

**ÇANKAYA UNIVERSITY**  
Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

**MATH 237**  
**Linear Algebra I**

2<sup>nd</sup> Midterm

**SOLUTIONS**

December 18, 2007

17:40-19:15

Surname : \_\_\_\_\_  
Name : \_\_\_\_\_  
ID # : \_\_\_\_\_  
Department : \_\_\_\_\_  
Section : \_\_\_\_\_  
Instructor : \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature : \_\_\_\_\_

- The exam consists of 6 questions.
- Please read the questions carefully and write your answers under the corresponding questions. Be neat.
- Show all your work. Correct answers without sufficient explanation might not get full credit.
- Calculators are not allowed.

*GOOD LUCK!*

Please do not write below this line.

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Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	TOTAL
20	20	20	20	20	10	110

1. Are the following sets in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  vector subspaces? Give reasons.

$$(a) \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 2x - 2y + z = 0 \right\} \quad \underline{\text{YES}} \text{ NO}$$

It is given by a linear equation equal to 0. You can also think about it as the nullspace of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$(b) \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x^2 - y^2 + z = 0 \right\} \quad \text{YES} \underline{\text{NO}}$$

The vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  is in the set, but if you multiply by  $-1$   $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is not.

$$(c) \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : 2x - 2y + z = 1 \right\} \quad \text{YES} \underline{\text{NO}}$$

It is given by a linear equation not set equal to 0. In particular, it doesn't contain the 0 vector.

$$(d) \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x = y \text{ AND } x = 2z \right\} \quad \underline{\text{YES}} \text{ NO}$$

We can think about it as the nullspace of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$(e) \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x = y \text{ OR } x = 2z \right\} \quad \text{YES} \underline{\text{NO}}$$

Take for example  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  which is not in the set.

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2. Find  $k$  if  $\alpha = (k, 2k + 1, 3k - 1, k^2 + 3k - 9) \in \mathbb{R}^4$  is in the following subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$   
 $\text{span} \{(1, 1, 1, 1), (-1, -1, -2, -1), (1, 2, 3, 2), (1, 0, 4, 2)\}.$

**Solution:**  $\alpha = (k, 2k + 1, 3k - 1, k^2 + 3k - 9) \in \text{span} \{(1, 1, 1, 1), (-1, -1, -2, -1), (1, 2, 3, 2), (1, 0, 4, 2)\}$  if and only if

$\alpha = (k, 2k + 1, 3k - 1, k^2 + 3k - 9) = d_1(1, 1, 1, 1) + d_2(-1, -1, -2, -1) + d_3(1, 2, 3, 2) + d_4(1, 0, 4, 2)$  for some scalars  $d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4$ .

This is possible iff

$$\begin{aligned} d_1 - d_2 + d_3 + d_4 &= k \\ d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3 + 0d_4 &= 2k + 1 \\ d_1 - 2d_2 + 3d_3 + 4d_4 &= 3k - 1 \\ d_1 - d_2 + 2d_3 + 2d_4 &= k^2 + 3k - 9. \end{aligned}$$

We form the following augmented matrix and reduce it to an echelon matrix

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{A} &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & k \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & 0 & 2k + 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 & 4 & 3k - 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 & 2 & k^2 + 3k - 9 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & k \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & k + 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 & 2k - 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & k^2 + 2k - 9 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & k \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 & 2k - 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & k + 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & k^2 + 2k - 9 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 & k \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 & 2k - 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & k + 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & k^2 + k - 10 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$d_4 = \frac{1}{2}(k^2 + k - 10), d_3 = k + 1 + \frac{1}{2}(k^2 + k - 10) = \frac{1}{2}(k^2 + 3k - 8),$$

$$d_2 = 2k - 1 - 2\left(\frac{1}{2}(k^2 + 3k - 8)\right) - 3\left(\frac{1}{2}(k^2 + k - 10)\right) = \frac{1}{2}(-5k^2 - 5k + 44)$$

This last matrix has no bad row and so the above linear system is consistent for all values of  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ . So the vector  $\alpha$  lies in  $\text{span} \{(1, 1, 1, 1), (-1, -1, -2, -1), (1, 2, 3, 2), (1, 0, 4, 2)\}$  for all values of  $k$ .

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**3.** Find the dimension of the vector space of polynomials generated by

$$\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3, 2 - x - x^3, x + 1\}.$$

**Solution:** First  $\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3\}$  is linearly independent.

Next

$$2 - x - x^3 \notin \text{span}\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3\}$$

and this shows that

$\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3, 2 - x - x^3\}$  is linearly independent.

We now check whether or not  $x + 1 \in \text{span}\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3, 2 - x - x^3\}$ .

This is true iff there are scalars  $c_1, c_2, c_3$  such that

$$x + 1 = c_1(x + x^2) + c_2(x - x^2 + x^3) + c_3(2 - x - x^3) \text{ which in turn implies that}$$

$$x + 1 = c_1x + c_1x^2 + c_2x - c_2x^2 + c_2x^3 + c_32 - c_3x - c_3x^3 = (c_2 - c_3)x^3 + (c_1 - c_2)x^2 + (c_1 + c_2 - c_3)x + 2c_3$$

$$c_2 - c_3 = 0, c_1 - c_2 = 0, c_1 + c_2 - c_3 = 1, 2c_3 = 1$$

but this system is inconsistent, and so

$$x + 1 \notin \text{span}\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3, 2 - x - x^3\}.$$

This shows that the generating set

$$\{x + x^2, x - x^2 + x^3, 2 - x - x^3, x + 1\}.$$

is itself linearly independent and hence is a basis. Therefore the dimension is 4.

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4. Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Find a basis for the row space of  $A$ .  
 (b) Find a basis for the nullspace  $N(A)$ .  
 (b) Find a basis for the column space  $C(A)$ .

**Solution:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 0 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) A basis for the row space is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ , i.e.,  $\text{rank}(A) = 2$ .

- (b) A basis for the column space is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

- (c) A vector  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix}$  is in the nullspace  $N(A)$  if and only if

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x = -2y - 2t - 2u \\ y \\ z = -2t - 2u \\ t \\ u \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + u \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Hence a basis for } N(A) \text{ is } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$


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5. Complete the set

$$S = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \right\}$$

to a basis of  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Solution:** First we ask if  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \right\}$ ?, i.e., are there scalars  $c_1, c_2$  such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This is equivalent to the system  $1 = -c_1 + c_2, 0 = c_1, 0 = c_1, 0 = c_1 + c_2$ , but this system is inconsistent, and this implies that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \notin \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \right\}.$$

Hence  $S \cup \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is linearly independent.

We need one more vector.

We now ask if  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ?, i.e., are there scalars  $d_1, d_2, d_3$  such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = d_1 \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + d_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} + d_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This is equivalent to the system  $0 = -d_1 + d_2 + d_3, 1 = d_1, 0 = d_1, 0 = d_1 + d_2$ , but this system is inconsistent too.

Hence we conclude that  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \notin \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

Thus the set  $S \cup \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a linearly

independent set having exactly 4 vectors. Since  $\dim(M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})) = 4$ , we see that this last subset

$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \supset S$  is a basis containing the given set  $S$ .

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6. Find a basis and the dimension for the solution space of the system

$$\begin{aligned}2x - y + 3z + t &= 0 \\ -5x + y + 4z - t &= 0 \\ -x - y + 10z + t &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ -5 & 1 & 4 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 10 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 10 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 10 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -3 & 23 & 3 \\ -1 & -1 & 10 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -10 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -23/3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 7/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -23/3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{so } \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-7}{3}s \\ \frac{23}{3}s + t \\ s \\ t \end{bmatrix} = s \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-7}{3} \\ \frac{23}{3} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{thus a basis for the space of solutions is } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 23 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

and its dimension is 2.

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