

**Practice problems for midterm 2, Math 225 R1**  
**Fall 2012**

- You must not communicate with other students during this test.
- No books, notes, or written materials of any kind allowed.
- No phones, calculators, iPods or electronic devices of any kind are allowed for ANY reason, including checking the time (you may use a simple wristwatch).
- Do not turn this page until instructed to.

Name : Key

1. Compute the determinants using a cofactor expansion

$$(a) \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 3 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 5 & -1 \end{vmatrix} - 0 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + 4 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{= 1}}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 2 & -4 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 4 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + 4 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{= -5}}$$

2. Answer the following questions. Give reasons for your answer.

(a) What is the determinant of an elementary row replacement matrix?

$$\text{ex) } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ k & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \det = 1.$$

(b) What is the determinant of an elementary scaling matrix with  $k$  on diagonal?

$$\text{ex) } \begin{pmatrix} k & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \det = k.$$

3. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  and  $k$  be a scalar. Find a formula that relates  $\det kA$  and  $\det A$ .

$$\det kA = \begin{vmatrix} ka & kb \\ kc & kd \end{vmatrix} = ka \cdot kd - kb \cdot kc = k^2(ad - bc)$$

4. Each equation illustrates a property of determinants. State the property.

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 5 & -2 \\ 1 & -3 & 6 \\ 4 & -1 & 8 \end{vmatrix} = - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -3 & 6 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 \\ 4 & -1 & 8 \end{vmatrix}$$

Row 1 & row 2 are interchanged.  
So the determinant changes sign.

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

The row replacement operation  
does not change the determinant.

5. Find the determinants by row reduction to echelon form.

$$(a) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & -6 \\ -1 & -4 & 4 \\ -2 & -7 & 9 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$(b) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & -5 & 7 & 4 \\ 3 & 5 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & -3 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 8 \\ 0 & -4 & 2 & -5 \\ 0 & -4 & 2 & -5 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 8 \\ 0 & -4 & 2 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

6. Find the determinants followings, where  $\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = 7$

$$(a) \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ 5g & 5h & 5i \end{vmatrix} \quad 5 \times 7$$

$$(b) \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ g & h & i \\ d & e & f \end{vmatrix} \quad -7$$

7. Find a formula for  $\det(rA)$ , where  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix.

$$\det(rA) = r^n \det(A)$$

8. Use Cramer's rule to compute the solutions of the systems.

$$(a) \begin{cases} 5x_1 + 7x_2 = 3 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 = 1 \end{cases} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A_1(\vec{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 7 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad A_2(\vec{b}) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{5}{6}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det A_2(\vec{b})}{\det A} = -\frac{1}{6}$$

$$(b) \begin{cases} 3x_1 - 2x_2 = 7 \\ -5x_1 + 6x_2 = -5 \end{cases} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1(\vec{b})}{\det A} = 4, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det A_2(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{5}{2}$$

$$(c) \begin{cases} 2x_1 + x_2 = 7 \\ -3x_1 + x_3 = -8 \\ x_2 + 2x_3 = -3 \end{cases} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ -8 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{3}{2}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{\det A_2(\vec{b})}{\det A} = 4, \quad x_3 = \frac{\det A_3(\vec{b})}{\det A} = -\frac{7}{2}$$

9. Determine the values of the parameter  $s$  for which the system has a unique solution, and describe the solution.

$$(a) \begin{cases} 6sx_1 + 4x_2 = 5 \\ 9x_1 + 2sx_2 = -2 \end{cases}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 6s & 4 \\ 9 & 2s \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det A = 12s^2 - 36 = 12(s^2 - 3). \quad \det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow s \neq \pm\sqrt{3}.$$

• For  $s \neq \pm\sqrt{3}$ , the system has a unique sol<sup>n</sup> and

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ -2 & 2s \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 6s & 4 \\ 9 & 2s \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{5s+4}{6(s^2-3)}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det A_2(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{-4s-15}{4(s^2-3)}$$

$$(b) \begin{cases} sx_1 - 2sx_2 = -1 \\ 3x_1 + 6sx_2 = 4 \end{cases}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} s & -2s \\ 3 & 6s \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det A = 6s^2 + 6s = 6s(s+1).$$

$$\Rightarrow \det A \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow s \neq 0 \text{ and } s \neq -1.$$

For  $s \neq 0$  and  $-1$ ,

$$x_1 = \frac{\det A_1(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{1}{3(s+1)}, \quad x_2 = \frac{\det A_2(\vec{b})}{\det A} = \frac{4s+3}{6s(s+1)}.$$

10. Compute the adjugate of the given matrix, and then give the inverse of the matrix.

(a)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$C_{11} = \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0, \quad C_{12} = - \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -3, \quad C_{13} = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 3$$

$$\text{adj } A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -3 & -1 & -3 \\ 3 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A^{-1} = \frac{\text{adj } A}{\det A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1/3 & 0 \\ -1 & -1/3 & -1 \\ 1 & 2/3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b)  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 5 & 4 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{adj } A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 5 \\ 1 & -5 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A^{-1} = \frac{1}{8} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 5 \\ 1 & -5 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

11. Let  $V$  be the first quadrant in the  $xy$ -plane; that is let  $V = \{(x, y) : x \geq 0, y \geq 0\}$ .

(a) If  $u$  and  $v$  are in  $V$ , is  $u + v$  in  $V$ ?

Yes

( $u = (a, b)$ ,  $v = (c, d)$  ,  $a, b, c, d \geq 0$  then

$u + v = (a + c, b + d)$  and  $a + c \geq 0$  &  $b + d \geq 0$ .

(b) Find a specific vector  $u$  and specific scalar  $c$  such that  $cu$  is *not* in  $V$ . (This shows that  $V$  is not a vector space.)

$$-1 \cdot (1, 0) = (-1, 0) \notin V$$

12. Let  $H$  be the set of points inside and on the unit circle in the  $xy$ -plane. That is, let  $H = \{(x, y) : x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}$ . Find a specific example - two vectors or a vector and a scalar - to show that  $H$  is not a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . For  $(0, 1)$   $(1, 0) \in H$  but

$$1) \quad (1, 0) + (0, 1) = (1, 1) \notin H \quad (1^2 + 1^2 = 2 > 1)$$

$$2) \quad 3 \cdot (1, 0) = (3, 0) \notin H$$



13. Determine if the given set is a subspace of  $\mathbb{P}_n$  for an appropriate value of  $n$ .

(a) All polynomials in  $\mathbb{P}_n$  such that  $p(0) = 0$ .

Yes.

for  $f, g \in \mathbb{P}_n$  with  $f(0) = g(0) = 0$ .

$$\textcircled{1} \quad 0 \in \{f \in \mathbb{P}_n \mid f(0) = 0\} = A$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad (f+g)(0) = f(0) + g(0) = 0 + 0 = 0 \Rightarrow f+g \in A.$$

(closed under addition)

$$\textcircled{3} \quad (c \cdot f)(0) = c \cdot f(0) = c \cdot 0 = 0 \Rightarrow cf \in A.$$

By  $\textcircled{1}, \textcircled{2}$ , and  $\textcircled{3}$ ,  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{P}_n$ .

(b) All polynomials of the form  $p(t) = a + t^2$ , where  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ .

No!

$$2 \cdot (a + t^2) = 2a + \underline{\underline{2t^2}}$$

14. Let  $H$  be the set of all vectors of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} -2t \\ 5t \\ 3t \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$  such that  $H = \text{Span}\{v\}$ . Explain why this shows  $H$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

$$H = \text{Span}\left\{\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}\right\} \text{ and } H \text{ is a subspace (of dim 1) of } \mathbb{R}^3$$

15. Let  $W$  be the set of all vectors of the form  $\begin{pmatrix} 2b+3c \\ -b \\ 2c \end{pmatrix}$  where  $b, c$  are arbitrary real numbers. Find vectors  $u, v$  such that  $W = \text{Span}\{u, v\}$ . Explain why this shows  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

$$W = \text{Span}\left\{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}\right\}$$

16. The set of all continuous real-valued functions defined on a closed interval  $[a, b]$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is denoted by  $C[a, b]$ . This set is a subspace of the vector space of all real-valued functions defined on  $[a, b]$ .

(a) What facts about continuous functions should be proved in order to demonstrate that  $C[a, b]$  is indeed a subspace as claimed?

① addition of two continuous functions is continuous.

② scalar multiple of continuous function is continuous.

(b) Show that  $\{f \in C[a, b] : f(a) = f(b)\}$  is a subspace of  $C[a, b]$ .

①  $0 \in A$  ( $0(a) = 0(b) = 0$ )

② For  $f, g \in A$ ,  $(f+g)(a) = f(a) + g(a) = f(b) + g(b) = (f+g)(b)$   
Hence  $f+g \in A$

③ For  $f \in A$ ,  $(cf)(a) = c \cdot f(a) = c \cdot f(b) = (cf)(b) \Rightarrow cf \in A$

17. Find an explicit description of  $\text{Nul } A$ , by listing vectors that span the null space.

(a)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$   $(A, 0) \sim \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$x_1 = 2x_3 - 4x_4$   
 $x_2 = -3x_3 + 2x_4$   
 $x_3, x_4$  free  
 $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = x_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(b)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

$x_1 = 4x_2 - 2x_4$   
 $x_3 = 5x_4$   
 $x_5 = 0$   
 $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

18. Either use an appropriate theorem to show that the given set  $W$ , is a vector space, or find a specific example to the contrary.

$$(a) \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} : a + b + c = 2 \right\}$$

No!  $0$  is not in this set.

$$(b) \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} p \\ q \\ r \\ s \end{pmatrix} : p - 3q = 4s, 2p = s + 5r \right\}$$

$$W = \{ p - 3q - 4s = 0, 2p - s - 5r = 0 \}$$

$$= \text{Nul}(A), \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -3 & 0 & -4 \\ 2 & 0 & -5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence  $W$  is a vector space (since it is a nul-space of a matrix).

19. Find  $A$  such that the given set is Col  $A$ .

$$(a) \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 2s+t \\ r-s+2t \\ 3r+s \\ 2r-s-t \end{pmatrix} : r, s, t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow r \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} r \\ s \\ t \end{pmatrix}$$

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

$$(b) \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} b-c \\ 2b+3d \\ b+3c-3d \\ c+d \end{pmatrix} : b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$b \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + d \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b \\ c \\ d \end{pmatrix}$$

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

20. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -4 \\ -3 & 2 \\ -9 & 6 \\ 9 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a nonzero vector in  $\text{Nul } A$  and a nonzero vector in  $\text{Col } A$ .

21. Find a basis for the set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  in the plane  $x - 3y + 2z = 0$ .  
[Hint : Think of the equation as a "system" of homogeneous equations.]

$$A = (1, -3, 2)$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 3y - 2z \quad \& \quad y, z \text{ free.}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3y - 2z \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = y \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Basis for Nul } A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

22. Assume that  $A$  is row equivalent to  $B$ . Find bases for  $\text{Nul } A$  and  $\text{Col } A$ .

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 4 & -2 & -4 \\ 2 & -6 & -3 & 1 \\ -3 & 8 & 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 6 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

① First & second columns are pivot columns

$$\Rightarrow \text{Basis for } \text{Col } A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

② If we solve  $B\vec{x} = 0$ ,  $x_1 = -6x_3 - 5x_4$ ,  $x_2 = -5x_3 - 3x_4$   
 $x_3, x_4$  free

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x} = x_3 \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{basis for } \text{Nul } A = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -5 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

23. Let  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ -3 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 9 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 11 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ , and also let  $H = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ .

It can be verified that  $4v_1 + 5v_2 - 3v_3 = 0$ . Use this information to find a basis for  $H$ .

$v_3$  is a linear combination of  $v_1$  &  $v_2$  and it is easy to see  $v_1$  &  $v_2$  are linearly independent.

Hence  $\{v_1, v_2\}$  is a basis for  $H$ .

( Exactly the same reasoning shows that  $\{v_1, v_3\}$  or  $\{v_2, v_3\}$  are basis for  $H$ , too. )

24. Mark each statement True or False.

(a) A single vector by itself is linearly dependent.

False

(b) If  $H = \text{Span}\{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_p\}$ , then  $\{b_1, \dots, b_p\}$  is a basis for  $H$ .

False

(c) The columns of an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

True

(d) In some cases, the linear dependence relations among the columns of a matrix can be affected by certain elementary row operations on the matrix.

False



25. Consider the polynomials  $p_1(t) = 1+t^2$  and  $p_2(t) = 1-t^2$ . Is  $\{p_1(t), p_2(t)\}$  a linearly independent set in  $\mathbb{P}_3$ ?

$$\text{If } a(1+t^2) + b(1-t^2) = 0, \text{ then}$$

$$\Rightarrow (a+b) + (a-b)t^2 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow a+b = a-b = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a = b = 0.$$

Hence any linear combination of  $p_1(t)$  &  $p_2(t)$  that reduces to 0 must be a trivial linear combination.

$\Rightarrow p_1(t)$  &  $p_2(t)$  are linearly independent.

