

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

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FINAL EXAMINATION 2011/2012

B.A.S.S. /BEd. /BEng. /BSc. II

TITLE OF PAPER : LINEAR ALGEBRA

COURSE NUMBER : M 220

TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS : 1. THIS PAPER CONSISTS OF  
SEVEN QUESTIONS.  
2. ANSWER ANY FIVE QUESTIONS

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS : NONE

THIS EXAMINATION PAPER SHOULD NOT BE OPENED UNTIL  
PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED BY THE INVIGILATOR.

QUESTION 1

1. (a) i. Compute the inverse  $A^{-1}$  of the square matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . [10 marks]

ii. Use  $A^{-1}$  obtained in 1(a)i to solve the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x + 2y + 3z &= 9 \\ x + 3y + 5z &= -11 \\ x + 3y + 4z &= 13 \end{aligned}$$

[3 marks]

iii. Can  $A^{-1}$  from 1(a)i be expressed as a product of elementary matrices? Justify your answer. [2 marks]

(b) Determine the value of  $k$  for which the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1-k & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 4-k & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & -k \end{bmatrix}$$

is invertible.

[5 marks]

QUESTION 2

2. (a) Consider the linear system

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= 1 \\ 2x_1 + cx_2 + 6x_3 &= 6 \\ -x_1 + 3x_2 + (c-3)x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

i. Find values of  $c$  for which the linear system (1) has;

- A. no solutions,  
B. a unique solution,  
C. infinitely many solutions.

[10 marks]

ii. In the case of 2(a)iC write down the general solution. [3 marks]

(b) Given that  $x$  and  $y$  are real numbers with  $x < y$ , uniquely determine the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} x & 1 \\ 2 & y \end{bmatrix}$  which satisfies the equation  $A^2 + 5A = -4 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . [7 marks]

QUESTION 3

3. (a) What does it mean to say that a non-empty set  $U$  is a subspace of a vector space  $V$ ? [4 marks]
- (b) Determine whether or not the following subsets are subspaces. Justify your answers.
- $U = \{(x, y, z) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x + yz = 0\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . [4 marks]
  - $U = \{p(x) \in P_2 | p(0) = p'(0) = 0\}$  in the set  $P_2$  of all polynomials of degree at most 2. [4 marks]
  - $U = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} : b + c = 0 \right\}$  in the set  $M_{22}$  of all of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices. [4 marks]
  - $U = \{(a, b + c, b - c) \in \mathbb{R}^3 : a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . [4 marks]

QUESTION 4

4. (a) Let  $S = \{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n\}$  be a set of vectors in a vector space  $V$ .
- Explain the statement " $S$  spans  $V$ ". [2 marks]
  - What does it mean to say that  $S$  is linearly independent in  $V$ ? [2 marks]
  - What does it mean to say that  $S$  is a basis for  $V$ . [2 marks]
- (b) Consider the vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1 = (1, 2, 4)$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = (1, 1, 1)$ ,  $\mathbf{u}_3 = (1, -1, 3)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .
- Determine whether or not  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  spans  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . [4 marks]
  - Determine whether or not the vectors  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  are linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . [2 marks]
  - Does  $\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3\}$  form a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Justify your answer. [2 marks]
- (c)
  - Define the column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix. [2 marks]
  - Find a basis for the column space of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ -1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

[4 marks]

QUESTION 5

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5. (a) i. Let  $U$  and  $V$  be vector spaces, and let  $T : U \rightarrow V$  be a linear transformation.
- A. Define the image of  $T$ . [2 marks]
- B. Define the kernel of  $T$ . [2 marks]
- C. Define the rank and nullity of  $T$ , and state carefully a theorem that relates the two. [4 marks]
- ii. Let  $M_{22}$  denote the space of all real-valued  $2 \times 2$  matrices, and let  $T : M_{22} \rightarrow M_{22}$  be a map defined by

$$T \left( \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} a+c & 0 \\ b+c+d & c+d \end{bmatrix}$$

- A. Show that  $T$  is a linear map. [4 marks]
- B. Find bases for the image and kernel of  $T$ . [6 marks]
- C. Verify the theorem mentioned in 5(a)iC for  $T$ . [2 marks]

QUESTION 6

6. (a) Let  $P_2$  denote the set of all polynomials of degree at most 2. If  $p(x), q(x) \in P_2$  then write  $p(x) = p_2x^2 + p_1x + p_0$  and  $q(x) = q_2x^2 + q_1x + q_0$ . Determine whether or not the following are inner products on  $P_2$ . Justify your answers.

i.

$$\langle p, q \rangle = \int_0^1 (1-x)p(x)q(x)dx$$

[6 marks]

ii.

$$\langle p, q \rangle = p_2q_2 + p_0q_0$$

[6 marks]

- (b) Consider the inner product space consisting of the vector space  $M_{22}$  (of all real-valued  $2 \times 2$  matrices) together with an inner product defined by

$$\langle A, B \rangle = \text{Tr}(B^T A)$$

- i. Define the norm  $\|A\|$  of a matrix  $A \in M_{22}$  with respect to this inner product. [2 marks]
- ii. Compute  $\|A\|$  when  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . [2 marks]
- iii. Verify the Cauchy-Schwarz inequality for the matrices

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

in this inner product space. [4 marks]

QUESTION 7

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7. (a) Given an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , what is meant by “an eigenvector and an eigenvalue of  $A$ ”? [4 marks]

(b) For the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

find its eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors.

[10 marks]

(c) i. State the Cayley-Hamilton theorem.

[2 marks]

ii. Verify the Cayley-Hamilton theorem with  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

[4 marks]