MIDTERM EXAM

Math 237 – Linear Algebra

Version 1

Fall 2017

Show all work. Answers without work will not receive credit. You may use a calculator, but you must show all relevant work to receive credit for a standard.

E1. Write a system of linear equations corresponding to the following augmented matrix.

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

Solution:

$$-4x_1 - x_2 + 3x_3 = 2$$
$$x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 0$$
$$-x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 = 4$$

E2. Put the following matrix in reduced row echelon form.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -8 & 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -8 & 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ -8 & 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & -\frac{3}{3} & -1 & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

E3. Find the solution set for the following system of linear equations.

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 - 5x_3 + 14x_4 = 8$$
$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + 5x_4 = 3$$

Solution: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & -5 & 14 & 8 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$, so RREF $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$. It follows that the solution set

is given by
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2a - b \\ 2 + 3a - 4b \\ a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$$
 for all real numbers a, b .

E4. Find a basis for the solution set to the homogeneous system of equations given by

$$3x + 2y + z = 0$$
$$x + y + z = 0$$

Solution: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, so RREF $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. It follows that the basis for the solution set is given by $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

V1. Let V be the set of all polynomials with the operations, for any $f, g \in V$, $c \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$f \oplus g = f' + g'$$
$$c \odot f = cf'$$

(here f' denotes the derivative of f).

- (a) Show that scalar multiplication **distributes scalars** over vector addition: $c \odot (f \oplus g) = c \odot f \oplus c \odot g$.
- (b) Determine if V is a vector space or not. Justify your answer.

Solution: Let $f, g \in \mathcal{P}$, and let $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

$$c \odot (f \oplus g) = c \odot (f' + g') = c(f' + g')' = cf'' + cg'' = cf' \oplus cg' = c \odot f \oplus c \odot g.$$

However, this is not a vector space, as there is no zero vector. Additionally, $1 \odot f \neq f$ for any nonzero polynomial f.

V2. Determine if $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 6 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$ belongs to the span of the set $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

Solution: Since

RREF
$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & | & 4 \\ 0 & -1 & | & -1 \\ -1 & 4 & | & 6 \\ 5 & 3 & | & -7 \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

contains the contradiction 0 = 1, $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 6 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}$ is not a linear combination of the three vectors.

V3. Determine if the vectors $\begin{bmatrix} -3\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 5\\-1\\-2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 2\\0\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\begin{bmatrix} 0\\2\\-1 \end{bmatrix}$ span \mathbb{R}^3

Solution:

$$RREF \left(\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since the resulting matrix has only two pivot columns, the vectors do not span \mathbb{R}^3 .

V4. Let W be the set of all \mathbb{R}^3 vectors $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ satisfying x+y+z=1 (this forms a plane). Determine if W is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

Solution: No, because **0** does not belong to W.

S1. Determine if the set of polynomials $\{x^2 + x, x^2 + 2x - 1, x^2 + 3x - 2\}$ is linearly dependent or linearly independent

Solution:

RREF
$$\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since there is a nonpivot column, the set is linearly dependent.

S2. Determine if the set $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-1\\0\\2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1\\0\\-1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\2\\0\\-1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^4 .

Solution:

$$RREF \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Since this is not the identity matrix, the set is not a basis.

S3. Let $W = \operatorname{span}\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix} -3\\-8\\0\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1\\2\\2\end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\-1\\3\end{bmatrix}\right\}\right)$. Find a basis for W.

Solution: Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 & 0 \\ -8 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$, and compute $RREF(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & \frac{3}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Since the first two columns are

pivot columns, $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3\\-8\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1\\2\\2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is a basis for W.

S4. Let $W = \operatorname{span}\left(\left\{\begin{bmatrix}2\\0\\-2\\0\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}3\\1\\3\\6\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}0\\0\\1\\1\end{bmatrix},\begin{bmatrix}1\\2\\0\\1\end{bmatrix}\right\}\right)$. Compute the dimension of W.

Solution:

RREF
$$\begin{pmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -11 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

This has 3 pivot columns so $\dim(W) = 3$.