

DUKE UNIVERSITY

MATH 218D-2

MATRICES AND VECTORS

Exam I

Name:

Unique ID:

[Solutions](#)

I have adhered to the Duke Community Standard in completing this exam.

Signature: _____

February 7, 2025

- There are 100 points and 5 problems on this 50-minute exam.
- Unless otherwise stated, your answers must be supported by clear and coherent work to receive credit.
- The back of each page of this exam is left blank and may be used for scratch work.
- Scratch work will not be graded unless it is clearly labeled and requested in the body of the original problem.

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Problem 1. The equation below depicts the result of multiplying two matrices A and B .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \overset{A}{r_1^\top} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{v}^\top & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & r_3^\top & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & r_4^\top & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & r_5^\top & \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \left| \right| & \overset{B}{\left| \right|} & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \\ \left| \right| & \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \mathbf{v} & \mathbf{b}_4 \\ \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 16 & -4 & 6 \\ 3 & -3 & 7 & -1 \\ -9 & 9 & -7 & 0 \\ -1 & -3 & 10 & 4 \\ 6 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that the rows of A are labeled as $r_1, \mathbf{v}, r_3, r_4, r_5$ and that the columns of B are marked as $\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{b}_4$. In particular, note that the second row of A is equal to the third column of B and this vector is labeled as \mathbf{v} .

(6 pts) (a) $\langle r_1, \mathbf{b}_1 \rangle = \underline{-5}$, $\langle r_4, \mathbf{b}_2 \rangle = \underline{-3}$, and $r_3^\top \mathbf{b}_4 = \underline{0}$

(2 pts) (b) Which, if any, of the following vectors is *orthogonal* to r_5 ? Select all that apply (no partial credit).

- \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{v} \mathbf{b}_4 none of these

(2 pts) (c) Which, if any, of the following vectors forms an *obtuse* angle with r_5 ? Select all that apply (no partial credit).

- \mathbf{b}_1 \mathbf{b}_2 \mathbf{v} \mathbf{b}_4 none of these

(4 pts) (d) Let θ be the angle between \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{b}_4 . Then $\|\mathbf{v}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{b}_4\| \cdot \cos(\theta) = \underline{-1}$.

(6 pts) (e) $\|\mathbf{v}\| = \underline{\sqrt{7}}$ and the (3,3) entry of $B^\top B$ is $\underline{7}$

(3 pts) (f) Calculate this matrix product: $\begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & r_5^\top & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & r_3^\top & \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \left| \right| & \left| \right| \\ \left| \right| & \mathbf{b}_4 & \mathbf{b}_1 \\ \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 0 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$

(6 pts) (g) Calculate the matrix-vector product $A(\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{b}_4)$. Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit. Fill in the blank vector at the bottom of this page to make your answer clear.

Solution. The vector $\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{b}_4$ is the same as the matrix-vector product

$$\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{b}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} \left| \right| & \overset{B}{\left| \right|} & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \\ \left| \right| & \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \mathbf{v} & \mathbf{b}_4 \\ \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Our desired matrix-vector product is then

$$A(\mathbf{b}_1 + \mathbf{b}_4) = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \left| \right| & \left| \right| \\ \left| \right| & \mathbf{b}_1 & \mathbf{b}_2 & \mathbf{v} & \mathbf{b}_4 \\ \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| & \left| \right| \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 16 & -4 & 6 \\ 3 & -3 & 7 & -1 \\ -9 & 9 & -7 & 0 \\ -1 & -3 & 10 & 4 \\ 6 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -9 \\ 3 \\ 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

The next problem references the concept of a *skew-symmetric matrix*, which is any matrix A satisfying $A^\top = -A$.

Problem 2. Let \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} be two vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , both viewed as $n \times 1$ matrices. Let K be the matrix defined by the formula $K = \mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top$.

(10 pts) (a) Show that K is skew-symmetric. Your solution should consist of a single string of equalities that is clear and coherent and avoids circular reasoning.

Solution. We are given that $K = \mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top$. We wish to demonstrate that K is skew-symmetric, which means that we want to show that $K^\top = -K$. To do so, note that

$$K^\top = (\mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top)^\top = (\mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top)^\top - (\mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top)^\top = (\mathbf{w}^\top)^\top \mathbf{v}^\top - (\mathbf{v}^\top)^\top \mathbf{w}^\top = \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top - \mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top = -(\mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top) = -K$$

(10 pts) (b) Now, assume that $\|\mathbf{v}\| = 3$, $\|\mathbf{w}\| = 5$, and that \mathbf{v} and \mathbf{w} are orthogonal. Calculate $\|K\mathbf{v}\|$. *Hint.* Start by simplifying $K\mathbf{v}$ as far as possible before calculating the length of this vector.

Solution. The important fact from class is that $\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{y} = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$. Here, we have

$$K\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{v} - \mathbf{w}\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{v}\langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \rangle - \mathbf{w}\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = -\|\mathbf{v}\|^2 \mathbf{w} = -9 \cdot \mathbf{w}$$

It follows that $\|K\mathbf{v}\| = \|-9 \cdot \mathbf{w}\| = 9\|\mathbf{w}\| = 9 \cdot 5 = 45$.

(12 pts) **Problem 3.** Fill-in the blank next to each of the following matrices with the appropriate notation to indicate the first step called for by the Gauß-Jordan algorithm as articulated in class. You do not need to perform the calculation but you must use correct notation to receive credit. (No partial credit. 2pts each)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 & 5 & 17 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & -101 & 5 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 13 & 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{r}_2 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{r}_3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{r}_1 - 7 \cdot \mathbf{r}_2 \rightarrow \mathbf{r}_1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 & 7 & 13 \\ 0 & 1 & 9 & 6 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 17 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(1/17) \cdot \mathbf{r}_3 \rightarrow \mathbf{r}_3} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 7 & 19 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 7 & 5 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 9 \\ 0 & -8 & 5 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\frac{1}{3} \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{r}_1}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 156 & 361 & 373 \\ 691 & 383 & 172 \\ 443 & 681 & 541 \\ 1 & 866 & 776 \\ 229 & 944 & 892 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{(1/156) \cdot \mathbf{r}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{r}_1} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\mathbf{r}_1 \leftrightarrow \mathbf{r}_4}$$

Problem 4. The following system of linear equations is consistent and in row echelon form.

$$\begin{array}{rcccccc} -2x_1 & + & 6x_2 & + & 3x_3 & - & 4x_4 & + & 5x_5 & = & -35 \\ & & & & 4x_3 & + & 8x_4 & - & 4x_5 & = & 4 \\ & & & & & & 6x_4 & + & 18x_5 & = & 24 \end{array}$$

Let A be the coefficient matrix of this system.

(2 pts) (a) Which variables in this system is *dependent*? Select all that apply (no partial credit).

x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5

(6 pts) (b) Which of the following statements is true? Select all that apply (1.5pts each).

A is full row rank A is full column rank A is rank deficient $A^T A$ is invertible

(10 pts) (c) Use back-substitution to express the general solution to this system as $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_p + c_1 \cdot \mathbf{x}_1 + c_2 \cdot \mathbf{x}_2$. Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit. Fill in the blank vectors at the bottom of this page to make your answer clear.

Solution. The dependent variables are x_1, x_3, x_4 and the free variables are

$$x_2 = c_1 \qquad x_5 = c_2$$

We start by using the last equation to solve for x_4 with

$$x_4 = \frac{24 - 18c_2}{6} = 4 - 3c_2$$

We then use this formula for x_4 in the second equation and solve for x_3 with

$$\begin{aligned} x_3 &= \frac{4 - 8(4 - 3c_2) + 4c_2}{4} \\ &= 1 - 2(4 - 3c_2) + c_2 \\ &= 1 - 8 + 6c_2 + c_2 \\ &= -7 + 7c_2 \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we use our formulas for x_3 and x_4 in the first equation to solve for x_1 with

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= \frac{-35 - 6c_1 - 3(-7 + 7c_2) + 4(4 - 3c_2) - 5c_2}{-2} \\ &= \frac{-35 - 6c_1 + 21 - 21c_2 + 16 - 12c_2 - 5c_2}{-2} \\ &= \frac{(-35 + 21 + 16) - 6c_1 + (-21 - 12 - 5)c_2}{-2} \\ &= \frac{2 - 6c_1 - 38c_2}{-2} \\ &= -1 + 3c_1 + 19c_2 \end{aligned}$$

Putting all this together gives our general solution

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 + 3c_1 + 19c_2 \\ c_1 \\ -7 + 7c_2 \\ 4 - 3c_2 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -7 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 19 \\ 0 \\ 7 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

