

Linear Algebra Seminar 3: Determinants

Problem 1 (2 pts). (a) Evaluate all minors and cofactors of the following matrices:

$$(1) \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Evaluate the determinants of matrices in part (a) by a cofactor expansion along a row or column of your choice, and then using the arrow technique.

Problem 2 (2 pts). (a) Calculate the inverses of the matrices in Problem 1(a)

(b) Use Cramer's rule to solve the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b} := (1 \ -2 \ 1)^T$ for matrices A from Problem 1, and then by calculating $A^{-1}\mathbf{b}$ with A^{-1} found in part (a).

Problem 3 (3pt). Use determinants to answer the following questions.

(a) For what numbers c is this matrix not invertible, and why not?

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & c & c \\ c & c & c \\ 8 & 7 & c \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Find all numbers c such that the system of vectors is linearly independent:

$$(i) \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -6 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ c \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} c \\ 3 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Problem 4 (3 pts). (a) Using the determinants, find the equation of the plane π through the points $A(1, 0, 1)$, $B(3, 1, 2)$, $C(2, 1, 3)$.

(b) Find the normal vector to the above plane π and then its equation.

(c) Find the distance from the point $D(0, 2, 3)$ to the plane π using the geometric meaning of the determinant as the volume or area.

Problem 5 (2 pts). Assume that 3×3 matrices A , B and C are as follows

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \text{row 1} \\ \text{row 2} \\ \text{row 3} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} \text{row 1} + 2 \cdot \text{row 2} \\ \text{row 2} + 2 \cdot \text{row 3} \\ \text{row 3} + 2 \cdot \text{row 1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} k \cdot \text{row 1} - \text{row 2} \\ k \cdot \text{row 2} - \text{row 3} \\ k \cdot \text{row 3} - \text{row 1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Given that $\det(A) = -3$,

- (a) find $\det(B)$;
- (b) find the value of k for which the matrix C is singular

Hint: Be smart! Do you see how B and C can be obtained from A in one step?

Problem 6 (2 pts). Prove in two ways that the matrix A below is always singular (* stand for any numbers) by answering to (a) and (b):

$$\begin{pmatrix} * & * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ * & * & * & * & * \\ * & * & * & * & * \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Explain why the last three columns are linearly dependent.
- (b) Explain why each of $5! = 120$ terms in the formula for $\det(A)$ is zero.

Problem 7 (3 pts). (a) Prove that a square matrix A is singular if and only if $A \text{adj}(A) = \mathbf{0}$.

(b) (Cauchy) Given an $n \times n$ matrix A , calculate $\det(\text{adj}(A))$.

(c) For an $n \times n$ matrix A , what rank can its adjugate matrix $\text{adj}(A)$ have?

Problem 8 (3 pts). Find the value of the Vandermonde determinant,

$$V(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n) := \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_0 & \dots & x_0^n \\ 1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1^n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & x_n & \dots & x_n^n \end{vmatrix}.$$

To this end,

- (a) consider the function $f(x) := V(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and argue that it is a polynomial (of what degree?); then find all its roots a_1, \dots, a_m and conclude that $f(x) = C(a_1 - x) \cdots (a_m - x)$;
- (b) the constant C is the coefficient of $(-1)^m x^m$ in $f(x)$; determine it from the row cofactor expansion of $V(x, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ and then obtain $V(x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ by induction.

Extra problems

(to be discussed if time permits)

Problem 9. (a) Find the normal equation for the plane through the points $A(2; 1; 1)$, $B(1; 2; 1)$, and $C(1; 1; 2)$ by writing the corresponding determinant and then expanding it in the first row, and then by finding the normal to the plane as a cross product of the vectors \overrightarrow{AB} and \overrightarrow{AC}

(b) A box (parallelepiped) has edges from the origin to the points A , B , and C . Find its volume and also find the area of each parallelogram face.

Problem 10. Assume that a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n are real numbers. Calculate the determinant of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ a_1 & 1 + a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & 1 + a_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hint: induction can be helpful here; try $n = 1$ and $n = 2$ to guess the formula

Problem 11. Assume that \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{v} are $n \times 1$ vectors. Find $\det(I_n + \mathbf{u}\mathbf{v}^T)$.

Hint: do you see why this is a generalization of the above problem?

$$\textcircled{1} \text{ a) } \textcircled{1} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = -3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} - 0 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} + 7 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(1,1)-minor
-cofactor (1,2)-minor
(-1)x -cofactor (1,3)-minor
-cofactor

$$\begin{array}{lcl} M_{1,1} = 25 & M_{1,1} = 0 \\ M_{1,2} = 10+1=11 & M_{1,2} = -15+7=-8 \\ M_{1,3} = 5 & M_{1,3} = 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} M_{2,1} = -35 & M_{2,1} = 0 \\ M_{2,2} = -3-14=-17 & M_{2,2} = 5(-3-7) = 5(-10) \\ M_{2,3} = 17 & M_{2,3} = 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} M_{3,1} = -15 & M_{3,1} = 0 \\ M_{3,2} = -15 & M_{3,2} = 0 \\ M_{3,3} = -15 & M_{3,3} = 0 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

$$M_{1,j} = \begin{pmatrix} 25 & 11 & 5 \\ 0 & -8 & 0 \\ -35 & -17 & -15 \end{pmatrix} \quad C_{1,j} = \begin{pmatrix} 25 & -11 & 5 \\ 0 & -8 & 0 \\ -35 & 17 & -15 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

M_{1,1} = -12 M_{1,2} = 5+4*9 = 44 M_{1,3} = -3
C_{1,1} = -12 C_{1,2} = -9 C_{1,3} = -3

$$= 1 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} - 0 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix} - 4 \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

M_{2,1} = 15+3 = 18 M_{2,2} = 15-1 = 14 M_{2,3} = -9-3 = -12
C_{2,1} = -18 C_{2,2} = 14 C_{2,3} = 12

$$= 3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -4 \end{pmatrix} - 5 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

M_{3,1} = -12 M_{3,2} = -12-1 = -13 M_{3,3} = -3
C_{3,1} = -12 C_{3,2} = 13 C_{3,3} = -3

$$M_{1,j} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 & 9 & -3 \\ 18 & 14 & -12 \\ -12 & -13 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad C_{1,j} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 & -9 & -3 \\ -18 & 14 & 12 \\ -12 & 13 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \text{ a) } \det(A) = -3 \cdot 25 + 0 \cdot (-11) + 7 \cdot 5 = -75 + 35 = -40 \quad \text{row expansion}$$

$$\det(A) = -3 \cdot 25 + 2 \cdot 0 + (-4) \cdot (-35) = -75 + 35 = -40 \quad \text{column expansion}$$

$$\cancel{\frac{-3}{2}} \frac{0}{5} \cancel{\frac{7}{10}} \cancel{\frac{-3}{5}} \cancel{\frac{0}{10}} : \det(A) = -75 + 35 = -40$$

$$\textcircled{2} \det(A) = 3 \cdot (-12) + 3 \cdot (-9) + 1 \cdot (-3) = -36 - 27 - 3 = -66 \quad \text{row expansion}$$

$$\det(A) = 3 \cdot (-12) + 1 \cdot (-18) + 1 \cdot (-12) = -36 - 18 - 12 = -66 \quad \text{column expansion}$$

$$\cancel{\frac{3}{1}} \cancel{\frac{3}{2}} \cancel{\frac{1}{4}} \cancel{\frac{3}{5}} \cancel{\frac{3}{3}} \det(A) = -12 - 3 - 36 - 15 = -66$$

$$\textcircled{2} A^{-1} = \frac{C^T}{\det(A)}$$

$$\textcircled{1} \text{ a) } C^T = \begin{pmatrix} 25 & 0 & -35 \\ -11 & -8 & 17 \\ 5 & 0 & -15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{C^T}{\det(A)} = \frac{C^T}{-40} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{-25}{40} & 0 & \frac{35}{40} \\ \frac{11}{40} & \frac{8}{40} & -\frac{17}{40} \\ 0 & \frac{15}{40} & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{8} & 0 & \frac{7}{8} \\ \frac{11}{40} & \frac{2}{5} & -\frac{17}{40} \\ 0 & \frac{15}{40} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{2} C^T = \begin{pmatrix} -12 & -9 & -3 \\ -9 & 14 & 12 \\ -12 & 13 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{C^T}{\det(A)} = \frac{C^T}{-66} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{12}{66} & \frac{16}{66} & \frac{12}{66} \\ \frac{9}{66} & \frac{14}{66} & -\frac{13}{66} \\ \frac{3}{66} & -\frac{12}{66} & \frac{3}{66} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{11} & \frac{8}{33} & \frac{2}{11} \\ \frac{3}{22} & -\frac{2}{33} & -\frac{13}{66} \\ \frac{1}{22} & -\frac{2}{11} & \frac{1}{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{3} Ax = b : (1 -2 1)^T$$

$$\textcircled{1} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 7 & | & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 & | & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[det(A)]{1 \cdot [0 \ 5] - 0 \cdot [2 \ 1] + 7 \cdot [1 \ 0]} = \frac{25 - 35}{-40} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$y = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -3 & 1 & 7 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}}{det(A)} = \frac{-3(-10+1) - 1(10+1) + 7(2-2)}{-40} = \frac{-3(-11) - 1(11)}{-40} = \frac{66}{-40} = -\frac{33}{20}$$

$$z = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} -3 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}}{det(A)} = \frac{-3(-5) + 1(-5)}{-40} = \frac{-2(-5)}{-40} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$A^T b = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{40} & 0 & \frac{7}{40} \\ \frac{11}{40} & \frac{5}{40} & -\frac{17}{40} \\ \frac{1}{40} & \frac{2}{40} & \frac{1}{40} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{40} \\ \frac{11}{40} \\ \frac{1}{40} \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{0}{40} \\ \frac{5}{40} \\ \frac{2}{40} \end{pmatrix} + 1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{7}{40} \\ -\frac{17}{40} \\ \frac{1}{40} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{5}{40} & \frac{7}{40} \\ \frac{11}{40} & -\frac{17}{40} \\ \frac{1}{40} & \frac{1}{40} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{8} \\ \frac{1}{8} \\ \frac{1}{40} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{2} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -4 & | & 2 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 & | & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}}{det(A)} = \frac{1 \cdot (-12) - 3(-10+4) + 1 \cdot 6}{-66} = \frac{12}{-66} = -\frac{2}{11}$$

$$y = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}}{det(A)} = \frac{3(-10+4) - 1(5+4) + 1(1+2)}{-66} = \frac{-24}{-66} = \frac{4}{11}$$

$$z = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 1 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}{det(A)} = \frac{3(-6) - 3(1+2) + 1(-3)}{-66} = \frac{-30}{-66} = \frac{5}{11}$$

$$A^T b = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{22} & \frac{3}{22} & \frac{1}{22} \\ \frac{3}{22} & \frac{2}{22} & \frac{1}{22} \\ \frac{1}{22} & \frac{2}{22} & \frac{1}{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{22} \\ \frac{3}{22} \\ \frac{1}{22} \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{0}{22} \\ \frac{2}{22} \\ \frac{1}{22} \end{pmatrix} + 1 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{22} \\ \frac{2}{22} \\ \frac{1}{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{22} & \frac{1}{22} \\ \frac{3}{22} & \frac{2}{22} \\ \frac{1}{22} & \frac{2}{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{11} \\ \frac{1}{11} \\ \frac{1}{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\textcircled{3} \text{ a) } A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & c & c \\ c & c & c \\ c & c & c \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = 2(c^2 - 7c) - c(c^2 - 8c) + c(7c - 8c) = 2c^2 - 14c - c^3 + 8c^2 - c^2 = -c^3 + 9c^2 - 14c = 0$$

Matrix is not invertible for $\begin{cases} c=0 \\ c=\frac{14}{9} \\ c=7 \end{cases}$

$$\textcircled{3} \text{ b) } A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & 6 \\ -6 & 4 & c \\ 7 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = 3(8+3c) - 6(-12+c) = 24+9c+32+6c-24 = 15c+120$$

if $\det(A) \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ columns are linearly independent

$$15c+120=0$$

$c = -\frac{120}{15} = -8 \Rightarrow$ vectors are linearly independent for $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{-8\}$

$$\textcircled{3} \text{ c) } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & c \\ 5 & 9 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = 1(-12+c) - 2(-15+9) + c(-30+12) = 6 + 12 - 14c = 12 - 14c = 0$$

vectors are linearly independent for $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{1\}$

$$(4) \text{ a) } A(1,0,1), \quad B(3,1,2), \quad C(2,1,3)$$

$\det A(x,y,z) = 0 \Leftrightarrow ax+by+cz=d$ for some a,b,c,d

$$A(x,y,z) := \begin{pmatrix} x-x_1 & y-y_1 & z-z_1 \\ x_1-x_2 & y_1-y_2 & z_1-z_2 \\ x_2-x_3 & y_2-y_3 & z_2-z_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x-1 & y-4 & z-1 \\ 1-1 & 4-4 & 1-1 \\ 1-2 & 2-2 & 2-2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x-1 & y-4 & z-1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = (x-1)(2-1) - y(4-1) + (z-1)(2-1) = x-1 - 3y + z - 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x-3y+z=2$$

$$\textcircled{3} \vec{r} = (a,b,c) \text{ is the cross-product } uxv, \text{ where } u = \vec{p}, \vec{r}_1 = \vec{p}\vec{r}_2 = (\vec{p}, \vec{r}_2) = (1, 1, 2)$$

$$v = \vec{p}, \vec{r}_3 = \vec{p}\vec{r}_3 = (1, 1, 2)$$

$$u \cdot v = (C_1, C_2, C_3)$$

$$C_1 = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1$$

$$C_2 = -(4-1) = -3 \Rightarrow x-3y+z=1 \text{ plug point } A$$

$$C_3 = 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1 \Rightarrow 1+1=2 \Rightarrow d=2 \Rightarrow x-3y+z=2$$

$$\textcircled{3} D(0,2,3)$$

$$U: \text{Sh}, \quad h: \text{distance from } D \text{ to plane } T,$$

S - area of the figure in the plane T (parallelogram), V - volume of the parallelepiped

$$u \times v = \text{area of the parallelogram formed by vectors } u \text{ and } v$$

(magnitude of the vector achieved by cross product is the area of the parallelogram)

Determinant in 3D is the volume of the parallelepiped

$$h = \frac{V}{S}.$$

$$S = \sqrt{C_1^2 + C_2^2 + C_3^2} = \sqrt{1+9+1} = \sqrt{11}$$

$$V = \det \left(\frac{\vec{u}}{\vec{v}} \right), \quad \vec{w} = (0-x_1, z-y_1, 3-z_1) = (-1, 2, 2)$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2(2-4) - 1(2+2) + 1(2+4) = -4 - 4 + 3 = -5$$

$$h = \frac{|-5|}{\sqrt{11}} = \frac{5}{\sqrt{11}}$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 \\ r_2 \\ r_3 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} r_1 + 2r_2 \\ r_2 + 2r_3 \\ r_3 + 2r_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} k \cdot r_1 - r_2 \\ k \cdot r_2 - r_3 \\ k \cdot r_3 - r_1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det(A) = -3$$

$$\textcircled{5} \text{ a) } \det(B) = \begin{vmatrix} r_1 + 2r_2 &$$