

**Practice Exam 2.**

We think this would take a well-prepared student about 75 minutes.

1. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (a) Circle whichever of the following matrix products that are defined:

$$A^2 \quad AB \quad BA \quad B^2$$

**ANS:** Only  $BA$  and  $B^2$  are defined.

- (b) Compute the products in part (a) which are defined.

**ANS:**

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$B^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (c) Compute the inverse of the matrix  $B$  or else show it has no inverse.

**ANS:** The matrix is invertible and the inverse is  $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$

2. An airplane is flying in the jetstream at a speed of 300 miles per hour. The jetstream is blowing due east at a constant speed of 100 miles per hour. The airplane is now 400 miles south of the place where it will begin its landing path.

- (a) What is the tangent of the angle the plane must make with a north-south axis to arrive at the beginning of its landing path?

**ANS:** We take the positive  $x$  axis in the direction of the jetstream and the positive  $y$  axis to the north. The velocity vector in the direction of the jetstream is  $100\mathbf{i}$ . The vector which is the plane's velocity vector is the unknown vector  $x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j}$ . We want  $x\mathbf{i} + y\mathbf{j} + 100\mathbf{i} = c\mathbf{j}$  for some constant  $c$ . This gives us  $x\mathbf{i} + 100\mathbf{i} = 0$ , so  $x = -100$ . We have  $x^2 + y^2 = 300^2$ , so  $y^2 = 90000 - 10000 = 80000$ , and  $y = 200\sqrt{2}$ . Therefore the tangent of the angle between the plane and the  $y$  axis is  $\frac{1}{2\sqrt{2}}$ .

(b) When will the plane reach the beginning of its landing path?

**ANS:**  $400/200\sqrt{2} = \sqrt{2}$  hours.

3. Find a vector parametric equation for the line of intersection between the planes  $x + 2y + 3z = 1$  and  $2x + 5y + 4z = 3$ .

**ANS:** We need to solve the system

$$\begin{cases} x + 2y + 3z = 1 \\ 2x + 5y + 4z = 3 \end{cases}$$

which has augmented matrix

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & 5 & 4 & 3 \end{array} \right) \sim \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right) \sim \left( \begin{array}{cccc} 1 & 0 & 7 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{array} \right).$$

This corresponds to the equivalent system

$$\begin{cases} x + 7z = -1 \\ y - 2z = 1 \end{cases}$$

Let  $z = t$ , so that  $y = 1 + 2t$  and  $x = -1 - 7t$ . Thus the parametric equation for the line of intersection is

$$\mathbf{r} = (-1 - 7t, 1 + 2t, t).$$

This is the line through  $(-1, 1, 0)$  parallel to the vector  $(-7, 2, 1)$ .

4. Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 4$  matrix with row reduced form

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(a) Find all solutions to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

**ANS:** Note that  $x_2$  and  $x_4$  are the free variables. Let  $x_2 = t$  and  $x_4 = s$ . Then we must also have  $x_3 = 3s$  and  $x_1 = -2t + 4s$ . The general solution is then the set of all

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) &= (-2t + 4s, t, 3s, s) \quad \text{for all } r, s \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ or} \\ &= t(-2, 1, 0, 0) + s(4, 0, 3, 1) \quad \text{for all } r, s \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Let  $\mathbf{b}$  be a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}_p = (1, 1, 0, 1)$  is a solution to

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}.$$

Find the general solution to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ .

**ANS:** The solution to the nonhomogeneous equation is all vectors of the form  $\mathbf{x}_p + \mathbf{x}_h$  where  $\mathbf{x}_h$  is any solution to the homogeneous equation in part (a) above. Thus

$$\mathbf{x} = (1, 1, 0, 1) + t(-2, 1, 0, 0) + s(4, 0, 3, 1) \quad \text{for all } r, s \in \mathbb{R}$$

5. Suppose that  $r$  and  $s$  are real numbers and that

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r & s \end{pmatrix}.$$

For which values, if any, of  $r$  and  $s$  does

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

have a solution for all  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? For what values, if any, of  $r$  and  $s$  does

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

have a unique solution for all  $\mathbf{b}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

**ANS:** In order that  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  have a solution for all  $\mathbf{b}$ , it must be the case that a row reduced form of  $A$  have a (nonzero) pivotal entry in each row. This will be the case provided

$$\text{at least one of } r \text{ and } s \text{ is different from zero.}$$

If  $r \neq 0$ , then a row reduced form of  $A$  is

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -4 + \frac{2s}{r} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 - \frac{2s}{r} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{s}{r} \end{pmatrix}.$$

If  $r = 0$ , but  $s \neq 0$ , then a row reduced form of  $A$  is

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In either case,  $R$  has three pivotal entries. Of course, if  $r = 0 = s$ , then a row reduced form of  $A$  is

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

and there aren't enough pivotal entries to guarantee a solution for all  $\mathbf{b}$ . In no case do we have a unique solution for any  $b$  because there are always non-pivotal variables, and they can take on any value.

6. Show that the lines  $\mathbf{r}_1 = (2 + t, 4 + 2t, 4 + t)$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2 = (2 + s, 3 + 2s, s)$  are parallel and find the equation of the plane which contains both lines.

**ANS:** Both lines are parallel to the vector  $\mathbf{v} = (1, 2, 1)$ . Since the first line passes through  $(2, 4, 4)$  and second through  $(2, 3, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{w} = (2 - 2, 4 - 3, 4 - 0) = (0, 1, 4)$  is *also parallel* to the plane. Thus we get normal vector by taking the cross-product  $\mathbf{n} = \mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w} = (7, -4, 1)$ . Thus the equation of the plane is  $7(x - 2) - 4(y - 4) + (z - 4) = 0$ , or

$$\boxed{7x - 4y + z = 2.}$$

7. Find the distance from the point  $(1, 2, 3)$  to the plane  $2x + y - 4z = 5$ .

**ANS:** Let  $P_0 = (1, 2, 3)$ . Choose a point on the plane, say  $Q = (0, 5, 0)$ . Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be the vector from  $P_0$  to  $Q$ , so  $\mathbf{v} = (-1, 3, -3)$ . The scalar projection of  $\mathbf{v}$  on the normal vector  $\mathbf{n} = (2, 1, -4)$  to the plane is given by  $\frac{\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}}{|\mathbf{n}|} = \frac{13}{\sqrt{21}}$ . This is the distance from the point  $(1, 2, 3)$  to the plane.

8. MULTIPLE CHOICE. Circle the correct response. There will be no partial credit and you do not have to show your work.

- (a) Which of the following points does not lie on the line through  $(1, 2, 3)$  and parallel to  $\mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$ ?

A.  $(3, 1, 2)$       B.  $(-1, 3, 4)$       C.  $(2, 1, 1)$       D.  $(5, 0, 1)$

E. None of These

**ANS:** The correct answer is  $C$ . The line has equation  $\mathbf{r} = (1 + 2t, 2 - t, 3 - t)$ ; just see which points fit and which don't.

- (b) Which of the following points does not lie on the plane through  $(1, 2, 3)$  with normal vector  $\mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{i} - \mathbf{j} + 3\mathbf{k}$ ?

- A.  $(0, 0, 3)$       B.  $(4, -1, 0)$       C.  $(1, 1, 0)$       D.  $(0, -9, 0)$
- E. None of These

ANS: The correct answer is C. The equation of the plane is  $2x - y + 3z = 9$ . Now plug in.

- (c) Suppose that  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are 3-vectors such that  $\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v} = 2\mathbf{j} + 2\mathbf{k}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{u} = 3 = \mathbf{v} \bullet \mathbf{v}$ .  
Then  $|\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v}| =$

- A. 0      B. 1      C. 2      D. 3      E. None of These

ANS: The correct answer is B. Let  $\theta$  be the angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ . Note that  $|\mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{v}| = \sqrt{8} = |\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}|\sin\theta = 3\sin\theta$ . Thus  $\sin\theta = \frac{\sqrt{8}}{3}$ , and it follows that  $\cos\theta = \pm\frac{1}{3}$ . Since  $\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v} = |\mathbf{u}||\mathbf{v}|\cos\theta$ , we have  $\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v} = \pm 1$ .

- (d) The scalar projection of  $\mathbf{u} = (3, 1, 4)$  in the direction of  $\mathbf{v} = (2, 2, 1)$  is

- A. 1      B. 2      C. 3      D. 4      E. None of These

ANS: The correct answer is D. Here  $s := \frac{\mathbf{u} \bullet \mathbf{v}}{|\mathbf{v}|} = \frac{12}{3} = 4$ .

- (e) Which of the following is *not* perpendicular to  $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} + \mathbf{k}$ ?

- A.  $3\mathbf{i} - 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$       B.  $-\mathbf{i} + 2\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$       C.  $\mathbf{j} - \mathbf{k}$       D.  $\mathbf{i} + \mathbf{j} - 2\mathbf{k}$

- E. None of These

ANS: The correct answer is E. The dot product with the given vectors are all zero.

- (f) Find the cosine of the angle between the planes  $x + 2y + z = 9$  and  $-x - y + 2z = 5$ .  
(Note that the angle between the planes is the same as the angle between the normal vectors to the planes.)

- A.  $-\frac{\pi}{4}$       B.  $\frac{5\pi}{7}$       C.  $-\frac{1}{6}$       D.  $\frac{5}{9}$       E. None of These

ANS: The correct answer is C. Find the angle between the normal vectors:

$$\cos\theta = \frac{(1, 2, 1) \bullet (-1, -1, 2)}{\sqrt{6}\sqrt{6}} = -\frac{1}{6}.$$

(g) If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , number of parameters in the most general solution to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  is

- A. 1      B. 2      C. 3      D. 4      E. 5

**ANS:** The correct answer is *B*: the dimension equals the number of free variables.

(h) The area of the triangle with vertices  $P_1(1, 0, 1)$ ,  $P_2(2, 2, 2)$  and  $P_3(3, 4, 5)$  is

- A. 3      B.  $\sqrt{6}$       C. 4      D.  $\sqrt{3}$       E.  $\sqrt{5}$

**ANS:** The correct answer is *E*. The vectors  $\mathbf{v} = (1, 2, 1)$  from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$  and  $\mathbf{w} = (2, 4, 4)$  from  $P_1$  to  $P_3$  span a parallelogram of area  $|\mathbf{v} \times \mathbf{w}| = |(4, -2, 0)| = 2\sqrt{5}$ . The area of the triangle is half the area of the parallelogram, i.e.,  $\sqrt{5}$ .