LINEAR ALGEBRA COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

Fall 2015b, Prepared by Dr. Robert Gardner

December 4, 2015

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!** Use the paper provided and **only write on one side.** You may omit two problems. Indicate which two problems you are omitting: _____ and _____. There is a three hour time limit.

1. Find the solution of $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 3 & -13 & 0 \\ 2 & -9 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{b} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -10 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}$$

and express the solution as a translation of a vector space. **(A1, A7, B4)**

2. Prove that if $\vec{x}_1$ and $\vec{x}_2$ are both solutions to the homogeneous system of equations $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$, then any linear combination of $\vec{x}_1$ and $\vec{x}_2$ is also a solution. **(A9, C7)**

3. Find the projection of $[1, 2, 3, 4]$ onto the plane $x + 2y + z - w = 0$. Explain your reasoning! **(B3, B7, B8, C17, C19)**

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

5. Let $T : \mathcal{P}_2 \to \mathcal{P}_3$, where $\mathcal{P}_3$ is the vector space of all polynomials of degree 3 or less, be defined by $T((p(x)) = D(p(x))$, the derivative of $p(x)$. Let the ordered basis for $\mathcal{P}_3$ be $B = B' = (x^3, x^2, x, 1)$. Find the matrix A which represents T relative to B, B'. **(C7, C8, C11, C15)**

6. Use the Gram-Schmidt process to find an orthonormal basis for the subspace span$\{[1, 2, 0, 2], [2, 1, 1, 1], [1, 0, 1, 1]\}$ of $\mathbb{R}^4$. (**C17, C19, C20, C21**)

7. Express A and A^{-1} as products of elementary matrices where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 9 \\ 1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(D3, D7, D9)

8. 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**)

9. Diagonalize $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 8 \\ -4 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$ and calculate A^{100}. Of course, you may leave your answer in terms of powers of certain numbers. (**D1, D17, D20**)

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)**