Supplemental problems: Chapter 4, Determinants

1. If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, is it necessarily true that $\det(-A) = -\det(A)$? Justify your answer.

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

a) Using cofactor expansion, explain why $\det(A) = 0$ if A has a row or a column of zeros.

b) Using cofactor expansion, explain why $\det(A) = 0$ if A has adjacent identical columns.

3. Find the volume of the parallelepiped in $\mathbf{R}^4$ naturally determined by the vectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 7 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -5 \\ 0 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}.$$

4. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$, and define a transformation $T : \mathbf{R}^2 \to \mathbf{R}^2$ by $T(x) = Ax$. Find the area of $T(S)$, if S is a triangle in $\mathbf{R}^2$ with area 2.

5. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -8 & 6 & 8 \\ 3 & -9 & 5 & 10 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -4 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & -3 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 3 & -3 & -2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

a) Compute $\det(A)$.

b) Compute $\det(B)$.

c) Compute $\det(AB)$.

d) Compute $\det(A^2B^{-1}AB^2)$.

6. If A is a 3×3 matrix and $\det(A) = 1$, what is $\det(-2A)$?

7. **a)** Is there a real 2×2 matrix A that satisfies $A^4 = -I_2$? Either write such an A, or show that no such A exists.
(hint: think geometrically! The matrix $-I_2$ represents rotation by π radians).

b) Is there a real 3×3 matrix A that satisfies $A^4 = -I_3$? Either write such an A, or show that no such A exists.

Supplemental problems: §5.1

1. True or false. Answer true if the statement is always true. Otherwise, answer false.

a) If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices and A is row equivalent to B, then A and B have the same eigenvalues.

b) If A is an $n \times n$ matrix and its eigenvectors form a basis for $\mathbf{R}^n$, then A is invertible.

c) If 0 is an eigenvalue of the $n \times n$ matrix A, then $\operatorname{rank}(A) < n$.

d) The diagonal entries of an $n \times n$ matrix A are its eigenvalues.

e) If A is invertible and 2 is an eigenvalue of A, then $\frac{1}{2}$ is an eigenvalue of A^{-1}.

f) If $\det(A) = 0$, then 0 is an eigenvalue of A.

2. In this problem, you need not explain your answers; just circle the correct one(s).

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

a) Which **one** of the following statements is correct?

1. An eigenvector of A is a vector v such that $Av = \lambda v$ for a nonzero scalar λ.
2. An eigenvector of A is a nonzero vector v such that $Av = \lambda v$ for a scalar λ.
3. An eigenvector of A is a nonzero scalar λ such that $Av = \lambda v$ for some vector v.
4. An eigenvector of A is a nonzero vector v such that $Av = \lambda v$ for a nonzero scalar λ.

b) Which **one** of the following statements is **not** correct?

1. An eigenvalue of A is a scalar λ such that $A - \lambda I$ is not invertible.
2. An eigenvalue of A is a scalar λ such that $(A - \lambda I)v = 0$ has a solution.
3. An eigenvalue of A is a scalar λ such that $Av = \lambda v$ for a nonzero vector v.
4. An eigenvalue of A is a scalar λ such that $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$.

3. Find a basis $\mathcal{B}$ for the (-1)-eigenspace of $Z = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

4. Suppose A is an $n \times n$ matrix satisfying $A^2 = 0$. Find all eigenvalues of A. Justify your answer.

5. Match the statements (i)-(v) with the corresponding statements (a)-(e). All matrices are 3×3. There is a unique correspondence. Justify the correspondences in words.

(i) $Ax = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ has a unique solution.
(ii) The transformation $T(v) = Av$ fixes a nonzero vector.
(iii) A is obtained from B by subtracting the third row of B from the first row of B.
(iv) The columns of A and B are the same; except that the first, second and third columns of A are respectively the first, third, and second columns of B.
(v) The columns of A, when added, give the zero vector.

(a) 0 is an eigenvalue of A.
(b) A is invertible.
(c) $\det(A) = \det(B)$
(d) $\det(A) = -\det(B)$
(e) 1 is an eigenvalue of A.