

1) Multiply the matrices below, or state why it is impossible.

(+1/-3 points)

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 23 \\ 2 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

2) Given the system of equations below, write the corresponding matrix equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$.

(+2/-3 points)

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 + 8x_2 - 4x_3 &= -10 \\ -x_1 - 3x_2 + 5x_3 &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 8 & -4 \\ -1 & -3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -10 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

3) Assume B and D are 3×2 matrices, while C is a 2×3 matrix. Simplify the expression below or explain why it is not possible.

(+2/-3 points)

$$B(C^T + D)$$

This is not possible because the sizes do not match up. In particular B is 3×2 , but $C^T + D$ is 3×2 . We cannot multiply a matrix with 2 columns by a matrix with 3 rows.

4) Compute $\vec{u} - \vec{v}$, given the definitions below.

(+1/-5 points)

$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vec{u} - \vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ -3 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}$$

5) Given the definitions below, express \vec{b} as a linear combination of \vec{a}_1 and \vec{a}_2 , or explain why it is not possible.

(+3/-1 points)

$$\vec{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix}; \vec{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}; \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

This is not possible because as we see below, the augmented matrix corresponds to an inconsistent system of linear equations.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -6 & 1 \\ -6 & 9 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{4} \\ -6 & 9 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{2}{3} & \frac{1}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{13}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

OR note that \vec{a}_2 is a multiple of \vec{a}_1 so all linear combinations of these are just multiples of \vec{a}_1 , and that \vec{b} is not such a multiple.

6) Row reduce the matrix below.

(+2/-2 points)

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & -4 & 0 \\ 6 & 12 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & -4 & 0 \\ 6 & 12 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 6 & 12 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

7) Solve the system of equations below.

(Hint: look at the previous question)

(+2/-3 points)

$$\begin{aligned} -2x_1 - 4x_2 &= 0 \\ 6x_1 + 12x_2 &= 7 \end{aligned}$$

From the row reduced version, we see that this has no solutions.

8) Are the vectors $\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$ linearly independent? Justify your answer.

(+3/-2 points)

No, because the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ does not have a pivot in every column.

True or False: circle the correct answer. A statement is true if it is *always* true; false if it is *ever* false.

T or F 9) The set $\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ together with the usual definition of matrix addition and scalar multiplication is a vector space.

T or F 10) Four distinct vectors in \mathbb{R}^3 will span \mathbb{R}^3 .

T or F 11) Three distinct nonzero vectors in \mathbb{R}^4 will be linearly independent.

T or F 12) The set of vectors $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} : a, b \in \mathbb{Q} \right\}$ is a subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

(+1/-1 point each)

Note: The pink re-grading came because different versions had the problems listed in a different order. I forgot about that when grading the first time ...

13) A square matrix A is called idempotent if $A^2 = A$. Find three examples of 2×2 matrices that are idempotent.

(+3/-1 points)

Two examples are really easy to get our hands on:

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

A third takes a bit of cleverness:

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

There are many answers.

14) Find three vectors that are in the span of $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$.

(+3/-2 points)

Any linear combination of these two things. Obvious choices are $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$, $\begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$, and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$. However, if we note that these two vectors are linearly independent, actually any vector in \mathbb{R}^2 is in their span.

15) Find a vector that is not in the span of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

(+3/-2 points)

We must find something that is not a linear combination of these two vectors. You can either do this via row reduction or inspection.

Through row reduction:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a \\ 3 & -1 & b \\ -2 & 1 & c \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & -1 & b-3a \\ 0 & 1 & c+2a \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & 3a-b \\ 0 & 1 & c+2a \end{bmatrix} \sim_R \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & a \\ 0 & 1 & 3a-b \\ 0 & 0 & c+b-a \end{bmatrix}$$

Things not in the span will have a third pivot, meaning $c + b - a \neq 0$. In order to be in the span, we need a free variable: $c + b - a = 0$. How about $a = b = 0$ and $c = 1$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

OR though inspection:

How about $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$? Based on the x and z coordinate, let's see what vector has $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ ? \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} + 5 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so our choice was indeed not in the span.}$$

For the problems on this page, use the matrix below on the left. It's row reduced echelon form is shown on the right.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -2 & -3 & -1 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

16) Find the row space of A , $RS(A)$.

(+2/-3 points)

$$\text{span}(\{[1 \ 2 \ 0 \ -1], [-2 \ -3 \ -1 \ 4], [1 \ 4 \ -2 \ 4], [2 \ 2 \ 2 \ -4]\})$$

OR

$$\text{span}(\{[1 \ 0 \ 2 \ 0], [0 \ 1 \ -1 \ 0], [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1]\})$$

17) Find the column space of A , $CS(A)$.

(+3/-2 points)

$$\text{span} \left(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \right)$$

OR

$$\text{span} \left(\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \right)$$

18) Find the null space of A , $NS(A)$.

(+4/-2 points)

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

The third row tells us: $x_4 = 0$

The second row tells us: $x_2 - x_3 = 0$, so $x_2 = x_3$

The first row tells us: $x_1 + 2x_3 = 0$, so $x_1 = -2x_3$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_3 \\ x_3 \\ x_3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore NS(A) = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

For the problems on this page, use the matrix below on the left. Its row reduced echelon form is shown on the right.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -2 & -3 & -1 & 4 \\ 1 & 4 & -2 & 4 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

19) Determine if the homogeneous system $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has any nontrivial solutions.

(+4/-3 points)

Yes, because we see that the third column corresponds to a free variable.

20) Find a basis for the span of the columns of A .

(+2/-2 points)

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

21) Expand the set $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ to a basis of \mathbb{R}^3

(+2/-3 points)

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

22) Let A be an 7×5 matrix. You know that $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has no solutions. What else can you say?
(Maximum +4/-4 points) (You may list as many statements as you like, each insightful statement is worth +2 or -2 points.)

Here is a selection of statements that could be true, or false, as well as things we do not know or do not apply.

Statements on solutions and free variables:

The equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ has a free variable – UNKNOWN

The equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has infinitely many solutions – UNKNOWN

The equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has a solution – TRIVIALY TRUE

Statements on linear dependence and independence of rows and columns:

The rows of A are linearly dependent – TRUE

The rows of A are linearly independent – FALSE

The columns of A are linearly independent – UNKNOWN

The columns of A are linearly dependent – UNKNOWN

Statements on the matrix itself

Every row has a pivot – FALSE

Every column has a pivot – UNKNOWN

In echelon form A has a row of zeroes – TRUE

The row space spans \mathbb{R}^5 – UNKNOWN

The column space spans \mathbb{R}^7 – FALSE

The null space is nontrivial – UNKNOWN

The matrix is invertible – DOES NOT APPLY TO NONSQUARE MATRICES

The matrix is a product of elementary matrices – DOES NOT APPLY TO NONSQUARE MATRICES

The matrix is singular – DOES NOT APPLY TO NONSQUARE MATRICES