

ERG 2012B Advanced Engineering Mathematics II

Part II: Linear Algebra

Lecture #14 Inverse, Determinant and Eigen-pairs

Some Useful Formulas for Inverses Some Useful Formulas for Inverses

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix}$$

where det $\mathbf{A} = a_{11}a_{22}-a_{12}a_{21}$ and will be discussed later - it is simple to observe that the formula holds

For a nonsingular diagonal matrix the entries of A⁻¹ on the main diagonal are reciprocals of those of A:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & 0 \\ & \cdots & \\ 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{a_{11}} & \cdots & 0 \\ & \cdots & \\ 0 & & \frac{1}{a_{nn}} \end{bmatrix}$$

The inverse of the inverse is the given matrix $A (A^{-1})^{-1} = A$



Example: Inverse of a 2x2 matrix: $[\det A = a_{11}a_{22}-a_{12}a_{21}]$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{10} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.4 & -0.1 \\ -0.2 & 0.3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Inverse of a diagonal matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.25 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Inverse of a Product

The inverse of a product **AC** can be calculated by inverting each factor separately and multiplying the results in *reverse order*:

$$(AC)^{-1} = C^{-1}A^{-1}$$

Proof:

$$AC(AC)^{-1} = I$$

$$C(AC)^{-1} = A^{-1}$$

$$(AC)^{-1} = C^{-1}A^{-1}$$
 (remember order is important)

In general with more than two matrices:

 $(AC....PQ)^{-1} = Q^{-1}P^{-1}...C^{-1}A^{-1}$

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Cancellation Law

- **Theorem 2:** Let **A**, **B**,**C** be *n* x *n* matrices. Then:
- (a) If rank $\mathbf{A} = n$ and $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{AC}$, then $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{C}$
- (b) If rank $\mathbf{A} = n$ then $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{0}$ implies $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0}$. Hence if $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{0}$, but $\mathbf{A} \neq \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{B} \neq \mathbf{0}$ then rank $\mathbf{A} < n$ and rank $\mathbf{B} < n$
- (c) If A is singular, so are AB and BA
- **Proof:** (a) Premultiply **AB** = **AC** on both sides by **A**⁻¹ which exists by previous theorem
- (b) Premultiply AB = 0 on both sides by A^{-1}
- (c) Rank A < n if A is singular. Hence Ax = 0 has nontrivial solutions. Multiplication gives BAx = 0. Hence same solutions satisfy BAx = 0. So rank BA < n and BA is singular
 Also A^T is singular, hence B^TA^T is singular (above). But B^TA^T = (AB)^T, hence AB is singular as well

Determinants

Second-Order Determinants

A determinant of second order is denoted and defined by

$$D = \det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$$

The definition is suggested by systems like:

(a)
$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 = b_1$$

(b) $a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 = b_2$

The solution of which can be written $x_1 = D_1/D$, $x_2 = D_2/D$ with *D* as above and

$$D_{1} = \begin{vmatrix} b_{1} & a_{12} \\ b_{2} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix} = b_{1}a_{22} - a_{12}b_{2} \qquad D_{2} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & b_{1} \\ a_{21} & b_{2} \end{vmatrix} = a_{11}b_{2} - b_{1}a_{21}$$

Provided $D \neq 0$; This is called **Cramer's rule**



Use of Second-Order Determinants

If $4x_1 + 3x_2 = 12$ $2x_1 + 5x_2 = -8$

then

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 14$$
 $D_1 = \begin{vmatrix} 12 & 3 \\ -8 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = 84$ $D_2 = \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 12 \\ 2 & -8 \end{vmatrix} = -56$

so that $x_1 = 84/14 = 6$ and $x_2 = -56/14 = -4$

Determinants



Third-Order Determinants

A determinant of third order can be defined by

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{23} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{22} & a_{23} \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: The signs on the right are + - +. Each of these 3 terms is an entry in the first column of *D* times its **minor** ie the 2nd order determinant obtained by deleting the row and column of that entry from *D*

Expanding out the minors we get:

 $D = a_{11}a_{22}a_{33} - a_{11}a_{32}a_{23} + a_{21}a_{32}a_{13} - a_{21}a_{12}a_{33} + a_{31}a_{12}a_{23} - a_{31}a_{22}a_{13}$

Determinants

Third-Order Determinants

For linear systems of three equations in three unknowns

$$a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + a_{13}x_3 = b_1$$

$$a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + a_{23}x_3 = b_2$$

$$a_{31}x_1 + a_{32}x_2 + a_{33}x_3 = b_3$$

Cramer's rule is

$$x_1 = D_1/D, \ x_2 = D_2/D, \ x_3 = D_3/D$$

$$D_{1} = \begin{vmatrix} b_{1} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ b_{2} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ b_{3} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \qquad D_{2} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & b_{1} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & b_{2} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & b_{3} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix} \qquad D_{3} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & b_{1} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & b_{2} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & b_{3} \end{vmatrix}$$

Determinants of Any Order n

A determinant of order n is a scalar associated with an $n \ge n$ matrix and is written:

That is written:

$$D = \det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{vmatrix}$$
Minor of a_{jk} in D
and is defined for $n = 1$ by $D = a_{11}$ and for $n \ge 2$ by

$$D = a_{j1}C_{j1} + a_{j2}C_{j2} + \dots + a_{jn}C_{jn} \qquad (j = 1, 2, \dots, \text{ or } n)$$
or

$$D = a_{1k}C_{1k} + a_{2k}C_{2k} + \dots + a_{nk}C_{nk} \qquad (k = 1, 2, \dots, \text{ or } n)$$
where

$$C_{jk} = (-1)^{j+k}M_{jk} \qquad D$$
determined by any row or column
and M_{jk} is a determinant of order $n-1$ – the determinant of the
submatrix obtained from \mathbf{A} by deleting the row and column of
the entry a_{jk} – as before



Determinant of second order

$$D = \det \mathbf{A} = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{vmatrix}$$

formula for *D* gives four possible expansions:

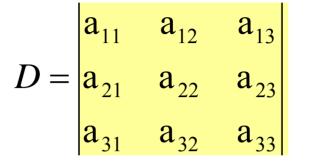
by first row: $D = a_{11}a_{22} + a_{12}(-a_{21})$ by second row: $D = a_{21}(-a_{12}) + a_{22}a_{11}$ by first column: $D = a_{11}a_{22} + a_{21}(-a_{12})$ by second column: $D = a_{12}(-a_{21}) + a_{22}a_{11}$

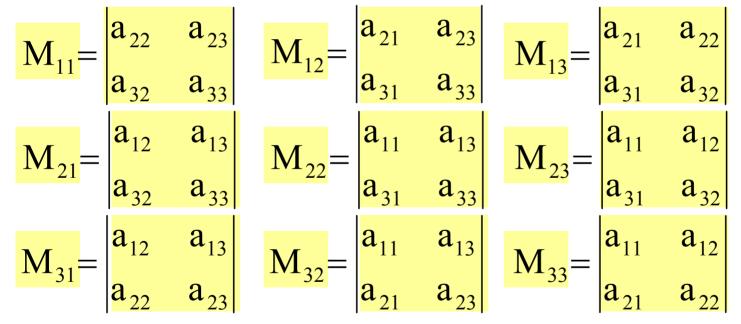
All of which are the same value $D = a_{11}a_{22}-a_{12}a_{21}$ stated earlier

Minors and cofactors of a third-order determinant

The 3rd order determinant:

has minors:





Minors and cofactors of a third-order determinant

The 3rd order determinant:

has cofactors:

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{vmatrix}$$

Notice the signs form a checkerboard pattern:

A third-order determinant

Let

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix}$$

The expansion by the first row is:

$$D = 1 \begin{vmatrix} 6 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} - 3 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1(12 - 0) - 3(4 + 4) = -12$$

And by the third column is:

$$D = -4 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ -1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} + 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = -4(0+3) + 2(6-6) = -12$$

Example 5 Determinant of a Triangular Matrix

The determinant of any triangular matrix equals the product of all the entries on the main diagonal. To see this expand by rows if the matrix is lower triangular and by columns if it is upper triangular.

E.g.
$$\begin{vmatrix} -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \begin{vmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 \end{vmatrix} = -3 \cdot 4 \cdot 5 = -60$$

General Properties of Determinants (S)

Theorem 1 (Transposition)

The value of a determinant is not altered if its rows are written as columns in the same order

Example 6 Transposition

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -12$$

General Properties of Determinants ^(S)

Theorem 2 (Multiplication by a constant)

- If all the entries in one row (or one column) of a determinant are multiplied by the same factor *k*, the value of the new determinant is *k* times the value of the given determinant
- **Proof:** Expand the determinant by that row (or column) whose entries are multiplied by *k*
- **Caution:** det $k\mathbf{A} = k^n \det \mathbf{A}$ (not $k \det \mathbf{A}$) make sure you understand why.....



Application of Theorem 2

$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 6 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 12 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -12$

From this taking *k*=0 or directly expanding:

Theorem 3: If all the entries in a row (or a column) of a determinant are zero, the value of the determinant is zero



- **Theorem 4:** If each entry in a row (or column) of a determinant is expressed as a binomial, the determinant can be written as the sum of two determinants
- **Proof:** Expand the determinant by the row (or column) whose entries are binomials.....

Example 8

$$\begin{vmatrix} a_1 + d_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 + d_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 + d_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} a_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} d_1 & b_1 & c_1 \\ d_2 & b_2 & c_2 \\ d_3 & b_3 & c_3 \end{vmatrix}$$

Interchange of Rows or Columns

- **Theorem 5:** If any two rows (or two columns) of a determinant D are interchanged, the value of D is multiplied by -1
- **Proof:** The proof is by induction. We see that the theorem holds for determinants of order 2 and we can show that it holds for determinants of order n provided it holds for order n-1
- Let *D* be of order *n* and *E* be obtained from *D* by interchanging two rows. Expand *D* and *E* by a row that is not one of those interchanged the *j*th row. Then:

$$D = \sum_{k=1}^{n} (-1)^{j+k} a_{jk} M_{jk}, \quad E = \sum_{k=1}^{n} (-1)^{j+k} a_{jk} N_{jk}$$

where N_{jk} is obtained from the minor M_{jk} of a_{jk} in *D* by interchanging two rows. Since these minors are of order *n*-1, the induction hypothesis applies and so N_{jk} =- M_{jk} and *E*=-*D*



Interchange of two rows

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & 6 & 4 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 12$$

Proportional Rows or Columns



- **Theorem 6:** If corresponding entries in two rows (or 2 columns) of a determinant *D* are proportional, the value of *D* is zero **Proof:** Let the entries in the *i*th and *j*th rows of *D* be proportional, i.e. $a_{jk} = ca_{jk}, k = 1,...,n$. If c = 0 then D = 0.
- If $c \neq 0$ then D=cB, where the *i*th and *j*th rows of *B* are identical. Interchange these rows. Then *B* becomes -B. But if the rows are identical the new determinant must still be *B* as well. Thus B=-B, B=0 and D=0.

Example 10:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 & 6 & -4 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \\ -6 & -12 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

More Properties



- **Theorem 7: Addition of a row or column**. The value of a determinant is left unchanged if the entries in a row (or column) are altered by adding to them any constant multiple of the corresponding entries in any other row (or column)
- **Proof:** Apply Theorem 4 (binomial sequence) to the determinant that results from the given addition. This yields a sum of two determinants; one is the original determinant and the other contains two proportional rows by theorem 6 the second one is zero.
- Theorem 8: Determinant of a product of matrices For any $n \ge n$ matrices A and B det (AB) = det (BA) = det A det B

Derivative



Theorem 9: Derivative of a determinant

The derivative D' of a determinant D of order n whose entries are differentiable functions can be written:

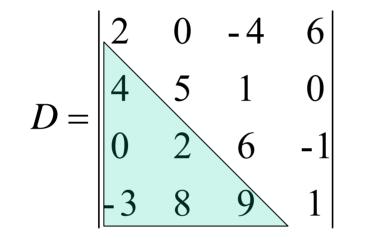
$$D' = D_{(1)} + D_{(2)} + \dots + D_{(n)}$$

where $D_{(j)}$ is obtained from D by differentiating the entries in
the *j*th row.

Example

$$\frac{d}{dx}\begin{vmatrix} f & g & h \\ p & q & r \\ u & v & w \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} f' & g' & h' \\ p & q & r \\ u & v & w \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} f & g & h \\ p' & q' & r' \\ u & v & w \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} f & g & h \\ p & q & r \\ u & v & w \end{vmatrix}$$

Example 11: Evaluation of a determinant by reduction to triangular form:



Example 11: Evaluation of a determinant by reduction to triangular form:

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & -4 & 6 \\ 0 & 5 & 9 & -12 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 & -1 \\ 0 & 8 & 3 & 10 \end{vmatrix} \text{ row } 4 + 1.5 \text{ row } 1$$

$$= 2x \begin{vmatrix} 5 & 9 & -12 \\ 2 & 6 & -1 \\ 8 & 3 & 10 \end{vmatrix}$$

Example 11: Evaluation of a determinant by reduction to triangular form:

$$D = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & -4 & 6 \\ 0 & 5 & 9 & -12 \\ 0 & 0 & 2.4 & 3.8 \\ 0 & 0 & -11.4 & 29.2 \end{vmatrix} \text{ row } 3 - 0.4 \text{ row } 2$$

$$= 2 \times 5 \times \begin{vmatrix} 2.4 & 3.8 \\ -11.4 & 29.2 \end{vmatrix}$$

Example 11: Evaluation of a determinant by reduction to triangular form:

 $D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -4 & 6 \\ 0 & 5 & 9 & -12 \\ 0 & 0 & 2.4 & 3.8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 47.25 \end{bmatrix} \text{row } 4 + 4.75 \text{ row } 3$

 $=2 \times 5 \times 2.4 \times 47.25 = 1134$

Rank in Terms of Determinants



- **Theorem 1:** An *m* x *n* matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{jk}]$ has rank $r \ge 1$ iff \mathbf{A} has an *r* x *r* submatrix with nonzero determinant, whereas the determinant of every square submatrix with *r*+1 or more rows is zero.
- In particular, if A is a square matrix, A is nonsingular, so that the inverse A⁻¹ exists iff det $A \neq 0$
- **Proof:** Key lies in the fact that elementary row operations do not alter the rank or the property of a determinant being zero or not zero.
 - Also remember that elementary row operations enable manipulation of matrix to make it easier to see the rank by reducing the matrix to its echelon form – the "shape" of which is described in the theorem.



Cramer's Theorem

Theorem 2: (a) If the determinant $D = \det \mathbf{A}$ of a linear system of *n* equations

$$a_{11}.x_{1} + \dots + a_{1n}.x_{n} = b_{1}$$

$$a_{21}.x_{1} + \dots + a_{2n}.x_{n} = b_{2}$$

....

$$a_{n1}.x_{1} + \dots + a_{nn}.x_{n} = b_{n}$$
(1)

in the same number of unknowns is not zero then the system has precisely one solution. Which is given by the formulas:

$$x_1 = D_1/D, x_2 = D_2/D, \dots, x_n = D_n/D$$

as before.

(b) Hence if (1) is **homogeneous** and $D\neq 0$, it has only the trivial solution $x_1=0, x_2=0,...x_n=0$. If D=0, the homogeneous system also has nontrivial solutions



Inverse of Matrix

Theorem 3: The inverse of a nonsingular $n \ge n$ matrix $\mathbf{A} = [a_{jk}]$ is given by

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} C_{jk} \end{bmatrix}^{\mathrm{T}} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} C_{11} & C_{21} & \cdots & C_{n1} \\ C_{12} & C_{22} & \cdots & C_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ C_{1n} & C_{2n} & \cdots & C_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

where C_{jk} is the cofactor of a_{jk} in det **A**. Note well that in **A**⁻¹ we use the transpose of the cofactors – i.e. the cofactor C_{jk} occupies the same place as a_{kj} (**not** a_{jk}) does in **A**.

Find the inverse of $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A}^{-1} = 0.1 \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 2 & 3 \\ -13 & -2 & 7 \\ 8 & 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution: The inverse is: $1/(\det \mathbf{A})$ times the matrix of cofactors transposed. det $\mathbf{A} = -1(-4-3)-1(12+1)+2(9-1) = 10$

Alternatively:

det $\mathbf{A} = (-1)(-1)4 + 1x1x(-1) + 2x3x3 - (-1)(-1)2 - 1(-1)3 - 1x3x4 = 10$ cofactors: $C_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = -7 C_{12} = -\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = -13 C_{13} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 8$ $C_{21} = -\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \quad C_{22} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = -2 \quad C_{23} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = 2$ $C_{31} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \quad C_{32} = -\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = 7 \quad C_{33} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = -2$

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Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

If $\mathbf{A} = [a_{jk}]$ is a given $n \ge n$ matrix, consider the vector equation: $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{x}$

where λ is a number. It is clear that the zero vector **x**=**0** is a solution to this for any value of λ .

- A value of λ for which there is a solution x≠0 is called an eigenvalue or characteristic value (or *latent root*)
- The corresponding solutions x≠0 themselves are called eigenvectors or characteristic vectors of A
- The set of eigenvectors is called the **spectrum of A**.
- The largest of the absolute values of the eigenvalues is called the **spectral radius of A**
- The set of all eigenvectors corresponding to an eigenvalue of **A**, together with **0**, form a vector space the **eigenspace**.

Determination of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: eigenvalues. These must be determined first.

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2\\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_a\\ x_b \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_a\\ x_b \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{array}{c} -5x_a + 2x_b = \lambda x_a\\ 2x_a - 2x_b = \lambda x_b \end{bmatrix}$$

so that: $(-5-\lambda)x_a + 2x_b = 0$ $2x_a + (-2-\lambda)x_b = 0$ or: $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I})\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$

which is homogeneous. By Cramer's rule it has solution **x**≠**0** iff its coefficient determinant is zero.

Determination of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: eigenvalues.

$$D(\lambda) = \det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = \begin{vmatrix} -5 - \lambda & 2 \\ 2 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-5 - \lambda)(-2 - \lambda) - 4 = \lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 6 = 0$$

We call $D(\lambda)$ the characteristic determinant or, if expanded, the characteristic polynomial, and $D(\lambda)=0$ the characteristic equation of **A**.

The solutions of this quadratic equation are λ_1 =-1 and λ_2 =-6. These are the eigenvalues of **A**

Determination of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: eigenvector of A corresponding to λ_1 .

This vector is found by setting $\lambda = \lambda_1 = -1$ in the original equations

$$(-5-\lambda)x_{a} + 2x_{b} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad -4x_{a} + 2x_{b} = 0$$

$$2x_{a} + (-2-\lambda)x_{b} = 0 \quad 2x_{a} - x_{b} = 0$$

i.e. $x_b=2x_a$ where x_a is chosen arbitrarily. Let $x_a=1$ then $x_b=2$ and an eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_1=-1$ is

$$\mathbf{x}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Check:} \quad \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = -1\mathbf{x}_{1} = \lambda_{1}\mathbf{x}_{1}$$

Determination of eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the matrix

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: eigenvector of A corresponding to λ_2 .

Set $\lambda = \lambda_2 = -6$ in the original equations

$$(-5-\lambda)x_a + 2x_b = 0$$
 or $x_a + 2x_b = 0$
 $2x_a + (-2-\lambda)x_b = 0$ $2x_a + 4x_b = 0$

i.e. $x_b = -x_a/2$ where x_a is chosen arbitrarily. Let $x_a = 2$ then $x_b = -1$ and an eigenvector corresponding to $\lambda_2 = -6$ is

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$