

# Solution

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PID: \_\_\_\_\_

Solve the problem systematically and neatly and show all your work.

1. (2pts) (a) Find the null space of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(2pts) (b) Show that  $\text{nullspace}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Sol. ①  $\text{nullspace}(A) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \}$

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 + 6x_3 = 0 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 + 9x_3 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \\ x_2 = r \\ x_3 = s \end{cases} \Rightarrow x_1 = -2r - 3s$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{nullspace}(A) = \{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : \vec{x} = (-2r - 3s, r, s), r, s \in \mathbb{R} \}}$$

2. (2pts) (a) Show that  $v_1 = (2, -1), v_2 = (3, 2)$  span  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

(2pts) (b) Express the vector  $v = (9, -1)$  as a linear combination of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ .

Sol. ②  $\forall \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  let  $\vec{v} = (a, b) = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 = (2c_1 + 3c_2, -c_1 + 2c_2)$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2c_1 + 3c_2 = a \\ -c_1 + 2c_2 = b \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 = \frac{2a - 3b}{7} \\ c_2 = \frac{a + 2b}{7} \end{cases}$$

soln: for  $c_1$  &  $c_2$  exist for any  $a$  &  $b$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \} \text{ spans } \mathbb{R}^2}$$

$$\text{OR } \boxed{\text{let } A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \det(A) = 7 \neq 0 \Rightarrow \{ \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \} \text{ spans } \mathbb{R}^2}$$

③  $\vec{v} = (9, -1) = c_1 \vec{v}_1 + c_2 \vec{v}_2$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 = \frac{2 \times 9 - 3(-1)}{7} = 3 \\ c_2 = \frac{9 + 2(-1)}{7} = 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{v} = (9, -1) = 3\vec{v}_1 + \vec{v}_2}$$

3. (2pts) Find the value  $a$  such that  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is in the span  $\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 2 & a \end{bmatrix} \}$ .

Sol: let  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = c_1 \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 2 & a \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + 5c_2 & c_1 + 3c_2 \\ 2c_2 & -c_1 + ac_2 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} 2c_1 + 5c_2 = 1 \\ c_1 + 3c_2 = 1 \\ 2c_2 = 2 \\ -c_1 + ac_2 = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} c_1 = -2 \\ c_2 = 1 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{a = \frac{c_1}{c_2} = -2}$$