Math 2135 - Assignment 10

Due November 9, 2026

(1) Compute the determinant of the matrices by cofactor expansion. Pick a row or column that yields the least amount of computation:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 5 & 4 & -4 \\ 0 & -3 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 7 & 1 & -2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(2) **Rule of Sarrus (basketweaving) for the determinant of 3×3-matrices.** Let

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

Prove that

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

Hint: Expand $\det A$ across the first row.

(3) Give two 3×3-matrices with determinant 6. (Hint: triangular matrices.)

(4) Consider $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$.

(a) How does switching the rows effect the determinant? Compare $\det A$ and $\det \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ a & b \end{bmatrix}$.

(b) How does multiplying one row by a scalar effect the determinant? Compare $\det A$ and $\det \begin{bmatrix} ra & rb \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$.

(c) How does adding a multiple of one row to the other row effect the determinant? Compare $\det A$ and $\det \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c + ra & d + rb \end{bmatrix}$.

(5) Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} u & v \\ w & x \end{bmatrix}$. Show

$$\det(AB) = \det(A)\det(B).$$

(6) Compute the determinants by row reduction to echelon form:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & -3 \\ 3 & 4 & -4 \\ 2 & -3 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \qquad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 & -4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -5 \\ 2 & 7 & 6 & -3 \\ -3 & -10 & -7 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$