

Math 201: Linear Algebra  
Spring 2019  
Exam 1  
3/4/19  
Time Limit: 50 Minutes

Name (Print): Solutions  
JHU-ID: \_\_\_\_\_  
Teaching Assistant \_\_\_\_\_

This exam contains 8 pages (including this cover page) and 4 problems. Check to see if any pages are missing. Enter all requested information on the top of this page, and put your initials on the top of every page, in case the pages become separated.

You may *not* use your books, notes, or any calculator on this exam.

You are required to show your work on each problem on this exam. The following rules apply:

- If you use a “fundamental theorem” you must indicate this and explain why the theorem may be applied.
- Organize your work, in a reasonably neat and coherent way, in the space provided. Work scattered all over the page without a clear ordering will receive very little credit.
- Mysterious or unsupported answers will not receive full credit. A correct answer, unsupported by calculations, explanation, or algebraic work will receive no credit; an incorrect answer supported by substantially correct calculations and explanations might still receive partial credit.
- If you need more space, use the back of the pages; clearly indicate when you have done this.

Problem	Points	Score
1	30	
2	20	
3	30	
4	7	
Total:	87	

Do not write in the table to the right.

**Median: 75/87 (86%)**

**Mean: 72.45/87 (83%)**

**StDev: 10 (out of 87)**

1. Consider the system of Linear equations:

$$3x + 2y + z = -5,$$

$$2x + y = -1,$$

$$x = -5.$$

(a) (5 points) Express this system of linear equations as a single matrix equation  $Ax = b$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$A \quad \cdot \quad \vec{x} \quad \quad \vec{b}$

(b) (15 points) Is the matrix  $A$  invertible? If so, calculate  $A^{-1}$ .

Form augmented matrix.

$$[A|I] = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{row reduce}]{I \leftrightarrow III} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow[\text{II}-2I]{\text{III}-3I} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & | & 1 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{\text{III}-2II} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & | & 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\text{rref}(A) = I$   
So  $A$  is  
invertible

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \uparrow \\ A^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

Since  $\text{rref}(A) = I$ ,  
 $A$  is invertible.

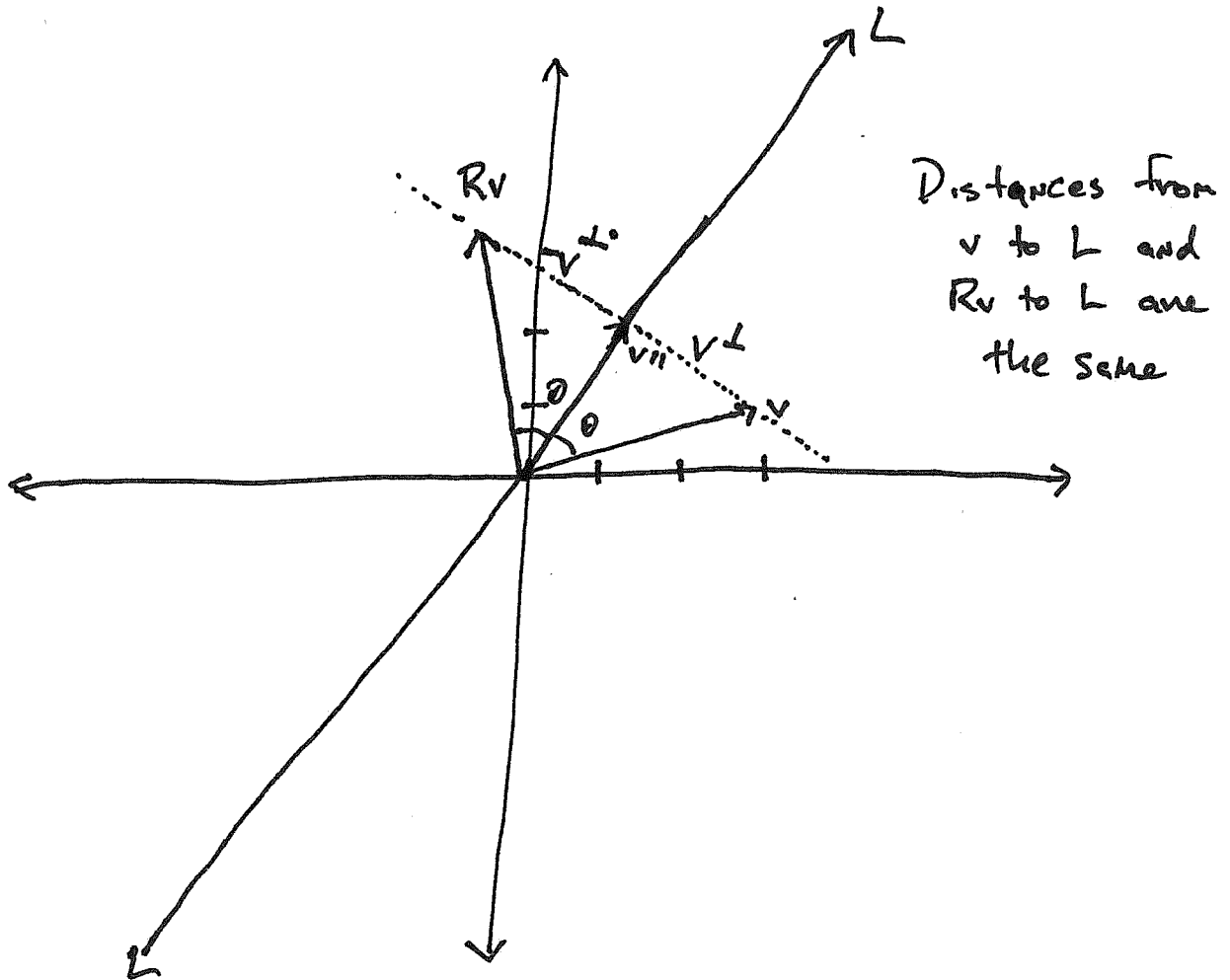
$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(c) (10 points) Find all solutions to this system of linear equations (Hint: use  $A^{-1}$  if  $A$  is invertible).

If  $A$  is invertible unique solution to  $Ax = b$   
is  $x = A^{-1}b$ .

$$A^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ -1 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 9 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Let  $L \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$  be the line of slope 2 through the origin. Let  $v = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Let  $Rv$  be the reflection of the vector  $v$  over the line  $L$ .
- (a) (4 points) Draw the line  $L$  and the vector  $v$  on a coordinate plane. Using geometric reasoning, draw the (approximate) location of  $Rv$ .



- (b) (16 points) Determine the location of  $Rv$  algebraically. (Check that your geometric and algebraic solutions are consistent.)

$$L = \text{Span} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

$$v = v'' + v^\perp, \text{ where } v'' = c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } v'' \cdot v^\perp = 0$$

$$Rv = v'' - v^\perp.$$

$$c = \frac{v \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}} = \frac{3 + 2}{1 + 4} = 1$$

$$\text{So } v'' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$v^\perp = v - v'' = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$Rv = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. Let  $k \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2k \\ 1 & k \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (a) (8 points) Find a basis for the image of  $B$  and describe the image of  $B$  geometrically (your geometric description should be precise and a high school student should be capable of understanding it; both your geometric and algebraic solutions may depend on  $k$ ).

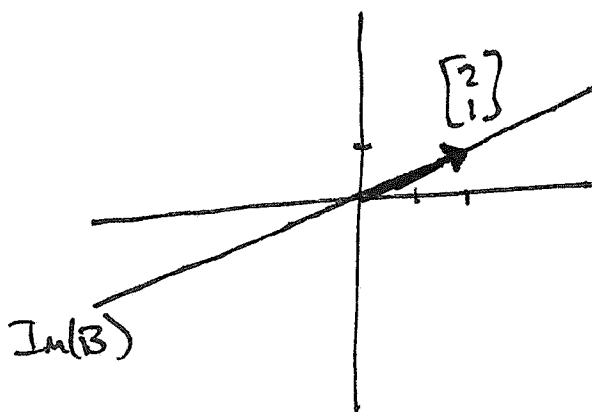
$$\text{Rref}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Pivot column

$\Rightarrow$

$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is a basis for  $\text{Im}(B)$ .

The image of  $B$  is the line through  $\vec{0}$  of slope  $\frac{1}{2}$ .



- (b) (8 points) Find a basis for kernel of  $B$  and describe the kernel of  $B$  geometrically (your geometric description should be precise and a high school student should be capable of understanding it; both your geometric and algebraic solutions may depend on  $k$ ).

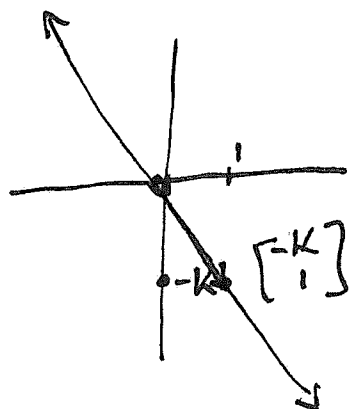
$$\text{Rref}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & k \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is an element of the kernel if and only if}$$

$$\text{if } x_1 + kx_2 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = -kx_2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Ker}(B) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_2 : x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -k \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is a basis for Ker}(B).$$

Ker(B)



The kernel of  $B$  is the line of slope  $-\frac{1}{k}$  through the origin.

(c) (6 points) State the rank-nullity theorem and verify it for  $B$ .

Thm (Rank - Nullity Theorem) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$  be a linear transformation, then

$$\text{Rank}(T) + \text{Nullity}(T) = \dim(\text{Ker } T) + \dim(\text{Im}(T)) = \dim(\mathbb{R}^M) = M.$$

Since  $\text{Im}(B)$  and  $\text{Ker}(B)$  both have bases consisting of a single vector, the dimension of each space is 1.

It follows

$$\dim(\text{Ker}(B)) + \dim(\text{Im}(B)) = 1 + 1 = 2 = \dim(\mathbb{R}^2).$$

(d) (8 points) Calculate  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^2$  (i.e.  $B^2$  when  $k = -2$ ). Can you explain your answer geometrically in terms of the locations of  $\text{Im}(B)$  and  $\text{Ker}(B)$  when  $k = -2$ ? Would you expect a similar result for other values of  $k$ ?

$$B^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 2 - 4 & -4 \cdot 2 + (-2) \cdot (-4) \\ 2 \cdot 1 - 2 & -4 + (-2) \cdot (-2) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

When  $k = -2$  the Kernel of  $B$  (which is the line of slope  $-1/k$ ) coincides with the image of (which is the line of slope  $1/2$ ). Hence,  $Bv$  is an element of  $\text{Ker}(B)$  for all  $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . It follows

$$B^2(v) = B(Bv) = 0$$

for all  $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , i.e.  $B^2$  is the zero transformation.

When  $k \neq -2$ , the Kernel and Image are distinct lines in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , so if  $Bv \in \text{Im}(B) \setminus \{0\}$  then  $Bv \notin \text{Ker}(B)$ . It follows  $B(Bv) = B^2v \neq 0$ .

4. (7 points) Given a plane  $P \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  through the origin, let  $\text{Proj}_P : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  denote the orthogonal projection onto  $P$ . Are there a pair of planes  $P_1, P_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$  through the origin such that the product  $\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2}$  has rank 0? Explain your answer.

**No** why not?

Solution 1: let  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  be two planes (through the origin) in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Then  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  intersect in a line (if  $P_1 \neq P_2$ ) or a plane (if  $P_1 = P_2$ ). Let  $v$  be a non-zero vector in the intersection. Then

$$\text{Proj}_{P_1}(v) = v \quad \text{since } v \in P_1$$

and

$$\text{Proj}_{P_2}(v) = v \quad \text{since } v \in P_2,$$

so  $\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2}(v) = v$  and thus

$$\dim(\text{Im}(\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2})) \geq \dim(\text{Span}(v)) = 1.$$

In summary:

Any non-zero vector in the intersection  $P_1 \cap P_2$  is a non-zero vector in the image of  $\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2}$ .



Solution 2: A matrix has rank 0 if and only if it's the zero matrix. (As in problem 3(d)), for the product  $\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2}$  to be the zero matrix it must be the case that every element in the image of  $\text{Proj}_{P_2}$  is contained in the kernel of  $\text{Proj}_{P_1}$ . The image of  $\text{Proj}_{P_2}$  is the plane  $P_2$ , whereas the kernel of  $\text{Proj}_{P_1}$  is the line orthogonal to  $P_1$ . As  $P_2$  is not contained in a line it must be the case that

$$\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2} \neq \text{0-matrix}.$$

In summary:

The kernel of  $\text{Proj}_{P_1}$ , the line orthogonal to  $P_1$ , does not contain the image of  $\text{Proj}_{P_2}$ , the plane  $P_2$ , so  $\text{Proj}_{P_1} \text{Proj}_{P_2} \neq \text{0-matrix}$ .