

Name: _____

Physics 263: Chapter 8 Practice Problems I

These are practice for the first part of Chapter 8 of BTM, which covers matrices and determinants.

2×2 Matrix Review

If we have a 2×2 matrix M written as

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} M_{11} & M_{12} \\ M_{21} & M_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

then the inverse M^{-1} and the determinant $|M|$ are given by

$$M^{-1} = \frac{1}{|M|} \begin{bmatrix} M_{22} & -M_{12} \\ -M_{21} & M_{11} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{where} \quad |M| = M_{11}M_{22} - M_{12}M_{21} .$$

1. The rotation matrix R_θ , which rotates a vector with components (x, y) by angle θ to the vector (x', y') , is given by

$$R_\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Verify that $R_{\theta+\theta'} = R_{\theta'}R_\theta$. What is the determinant of R_θ ?

2. Solve the following system of equations by computing a matrix inverse [$x = 3, y = -4$]:

$$3x - 2y = 17$$

$$5x + 3y = 3$$

3. Why is there not a unique solution to the following equations? What is the value of the appropriate determinant?

$$6x + 9y = 3$$

$$2x + 3y = 1$$

Larger Matrices

1. Solve the following simultaneous equations by matrix inversion:

$$2x + 3y - 4z = -3$$

$$3x - 2y + 5z = 24$$

$$x + 4y - 3z = -6$$

2. Show that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -5 & 4 \\ -1 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Find the cofactor matrix and the inverse for the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 10 \end{bmatrix}$$

Verify that your inverse does what it is supposed to do.

4. Does the following system have a unique solution?

$$x + 3y - 2z = 4$$

$$2x - y + z = 3$$

$$4x - 9y + 7z = 1$$