

# CSL361 Problem set 4: Basic linear algebra

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[**Note:**] If the numerical matrix computations turn out to be tedious, you may use the function `rref` in **Matlab**.

## 1 Row-reduced echelon matrices

1. Consider the following systems of equation

(a)

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 &= 1 \\2x_1 &+ 2x_3 = 1 \\x_1 - 3x_2 + 4x_3 &= 2\end{aligned}$$

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 + 2x_4 &= 1 \\x_1 + x_2 - x_3 + x_4 &= 2 \\x_1 + 7x_2 - 5x_3 - x_4 &= 3\end{aligned}$$

Find out whether they have solutions. If so, describe explicitly all solutions.

2. Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

for which triples  $(y_1, y_2, y_3)$  does the system  $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{Y}$  have a solution?

3. Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -6 & 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 4 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

for which  $(y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4)$  does the system  $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{Y}$  have a solution?

4. Suppose  $\mathbf{R}$  and  $\mathbf{R}'$  are  $2 \times 3$  row-reduced echelon matrices and that the systems  $\mathbf{R}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{R}'\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$  have exactly the same solutions. Prove that  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{R}'$

5. Let

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

Find a row-reduced echelon matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  which is row-equivalent to  $\mathbf{A}$  and an invertible  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  such that  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}$ .

6. For each of the three matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & -1 \\ 4 & -1 & 2 \\ 6 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

use elementary row operations to discover whether it is invertible, and to find the inverse in case it is.

7. Suppose  $\mathbf{A}$  is a  $2 \times 1$  matrix and that  $\mathbf{B}$  is a  $1 \times 2$  matrix. Prove that  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{B}$  is not invertible.

8. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Prove the following:

- (a) If  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible and  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0}$  for some  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{B}$ , the  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- (b) If  $\mathbf{A}$  is not invertible, then there exists an  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  such that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{0}$  but  $\mathbf{B} \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

9. Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

Prove, using elementary row operations, that  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible *if and only if*  $(ad - bc) \neq 0$ .

10. Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

For which  $\mathbf{X}$  does there exist a scalar  $c$  such that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = c\mathbf{X}$ ?

11. An  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is **upper-triangular** if  $A_{ij} = 0$  for  $i > j$ . Prove that  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible *if and only if* every entry on its main diagonal is distinct from 0.
12. Prove that if  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix,  $\mathbf{B}$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix and  $n < m$ , then  $\mathbf{AB}$  is not invertible (generalization of a previous problem).
13. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Show that by means of a finite number of elementary row and/or column operations one can pass from  $\mathbf{A}$  to a matrix  $\mathbf{R}$  which is both *row-reduced echelon* and *column-reduced echelon*, i.e.,  $R_{ij} = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ ,  $R_{ii} = 1, 1 \leq i \leq r$ ,  $R_{ii} = 0, i > r$ . Show that  $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{PAQ}$  where  $\mathbf{P}$  is an invertible  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\mathbf{Q}$  is an invertible  $m \times m$  matrix.

## 2 Vector spaces and subspaces

1. Show that the following are vector spaces:

- (a) The  $n$ -tuple space,  $F^n$ : Let  $F$  be a Field and let  $V$  be the set of all  $n$ -tuples  $\alpha = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$  of scalars  $x_i \in F$ . If  $\beta = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$  with  $y_i \in F$  then their sum is defined as

$$\alpha + \beta = (x_1 + y_1, \dots, x_n + y_n)$$

and the product of a scalar  $c$  and a vector  $\alpha$  is

$$c\alpha = (cx_1, cx_2, \dots, cx_n)$$

- (b) The space of  $m \times n$  matrices,  $F^{m \times n}$ : under usual matrix addition and multiplication of a matrix with a scalar.
- (c) The space of functions from a set to a Field: under the operations:

$$(f + g)(s) = f(s) + g(s)$$

and

$$(cf)(s) = cf(s)$$

- (d) The space of polynomial functions over a Field: with addition and scalar multiplication as defined above.
2. Which of the following sets of vectors  $\alpha = (a_1, \dots, a_n)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  ( $n \geq 3$ )?

- (a) all  $\alpha$  such that  $a_1 \geq 0$ ;
  - (b) all  $\alpha$  such that  $a_1 + 3a_2 = a_3$ ;
  - (c) all  $\alpha$  such that  $a_2 = a_1^2$ ;
  - (d) all  $\alpha$  such that  $a_1 a_2 = 0$ ;
  - (e) all  $\alpha$  such that  $a_2$  is rational.
3. Let  $V$  be the (real) vector space of all functions  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Which of the following are subspaces of  $V$ ?
- (a) all  $f$  such that  $f(x^2) = f(x)^2$ ;
  - (b) all  $f$  such that  $f(0) = f(1)$ ;
  - (c) all  $f$  such that  $f(3) = 1 + f(-5)$ ;
  - (d) all  $f$  such that  $f(-1) = 0$ ;
  - (e) all  $f$  which are continuous.
4. Let  $W$  be the set of all  $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) \in \mathbb{R}^5$  which satisfy

$$\begin{array}{rcccccc} 2x_1 & - & x_2 & + & \frac{4}{3}x_3 & - & x_4 & & = & 0 \\ x_1 & & & + & \frac{2}{3}x_3 & & & - & x_5 & = & 0 \\ 9x_1 & - & 3x_2 & + & 6x_3 & - & 3x_4 & - & 3x_5 & = & 0 \end{array}$$

Find a finite set of vectors which spans  $W$ .

5. Let  $F$  be a Field and let  $n$  be a positive integer ( $n \geq 2$ ). Let  $V$  be a vector space of all  $n \times n$  matrices over  $F$ . Which of the following set of matrices  $A$  in  $V$  are subspaces of  $V$ ?
- (a) all invertible  $A$ ;
  - (b) all non-invertible  $A$ ;
  - (c) all  $A$  such that  $AB = BA$ , where  $B$  is some fixed matrix in  $V$ ;
  - (d) all  $A$  such that  $A^2 = A$ .
6. (a) Prove that the only subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^1$  are  $\mathbb{R}^1$  and the zero subspace.  
 (b) Prove that a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , or the zero subspace, or consists of all scalar multiples of some fixed vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .  
 (c) What can you say about the subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?
7. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix over  $F$ . Show that the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$  is a subspace of  $F^n$ . This subspace is called the **null space** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and its dimension is the **nullity** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

8. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix over  $F$ . Show that the set of all vectors spanned by the row vectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  is a subspace of  $F^n$ . This subspace is called the **row space** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and its dimension is the **row rank** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
9. Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix over  $F$ . Show that the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{Y}$  such that  $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{Y}$  has a solution for  $\mathbf{X}$  is a subspace of  $F^m$ . This subspace is called the **range space** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and its dimension is the **column rank** of  $\mathbf{A}$  (why?).
10. Show that for any matrix  $\mathbf{A}$
- (a) **nullity** + **row rank** =  $n$
  - (b) **nullity** + **column rank** =  $n$

and conclude that

**row rank** of  $\mathbf{A}$  = **column rank** of  $\mathbf{A}$

11. Consider the  $5 \times 5$  matrix

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

- (a) Find an invertible matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  such that  $\mathbf{PA}$  is a row-reduced echelon matrix  $\mathbf{R}$ .
- (b) Find a basis for the **row space**  $W$  of  $\mathbf{R}$ .
- (c) Say which vectors  $(b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5)$  are in  $W$ .
- (d) Find the coordinate matrix of each vector  $(b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5) \in W$  in the ordered basis chosen in (b).
- (e) Write each vector  $(b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5) \in W$  as a linear combination of the rows of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (f) Give an explicit description of the **null space** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- (g) Find a basis for the **null space**.
- (h) For what column matrices  $\mathbf{Y}$  does the equation  $\mathbf{AX} = \mathbf{Y}$  have solutions  $\mathbf{X}$ ?
- (i) Explicitly find the **range space** of  $\mathbf{A}$  and find a basis.
- (j) Verify the relations regarding the **nullity**, **row rank** and **column rank** of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

### 3 Coordinates

1. Let  $\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3\}$  be an ordered basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  where

$$\alpha_1 = (1, 0, -1), \quad \alpha_2 = (1, 1, 1), \quad \alpha_3 = (1, 0, 0)$$

What are the coordinates of  $(a, b, c)$  in the ordered basis  $\mathcal{B}$ ?

2. Let  $\alpha = (x_1, x_2)$  and  $\beta = (y_1, y_2)$  be vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  such that

$$x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 = 0 \text{ and } x_1^2 + x_2^2 = y_1^2 + y_2^2 = 1$$

Show that  $\mathcal{B} = \{\alpha, \beta\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Find the coordinates of  $(a, b)$  in this ordered basis. What do the conditions mean geometrically?

3. Consider the matrix

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}$$

Show that  $\mathbf{P}$  is invertible. Conclude that  $\mathbf{P}$  represents a transformation of coordinates in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . What is the geometric interpretation of the change of coordinates represented by  $\mathbf{P}$ ?

4. Let  $V$  be a vector space over the complex numbers of all functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e., the space of all complex valued functions on the real line. Let  $f_1(x) = 1$ ,  $f_2(x) = e^{ix}$  and  $f_3(x) = e^{-ix}$ .

(a) Prove that  $f_1, f_2, f_3$  are linearly independent.

(b) Let  $g_1(x) = 1$ ,  $g_2(x) = \cos x$  and  $g_3(x) = \sin x$ . Find an invertible  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $\mathbf{P}$  such that

$$g_j = \sum_{i=1}^3 P_{ij} f_i$$

5. Let  $V$  be the real vector space of all polynomial functions from  $\mathbb{R}$  into  $\mathbb{R}$  of degree 2 or less. Let  $t$  be a fixed number and define

$$g_1(x) = 1, \quad g_2(x) = x + t, \quad g_3(x) = (x + t)^2$$

Prove that  $\mathcal{B} = \{g_1, g_2, g_3\}$  is a basis for  $V$ . If

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2$$

what are the coordinates of  $f$  in this ordered basis  $\mathcal{B}$ ?