

DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS  
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS  
MATH 235 SPRING 2011  
EXAM 1

1. (16 points) a) Show that the **reduced** row echelon form of the augmented matrix of the system

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + 2x_4 + x_5 &= 3 \\x_1 - x_3 + x_4 + x_5 &= 2 \\-2x_1 + 2x_3 - 2x_4 - x_5 &= -3\end{aligned}$$

is  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Use at most six elementary row operations. (Partial credit will be given if you use more). Clearly write in words each elementary row operation you use.

- b) Find the general solution of the system.

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{pmatrix} =$$

2. (16 points) Let  $A$  be a  $5 \times 3$  matrix (5 rows and 3 columns),  $\vec{b}$ ,  $\vec{c}$ ,  $\vec{d}$  three vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^5$  and  $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , with variables  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ . You are told that the matrix equation  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has a unique solution. Carefully justify using complete sentences your answers to the following questions.

- What is the row reduced echelon form of  $A$ ?
- What can you say about the number of solutions of the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ ?
- You are given the additional information that the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{c}$  is consistent. What can you say about the number of solutions of the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b} + \vec{c}$ ?
- What can you say about the number of solutions of the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{d}$ ?

3. (18 points) You can solve parts b and c below even without solving part a.

a) Let  $L$  be the line in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  through the origin and  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . Recall that the reflection  $Ref_L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is the linear transformation given by the formula

$$Ref_L(\vec{x}) = \frac{2(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{v})}{(\vec{v} \cdot \vec{v})}\vec{v} - \vec{x}, \quad (1)$$

where  $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{v}$  is the dot product of  $\vec{x}$  and  $\vec{v}$ . Use the above formula to find the matrix  $A$  of  $Ref_L$ , so that  $Ref_L(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$ , for all vectors  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Credit will not be given for an answer which does not derive the entries of  $A$  from equation (1) above.

b) Let  $\theta$  be the angle from the  $x_1$ -axis in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to the line  $L$  in part a. Denote by  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  the rotation of the plane an angle  $\theta$  counterclockwise about the origin. Note that  $T$  maps the  $x_1$ -axis onto  $L$  and the  $x_2$ -axis onto the line perpendicular to  $L$ . Use geometric considerations, justified via both sketches and complete sentences, in order to compute the following:

i)  $Ref_L \left( T \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) =$

ii)  $Ref_L \left( T \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) =$

c) Let  $B$  be the matrix of  $T$  in part b. Use your work in part b to prove the equality  $AB = \frac{1}{\sqrt{13}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Hint: Avoid computing  $B$ , rather compute  $AB$  directly.

4. (16 points) Find all matrices  $M = \begin{pmatrix} w & x \\ y & z \end{pmatrix}$  that commute with the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , i.e., which satisfy

$$AM = MA. \quad (2)$$

Follow the following three steps.

a) Translate the equation (2) to a system of linear equations that the variables  $w$ ,  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  should satisfy, in order for  $M$  and  $A$  to commute.

b) Find the general solution  $\begin{pmatrix} w \\ x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}$  of the system in part a.

c) Find the general form of a matrix  $M$ , which commutes with  $A$ .

5. (a) (7 points) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Compute  $A^{-1}$ . Show all your work.

(b) (9 points) Determine which of the following linear transformations  $T$  from  $\mathbb{R}^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$  are invertible. Give a reason, if it is not invertible. If the inverse exists describe it geometrically.

- i.  $T$  is the rotation of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  45 degrees counterclockwise.
- ii.  $T$  is the reflection of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with respect to a line  $L$  through the origin and a non-zero vector  $u = (u_1, u_2)$ .

iii.  $T$  is the projection of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  onto the line  $L$  in part 5(b)ii.

6. (18 points) a) Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation  $T(\vec{x}) = A\vec{x}$ , where

$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & -1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . You are given that  $A$  is row equivalent to the matrix

$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . You do **not** need to verify this fact. Find a basis for

the kernel of  $T$ . In other words, find a set of vectors which span  $\ker(T)$  and which is linearly independent. **Explain** why the set you found spans  $\ker(T)$  and why it is linearly independent.

b) Let  $L$  be the line in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by the vector  $\vec{v} := \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Denote by  $L^\perp$

the set of all vectors  $\vec{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that are orthogonal to  $L$  (i.e., to  $\vec{v}$ ). So  $L^\perp$  consists

of all vectors  $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$ , such that the dot product  $\vec{v} \cdot \vec{x} = 0$  is zero. Show

that  $L^\perp$  is a *subspace* of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  by stating the three properties defining a subspace and verifying that  $L^\perp$  satisfies each of them.