

This is a closed book test. No electronic devices are allowed. If two students submit exams in which any solution has been copied, **both students will receive a score of zero**. There are 5 pages and 5 problems, each worth 6 points.

Problem 1. Let \vec{x} and \vec{y} be two vectors (in some-dimensional space) such that

$$\|\vec{x}\| = 1, \quad \|\vec{y}\| = 2, \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} = \sqrt{3}.$$

(a) Find the **cosine** of the angle between \vec{x} and \vec{y} (and the angle itself, if you know it).

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\| \cos \theta &= \vec{x} \cdot \vec{y} \\ \cos \theta &= (\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) / (\|\vec{x}\| \|\vec{y}\|) \\ &= \sqrt{3}/2 \implies \theta = \pm \frac{\pi}{6} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Tell me the values of the dot products $\vec{x} \cdot \vec{x}$ and $\vec{y} \cdot \vec{y}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} &= \|\vec{x}\|^2 = 1^2 = 1 \\ \vec{y} \cdot \vec{y} &= \|\vec{y}\|^2 = 2^2 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

(c) Expand the expression $(\vec{y} - \vec{x}) \cdot (\vec{y} - \vec{x})$ and use the result to find the **distance between the points two points \vec{x} and \vec{y}** .

$$\begin{aligned} \|\vec{y} - \vec{x}\|^2 &= (\vec{y} - \vec{x}) \cdot (\vec{y} - \vec{x}) \\ &= \vec{y} \cdot \vec{y} - 2(\vec{x} \cdot \vec{y}) + \vec{x} \cdot \vec{x} \\ &= 4 - 2\sqrt{3} + 1 \\ &= 5 - 2\sqrt{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies \|\vec{y} - \vec{x}\| = \sqrt{5 - 2\sqrt{3}}$$

Problem 2. Consider the following system of 3 linear equations in 3 unknowns:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 2z = -1 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 0 \\ 0 + y + z = 1 \end{cases}$$

(a) Put the system in reduced row echelon form (RREF).

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} A \\ B \\ C \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} A \\ B-A \\ C \end{array}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} A \\ B \\ C-B \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} A-B \\ B \\ C \end{array}$$

$$\begin{cases} x + 0 + z = -2 \\ 0 + y + z = 1 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

(b) Use your answer from part (a) to write out the **complete solution** of the system.

Let $z = t$. Then we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2-t \\ 1-t \\ t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This is a line in \mathbb{R}^3 .

(c) Fill in the blanks: Geometrically, this system represents three planes that intersect at a line.

Problem 3. Now consider the modified system of 3 linear equations in 3 unknowns, where c is an arbitrary constant:

$$\begin{cases} x + y + 2z = -1 \\ x + 2y + 3z = 0 \\ 0 + y + z = c \end{cases}$$

(a) Put the system in upper-staircase form (you don't need to put it in RREF).

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \end{matrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & c \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} A \\ B-A \\ C \end{matrix}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & | & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & | & c-1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} A \\ B \\ C \end{matrix} \quad \begin{cases} x + y + 2z = -1 \\ y + z = 1 \\ 0 = c - 1 \end{cases}$$

(b) Use part (a) to find all values of c such that the system has **no solution**.

If $c \neq 1$ then the equation $0 = c - 1$ is false, so the system has no solution.

(c) If $c = 1$ then we already saw in Problem 2 that the system **has a solution**. Use your solution to express the vector $(-1, 0, 1)$ as a specific linear combination of the vectors $(1, 1, 0)$, $(1, 2, 1)$, and $(2, 3, 1)$.

For all t we have

$$(-2-t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + (1-t) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Now choose any t you want.

Problem 4. Let A be a $p \times q$ matrix (i.e. with p rows and q columns) and let B be an $m \times n$ matrix (i.e. with m rows and n columns).

(a) Fill in the blanks:

We think of A as a function from q -dimensional space to p -dimensional space.

We think of B as a function from n -dimensional space to m -dimensional space.

$$\mathbb{R}^q \xrightarrow{A} \mathbb{R}^p, \quad \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{B} \mathbb{R}^m$$

(b) Finish the sentence: The product matrix AB is defined only when ...

columns of A = # rows of B

$$q = m$$

(c) Fill in the blanks: If the product matrix AB is defined then we think of it as a function from n -dimensional space to p -dimensional space.

$$\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{B} \begin{matrix} \mathbb{R}^m \\ \mathbb{R}^m \end{matrix} \xrightarrow{A} \mathbb{R}^p$$

\xrightarrow{AB}

(d) Finish the sentence: If the matrix AB is defined then its entry in the i th row and j th column is equal to ...

$$(\textit{i}^{\text{th}} \text{ row of } A) \cdot (\textit{j}^{\text{th}} \text{ col of } B)$$

Problem 5. Consider the following two matrices and one vector:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) Find the vector $B\vec{x}$ by computing the dot product of \vec{x} with the rows of B .

$$\begin{aligned} B\vec{x} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} (1 \ 1 \ 0) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \\ (0 \ 2 \ -1) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + y \\ 2y - z \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(b) Express the vector $A(B\vec{x})$ as a linear combination of the columns of A .

$$\begin{aligned} A(B\vec{x}) &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x + y \\ 2y - z \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (x + y) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} + (2y - z) \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} x + y \\ 2x + 2y \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 6y - 3z \\ 8y - 4z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x + 7y - 3z \\ 2x + 10y - 4z \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(c) Now find the matrix C such that for all numbers x, y, z we have $C\vec{x} = A(B\vec{x})$.

$$\begin{aligned} C \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} x + 7y - 3z \\ 2x + 10y - 4z \end{pmatrix} \\ \implies C &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 7 & -3 \\ 2 & 10 & -4 \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$