

Grading

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1 (18 pts.) Consider the equation $Ax = b$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Put the equation into echelon form $Rx = d$.
- (b) For which b are there solutions?

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2 (24 pts.) The matrix A has two special solutions:

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} d \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Describe all the possibilities for the number of columns of A .
- (b) Describe all the possibilities for the number of rows of A .
- (c) Describe all the possibilities for the rank of A .

Briefly explain your answers.

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3 (30 pts.) Let A be any matrix and R its row reduced echelon form. Answer True or False to the statements below and briefly explain. (Note, if there are any counterexamples to a statement below you must choose false for that statement.)

(a) If x is a solution to $Ax = b$ then x must be a solution to $Rx = b$.

(b) If x is a solution to $Ax = 0$ then x must be a solution to $Rx = 0$.

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- 4 (28 pts.) A Sudoku puzzle solution such as the example on the last page is a 9×9 matrix A that among other properties has the numbers 1 through 9 once in every row and in every column.

Hint 1: There is no need to compute at all to solve this problem, and familiarity with Sudoku puzzles are unlikely to help or hurt.

Hint 2: $1+2+3+\dots+9=45$.

- (a) All such matrices A can be written as

$$A = P_1 + 2P_2 + 3P_3 + \dots + 8P_8 + 9P_9,$$

where the matrices P_1, \dots, P_9 are what kind of matrices? (Looking for what we consider the best possible one word answer. Square would be correct, but would not be acceptable.)

- (b) Let e be the 9×1 vector of nine 1's. What is the rank of the 9×3 matrix whose columns are e , Ae , and $A^T e$ for any such matrix A . Explain your answer.

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