

# Solutions to selected problems

(1)

1 a) To find a basis for the row space of ~~A~~ a matrix we reduced the matrix to echelon form using Gaussian elimination: the nonzero rows in the echelon form will be the basis for the row space.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & -1 & -1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 6 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & -4 & -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 & -5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (*)$$

Reduced row echelon form

A basis for the row space of  $A$  will be the first three vectors of any of the matrices above. In particular, one can take  $\{(1, 0, 0, 0, 2)^T, (0, 1, 0, 0, -1)^T, (0, 0, 1, 1, -1)^T\}$

A basis of the column space will be the column vectors of the ORIGINAL matrix  $A$  corresponding to the leading 1's in the reduced row echelon form. So, in this case, a basis for the column space will be the first three columns of  $A$ :  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

To find a basis for the nullspace of  $A$ , we solve the system  $Ax = 0$ .

From the reduced row echelon form  $(*)$  it follows that  $x_4$  and  $x_5$  are free variables so we let  $x_4 = s$ ,  $x_5 = t$ . Thus

$$x_1 = -2x_5 = -2t$$

$$x_2 = x_5 = t$$

$$x_3 = -x_4 + x_5 = -s + t$$

$$x_4 = s$$

$$x_5 = t$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Solution: } (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5)^T &= (-2t, t, -s+t, s, t)^T \\ &= t(-2, 1, 1, 0, 1)^T \\ &\quad + s(0, 0, -1, 1, 0)^T \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Basis for nullspace: } \left\{ (-2, 1, 1, 0, 1)^T, (0, 0, -1, 1, 0)^T \right\}$$

The rank of  $A =$  dimension of row space  
 $= 3$  (# basis elements)

the nullity of  $A =$  dimension of null space  
 $= 2$  (# basis elements).

Notice that  $3 + 2 = 5 =$  # number of columns, as expected.  
(Rank-Nullity theorem).

$$b) \text{ RREF: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{rank} = 3$$

$$\text{Basis of nullspace: } \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -4 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{nullity} = 2$$

$$c) \text{ RREF: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2/7 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -3/7 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{rank} = 2$$

$$\text{Basis of nullspace: } \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2/7 \\ 3/7 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{nullity} = 2$$

$$d) \text{ RREF: } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{rank} = 2$$

$$\text{Basis of nullspace: } \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \quad \text{nullity} = 1.$$

2.a) To find a basis for the span of a set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we let  $A$  be the matrix whose rows are the given vectors and reduce that matrix to echelon form. Again, a basis for the row space of  $A$ , i.e., the non-zero rows in the echelon form, will be a basis for the span of the set of vectors.

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 3 & -4 & 9 & 16 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 13/4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -13/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -3/4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{reduced row echelon form} \end{aligned}$$

A basis for the ~~span~~ span will be  $\{ (1, 0, 0, 13/4)^T, (0, 1, 0, -13/4)^T, (0, 0, 1, -3/4)^T \}$

b) RREF of the corresponding matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

c) RREF of the corresponding matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 1 & -1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

3. A set of vectors spans a vector space  $V$  if every vector in  $V$  can be expressed as a linear combination of the vectors in the given set.

a) Let  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , we need to determine whether there are  $d_1, d_2, d_3$  such that

$$d_1(1, 2)^T + d_2(2, 4)^T + d_3(5, 10)^T = (x, y)^T$$

$$(d_1 + d_2 + 5d_3, 2d_1 + 4d_2 + 10d_3)^T = (x, y)^T$$

$$d_1 + d_2 + 5d_3 = x$$

$$2d_1 + 4d_2 + 10d_3 = y$$

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the system:

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 5 & x \\ 2 & 4 & 10 & y \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 5 & x \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & y-2x \end{array} \right]$$

We system is consistent only if  $y = 2x$ , therefore not every vector in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is in the span of the given set of vectors, so they don't span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

3c) We look at the system that arises from

$$d_1(x) + d_2(x+x^2) + d_3(-x^2) = ax^2 + bx + c$$

$$(d_1 + d_2)x + (d_2 - d_3)x^2 = ax^2 + bx + c$$

that is

$$d_2 - d_3 = a$$

$$d_1 + d_2 = b$$

$$0 = c$$

Since ~~the~~  $c$  must be 0, not every polynomial in  $P_3$  is in the span of this set of vectors.

d) Likewise we consider whether there are  $d_1, d_2, d_3, d_4$  such that

$$d_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + d_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + d_3 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + d_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

that is

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 & d_1 \\ 0 & d_1 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} d_2 & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & d_3 \\ -d_3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ d_4 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

or

$$\begin{pmatrix} d_1 + d_2 & d_1 + d_3 \\ -d_3 & d_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

This yields the system:

$$d_1 + d_2 = a$$

$$d_1 + d_3 = b$$

$$-d_3 = c$$

$$d_4 = d$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & a \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & | & b \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & | & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & d \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & a \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & b-a \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & | & c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & a \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & | & b-a+c \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & | & -c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & d \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & | & b+c \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & | & a-b-c \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & | & -c \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & d \end{bmatrix}$$

The system has a solution for each  $\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ ,

so the set of vectors spans  $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ .

4) We need to determine whether ~~there~~ for each set of vectors, there is a nontrivial linear combination giving the zero vector of the corresponding vector space.

a) let  $c_1(1, 2, 4)^T + c_2(2, 1, 3)^T + c_3(4, -1, 1)^T = (0, 0, 0)^T$

that is  $(c_1 + 2c_2 + 4c_3, 2c_1 + c_2 - c_3, 4c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3)^T = (0, 0, 0)^T$

$$c_1 + 2c_2 + 4c_3 = 0$$

$$2c_1 + c_2 - c_3 = 0$$

$$4c_1 + 3c_2 + c_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \sim \dots \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{reduced row echelon form.}$$

$c_3$  is a free variable, so the system has nontrivial solutions and the vectors are therefore linearly dependent.

$$c_3 = t$$

$$c_2 = -3c_3 = -3t$$

$$c_1 = 2c_3 = 2t$$

solution:  $(c_1, c_2, c_3)^T = t(2, -3, 1)^T$

A non-trivial combi. can be obtained by assigning values to  $t$ .

For example, we let  $t=1$ , and get

$$2(1, 2, 4)^T - 3(2, 1, 3)^T + 1 \cdot (4, -1, 1)^T = (0, 0, 0)^T$$

b)  $c_1(x^2 - 2x + 3) + c_2(2x^2 + x + 8) + c_3(x^2 + 8x + 7) = 0x^2 + 0x + 0$

$$(c_1 + c_2 + c_3)x^2 + (-2c_1 + c_2 + 8c_3)x + 3c_1 + 8c_2 + 7c_3 = 0x^2 + 0x + 0$$

Yields the system:

$$c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 0$$

$$-2c_1 + c_2 + 8c_3 = 0$$

$$3c_1 + 8c_2 + 7c_3 = 0$$

c)  $c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} c_1 + 2c_3 & c_2 + 3c_3 \\ 0 & c_1 + 2c_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Yields the system:

$$c_1 + 2c_3 = 0$$

$$c_2 + 3c_3 = 0$$

$$c_1 + 2c_3 = 0$$

5 a) Since the dimension of  $P_3$  is 3, it is sufficient to determine whether the vectors are linearly independent. For that we use the Wronskian criterion

$$W(1-x, 1+x, 1-x^2) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-x & 1+x & 1-x^2 \\ -1 & 1 & -2x \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -2 \begin{vmatrix} 1-x & 1+x \\ -1 & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -2(1-x + 1+x) = -4 \neq 0$$

Since the Wronskian is  $\neq 0$ , the 3 vectors are linearly independent and thus a basis for

$P_3$ .

b) We are looking at 4 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , so we may use the determinant criterion to decide whether they are l.i. in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  and thus a basis.

$$\begin{vmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = ?$$

5.c) likewise we look at

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = ?$$

⑥. We have that  $u \cdot [x]_u = v \cdot [x]_v$ , therefore

$$[x]_u = u^{-1} \cdot v [x]_v, \text{ so } P = u^{-1} v.$$

$$\text{where } U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$U^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = U^{-1} V = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $x = v_1 - 2v_2 + v_3$ ,  $[x]_v = (1, -2, 1)^T$

$$\text{so } [x]_u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

That is,  $x = u_1 - u_2 + 2u_3$ .

8. We need to ~~check~~ <sup>determine</sup> whether the system  $Ax=b$  has a solution:

$$a) \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 10 \\ 1 & 2 & 5 \end{array} \right] \sim \underbrace{\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]}_{\text{consistent}}$$

$$x_2 = t$$

$$x_1 = 5 - 2t$$

There are infinitely many solutions. The system is consistent. Thus  $b$  is in the column space of  $A$ .

$$b) \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 & 2 & 4 \end{array} \right] \sim \dots \sim \begin{array}{c} \text{RREF} \\ \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \end{array}$$

$$c) \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 & 8 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 8 & 5 & 0 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 8 & -1 & 8 \\ 0 & 2 & 8 & -9 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 11 & 16 \\ 0 & 0 & 11 & -7 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\sim \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 11 & 16 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -23 \end{array} \right] \text{ inconsistent!}$$

9. Let  $V$  and  $W$  be vector spaces. A mapping

$$L: V \rightarrow W$$

is linear if for each scalar  $\alpha$ , and each  $x, y \in V$  one has,

①  $L(x+y) = L(x) + L(y)$

②  $L(\alpha x) = \alpha L(x)$

a)  $L(x+y) = \textcircled{x+y} + 1 \neq \underset{x+1}{L(x)} + \underset{y+1}{L(y)} = x+y+2$

① fails

$$L(\alpha x) = \alpha x + 1 \neq \alpha(x+1) = \alpha L(x)$$

② fails.

b)  $L((x_1, x_2, x_3)^T + (y_1, y_2, y_3)^T) = L((x_1+y_1, x_2+y_2, x_3+y_3)^T)$   
 ~~$L((x_1, x_2, x_3)^T + (y_1, y_2, y_3)^T)$~~   $= (x_1+y_1, -x_3-y_3, x_1+y_1+x_2+y_2, x_3+y_3, 0)^T$   
 $= (x_1, -x_3, x_1+x_2+x_3, 0)^T + (y_1, -y_3, y_1+y_2+y_3, 0)^T$   
 $= L((x_1, x_2, x_3)^T) + L((y_1, y_2, y_3)^T)$

So ① holds.

$$L(\alpha(x_1, x_2, x_3)^T) = L((\alpha x_1, \alpha x_2, \alpha x_3)^T)$$
  
$$= (\alpha x_1, -\alpha x_3, \alpha x_1 + \alpha x_2 + \alpha x_3, 0)^T$$

$$= \alpha (x_1, -x_3, x_1 + x_2 + x_3, 0)^T$$

$$= \alpha L((x_1, x_2, x_3)^T)$$

(2) holds as well, so  $L$  is linear.

$$L(e_1) = (1, 0, 1, 0)^T$$

$$L(e_2) = (0, 0, 1, 0)^T$$

$$L(e_3) = (0, -1, 1, 0)^T$$

So the standard matrix for  $L$  is

$$A = [L(e_1) \mid L(e_2) \mid L(e_3)] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$