

# Homework 1

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1. Calculate the determinant of the following complex matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & i & 2 & -1 \\ i & 5 & i & i \\ 0 & 3 & 1+i & 2 \\ 0 & -2i & 1 & 4-i \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution:** Expanding along the first column, the determinant is equal to

$$-i \det \begin{pmatrix} i & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 1+i & 2 \\ -2i & 1 & 4-i \end{pmatrix}$$

where the determinant of the 3 by 3 matrix is

$$i(1+i)(4-i) + 2 \times 2(-2i) - 1 \times 3 \times 1 - i \times 2 \times 1 - 2 \times 3(4-i) + 1(1+i)(-2i) = -i - 28$$

The desired determinant is then

$$-i(-i - 28) = -1 + 28i$$

2. For  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  consider the  $n \times n$  matrix

$$A_n = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos \theta & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \cos \theta & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \cos \theta & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 2 \cos \theta & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 2 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Show that  $\det(A_{n+2}) - 2 \cos \theta \det(A_{n+1}) + \det(A_n) = 0$

**Solution:** Expanding along the first row,

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A_{n+2}) &= 2 \cos \theta \det(A_{n+1}) - \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & P \\ Q & A_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 2 \cos \theta \det(A_{n+1}) - \det(A_n) \end{aligned}$$

$$\det(A_{n+2}) - 2 \cos \theta \det(A_{n+1}) + \det(A_n) = 0$$

Where  $P$  is the  $1 \times n$  row matrix where the first entry is 1 and the rest are 0, and  $Q$  is the  $n \times 1$  column matrix whose entries are all 0. The second equality comes from expanding along the first column.

(b) Use (a) and induction to show

$$\det(A_n) = \frac{\sin((n+1)\theta)}{\sin \theta}$$

**Solution:** For  $n = 1$ ,

$$A_1 = (2 \cos \theta)$$

where the determinant is obviously  $2 \cos \theta$ . Then

$$\frac{\sin(2\theta)}{\sin \theta} = \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos \theta}{\sin \theta} = 2 \cos \theta$$

so the identity holds for  $n = 1$ .

For  $n = 2$ ,

$$A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cos \theta & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

where the determinant is obviously  $4 \cos^2 \theta - 1$ . Then

$$\frac{\sin(3\theta)}{\sin \theta} = \frac{\sin(2\theta) \cos \theta + \sin \theta \cos(2\theta)}{\sin \theta} = \frac{2 \sin \theta \cos^2 \theta + \sin \theta (2 \cos^2 \theta - 1)}{\sin \theta}$$

which simplifies to

$$4 \cos^2 \theta - 1$$

Let this identity hold for  $n = k$  and  $n = k + 1$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A_{k+2}) &= 2 \cos \theta \det(A_{k+1}) - \det(A_k) \\ &= \frac{2 \cos \theta \sin((k+2)\theta) - \sin((k+1)\theta)}{\sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\sin((k+3)\theta) + \sin((k+1)\theta) - \sin((k+1)\theta)}{\sin \theta} \\ &= \frac{\sin((k+3)\theta)}{\sin \theta} \end{aligned}$$

which shows that the identity holds for  $n = k + 3$ . By mathematical induction, it holds for all  $n = 1, 2, \dots$

3. Let  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  be a linear transformation, and  $T^* \in \mathcal{L}(V^*)$  the dual transformation. Show that

$$\det(T^*) = \det(T)$$

**Solution:** The expression of the determinant involves the constants  $A_{ij}$ . For  $T$  defined by

$$T(\hat{e}_i) = \vec{v}_i$$

the determinant of  $T$  is the determinant of its matrix

$$\det(v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n)$$

where the constants are

$$\vec{v}_j = \sum_i A_{ij} \hat{e}_i$$

Similarly for the dual, we have

$$T^*(\phi_i) = \phi_i \circ T$$

Note that for an arbitrary  $\hat{e}_j$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
 T^*(\phi_i) &= \phi_i \circ T(\hat{e}_j) \\
 &= \phi_i(\vec{v}_j) \\
 &= \phi_i\left(\sum_k A_{kj} \hat{e}_k\right) \\
 &= \sum_k A_{kj} \phi_i \hat{e}_k \\
 &= A_{ij}
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$T^*(\phi_i) = \sum_j A_{ij} \phi_j$$

Then the formula for the  $\det(T^*)$  is the same as that of  $\det(T)$ , so

$$\det(T) = \det(T^*)$$

4. (a) Suppose  $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$  has 'block upper triangular diagonal form'

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} A' & * \\ 0 & A'' \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $A' \in M_{k \times k}(F)$  and  $A'' \in M_{l \times l}(F)$ , while  $*$  stands for 'anything'. Prove that

$$\det(A) = \det(A') \det(A'')$$

**Solution:** Let  $S$  be the set of permutations. Let  $\mathcal{S} \subset S$  be the subset where  $\forall \sigma \in \mathcal{S}, i \in (1, 2, \dots, k)$ ,

$$\sigma(k) \in (1, 2, \dots, k)$$

Then define  $\mathcal{S}' = S - \mathcal{S}$  (or  $S \setminus \mathcal{S}$ ). The left hand side then becomes

$$\det(A) = \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_i A_{\sigma(i), i} + \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}'} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_i A_{\sigma(i), i}$$

Note that for all permutations in  $\mathcal{S}'$ , there exists an  $i \in (1, 2, \dots, k)$  where

$$\sigma(i) \in (k+1, k+2, \dots, k+l)$$

i.e.  $A_{\sigma(i), i} = 0$ . Thus the second term goes to zero.

Note that permutations  $\tau$  for  $(1, 2, \dots, k)$  and  $\tau'$  for  $(1, 2, \dots, l)$  can be combined to exactly form all permutations in  $\mathcal{S}$ . Moreover, if  $\tau$  and  $\tau'$  are combined to form  $\sigma$ , then

$$\text{sign}(\tau) \times \text{sign}(\tau') = \text{sign}(\sigma)$$

Then the right hand side of the equation becomes

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(A') \det(A'') &= \sum_{\tau} \text{sign}(\tau) \prod_i A'_{\tau(i), i} + \sum_{\tau'} \text{sign}(\tau') \prod_i A''_{\tau'(i), i} \\
 &= \sum_{\sigma \in \mathcal{S}} \text{sign}(\sigma) \prod_i A_{\sigma(i), i} \\
 &= \det(A)
 \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Let  $V$  be a finite-dimensional vector space, and  $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  a linear transformation. Suppose  $W \subseteq V$  is a  $T$ -invariant subspace. Let

$$S = T|_W \in \mathcal{L}(W)$$

be the restriction, and

$$U \in \mathcal{L}(V/W)$$

the induced transformation on the quotient space (i.e.,  $U$  takes  $v + W$  to  $Tv + W$ ). Prove that

$$\det(T) = \det(S) \det(U)$$

**Solution:** We wish to show that  $T$  is in the form of  $A$  in the part above, where  $A'$  is the matrix for  $S$  and  $A''$  is the matrix for  $U$ . The desired result follows in this case. We use the basis  $(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m, \dots, e_n)$ , where  $(e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m)$  is the basis for  $W$ . Then we define  $X$  as the space spanned by  $(e_{m+1}, e_{m+2}, \dots, e_n)$ . Note that since  $W$  is  $T$ -invariant, this corresponds to the 0 matrix in  $A$ , as  $T(w) \forall w \in W$  does not map to any entry in  $X$ , or  $T(e_i)$  does not map to any vector with a nonzero  $e_j$  component where  $1 \leq i \leq m$  and  $m+1 \leq j \leq n$ . The restriction  $S$  then obviously has the matrix  $A'$ , as  $S(e_i) = T(e_i)$  where  $i$  is defined as above. Finally, let  $v = w + x$  where  $w \in W$  and  $x \in X$ . Define  $T' \in \mathcal{L}(V)$  such that if

$$T(v) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i e_i$$

then

$$T'(v) = \sum_{i=m+1}^n a_i e_i$$

Then

$$U(v + W) = U(x + W) = Tx + W = T'x + W$$

since the components of  $W$  can be absorbed into  $W$ . Then defining the basis vectors as

$$e'_i = e_i + W$$

for  $m+1 \leq i \leq n$ , then

$$U(e'_i) = T'e_i + W$$

So  $U$  and  $T'$  share the same matrix. Since  $T'$  is the linear transformation  $T$  whose domain and range are restricted to  $X$ , the matrix for  $T'$  is  $A''$ .