

Mathematics Department Stanford University  
Math 51H Mid-Term 1

October 13, 2015

**Unless otherwise indicated, you can use results covered  
in lecture and homework, provided they are clearly stated.**

**If necessary, continue solutions on backs of pages**

**Note: work sheets are provided for your convenience, but will not be graded**

Q.1	_____
Q.2	_____
Q.3	_____
Q.4	_____
T/25	_____

Name (Print Clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

I understand and accept the provisions of the honor code (Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

**1 (a) (3 points):** (i) Give the  $\varepsilon, N$  definition of “ $\lim a_n = \ell$ ,” where  $\{a_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$  is a given sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\ell \in \mathbb{R}$ , and (ii) use your definition to prove that if  $\{a_n\}_{n=1,2,\dots}$  converges to  $\ell \neq 0$ , then there exists  $N$  such that  $|a_n| > |\ell|/2$  for  $n \geq N$ .

Note for (ii): You may not use any of our limit theorems to prove (ii), only the definition of the limit, and properties of the reals.

**Solution:**  $\lim a_n = \ell$  means that for each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there is  $N$  such that  $|a_n - \ell| < \varepsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ .

Now suppose that  $\lim a_n = \ell$ ,  $\ell \neq 0$ . Then there exists  $N$  such that for  $n \geq N$ ,  $|a_n - \ell| < |\ell|/2$ ; here we use that  $\varepsilon = |\ell|/2 > 0$  since  $\ell \neq 0$ . Then for  $n \geq N$ ,  $|a_n| = |(a_n - \ell) + \ell| \geq |\ell| - |a_n - \ell|$  by the triangle inequality (use  $x = a_n$ ,  $y = \ell - a_n$ , so  $|x + y| \leq |x| + |y|$  is  $|\ell| \leq |a_n| + |\ell - a_n|$ , and rearrange). Thus, for  $n \geq N$ ,  $|a_n| > |\ell| - |\ell|/2 = |\ell|/2$ , as desired.

**1(b) (3 points):** Suppose that  $\{a_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is a bounded sequence. Let  $s_k = \sup\{a_n : n \geq k\}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}^+$ , i.e.  $s_k$  is the sup of all but the first  $k - 1$  elements of the original sequence. Show that  $\lim s_k$  exists.

Note: You should in particular explain why  $s_k$  itself exists. One writes  $\limsup a_n = \lim s_k$ ; this gives a measure how large  $a_n$  can be for large  $n$ .

First note that as  $\{a_n : n \geq k\} \subset \{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}^+\}$ , and the latter is bounded by assumption, so is the former. Moreover, the former is non-empty as  $a_k$  is in it, thus its supremum exists by the completeness property of the reals.

We claim that  $\{s_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is a decreasing sequence and it is bounded below, and thus by the theorem from the lecture/book/HW, it converges. To see that  $s_k \geq s_{k+1}$ , note that with  $S_k = \{a_n : n \geq k\}$ ,  $S_{k+1} \subset S_k$ . Thus, any upper bound for  $S_k$  is an upper bound for  $S_{k+1}$ , in particular  $s_k = \sup S_k$  is such. Since  $s_{k+1} = \sup S_{k+1}$  is the least upper bound for  $S_{k+1}$ , we have  $s_{k+1} \leq s_k$ , as desired. Now, to see that  $\{s_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$  is bounded below, let  $C$  be a lower bound for  $S_1 = \{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}^+\}$  so  $a_n \geq C$  for all  $n$ . Thus, for every  $k$ ,  $a_k \in S_k$  shows that  $s_k \geq a_k \geq C$  so  $C$  is a lower bound for the sequence  $\{s_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ . As already explained, this completes the proof of the convergence of  $\{s_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ .

**2(a) (3 points):** (i) Give the definition of the orthocomplement  $V^\perp$  of a subspace  $V$  of an inner product space  $Z$  (if you wish, you may assume  $Z = \mathbb{R}^n$  with usual inner product) and (ii) show that if  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  is a basis of a subspace  $V$  of  $Z$  (again  $Z = \mathbb{R}^n$  may be assumed), then  $V^\perp = \{w \in Z : w \cdot v_j = 0, j = 1, 2, \dots, k\}$ .

**Solution:** The orthocomplement  $V^\perp$  is the set

$$V^\perp = \{w \in Z : \forall v \in V, w \cdot v = 0\};$$

note that  $V^\perp$  is a subspace of  $Z$ .

Let  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  be a basis for  $V$ . We now show that

$$V^\perp = \{w \in Z : w \cdot v_j = 0, j = 1, 2, \dots, k\}.$$

Indeed, certainly if  $w \in V^\perp$  then  $w \cdot v_j = 0$  for all  $j$ , giving the containment  $\subset$ . Conversely, if  $w \cdot v_j = 0$  for all  $j$ , then  $w \cdot \sum_{j=1}^k c_j v_j = 0$  for all  $c_j \in \mathbb{R}$  by the linearity of the inner product in its second slot. But any  $v \in V$  can be written as  $v = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j v_j$  since the  $v_j$  form a basis of  $V$ , so  $w \cdot v = 0$  for all  $v \in V$ , thus  $w \in V^\perp$ . This shows the containment  $\supset$ , and thus the claimed equality.

**2(b) (4 points):** Suppose  $V$  is a vector space (if you wish you may assume that it is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ),  $v_1, \dots, v_k \in V$  and  $V = \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ . Show that there is a sub-collection  $\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\}$ ,  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_l$  (possibly  $l = 0$ ), such that  $\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\}$  is a basis for  $V$ .

Hint for (b): Analogously to the proof of the basis theorem, consider a minimal size subcollection that spans  $V$ , or a maximal size subcollection which is linearly independent.

**Solution:** Let

$$S = \{l \in \{0, 1, \dots, k\} : \exists i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_l \text{ s.t. } \text{span}\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\} = V\}.$$

Then  $k \in S$  since  $i_j = j$  for all  $j = 1, \dots, k$  gives a spanning set, so  $S$  is a non-empty set of positive integers. Correspondingly it has a smallest element, call it  $l$ . Then there exists  $i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_l$  such that  $\text{span}\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\} = V$ . We claim that  $\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\}$  is a basis of  $V$ ; since it spans, we just need to show it is linearly independent. Note that if  $l = 0$ , the collection is the empty collection, and is thus linearly independent by definition, and  $V = \{0\}$ . So suppose  $l \geq 1$ , and  $\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\}$  is not linearly independent. Then as shown in lecture/book there exists  $m$  such that  $v_{i_m}$  is a linear combination of the remaining  $v_{i_j}$ :  $v_{i_m} = \sum_{j \neq m} c_j v_{i_j}$  for some scalars  $c_j$ . In particular, any vector  $v$  in the span of  $\{v_{i_1}, v_{i_2}, \dots, v_{i_l}\}$ , so  $v = \sum_{r=1}^l d_{i_r} v_{i_r}$  for some scalars  $d_{i_r}$ , is also in the span of the remaining  $v_{i_j}$  (with  $v_{i_m}$  dropped), by substituting in the linear combination  $v_{i_m} = \sum_{j \neq m} c_j v_{i_j}$  into  $v = \sum_{r=1}^l d_{i_r} v_{i_r}$ . Thus,  $l-1 \in S$  since the remaining  $l-1$  vectors  $v_{i_j}$  satisfy all requirements for  $l-1$  to be in  $S$ . But this contradicts that  $l$  is the smallest element of  $S$ .

**3(a) (3 points):** (i) State the rank nullity theorem. (ii)-(iii): Suppose  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $C(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$ . (ii) Show that  $m \leq n$ . (iii) If in addition  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  has a unique solution for every  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , show that  $m = n$ .

**Solution:** (i) The rank nullity theorem is that for an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,  $\dim N(A) + \dim C(A) = n$ . Alternatively, for a linear map  $T : V \rightarrow W$  with  $V$  finite dimensional,  $\dim V = \dim N(T) + \dim \text{Ran}(T)$ . (ii) By the rank-nullity theorem,  $\dim C(A) + \dim N(A) = n$ . Since  $\dim N(A) \geq 0$ , this means  $\dim C(A) \leq n$ . So, if  $C(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$ , so  $\dim C(A) = m$ , we conclude that  $m \leq n$ . (iii) If  $A\underline{x} = \underline{b}$  has a unique solution for every  $\underline{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$  then  $N(A) = \{0\}$ ; otherwise any non-zero element (as well as 0) would solve  $A\underline{x} = 0$ . Thus, by the rank-nullity theorem,  $\dim C(A) = n$  as desired.

**3(b) (3 points):** (i) Find the matrices  $A_1, A_2$  of the orthogonal projections  $P_{V_j}$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ , to  $V_1 = \text{Span}\{(1, 1, 1)^T\}$  and  $V_2 = \text{Span}\{(1, -1, 0)^T\}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . (ii) Show that the matrix of the orthogonal projection  $P_V$  to  $V = \text{Span}\{(1, 1, 1)^T, (1, -1, 0)^T\}$  is  $A_1 + A_2$ .

Hint for (ii): Note that  $(1, 1, 1)^T$  and  $(1, -1, 0)^T$  are orthogonal.

**Solution:** The orthogonal projection of a vector  $\underline{x}$  to the span of a non-zero vector  $\underline{v}$  is  $P_{\text{span } \underline{v}} \underline{x} = \frac{\underline{v} \cdot \underline{x}}{\|\underline{v}\|^2} \underline{v}$ , i.e. explicitly the  $i$ th coordinate of  $P_{\text{span } \underline{v}} \underline{e}_j$  is  $P_{\text{span } \underline{v}} \underline{e}_j = \frac{\underline{v} \cdot \underline{e}_j}{\|\underline{v}\|^2} \underline{v} = \frac{v_j}{\|\underline{v}\|^2} \underline{v}$ , which says exactly that the  $ij$ th entry of the matrix of the projection is  $\frac{v_i v_j}{\|\underline{v}\|^2}$ . Concretely, this gives

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A_2 = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We claim that the orthogonal projection to  $V = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\}$  is  $P_{\text{span } v_1} + P_{\text{span } v_2}$ . Indeed, suppose  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ ; we know that  $\underline{x} = \underline{x}^{\parallel} + \underline{x}^{\perp}$  with  $\underline{x}^{\parallel} \in V$  and  $\underline{x}^{\perp} \in V^{\perp}$ , the decomposition of  $\underline{x}$  is unique, and  $P_V \underline{x} = \underline{x}^{\parallel}$ . Now, note that  $P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x} \in \text{Span}\{v_1\} + \text{Span}\{v_2\} = \text{Span}\{v_1, v_2\} = V$ , so it suffices to show that  $\underline{x} - (P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x}) \in V^{\perp}$ . But by Problem 2(a)/the lecture/book, this is equivalent to asking that  $(\underline{x} - (P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x})) \cdot v_j = 0$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ . We consider  $j = 1$ ;  $j = 2$  is similar. Then  $(\underline{x} - P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x}) \cdot v_1 = 0$  because  $P_{\text{span } v_1}$  is orthogonal projection to  $\text{span}\{v_1\}$  so  $\underline{x} - P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} \in \text{span}\{v_1\}^{\perp}$ . On the other hand,  $P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x} \cdot v_1 = 0$  since  $P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x} \in \text{span}\{v_2\}$ , and  $v_2 \cdot v_1 = 0$ . In summary,  $(\underline{x} - (P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x})) \cdot v_j = 0$ ,  $j = 1, 2$ , proving that  $\underline{x} - (P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x}) \in V^{\perp}$ , so  $P_V \underline{x} = P_{\text{span } v_1} \underline{x} + P_{\text{span } v_2} \underline{x}$ . Correspondingly, the matrix of the orthogonal projection to  $V$  is

$$A = A_1 + A_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{5}{6} & \frac{-1}{6} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{-1}{6} & \frac{5}{6} & \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{pmatrix}.$$

**4 (6 points):** Find (i) rref  $A$  (showing all row operations), (ii) a basis for the null space  $N(A)$ , (iii) a basis for the column space of  $A$  and (iv)  $\dim N(A^T)$ , if

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

**Solution:** (i)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 \mapsto r_2 + r_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_2 \leftrightarrow r_3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r_1 \mapsto r_1 - 3r_3 \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad r_1 \mapsto r_1 - 2r_2 \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -2 & -9 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rref } A \underline{x} = \underline{0} &\iff (x_1 = 2x_4 + 9x_5, x_2 = -2x_5, x_3 = -x_4 - 2x_5) \\ &\iff \underline{x} = x_4(2, 0, -1, 1, 0)^T + x_5(9, -2, -2, 0, 1)^T \end{aligned}$$

with  $x_4, x_5$  arbitrary, so  $N(A) = N(\text{rref } A) = \text{span}\{(2, 0, -1, 1, 0)^T, (9, -2, -2, 0, 1)^T\}$ , and these two vectors are indeed linearly independent (by inspection of the last two components, or the general result from lecture), so they give a basis for  $N(A)$ .

(iii) The pivot columns of rref  $A$  are the first, second and third columns, so from lecture a basis for  $C(A)$  is obtained by taking the first, second and third columns of  $A$ ; that is, a basis for  $C(A)$  is  $(1, -1, 0)^T, (2, -2, 1)^T, (3, -2, 0)^T$ .

(iv)  $N(A^T)$ , which is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , is the orthocomplement of  $C(A)$ , and the sum of the dimensions of a subspace and its orthocomplement is that of the total space. Since  $\dim C(A) = 3$ ,  $\dim N(A^T) = \dim \mathbb{R}^3 - \dim C(A) = 0$ , and thus  $N(A^T) = \{0\}$ .



