

MATH 225 – Fall 2023– Section B1

Review questions (not to be turned in)
Week 1-2 to be discussed by TA on Sep. 7 & 14, 2023

Please note that the following questions do not need to be turned in. They are for your own practice, so please attempt them. They represent a review of what you need from a first course in linear algebra. Solutions will be posted on eClass, and also the material will be reviewed by the TA on Sep. 7 and Sep. 14 during his office hours.

1. Which statement is true?

- ☐ Every vector space has at most one basis
- ☐ If $\mathcal{B} = \{w_1, w_2, w_3\}$ is a basis of \mathbb{R}^3 , then every vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ can be written uniquely as a linear combination of w_1, w_2 and w_3
- ☒ A basis for every subspace of \mathbb{R}^n must have n -vectors
- ☐ If $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is a linear transformation and w_1, w_2 form a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 , then $\{T(w_1), T(w_2)\}$ form a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 as well.

2. Let A be an 3×3 matrix whose characteristic polynomial is $p(\lambda) = -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 2)^2$. Which of the following statements can now be deduced?

- ☐ A can be diagonalized
- ☒ A is invertible
- ☐ The nullity of A is at least 1
- ☐ The diagonal entries of A are either 1 or 2

3. Let A is a 2×3 matrix.

- ☐ The dimension of $\text{row}(A)$ must be less than the dimension of $\text{col}(A)$
- ☐ The dimension of $\text{row}(A)$ could be greater than the dimension of $\text{col}(A)$
- ☒ A must have a null space
- ☐ None of the above statements are true.

4. Let $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ be a linear transformation. Which of the following is true?

- ☐ T could be an invertible linear transformation
- ☒ There is a vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^3$ other than the zero vector such that $T(v) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$
- ☐ Every vector in \mathbb{R}^2 must be in the image of T
- ☐ We don't have enough information to decide if any of the above choices is always true.

5. Suppose A is a square matrix such that $A^2 = A$. Then which of the following is true

- ☐ A is symmetric
- ☒ A has eigenvalues 0, -1 and 1
- ☐ A is invertible
- ☐ The linear system $Av = v$ has an infinite number of solutions

6. Suppose A is a 3×3 matrix that has the following vectors as eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ a \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4a \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} a \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find a value of a for which the matrix A is **diagonalizable**. Try to justify your answer.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & a \\ 0 & 4a & 2 \\ a & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{has} \quad \det(A) = -4a^3 + 8a$$

If $\det(A) \neq 0$ these 3 eigenvectors are linearly independent & hence A will be diagonalizable. So

for $a \neq 0, 2$.

7. Suppose A is a 2×3 matrix which has null space consisting of all vectors of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} -3t \\ -2t \\ t \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{matrix}$$

What does the RREF of A look like?

$$\text{nullity } 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{rank } A = 2$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ x & x & x \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & b \\ 0 & 1 & a \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{could work}$$

$$\text{need } A \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -3t \\ -2t \\ t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} -3t + b \cdot t = 0 \\ -2t + a \cdot t = 0 \end{matrix}$$

$$\text{so } b = -3, a = -2 \text{ works}$$

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

could work

8. Let $\vec{n} := (1, 2, 3) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ and consider the set of all vectors perpendicular to \vec{n} , i.e.

$$W = \{\vec{v} = (x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = 0\}.$$

Is W a subspace of \mathbb{R}^3 ? If so, verify the definition of a subspace is satisfied. If not, produce a counterexample.

Yes

$$\bullet \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \in W \quad \text{as} \quad \vec{n} \cdot \vec{v} = \vec{n} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

• if $v, w \in W$ then $v + w \in W$ since

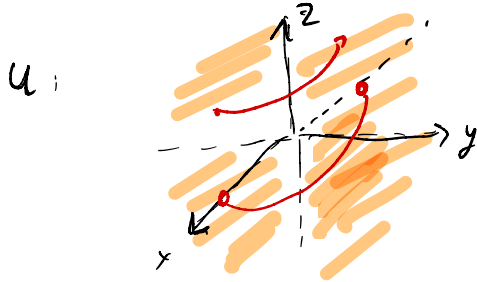
$$\begin{aligned} \vec{n} \cdot v &= 0 \\ \vec{n} \cdot w &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{n} \cdot (v + w) = \vec{n} \cdot v + \vec{n} \cdot w = 0 + 0 = 0$$

• if $v \in W$, then $cv \in W$ for all $c \in \mathbb{R}$ since

$$\vec{n} \cdot v = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{n} \cdot (cv) = c(\vec{n} \cdot v) = c \cdot 0 = 0$$

9. Let $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be the linear transformation which is the composition $T = U \circ V$ where U is reflection about the yz -plane, and V is reflection about the xy -plane. Write down the standard matrix $[T]$ of this transformation.

(Hint: draw a picture first)



$$e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{unit in } x\text{-direction}$$

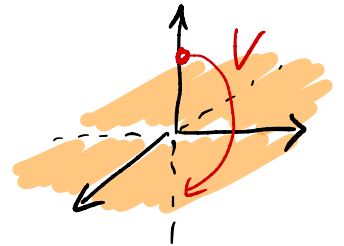
$$e_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{" } y \text{ "}$$

$$e_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{" } z \text{ "}$$

$$U(e_1) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad U(e_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad U(e_3) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore [U] = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Similarly $[V] = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$



$$\therefore [U \circ V] = [U] \cdot [V] = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

10. Assume that the following determinant,

$$\begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = 7.$$

Compute the determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} 0 & d & e & f \\ 1 & d-3 & e-4 & f-5 \\ 0 & 2a & 2b & 2c \\ 0 & g+d & h+e & i+f \end{vmatrix} \quad \begin{vmatrix} + & - & \dots & \dots \\ - & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ + & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ - & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{vmatrix}$$

expand along 1st column

$$-1 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} d & e & f \\ 2a & 2b & 2c \\ g+d & h+e & i+f \end{vmatrix} = -1 \cdot 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} d & e & f \\ a & b & c \\ g+d & h+e & i+f \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -2 \begin{vmatrix} d & e & f \\ a & b & c \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{as 3rd row is sum of 1st \& 3rd. of}$$

$$= -2 \begin{vmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{vmatrix} = -2 \cdot 7 = -14$$

11. Let A be the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 & 4 & 8 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & -8 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Compute the RREF of A and use this to find a basis for $\text{row}(A)$
- Does the vector $(5, -10, 3, 7)$ lie in $\text{row}(A)$? If so, write it explicitly as a linear combination of the basis you found in the previous part.
- Write down a basis for $\text{col}(A)$
- Write down a basis for $\text{null}(A)$.

a) $\text{RREF}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

b) $\text{row}(A)$ spanned by $\underset{v''}{(1, -2, 0, 0)}$ & $\underset{w''}{(0, 0, 1, 0)}$ & $\underset{\xi''}{(0, 0, 0, 1)}$

$$5v + 3w + 7\xi$$

c) $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$

d) nullity = 1. $S = \text{free var}$

$$\begin{matrix} w & x & y & z \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$w = 2x$$

$$y = 0$$

$$z = 0$$

\therefore null space

$$x = s$$

$$w = 2s$$

$$y = z = 0.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2s \\ s \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = s \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{basis of null-space.}$$

12. This question is concerned with the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (a) Compute the characteristic polynomial of A and write down all eigenvalues of A with their algebraic multiplicities. For each eigenvalue, find the geometric multiplicity and write down a **basis** of the eigenspace.
- (b) Compute A^8 using the previous parts. (If you try to compute this directly by multiplying out the matrix by itself 8 times, you will get no credit for this part of the problem. Also you may want to use the fact that $2^8 = 256$.)

$$(a) \text{ char pol} = \det(A - \lambda I) = \lambda^3 - 3\lambda - 2 = (\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1)^2$$

	algebraic mult	geometric
$\lambda = 2$	1	1
$\lambda = -1$	2	2

eigenvalues

$$\text{null}(A + I) = \text{null} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

rank 1 \therefore nullity 2

s, t free var.

$$3x + y + z = 0 \quad \begin{matrix} y = s \\ z = t \end{matrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-s-t}{3} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{s+t}{3} \\ s \\ t \end{pmatrix} = s \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

OR: (rescaling) $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ basis of null space

$$\text{null}(A - 2I) = \text{null} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{RREF} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \therefore$$

rk 2, nullity 1

$$\text{basis of } E_{\lambda=2} = \text{null} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

(b) So A is diagonalizable & $P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_{\text{e.v.}} \quad \underbrace{\quad\quad\quad}_{\text{e.v.}}$
 $-1 \quad \quad 2$

Satisfies $P^{-1} A P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

$\therefore A = P \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} P^{-1}$

$A^8 = P \begin{pmatrix} -1^8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1^8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2^8 \end{pmatrix} P^{-1} = P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 256 \end{pmatrix} P^{-1}$

To compute this we need to determine P^{-1} .

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{array} \right)$$

$\therefore P^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{3} \\ 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix}$

2 $P \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 256 \end{pmatrix} P^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 256 & 85 & 85 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$