

# Math 235: Linear Algebra

Midterm Exam 2

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Your University ID Number: Solutions

Please circle your professor's name: Bobkova Friedmann

- The presence of calculators, cell phones, iPods and other electronic devices at this exam is strictly forbidden.
- Show your work and justify your answers. You may not receive full credit for a correct answer if insufficient work is shown or insufficient justification is given.
- Clearly circle or label your final answers, on those questions for which it is appropriate.

QUESTION	VALUE	SCORE
1	20	
2	10	
3	15	
4	10	
5	15	
6	10	
7	20	
TOTAL	100	

## 1. (20 points)

Suppose that  $V$  is finite dimensional and let  $S : V \rightarrow V$  and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be linear operators. Prove that  $ST$  is invertible if and only if both  $S$  and  $T$  are invertible.

If  $S$  and  $T$  are invertible then  $ST$  is invertible:

$$V \xrightarrow{T} V \xrightarrow{S} V$$

$v \qquad w \qquad z$

Since  $ST : V \rightarrow V$ , proving  $ST$  is 1-1 would imply it's also onto, and proving  $ST$  is onto would imply it's also 1-1. So it's enough to prove either 1-1 or onto to prove invertibility. For these solutions to be most useful, let's do both.

• Show  $ST$  is 1-1, i.e. that if  $(ST)(v_1) = (ST)(v_2)$  then  $v_1 = v_2$ :

If  $(ST)(v_1) = (ST)(v_2)$  then  $S(T(v_1)) = S(T(v_2))$ , but  $S$  is invertible and therefore 1-1, so  $T(v_1) = T(v_2)$ . But  $T$  is also 1-1 so  $v_1 = v_2$ .

• Show  $ST$  is onto; i.e. for any  $z \in V$   $\exists v \in V$  s.t.  $(ST)(v) = z$ :

Since  $S$  is invertible, it is onto, so  $\exists w \in V$  s.t.  $S(w) = z$ .  $T$  is also onto, so  $\exists v \in V$  s.t.  $T(v) = w$ .

Hence  $S(T(v)) = S(w) = z$  so  $(ST)(v) = z$ .

Another method: pick a basis  $\beta$  of  $V$  and write  $[S]_\beta$ ,  $[T]_\beta$ ,  $[ST]_\beta$ .

Both  $[S]_\beta$  and  $[T]_\beta$  are invertible matrices, and  $[ST]_\beta = [S]_\beta [T]_\beta$ .

By a theorem,  $\text{rank } [S]_\beta [T]_\beta = \text{rank } [T]_\beta$  when  $[S]_\beta$  is invertible.

But  $\text{rank } [T]_\beta = \dim V$ , so  $\text{rank } [ST]_\beta = \dim V$  and  $ST$  is onto. So

As above  $ST$  is also 1-1 and so invertible.

If  $ST$  is invertible, so are  $S$  and  $T$ :

S:  $ST$  is onto, so  $\forall z \in V$ ,  $\exists v \in V$  s.t.  $(ST)(v) = z$ .

Since  $S(w) = z$  for  $w = T(v)$ ,  $S$  is onto. Hence it is also 1-1 and so invertible.

T:  $ST$  is 1-1 means  $\ker(ST) = \{0\}$ .

Suppose  $v \in \ker T$ . Then  $T(v) = 0$  so  $S(T(v)) = S(0) = 0$ .

Hence  $v \in \ker ST$  so  $v = 0$ . Therefore,  $\ker T = \{0\}$

so  $T$  is 1-1 and hence onto and invertible.

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Another method: use basis  $\beta$  again.

$$\text{By a theorem, } \text{rank}[S]_{\beta}[T]_{\beta} \leq \text{rank}[S]_{\beta}$$

$$\text{and } \text{rank}[S]_{\beta}[T]_{\beta} \leq \text{rank}[T]_{\beta}$$

$$ST \text{ is invertible so } \text{rank}[S]_{\beta}[T]_{\beta} = \dim V$$

$$\text{So } \dim V \leq \text{rank}[S]_{\beta}$$

$$\dim V \leq \text{rank}[T]_{\beta}$$

Since  $\text{rank}[S]_{\beta}$ ,  $\text{rank}[T]_{\beta}$  cannot be larger than  $\dim V$ , they must equal  $\dim V$ .

So both  $S$  and  $T$  are onto and therefore 1-1 and invertible.

Another method for  $ST$  invertible  $\Rightarrow S, T$  invertible:

$$\text{rk } ST = n \text{ since } ST \text{ is onto}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{rk } ST \leq \text{rk } S \\ \text{rk } ST \leq \text{rk } T \end{array} \right\} \text{ by a theorem.}$$

$$\text{But } \text{rk } S \leq n \text{ so } n = \text{rk } ST \leq \text{rk } S \leq n \Rightarrow \text{rk } S = n$$

same for  $T$ .

So  $S, T$  are onto. Since onto implies 1-1,  $S, T$  are invertible.

Another method for  $S, T$  invertible  $\Rightarrow ST$  invertible:

$$S^{-1} \text{ and } T^{-1} \text{ exist. so } (ST)T^{-1}S^{-1} = STT^{-1}S^{-1} = SIS^{-1} = I$$

Hence  $T^{-1}S^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $ST$ , so  $ST$  has an inverse.

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2. (10 points) In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , let  $\beta = \{(1, 2), (3, 4)\}$  and  $\beta' = \{(2, 4), (4, 6)\}$ . Find the change of coordinate matrix that changes  $\beta'$  coordinates into  $\beta$  coordinates.

We want the matrix  $Q$  that takes  $(2, 4)$  to its representation with respect to  $\beta$ , and takes  $(4, 6)$  to its representation with respect to  $\beta$ .

$$(2, 4) = a(1, 2) + b(3, 4)$$

$$2 = a + 3b$$

$$4 = 2a + 4b$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 & 4 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow b = 0, a = 2$$

$$(4, 6) = c(1, 2) + d(3, 4)$$

$$4 = c + 3d$$

$$6 = 2c + 4d$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & -2 & -2 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow d = 1, c = 1$$

$$\text{So } Q = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{check: } \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\beta'} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\beta'} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\beta} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

## 3. (15 points)

(a) Find all solutions for the system

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 5x_3 = 1$$

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 2$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 2 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{r_2 \rightarrow r_2 - r_1} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{r_2 \rightarrow -r_2/3} \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1/3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$r_1 \rightarrow r_1 - 2r_2 \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 5/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1/3 \end{array} \right)$$

$x_3 = t$ , a free parameter

$$x_2 + 2t = -1/3 \Rightarrow x_2 = -1/3 - 2t$$

$$x_1 + t = 5/3 \Rightarrow x_1 = 5/3 - t$$

$$S = \left\{ \left( \frac{5}{3} - t, -\frac{1}{3} - 2t, t \right) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \left\{ \left( \frac{5}{3}, -\frac{1}{3}, 0 \right) + t(-1, -2, 1) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

(b) Write down a product of elementary matrices which transforms the matrix of coefficients from part a) to its reduced row echelon form.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/3 \end{pmatrix} & \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ r_1 \rightarrow r_1 - 2r_2 & r_2 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{3}r_2 & r_2 \rightarrow r_2 - r_1 \end{array}$$

(c) Find all solutions for the system

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + 5x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$S_{\text{Hom}} = \left\{ t(-1, -2, 1) \mid t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

4. (10 points) Suppose  $A$  is a matrix and its row reduced echelon form is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(a) Compute the dimension of  $\text{Null}(L_A)$ .

$$\text{rank } L_A + \text{nullity } L_A = 5$$

$$\text{rank } L_A = \text{number of non-zero rows} = 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{nullity}(L_A) = 5 - 2 = 3$$

(b) If the first column of  $A$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$  and the third column of  $A$  is  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ , what is  $A$ ? Show your work.

$$2^{\text{nd}} \text{ column} = 2 \cdot 1^{\text{st}} \text{ column} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$4^{\text{th}} \text{ column} = 3 \cdot 1^{\text{st}} + 2 \cdot 3^{\text{rd}} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{So } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 1 & 4 \\ 5 & 10 & -1 & 13 & 36 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$5^{\text{th}} \text{ column} = 8 \cdot 1^{\text{st}} + 4 \cdot 3^{\text{rd}} = 8 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} + 4 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 36 \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) Find a basis for the vector space spanned by the columns of the matrix  $A$ .

$$\beta = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

5. (15 points) How many solutions can a homogeneous system of linear equations have? Give an example of a system of two equations in two variables for each case. Explain your examples briefly. You do not have to find the solutions of the systems.

A homogeneous system can have either 1 solution or infinitely many solutions.

1 solution: the matrix has full rank

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 0$$

Only solution is  $\{(0,0)\}$

Infinitely many solutions: the matrix does not have full rank

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 = 0$$

Solution set is  $\{t(1,-1) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\}$



6. (10 points) Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For which  $b = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{pmatrix}$  does the system  $Ax = b$  have a solution?

$b$  must be in  $R(L_A)$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 7 & 1 \\ 0 & 8 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\text{rank}(A)$  is clearly 3 so  $L_A$  is onto.

Therefore,  $A$  is invertible and  $A^{-1}b = x$  is a solution for any  $b$ .

## 7. (20 points)

- (a) (5 points) Prove that if  $B$  is a  $2 \times 1$  matrix and  $C$  is a  $1 \times 2$  matrix then the  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $BC$  has rank at most one.

By a theorem,  $\text{rank}(BC) \leq \text{rank} B$ , also  $\text{rank}(BC) \leq \text{rank} C$ .

The rank of a matrix cannot be larger than its number of rows or columns. Therefore,  $\text{rank} B \leq 1$ ; also  $\text{rank} C \leq 1$ .

So  $\text{rank}(BC) \leq 1$ .

- (b) (15 points) Show that if  $A$  is any  $2 \times 2$  matrix of rank 1 then there exist a  $2 \times 1$  matrix  $B$  and  $1 \times 2$  matrix  $C$  such that  $A = BC$ . (You will get 40% credit for providing an example.)

$$\text{If } B = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } C = (c_1, c_2) \text{ then } BC = \begin{pmatrix} b_1 c_1 & b_1 c_2 \\ b_2 c_1 & b_2 c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

If  $A$  is  $2 \times 2$  and has rank 1 then its columns (or rows) are multiples of each other.

$$\text{So } A \text{ has the form } \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & ka_1 \\ a_2 & ka_2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for } a_1, a_2, k \in \mathbb{F}.$$

$$\text{Pick } B = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix}, C = (1, k)$$

$$\text{Then } A = BC.$$