

**Indian Institute of Information Technology,  
Design and Manufacturing Kancheepuram  
MA1002 Linear Algebra (Solution guideline)**

Date : 03/10/2024  
Time : 3.30 - 5.00

Mid Semester  
Marks : 25

1. Consider the following system of linear equations  $kx + y + z = 1$ ,  $x + ky + z = 1$ , and  $x + y + kz = 1$  where  $k$  is a real number. Find the values of  $k$  such that the above system has (i) infinite number of solutions, (ii) no solution and (iii) a unique solution. Justify your answer. (4)

$\begin{pmatrix} k & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & k & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow AX = b$ . So we consider the augmented matrix  $[A|b]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} (A|b) &= \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} k & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & k & 1 \end{array} \right) (R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2) \\ &\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ k & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & k & 1 \end{array} \right) (R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - kR_1, R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - R_1) \\ &\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 - k^2 & 1 - k & 1 - k \\ 0 & 1 - k & k - 1 & 0 \end{array} \right) (R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3) \\ &\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 - k & k - 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - k^2 & 1 - k & 1 - k \end{array} \right) \quad (i) \end{aligned}$$

When  $k = 1$ ,  $(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow x + y + z = 1$ . The solution set is  $S = \{(1 - a - b, a, b) : a, b \in R\}$ . So the system has infinite number of solutions when  $k = 1$ . ([1])  
So  $k \neq 1$ .

$$(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 - k & k - 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 - k^2 & 1 - k & 1 - k \end{array} \right) (R_2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{1 - k} R_2, R_3 \leftarrow \frac{1}{1 - k} R_3)$$

$$\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & k & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1+k & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) (R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - kR_2, R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - (1+k)R_2)$$

$$(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1+k & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & k+2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \quad (ii)$$

When  $k = -2$ ,

$$(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

Due to the last row of  $(A|b)$ , the system  $Ax = b$  has no solution when  $k = -2$  [1]  
So  $k \neq -2, 1$ .

$$(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1+k & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & k+2 & 1 \end{array} \right) (R_3 \leftarrow \frac{1}{k+2}R_3)$$

$$\sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1+k & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{k+2} \end{array} \right) (R_2 \leftarrow R_1 - (1+k)R_3, R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3)$$

$$(A|b) \sim \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{k+2} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{k+2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{k+2} \end{array} \right)$$

The solution of the system is unique and it is  $\{(\frac{1}{k+2}, \frac{1}{k+2}, \frac{1}{k+2})\}$  [2]

## 2. Count all possible $3 \times 3$ inequivalent classes of row-reduced echelon matrices. (4)

Let  $r$  be the number of non-zero rows.

$$r = 0: \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r = 1: \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r = 2: \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & x \\ 0 & 1 & y \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r = 3: \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $x, y$  are arbitrary scalars. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  mark for each matrix)

3. Find all  $2 \times 2$  elementary matrices and respective inverses. Justify your answer. (4)

The elementary row operations are

- (i)  $e_1: R_1 \leftarrow cR_1$  ( $c \neq 0$ ),  $e_1^{-1}: R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{c}R_1$   
(ii)  $e_2: R_2 \leftarrow cR_2$  ( $c \neq 0$ ),  $e_2^{-1}: R_2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{c}R_2$   
(iii)  $e_3: R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + cR_2$ ,  $e_3^{-1}: R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - cR_2$   
(iv)  $e_4: R_2 \leftarrow R_2 + cR_1$ ,  $e_4^{-1}: R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - cR_1$   
(v)  $e_5: R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$ ,  $e_5^{-1}: R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2$  [1]

Let  $E_i = e_i(I)$  and  $E_i^{-1} = e_i^{-1}(I)$ .

$$E_1 = \begin{pmatrix} c & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_1^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{c} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ c & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_2^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{c} & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad [1]$$

$$E_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & c \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_3^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -c \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$E_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ c & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_4^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -c & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad [1]$$

$$E_5 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_5^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad [1]$$

**Absence of details in your answerbook lead to at least 50 percentage deduction in marks.**

4. Let  $A \in F^{n \times n}$ . Prove that if  $AX = Y$  has a solution  $X \in F^{n \times 1}$  for each  $Y \in F^{n \times 1}$ , then  $A$  is invertible. (3)

Suppose that the system of equations  $AX = Y$  has a solution  $X$  for each  $n \times 1$  matrix  $Y$ . Let  $R$  be a row-reduced echelon matrix which is row-equivalent to  $A$ . By Corollary 12.2,  $R = PA$  where  $P$  is an  $n \times n$  invertible matrix. It is enough to prove that  $R = I$

$$\text{Consider } RX = E \iff (PA)X = E \iff AX = P^{-1}E \quad (1)$$

So  $AX = Y$  has a solution  $X$  for each  $Y \in F^{n \times 1} \implies AX = P^{-1}E$  has a solution

$X$  for  $E$  where

$$E = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\implies RX = E$  has a solution  $X$  for  $E$  (by (1)).  $\implies$  The last row of  $R$  is non-zero.  $\implies R$  is an  $n \times n$  row-reduced echelon matrix with no zero rows.  $\implies R = I$ .

Hence  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $R = I$ . By Theorem 12,  $A$  is invertible.

5. **Let  $V = \{x \in R : x \geq 0\}$  and  $F = R$ . For  $x, y \in V, \alpha \in R$ , we define  $x + y := xy$ , (vector addition) and  $\alpha x := |\alpha|x$ . (scalar multiplication). Verify, which are the list of axioms for a vector space are satisfied by  $(V, R, +, \cdot)$ .** (5)

- (a) Closure: For any  $x, y \geq 0$  in  $R$ ,  $x + y = xy \in R$  and it is non-negative. (0.5 mark)
- (b) Associativity law: The associativity law is true as it holds for  $R$ . (0.5 mark)
- (c) Additive identity: The number 1 is the additive identity. As  $x + 1 = x \cdot 1 = x$  for all  $x \in R$ . (2 marks)
- (d) Commutativity law: As the multiplication is commutative in  $R$ . (0.5 mark)
- (e) Scalar multiplication: For all non-negative  $x \in R$  and  $\alpha \in R$ ,  $\alpha x = |\alpha|x$  is also non-negative in  $R$ . (0.5 mark)
- (f) We have  $1x = |1|x = x$ . (.5 mark)
- (g) We also have  $(\alpha_1\alpha_2)x = |\alpha_1\alpha_2|x = |\alpha_1||\alpha_2|x$ .  
Also,  $\alpha_1(\alpha_2x) = |\alpha_1|(\alpha_2x) = |\alpha_1|(|\alpha_2|x) = |\alpha_1\alpha_2|x$ . Thus,  $(\alpha_1\alpha_2)x = \alpha_1(\alpha_2x)$  (0.5 mark)

6. **Show that  $0\alpha = 0$  for all  $\alpha \in V$ , where  $0$  is the additive identity in the field  $F$  and  $0$  is the zero vector in the vector space  $V$  (2)**

There can be multiple ways to prove this.

Let  $V$  be a vector space over the field  $F$ , and let  $0$  represent both the additive identity in  $F$  and  $0$ (zero vector) in  $V$ .

- (a) Consider the scalar multiplication of the zero scalar with any vector  $\alpha \in V$ . We want to show that multiplying the scalar 0 by any vector  $\alpha$  results in the zero vector  $0_V$  in the vector space  $V$ .

We will use the distributive property of scalar multiplication over addition in vector spaces:

$$0\alpha = (0 + 0)\alpha$$

- (b) Apply the distributive property of scalar multiplication:

By the distributive property of scalar multiplication over addition in  $F$ , we can expand the right-hand side as follows:

$$(0 + 0)\alpha = 0\alpha + 0\alpha$$

So, we now have the equation:

$$0\alpha = 0\alpha + 0\alpha$$

- (c) Subtract  $0\alpha$  from both sides of the equation to eliminate one of the terms on the right-hand side. Since scalar multiplication follows the usual rules of addition and subtraction in  $V$ , we can do this as follows:

$$(0\alpha) - (0\alpha) = (0\alpha + 0\alpha) - (0\alpha)$$

This simplifies to:

$$\mathbf{0} = 0\alpha$$

Thus, we have shown that multiplying the scalar 0 by any vector  $\alpha \in V$  results in the zero vector  $0_V$ , i.e.,

$$0\alpha = \mathbf{0}$$

This holds for all  $\alpha \in V$ , as required.

## 7. Prove that the inverse of a lower triangular matrix is a lower triangular matrix. (3)

Let  $L$  be an  $n \times n$  lower triangular matrix, meaning that all entries above the main diagonal are zero, i.e., for  $i < j$ , we have  $L_{ij} = 0$ . We need to show that the inverse  $L^{-1}$ , if it exists, is also a lower triangular matrix.

(a) **Diagonals  $L_{ii} \neq 0$  :** A lower triangular matrix is invertible iff all diagonal entries are non-zero.

(b) **Form of the Matrix Equation:**

Since  $L$  is invertible, there exists a matrix  $L^{-1}$  such that:

$$LL^{-1} = I_n$$

where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.

(c) **Consider the Entries of  $L^{-1}$ :**

Let  $L^{-1} = (b_{ij})$  be the inverse matrix of  $L$ . We want to show that  $b_{ij} = 0$  for  $i < j$ , meaning  $L^{-1}$  has zero entries above the main diagonal.

(d) **Matrix Multiplication:**

For the product  $LL^{-1} = I_n$ , consider the elements of the identity matrix on the diagonal and above the diagonal. The element in the  $(i, j)$ -th position of the product  $LL^{-1}$  is given by:

$$(LL^{-1})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n L_{ik}b_{kj}$$

Since  $L$  is lower triangular, for  $i < k$ ,  $L_{ik} = 0$ . Hence, the sum can only include terms with  $k \leq i$ . This implies:

$$(LL^{-1})_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^i L_{ik}b_{kj}$$

Now consider two cases:

- **Case 1:  $i = j$ :** On the diagonal of  $I_n$ , the entries are 1. Hence, for  $i = j$ , we have:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n L_{ik} b_{ki} = \sum_{k=1}^i L_{ik} b_{ki} = 1, \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$$

For  $i = 1$  and from  $L_{11} \neq 0$ , we have  $b_{11} \neq 0$ . Similarly, for other values of  $i$  and  $L_{ii} \neq 0$ , we can ensure that the inverse matrix  $L^{-1}$  must have non-zero diagonal elements.

- **Case 2:  $i < j$ :** For  $i < j$ , the entry in position  $(i, j)$  in  $I_n$  is 0. Thus, we have the equation:

$$\sum_{k=1}^n L_{ik} b_{kj} = \sum_{k=1}^i L_{ik} b_{kj} = 0$$

Since  $L_{ik} = 0$  for  $k > i$ , and for  $i < j$ , we conclude that:

$$b_{ij} = 0$$

- (e) Since the entries of  $L^{-1}$  above the diagonal are all zero,  $L^{-1}$  is a lower triangular matrix.