

# Linear Algebra 1: HW#3

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due Friday, November 1, 2024, at noon (Prague time)

Submit your HW through the **Postal Owl** as a **PDF attachment**. Make sure your submission is **printable**: it should be A4 or letter size, and it should be either typed or written in dark ink/pencil (blue, black...) on a light (white, beige...) background. Other formats will not be accepted. Please do **not** send your HW by e-mail. Please write your **name** on top of the first page of your HW.

Unless explicitly stated otherwise, make sure you **show your work** (including any row reduction that you may need to perform in order to solve the exercise/problem). If you do not show your work, you will receive **no credit** for the exercise/problem in question, even if your final answer is correct.

**Remark:** Feel free to use a calculator such as the one from

<https://www.dcode.fr/matrix-row-echelon>

for any row reduction that you need to perform. However, keep in mind that on the exam, you might be asked to solve problems like this **without** a calculator, and so you should in principle be able to perform row reduction of this sort by hand.<sup>a</sup> Moreover, make sure you correctly tell the calculator what kinds of numbers you are working with,<sup>b</sup> because otherwise, the calculator may give you a wrong answer.

<sup>a</sup>If you do not yet feel confident in your ability to row reduce, then row reduce by hand first, and then check your answer with a calculator.

<sup>b</sup>For real numbers, you should use their “Echelon Form Matrix Reduction Calculator.” For  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , use “RREF with Modulo Calculator” with Base/Modulus = 2. For  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ , use “RREF with Modulo Calculator” with Base/Modulus = 3.

**Exercise 1** (10 points). Consider the following matrices, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute the matrices  $AB$  and  $BA$  (and make sure you indicate which is which).<sup>1</sup> (Just write the final answer. You do not need to “show your work” in this problem.)

**Exercise 2** (15 points). Consider the following matrix and vector, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solve the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , and state how many solutions it has.

**Exercise 3** (15 points). Consider the following matrix and vector, with entries understood to be in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solve the matrix-vector equation  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ , and state how many solutions it has.

**Problem 1** (30 points). Let  $a$  and  $b$  be real constants. For what values of

the real constant  $c$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ c \\ c^2 \end{bmatrix}$  a linear combination of the vectors

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ a \\ a^2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ b \\ b^2 \end{bmatrix}$ ? Make sure you prove that your answer is correct.

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<sup>1</sup>Since you are working in  $\mathbb{Z}_2$ , all entries in your matrices  $AB$  and  $BA$  should be 0 or 1.

**Problem 2** (30 points). Consider the following vectors in  $\mathbb{Z}_3^4$ :

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{e} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For each of the vectors  $\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{d}, \mathbf{e}$ , determine if it can be expressed as a linear combination of the vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4$  (that is, if it belongs to  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4)$ ), and if so, express it as such a linear combination, and explain whether your answer is unique.