

The American University in Cairo  
Mathematics and Actuarial Science  
Linear Algebra  
March 19, 2020

MACT 2132  
Spring 2020  
Exam 1, V2  
Time Limit: 75 Minutes

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ UID: \_\_\_\_\_

- This exam contains 8 pages (including this cover page and the draft page).
- Answer all the problems.
- Unsupported answers are considered miracles and will receive little or no credit.
- Anyone caught writing after time has expired will be given a mark of zero.

Problem	Score	Points
1		7
2		11
3		14
4		20
Total		52

Key

Problem 1. The augmented matrix of a system of linear equations is given by

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & k & k & k \\ -4 & 3 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

- a) (1 pts) Determine the number of equations and the number of variables.  
 b) (6 pts) Find the value(s) of  $k$  that make the system consistent, and then solve the system.

(a)  $2x_1 - x_2 = 3$   
 $4x_1 + kx_2 = k$   
 $-4x_1 + 3x_2 = 1$   $\Rightarrow$  2 variables  
 3 equations

(b)  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & 3 & 3 \\ 4 & k & k & k \\ -4 & 3 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$

$\frac{1}{2}R_1 \rightarrow R_1$   
 $R_2 - 2R_1 \rightarrow R_2$   
 $R_3 + 2R_1 \rightarrow R_3$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/2 & 3/2 & 3/2 \\ 0 & k+2 & k-6 & k-6 \\ -4 & 3 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_3 + 4R_1 \rightarrow R_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/2 & 3/2 & 3/2 \\ 0 & k+2 & k-6 & k-6 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 7 \end{array} \right]$$

$R_3 - \frac{1}{k+2}R_2 \rightarrow R_3$   
 $k+2 \neq 0$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/2 & 3/2 & 3/2 \\ 0 & k+2 & k-6 & k-6 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 - \frac{k-6}{k+2} & 0 \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} x_1 - 1/2x_2 &= 3/2 \quad (1) \\ (k+2)x_2 &= (k-6) \quad (2) \\ 0 &= 7 - \frac{k-6}{k+2} \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

from (3):  $7 - \frac{k-6}{k+2}$  must be equal to 0  
 for system to be consistent

$$\begin{aligned} k+2 &\neq 0 \rightarrow k \neq -2 \\ 7 - \frac{k-6}{k+2} &= 0 \rightarrow 7 = \frac{k-6}{k+2} \\ \rightarrow 7(k+2) &= k-6 \\ \rightarrow 7k+14 &= k-6 \\ \rightarrow 6k &= -20 \\ \rightarrow k &= -10/3 \end{aligned}$$

(2):  $x_2 = \frac{k-6}{k+2}$ ,  $k+2 \neq 0$ , no restriction here

$\therefore k$  must be  $-\frac{10}{3}$  for system to be consistent

**Problem 2.** Let  $s, t$  and  $u$  be fixed real numbers. Consider the matrix

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & s & s^2 \\ 1 & t & t^2 \\ 1 & u & u^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- a) (4 pts) Show that  $|B| = (t-s)(u-s)(u-t)$ .  
 b) (5 pts) Find the inverse of  $B$  when  $s=0, t=1$  and  $u=2$  or show that it does not exist.  
 c) (2 pts) Determine the condition(s) on  $s, t$  and  $u$  for which  $B$  is invertible.

(a)  $\det(B) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & t & t^2 \\ 1 & u & u^2 \end{vmatrix} - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & s & s^2 \\ 1 & u & u^2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 1 & s & s^2 \\ 1 & t & t^2 \end{vmatrix}$

$$= tu^2 - ut^2 - su^2 + us^2 + st^2 - ts^2 + (tsu - tsu)$$

$$= (u-t) \left( \frac{tu(u-t)}{u-t} + \frac{s^2(u-t)}{u-t} - \frac{su(u-t)}{u-t} - \frac{ts(u-t)}{u-t} \right)$$

$$= (u-t)(tu + s^2 - su - ts)$$

$$= (u-t)(u-s)(t-s)$$

(b)  $\det(B) = (1)(2)(1) = 2$

$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , Compute  $\text{cof}(B)$

$c_{11} = (-1)^2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 2$ ,  $c_{12} = (-1)^3 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = -3$

$c_{13} = (-1)^4 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = 1$ ,  $c_{21} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 0$ ,  $c_{22} = (-1)^4 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix} = 4$

$c_{23} = (-1)^5 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} = -2$ ,  $c_{31} = 0$ ,  $c_{32} = (-1)^5 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -1$ ,

$c_{33} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 1$

$\rightarrow \text{cof}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\text{adj}(B) = [\text{cof}(B)]^T = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 4 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$B^{-1} = \frac{1}{2} \text{adj}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -3/2 & 2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & -1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$

(c)  $\det(B) \neq 0 \rightarrow (t-s)(u-t)(u-s) \neq 0$   
 $\rightarrow (t-s) \neq 0$  and  $(u-t) \neq 0$  and  $(u-s) \neq 0$   
 $\rightarrow s \neq t$  and  $u \neq t$  and  $u \neq s$



Problem 3. Let  $A$  be the  $3 \times 3$  matrix

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

a) (8 pts) Determine the eigenvalues for  $A$  and the corresponding eigenvectors.

Characteristic equation:  $\det(\lambda I - A) = 0$

$$\left| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right|$$

$$= \left| \begin{bmatrix} \lambda-1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & \lambda-1 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & \lambda-1 \end{bmatrix} \right| = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda-1 & -2 \\ 0 & \lambda-1 \\ -4 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (\lambda-1)^3 - 4(\lambda-1) = (\lambda-1)(\lambda^2 - 4)$$

$$= (\lambda-1)(\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 1 - 4) = (\lambda-1)(\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3)$$

$$= (\lambda-1)(\lambda-3)(\lambda+1) = 0$$

$$\rightarrow \lambda = \{-1, 1, 3\}$$

for  $\lambda = -1$  :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} -2 & -2 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \begin{pmatrix} -R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \\ -R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \\ -R_3 \rightarrow R_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 2 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow x_2 = 0 \text{ from row 2}$$

from ① or ③,  $x_1 = -1/2 x_3$

let  $x_3 = t \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 t \\ 0 \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

for  $\lambda = 1$  :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 0 & -2 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -4 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \Rightarrow x_1 = 0, -2x_2 = x_3$$

let  $x_3 = t \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

$$\therefore \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/2 t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $\lambda = 3$  :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} -\frac{1}{2}R_1 \rightarrow R_1 \\ -R_2 \rightarrow R_2 \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

Remark  
 (you can see that  
 $x_2 = 0$  and from  
 ① or ③  
 you can  
 $x_1 = 1/2$ )

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 - 4R_1 \rightarrow R_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 - 4R_2 \rightarrow R_3} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & -1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$x_2 = 0$$

and

$$x_1 = 1/2 x_3$$

let  $x_3 = t \in \mathbb{R} - \{0\}$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 t \\ 0 \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

b) (6 pts) Use Cayley-Hamilton Theorem to express  $A^5$  in terms of  $A^2$ ,  $A$ , and  $I$ .

Any square matrix satisfies  $\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 - \lambda + 4 = 0$   
 from (a)

$$(\lambda - 1)(\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3)$$

$$= \lambda^3 - 2\lambda^3 - 3\lambda - \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 4$$

$$= \lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 - \lambda + 4 = 0$$

CHT  
 $\Rightarrow$

$$A^3 - 3A^2 - A + 4I = 0$$

$$\boxed{A^3 = 3A^2 + A - 4I}$$

$$A^4 = A^3 A = (3A^2 + A - 4I)A$$

$$= 3A^3 + A^2 - 4A$$

$$= 3(3A^2 + A - 4I) + A^2 - 4A$$

$$= 9A^2 + 3A - 12I + A^2 - 4A$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{A^4 = 10A^2 - A - 12I}$$

$$A^5 = A^4 A = (10A^2 - A - 12I)A$$

$$= 10A^3 - A^2 - 12A$$

$$= 10(3A^2 + A - 4I) - A^2 - 12A$$

$$= 30A^2 + 10A - 40I - A^2 - 12A$$

$$\boxed{A^5 = 29A^2 - 2A - 40I}$$

Problem 4. (5 pts each) Prove or disprove four of the following.

- a) A homogeneous system of three linear equations in two variables has infinitely many solutions.

Reason:

True False

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \rightarrow x_1 = -x_2 \\ x_1 - x_2 &= 0 \rightarrow x_1 = x_2 \\ x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$\therefore$  only valid for  $(0, 0, 0)$

- b) If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices and  $A$  is invertible, then  $|(ABA^{-1})^2| = |B^2|$ .

Reason:

True False

$$\begin{aligned} \det(ABA^{-1})^2 &= [\det(A) \det(B) \det(A^{-1})]^2 \\ &= [\det(A) \det(B) \frac{1}{\det(A)}]^2 \quad (\because A^{-1} \text{ exists}) \\ &= [\det(B)]^2 \checkmark \\ &= \det(B) \det(B) \\ &= \det(B^2) \end{aligned}$$

- c) A square matrix can have two different row-echelon forms.

Reason:

True False

The REF of a matrix is a matrix in EF but with certain conditions, so any matrix has an REF and an EF.

ex/  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is in EF

and applying  $R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_1$

$$\Rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ also in EF}$$

- d) If  $\underline{x}$  is an eigenvector for  $A$  relative to an eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then so is  $c\underline{x}$  for any scalar  $c \neq 0$ .

Reason:

True False

$$c \cdot (\lambda I - A) \underline{x} = \underline{0} \cdot c$$

$$\rightarrow (\lambda I - A) c \underline{x} = \underline{0}$$

- e) If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $2 \times 2$  matrices such that  $A + B$  is invertible, then  $A$  or  $B$  is invertible.

Reason:

True False

$$\text{Let } A+B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}}_B$$

$$\det(A) = 0 \quad \det(B) = 0$$

$$\text{but } \det(A+B) = -2 \neq 0$$

$\therefore A+B$  invertible,

but neither  $A$  or  $B$  invertible

- f) If  $A$  is a symmetric invertible matrix, then  $5A^{-1}$  is symmetric.

Reason:

True False

$$A^T = A$$

$$(A^{-1})^T = (A^T)^{-1} = A^{-1}$$

$$(5A^{-1})^T = 5(A^{-1})^T = 5(A^T)^{-1} = (5A)^{-1} = 5A^{-1} \checkmark$$