

6. exercise sheet for Mathematics for advanced materials science

6.1. (Laplace transform)

Compute $\mathcal{L}\{t \mapsto e^{it}\}(s) = \int_0^\infty e^{it} e^{-st} dt$ and compare real and imaginary parts to prove that

$$\mathcal{L}\{\cos\}(s) = \frac{s}{s^2 + 1} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{L}\{\sin\}(s) = \frac{1}{s^2 + 1}.$$

6.2. (Computing determinants)

Compute the determinant of each of the following matrices:

(a) $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$

(b) $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$

(c) $\begin{pmatrix} \cos(\varphi) \sin(\theta) & r \cos(\varphi) \cos(\theta) & -r \sin(\varphi) \sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\varphi) \sin(\theta) & r \sin(\varphi) \cos(\theta) & r \cos(\varphi) \sin(\theta) \\ \cos(\theta) & -r \sin(\theta) & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ for $r, \varphi, \theta \in \mathbb{R}.$

(Hint: for (c) employ the identity $\cos(\varphi)^2 + \sin(\varphi)^2 = |\exp(i\varphi)| = 1$ from Theorem 1.3. Your final result should only depend on r and θ and look very simple.)

6.3. (Inverting matrices)

Find the inverse matrix A^{-1} of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(Hint: there are several ways to do this. From your “Mathematik für ChemikerInnen 2” course you may know a variant of Gauß’s algorithm which accomplishes this. Alternatively, you may solve the system of linear equations $A\vec{b}_j \stackrel{!}{=} \vec{e}_j$ for each $j = 1, 2, 3$. What do the vectors \vec{b}_j have to do with A^{-1} ? Lastly, you could also use Cramer’s rule. You may verify the validity of your solution by checking that $AA^{-1} = \mathbf{1}_3$.)