

**Math 314/814 Matrix Theory**  
**Final practice problems**

1. Find bases for the column space and row space of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 12 & -14 \\ -1 & -2 & 1 & -9 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. Find a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$  which includes, among its vectors, a basis for the nullspace of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. Find the inverse of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

4. For the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -4 \\ 20 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$ , what is  $A^{2008}$ ?

(Hint: knowing its eigenvalues might help...)

5. The vectors  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  are linearly independent (you need not verify this).

Find the vector in  $W = \text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3)$  which is closest to the vector  $\vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ .

6. Find the line  $y = ax + b$  that best approximates the data points

$$\{(-2, 3), (0, 5), (1, 7)\}.$$

7. Show that if  $A, B$  are a pair of  $m \times n$  matrices, then the collection of vectors

$$W = \{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\vec{v} = B\vec{v}\}$$

is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

8. Use Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization, starting with the basis

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , to build an orthogonal basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

9. For what values of  $x$  is the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} x & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & x \\ 0 & -1 & x \end{pmatrix}$  invertible?

10. Find the eigenvalues of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

and, for each eigenvalue, find a basis for its eigenspace.

11. Explain why the function  $f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  given by  
 $f(x, y) = (x - y, x^2 + y^2)$   
is **not** a linear transformation.

12. Find the matrix  $A$  so that  $T = T_A$ , where  $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  is the linear transformation which given a vector  $[x \ y]^T$  returns the vector  $[y \ x]^T$ . Geometrically, what does this transformation do?

13. Find bases for the column space of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 7 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$ , by

(a) row reducing the matrix  $A$ ,

(b) row reducing the transpose  $A^T$  of the matrix  $A$ .

14. Find the value of  $Ax$  closest to  $b$ , where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

15. Find the determinant of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -7 \\ 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Based on this, find the determinants of the matrices  $B = A^{-1}$ ,  $C = A^T$ , and  $D = A^T A$ . (Hint: you don't need to compute these matrices....)

16. Find the orthogonal complement of the subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  spanned by the vectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

17. Find bases for the column space, row space, and nullspace of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 5 & -2 \end{pmatrix} .$$

18. Find the inverse of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} .$

19. For which value(s) of  $x$  do the vectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} , \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ x \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} , \begin{pmatrix} x \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{span } \mathbb{R}^3 ?$$

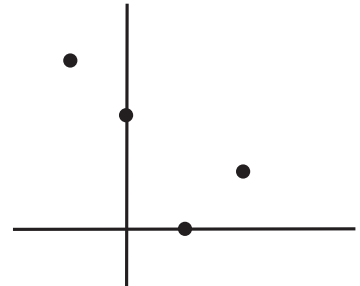
20. Use the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization process to construct an orthogonal set from the (you may assume linearly independent) vectors

$$\vec{w}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} , \vec{w}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} , \vec{w}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} .$$

21. Find the orthogonal projection of the vector  $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  onto the column space of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} .$$

22. Find the line  $y = ax + b$  that gives the least squares best fit to the data points  $(-1, 3)$  ,  $(0, 2)$  ,  $(1, 0)$  ,  $(2, 1)$  .



23. Find the eigenvalues, and associated eigenbases, for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix} .$$