

## Linear Algebra

Linear algebra originated in methods to solve systems of linear equations. Consider these three equations in three unknowns,  $x, y$  &  $z$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 2x - y + z &= 3 \\ -x + 3y - z &= 2 \\ x + 2y + z &= 8 \end{aligned} \quad \text{Check that the solution is: } x = 1, y = 2, z = 3.$$

If one replaces the system with the “augmented matrix” and does these row operations ( $r_1 = \text{row}\#1$ ) to put it in **reduced row echelon form (rref)**:

$$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{cccc|c} x & y & z & & : \\ \hline 2 & -1 & 1 & 3 & \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 2 & \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 8 & \end{array} \\ \xrightarrow{\begin{array}{l} r_1=r_1+r_2; \quad r_2=r_2+r_3; \quad r_3=r_3-r_1; \\ (1/5)r_2; \quad r_1=r_1-(2)r_2 \end{array}} \\ \begin{array}{cccc|c} x & y & z & & : \\ \hline 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & \end{array} \end{array}$$

It yields the same solution by matching the diagonal 1's with the last column.

This system has no solution. The third row says:  $0x + 0y + 0z = 1$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} 2x - y + z = 3 \\ -x + 3y - z = 2 \\ x + 2y + z = 8 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & 1 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 8 \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 2/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

This system has infinitely many solutions with  $x + (2/5)z = 0$  and  $y - (1/5)z = 0$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} 2x - y + z = 0 \\ -x + 3y - z = 0 \\ x + 2y + z = 0 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \longrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 2/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

or, for any number  $a$ , a solution is  $x = (-2/5)a, y = (1/5)a, z = a$ .

## Vector and Matrix Concepts

Define an  $m \times n$  **matrix** to be an array of numbers with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns.

A  $n \times 1$  matrix is a **column vector**. A  $1 \times n$  matrix is a **row vector**.

Let all  $m \times n$  matrices be denoted  $R^{m,n}$ .

Let  $R^n$  be either all  $n \times 1$  or  $1 \times n$ .

As examples:

$$\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij}) \quad \text{For } 3 \times 4 \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 & 5 \\ -4 & 0 & -2 & 3 \\ -1 & -5 & 4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{then } \begin{matrix} a_{12} = 1, \\ a_{23} = -2, \\ a_{34} = 0. \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathbf{B} = (b_{ij}) \quad \text{For } 4 \times 2 \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -4 & 0 \\ -1 & -5 \\ 3 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{then } \begin{matrix} b_{11} = 2, \\ b_{32} = -5. \end{matrix}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = (x_i) \quad \text{For } 4 \times 1 \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \cdot \quad \mathbf{Y} = (y_j) \quad \text{For } 1 \times 4 \mathbf{Y} = [3 \ 2 \ 1 \ 5].$$

The subscripted numbers are called the **components**. The **transpose** of a  $m \times n$  matrix,  $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})$ , is the  $n \times m$  matrix,  $\mathbf{A}^T = (a_{ji})$ . The “ $m \times n$ ” is the **shape**.

**Scalar multiplication** multiplies a matrix a real number,  $\sigma$ ,  $\sigma \mathbf{A} = (\sigma \cdot a_{ij})$ .

**Matrix addition** adds matrices of the same shape:  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = (a_{ij} + b_{ij})$ .

**Matrix multiplication** multiplies a  $m \times p$  times a  $p \times n$  to yield a  $m \times n$  :

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \left( \sum_{k=1}^p a_{ik} \cdot b_{kj} \right). \quad (\text{Important: } \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} \neq \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{A})$$

**Laws of Matrices (  $\mathbf{0}$  = all zero matrix ):**

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} = \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A} ; \quad \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{A} ; \quad \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0} \cdot \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$(\sigma \mathbf{A}) \cdot \mathbf{B} = \sigma(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot (\sigma \mathbf{B}) ;$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C}) \quad (\text{associative});$$

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} + \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C} \quad \text{and} \quad (\mathbf{B} + \mathbf{C}) \cdot \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{A} \quad (\text{distributive}).$$

Using the above:

$$\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A} = 2\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -6 & 10 \\ -8 & 0 & -4 & 6 \\ -2 & -10 & 8 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using the above:  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 18 & 7 \\ 3 & 0 \\ 14 & -21 \end{pmatrix}$  where 1,2<sup>th</sup> entry is 7 =  
 $2(1) + 1(0) + (-3)(-5) + 5(-2)$ ,  
 across 1<sup>st</sup> row, down 2<sup>nd</sup> column.

Using the above:  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 31 \\ 12 \\ -24 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{Y} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -11 & -12 \end{pmatrix}$ .

## Linear Independence and Bases

Given  $k$  vectors of shape  $n$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \dots, \mathbf{X}_k$ , a linear combination is a sum:

$$\sigma_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + \sigma_2 \mathbf{X}_2 + \dots + \sigma_k \mathbf{X}_k,$$

for scalars  $\sigma_j$ . All linear combinations form the Spanning Space,  $SS\{\mathbf{X}_j\}$ .

The  $k$  vectors are said to be linearly dependent if there is a linear combination of them equal to the zero vector with some of the scalars non-zero. If not linear dependent, they are called linearly independent. If  $k > n$ , then the vectors must be dependent. To check for independence when  $k \leq n$ , arrange the vectors as rows in a  $k \times n$  matrix and calculate **rref**. If some row in **rref** is zero, the vectors are dependent. A Spanning Space of  $k$  independent vectors has dimension  $k$ .

A set of  $n$  linearly independent vectors of shape  $n$  is called a fundamental set or basis. Given a basis, any vector is a unique linearly combination of the vectors in the basis. Given basis,  $\{\mathbf{X}_j\}$ , of vectors and any vector,  $\mathbf{Y}$ , there are  $n$  unique  $\{\sigma_j\}$ :

$$\mathbf{Y} = \sigma_1 \mathbf{X}_1 + \sigma_2 \mathbf{X}_2 + \dots + \sigma_n \mathbf{X}_n.$$

The **standard basis** for  $\mathbf{R}^{m,n}$  ( and  $\mathbf{R}^n$  ) are those matrices with a single coordinate equal to  $\mathbf{1}$  and the rest equal to  $\mathbf{0}$ .  $\mathbf{R}^n$  has dimension  $n$  and  $\mathbf{R}^{m,n}$  has dimension  $mn$ . For any given  $\mathbf{Y}$ , the  $\{\sigma_j\}$  for the standard basis are its coordinates.

To find the  $\{\sigma_j\}$  for some given  $\mathbf{Y}$  relative to a non-standard basis  $\{\mathbf{X}_j\}$ , arrange the basis as column vectors and  $\mathbf{Y}$  as the  $n+1^{\text{st}}$  column in a  $n \times n+1$  augmented matrix. The last column of the **rref** gives the  $\{\sigma_j\}$ .

## Linear Transformations and Matrices

Using matrix multiplication, a  $m \times n$  matrix,  $\mathbf{A}$ , defines a function:  $\mathbf{A}: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$ : for  $\mathbf{X}$  a  $n \times 1$  column vector,  $\mathbf{Y}$  as  $m \times 1$  column vector,  $\mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X}$ . Such a function is called a linear transformation. It is linear in that it satisfies:

$$\mathbf{A}(\alpha \mathbf{X} + \beta \mathbf{Y}) = \mathbf{A} \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{X} + \beta \mathbf{Y}) = \alpha \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X} + \beta \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = \alpha \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{X}) + \beta \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{Y}), \text{ for scalars } \alpha \text{ \& } \beta.$$

Composition of these matrix functions is the matrix which results from matrix multiplication:  $(\mathbf{A} \circ \mathbf{B})(\mathbf{X}) = \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{B}(\mathbf{X})) = \mathbf{A} \cdot (\mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{X}) = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}) \cdot \mathbf{X}$ .

For matrix **A**: **row space** is the spanning space of its row vectors,  
**column space** is the spanning space of its column vectors,  
**null space** (or **kernel**) is all vectors **X** with **A•X = 0**.

The row space and null space are subspaces of  $R^n$  and the column space of  $R^m$ .

A basis for row space are the non-zero vectors in **rref** for **A**.

A basis for column space are the non-zero vectors in **rref** for  $A^T$ .

A basis for null space may be constructed by solving **A•X = 0** using **rref**.

**Theorem:** Any  $m \times n$  matrix, **A**:  $R^n \rightarrow R^m$ , has **domain** =  $R^n$  and

(i) The dimensions of the row space and column space are equal (= **rank(A)**);

(ii) The column space is the **range** of  $A \subseteq R^m$ ;

(iii) For any vector **X** in  $R^n$ , there are unique  $X_r$  in row space,  $X_n$  in null space with  $X = X_n + X_r$ , and thus  $n = \text{dim}(\text{row space}) + \text{dim}(\text{null space})$ .

(iv) **A**: row space  $\rightarrow$  column space is 1-1 and onto (**injective** and **surjective**).

### Square Matrices

A square matrix is an  $n \times n$  matrix and defines a function **A**:  $R^n \rightarrow R^n$ . The **identity** matrix, **I**, is a square matrix with 1's on the diagonal:

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

For all appropriate **A** & **X**, **I** satisfies:  
**I•A = A = A•I** & **I•X = X** & **Y•I = Y**.

A square matrix, **A**, is **invertible** (1-1 and onto) if it has an inverse matrix,  $A^{-1}$ , with the property:

$$A^{-1} \cdot A = A \cdot A^{-1} = I.$$

For example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3/5 & -2/5 \\ 0 & 1/5 & 1/5 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**RREF:**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3/5 & -2/5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1/5 & 1/5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Theorem:** A square  $n \times n$  matrix, **A**, has an inverse **iff** (if and only if) **A** is **bijective** **iff** row vectors are independent **iff** column vectors are independent **iff** **A** has rank= $n$  **iff**  $\det(A) \neq 0$  (see below for  $\det$  = determinant) **iff** **A•X = Y** has a unique solution for all **Y** **iff** the only solution of **A•X = 0** is **X = 0**.

## Inverse Matrices, Determinants and Solving Systems

If one expands the definition of matrix multiplication:

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{Y} \quad \text{becomes} \quad \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = y_1 \\ \dots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = y_n \end{array}$$

a system of  $n$  linear equations. Suppose  $\mathbf{Y}$  is known but  $\mathbf{X}$  is not. To solve this system is to find  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  since, applying  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$  to both sides we obtain:  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{Y}$ .

Alternatively, the unique solution,  $\mathbf{X}$ , is given by **Cramer's Rule**:

$$x_k = \frac{\det(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{Y})}{\det(\mathbf{A})} ; \text{ where } (\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{k}, \mathbf{Y}) \text{ is } \mathbf{A} \text{ with the } \mathbf{Y} \text{ in } k\text{th column.}$$

### TI-83 and TI-84 Calculators Do Matrix Calculations ( $2^{\text{nd}}$ - $\mathbf{x}^{-1} = 2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix)

To create or edit a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix (choose Edit, choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ); Enter shape and #'s;  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -mode= $2^{\text{nd}}$ -quit.

To calculate determinants,  $\det(\mathbf{A})$ :

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose Math, choose  $\det$ );  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ).

To calculate transposes,  $\mathbf{A}^T$ :

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose Math, choose  $\mathbf{T}$ );  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ).

To calculate inverses,  $\mathbf{A}^{-1}$ :

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ); " $\mathbf{x}^{-1}$ ".

To calculate reduced row echelon form,  $\mathbf{rref}(\mathbf{A})$ :

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose Math, choose  $\mathbf{rref}$ );  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ).

To calculate  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B}$  ( $\mathbf{A}$  is  $n \times m$  &  $\mathbf{B}$  is  $n \times m$ ):

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ); "+";  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{B}$ ).

To calculate  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{B}$  ( $\mathbf{A}$  is  $n \times p$  &  $\mathbf{B}$  is  $p \times m$ ):

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ); "x";  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{B}$ ).

To solve for  $\mathbf{C}$  in  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{D}$ ;

Create  $\mathbf{A}$ (as  $n \times n$ ) and  $\mathbf{D}$ (as  $n \times k$ ); (usually  $k = 1$ )

$2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{A}$ ); " $\mathbf{x}^{-1}$ "; "x";  $2^{\text{nd}}$ -matrix(choose  $\mathbf{D}$ ).

## Metric Structure on Vectors (all vectors are column vectors in standard basis)

One may view a vector as a column matrix of numbers, or as the coordinates of a point in **n-dimensional** space,  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Picturing an **arrow** from the origin to the point, one may view the vector as having **length** and **direction**. These are scalars defined using the **dot or inner or scalar product**. Let:

$$\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X}^T \cdot \mathbf{Y}, \text{ the inner or dot product, and, } \mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{X} = \|\mathbf{X}\|^2.$$

Call  $\|\mathbf{X}\|$  the **norm** or **magnitude** or **length** of  $\mathbf{X}$ . A **unit vector**,  $\mathbf{U}$ , has  $\|\mathbf{U}\|=1$ .

For  $\mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{0}$  any vector,  $\mathbf{U} = \frac{\mathbf{X}}{\|\mathbf{X}\|}$  is a unit vector in the same direction.

The **distance** between (the endpoints of) two vectors is  $\mathbf{d}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}\|$ .

The **angle** between two vectors,  $\theta$ , is given by:

$$\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = \|\mathbf{X}\| \|\mathbf{Y}\| \cos(\theta) \quad \text{or} \quad \cos(\theta) = \frac{\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y}}{\|\mathbf{X}\| \|\mathbf{Y}\|}.$$

If  $\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{X}$  &  $\mathbf{Y}$  are called **orthogonal** (or perpendicular, since  $\cos(\pi/2) = 0$ .)

Projection of  $\mathbf{X}$  onto  $\mathbf{Y}$  is:  $\text{proj}_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{X}) = \frac{\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y}}{\|\mathbf{Y}\|^2} \mathbf{Y}$

**Laws of Inner Products:** (i)  $\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{Y} \cdot \mathbf{X}$  (ii)  $c(\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y}) = (c\mathbf{X}) \cdot \mathbf{Y}$   
(iii)  $\mathbf{X} \cdot (\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Z}) = \mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Z}$

**Theorems:** (i)  $\|\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{X}\|^2 + 2\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} + \|\mathbf{Y}\|^2$  (Law of Cosines)  
(ii)  $|\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y}| \leq \|\mathbf{X}\| \|\mathbf{Y}\|$  (Cauchy-Swartz)  
(iii)  $\|\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}\| \leq \|\mathbf{X}\| + \|\mathbf{Y}\|$  (Triangle Inequality)  
(iv) if  $\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y} = 0$  then  $\|\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{X}\|^2 + \|\mathbf{Y}\|^2$  (Pythagorus)

The dot product is a scalar. In  $\mathbf{R}^3$ , one may also define the **vector or cross or outer product** of two vectors, which is another vector.

$$\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V} = \begin{pmatrix} u_2v_3 - u_3v_2 \\ u_3v_1 - u_1v_3 \\ u_1v_2 - u_2v_1 \end{pmatrix} = (u_2v_3 - u_3v_2)\mathbf{i} + (u_3v_1 - u_1v_3)\mathbf{j} + (u_1v_2 - u_2v_1)\mathbf{k},$$

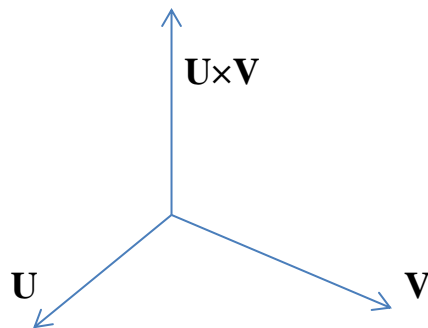
where  $\mathbf{i}=(1,0,0)$ ,  $\mathbf{j}=(0,1,0)$ ,  $\mathbf{k}=(0,0,1)$ .

Alternatively, view it as a formal determinant:  $= \det \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \end{pmatrix}$

**Laws of Cross Products:** (i)  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V} = -\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{U}$       (ii)  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{0}$       (iii)  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{0} = \mathbf{0}$   
 (iv)  $c(\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}) = (c\mathbf{U}) \times \mathbf{V}$     (v)  $\mathbf{U} \times (\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{W}) = \mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{W}$   
 (vi)  $\mathbf{U} \cdot (\mathbf{V} \times \mathbf{W}) = (\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}) \cdot \mathbf{W}$

**Theorems:** (i)  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}$  is orthogonal to both  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$ , and hence to their plane;  
 (ii) for  $\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{V} \neq \mathbf{0}$ ,  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{0}$  iff  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  are parallel;  
 (iii)  $\|\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}\| = \|\mathbf{U}\| \|\mathbf{V}\| \sin(\theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is angle between  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$ .

These may be interpreted as saying that  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}$  is a vector perpendicular to the plane spanned by  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  with magnitude equal to the area of the parallelogram they form. There are two choices for the direction of  $\mathbf{U} \times \mathbf{V}$ , and the convention chosen here is called the **right-hand rule**:



In 2-dimensional space, two orthogonal vectors,  $\mathbf{X}$  &  $\mathbf{Y}$ , form a rectangle with area  $= \|\mathbf{X}\| \|\mathbf{Y}\|$ . In 3-dimensional space, three mutually orthogonal vectors,  $\mathbf{X}$  &  $\mathbf{Y}$  &  $\mathbf{Z}$ , form a rectangular prism with volume  $= \|\mathbf{X}\| \|\mathbf{Y}\| \|\mathbf{Z}\|$ . By analogy, we may define the “hyper-volume” of a “hyper-prism” formed by  $n$  mutually orthogonal vectors in  $n$ -dimensional space to be the product of their norms.

For non-orthogonal vectors, the area, volume and hyper-volume of “slanted” parallelograms, parallelepipeds and hyper-parallelepipeds by the usual procedure of cutting and pasting triangular pieces, or, by forming a square matrix from the vectors and taking the absolute value of the determinant. For a linear transformation defined by a matrix,  $\mathbf{A}$ , the  $|\det(\mathbf{A})|$  is the factor by which  $\mathbf{A}$  expands the area, volume or hypervolume of a spanning set of vectors. This is the geometric interpretation of the **determinant**. The definition of  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  for  $2 \times 2$ :

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} ; \quad \det(\mathbf{A}) = ad - bc ; \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{\det(\mathbf{A})}$$

In n-dimensions, the formula for **det** is messy to define and messier to calculate.

## Abstract Vector Spaces and Linear Transformations

### Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

An  $n \times n$  matrix has an **eigenvalue**  $\lambda$  with **eigenvector**  $\mathbf{X}$  if:  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X} = \lambda \mathbf{X}$ . This means that the matrix (linear transformation)  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}$  is singular – and hence:  
 $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$ , which yields a polynomial of degree  $n$  in  $\lambda$ .

There will be  $n$  values of  $\lambda$  which satisfy this requirement. Those values of  $\lambda$  may be real or complex, and must be counted with multiplicity (Fundamental Theorem of Algebra). For a symmetric  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ , all eigenvalues are real.

$$\text{For: } \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 4 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda = 2, -1 \quad \mathbf{X}'\text{s are: } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{For: } \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda = 2, -1, -1 \quad \mathbf{X}'\text{s are: } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{For: } \begin{pmatrix} -1/2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1/2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \lambda = -1/2 \pm i \quad \mathbf{X}'\text{s are: } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$$