

Tutorial Sheet 3
Rank, Inverse And Determinants

1. Let A and B be two matrices. Then we have

- (a) if $A + B$ is defined, then $\text{rank}(A + B) \leq \text{rank}(A) + \text{rank}(B)$,
(b) if AB is defined, then $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(A)$ and $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(B)$.

2. If A and B are two $n \times n$ non-singular matrices, are the matrices $A + B$ and $A - B$ non-singular? Justify your answer.

Solution: The matrices $A + B$ and $A - B$ may or may not be non-singular.

If $A = I$, $B = I$ then $A + B = 2I$ and $A - B = 0$ which implies $A + B$ is non-singular but $A - B$ is singular.

If $A = I$, $B = -I$ then $A - B = 2I$ and $A + B = 0$ which implies $A - B$ is non-singular but $A + B$ is singular.

3. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. If the system $A^2x = 0$ has a non trivial solution then show that $Ax = 0$ also has a non trivial solution.

Solution: Suppose the system $A^2x = 0$ has a non trivial solution. Then $\det(A^2) = 0$ which also implies that $\det(A) = 0$. Thus the system $Ax = 0$ has a non trivial solution.

4. State whether each of the following statements is true or false. In each case give a brief reason.

- a) If A is an arbitrary matrix such that the system of equations $Ax = b$ has a unique solution for $b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ then the system has a unique solution for any three component column vector b .
- b) Any system of 47 homogeneous equations in 19 unknowns whose coefficient matrix has rank greater than or equal to 8 always has at least 11 independent solutions.

Solution. a) This statement is true . The system $Ax = b$ has a unique solution for the given b if and only if both the coefficient matrix A and augmented matrix $[A|b]$ have rank 3. But then both the coefficient matrix A and the augmented matrix $[A|b]$ have rank 3 for any b .

b) This statement is false . The coefficient matrix could have rank as large as 19. In this event the system has a unique solution, namely $x = 0$.

5. If A is a symmetric matrix, is the matrix A^{-1} symmetric?

Solution: True. We have $A^t = A$. Therefore $(A^{-1})^t = (A^t)^{-1} = A^{-1}$.

6. . Let A be a 1×2 matrix and B be a 2×1 matrix having positive entries. Which of BA or AB is invertible? Give reasons.

Solution: AB is invertible as it is 1×1 positive entries and $\det(AB) \neq 0$.

BA may or may not be invertible.

Example: Let $A = B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ then $BA = A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\det BA = 0$.

Let $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $BA = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\det BA \neq 0$

7. Show that a triangular matrix A is invertible if and only if each diagonal entry of A is non-zero.

Solution: Using $\det(A) = a_{11}a_{22} \cdots a_{nn}$, we obtain the result.

8. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix such that $\det(A) = 4$ then what is the $\det(5A)$?

Solution: As we know $|kA| = k^n|A|$. Therefore $\det(5A) = 5^n \det(A)$.

9. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. then $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = (\det(A))^{n-1}$.

Solution: We know that $A \text{adj}(A) = \det(A)I_n$. Take the determinant both sides, we get

$$\det(A) \cdot \det(\text{adj}(A)) = (\det(A))^n \det(I_n) = (\det(A))^n.$$

10. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. Then show that A is invertible $\Leftrightarrow \text{Adj}(A)$ is invertible.

Solution: From above problem, we can obtain the result.

11. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. then show that $\det(\text{adj}(\text{adj}A)) = (\det A)^{(n-1)^2}$.

Solution: Replacing A with adj in problem 13, we obtain

$$\det(\text{adj}(\text{adj}A)) = (\det(\text{adj}A))^{n-1}$$

and use $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = (\det(A))^{n-1}$ in above, we obtain

$$\det(\text{adj}(\text{adj}A)) = (\det(A))^{(n-1)^2}.$$

12. Let A and B be invertible matrices. Prove that $Adj(AB) = Adj(B)Adj(A)$.

Solution: Try yourself!

13. Using the Gauss Jordan Method, Find A^{-1} , whenever exist

1) $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$, 2) $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$,

3) $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

(Hint 3): Inverse donot exists.)