

UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

DATE: October 26, 2009

Midterm Solutions

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COURSE: MATH 1300

TIME: 60 minutes

EXAMINATION: Vector Geometry and Linear Algebra

EXAMINER: Various

- [2] 1. (a) Define what is meant by a “linear equation in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ”.

**Solution:** A linear equation in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  is an equation of the form  $a_1x_1 + \dots + a_nx_n = b$ , where  $a_1, \dots, a_n, b$  are real numbers.

- [2] (b) Define what it means for an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  to be *invertible*.

**Solution:** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is invertible if and only if there exists an  $n \times n$  matrix  $B$  so that  $AB = I_n = BA$ .

- [2] (c) What is a system of linear equations of the form  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  called?

**Solution:** Such a system is called a *homogeneous system*

- [2] (d) Define what is meant by “ $A$  is symmetric”. (Be brief!)

**Solution:** A matrix  $A$  is symmetric if and only if  $A = A^T$

- [3] (e) Give an example of an inconsistent system of linear equations.

**Solution:**  
 one example is: 
$$\begin{array}{rcl} x & +y & = 0 \\ 2x & +2y & = 2 \end{array}$$
 There are other examples.

- [2] 2. For a system of equations of the form  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , is it

always consistent,

sometimes consistent,

or inconsistent?

Check the appropriate box and explain.

**Solution:** A system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  always has the trivial solution of  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , so such a system is always consistent.

- [4] 3. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. State four *additional* properties equivalent to “ $A$  is invertible”.

**Solution:** (See Theorem 1.5.3, 1.6.4, 2.3.3, or 2.3.6)

- $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has only the trivial solution.
- The RREF of  $A$  is  $I_n$ .
- $A$  is expressible as a product of elementary matrices.
- For every  $n \times 1$  matrix  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent.
- For every  $n \times 1$  matrix  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a unique solution.
- $\det(A) \neq 0$ .

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- [3] 4. Prove that if a matrix  $A$  has an inverse, then this inverse is unique. Give reasons for each step.

**Solution:** Let  $A$  be  $n \times n$  be invertible with two possible inverses, say  $B$  and  $C$ . Because each is an inverse then (a)  $AB = I_n$ , (b)  $BA = I_n$ , (c)  $AC = I_n$  (d)  $CA = I_n$ . Then

$$B = BI_n = B(AC) = (BA)C = I_n C = C$$

where the reasons for the successive equalities are:  $I_n$  is the multiplicative identity, (c), associativity of multiplication, (b), and again using the identity.

- [2] 5. What is the maximum number of 0's in an invertible  $5 \times 5$  matrix? Explain.

**Solution:** 20 is the maximum. This maximum is attained by the invertible matrix  $I_5$ . If there are more than 20 zeros, some row (or column) must contain all zeros, in which case the matrix is not invertible (since it will have a determinant of zero).

- [7] 6. (a) By Gauss-Jordan elimination, solve the (consistent) system

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y - z &= 3, \\ 4x + 10y + 2z &= 10, \\ x + 3y + 2z &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

If row operations are not clearly and properly identified, your answers will not be graded. If there is more than one solution, state the solution using parameter(s).

**Solution:**

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 4 & 10 & 2 & 10 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 2 \end{array} \right) \implies \begin{array}{l} R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 4R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -1 \end{array} \right) \implies R_2 \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}R_2$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -1 \end{array} \right) \implies \begin{array}{l} R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - 2R_2 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \end{array}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -7 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$x = 5 + 7t$$

So the solutions are  $y = -1 - 3t$  where  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ .

$$z = t$$

- [1] (b) Find a particular solution and verify that it is indeed a solution.

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**Solution:** If we let  $t = 0$  we get the solution  $x = 5, y = -1, z = 0$ .  
(There are others.) This is verified by

$$\begin{aligned} (5) + 2(-1) - (0) &= 3, \\ 4(5) + 10(-1) + 2(0) &= 10, \\ (5) + 3(-1) + 2(0) &= 2. \end{aligned}$$

[8] 7. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Calculate each of the following, and if the expression is not defined, say why.

[2] (a) The size of  $A^T C^T = \underline{3 \times 3}$

[2] (b)  $AC$ .

**Solution:**  $AC = \begin{bmatrix} 13 & -15 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

[2] (c)  $B^{-1}$  (by any method).

**Solution:**  $B^{-1} = \frac{1}{(4)(1)-(-3)(0)} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & \frac{3}{4} \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

[2] (d)  $A^T C$ .

**Solution:** This is undefined. Since  $A$  is a  $2 \times 3$  matrix,  $A^T$  is a  $3 \times 2$  matrix;  $C$  is also a  $3 \times 2$  matrix. The product is undefined because the number of columns of  $A^T$  is not the same as the number of rows of  $C$ .

[2] 8. For what values of  $a$  and  $b$  is the matrix  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a \\ a & b \end{bmatrix}$  an elementary matrix?

**Solution:**  $a = 0, b \neq 0$ .

9. Calculate the following determinants by any method; only answers are graded:

[1] (a)  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & -5 \\ 7 & 6 \end{vmatrix} = \underline{41}$ .

[2] (b)  $\begin{vmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = \underline{-1}$ .

[3] (c)  $\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 0 & -5 & 2 \\ 0 & 6 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & -2 & -3 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \underline{18}$ .

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[7] 10. Suppose that  $A$  is a  $5 \times 5$  matrix and  $\det(A) = -2$ . Find (only answers are graded):

[2] (a)  $\det(A^{-1}) = \underline{-\frac{1}{2}}$ ;

[1] (b)  $\det(A^4) = \underline{16}$ ;

[2] (c)  $\det(3A) = \underline{3^5(-2) = -486}$ ;

[2] (d)  $\det(\text{adj}(A)) = \underline{16}$ .

[7] 11. Let  $H = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Given that  $\det(H) = 12$ , compute

[3] (a)  $\text{cof}(H)$ , the cofactor matrix for  $H$ ,

**Solution:**  $\text{cof}(H) = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & 3 & 2 \\ -6 & -3 & 6 \\ 6 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

[2] (b)  $\text{adj}(H)$ , the adjoint of  $H$ , and

**Solution:**  $\text{adj}(H) = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -6 & 6 \\ 3 & -3 & -3 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

[2] (c)  $H^{-1}$  (using the adjoint).

**Solution:**  $H^{-1} = \frac{1}{12} \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -6 & 6 \\ 3 & -3 & -3 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} & -\frac{1}{4} \\ \frac{1}{6} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{6} \end{bmatrix}$