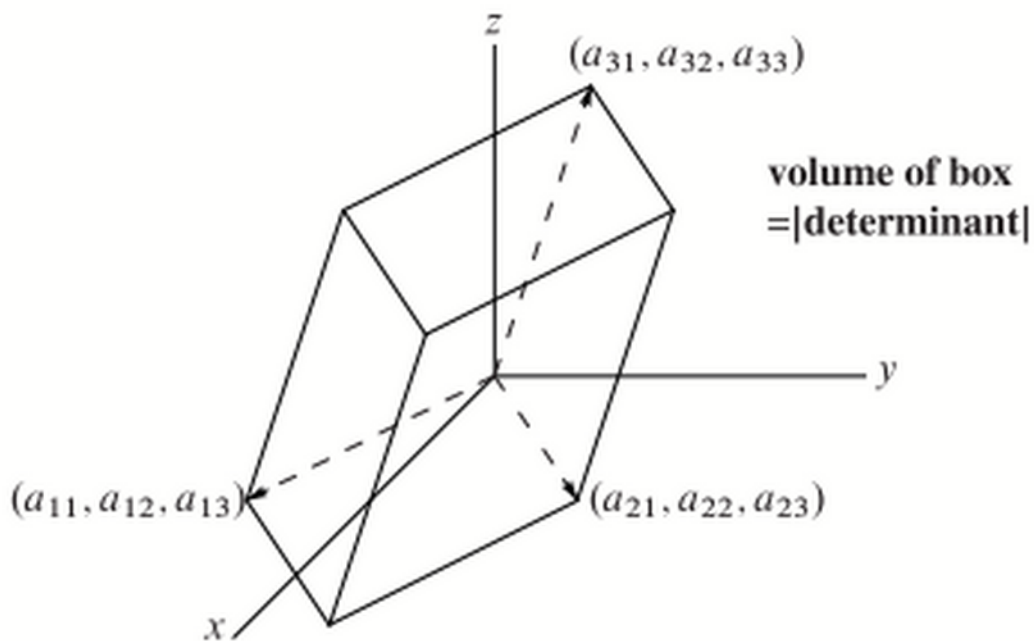


Figure 37: Three-dimensional box formed from the three rows of A .

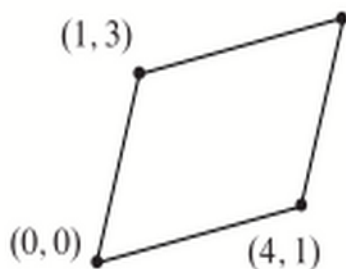
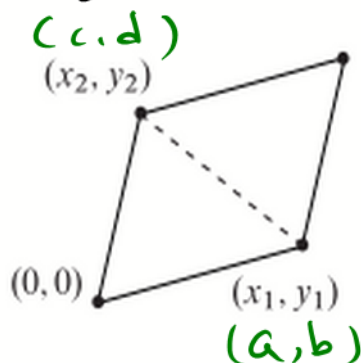
Interesting to see! (not nec. for our proof)

If two edges of a box are equal, the box flattens out \Rightarrow vol. = 0 (property 4)

Important note :

If you know the corners of a box, then computing vol. is as easy as computing det

Ex :



Parallelogram

$$\text{Area} = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 11$$

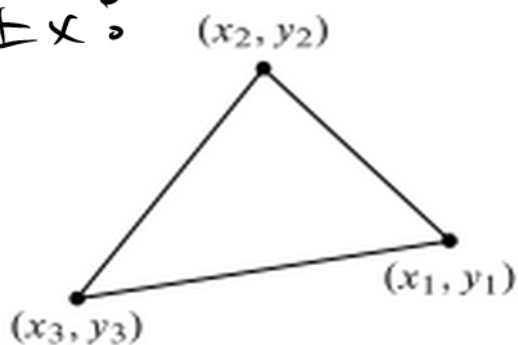
$$\text{Triangle: Area} = \frac{11}{2}$$

Figure 35: A triangle is half of a parallelogram. Area is half of a determinant.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{area of parallelogram} &= \left| \det \begin{vmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{vmatrix} \right| \\ &= |ad - bc| \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{area of triangle} = \frac{1}{2} |ad - bc|$$

Ex :



general triangle

$$\text{Area} = \frac{1}{2} \left| \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \right|$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 & y_2 & 1 \\ x_3 & y_3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} x_1 & y_1 & 1 \\ x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 & 0 \\ x_3 - x_1 & y_3 - y_1 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} x_2 - x_1 & y_2 - y_1 \\ x_3 - x_1 & y_3 - y_1 \end{vmatrix} \quad (\text{shift } (x_1, y_1) \text{ to origin})$$