

# Home Work #1

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## Question 1

**a**

Illustrate the use of the Gauss reduction in obtaining the general solution of the following set of equations:

$$2x_1 + x_3 = 4 \quad (1)$$

$$x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 7 \quad (2)$$

$$3x_1 + 2x_2 = 1 \quad (3)$$

We can solve this system using Gaussian elimination to obtain the general solution:

$$2x_1 + 0x_2 + x_3 = 4 \quad (1')$$

$$0x_1 + x_2 - \frac{1}{2}x_3 = -\frac{5}{2} \quad (2')$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 = 0 \quad (3')$$

Now, we can express the solutions as follows:

$$x_3 = t \quad (\text{a free parameter})$$

$$x_2 = -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t$$

$$x_1 = 2 - \frac{1}{2}t$$

So, the general solution to the system of equations (1), (2), and (3) is:

$$x_1 = 2 - \frac{1}{2}t, \quad x_2 = -\frac{5}{2} + \frac{1}{2}t, \quad x_3 = t$$

**b**

Illustrate the use of the Gauss reduction in obtaining the general solution of the following set of equations:

$$2x_1 - x_2 = 6 \quad (4)$$

$$-x_1 + 3x_2 - 2x_3 = 1 \quad (5)$$

$$-2x_2 + 4x_3 - 3x_4 = -2 \quad (6)$$

$$-3x_3 + 5x_4 = 1 \quad (7)$$

We will solve this system using Gaussian elimination to obtain the general solution.

Step 1: Start with the augmented matrix for the system:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ -1 & 3 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 2: Apply row operations to transform the matrix into upper triangular form.

First, let's eliminate the  $x_1$  coefficient in the second row:

Multiply the first row by  $1/2$  and add it to the second row:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 7/2 & -1 & 0 & 7/2 \\ 0 & -2 & 4 & -3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Next, let's eliminate the  $x_2$  coefficient in the third row:

Multiply the second row by  $4/7$  and add it to the third row:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 7/2 & -1 & 0 & 7/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 6/7 & -3/7 & -6/7 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, eliminate the  $x_3$  coefficient in the fourth row:

Multiply the third row by  $-7/6$  and add it to the fourth row:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 7/2 & -1 & 0 & 7/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 6/7 & -3/7 & -6/7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 20/7 & 19/7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 3: Back-substitution to find the solutions.

From the last row, we find:

$$\frac{20}{7}x_4 = \frac{19}{7}$$

Solving for  $x_4$ :

$$x_4 = \frac{19}{20}$$

Now, we can back-substitute to find the values of  $x_3$ ,  $x_2$ , and  $x_1$ . Start from the third row:

$$\frac{6}{7}x_3 - \frac{3}{7}x_4 = -\frac{6}{7}\left(\frac{19}{20}\right) + \frac{3}{7}\left(\frac{19}{20}\right) = -\frac{1}{4}$$

Solving for  $x_3$ :

$$x_3 = -\frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{7}{6} = -\frac{7}{24}$$

Now, proceed to the second row:

$$\frac{7}{2}x_2 - x_3 = \frac{7}{2}\left(-\frac{7}{24}\right) + \frac{1}{4} = -\frac{13}{24}$$

Solving for  $x_2$ :

$$x_2 = -\frac{13}{24} \cdot \frac{2}{7} = -\frac{13}{42}$$

Finally, solve for  $x_1$  using the first row:

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - x_2 &= 6 \\ 2x_1 &= 6 + x_2 = 6 - \frac{13}{42} \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $x_1$ :

$$x_1 = \frac{6}{2} - \frac{13}{42} = \frac{3}{1} - \frac{13}{42} = \frac{131}{42}$$

The general solution for the system of equations (4), (5), (6), and (7) is:

$$x_1 = \frac{131}{42}, \quad x_2 = -\frac{13}{42}, \quad x_3 = -\frac{7}{24}, \quad x_4 = \frac{19}{20}$$

## Question 2

If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices, under what conditions is the following relation true:

$$(A + B)(A - B) = A^2 - B^2$$

To understand when this relation holds, let's expand the left-hand side:

$$(A + B)(A - B) = A^2 - AB + BA - B^2$$

Now, for the relation  $A^2 - B^2$  to be equal to  $A^2 - AB + BA - B^2$ , it must be true that  $AB = BA$ . This condition holds if and only if matrices  $A$  and  $B$  commute, i.e.,  $AB = BA$  for all  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$ .

Example where the relation does not hold:

Consider the matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Here, } A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 10 \\ 15 & 22 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 59 & 70 \\ 83 & 98 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{However, } (A + B)(A - B) = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 8 \\ 10 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -4 \\ -4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -32 & -32 \\ -32 & -32 \end{bmatrix} \text{ which is not equal to } A^2 - B^2.$$

## Question 3

To determine the values of  $\lambda$  for which the given set of equations may possess a nontrivial solution, we need to analyze the system's augmented matrix and find when its determinant is zero. The system of equations is:

$$\begin{aligned} 3x_1 + x_2 - \lambda x_3 &= 0 \\ 4x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 &= 0 \\ 2\lambda x_1 + 4x_2 + \lambda x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

We can represent this system as an augmented matrix  $[A|B]$  where  $A$  is the coefficient matrix and  $B$  is the zero vector:

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

To find nontrivial solutions, the determinant of matrix  $A$  must be zero. So, we need to find when  $\det(A) = 0$ . The determinant of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix is given by:

$$\det(A) = \lambda^3 - 13\lambda = \lambda(\lambda^2 - 13) = 0$$

Now, we solve for  $\lambda$ :

$$1. \lambda = 0 \quad 2. \lambda^2 - 13 = 0$$

For case 1 ( $\lambda = 0$ ), we have:

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

Row reduce the matrix to its row echelon form:

$$1. R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2 \quad 2. R_1 \leftarrow \frac{1}{3}R_1 \quad 3. R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 4R_1 \quad 4. R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 4R_2$$

The row-echelon form is:

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

This shows that we have a free variable,  $x_3$ , which can take any real value, and two dependent variables  $x_2$  and  $x_1$ , which can be expressed in terms of  $x_3$ . The general solution for  $\lambda = 0$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= \frac{1}{3}x_3 \\ x_2 &= \frac{3}{4}x_3 \\ x_3 &\text{ is free} \end{aligned}$$

For case 2 ( $\lambda^2 - 13 = 0$ ), we have:

$$\lambda^2 = 13$$

Taking the square root of both sides:

$$\lambda = \pm\sqrt{13}$$

Now, for  $\lambda = \sqrt{13}$ , we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -\sqrt{13} & 0 \\ 4 & -2 & -3 & 0 \\ 2\sqrt{13} & 4 & \sqrt{13} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

And for  $\lambda = -\sqrt{13}$ , we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & \sqrt{13} & 0 \\ 4 & -2 & -3 & 0 \\ -2\sqrt{13} & 4 & -\sqrt{13} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

You can follow similar steps to determine the most general solution for each of these values of  $\lambda$ .

## Question 4

**a**

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be diagonal matrices of order  $n$ . A diagonal matrix is a matrix in which all off-diagonal elements are zero. Therefore,  $A$  and  $B$  can be represented as:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & a_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_3 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & b_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Now, let's compute the product  $AB$ :

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & a_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & a_3 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & a_n \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} b_1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & b_2 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & b_3 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

When you multiply two matrices, the  $(i, j)$ -th element of the product is given by the dot product of the  $i$ -th row of the first matrix and the  $j$ -th column of the second matrix. In this case, since  $A$  and  $B$  are diagonal matrices, the only non-zero elements of the product  $AB$  will be on the diagonal, and they will be the product of the corresponding elements of  $A$  and  $B$ .

So, for the product  $AB$ , the  $(i, i)$ -th element will be  $a_i \cdot b_i$  and all other elements will be zero. Therefore,  $AB$  is also a diagonal matrix, and the  $(i, j)$ -th element is zero for  $i \neq j$ .

**b**

To prove that  $BA = AB$ , we can use the commutative property of multiplication for diagonal matrices. Since  $A$  and  $B$  are both diagonal matrices, the order in which they are multiplied does not affect the result. Therefore,  $BA = AB$ .

This can be stated formally as:

$$AB = BA$$

So, the product of two diagonal matrices is commutative.

## Question 5

**a**

To show that the set of equations

$$\begin{aligned}2x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 &= \lambda x_1 \\2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= \lambda x_2 \\-x_1 + 2x_2 &= \lambda x_3\end{aligned}$$

can only possess a nontrivial solution if  $\lambda = 1$  or  $\lambda = -3$ , we can use the following steps:

1. Write the system of equations in augmented matrix form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -3+\lambda & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Reduce the augmented matrix to row echelon form:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. The last row of the row echelon form is zero, so the system of equations has infinitely many solutions. 4. In order for the system of equations to have a nontrivial solution, we must have  $\lambda = 1$  or  $\lambda = -3$ .

**b**

To obtain the general solution in each case, we can use the following steps:

1. Case  $\lambda = 1$ :

The system of equations becomes

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - x_2 + x_3 &= x_1 \\2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= x_2 \\-x_1 + 2x_2 &= x_3\end{aligned}$$

Subtracting the first equation from the second equation, we get

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

This means that  $x_2 = x_3$ . Substituting this into the third equation, we get

$$-x_1 + 2x_2 = x_2$$

This means that  $x_1 = x_2$ . Therefore, the general solution in this case is

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (t, t, t)$$

where  $t$  is any real number.

2. Case  $\lambda = -3$ :

The system of equations becomes

$$\begin{aligned}5x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 &= -3x_1 \\2x_1 - 6x_2 + 2x_3 &= -3x_2 \\-x_1 + 2x_2 &= -3x_3\end{aligned}$$

Adding the first equation to the second equation, we get

$$7x_1 - 8x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$$

Dividing both sides by 7, we get

$$x_1 - \frac{8}{7}x_2 + \frac{3}{7}x_3 = 0$$

Subtracting this equation from the third equation, we get

$$-\frac{15}{7}x_3 = 0$$

This means that  $x_3 = 0$ . Substituting this into the second equation, we get

$$2x_1 - 6x_2 = 0$$

This means that  $x_2 = \frac{1}{3}x_1$ . Therefore, the general solution in this case is

$$(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \left(t, \frac{1}{3}t, 0\right)$$

where  $t$  is any real number.

Contents

<b>Question 1</b>	<b>1</b>
a . . . . .	1
b . . . . .	1
<b>Question 2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Question 3</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Question 4</b>	<b>5</b>
a . . . . .	5
b . . . . .	5
<b>Question 5</b>	<b>6</b>
a . . . . .	6
b . . . . .	6