LINEAR ALGEBRA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

Spring 2016b, Prepared by Dr. Robert Gardner

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NAME ______________________________ Start Time: ________ End Time: ________

Be clear and **give all details**. Use symbols correctly (such as equal signs). The numbers in bold faced parentheses indicate the number of the topics covered in that problem from the Study Guide. **No calculators and turn off your cell phones!** You may omit two problems. Indicate which two problems you are omitting: _____ and _____. There is a three hour time limit.

1. Express the solution of this system as a translation of a vector space:

$$\begin{array}{rcrcrcrcr} 3x_1 & + & 2x_2 & + & x_3 & & & = & 4 \\ -5x_1 & - & 3x_2 & - & x_3 & + & x_4 & = & -7 \\ 5x_1 & + & 4x_2 & + & 3x_3 & + & 2x_4 & = & 6 \\ x_1 & + & x_2 & + & x_3 & + & x_4 & = & 1 \end{array}$$

(A1, A2, A3, A7, B4)

2. Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 14 & -4 & 7 \\ -3 & -6 & 0 & -9 \\ 5 & -8 & 6 & 9 \\ 2 & 13 & -3 & 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Which columns contain pivots? What is a basis for the column space? **(A3, A4, A5, D6)**

3. Find the projection of $[1, 2, 1, 2]$ onto the plane $x + y + z + w = 0$. Explain your reasoning! **(B3, B7, B8, C17, C19)**

4. State the definition of *vector space*. **(C1)**

5. Find the standard matrix representation (i.e. the representation with respect to the standard bases of $\mathbb{R}^m$ and $\mathbb{R}^n$) of the linear transformation $T : \mathbb{R}^3 \to \mathbb{R}^4$ defined by $T((x_1, x_2, x_3)) = (x_1 + x_2, x_2 + x_3, x_3 + x_1, x_1 + x_2 + x_3)$. **(C7, C8)**

6. Consider the vectors $\vec{v}_1 = x^2 - 2x + 1$, $\vec{v}_2 = 2x^2 + 5x + 11$, and $\vec{v}_3 = 3x^2 + 7x + 17$ in $\mathcal{P}_2$, the vector space of all polynomials of degree 2 or less. Are these vectors linearly independent? Explain using linear algebra and ordered bases. **(C5, C11, C15)**

7. Use the Schwarz Inequality, which states that for vectors $\vec{v}$ and $\vec{w}$ in an inner-product space, we have $|\langle \vec{v}, \vec{w} \rangle| \leq \|\vec{v}\| \|\vec{w}\|$, to prove the Triangle Inequality in an inner-product space. **(B8, B10, C15)**

8. Find the eigenvalues (they are integers) and the eigenvectors of:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -5 & -2 & -5 \\ 5 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(A9, D14, D17, D18, D19)

9. Prove that if λ is an eigenvalue of an $n \times n$ matrix A, then the set E_λ consisting of the zero vector together with all eigenvectors of A for this eigenvalue λ is a subspace of n-space. (**C4, D17, D19**)

10. Find the L/U decomposition of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & 8 & 4 \\ -1 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Explain your reasoning. **(D23)**