

Your Name

Student ID #

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- Do not open this exam until you are told to begin. You will have 50 minutes for the exam.
- Check that you have a complete exam. There are 4 questions for a total of 50 points.
- You are allowed to have one single sided, handwritten note sheet. Calculators are not allowed.
- Cheating will result in a zero and be reported to the Dean's Academic Conduct Committee.
- **Show all your work.** With the exception of True/False questions, if there is no work supporting your answer, you will not receive credit for the problem. If you need more space to answer a question, continue on the back of the page, and indicate that you have done so.

Question	Points	Score
1	16	
2	12	
3	11	
4	11	
Total:	50	

1. (16 points) True/False and short answer. No justification is necessary for the True/False questions.
- (a) If  $A$  and  $B$  are matrices such that  $AB = C$ , and  $C$  is invertible, then  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible.  
 True     **False**
- (b) If  $A$  is a  $4 \times 6$  matrix, then the maximum value of  $\text{rank}(A)$  is 6.  
 True     **False**
- (c) If  $A$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix such that  $A^T \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent for every  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , then  $\text{row}(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$ .  
 **True**     False
- (d) If  $A$  is an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix, then  $\text{nullity}(A) = 0$ .  
 **True**     False
- (e) If  $A$  is a singular matrix that is row equivalent to  $B$ , then  $\det(A) = \det(B)$ .  
 **True**     False
- (f) Give an example of a matrix  $A$  such that  $\text{rank}(A) < \text{nullity}(A)$ .

**Solution:** One example is the zero matrix.

- (g) Find the determinant of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** Using an expansion along the third column, we find that

$$\det(A) = -1((1)(-3) - (1)(-2)) = 1.$$

- (h) Is  $A$  (the same  $A$  as in part (g)) invertible? If so, find  $A^{-1}$ . If not, write one column of  $A$  as a linear combination of the others.

**Solution:** Because  $\det(A) \neq 0$ ,  $A$  has an inverse, which we find by reducing

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

so

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Let  $A$  be the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(a) (4 points) Find a basis for the nullspace of  $A$ .

**Solution:** We can row reduce  $A$  to

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

which tells us  $x_3$  is a free variable. Writing solutions to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  in vector form tells us

$$\mathcal{N}(A) = \left\{ s \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, s \text{ any real number} \right\}$$

so a basis for the nullspace is

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

(b) (4 points) Find a basis for the column space of  $A$ .

**Solution:** Using the work from part (a), a basis for the column space consists of the columns of  $A$  corresponding to the columns of the reduced matrix with leading variables, i.e. the first, second and fourth columns. Therefore, a basis for the column space is

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

(c) (4 points) Define a linear transformation  $T : \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  by  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ . Is  $T$  onto or one-to-one? Justify your answer.

**Solution:** From part (a), we can see that  $T$  has non-trivial kernel ( $\ker(T) = \mathcal{N}(A)$ ) so  $T$  is not one-to-one. However, the column space of  $A$  is  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , so the columns of  $A$  span  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , hence  $T$  is onto.

3. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and let  $S = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$ .

(a) (4 points) Find a matrix  $A$  such that the nullspace of  $A$  is equal to  $S$ .

**Solution:** We want to find a matrix  $A$  such that  $\mathcal{N}(A) = S$ , and  $\mathcal{N}(A)$  is defined to be the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ . But,  $S$  is the set of all vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = s_1 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s_2 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

for any real numbers  $s_1$  and  $s_2$ , which tells us

$$x_1 = 3s_1 - 2s_2$$

$$x_2 = s_1$$

$$x_3 = s_2.$$

In other words,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$  can be any real number and  $x_1 = 3x_2 - 2x_3$ , or  $x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$ , so this is the nullspace of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(Note that other answers are possible.)

(b) (4 points) Extend  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$  to a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (i.e., find another vector  $\mathbf{v}$  such that  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{v}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ).

**Solution:** To extend this to a basis, we just need to find one vector not in  $S$ . But, using our work from part (a), any vector  $\mathbf{x}$  that is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2$  must satisfy  $x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$ , so any vector that does not satisfy that equation is

not in  $S$ . For example, we could choose  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and then  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{v}\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

(c) (3 points) Suppose  $T : \mathbb{R}^6 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  is a linear transformation such that the range of  $T$  is equal to  $S$ . What is the dimension of the kernel of  $T$ ? Justify your answer.

**Solution:**  $T$  corresponds to a  $3 \times 6$  matrix  $A$ , and if the range of  $T$  is equal to  $S$ , the range of  $T$  (which is the column space of  $A$ ) has dimension 2, meaning  $\text{rank}(A) = 2$ . By the rank-nullity theorem, this means  $\text{nullity}(A) = 4$ , but the nullity of  $A$  is the dimension of the nullspace of  $A$ , which is the dimension of the kernel of  $T$ . Hence,  $\dim(\ker(T)) = 4$ .

4. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (a) (2 points) Explain why  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

**Solution:** These vectors are linearly independent (since they are not multiples of each other) so by the Big Theorem, they span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , so they are a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

- (b) (4 points) Write the vector  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  in terms of this basis (i.e., write  $\mathbf{x}$  as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2$ ). Your answer should involve  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ .

**Solution:** Reducing the augmented matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x_1 \\ -1 & -1 & x_2 \end{array} \right]$$

we get

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & -x_1 - 2x_2 \\ 0 & 1 & x_1 + x_2 \end{array} \right]$$

so

$$\mathbf{x} = (-x_1 - 2x_2)\mathbf{u}_1 + (x_1 + x_2)\mathbf{u}_2.$$

- (c) (5 points) Suppose  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is a linear transformation such that  $T(\mathbf{u}_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $T(\mathbf{u}_2) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find a matrix  $A$  such that  $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ . (Hint: use your answer to part (b) to find a formula for  $T(\mathbf{x})$ ).

**Solution:** Because  $T$  is a linear transformation and  $\mathbf{x} = (-x_1 - 2x_2)\mathbf{u}_1 + (x_1 + x_2)\mathbf{u}_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{x}) &= T((-x_1 - 2x_2)\mathbf{u}_1 + (x_1 + x_2)\mathbf{u}_2) \\ &= (-x_1 - 2x_2)T(\mathbf{u}_1) + (x_1 + x_2)T(\mathbf{u}_2) \\ &= (-x_1 - 2x_2) \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + (x_1 + x_2) \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_2 \\ -5x_1 - 9x_2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Because

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_2 \\ -5x_1 - 9x_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

$T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -5 & -9 \end{bmatrix}.$$