

Math 544, Exam 2, Summer 2007, Solutions

Write your answers as legibly as you can on the blank sheets of paper provided. Use only **one side** of each sheet. Be sure to number your pages. Put your solution to problem 1 first, and then your solution to number 2, etc.; although, by using enough paper, you can do the problems in any order that suits you.

Please leave room in the upper left corner for the staple.

There are **9** problems **on TWO sides**. The exam is worth a total of 50 points. **SHOW** your work. **CIRCLE** your answer. **CHECK** your answer whenever possible. **No Calculators**.

If I know your e-mail address, I will e-mail your grade to you. If I don't already know your e-mail address and you want me to know it, then **send me an e-mail**.
cc

You should **KEEP** this copy of your exam.

I will post the solutions on my website sometime after 3:15 today.

1. (6 points) **Let A be a fixed $n \times n$ matrix and let $W = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = 2x\}$. Is W a vector space? If yes, explain why. If no, give an example to show that the rules of vector space do not hold.**

YES! We see that W is the null space of the matrix $A - 2I_n$. The null space of every matrix is a vector space.

2. (6 points) **Let $W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid |x_1| = |x_2| \right\}$. Is W a vector space? If yes, explain why. If no, give an example to show that the rules of vector space do not hold.**

NO! The vectors $w_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ are in W , but $w_1 + w_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ is not in W .

3. (6 points) **Define “null space”. Use complete sentences. Include everything that is necessary, but nothing more.**

The null space of the matrix A is the set of all column vectors x with $Ax = 0$.

4. (6 points) **Define “non-singular”. Use complete sentences. Include everything that is necessary, but nothing more.**

The $n \times n$ matrix A is non-singular if the only vector x in \mathbb{R}^n with $Ax = 0$ is $x = 0$.

5. (6 points) **Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix. List three statements that are equivalent to the statement “ A is non-singular”. Do not repeat your answer to problem 4.**

1. The columns of A are linearly independent.
2. The system of equations $Ax = b$ has a unique solution for every b in \mathbb{R}^n .
3. The matrix A is invertible.

6. (5 points) **Let A and B be symmetric $n \times n$ matrices. Does the matrix AB HAVE to be symmetric? If yes, PROVE the statement. If no, give an EXAMPLE.**

NO! The matrices $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ are both symmetric; but the matrix $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ is not symmetric.

7. (5 points) **Let v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 be vectors in \mathbb{R}^5 . Suppose that v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly independent. Do the vectors v_1, v_2, v_3 HAVE to be linearly independent? If yes, PROVE the result. If no, show an EXAMPLE.**

YES! Suppose that $c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 = 0$. It follows that

$$(*) \quad c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 + 0v_4 = 0.$$

The vectors v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4 are linearly independent; hence the only coefficients which cause (*) to happen are $c_1 = c_2 = c_3 = 0$. We conclude that v_1, v_2, v_3 are linearly independent.

8. (5 points) **Let v_1, v_2 , and v_3 be non-zero vectors in \mathbb{R}^4 . Suppose that $v_i^T v_j = 0$ for all subscripts i and j with $i \neq j$. Prove that v_1, v_2 , and v_3 are linearly independent.**

Suppose c_1, c_2 , and c_3 are numbers with

$$(*) \quad c_1v_1 + c_2v_2 + c_3v_3 = 0.$$

Multiply by v_1^T to get

$$c_1 \cdot v_1^T v_1 + c_2 \cdot v_1^T v_2 + c_3 \cdot v_1^T v_3 = 0.$$

The hypothesis tells us that $v_1^T v_2 = 0$ and $v_1^T v_3 = 0$. So, $c_1 \cdot v_1^T v_1 = 0$. The hypothesis also tells us that v_1 is not zero; from which it follows that $v_1^T v_1 \neq 0$. We conclude that $c_1 = 0$. Multiply (*) by v_2^T to see that $c_2 \cdot v_2^T v_2 = 0$; hence, $c_2 = 0$, since the number $v_2^T v_2 \neq 0$. Multiply (*) by v_3^T to conclude that $c_3 = 0$. We have shown that each c_i MUST be zero. We conclude that v_1, v_2 , and v_3 are linearly independent.

9. (5 points) **Consider the vectors**

$$w = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}?$$

Is the vector w in the span of the vectors v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 ? Explain thoroughly.

The question asks if $Ax = w$ has a solution where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We apply the technique of Gaussian Elimination to

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 7 & 7 \\ 2 & 5 & 8 & 8 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 & 10 \end{array} \right]$$

Replace $R_2 \mapsto R_2 - 2R_1$ and $R_3 \mapsto R_3 - 3R_1$ to obtain

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 7 & 7 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & -6 \\ 0 & -6 & -12 & -11 \end{array} \right]$$

Replace $R_3 \mapsto R_3 - 2R_2$ to obtain

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 4 & 7 & 7 \\ 0 & -3 & -6 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

The bottom row shows that $Ax = w$ does not have a solution. It follows that w is NOT in the span of the vectors v_1 , v_2 , and v_3 .