

Midterm 1  
Linear Algebra and Applications  
(Math 33A-001)

Answer the questions in the spaces provided. If you run out of room for an answer, continue on the back of the page. **Show your work.**

Name

U ID

TA's Name:

Sam Yih

TA Meeting Day:

Tuesday

|           |   |   |   |   |       |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|-------|
| Question: | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Total |
| Points:   | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 20    |
| Score:    | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 16    |

1. 5 points Let  $T$  be a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^3$  to  $\mathbb{R}^3$  such that

$$T \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad T \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad T \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Compute the matrix of  $T$ .

The matrix of  $T$   $A = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | \\ T(e_1) & T(e_2) & T(e_3) \\ | & | & | \end{bmatrix}$ , so we know that  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & d \\ -1 & b & e \\ 0 & c & f \end{bmatrix}$

We also know that  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & d \\ -1 & b & e \\ 0 & c & f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ -6 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 + a - d &= 3 \rightarrow d = a - 4 \\ 1 - b + e &= 2 \rightarrow e = b - 1 \\ 0 + c - f &= -6 \rightarrow f = c + 6 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & a & d \\ -1 & b & e \\ 0 & c & f \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} -1 - a + 2d &= -1 \\ 1 - b + 2e &= 0 \\ 0 - c + 2f &= 4 \end{aligned}$$

We solve for the unknowns:

$$\begin{aligned} -1 - a + 2(a - 4) &= -1 \\ -a + 2a - 8 &= 0 \\ a &= 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$d = 8 - 4 = 4$$

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - b + 2(b - 1) &= 0 \\ -b + 2b - 2 &= -1 \\ b &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$e = 1 - 1 = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} -c + 2(c + 6) &= 4 \\ -c + 2c + 12 &= 4 \\ c &= -8 \end{aligned}$$

$$f = -8 + 6 = -2$$

So the matrix of  $T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 8 & 4 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -8 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

2. [5 points] Find a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $A$  such that  $A\vec{x}$  is parallel to the vector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  for all  $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ .

We find the unit vector  $\vec{u}$  in the direction of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ :  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

We then find  $\text{Proj}_L(\vec{x}) = (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{u})\vec{u}$  (where  $L$  is the line containing  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ )

$$= \left( \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{pmatrix} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{pmatrix} = \left( \frac{x_1}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{-x_2}{\sqrt{3}} + \frac{x_3}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{x_1}{3} - \frac{x_2}{3} + \frac{x_3}{3} \\ -\frac{x_1}{3} + \frac{x_2}{3} - \frac{x_3}{3} \\ \frac{x_1}{3} - \frac{x_2}{3} + \frac{x_3}{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

So  $A =$   $\boxed{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}}$

3. 5 points Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix,  $\vec{b}$  is a non-zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , and  $\vec{0}$  is the zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . We are told that the linear system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has *infinitely* many solutions. What can you say about the number of solutions of the system  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ ? You must explain your answer.

We can say that  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  has either infinitely many solutions or no solution. The fact that  $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has infinitely many solutions means that  $A$  is not invertible, so  $\text{rank}(A) < 4$ . This means that  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$  can have either infinitely many solutions or no solution.

**5 points** Let  $A$  be a  $m \times n$  matrix and  $B$  a  $n \times p$  matrix. If  $\ker(A) = \{\vec{0}\}$  and  $\ker(B) = \{\vec{0}\}$ , then prove that  $\ker(AB) = \{\vec{0}\}$ .

Since  $\ker(A) = \{\vec{0}\}$  and  $\ker(B) = \{\vec{0}\}$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible matrices. This means that their product  $AB$  is ~~also invertible~~ <sup>not square</sup>. This in turn means that  $\ker(AB) = \{\vec{0}\}$ , because if  $AB$  is an invertible matrix, then  $AB\vec{x} = \vec{0}$  has only one solution,  $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ .