

Print Your Name: Key-1

T.A. or Section Number: \_\_\_\_\_

1. For the matrix  $A$  given below, determine:

- (a) (10 points) the rank and nullity of the matrix.
- (b) (10 points) a basis for the column space of the matrix, and a geometric description of the column space (i.e., is it a line, plane, hyperplane, in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ , etc.).
- (c) (12 points) a basis for the nullspace of the matrix, and a geometric description of the nullspace.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 & -7 \\ -8 & -9 & -10 & 19 \\ 4 & -3 & -10 & 13 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row reduce to RREF.

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & -9 \\ 0 & -9 & -18 & 27 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 & -9 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) There are two pivotal columns, so  
 $\boxed{\text{rank}(A) = 2}$  and  $\boxed{\text{nullity}(A) = 4 - 2 = 2}$

(b) The first two columns are pivotal, so a basis for the column space is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -9 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

This space is a  $\boxed{\text{plane in } \mathbb{R}^3}$ .

(c) Solving  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow$   

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= s - t \\ x_2 &= -2s + 3t \\ x_3 &= s \\ x_4 &= t \end{aligned}$$

So a basis for the nullspace is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

$\text{Nul}(A)$  is a  $\boxed{\text{plane in } \mathbb{R}^4}$ .

2. (20 points) Find the determinant of the matrix  $A$  below.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 & 2 & 0 \\ -5 & 6 & 2 & 0 \\ -6 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 8 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Expand on 4th column:

$$\det(A) = -3 \begin{vmatrix} -3 & -2 & 2 \\ -5 & 6 & 2 \\ -6 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \quad (\text{expand on 3rd row})$$

$$= -3 \left[ (-6) \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 2 \\ 6 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ -5 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \right]$$

$$= -3 \left[ (-6)(-4 - 12) + 3(-18 - 10) \right]$$

$$= -3 \left[ -6(-16) + 3(-28) \right]$$

$$= -3(96 - 84) = \boxed{-36}$$

3. (14 points) Given the vectors  $\vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ , find a vector that is orthogonal to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

The vector  $\vec{a} \times \vec{b}$  is orthogonal to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ :

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 1 & -3 & 5 \\ 3 & -4 & -1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (3 + 20)\vec{i} - (-1 - 15)\vec{j} + (-4 + 9)\vec{k}$$

$$= 23\vec{i} + 16\vec{j} + 5\vec{k}, \text{ or } \begin{bmatrix} 23 \\ 16 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(any multiple of this vector also works)

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4. (20 points) Find all eigenvalues and a basis for the eigenspace corresponding to each eigenvalue (i.e. all the eigenvectors) for the matrix  $B$  below.

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} -7 & -1 \\ 15 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find the eigenvalues, set

$$p(\lambda) = \det(B - \lambda I) = 0 :$$

$$p(\lambda) = \begin{vmatrix} -7-\lambda & -1 \\ 15 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-7-\lambda)(1-\lambda) + 15$$

$$= -7 + 6\lambda + \lambda^2 + 15 = \lambda^2 + 6\lambda + 8$$

$$= (\lambda + 4)(\lambda + 2), \text{ so the eigenvalues are } \boxed{\lambda_1 = -4, \lambda_2 = -2}$$

$$\lambda_1 = -4: A - (-4)I = A + 4I = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -1 \\ 15 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\text{Solving } A\vec{x} = -4\vec{x} \Leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} x_1 = -1/3t \\ x_2 = t \end{matrix}$$

so  $\boxed{\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}}$  is a basis for the eigenspace of  $\lambda = -4$

$$\lambda_2 = -2: A - (-2)I = A + 2I = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & -1 \\ 15 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/5 \\ 1 & 1/5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/5 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Solving } A\vec{x} = -2\vec{x} \Leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} x_1 = -1/5t \\ x_2 = t \end{matrix}, \text{ so } \boxed{\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1/5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}}$$

is a basis for the eigenspace of  $\lambda_2 = -2$ .

5. (14 points) Let  $S$  be the set of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that have the form  $\begin{bmatrix} t \\ 2t \\ -t \end{bmatrix}$ . Prove that

$S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Recall: that means you must show that (i)  $S$  contains  $\vec{0}$  and (ii) if  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in S$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $a\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in S$ .

(i) If  $t=0$ , we have  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$ , so  $\vec{0} \in S$ .

(ii) Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in S$ , then  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} t_1 \\ 2t_1 \\ -t_1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} t_2 \\ 2t_2 \\ -t_2 \end{bmatrix}$  for

some  $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then:

$$a\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} at_1 + t_2 \\ 2at_1 + 2t_2 \\ -at_1 - t_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} at_1 + t_2 \\ 2(at_1 + t_2) \\ -(at_1 + t_2) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\stackrel{t=at_1+t_2}{=} \begin{bmatrix} t \\ 2t \\ -t \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so } a\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in S.$$

Thus,  $S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . qed

**BONUS:** (5 points) Use the Big Theorem of Linear Algebra to explain why the eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of a matrix  $A$  must satisfy the equation  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ .

If  $\vec{x}$  is an eigenvector with associated eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then  $A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$  (by definition)

$$\Leftrightarrow (A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

Since  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$ , this means there exists an  $\vec{x} \neq \vec{0}$

with  $(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , so  $\text{nullity}(A - \lambda I) \geq 1$

$\Leftrightarrow$  the matrix  $(A - \lambda I)$  is not invertible

$$\Leftrightarrow \det(A - \lambda I) = 0.$$

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1. (20 points) Find all eigenvalues and a basis for the eigenspace corresponding to each eigenvalue (i.e. all the eigenvectors) for the matrix  $B$  below.

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & -1 \\ 14 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

First, find the eigenvalues by solving

$$p(\lambda) = \det(B - \lambda I) = 0 :$$

$$\det(B - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -8-\lambda & -1 \\ 14 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (-8-\lambda)(1-\lambda) + 14$$

$$= -8 + 7\lambda + \lambda^2 + 14 = \lambda^2 + 7\lambda + 6$$

$$= (\lambda + 6)(\lambda + 1), \text{ so } \boxed{\lambda_1 = -6, \lambda_2 = -1}$$

$$\underline{\lambda_1 = -6}: A + 6I = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 14 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow$  nullspace looks like  $\begin{matrix} x_1 = -1/2 t \\ x_2 = t \end{matrix} \Rightarrow$  basis for the eigenspace is:

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$\underline{\lambda_2 = -1}: A + I = \begin{bmatrix} -7 & -1 \\ 14 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/7 \\ 1 & 1/7 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1/7 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow$  solving  $A\vec{x} = -\vec{x}$  gives  $\begin{matrix} x_1 = -1/7 t \\ x_2 = t \end{matrix} \Rightarrow$  basis for the eigenspace is:

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1/7 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

2. (14 points) Given the vectors  $\vec{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ , find a vector that is orthogonal to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ .

The cross product is orthogonal to both  $\vec{a}$  and  $\vec{b}$ :

$$\vec{a} \times \vec{b} = \begin{vmatrix} \vec{i} & \vec{j} & \vec{k} \\ 2 & 4 & -3 \\ 5 & -1 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = (-8-3)\vec{i} - (-4+15)\vec{j} + (-2-20)\vec{k} \\ = -11\vec{i} - 11\vec{j} - 22\vec{k},$$

or  $\begin{bmatrix} -11 \\ -11 \\ -22 \end{bmatrix}$

(any multiple of this vector also works)

3. (14 points) Let  $S$  be the set of all vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that have the form  $\begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ -t \\ t \end{bmatrix}$ . Prove that

$S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Recall: that means you must show that (i)  $S$  contains  $\vec{0}$  and (ii) if  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in S$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $a\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in S$ .

(i) Letting  $t=0$  gives the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$ , so  $\vec{0} \in S$ .

(2) Let  $\vec{x}, \vec{y} \in S$ . Then  $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2t_1 \\ -t_1 \\ t_1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2t_2 \\ -t_2 \\ t_2 \end{bmatrix}$

for some  $t_1, t_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then:

$$a\vec{x} + \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 2at_1 + 2t_2 \\ -at_1 + (-t_2) \\ at_1 + t_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2(at_1 + t_2) \\ -(at_1 + t_2) \\ at_1 + t_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\stackrel{t=at_1+t_2}{=} \begin{bmatrix} 2t \\ -t \\ t \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so } a\vec{x} + \vec{y} \in S.$$

Thus,  $S$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

qed

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4. For the matrix  $A$  given below, determine:

- (a) (10 points) the rank and nullity of the matrix.
- (b) (10 points) a basis for the column space of the matrix, and a geometric description of the column space (i.e., is it a line, plane, hyperplane, in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ , etc.).
- (c) (12 points) a basis for the nullspace of the matrix, and a geometric description of the nullspace.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 8 & -6 \\ -8 & -9 & -20 & 12 \\ 6 & 0 & -12 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$$

Row reduce to RREF:

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 8 & -6 \\ 0 & 3 & 12 & -12 \\ 0 & -9 & -36 & 36 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -4 & 6 \\ 0 & 3 & 12 & -12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) 2 pivotal and 2 non-pivotal columns  
 $\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{rank}(A) = \text{nullity}(A) = 2}$

(b) The pivotal columns form a basis for  $\text{Col}(A)$ :  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -9 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\text{Col}(A)$  is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(c) Solve  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ :  

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 2s - 3t \\ x_2 &= -4s + 4t \\ x_3 &= s \\ x_4 &= t \end{aligned}$$

So a basis for  $\text{Nul}(A)$  is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

$\text{Nul}(A)$  is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

5. (20 points) Find the determinant of the matrix  $A$  below.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & 11 & 0 \\ 4 & -4 & 12 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Expand on column 4:

$$\det(A) = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \\ 3 & -3 & 11 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{expand on row 1}$$

$$= 2 \left[ 3 \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 8 \\ -3 & 11 \end{vmatrix} + 1 \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 3 & -3 \end{vmatrix} \right]$$

$$= 2 \left[ 3(-11 + 24) + (-6 + 3) \right]$$

$$= 2 \left[ 3(13) - 3 \right] = 2(36) = \boxed{72}$$

**BONUS:** (5 points) Use the Big Theorem of Linear Algebra to explain why the eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of a matrix  $A$  must satisfy the equation  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ .

See Form 1.