

Vv285 Recitation Class 4

Practice Questions on Determinant

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Outline

- 1 Basic Properties of Determinant
- 2 Calculating Determinant
- 3 Geometric Property of Determinant
- 4 Reference

Judge the Followings

¹Suppose $A \in \text{Mat}(n \times n; \mathbb{C})$ is a matrix with $\det A \neq 0$. Judge T or F:

F $\triangleright \det A \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$A = (v_1, \dots, v_n), \quad v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

T $\triangleright A$ is invertible.

$$\det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow v_1, \dots, v_n \text{ independent}$$

T \triangleright The row rank of A is n

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{rank } A = n \quad (\text{col rank } A = \text{row rank } A = n)$$

T $\triangleright \ker A = \{0\}$

$$\Leftrightarrow A \text{ bijective}$$

T \triangleright For any $y \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $x_0 = A^{-1}y$ is the only solution of $Ax = y$

F $\triangleright \det(A^{-1})^T = \det A$

$$\Leftrightarrow \ker A = \{0\}, \quad \text{ran } A = \mathbb{R}^n$$

F $\triangleright \det c \cdot A = c \cdot \det A$, where $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \det B = \underline{0}?$$

$$\downarrow \det(A^{-1}) \cdot \det A = 1$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^n, \quad CA = (ca_1, ca_2, \dots, ca_n) \quad \det(CA) = c^n \cdot \det A$$

¹This question is provided by Leyang Zhang. Vielen Dank!

Determinant of Vandermonde Matrix

$$P \in \mathbb{P}(n-1), \quad P = \underline{a_0 + a_1 x + \dots + a_{n-1} x^{n-1}} \quad \underline{n \text{ points}}$$

Prove that the determinant of Vandermonde matrix $V_n \in \text{Mat}(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$, which is defined by $V_1 = 1$ and when $n \leq 2$:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \begin{matrix} 2 & \dots & n \\ b & \dots & d \end{matrix} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & \boxed{B} \end{pmatrix} \quad V_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 & \dots & x_1^{n-2} & x_1^{n-1} \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & \dots & x_2^{n-2} & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & x_n^2 & \dots & x_n^{n-2} & x_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \neq 0$$

$x_i \neq x_j \ (i \neq j)$

$\det = \det B$

is $\det V_n = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_j - x_i)$

$$k=2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \det = x_2 - x_1$$

when $k=n$ $\det(V_n)$ true

$$V_{n+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \dots & x_n^n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$V_{n+1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 - x_1 & x_1^2 - x_1^2 & \dots & x_1^n - x_1^{n-1} \cdot x_1 \\ \vdots & \boxed{x_2 - x_1} & x_2^2 - x_1 x_2 & \dots & \vdots \\ 1 & \boxed{x_n - x_1} & x_n^2 - x_1 x_n & \dots & x_n^n - x_n^{n-1} x_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \boxed{B} & & \\ 1 & & & \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\det(B) = \det} \begin{pmatrix} \cancel{x_2 - x_1} & \cancel{x_2^2 - x_1 x_2} & \dots & x_n^2 - x_1^{n-1} x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \cancel{x_n - x_1} & x_n^2 - x_n x_1 & \dots & x_n^n - x_n^{n-1} x_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

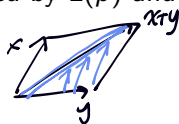
$$= \frac{(x_2 - x_1)}{(x_3 - x_1)} \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 & \dots & x_2^{n-1} \\ \vdots & - & - & & - \\ 1 & x_n & - & - & -x_n^{n-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Linear Transform on Parallelogram

Suppose $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ is a parallelogram spanned by two vectors $p, q \in \mathbb{R}^2$. Let $L: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a linear map and denote the set $L(P)$ as

$$L(P) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \exists x \in P, y = Lx\}$$

- ① Prove that $L(P)$ is a parallelogram spanned by $L(p)$ and $L(q)$.
- ② Prove that $S_{L(P)} = (\det L) \cdot S_P$
- ③ Prove that (2)'s result also works in \mathbb{R}^3



$$\textcircled{1} P = \{v : v = \lambda x + \mu y, \lambda, \mu \in [0,1]\}$$

$$L(P) = \{v' : v' = L(v) = L(\lambda x + \mu y) = \lambda L(x) + \mu L(y), \lambda, \mu \in [0,1]\} \quad \square.$$

$$\langle a, b \rangle, axb$$

② $S_p = \det(x, y)$

area $S_{L(p)} = \det(Lx, Ly) = \det(L \cdot (x, y)) = \det(L) \det(x, y)$

$(x, y) \in \text{Mat}(2 \times 2; \mathbb{R})$

$x, y \in \mathbb{R}^2$

S_p

③ $p^3 = \{v : v = \lambda x + \mu y + \nu z, \lambda, \mu, \nu \in [0, 1]\}$

(x, y, z)

volume $V_{p^3} = \det(x, y, z)$

$V_{L(p^3)} = \det(Lx, Ly, Lz) = \det(L) \cdot \det(x, y, z) = \det L \cdot S_p$

Determinant of block matrices

$$\pi(2, 2n) \rightarrow (2, 2n)$$

$$D_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \dots a_{1m} & b_{11} \dots b_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{m1} \dots a_{mn} & b_{m1} \dots b_{mn} \\ 0 \dots 0 & c_{11} \dots c_{1n} \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 \dots 0 & c_{n1} \dots c_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

Calculate the determinant of D_1 and D_2 :

$$D_1 = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ B & C \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D_2 = \begin{pmatrix} G_1 & * & \dots & * \\ 0 & G_2 & \dots & * \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & G_n \end{pmatrix}$$

where A, B, C are $m \times m$ matrices and A_1, \dots, A_n are $n \times n$ matrices

$$\det(D_1) = \det(A) \cdot \det(C)$$

$$\det(D_2) = \prod_{i=1}^n \det(G_i)$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} A & 0 \\ B & C \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\pi(2) = B_2(n+2)$$

$$\pi \quad n+2 \rightarrow \infty$$

²This exercise is from Leyang Zhang. Vielen Dank!

References I

- VV285 sample exam from Horst Hohberger
- Practice questions from Leyang Zhang