



## MATH 255 - Vector Calculus and Linear Algebra Second Midterm Examination

1) For which values of  $a$  and  $b$  does the following system of equations have

a) Unique solution?

b) Infinitely many solutions?

c) No solution?

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 &= 2 \\x_2 + (3a + 2)x_3 &= 3b + 3 \\2x_1 + 3x_2 + (4a + 6)x_3 &= 4b + 7\end{aligned}$$

2) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & -3 \\ 5 & -4 & 8 \\ 10 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

a) Find the determinant of  $A$ .

b) Find the inverse of  $A$ .

3) Consider the given vector spaces  $V$  and their subsets  $W$ . Is  $W$  a subspace of  $V$ ? Explain.

a)  $V = \mathbb{R}^5$ ,  $W$  is the set of vectors of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ b \\ 0 \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  where  $a + b + c = 12$ .

b)  $V = M_{2 \times 3}$ ,  $W$  is the set of matrices of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ a^2 & b^2 & c^2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

c)  $V = P_3$ ,  $W$  is the set of polynomials of the form  $a + bx^2 + (a + 2b)x^3$ .

4) The following sets are subsets of the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

a) Is  $S_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  linearly independent?

b) Does  $S_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ?

5) Consider the following homogeneous system of 2 equations in 5 unknowns:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + 3x_2 - x_4 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + 6x_2 + x_3 - 2x_4 - 2x_5 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

a) Find a basis for solution space.

b) Find the dimension of solution space.

## Answers

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1) The augmented matrix is: 
$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3a+2 & 3b+3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4a+6 & 4b+7 \end{array} \right]$$

After elementary row operations we obtain: 
$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & a & b \end{array} \right]$$

The last row of the matrix should be checked for different possibilities:

- $a \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  Unique solution.
- $a = 0, b = 0 \Rightarrow$  Infinitely many solutions.
- $a = 0, b \neq 0 \Rightarrow$  No solution.

2) a)  $|A| = 4$

b) 
$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} -28 & -12 & 12 \\ 75 & 32 & -31 \\ 55 & 24 & -23 \end{bmatrix}$$

3) a) NO. For example:

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \in W, \quad \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \in W \quad \text{but} \quad \vec{u} + \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 0 \\ 4 \\ 0 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix} \notin W$$

b) NO. For example:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \in W, \quad \text{but} \quad 2M = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 8 & 18 \end{bmatrix} \notin W$$

c) YES. Let  $p = a_1 + b_1x^2 + (a_1 + 2b_1)x^3$ ,  $q = a_2 + b_2x^2 + (a_2 + 2b_2)x^3$ . Then:

$$p + q = (a_1 + a_2) + (b_1 + b_2)x^2 + (a_1 + a_2 + 2(b_1 + b_2))x^3 \in W$$

$$kp = ka_1 + kb_1x^2 + k(a_1 + 2b_1)x^3 \in W$$

4) a) Consider the equation:  $c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Is there a nontrivial solution? We have to check the augmented matrix:  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$

After row operations, we obtain:  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$

We can see that  $c_3 = 0, \Rightarrow c_2 = 0, \Rightarrow c_1 = 0$ . Therefore  $S_1$  is Linearly Independent.

b) Consider the equation:  $c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_4 \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_5 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix}$

Is there always a solution for given numbers  $x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$ ?

Consider the augmented matrix:  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 0 & 2 & 0 & 4 & 2 & x_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 1 & x_2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 4 & 4 & x_3 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & x_4 \end{array} \right]$

After row operations, we obtain:  $\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & x_4 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & 4 & x_3 - x_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & x_2 - x_3 + x_4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & x_1 - 2x_2 \end{array} \right]$

Checking last row, we see that there is a solution if and only if  $x_1 = 2x_2$ . Therefore  $S_2$  does NOT span  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .

5) The reduced row-echelon form of the augmented matrix is:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

The equations give the results:  $x_3 = 2x_5$ ,  $x_1 = -3x_2 + x_4$ . In vector form:

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore a basis is:

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Dimension is 3.