

ANSWERS

**Problem 1. (100 points)** Define matrix  $A$ , vector  $\vec{b}$  and vector variable  $\vec{x}$  by the equations

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ , find  $x_3$  by Cramer's Rule, showing **all details** (details count 75%). To save time, **do not compute**  $x_1, x_2$ !

**Answer:**

$$x_3 = \Delta_3/\Delta, \quad \Delta = \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 8, \quad \Delta_3 = \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & -4 & 5 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 51, \quad x_3 = \frac{51}{8}.$$

**Problem 2. (100 points)** Define matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a lower triangular matrix  $L$  and an upper triangular matrix  $U$  such that  $A = LU$ .

**Answer:**

Let  $E_1$  be the result of  $\text{combo}(1,2,-1)$  on  $I$ , and  $E_2$  the result of  $\text{combo}(2,3,-1)$  on  $I$ . Then  $E_2E_1A = U = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Let  $L = E_1^{-1}E_2^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Problem 3. (100 points)** Find the complete solution  $\vec{x} = \vec{x}_h + \vec{x}_p$  for the nonhomogeneous system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Please display answers for both  $\vec{x}_h$  and  $\vec{x}_p$ . The homogeneous solution  $\vec{x}_h$  is a linear combination of Strang's special solutions. Symbol  $\vec{x}_p$  denotes a particular solution.

**Answer:**

The augmented matrix has reduced row echelon form (last frame) equal to the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1/6 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/2 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $x_3 = t_1, x_2 = -t_1/2 + 1/2, x_1 = t_1/6 + 1/2$  is the general

solution in scalar form. The partial derivative on  $t_1$  gives the homogeneous solution basis vector  $\begin{pmatrix} -1/6 \\ -1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $\vec{x}_h = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} -1/6 \\ -1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Set  $t_1 = 0$  in the scalar solution to find a

particular solution  $\vec{x}_p = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Problem 4. (100 points)** Given a basis  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  for a subspace  $S$  of

$\mathcal{R}^3$ , and  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $S$ , then  $\vec{v} = c_1\vec{v}_1 + c_2\vec{v}_2$  for a unique set of coefficients  $c_1, c_2$ , called the *coordinates of  $\vec{v}$  relative to the basis  $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2$* . Compute  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ .

**Answer:**

$$c_1 = -1, c_2 = 1.$$

**Problem 5. (100 points)** The functions  $1, x^2, \sqrt{x^7}$  are independent in the vector space  $V$  of all functions on  $0 < x < \infty$ . Check the independence tests which apply.

- |                          |                           |   |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Wronskian test</b>     | Wronskian determinant of $f_1, f_2, f_3$ nonzero at $x = x_0$ implies independence of $f_1, f_2, f_3$ . |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Sampling test</b>      | Sampling determinant for samples $x = x_1, x_2, x_3$ nonzero implies independence of $f_1, f_2, f_3$ .  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Rank test</b>          | Three vectors are independent if their augmented matrix has rank 3.                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Determinant test</b>   | Three vectors are independent if their augmented matrix is square and has nonzero determinant.          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Orthogonality test</b> | Three vectors are independent if they are all nonzero and pairwise orthogonal.                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <b>Pivot test</b>         | Three vectors are independent if their augmented matrix $A$ has 3 pivot columns.                        |

**Answer:**

The first and second apply to the given functions, while the others apply only to fixed vectors.

**Problem 6. (100 points)** Consider a  $3 \times 3$  real matrix  $A$  with eigenpairs

$$\left( 2, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \right), \quad \left( 1 + i, \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right), \quad \left( 1 - i, \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

(a) [60%] Display an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $AP = PD$ .

(b) [40%] Display a matrix product formula for  $A$ . To save time, **do not evaluate any matrix products**.

**Answer:**

(a) The columns of  $P$  are the eigenvectors and the diagonal entries of  $D$  are the eigenvalues  $2, 1 + i, 1 - i$ , taken in the same order. (b) The matrix formula comes from  $AP = PD$ , by solving for  $A = PDP^{-1}$ .

**Problem 7. (100 points)** The matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$  has eigenvalues  $2, 4, 4$ .

Find all eigenvectors for  $\lambda = 4$ . To save time, **don't find the eigenvector for  $\lambda = 2$** . Then report whether or not matrix  $A$  is diagonalizable.

**Answer:**

Because  $A - 4I = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  has RREF  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then there are two eigen-

pairs for  $\lambda = 4$ , with eigenvectors  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . These answers are

Strang's special solutions for the homogeneous problem  $B\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ . The matrix is diagonalizable, because there are three eigenpairs.

**Problem 8. (100 points)** Using the subspace criterion, write three different hypotheses

each of which imply that a set  $S$  in a vector space  $V$  is not a subspace of  $V$ . The full statement of three such hypotheses is called the **Not a Subspace Theorem**.

**Answer:**

- (1) If the zero vector is not in  $S$ , then  $S$  is not a subspace.
- (2) If two vectors in  $S$  fail to have their sum in  $S$ , then  $S$  is not a subspace.
- (3) If a vector is in  $S$  but its negative is not, then  $S$  is not a subspace.

**Problem 9. (100 points)** Define  $S$  to be the set of all vectors  $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $\mathcal{R}^3$  such that  $x_1 + x_3 = x_2$ ,  $x_3 + x_2 = x_1$  and  $x_1 - x_3 = 0$ . Prove that  $S$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{R}^3$ .

**Answer:**

Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then the restriction equations can be written as  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

Apply the nullspace theorem (also called the kernel theorem), which says that the nullspace of a matrix is a subspace.

Another solution: The given restriction equations are linear homogeneous algebraic equations. Therefore,  $S$  is the nullspace of some matrix  $B$ , hence a subspace of  $\mathcal{R}^3$ . This solution uses the fact that linear homogeneous algebraic equations can be written as a matrix equation  $B\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .

**Problem 10. (100 points)** Let  $A$  be a  $100 \times 29$  matrix. Assume the columns of  $A^T A$  are independent. Prove that  $A$  has independent columns.

**Answer:**

The columns of matrix  $B$  are independent if and only if the nullspace of  $B$  is the zero vector. If you don't know this result, then find it in Lay's book, or prove it yourself. Also used: A square matrix has independent columns if and only if it is invertible.

Assume  $\vec{x}$  is in the nullspace of  $A$ ,  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , then multiply by  $A^T$  to get  $A^T A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ . Because  $A^T A$  is invertible, then  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ , which proves the nullspace of  $A$  is the zero vector. We conclude that the columns of  $A$  are independent.

**Problem 11. (100 points)** Let  $3 \times 3$  matrices  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  be related by  $AP = PB$  and  $BQ = QC$  for some invertible matrices  $P$  and  $Q$ . Prove that the characteristic equations of  $A$  and  $C$  are identical.

**Answer:**

The proof depends on the identity  $A - rI = PBP^{-1} - rI = P(B - rI)P^{-1}$  and the determinant product theorem  $|CD| = |C||D|$ . We get  $|A - rI| = |P||B - rI||P^{-1}| = |PP^{-1}||B - rI| = |B - rI|$ . Then  $A$  and  $B$  have exactly the same characteristic equation. Similarly,  $B$  and  $C$  have the same characteristic equation. Therefore,  $A$  and  $C$  have the same characteristic equation.

**Problem 12. (100 points)** The **Fundamental Theorem of Linear Algebra** says that the null space of a matrix is orthogonal to the row space of the matrix.

Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Define subspaces  $S_1 =$  column space of  $A$ ,  $S_2 =$  null space of  $A^T$ . Prove that a vector  $\vec{v}$  orthogonal to  $S_2$  must be in  $S_1$ .

**Answer:**

The fundamental theorem of linear algebra is summarized by **rowspace**  $\perp$  **nullspace**. Replace  $A$  by  $A^T$ . Then the result says that **colspace**( $A$ )  $\perp$  **nullspace**( $A^T$ ) or  $S_1 \perp S_2$ . Results known are  $\dim$  nullspace = nullity,  $\dim$  rowspace = rank, and rank + nullity = column dimension of the matrix. Because  $S_1 \perp S_2$ , then the two subspaces  $S_1, S_2 =$  intersect in the zero vector. Their dimensions are **rank**( $A$ ) and **nullity**( $A^T$ ). Because **rank**( $A$ ) = **rank**( $A^T$ ), then their two dimensions add to  $m$ , as follows:  $\dim(S_1) + \dim(S_2) = \mathbf{rank}(A) + \mathbf{nullity}(A^T) = \mathbf{rank}(A^T) + \mathbf{nullity}(A^T) = m$ . Orthogonality of the two subspaces implies a basis for  $S_1$  added to a basis for  $S_2$  supplies a basis for  $\mathcal{R}^m$ . Vector  $\vec{v}$  is given to be orthogonal to  $S_2$ . Then it must have a basis expansion involving only the basis for  $S_1 = \mathbf{colspace}(A)$ . This proves that  $\vec{v}$  is in  $S_1$ , which is the column space of  $A$ .

**A shorter proof** is possible, starting with the result that  $\mathcal{R}^n$  equals the direct sum of the subspaces  $S_1$  and  $S_2$ . The above details proved this result, as part of the solution. Then the only details left are to add the bases together and expand  $\vec{v}$  in terms of the basis elements. The basis elements from  $S_2$  are orthogonal to  $\vec{v}$ , therefore  $\vec{v}$  is expressed as a linear combination of basis elements from  $S_1$ , which proves that  $\vec{v}$  is in  $S_1 =$  the column space of  $A$ .