

# Computing for Mathematics: Handout 6

This handout contains a summary of the topics covered and an activity to carry out prior or during your lab session.

At the end of the handout is a specific coursework like exercise.

For further practice you can do the exercises available at the matrices chapter of Python for Mathematics.

## 1 Summary

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The purpose of this handout is to cover matrices which corresponds to the probability chapter of Python for Mathematics.

The topics covered are:

- Creating matrices.
- Manipulating matrices.
- Solving a system of linear equations using matrices.

## 2 Activity

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We will be tackling the problem from the tutorial of the matrices chapter of Python for Mathematics.

The matrix  $A$  is given by  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & a & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

1. Find the determinant of  $A$  2. Hence find the values of  $a$  for which  $A$  is singular. 3. For the following values of  $a$ , when possible obtain  $A^{-1}$  and confirm the result by computing  $AA^{-1}$ : 1.  $a = 0$ ; 2.  $a = 1$ ; 3.  $a = 2$ ; 4.  $a = 3$ .

There are instructions for how to do all of this is in the probability chapter of Python for Mathematics.

1. Create a variable `A` which has value the matrix  $A$ .
2. Create a variable `determinant` which has value the determinant of  $A$ .
3. Find the values of  $a$  for which the determinant of  $A$  is 0. This corresponds to the values for which  $A$  is singular.
4. Substitute the given values of  $a$  in to `A` and compute the inverse. Multiply the inverse by  $A$  to obtain the identity matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  which confirms the result.

## 3 Summary examples

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Create the matrix  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

```
import sympy as sym
B = sym.Matrix(((3, 5), (1, -2)))
```

Obtain the determinant of  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

```
import sympy as sym
B = sym.Matrix(((3, 5), (1, -2)))
B.det()
```

Obtain the inverse of  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

```
import sympy as sym
B = sym.Matrix(((3, 5), (1, -2)))
B.inv()
```

Calculate  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 \\ 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \left( \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + 6 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$

```
import sympy as sym
B = sym.Matrix(((3, 5), (1, -2)))
C = sym.Matrix(((3, 1), (4, 1)))
D = sym.Matrix(((2, 3), (1, 1)))
B @ (C + 6 * D)
```

Solve the linear system:

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y &= 3 \\ 3x + y &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

```
import sympy as sym
M = sym.Matrix(((1, 2), (3, 1)))
b = sym.Matrix(((3,), (4,)))
M.inv() @ b
```