

Math 2270–2, Solutions to Midterm 1

Summer 2016

June 2, 2016

1. Let $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Is \mathbf{b} in the span of the columns of \mathbf{A} ? Justify your answer.

Solution. We create the augmented matrix and reduce it toward echelon form. After a few steps we arrive at the reduced echelon form of \mathbf{A} :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 2 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The last column is pivotal. Therefore, \mathbf{b} is not in the span of the columns of \mathbf{A} .

2. Let $\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Can \mathbf{c} be written as a linear combination of \mathbf{a} and \mathbf{b} ? Justify your answer.

Solution. We create the augmented matrix and reduce:

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

The last column is pivotal; therefore, $\mathbf{c} \notin \text{Span}(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$.

3. Consider the following matrices. $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{B} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

(a) Identify all of those which are in echelon form. Justify your answers.

Solution. \mathbf{A} , \mathbf{C} , and \mathbf{D} are in echelon form. \mathbf{B} is not because the second row is all zeros, yet lies above the third row.

(b) Identify all of those which are in reduced echelon form. Justify your answers.

Solution. Only \mathbf{D} is in reduced echelon form.

(c) For the matrices that are in reduced echelon form, identify the pivots and pivot columns as is done in the lectures and your textbook.

Solution. The pivotal columns are columns 1, 3, and 4. The pivots are boxed below.

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \boxed{1} \end{bmatrix}$$

4. Find all, if any, of the solutions x, y, z, w to the following system linear of equations:

$$\begin{array}{rrrrr} x & +y & +2z & -5w & = 3 \\ 2x & +5y & -z & -9w & = -3 \\ 2x & -3y & +2z & +7w & = -11 \\ x & -3y & +2z & +7w & = -5. \end{array}$$

Solution. The augmented matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & -1 & -9 & -3 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 & 7 & -11 \\ 1 & -3 & 2 & 7 & -5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We write this in row echelon form. This task requires a little patience and care. There are of course many ways of doing this. Here is one way:

- Replace row 2 by $2(\text{Row } 1) - (\text{Row } 2)$; row 3 by $(\text{Row } 2) - (\text{Row } 3)$; and row 4 by $(\text{Row } 1) - (\text{Row } 4)$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & -1 & 9 \\ 0 & 8 & -3 & -16 & 8 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & -12 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{Divide row 4 by 4}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & -1 & 9 \\ 0 & 8 & -3 & -16 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Exchange rows 2 and 4:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 8 & -3 & -16 & 8 \\ 0 & -3 & 5 & -1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Replace row 3 by $8(\text{Row } 2) - (\text{Row } 3)$ and row 4 by $3(\text{Row } 2) + (\text{Row } 4)$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & -10 & 15 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{replace row 4 by } 3(\text{Row } 4)]{\text{replace row 3 by } 5(\text{Row } 3)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 15 & -40 & 40 \\ 0 & 0 & 15 & -30 & 45 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Divide rows 3 and 4 both by 5:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -6 & 9 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{replace row 4 by } (\text{Row } 4) - (\text{Row } 3)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & -8 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Replace row 1 by (Row 1)−(Row 2), divide row 3 by 3, and divide row 4 by 2:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -8/3 & 8/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{replace row 1 by (Row 1)−2(Row 3)}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 10/3 & -13/3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -8/3 & 8/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Replace row 1 by (Row 1)− $\frac{10}{3}$ (Row 4), row 2 by (Row 2)+3(Row 4), and row 3 by (Row 3)+ $\frac{8}{3}$ (Row 4):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 7/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The preceding is in reduced row echelon form, and yields the following unique solution to our linear system:

$$x = -6, \ y = 3.5, \ z = 4, \ w = 0.5.$$