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**Math 2250-4**  
**Quiz 5**  
**October 11, 2013**

1a) Define what a linear combination of vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  is.

(2 points)

any vector that is a sum of multiples of those vectors, i.e. any  $\mathbf{v}$  that can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{v} = c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n.$$

1b) Define what it means for vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  to be linearly independent.

(2 points)

The only linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  that sums to zero is the "trivial" one with all  $c_i = 0$ , i.e.

$$c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots + c_n \mathbf{v}_n = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_n = 0.$$

2) The span of the vectors

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

is a plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Find for which  $[x, y, z]^T$  the system

$$c_1 \mathbf{u} + c_2 \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

can be solved for  $c_1, c_2$ , in order to find the implicit equation  $ax + by + cz = d$  of this plane.

The augmented matrix for the linear combination equation

$$c_1 \mathbf{u} + c_2 \mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$$

is

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x \\ -2 & -3 & y \\ 0 & 4 & z \end{array} \right].$$

Reduce it:

$$2R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2:$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2x + y \\ 0 & 4 & z \end{array} \right]$$

$$-4R_1 + R_3 \rightarrow R_3:$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & x \\ 0 & 1 & 2x + y \\ 0 & 0 & -8x - 4y + z \end{array} \right].$$

*So the system for  $c_1, c_2$  is consistent if and only if  $[x, y, z]^T$  lies on the plane with implicit equation*  
 $-8x - 4y + z = 0.$

(6 points)