

Instructions: Give concise answers, but clearly indicate your reasoning. Most of the problems have rather short answers, so if you find yourself involved in a lengthy calculation, it might be a good idea to move on and come back to that problem if you have time.

I. Let  $A$  be the matrix

(6)

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

- (a) Calculate  $\det(A)$  as follows. First do an elementary row operation to make the  $(4, 1)$ -entry equal to 0, then do cofactor expansion down the first column to reduce to computing the determinant of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix. On that  $3 \times 3$  matrix, do an elementary row operation that creates a second 0 in the middle column, and continue from there.

Performing  $R_4 + R_1 \rightarrow R_4$ , we obtain the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} t & -2 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & t & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now expand down the first column, and continue:

$$\begin{vmatrix} t & -2 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & t & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ t & 0 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = t \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ t & 0 & 2 \\ -5 & 0 & -5 \end{vmatrix} = -t \begin{vmatrix} t & 2 \\ -5 & -5 \end{vmatrix} = -t(-5t + 10) = 5t^2 - 10t$$

- (b) Using your expression for  $\det(A)$ , find the values of  $t$  for which  $A$  is singular.

Solving  $0 = \det(A) = 5t^2 - 10t = 5t(t - 2)$  gives the values  $t = 0$  and  $t = 2$ .

**II.** Let  $L: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation defined by  
(10)

$$L \left( \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} a + b - c \\ 2b + c \\ -2a + 3c \end{bmatrix}.$$

(You do not need to verify that  $L$  is linear.) As you know, the standard matrix representation of  $L$  is

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

(a) Use the standard matrix representation to find a basis for the kernel of  $L$ .

The kernel is the null space of  $A$ , that is, the space of solutions of  $AX = 0$ . We find it using elementary row operations:

$$A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3/2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so the null space is  $\begin{bmatrix} 3r/2 \\ -r/2 \\ r \end{bmatrix}$  and possible bases include  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3/2 \\ -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  or  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

(b) Use the standard matrix representation to find a basis for the range of  $L$ .

The range of  $L$  is the column space of  $A$ , which we find using elementary column operations:

$$A \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and a basis is  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

**III.** Let  $P$  be a nonsingular  $n \times n$  matrix.

(6)

(a) Verify that  $\det(P^{-1}) = 1/\det(P)$ .

We have  $1 = \det(I_n) = \det(PP^{-1}) = \det(P)\det(P^{-1})$ , so  $\det(P^{-1}) = 1/\det(P)$ .

(b) Use part (a) to verify that if  $A$  is any  $n \times n$  matrix, then  $\det(P^{-1}AP) = \det(A)$ .

$\det(P^{-1}AP) = \det(P^{-1})\det(A)\det(P) = (1/\det(P))\det(A)\det(P) = \det(A)$ .

**IV.** Let  $P_2$  be the space of polynomials of degree at most 2, and let  $S$  be the ordered basis  $\{t^2 - t + 1, t - 1, t^2 + 1\}$  of  $P_2$ .

(10)

(a) If the  $S$ -coordinate vector of the polynomial  $p$  is  $p_S = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , find  $p$ .

$$p = -(t^2 - t + 1) + 2(t - 1) + (t^2 + 1) = 3t - 2.$$

(b) Find the  $S$ -coordinate vector of the polynomial  $3t^2 - 2t + 4$ .

We solve

$$3t^2 - 2t + 4 = a(t^2 - t + 1) + b(t - 1) + c(t^2 + 1) = (a + c)t^2 + (-a + b)t + (a - b + c)$$

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

$$\text{so } (a, b, c) = (1, -1, 2) \text{ and } (t^2 + t - 1)_S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Check: } (t^2 - t + 1) - (t - 1) + 2(t^2 + 1) = 3t^2 - 2t + 4.$$

(c) Let  $T$  be the basis  $\{t^2, t, 1\}$  of  $P_2$ . Find the transition matrix (also called the change-of-basis matrix)  $P_{T \leftarrow S}$  from  $S$ -coordinates to  $T$ -coordinates.

The columns of  $P_{T \leftarrow S}$  are  $(t^2 - t + 1)_T$ ,  $(t - 1)_T$ , and  $(t^2 + 1)_T$ , so

$$P_{T \leftarrow S} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- V.** (a) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times m$  matrix, and let  $L: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be the matrix transformation defined by  $L(v) = Av$ .  
 (8) Verify that  $L$  is linear.

$$L(av + bw) = A(av + bw) = A(av) + A(bw) = aAv + bAw = aL(v) + bL(w).$$

- (b) Let  $P_3$  be the space of polynomials of degree at most 3, and let  $L: P_3 \rightarrow P_3$  be the function defined by  $L(p(t)) = p(t) + t$ . By giving a specific counterexample, show that  $L$  is not linear.

$$L(t + t) = t + t + t = 3t, \text{ but } L(t) + L(t) = (t + t) + (t + t) = 4t.$$

- VI.** Let  $A = ([a_{i,j}])$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix, and consider the formula  
 (4)

$$\det(A) = \sum (\pm) a_{1,\sigma(1)} a_{2,\sigma(2)} a_{3,\sigma(3)} a_{4,\sigma(4)} .$$

Determine the sign (i. e. tell whether the term has a plus or a minus sign in the formula) of the term that contains  $a_{1,2}a_{2,4}a_{3,3}a_{4,1}$  (make your reasoning clear— answers of “plus” or “minus” without a correct explanation won’t receive any credit).

The permutation 2431 has  $1 + 2 + 1 = 4$  inversions, so is even, so the term that contains  $a_{1,2}a_{2,4}a_{3,3}a_{4,1}$  has a plus sign.

- VII.** Let  $V$  be a vector space of dimension 3, and let  $T = \{t_1, t_2, t_3\}$  be an ordered basis of  $V$ . Let  $L: V \rightarrow V$  be the linear transformation whose matrix representation with respect to  $T$ -coordinates on the domain and  
 (5)

the codomain is  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Write  $L(t_1 + t_2 - 2t_3)$  as a linear combination of  $t_1$ ,  $t_2$ , and  $t_3$ .

$$(L(t_1 + t_2 - 2t_3))_T = A (t_1 + t_2 - 2t_3)_T = A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ so } L(t_1 + t_2 - 2t_3) = -4t_1 + t_2 + 2t_3.$$

- VIII.** An  $n \times n$  matrix  $B$  is obtained from a matrix  $A = [a_{i,j}]$  by the elementary row operation  $kR_i \rightarrow R_i$ . Use  
 (4) the formula for  $\det(A)$  to explain why  $\det(B) = k \det(A)$ .

The formula for the determinant gives

$$\begin{aligned} \det(B) &= \sum (\pm) a_{1,\sigma(1)} a_{2,\sigma(2)} \cdots (ka_{i,\sigma(i)}) \cdots a_{n,\sigma(n)} = \sum (\pm) k a_{1,\sigma(1)} a_{2,\sigma(2)} \cdots a_{i,\sigma(i)} \cdots a_{n,\sigma(n)} \\ &= k \sum (\pm) a_{1,\sigma(1)} a_{2,\sigma(2)} \cdots a_{i,\sigma(i)} \cdots a_{n,\sigma(n)} = k \det(A) . \end{aligned}$$