

# MAT A22: Linear Algebra 1 for Mathematical Sciences (Winter 2022)

Welcome to Week 6 of the course.

Questions? Thoughts? Comments?

### Readings:

- ► Further material on eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- ▶ 3.4 An Application to Linear Recurrences

#### News and Reminders:

▶ Next week is Reading Week! There will be no classes, tutorials, or office hours.

## Cofactor Expansion

#### **Definition**

Let  $A = [a_{ij}]$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. The sign of the (i,j) position is  $(-1)^{i+j}$ . Let  $A_{ij}$  denote the  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$  matrix obtained from A by deleting row i and column j. The (i,j)-cofactor of A is

$$c_{ij}(A)=(-1)^{i+j}\det(A_{ij}).$$

One formula for the determinant is:

$$\det A = \sum_{k=1}^{n} a_{ik} c_{ik} = a_{11} c_{11}(A) + a_{12} c_{12}(A) + a_{13} c_{13}(A) + \dots + a_{1n} c_{1n}(A)$$

This is called the cofactor expansion of det A along row 1.

*Note:* This is a recursive definition. We define det([x]) = x as the base case.

## Determinants and Invertible Matrices

### Question

Find all values of c for which 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} c & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & c \\ -1 & c & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$
 is invertible.

### Solution

$$\det A = \begin{vmatrix} c & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & c \\ -1 & c & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= c \begin{vmatrix} 2 & c \\ c & 5 \end{vmatrix} + (-1) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & c \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= c(10 - c^{2}) - c$$

$$= c(9 - c^{2}) = c(3 - c)(3 + c)$$

Therefore, A is invertible for all  $c \neq 0, 3, -3$ .

## The Product Formula and Transposes

## Theorem (Determinant of Matrix Transpose)

If A is an  $n \times n$  matrix, then  $det(A^T) = det A$ .

### Question

Suppose A is a  $3 \times 3$  matrix. Find det A and det B if

$$\det(2A^{-1}) = -4 = \det(A^3(B^{-1})^T).$$

#### Solution

$$\det A = -2$$

det B = 2

## Proof Practice: Orthogonal Matrices

#### Definition

A square matrix A is orthogonal if and only if  $A^T = A^{-1}$ .

### Question

What are the possible values of det A if A is orthogonal?

### Solution

Since 
$$A^T = A^{-1}$$
,

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

$$\det A = \frac{1}{\det A}$$

$$(\det A)^{2} = 1$$

This implies that  $\det A = \pm 1$ , i.e.,  $\det A = 1$  or  $\det A = -1$ .

# Cramer's Rule (without proof)

#### Theorem

Let A be an  $n \times n$  invertible matrix, the solution to the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  of n equations in the variables  $x_1, x_2 \cdots x_n$  is given by

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1}{\det A}, x_2 = \frac{\det A_2}{\det A}, \cdots, x_n = \frac{\det A_n}{\det A}$$

where, for each k, the matrix  $A_k$  is obtained from A by replacing column k with  $\vec{b}$ .

Cramer's rule is not used in practice but it provides a helpful theoretical corollary:

#### Theorem

The solutions of a linear system are polynomials in the coefficients of the system.

# Cramer's Rule Example

## Example

Solve for  $x_3$ :

$$\begin{cases} 3x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = -1 \\ 5x_1 + 2x_2 = 2 \\ x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 1 \end{cases}$$

#### Solution

By Cramer's rule,  $x_3 = \frac{\det A_3}{\det A}$ , where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 5 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Computing the determinants of these two matrices,

$$\det A = -4$$
 and  $\det A_3 = -6$ .

# Cramer's Rule Example (Continued)

## Example

Use Cramer's rule to solve for  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

### Solution

We obtain: 
$$x_1 = -1$$
,  $x_2 = \frac{7}{2}$ .

## Characteristic Polynomials

#### Definition

The characteristic polynomial of an  $n \times n$  matrix A is

$$c_A(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)$$

### Question

Find the characteristic polynomial of 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

### Solution

$$c_{A}(\lambda) = \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \det \begin{bmatrix} \lambda - 4 & 2 \\ 1 & \lambda - 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (\lambda - 4)(\lambda - 3) - 2 = \lambda^{2} - 7\lambda + 10 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 2)$$

# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

#### Definition

Let A be an  $n \times n$  matrix.

- 1. The eigenvalues of A are the roots of  $c_A(\lambda)$ .
- 2. The  $\lambda$ -eigenvectors  $\vec{x}$  are the nontrivial solutions to  $(\lambda I A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

### Example

Find the 2-eigenvectors of 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
.

### Solution

To find the 2-eigenvectors of A, solve  $(2I - A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ :

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array}\right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 \end{array}\right] \rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

## Example

Find the 5-eigenvectors of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

### Solution

To find the 5-eigenvectors of A, solve  $(5I - A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ :

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c}1&2&0\\1&2&0\end{array}\right]\rightarrow\left[\begin{array}{cc|c}1&2&0\\0&0&0\end{array}\right]$$

#### Solution

Summary of the eigenvectors for  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- ▶ The 2-eigenvectors are solutions of x y = 0.
- The 5-eigenvectors are solutions of x + 2y = 0.

Specific examples of 2-eigenvectors and 5-eigenvectors for A:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 20 \\ 20 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -10 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Basic Eigenvectors and Repeated Roots

### Definition

A basic eigenvector of an  $n \times n$  matrix A is any nonzero multiple of a basic solution to  $(\lambda I - A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , where  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of A.

## Example

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 2
\end{array}\right]$$

Find  $c_A(\lambda)$ , the eigenvalues of A, and find corresponding basic eigenvectors.

## Solution

We have:

$$c_A(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A) = \det \left[ egin{array}{ccc} 1 - \lambda & 0 & 0 \ 0 & 1 - \lambda & 0 \ 0 & 0 & 2 - \lambda \end{array} 
ight] = (\lambda - 1)^2(\lambda - 2) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 1, 2$$

## Example

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 2
\end{array}\right]$$

Find basic eigenvectors for  $\lambda = 1$ .

### Solution

We solve the homogeneous system:  $(1I - A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

Thus, z = 0 and we get the basic solutions:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} x + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} y$$

Thus the basic 1-eigenvectors are:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

## Example

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 1 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 2
\end{array}\right]$$

Find basic eigenvectors for  $\lambda = 2$ .

## Solution

We solve the homogeneous system:  $(2I - A)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right] \longrightarrow \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right]$$

Thus, x = y = 0 and we get the basic solutions:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} z$$

Thus the basic 2-eigenvector is:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .