

# C&O 367 Assignment 1

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**Due on Wed. Jan. 16, 2008**

Note: Please explain your answers and proofs carefully. A yes or no does not constitute a valid answer; nor does a numerical value with no explanation constitute a valid answer.

## 1 GEOMETRY

**Definition 1** For a vector  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we define the (Euclidean) norm and (Euclidean) inner product

$$\|\mathbf{x}\| := (x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2)^{1/2},$$
$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle := \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} := x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_n y_n.$$

**Theorem 1** (Cauchy-Schwarz)  $|\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}| \leq \|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|$ , with equality if and only if  $\mathbf{x} = \lambda \mathbf{y}$ , for some  $\lambda$ .

### 1.1 EXERCISES

1. (10) Explain the geometrical significance for the vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  of:

(a)

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} = 0.$$

(b)

$$\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} > 0.$$

(c)

$$\frac{\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}}{\|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|} \geq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

2. (10) Prove that the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \alpha$  is continuous, where  $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a given vector and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  is a given scalar.

## 2 CALCULUS

For a function  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the *gradient* is denoted

$$\nabla g(\mathbf{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2} \\ \dots \\ \frac{\partial g(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n} \end{pmatrix}$$

### 2.1 EXERCISES

- (5) If  $g(\mathbf{x}) = \|\mathbf{x}\|$ , calculate  $\nabla g(\mathbf{x})$ .
- (10) Suppose  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and  $f(t) := g(\mathbf{a} + t\mathbf{b})$ . Calculate  $f'(t)$ .

### 2.2 EXERCISES

**Definition 2** Suppose  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is infinitely differentiable at  $x = \mathbf{a}$ . The Taylor Series of  $f$  about  $\mathbf{a}$  is:

$$f(\mathbf{a}) + f'(\mathbf{a})(x - \mathbf{a}) + \frac{1}{2!}f''(\mathbf{a})(x - \mathbf{a})^2 + \frac{1}{3!}f'''(\mathbf{a})(x - \mathbf{a})^3 + \dots$$

Write down the Taylor series of:

- (5)  
 $f(x) = x^3$ , about  $x = 1$ .
- (5)  
 $f(x) = \log(1 + x)$ , about  $x = 0$ .

## 3 TOPOLOGY

**Definition 3** The open ball  $B(\mathbf{x}; r) := \{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n : \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\| < r\}$ . Suppose that  $D$  is a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Interior:**  $x \in \text{int } D$  if there exists  $r > 0$  with  $B(\mathbf{x}; r) \subset D$ .

**Closure:**  $x \in \text{cl } D$  if there exists a sequence  $x^k \in D$  with  $x^k \rightarrow x$ .

**Boundary:**  $x \in \partial D$  if  $x \in \text{cl } D \setminus \text{int } D$ .

$D$  is open if  $D = \text{int } D$ .  $D$  is closed if  $D = \text{cl } D$ .

### 3.1 EXERCISES

1. (15) For each of the following sets, find the interior, the closure, and the boundary. Then determine which of the sets are open, closed, neither, or both.

(a)  $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 \geq 0, x_2 \geq 0\}.$

(b)  $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 > 0, x_2 > 0\}.$

(c)  $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1 > 0, x_2 \geq 0\}.$

(d)  $\mathbb{R}^n$

(e)  $\{(x_1, x_2) : x_1^2 + x_2^2 < 0\}.$

(f)  $\emptyset.$

2. (a) (10) Prove that  $D$  is closed if and only if the complement  $D^c$  is open.  
(b) (10) Prove that  $x \in \partial D$  if and only if for any  $r > 0$  there exists a  $y \in B(x; r) \cap D$  and a  $z \in B(x; r) \cap D^c$ .

## 4 MATRICES

### 4.1 EXERCISES

1. (10) Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Calculate the determinant of  $A$ .  
(b) Calculate the rank of  $A$ .  
(c) What is the rank of  $A^T$ .

2. (10) Let

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Calculate the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $B$ .

3. (10) Let

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 & 4 \\ \rho & 4 & 10 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & 17 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Using elementary transformations (elementary row and column operations), find the value of  $\rho$  that minimizes the rank of  $C$ .