

# Fundamentals of Linear Algebra and Optimization

Jean Gallier

## Homework 3

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**Problem B1 (10 pts).** Let  $f: E \rightarrow F$  be a linear map which is also a bijection (it is injective and surjective). Prove that the inverse function  $f^{-1}: F \rightarrow E$  is linear.

**Problem B2 (10 pts).** Given two vectors spaces  $E$  and  $F$ , let  $(u_i)_{i \in I}$  be any basis of  $E$  and let  $(v_i)_{i \in I}$  be any family of vectors in  $F$ . Prove that the unique linear map  $f: E \rightarrow F$  such that  $f(u_i) = v_i$  for all  $i \in I$  is surjective iff  $(v_i)_{i \in I}$  spans  $F$ .

**Problem B3 (40 pts).** (1) Let  $f: E \rightarrow F$  be a linear map with  $\dim(E) = n$  and  $\dim(F) = m$ . Prove that  $f$  has rank 1 iff  $f$  is represented by an  $m \times n$  matrix of the form

$$A = uv^\top$$

with  $u$  a nonzero column vector of dimension  $m$  and  $v$  a nonzero column vector of dimension  $n$ .

In the rest of this problem we assume that  $m = n \geq 1$ .

(2) Prove that if  $v^\top u \neq 1$ , then  $M = I - uv^\top$  is invertible and that its inverse is given by

$$M^{-1} = I + (1 - v^\top u)^{-1} uv^\top.$$

(3) Consider the  $(n + 1) \times (n + 1)$  matrix

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} I & u \\ v^\top & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Prove that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ -v^\top & 1 \end{pmatrix} H = \begin{pmatrix} I & u \\ 0 & 1 - v^\top u \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then prove that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & u \\ 0 & 1 - v^\top u \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I & -u(1 - v^\top u)^{-1} \\ 0 & (1 - v^\top u)^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

and that

$$H^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} I + u(1 - v^\top u)^{-1}v^\top & -u(1 - v^\top u)^{-1} \\ -(1 - v^\top u)^{-1}v^\top & (1 - v^\top u)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

(4) Prove that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & -u \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} H = \begin{pmatrix} I - uv^\top & 0 \\ v^\top & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then prove that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I - uv^\top & 0 \\ v^\top & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} (I - uv^\top)^{-1} & 0 \\ -v^\top(I - uv^\top)^{-1} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and that

$$H^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} M^{-1} & -M^{-1}u \\ -v^\top M^{-1} & 1 + v^\top M^{-1}u \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $M = I - uv^\top$  is the matrix from Part (2).

From the two expressions for  $H^{-1}$ , deduce again that

$$M^{-1} = I + (1 - v^\top u)^{-1} uv^\top.$$

**Problem B4 (60 pts).** (1) Let  $U$  and  $V$  be  $n \times k$  matrices, with  $k \leq n$ . We know from HW1, Problem B5, that  $I_n - UV^\top$  is invertible iff  $I_k - V^\top U$  is invertible. If  $I_k - V^\top U$  is invertible, then prove that

$$(I_n - UV^\top)^{-1} = I_n + U(I_k - V^\top U)^{-1}V^\top.$$

If  $k$  is a lot smaller than  $n$ , this formula provides a much cheaper way of computing  $(I_n - UV^\top)^{-1}$ .

(2) Let  $A$  be an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix. Again, show that HW1, Problem B5, implies that  $A - UV^\top$  is invertible iff  $I_k - V^\top A^{-1}U$  is invertible. If  $A - UV^\top$  is invertible, prove that

$$(A - UV^\top)^{-1} = A^{-1} + A^{-1}U(I_k - V^\top A^{-1}U)^{-1}V^\top A^{-1}.$$

This is the *Sherman–Morrison–Woodbury formula*.

(3) Prove that the  $(n + k) \times (n + k)$  matrix

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} A & U \\ V^\top & I_k \end{pmatrix}$$

is invertible iff the matrix  $A - UV^\top$  is invertible.

*Hint.* Examine the nullspaces of these two matrices.

(4) Check that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_n & 0 \\ -V^\top A^{-1} & I_k \end{pmatrix} H = \begin{pmatrix} A & U \\ 0 & I_k - V^\top A^{-1}U \end{pmatrix}.$$

Also check that

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_n & -U \\ 0 & I_k \end{pmatrix} H = \begin{pmatrix} A - UV^\top & 0 \\ V^\top & I_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let  $C = I_k - V^\top A^{-1}U$  and  $M = A - UV^\top$ . Check that

$$\begin{pmatrix} A & U \\ 0 & C \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1} & -A^{-1}UC^{-1} \\ 0 & C^{-1} \end{pmatrix},$$

and that

$$\begin{pmatrix} M & 0 \\ V^\top & I_k \end{pmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} M^{-1} & 0 \\ -V^\top M^{-1} & I_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

Deduce from the above equations that

$$H^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1} + A^{-1}UC^{-1}V^\top A^{-1} & -A^{-1}UC^{-1} \\ -C^{-1}V^\top A^{-1} & C^{-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} M^{-1} & -M^{-1}U \\ -V^\top M^{-1} & I_k + V^\top M^{-1}U \end{pmatrix}.$$

Use the above to derive again the formula in (2).

(5) Prove that  $UV^\top$  has rank at most  $k$ . Prove that  $UV^\top$  has rank  $k$  iff both  $U$  and  $V$  have rank  $k$ .

(6) Suppose  $M = A - UV^\top$  is invertible. Here is a method to solve the linear system  $My = b$  (where  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ) without actually using  $M$ , but instead using  $I_k - V^\top A^{-1}U$ , which is a much smaller matrix than  $M$  if  $k \ll n$ .

- (1) Let  $Z$  be an  $n \times k$  matrix with columns  $Z^1, \dots, Z^k$ . Solve the system  $Ax = b$  ( $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ) and the  $k$  linear systems  $AZ^i = U^i$ , where  $U^i$  is the  $i$ th column of  $U$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , which is equivalent to solving  $AZ = U$ .
- (2) Let  $C = I_k - V^\top Z$ , and solve the system  $Cw = V^\top x$  ( $w \in \mathbb{R}^k$ ).

Note that no matrix inversion is necessary, only Gaussian elimination is needed.

We claim that the solution  $y$  ( $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ) to the system  $My = b$  is

$$y = x + Zw.$$

Prove the above claim by using the equation of Part (2).

**Problem B5 (20 pts).** Prove that for every vector space  $E$ , if  $f: E \rightarrow E$  is an idempotent linear map, i.e.,  $f \circ f = f$ , then we have a direct sum

$$E = \text{Ker } f \oplus \text{Im } f,$$

so that  $f$  is the projection onto its image  $\text{Im } f$ .

**Problem B6 (40 pts).** Given any vector space  $E$ , a linear map  $f: E \rightarrow E$  is an *involution* if  $f \circ f = \text{id}$ .

- (1) Prove that an involution  $f$  is invertible. What is its inverse?

(2) Let  $E_1$  and  $E_{-1}$  be the subspaces of  $E$  defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} E_1 &= \{u \in E \mid f(u) = u\} \\ E_{-1} &= \{u \in E \mid f(u) = -u\}. \end{aligned}$$

Prove that we have a direct sum

$$E = E_1 \oplus E_{-1}.$$

*Hint.* For every  $u \in E$ , write

$$u = \frac{u + f(u)}{2} + \frac{u - f(u)}{2}.$$

(3) If  $E$  is finite-dimensional and  $f$  is an involution, prove that there is some basis of  $E$  with respect to which the matrix of  $f$  is of the form

$$I_{k,n-k} = \begin{pmatrix} I_k & 0 \\ 0 & -I_{n-k} \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $I_k$  is the  $k \times k$  identity matrix (similarly for  $I_{n-k}$ ) and  $k = \dim(E_1)$ . Can you give a geometric interpretation of the action of  $f$  (especially when  $k = n - 1$ )?

**Problem B7 (60 pts).** Let  $E$  be a real vector space of dimension  $n \geq 2$  and let  $F$  be any real vector space. Pick any basis  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  in  $E$ .

(1) Prove that for any bilinear alternating map  $f: E \times E \rightarrow F$ , for any two vectors  $x = x_1u_1 + \dots + x_nu_n$  and  $y = y_1u_1 + \dots + y_nu_n$ , we have

$$f(x, y) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_iy_j - x_jy_i)f(u_i, u_j).$$

Observe that

$$x_iy_j - x_jy_i = \begin{vmatrix} x_i & x_j \\ y_i & y_j \end{vmatrix}$$

is the determinant obtained from the  $2 \times n$  matrix

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n \\ y_1 & y_2 & \cdots & y_n \end{pmatrix}$$

by choosing two columns of index  $i < j$  among the  $n$  columns.

*Hint.* Let  $v = x_2u_2 + \dots + x_nu_n$  and  $w = y_2u_2 + \dots + y_nu_n$ . First prove that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= (x_1y_2 - x_2y_1)f(u_1, u_2) + (x_1y_3 - x_3y_1)f(u_1, u_3) + \cdots + (x_1y_n - x_ny_1)f(u_1, u_n) \\ &\quad + f(v, w). \end{aligned}$$

Then use induction.

(2) Prove that for any sequence  $(w_{ij})_{1 \leq i < j \leq n}$  of  $\binom{n}{2} = n(n-1)/2$  vectors  $w_{ij} \in F$ , there is a unique bilinear alternating map  $f: E \times E \rightarrow F$  such that

$$f(u_i, u_j) = w_{ij}, \quad 1 \leq i < j \leq n,$$

and in fact,

$$f(x, y) = \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_i y_j - x_j y_i) w_{ij}.$$

Conclude that there is a bijection  $\varphi$  between the set  $\text{Alt}^2(E; F)$  of bilinear alternating maps  $f: E \times E \rightarrow F$  and the product vector space  $F^{n(n-1)/2}$  given by

$$\varphi(f) = (f(u_i, u_j))_{1 \leq i < j \leq n}.$$

**Remark.** Observe that when  $F = \mathbb{R}$ , if we let  $A$  be the  $n \times n$  matrix given by  $A = (f(e_i, e_j))$  and if we let  $X$  be the column vector with entries  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and  $Y$  be the column vector with entries  $(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ , then  $A^\top = -A$  and  $f(x, y) = X^\top A Y$ .

(3) We define addition and scalar multiplication on the set of bilinear alternating maps as follows. For any two bilinear alternating maps  $f: E \times E \rightarrow F$  and  $g: E \times E \rightarrow F$ , for all  $x, y \in E$  and all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$(f + g)(x, y) = f(x, y) + g(x, y),$$

and

$$(\lambda f)(x, y) = \lambda f(x, y).$$

Check (quickly) that  $f + g$  and  $\lambda f$  are bilinear and alternating, and that the set  $\text{Alt}^2(E; F)$  of bilinear alternating maps with the above addition and scalar multiplication is a real vector space.

(4) Prove that the bijection  $\varphi: \text{Alt}^2(E; F) \rightarrow F^{n(n-1)/2}$  in (2) given by

$$\varphi(f) = (f(u_i, u_j))_{1 \leq i < j \leq n}$$

is linear. Conclude that  $\varphi$  is an isomorphism of vector spaces, and that if  $F$  has dimension  $m$ , then  $\text{Alt}^2(E; F)$  has dimension  $mn(n-1)/2$ .

**Extra Credit (50 pts).**

(5) Let  $p$  be an integer such that  $1 \leq p \leq n$ . Consider the set  $\text{Alt}^p(E; F)$  of multilinear alternating maps  $f: E^p \rightarrow F$ . Prove that for any vectors  $x_1, \dots, x_p \in E$ , if

$$x_i = x_{i1}u_1 + \dots + x_{in}u_n, \quad i = 1, \dots, p,$$

then

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_p) = \sum_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \dots < j_p \leq n} \Delta_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p}(x_1, \dots, x_p) f(u_{j_1}, u_{j_2}, \dots, u_{j_p}),$$

where  $\Delta_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p}(x_1, \dots, x_p)$  is the determinant (of a  $p \times p$  matrix)

$$\Delta_{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p}(x_1, \dots, x_p) = \begin{vmatrix} x_{1j_1} & x_{1j_2} & \cdots & x_{1j_p} \\ x_{2j_1} & x_{2j_2} & \cdots & x_{2j_p} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{pj_1} & x_{pj_2} & \cdots & x_{pj_p} \end{vmatrix}.$$

Observe that the above determinant is obtained from the  $p \times n$  matrix

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \cdots & x_{1n} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \cdots & x_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{p1} & x_{p2} & \cdots & x_{pn} \end{pmatrix},$$

by choosing the columns of index  $j_1, j_2, \dots, j_p$  among the  $n$  columns.

*Hint.* First observe that

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_p) = \sum_{(j_1, \dots, j_p) \in \{1, \dots, n\}^{\{1, \dots, p\}}} x_{1j_1} \cdots x_{pj_p} f(u_{j_1}, \dots, u_{j_p}),$$

where the sum extends over all sequences  $(j_1, \dots, j_p)$  of length  $p$  of elements from  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ .

You will also need the fact that the notion of signature of a permutation, which was defined for permutations of the set  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , is defined in a similar way for permutations of the set  $\{j_1, \dots, j_p\}$ , with  $1 \leq j_1 < \cdots < j_p \leq n$ .

(6) Give  $\text{Alt}^p(E; F)$  the structure of a vector space as in (3). Prove that the map  $\varphi: \text{Alt}^p(E; F) \rightarrow F^{\binom{n}{p}}$  given by

$$\varphi(f) = (f(u_{j_1}, u_{j_2}, \dots, u_{j_p}))_{1 \leq j_1 < j_2 < \cdots < j_p \leq n}$$

is an isomorphism of vector spaces.

What more can you say when  $p = n$ ? What is the dimension of  $\text{Alt}^n(E; F)$ ?

Suppose  $F = \mathbb{R}$ . Prove that the dimension of  $\text{Alt}^p(E; \mathbb{R})$  is  $\binom{n}{p}$  (recall that  $1 \leq p \leq n$ ). What is the dimension of  $\text{Alt}^n(E; \mathbb{R})$ ?

(7) Prove that for  $p > n$ , every multilinear alternating map  $f: E^p \rightarrow F$  is the zero map.

**TOTAL: 240 + 50 points.**