

**Math 520 Exam 1**  
Spring 2008  
Sections 1–3 (Xiao/Dumas/Liaw)

**Read these instructions carefully.**

- Write your name, section number, and “Math 520 Exam 1” on the front of a blue exam book.

10am / Xiao = Section 1  
Noon / Dumas = Section 2  
1pm / Liaw = Section 3

- Read each problem carefully before you attempt to solve it.
- Write your solutions to the problems in the examination book.
- Clearly indicate where your solution to each problem begins and ends.
- Make sure your solutions are clear, concise, and legible.
- Each of the **5** problems will contribute approximately the same amount to your exam grade.
- **Manage your time carefully. If you get stuck on one problem, move on to another.**

**Do not turn the page until you are told to do so!**

1. Compute each product of matrices, or indicate that the matrices are not compatible for multiplication:

(a)  $(1 \ 2 \ 1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}$

(b)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{pmatrix} (1 \ 2 \ 1)$

(c)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

(d)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(e)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

2. This question concerns the matrix

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

- (a) Compute  $R$ , the row reduced echelon form of  $A$ .  
(b) What is the rank of  $A$ ?  
(c) Which columns are pivot columns, and which are free columns (if any)?  
(d) Find the special solutions to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

(e) Compute the general solution to  $A\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

3. This question concerns the matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -5 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 4 & 10 & -23 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) Find an invertible square matrix  $E$  such that  $EB = U$  is upper triangular.  
(b) Compute the  $LU$  decomposition of  $B$ .  
(c) Compute the inverse matrix  $B^{-1}$ .

**\*\*\* The exam continues on the next page. \*\*\***

4. Let  $\mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$  denote the vector space of all  $2 \times 3$  matrices.

(a) Let  $V \subset \mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$  denote the set of matrices whose third column is  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Is  $V$  a subspace of  $\mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$ ? Either show that it is, or explain why it is not.

(b) Describe the span of the following vectors in  $\mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$ :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

(That is, describe it in a more useful way than “the span of the following vectors...”.)

(c) Let  $W \subset \mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$  denote the set of matrices  $A$  such that the null space of  $A$  contains  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Show that  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathbf{M}_{2 \times 3}$ .

5. (a) What does it mean for a set of vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n$  to be *linearly dependent*?  
(Write a definition.)

(b) Show (directly) that these four vectors are linearly dependent:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) Explain why *any* four vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  are linearly dependent.

**\*\*\* This is the end of the exam. \*\*\***