

HOMEWORK 1
MATH 4070, FALL 2025

Problems to type in T_EX

1. (a) In \mathbb{R}^3 , prove that the set of vectors $(x, y, z)^\top$ which satisfy $x - y + 4z = 0$ is a subspace.

Let $V = \{(x, y, t)^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x - y + 4z = 0\}$. For V to be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 , it must show:

1. $0 \in V$
2. for any $v, w \in V$, $v + w \in V$
3. for any $v \in V$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$, $\alpha v \in V$

1. $0 = (0, 0, 0)^T \implies (0) - (0) + 4(0) = 0$, which is true, so $0 \in V$.

2. Let $v = (x_1, y_1, z_1)^T$ and $w = (x_2, y_2, z_2)^T$, s.t.

$$x_1 - y_1 + 4z_1 = 0$$

$$x_2 - y_2 + 4z_2 = 0$$

Consider $v + w = (x_1 + x_2, y_1 + y_2, z_1 + z_2)^T$, s.t.

$$(x_1 + x_2) - (y_1 + y_2) + 4(z_1 + z_2) = 0, \text{ rearrange}$$

$$(x_1 - y_1 + 4z_1) + (x_2 - y_2 + 4z_2) = 0$$

$$0 + 0 = 0, \text{ therefore } v + w \in V$$

3. Let $v = (x, y, z)^T$ s.t.

$$x - y + 4z = 0$$

Consider $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, where $\alpha v = (\alpha x, \alpha y, \alpha z)^T$, s.t.

$$\alpha x - \alpha y + 4\alpha z = 0, \text{ rearrange}$$

$$\alpha(x - y + 4z) = 0 \implies x - y + 4z = 0, \text{ therefore } \alpha v \in V$$

Because V matches all of the conditions, V is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

- (b) In \mathbb{R}^3 , prove that the set of vectors $(x, y, z)^\top$ which satisfy $x - y + 4z = 1$ is not a subspace.

Let $V = \{(x, y, t)^T \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid x - y + 4z = 1\}$. For V to be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 , it must show:

1. $0 \in V$
2. for any $v, w \in V$, $v + w \in V$
3. for any $v \in V$ and $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$, $\alpha v \in V$

1. $0 = (0, 0, 0)^T \implies (0) - (0) + 4(0) = 1$, which is not true, so $0 \notin V$.

Because V fails one of the conditions, it can not be a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 .

2. For the matrix below, find (a) a spanning set for the kernel, (b) a basis for the image, and (c) its rank:

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

(a). $N(L) = \{v \in A : Lv = 0\} \leq A$, where $v = (v_1, v_2, v_3)^T$

Gives us the equations:

$$v_1 - v_2 + 2v_3 = 0$$

$$-2v_1 + 2v_2 - 4v_3 = 0 \implies v_1 - v_2 + 2v_3 = 0$$

Simplify:

$$v_1 = v_2 - 2v_3$$

Replace in v :

$$(v_2 - 2v_3, v_2, v_3)^T \implies v_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + v_3 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

which gives us our spanning set for the kernel: $\{(1, 1, 0)^T, (-2, 0, 1)^T\}$

Any vector in the kernel has the form above, hence is a linear combination of those two vectors, so they span $\ker A$.

(b). Find row reduced echelon form of A :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow R_2 + 2R_1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ done}$$

This tells us there is only one pivot column (column 1).

Therefore our basis for $R(A) = \{(1, -2)^T\}$

We know this because every column of A is a linear combination of the pivot columns, because we used the RREF form. Also, pivot columns are independent because each introduces a new leading 1 in the RREF that was made. Thus by definition of a basis, that must be the basis for the image.

(c). $\text{rank} A = \dim(R(A))$, which we know is 1

3. (a) The **trace** of a square matrix A is the sum $\text{tr} A$ of its diagonal entries. Show that if A is $m \times n$ and B is $n \times m$, then $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$.
Hint: Write out everything as a double sum.

AB is a $m \times m$ matrix, so its trace can be written as $\sum_{i=1}^m AB_{ii}$. The entry of the matrix AB can be written as $AB_{ik} = \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij}B_{jk}$. If we plug this into our trace algorithm we get $\text{tr}(AB) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij}B_{ji}$

Similarly BA is a $n \times n$ matrix, so $\text{tr}(BA) = \sum_{j=1}^n BA_{jj}$. The entry of the matrix BA can be written as $BA_{jk} = \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji}A_{ik}$. If we plug this into our trace algorithm we get $\text{tr}(BA) = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji}A_{ij}$

Let $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA) \implies \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n A_{ij}B_{ji} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji}A_{ij}$
 B_{ji} and A_{ij} are scalars so they can be swapped.
 $\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n B_{ji}A_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji}A_{ij}$,

Our sums are finite, so they can be swapped as well.

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji} A_{ij} = \sum_{j=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^m B_{ji} A_{ij}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$$

- (b) Show that similar matrices have the same trace.

Let A and B be similar matrices. Therefore $B = P^{-1}AP$ and A , B , and P are all square matrices of the same size (due to the rules of inverting matrices). So,

$$\text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(P^{-1}AP), \text{ focusing on the right side, we can rearrange using cycles } \text{tr}(P^{-1}AP) = \text{tr}(APP^{-1}) = \text{tr}(PP^{-1}A)$$

$$\text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(PP^{-1}A), \text{ this can be simplified}$$

$$\text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(IA) \implies \text{tr}(B) = \text{tr}(A), \text{ thus similar matrices have the same trace.}$$

- (c) Prove or disprove: If A is $m \times n$ and B is $n \times m$, then AB and BA have the same determinant.

By counter example let $A = (1, 2)$ and $B = (3, 4)^T$. $AB = (11) \implies$

$$\det(AB) = 11. \quad BA = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \implies \det(BA) = (3)(8) - (4)(6) = 0.$$

Therefore, $\det(AB) \neq \det(BA)$. Thus, by counter example, AB and BA don't have the same determinant if A is $m \times n$ and B is $n \times m$.

Problems to do in MATLAB

4. In a wind tunnel experiment, the force on a projectile due to air resistance was measured at different velocities:

Velocity (100 ft/sec)	0	2	4	6	8	10
Force (100 lb)	0	2.90	14.8	39.6	74.3	119

- (a) Find an interpolating polynomial of degree 5 that expresses force as a function of velocity. Your polynomial should have the form

$$p(t) = c_0 + c_1t + c_2t^2 + c_3t^3 + c_4t^4 + c_5t^5.$$

Hint: Make a function that turns numbers into row vectors:

$$\mathbf{r} = @(\mathbf{t}) \ [1 \ \mathbf{t} \ \mathbf{t}^2 \ \mathbf{t}^3 \ \mathbf{t}^4 \ \mathbf{t}^5].$$

Check out what happens when you type $\mathbf{r}(0)$. Then try $[\mathbf{r}(0); \mathbf{r}(2)]$.

What you just learned should make your life easier.

Another hint: If a linear system $Ax = b$ has a solution, then MATLAB will return one when you enter $\mathbf{A} \setminus \mathbf{b}$.

- (b) Use your answer to (a) to estimate the force on the projectile when it is traveling at 750 ft/sec.

5. A function $L: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$ is linear and satisfies

$$L(0, 1, 1, 1)^\top = (-3, -2, -1, 0)^\top$$

$$L(1, 1, 0, 1)^\top = (-1, 0, -3, -2)^\top$$

$$L(1, 1, 0, 0)^\top = (1, 1, -3, -3)^\top$$

$$L(0, 1, 0, -1)^\top = (2, 2, -2, -2)^\top$$

$$L(0, -1, 1, -1)^\top = (1, -2, 3, 0)^\top.$$

- (a) Find the matrix for L in the standard basis.

Hint: The naive way to do this is to find out what L does to the standard basis vectors. It turns out that the input vectors I gave you span \mathbb{R}^4 , so each e_j can be written as a linear combination of them. Once you find coefficients for that expansion, you can use linearity to find Le_j .

- (b) Use your answer to (a) to find $L(1, -2, -1, 1)^\top$.

- (c) Use similarity to find the matrix for L in the following basis:

$$b_1 = (1, 1, 1, 1)^\top$$

$$b_2 = (1, -1, 1, -1)^\top$$

$$b_3 = (1, 1, -1, -1)^\top$$

$$b_4 = (1, -1, -1, 1)^\top$$

Hint: Use `inv` to get the inverse of a matrix.

- (d) Without computing anything more, use your answer to (c) to determine if L is one-to-one.