

**Assignment 1**

1. Find the simultaneous solutions of the two equations below **graphically** and then verify your answer.

$$\begin{cases} 2x & -y & = & -1 \\ -3x & -3y & = & 6 \end{cases}$$

2. Find all the solutions of the following systems of equations using Gaussian elimination.

$$(a) \begin{cases} x & +2y & & = & -1 \\ 2x & +4y & +5z & = & 8 \\ -x & +3y & -2z & = & -8 \end{cases}$$

$$(b) \begin{cases} 2x & -y & +3z & = & 4 \\ 9x & +2y & -z & = & 13 \\ -3x & -5y & +8z & = & -5 \end{cases}$$

**Assignment 2**

1. Evaluate the following products of matrices.

(a)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 7 & -3 \\ 11 & -2 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ 2 & -3 \\ 8 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -3 \\ 2 & 9 \\ 12 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 0 & 6 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. (a) For each of the conditions below find two  $2 \times 2$ -matrices  $A$  and  $B$  satisfying it.
- i.  $AB \neq BA$
  - ii.  $AB = 0$  but neither  $A = 0$  nor  $B = 0$
  - iii.  $AB = C$ , where  $C$  is obtained from  $B$  by interchanging its two rows and the two rows of  $B$  are not equal.
- (b) Can you do the same as in part (a) for  $1 \times 1$ -matrices? Justify your answer.

3. ;- ) By arguing about  $2 \times 2$ -matrices of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \alpha & -\sin \alpha \\ \sin \alpha & \cos \alpha \end{pmatrix}$$

show the addition theorems for  $\sin$  and  $\cos$ :

$$\cos(\alpha + \beta) = \cos \alpha \cos \beta - \sin \alpha \sin \beta$$

$$\sin(\alpha + \beta) = \sin \alpha \cos \beta + \cos \alpha \sin \beta.$$

### Assignment 3

1. Solve the following system of linear equations using **matrix notation**.

$$\begin{cases} 2x & -y & -z & = a \\ -x & +2y & -z & = b \\ -2x & y & +z & = c \end{cases}$$

where  $(a, b, c)$  is (i)  $(3, 2, 1)$  and (ii)  $(0, 0, -3)$ .

2. (a) Find **all** real  $2 \times 2$ -matrices  $A$  satisfying  $AA = -I_2$ .  
 (b) Use part (a) to show that

$$f(z) = \begin{pmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(z) & -\operatorname{Im}(z) \\ \operatorname{Im}(z) & \operatorname{Re}(z) \end{pmatrix}$$

is a map from the complex numbers into 2-square matrices which respects multiplication and addition, i.e. for all complex numbers  $z_1$  and  $z_2$ ,  $f(z_1 z_2) = f(z_1) f(z_2)$  and  $f(z_1 + z_2) = f(z_1) + f(z_2)$ .

3. ;- ) For arbitrary but fixed  $n \geq 2$  show that an  $n$ -square matrix  $D$  commutes with every other  $n$ -square matrix if and only if  $D$  is a scalar multiple of the identity matrix  $I_n$ .

### Assignment 4

1. (a) Prove the following analogue of Theorem 7: When  $I$  is a matrix such that  $IA = A$  for all matrices  $A$  such that the product  $IA$  exists, then  $I = I_n$  for some  $n$ .  
 (b) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be invertible  $n$ -square matrices. Show that  $AB$  is also invertible and find its inverse.
- 2.
3. ;- ) A matrix  $A$  is called *lower triangular* if it is a square matrix and  $A_{ij} = 0$  whenever  $j > i$ .
- (a) Prove that the inverse of an invertible lower triangular matrix is also a lower triangular matrix.
- (b) Find necessary and sufficient conditions for a lower triangular matrix to be invertible and justify your answer.
- (c) Let  $A$  be a lower triangular  $n$ -square matrix. Find an invertible matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is an upper triangular matrix. Here a matrix  $U$  is called *upper triangular* if it is a square matrix and  $U_{ij} = 0$  for  $i > j$ .

**Assignment 5**

1. Decide which of the following sequences of vectors are linearly independent and justify your answer.

$$(i) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad (ii) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$(iii) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 8 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad (iv) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ -5 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 13 \\ 0 \\ 13 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$(v) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad (vi) \quad \left( \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

2. Invert the following matrices if possible.

$$(a) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (b) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 11 \\ -4 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 11 \end{pmatrix} \quad (c) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 8 & -2 & 1 \\ 3 & 3 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. :-) A matrix  $A$  is called *nilpotent* if  $A$  is an  $n$ -square matrix satisfying  $A^m = 0_n$  for some integer  $m \geq 1$ .

- Let  $A$  be a nilpotent matrix with  $A^m = 0$ . Show that  $A - I_n$  and  $I_n + A + A^2 + \dots + A^{m-1}$  are invertible.
- Describe the set of  $n$ -square matrices  $A$  for which  $A_{ij} = 0$  whenever  $1 \leq j \leq i \leq n$  in words and prove that such matrices are nilpotent.
- Use (a) and (b) to show that an upper triangular matrix whose diagonal entries are all non-zero is invertible. (See Question 3 on problem sheet four for the definition of an upper triangular matrix.)

**Assignment 6**

$$1. \text{ Let } \underline{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \underline{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \underline{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 9 \\ 6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Is the sequence of vectors  $\langle \underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2, \underline{v}_3 \rangle$  linearly independent?
- For each of the following vectors decide whether it is a linear combination of  $\underline{v}_1$ ,  $\underline{v}_2$ , and  $\underline{v}_3$ .

$$(i) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 5 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (iii) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (c) Invert, if possible, the matrix whose columns are  $\underline{v}_1$ ,  $\underline{v}_2$ , and  $\underline{v}_3$ .
2. Calculate the determinants of the following matrices.

$$(a) \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad (b) \begin{pmatrix} -5 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(c) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad (d) \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. ;-) The *transpose* of a matrix  $A$  is the matrix whose  $i$ -th row is the  $i$ -th column of  $A$  and it is denoted  $A^t$ . This is equivalent to the requirement that  $(A^t)_{ij} = A_{ji}$  for all  $i$  and  $j$  which make sense.
- (a) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be matrices such that  $AB$  is defined. Show that the transpose of  $AB$  is  $B^t A^t$ .
- (b) Show that a square matrix  $A$  is invertible if and only  $A^t$  is invertible.
- (c) A matrix  $S$  is *symmetric* if  $S = S^t$ . Show that  $AA^t$  is symmetric whenever  $A$  is a square matrix.

## Assignment 7

1. For  $2 \times 2$ -matrices  $A$  and  $B$  verify that  $|AB| = |A||B|$ .
2. Let  $\alpha$  be real parameter. For each of the following matrices find the values of  $\alpha$  for which the matrix is not invertible, by looking at their determinants.

$$(i) \begin{pmatrix} 2+\alpha & 4 \\ -1 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \begin{pmatrix} 4 & \alpha^2 \\ -2 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} \quad (iii) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \alpha & 0 \\ \alpha & 2 & \alpha \\ 0 & \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

3. Show that 0 and 3 are eigenvalues of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , by finding eigenvectors. Next, let  $P$  be the matrix whose columns are the eigenvectors of  $A$ . Find  $P^{-1}$  and evaluate  $P^{-1}AP$ .
4. ;-)
- (a) Do Question 1) above.
- (b) Let  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  be positive integers satisfying  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ , and put

$$A = \frac{1}{c} \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & -a \end{pmatrix}.$$

Calculate  $|A|$  and find  $A^{-1}$ .

(c) Now let  $A_0 = A$  and, for  $n \geq 1$ , define

$$A_n = A_{n-1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} A_{n-1}.$$

Show that  $A_n$  is of the form  $\frac{1}{c_n} \begin{pmatrix} a_n & b_n \\ b_n & -a_n \end{pmatrix}$  with  $a_n$ ,  $b_n$ , and  $c_n$  integers. Use part (a) to show that  $a_n^2 + b_n^2 = c_n^2$ .<sup>1</sup>

(d) Find two linearly independent eigenvectors of  $A_1$ , when  $a = 3$ ,  $b = 4$ , and  $c = 5$ .<sup>2</sup>

### Assignment 8

- Let  $T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find  $T^{-1}$  using elementary row operations and then compute  $A = T \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} T^{-1}$ .
- Find the characteristic polynomial, the eigenvalues, and the eigenvectors of the following matrices.

$$(i) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & 4 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- :-) The *trace* of the  $n$ -square matrix  $A$  is, by definition, the sum of the diagonal entries. Writing  $tr(A)$  for the trace of  $A$  we thus have  $tr(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n (A)_{ii}$ . Show that for every invertible  $n$ -square matrix  $T$  and arbitrary  $n$ -square matrix  $A$ ,  $tr(A) = tr(TAT^{-1})$ . Hint: find the trace in the characteristic polynomial.

### Assignment 9

- Find the eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors of  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a reason why there does not exist a  $2 \times 2$ -matrix  $T$  such that  $T^{-1}AT$  is a diagonal matrix.
  - Find the eigenvectors of  $R = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $S = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and interpret your answer.

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<sup>1</sup>I don't claim that this is the best way to prove that there are infinitely many integer solutions for the equation  $x^2 + y^2 = z^2$

<sup>2</sup>Maybe you should read Question 3.

2. Give an example of a  $3 \times 3$ -matrix with eigenvectors

$$\underline{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \underline{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \underline{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

with respective eigenvalues 2, 1, and  $-1$ .

3. :-) Take for granted that  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$  is a basis for the real vector space of all polynomials of degree at most three and with real coefficients.

- (a) Which column vector represents the polynomial  $p(x) = 2 - x + 3x^2$ ?

- (b) Which linear mapping is described by the matrix  $D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

with respect to the basis  $\mathcal{B}$ ?

- (c) What are the eigenvectors of  $D$ ?

- (d) Find a matrix which describes the same linear mapping as in (b) but with respect to the basis  $\{1 - x, x + x^2, x^3, -2x^2\}$ . Justify your answer.