



1. [4 points] Write down the general solution of the following linear system in vector parametric form.

$$\begin{cases} x - 3y + z + 2t = 2 \\ \phantom{x} \phantom{-3y} + z + 2t = -1 \\ -x + 3y - 2z - 4t = -1 \\ 2x - 6y + 4z + 8t = 2 \end{cases}$$

**Solution:** The R.E.F of the the augmented matrix is obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 & -2 & -4 & -1 \\ 2 & -6 & 4 & 8 & 2 \end{array} \right] & \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_1 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 2R_1}} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 4 & -2 \end{array} \right] \\ & \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 + R_2 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 2R_2}} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -3 & 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \text{ E.F.} \\ & \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow R_1 - R_2} \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & -3 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \text{ R.E.F.} \end{aligned}$$

From the E.F. or the R.E.F. it is clear that the system is consistent. The pivot columns are the first and the third columns, so  $x$  and  $z$  are basic, and  $y$  and  $t$  are free. The R.E.F. is the augmented matrix of the linear system

$$\begin{cases} x - 3y = 3 \\ \phantom{x} \phantom{-3y} + z + 2t = -1 \end{cases}$$

The general solution is

$$\begin{cases} x = 3y + 3 \\ y : \text{free} \\ z = -2t - 1 \\ t : \text{free} \end{cases}$$

In vector parametric form, the solution is

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3y + 3 \\ y \\ -2t - 1 \\ t \end{bmatrix} = y \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + t \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. [3 points] Determine all values of the parameter  $h$  such that the linear system

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & h & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

is consistent. You should justify your answer.

**Solution:** The augmented matrix of this system can be reduced as follows

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & h & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 & 1 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\substack{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - 2R_1 \\ R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & h+2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

If  $h + 2 = 0$  then the rightmost column will be a pivot column (look at the second row!) and therefore the system will be inconsistent. However, if  $h + 2 \neq 0$ , then the matrix above will be in E.F. and the rightmost column will not be a pivot column. Hence the system will be consistent. Therefore the answer is all  $h \neq -2$ .

Student # \_\_\_\_\_

MAT 1302A First Midterm Exam

3. Compute the following:

(a) [1 point]  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

**Solution:**  $\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$

(b) [1 point]  $-3\mathbf{a} + 2A\mathbf{b}$  where  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:**  $\begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}$

4. (a) [2 points] Let  $A$  be a  $4 \times 4$  matrix, and set  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ -\frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

We know that the general solution of the linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -3x_2 + \frac{1}{3}x_4 - 3 \\ x_2 : \text{free} \\ x_3 = -2x_4 - \frac{1}{2} \\ x_4 : \text{free} \end{cases}$$

Is the linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  consistent? If your answer is “Yes”, you should write down the general solution of the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .

**Solution:** The system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  is homogeneous, therefore it is consistent. From the relation between the solution of the systems  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  and  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  it follows that the general solution of  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  is

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = -3x_2 + \frac{1}{3}x_4 \\ x_2 : \text{free} \\ x_3 = -2x_4 \\ x_4 : \text{free} \end{cases}$$

(b) [2 points] Is it true that for any choice of  $b_1, b_2, b_3$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the linear system

$$\begin{cases} x_1 - 2x_3 + 3x_4 - x_5 = b_1 \\ -x_2 + x_3 + 5x_5 = b_2 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 - 3x_3 + 6x_4 + 3x_5 = b_3 \end{cases}$$

is consistent? You should justify your answer.

**Solution:** No, because the E.F. of the coefficient matrix is

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & -1 & -3 & 6 & 3 \end{bmatrix} &\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ E.F.} \end{aligned}$$

The 3rd row does not contain any pivot positions. Therefore by the criterion for “Guaranteed Existence of Solution”, the statement is not true.

5. [4 points] Set

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ -3 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Does  $\mathbf{b}$  belong to  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3\}$ ?**Solution:** We should reduce the following matrix to an E.F.:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & -3 & -3 \\ 3 & -2 & 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_1 \\ R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 3R_1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ E.F.}$$

Since the rightmost column of the E.F. is a pivot column, it follows that  $\mathbf{b}$  is not a linear combination of  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ .

6. [4 points] For each of the following statements, indicate if it is true or false. You will receive 1 point for every correct answer and lose .5 points for every incorrect answer (but you cannot receive a negative mark on this question).

\_\_\_\_\_ Vectors of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 5 \\ 2 & -\frac{1}{2} & 3 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}$  is any vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , are always in  $\text{Span}\{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}\}$ , where  $\mathbf{a} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -\frac{1}{2} \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $\mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** True.

\_\_\_\_\_ Two row equivalent matrices always have the same number of pivot columns.

**Solution:** True.

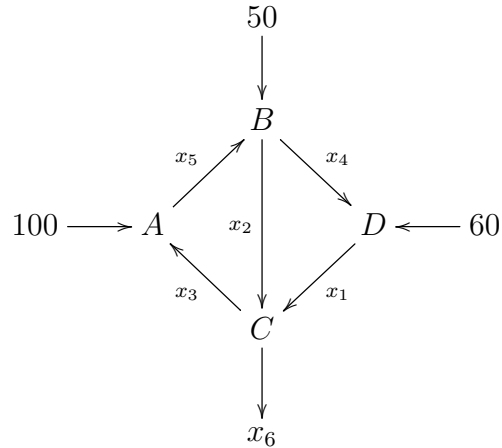
\_\_\_\_\_ A homogeneous linear system always has infinitely many solutions.

**Solution:** False.

\_\_\_\_\_ A linear system with 6 equations and 7 variables is always consistent.

**Solution:** False.

7. [2 points] Consider the traffic flow described by the following diagram. The letters  $A$  through  $D$  label intersections. The arrows indicate the direction of flow (all roads are one-way) and their labels indicate flow in cars per hour.



Write down a linear system describing the traffic flow, i.e., all constraints on the variables  $x_i, i = 1, \dots, 6$ . (You do not need to solve the linear system.)

**Solution:**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A : \quad 100 + x_3 = x_5 \\ B : \quad 50 + x_5 = x_2 + x_4 \\ C : \quad x_1 + x_2 = x_3 + x_6 \\ D : \quad x_4 + 60 = x_1 \\ \text{total : } 100 + 50 + 60 = x_6 \end{array} \right.$$