

MATH 251 (Winter, 2026)
Test 2

1. (3 marks) Evaluate $\begin{bmatrix} -5 & 7 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^T - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 9 \\ 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix} + 4I$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -5 & 1 \\ 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 18 \\ 14 & -4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 20 \\ 20 & 25 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 13 & 31 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. (3 marks) For what value(s) of k (if any) does the product of the matrices $\begin{bmatrix} k & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ and $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 9 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ commute?

$$\begin{bmatrix} k & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 9 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4k+18 & 6k+2 \\ 48 & 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 9 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} k & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4k+18 & 32 \\ 9k+3 & 22 \end{bmatrix}$$

iff $6k+2 = 32 \Rightarrow k = 5$
and
 $9k+3 = 48 \Rightarrow k = 5$

$$\therefore k = 5$$

3. (4 marks) Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$. Use the Gauss-Jordan method to find A^{-1} , and then express both A^{-1} and A as products of elementary matrices.

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow R_2 - 3R_1 \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right] \quad E_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}R_2 \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & -1/2 \end{array} \right] \quad E_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow R_1 - 2R_2 \left[\begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3/2 & -1/2 \end{array} \right] \quad E_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 3/2 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix} = E_3 E_2 E_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{and } A = E_1^{-1} E_2^{-1} E_3^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(Answers may vary.)

4. (4 marks) Use the LU method to solve the system $Ax = b$, where

$$A = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_L \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}}_U \text{ and } b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$Ly = \vec{b} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} y_1 &= 1 \\ -4y_1 + y_2 &= 5 \Rightarrow -4 + y_2 = 5 \Rightarrow y_2 = 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$U\vec{x} = \vec{y} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} 3x_2 &= 9 \rightarrow x_2 = 3 \\ 2x_1 + 5x_2 &= 1 \rightarrow 2x_1 + 15 = 1 \rightarrow x_1 = -7 \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

5. (5 marks) Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. \leftarrow RREF!

(a) Find a basis for $\text{row}(A)$.

$$\left\{ [1 \ 2 \ 0 \ 0 \ -1], [0 \ 0 \ 1 \ 0 \ 3] \right\}$$

(b) Find a basis for $\text{col}(A)$.

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

(c) Find a basis for $\text{null}(A)$.

$$x_2 = r, x_4 = s, x_5 = t \text{ (free)}$$

$$x_1 = -2r + t, x_3 = -3t$$

$$\vec{x} = r \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\therefore \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

(d) Find $\text{rank}(A)$ and $\text{nullity}(A)$.

$$\text{rank}(A) = 2 \quad \text{nullity}(A) = 3$$

6. (6 marks)

(a) Complete the definition of what it means for $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ to be a **linear** transformation:

$$T(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) = \underline{T(\vec{u}) + T(\vec{v})} \text{ for all } \mathbf{u} \text{ and } \mathbf{v} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n, \text{ and}$$

$$T(c\mathbf{u}) = \underline{cT(\vec{u})} \text{ for all } \mathbf{u} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^n \text{ and for all scalars } c.$$

(b) Consider the linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$T \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 4x - 5y \\ 3x - 4y \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i) State the standard matrix for T .

$$[T] = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

(ii) Find the standard matrix for the inverse transformation T^{-1} .

$$[T^{-1}] = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 5 \\ -3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{same as } [T])$$

(c) Consider the transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$T \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 2y + 3 \\ -x + 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i) Evaluate $T(\hat{i})$, $T(\hat{j})$ and $T(\hat{i} + \hat{j})$.

$$T(\hat{i}) = T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T(\hat{j}) = T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$T(\hat{i} + \hat{j}) = T \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(ii) Is T a linear transformation? Briefly explain.

$$\text{No. } T(\hat{i}) + T(\hat{j}) = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \neq \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = T(\hat{i} + \hat{j})$$

Does not satisfy 1st property in part (a).