

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

MATH2101: LINEAR ALGEBRA I

December 16, 2023 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm

No calculators are allowed in the examination.

Answer ALL EIGHT questions

**Note:**

- You should always give precise and adequate explanations to support your conclusions. Clarity of presentation of your argument counts. So **think carefully before you write**.
  - If you write more than one solutions for a question, only the first one will be graded.

1. (24 points) Write down answers to the following questions. **No** explanation is required.

(a) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  and let  $b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find the solution set for the system of linear equations  $Ax = b$ .

(b) Find all eigenvalues of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

(c) Let

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

for some  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . It is known that  $\det(A) = 3$ . Find

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & a \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(d) Find the dimension of the vector subspace:

$$\{(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{R}^5 : x_1 = x_3 = 0\}.$$

(e) Let  $A$  be a  $5 \times 4$  matrix. If the reduced row echelon form of  $A$  has exactly 3 zero rows, find  $\text{rank}(A)$ .

(f) Find all values of  $x$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & x \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

is diagonalizable.

(g) Find all unit vectors  $v$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  such that  $v$  and the vector  $(2, 2, -1)^T$  are linearly dependent.

(h) Express the vector  $(3, 1, 0)^T$  as a linear combination of the following two vectors

$$(2, 1, 1)^T, \quad (1, 0, -1)^T.$$

2. Let  $\beta$  be an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $P$  be the change of coordinate matrix from  $\beta$  to the standard basis.

(a) (6 points) Prove that  $\langle Px, Py \rangle = \langle x, y \rangle$  for any  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(b) (4 points) Prove that  $\det(P) = \pm 1$ .

3. Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a linear transformation given by:

$$T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3, x_1 - x_3, ax_2 + x_3)$$

for some  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(a) (5 points) Determine all values of  $a$  so that  $T$  is invertible.

(b) (5 points) For  $a = 0$ , find an expression for the inverse  $T^{-1}(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ .

4. (10 points) Express the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 8 & -10 \\ 5 & -7 \end{pmatrix}^{100}$$

into the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

5. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 6 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) (5 points) Find a basis for the column space of  $A$ .

(b) (5 points) Find an orthonormal basis for  $\text{col}(A)$  by using the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process on the basis found in (a).

6. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 107 & -214 & 1 & 109 \\ 50 & -100 & 31 & 112 \\ 31 & -62 & 29 & 89 \\ 138 & -276 & 28 & 194 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 217 \\ 193 \\ 149 \\ 360 \end{pmatrix}.$$

It is known that  $(3, 1, 1, 1)^T$ ,  $(3, 2, -3, 3)^T$ ,  $(2, 0, 3, 0)^T$  are some solutions for the system of linear equations

$$Ax = b.$$

- (a) (3 points) What can you say about the number of solutions for the system  $Ax = b$ ? No explanation is required.
- (b) (9 points) Find the solution set for the system  $Ax = b$ . Explain your answer.
7. (12 points) Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  be vectors in a vector space  $V$ . Prove or disprove the following statement:  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  are linearly independent vectors if and only if  $v_1 + v_2, v_1 - v_2 + v_3, v_2 + v_3$  are linearly independent vectors.
8. (12 points) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Suppose  $A^2 = A$ . Prove that  $A$  is diagonalizable. (Hints: Consider possible eigenvalues of  $A$  and consider the subspaces  $\text{col}(A - I_n)$  and  $\text{col}(A)$ .)

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