Exercise Sheet 1

due: 19.04.2012

Problem 1.1 (2 points)

Assume W to be an invertible square matrix, whose determinant is given by $\det W$. Using the definitions of matrix gradient, determinant, inverse matrix and adjoint given in the mathematics tutorial, show that

$$\frac{\partial \log |\det \boldsymbol{W}|}{\partial \boldsymbol{W}} = (\boldsymbol{W}^T)^{-1},$$

where |...| denotes the absolute value.

Problem 1.2 (2 points)

Let X be a random variable and $p : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ with:

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} c \cdot sin(x), & x \in [0, \pi] \\ 0, & elsewhere \end{cases}$$

a) (1 point)

Determine the parameter value $c \in \mathbb{R}$ so that p(x) is a probability density.

b) (1 point)

Let p(x) be the probability density of X. Determine the expected value $\langle X \rangle_p$ and the variance $\langle X^2 \rangle_p - \langle X \rangle_p^2$.

Problem 1.3 (2 points)

Assume that the probability density function of a two-dimensional random vector $z = (x, y)^T$ is

$$p_{\boldsymbol{z}}(\boldsymbol{z}) = p_{x,y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{7}(2-x)(x+y), & x \in [0,2], y \in [0,1] \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

a) (1 point)

Write down the cumulative distribution function, $F_z(z) = F_{x,y}(x,y)$, by integrating over both x and y and taking into account the limits of the regions where the density is non-zero.

b) (1 point)

Write down the marginal densities $p_x(x)$ and $p_y(y)$ of the variables x and y and determine if the two variables are independent or uncorrelated.

Problem 1.4 (1 point)

Write down the Taylor series expansion of the function $\sqrt{1+x}$ around x=0 (up to 3rd order).

Problem 1.5 (1 point)

Consider the 3×3 matrix

$$A = \left(\begin{array}{ccc} 5 & 8 & 16 \\ 4 & 1 & 8 \\ -4 & -4 & -11 \end{array}\right)$$

Calculate the determinant and the trace of A (directly, not via Eigenvalues).

Problem 1.6 (2 points)

Consider the two functions

$$f(x,y) := c + x^2 + y^2$$

$$g(x,y) := c + x^2 - y^2,$$

where c is a constant. Show that $\mathbf{a}=(0,0)$ is a critical point of both functions. Check for f and for g whether \mathbf{a} is a minimum, maximum or no extremum by calculating the Hessian matrix. Make use of the fact that a matrix is positive (negative) definite if and only if all its eigenvalues are positive (negative).

Total points: 10