

**MATH 1553-B**  
**PRACTICE FINAL**

<b>Name</b>		<b>Section</b>	
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1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total

Please **read all instructions** carefully before beginning.

- Each problem is worth 10 points. The maximum score on this exam is 100 points.
- You have 170 minutes to complete this exam.
- There are no aids of any kind (notes, text, etc.) allowed.
- Please show your work.
- You may cite any theorem proved in class or in the sections we covered in the text.
- Check your answers if you have time left! Most linear algebra computations can be easily verified for correctness.
- Good luck!

This is a practice exam. It is similar in format, length, and difficulty to the real exam. It is not meant as a comprehensive list of study problems. I recommend completing the practice exam in 170 minutes, without notes or distractions.

## Problem 1.

[2 points each]

In this problem, you need not explain your answers.

- a) The matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  has:
1. zero free variables.
  2. one free variable.
  3. two free variables.
  4. three free variables.
- b) How many solutions does the linear system corresponding to the augmented matrix  $\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array}\right)$  have?
1. zero.
  2. one.
  3. infinity.
  4. not enough information to determine.
- c) Let  $T: \mathbf{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^m$  be a linear transformation with matrix  $A$ . Which of the following are equivalent to the statement that  $T$  is onto? (Circle all that apply.)
1.  $A$  has a pivot in each row.
  2. The columns of  $A$  are linearly independent.
  3. If  $T(v) = T(w)$  then  $v = w$ .
  4. For each input  $v$ ,  $T$  there is exactly one output  $T(v)$ .
- d) Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix such that  $\text{Nul}A$  is the line  $y = x$ . Let  $b$  be a *nonzero* vector in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ . Which of the following are definitely *not* the solution set of  $Ax = b$ ? (Circle all that apply.)
1. The line  $y = x$ .
  2. The  $y$ -axis.
  3. The line  $y = x + 1$ .
  4. The set  $\{0\}$ .
  5. The empty set.
- e) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Which of the following are equivalent to the statement that  $A$  is invertible? (Circle all that apply.)
1. The reduced row echelon form of  $A$  is the identity matrix.
  2.  $A$  is similar to the identity matrix.
  3.  $A$  is diagonalizable.
  4. There is a matrix  $B$  such that  $AB$  is the identity matrix.
  5.  $0$  is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

**Solution.**

- a) 2. The first column corresponds to a free variable.
- b) 2. The solution is  $x = 1$  and  $y = 0$ .
- c) 1 only. Options 2 and 3 are equivalent to  $T$  being *one-to-one*, and option 4 is true for any transformation.
- d) 1, 2, and 4. The solution set of  $Ax = b$  is either empty or a translate of  $\text{Nul}A$  by a nonzero vector, namely, a specific solution to  $Ax = b$ .
- e) 1, 4, and 5. The only matrix that is similar to the identity matrix is the identity matrix itself, and the zero matrix is diagonal(izable).

## Problem 2.

[2 points each]

In this problem, you need not explain your answers.

- a) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Which of the following statements are equivalent to the statement that  $A$  is diagonalizable over the real numbers? (Circle all that apply.)
1.  $A$  is similar to a diagonal matrix.
  2.  $A$  has at least one eigenvector for each eigenvalue.
  3. For each real eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , the dimension of the  $\lambda$ -eigenspace is equal to the algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$ .
  4.  $A$  has  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors.
  5.  $A$  is invertible.
- b) Let  $A$  be a  $5 \times 3$  matrix. Suppose that  $\text{Nul}A$  is a line. What is the range of the transformation  $T(x) = Ax$ ?
1. A line in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .
  2. A plane in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ .
  3. A line in  $\mathbf{R}^5$ .
  4. A plane in  $\mathbf{R}^5$ .
- c) Which of the following are subspaces of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ? (Circle all that apply.)
1. The null space of an  $m \times n$  matrix.
  2. An eigenspace of an  $n \times n$  matrix (for a particular eigenvalue).
  3. The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix.
  4. The span of  $n - 1$  vectors in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .
  5.  $W^\perp$  where  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .
- d) Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix. Suppose that  $A$  has eigenvalues 3 and 5, and that the 5-eigenspace is a line in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . Is  $A$  diagonalizable?
1. Yes    2. No    3. Maybe
- e) Let  $W$  be a line in  $\mathbf{R}^4$ . What is the dimension of  $W^\perp$ ?
1. one    2. two    3. three    4. four    5. not enough information

**Solution.**

- a) 1 and 4. A matrix by definition has at least one eigenvector for each eigenvalue. In option 3, a matrix need not have any real eigenvalues. Invertibility is unrelated to diagonalizability.
- b) 4. The codomain of  $T$  is  $\mathbf{R}^5$ , because  $A$  has five rows. By the Rank-Nullity Theorem, the rank of  $A$  is  $3 - 1 = 2$ , the number of columns minus the dimension of  $\text{Nul}A$ . Therefore, the rank of  $A$  is 2, so the column space of  $A$  is a plane in  $\mathbf{R}^5$ . The range of  $T$  is the column space of  $A$ .
- c) 1, 2, 4, and 5. The column space of an  $m \times n$  matrix is a subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^m$ , not  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Any null space, eigenspace, perp space, or span is a subspace.
- d) 3. In this situation,  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if the 3-eigenspace is a plane. For example, the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is not diagonalizable, but } \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is.}$$

- e) 3. For any subspace  $W$  of  $\mathbf{R}^4$ , we have  $\dim W + \dim W^\perp = 4$ .

### Problem 3.

[2 points each]

Short answer questions: you need not explain your answers.

- a) What is the area of the triangle in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  with vertices  $(1, 1)$ ,  $(5, 6)$ , and  $(6, 7)$ ?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- b) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Write the definition of an eigenvector and an eigenvalue of  $A$ .
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- c) Let  $W$  be a plane through the origin in  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . What are the eigenvalues of the matrix for  $\text{proj}_W$ ?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- d) Give an example of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix that is neither diagonalizable nor invertible.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- e) Find a formula for  $A^n$ , where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}.$$

Your answer should be a single matrix whose entries depend on  $n$ .

**Solution.**

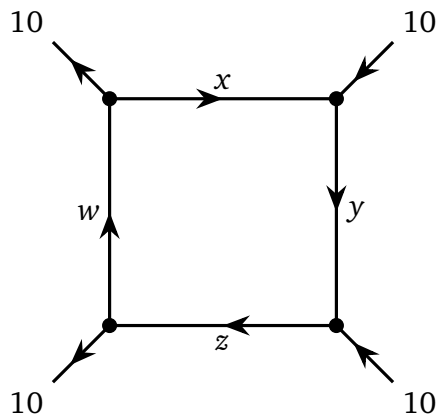
- a) Two sides of this triangle are the vectors  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix}$ . The area of the parallelogram spanned by  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  is the absolute value of  $\det \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 5 \\ 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = -1$ . The triangle has half this area, namely,  $\frac{1}{2}$ .
- b) An eigenvector of  $A$  is a nonzero vector  $v$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  such that  $Av = \lambda v$ , for some  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbf{R}$ . An eigenvalue of  $A$  is a number  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbf{R}$  such that the equation  $Av = \lambda v$  has a nontrivial solution.
- c) An orthogonal projection always has eigenvalues 0 and 1. The 1-eigenspace is  $W$ , and the 0-eigenspace is  $W^\perp$ .
- d)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

e)

$$\begin{aligned} A^n &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}^n \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2^n & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 2^n & (-1)^{n+1}2 \\ 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 2^n & 2^{n+1} + (-1)^{n+1}2 \\ 0 & (-1)^n \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

## Problem 4.

The following diagram describes the traffic around the town square in terms of the number of cars per minute on each street. All streets are one-way streets, indicated by the arrows. The dots indicate intersections.



- [4 points] Write a system of linear equations in  $x, y, z, w$  whose solution gives the number of cars per minute on each of the streets in the square.
- [4 points] Convert your system of linear equations into an augmented matrix and solve for  $x, y, z, w$ .
- [2 points] In (b), you should have found infinitely many solutions. What feature of this traffic arrangement allows for such a phenomenon?

## Solution.

- The number of cars coming into each intersection must equal the number of cars leaving. This gives rise to the system of equations

$$\begin{cases} w = 10 + x \\ 10 + x = y \\ 10 + y = z \\ z = 10 + w \end{cases} \implies \begin{cases} -x + w = 10 \\ x - y = -10 \\ y - z = -10 \\ z - w = 10 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{b) } \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 10 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 & -10 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 10 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{row reduce}} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 & -10 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 10 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right).$$

This means  $x = w - 10$ ,  $y = w$ ,  $z = w + 10$ , and  $w$  is free.

- There is a cycle around the town square. You could (in theory) have arbitrarily many cars just driving around in circles.

## Problem 5.

Let  $L$  be the line  $x = y$  in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .

- a) [3 points] Compute the matrices for  $\text{proj}_L$  and  $\text{proj}_{L^\perp}$ .
- b) [3 points] Is  $\text{proj}_L$  or  $\text{proj}_{L^\perp}$  one-to-one?
- c) [3 points] What is the range of  $\text{proj}_L \circ \text{proj}_{L^\perp}$ ?
- d) [1 point] What is  $\text{proj}_L \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

### Solution.

- a) The line  $L$  is spanned by the vector  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $L^\perp$  is spanned by  $w = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Therefore

$$\text{proj}_L(y) = \frac{y \cdot v}{v \cdot v} v \quad \text{proj}_{L^\perp}(y) = \frac{y \cdot w}{w \cdot w} w.$$

We compute

$$\begin{aligned} \text{proj}_L(e_1) &= \frac{e_1 \cdot v}{v \cdot v} v = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & \text{proj}_L(e_2) &= \frac{e_2 \cdot v}{v \cdot v} v = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ \text{proj}_{L^\perp}(e_1) &= \frac{e_1 \cdot w}{w \cdot w} w = -\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & \text{proj}_{L^\perp}(e_2) &= \frac{e_2 \cdot w}{w \cdot w} w = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the matrices for  $\text{proj}_L$  and  $\text{proj}_{L^\perp}$  are, respectively,

$$\frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- b) Neither is one-to-one. Every vector in  $L^\perp$  maps to zero under  $\text{proj}_L$ , and every vector in  $L$  maps to zero under  $\text{proj}_{L^\perp}$ .
- c) Projecting onto  $L^\perp$  and then onto  $L$  sends everything to the zero vector, since anything in  $L^\perp$  projects onto the zero vector under  $\text{proj}_L$ . Therefore, the range of  $\text{proj}_L \circ \text{proj}_{L^\perp}$  is  $\{0\}$ .
- d)  $\text{proj}_L \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot v}{v \cdot v} v = \frac{3}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$

## Problem 6.

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- a) [3 points] Find the eigenvalues of  $A$  along with their algebraic multiplicities.
- b) [3 points] For each eigenvalue of  $A$ , find a basis for the corresponding eigenspace.
- c) [3 points] Is  $A$  diagonalizable? If so, exhibit an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . If not, explain why.
- d) [1 point] Is  $A$  the matrix for the orthogonal projection onto a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Why or why not?

### Solution.

- a) Expanding along the third row, we compute the characteristic polynomial:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda) &= \det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= -\lambda[(1-\lambda)^2 - 1] = -\lambda(1 - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 1) = -\lambda^2(\lambda - 2). \end{aligned}$$

The eigenvalues are 0 and 2, with respective multiplicities 2 and 1.

- b) The 0-eigenspace is the null space of  $A$ , which we compute:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} x = -y - z \\ y = y \\ z = z \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = y \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + z \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus a basis for the 0-eigenspace is

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Next we compute a basis for the 2-eigenspace, which is  $\text{Nul}(A - 2I)$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} x = y \\ y = y \\ z = 0 \end{cases} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = y \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus a basis for the 2-eigenspace is

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

c) There are three linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $A = PDP^{-1}$  with

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

d) No, an orthogonal projection has eigenvalues 0 and 1.

## Problem 7.

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- a) [2 points] Find the (complex) eigenvalues of  $A$ .
- b) [2 points] For each eigenvalue, find an eigenvector.
- c) [2 points] Find a rotation-scaling matrix  $C$  that is similar to  $A$ .
- d) [1 point] How much does  $C$  scale?
- e) [1 point] How much does  $C$  rotate?
- f) [2 points] Draw a picture of how iterated applications of  $A$  acts on the plane.

## Solution.

- a) The characteristic polynomial is

$$f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \text{Tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 2.$$

Using the quadratic formula, we find

$$\lambda = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{4-8}}{2} = 1 \pm i.$$

- b) First we compute an element of  $\text{Nul}(A - (1-i)I)$ :

$$A - (1-i)I = \begin{pmatrix} -3+i & 5 \\ \star & \star \end{pmatrix}.$$

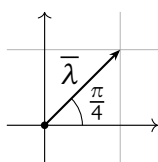
The second row is a multiple of the first, so an eigenvector is  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3-i \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence an eigenvector for  $1+i$  is  $\bar{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3+i \end{pmatrix}$ .

- c) If  $\lambda = 1-i$ , then we can take

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Re } \lambda & \text{Im } \lambda \\ -\text{Im } \lambda & \text{Re } \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- d)  $C$  scales by  $|\lambda| = \sqrt{1^2 + (-1)^2} = \sqrt{2}$ .

- e)  $C$  rotates by the argument of  $\bar{\lambda} = 1+i$ :

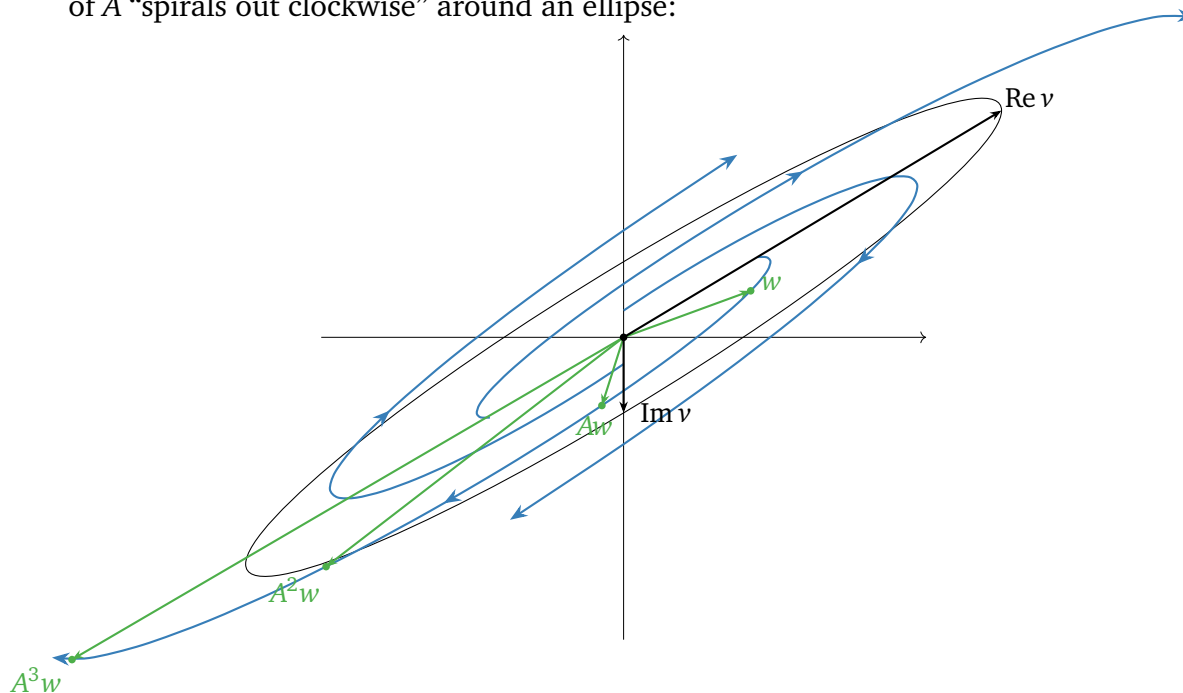


Argument of  $\bar{\lambda}$  is  $\frac{\pi}{4}$ .

- f) Multiplication by  $C$  rotates counterclockwise by  $\pi/4$  around a circle, and scales by  $\sqrt{2}$ . Multiplication by  $A$  does the same, but with respect to the basis

$$\{\operatorname{Re}(v), \operatorname{Im}(v)\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\},$$

where  $v = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3-i \end{pmatrix}$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Hence repeated applications of  $A$  “spirals out clockwise” around an ellipse:



## Problem 8.

[5 points each]

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- a) Find an orthogonal basis for  $\text{Col}A$ .
- b) Find a  $QR$  factorization of  $A$ .

### Solution.

a) Let

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

be the columns of  $A$ . We will perform Gram-Schmidt on  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3\}$ . Let

$$u_1 = v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u_2 = v_2 - \frac{v_2 \cdot u_1}{u_1 \cdot u_1} u_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{2}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$u_3 = v_3 - \frac{v_3 \cdot u_1}{u_1 \cdot u_1} u_1 - \frac{v_3 \cdot u_2}{u_2 \cdot u_2} u_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{6}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \frac{0}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

An orthogonal basis for  $\text{Col}A$  is

$$\{u_1, u_2, u_3\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

(Actually,  $\text{Col}A = \mathbf{R}^3$ , so the standard basis  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  is also an orthogonal basis of  $\text{Col}A$ . However, we still need to do Gram-Schmidt for part (b).)

b) Solving for  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  in terms of  $u_1, u_2, u_3$  above, we get

$$\begin{aligned} v_1 &= u_1 \\ v_2 &= 1u_1 + u_2 \\ v_3 &= 3u_1 + u_2 + u_3. \end{aligned}$$

In matrix form,

$$\begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & v_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Hence  $A = \widehat{Q}\widehat{R}$ , where

$$\widehat{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} | & | & | \\ u_1 & u_2 & u_3 \\ | & | & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{R} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We scale the columns of  $\widehat{Q}$  to obtain a matrix  $Q$  with orthonormal columns, and we scale the rows of  $\widehat{R}$  by the opposite factor, to obtain  $A = QR$  where

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{3} & -1/\sqrt{6} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{6} \\ 0 & 1/\sqrt{3} & 2/\sqrt{6} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad R = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{2} & \sqrt{2} & 3\sqrt{2} \\ 0 & \sqrt{3} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{6} \end{pmatrix}.$$

## Problem 9.

[5 points each]

In this problem, you will find the best-fit line through the points  $(0, 6)$ ,  $(1, 0)$ , and  $(2, 0)$ .

- a) The general equation of a line in  $\mathbf{R}^2$  is  $y = C + Dx$ . Write down the system of linear equations in  $C$  and  $D$  that would be satisfied by a line passing through all three points, then write down the corresponding matrix equation.
- b) Solve the least squares problem in (a) for  $C$  and  $D$ . Give the equation for the best fit line, and graph it along with the three points.

### Solution.

- a) If  $y = C + Dx$  were satisfied by all three points, then we would have

$$\begin{aligned} 6 &= C + D(0) \\ 0 &= C + D(1) \\ 0 &= C + D(2) \end{aligned} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} C \\ D \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

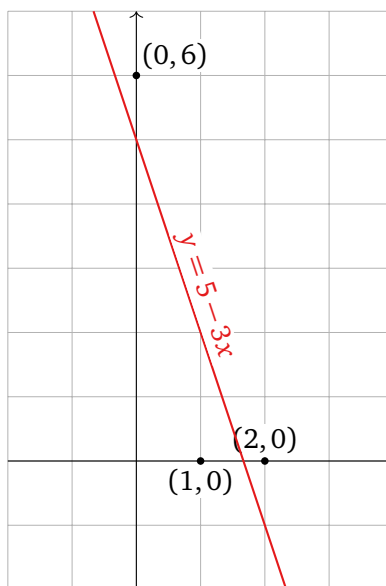
- b) The solution to the least squares problem in (a) is the solution to

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Multiplying everything out and putting into an augmented matrix, this is

$$\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 3 & 6 \\ 3 & 5 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{array} \right).$$

Thus the least squares solution is  $(C, D) = (5, -3)$ , so the best fit line is  $y = 5 - 3x$ .



## Problem 10.

[10 points]

Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 2$  matrix with orthogonal columns  $v_1, v_2$ . Explain why the least-squares solution to  $Ax = b$  is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{b \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} \\ \frac{b \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

### Solution.

The closest output vector is  $\hat{b} = \text{proj}_{\text{Col}A}(b)$ . Since  $v_1 \perp v_2$ , we can directly compute

$$\hat{b} = \frac{b \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} v_1 + \frac{b \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} v_2 = A \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} \\ \frac{b \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

But  $\hat{b} = A\hat{x}$ , so we must have

$$\hat{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{b \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} \\ \frac{b \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

[Scratch work]

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