

**MATH 1350, Winter 2025**  
**Mini-Assignment 5**

---

1. Find all values of  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\det(A - kI_3) = 0$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

How many different  $k$  values are there?

Answer: 3

$$\det(A - KI_3) = \det \left( A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} - k \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 2-k & -2 & 0 \\ -3 & 1-k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3-k \end{pmatrix}$$

Using Laplace expansion along row 3 we have

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2-k & -2 & 0 \\ -3 & 1-k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3-k \end{vmatrix} = (3-k) \begin{vmatrix} 2-k & -2 \\ -3 & 1-k \end{vmatrix} = (3-k)((2-k)(1-k)-6) = (3-k)(k^2-3k-4) \\ = (3-k)(k-4)(k+1)$$

Therefore  $\det(A - kI_3) = 0$  implies  $k = -1, 3$  or  $4$ , so there are 3 suitable  $k$  values.

2. Consider the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 5 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Find the ordered triple,  $(|A|, |A_1(\mathbf{b})|, |A_2(\mathbf{b})|)$ , which are the determinants used in Cramer's rule.

A: (10, 0, 40)      B: (20, 10, 40)      C: (20, 0, 20)      D: (20, 0, 40)      E: Neither

Answer: D

$$\text{Determinants: } |A| = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 5 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 20, |A_1(\mathbf{b})| = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 10 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 0, |A_2(\mathbf{b})| = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 5 & 10 \end{vmatrix} = 40.$$

$$\text{By Cramer's rule: } x_1 = \frac{|A_1(\mathbf{b})|}{|A|} = 0, x_2 = \frac{|A_2(\mathbf{b})|}{|A|} = 2.$$

3. Consider the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

If  $x_1 = 2$  find  $|A_1(\mathbf{b})|$  via Cramer's rule.

Answer:  $-26$

Since  $|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 2 & -3 \end{vmatrix} = -13$  and  $2 = x_1 = \frac{|A_1(\mathbf{b})|}{|A|}$ , we can rearrange to get that

$$|A_1(\mathbf{b})| = 2|A| = -26.$$

4. Consider the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

If  $x_1 = 3$  and  $|A_2(b)| = 4$  find  $\mathbf{b}$ .

A:  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ , B:  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , C:  $\begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , D:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , E:  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  F: Neither of these

Answer:  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

Since  $|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = -4$ , Cramer's rule yields  $x_2 = \frac{|A_2(b)|}{|A|} = \frac{4}{-4} = -1$ . Thus

$$\mathbf{b} = A\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

5. Find the Adjoint of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

A:  $\begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 & -6 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  B:  $\begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  C:  $\begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 & -6 \\ 4 & -1 & 0 \\ 4 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  D:  $\begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 & -6 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Answer: A

$$\text{Matrix of cofactors: } \begin{pmatrix} \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 6 \\ 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} & -\begin{vmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} & \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ -\begin{vmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} & \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} & -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix} & -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 6 \end{vmatrix} & \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 0 \end{vmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 4 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -6 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Adjoint: } \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 4 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -6 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}^T = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & 1 & -6 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(we could also have eliminated incorrect answers by checking the differing cofactor in each row)

6. If  $M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$  then  $\text{adj}(M) = \begin{pmatrix} 24 & -12 & -2 \\ 5 & 3 & -5 \\ -4 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Use this to find  $\det M$ .

Answer: 22

Since  $M^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det M} \text{adj}(M)$ , we have  $I = MM^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det M} M \text{adj}(M)$ . Rearrange this to get

$$\det MI = M \text{adj}(M) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 24 & -12 & -2 \\ 5 & 3 & -5 \\ -4 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 22 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 22 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 22 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Therefore  $\det M = 22$ .