

**Math 290 ELEMENTARY LINEAR ALGEBRA**  
**SOLUTION FOR QUIZ – V (02/07)**

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[I] (10pts) Let

$$\mathbf{a}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{a}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(1)  $\mathbf{b} = 4\mathbf{a}_1 + 2\mathbf{a}_2 + 3\mathbf{a}_3.$

(2) For the above  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ , define

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{a}_1 & \mathbf{a}_2 & \mathbf{a}_3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

This means

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

(3) For the above  $A, \mathbf{b}$ , and the unknown column vector  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ , the system of linear equations  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is consistent.

(4) Let  $\mathbf{0} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . For the above  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ , trivially,

$$\mathbf{0} = 0\mathbf{a}_1 + 0\mathbf{a}_2 + 0\mathbf{a}_3.$$

(5) There is no way to make

$$\mathbf{0} = s_1\mathbf{a}_1 + s_2\mathbf{a}_2 + s_3\mathbf{a}_3,$$

where  $s_1 \neq 0$ , or  $s_2 \neq 0$ , or  $s_3 \neq 0$ .

**Justification for (5).** Indeed, if  $\mathbf{0} = s_1 \mathbf{a}_1 + s_2 \mathbf{a}_2 + s_3 \mathbf{a}_3$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} &= s_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + s_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} s_2 \\ s_3 \\ s_1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

This reads  $s_1 = 0$ ,  $s_2 = 0$ ,  $s_3 = 0$ .

(6) For the above  $A$ ,  $\mathbf{0}$ , and the unknown column vector  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ , the homogeneous system of linear equations  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has only the trivial solution.

[II] (10pts) Let

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix}, \\ C &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta + \phi) & -\sin(\theta + \phi) \\ \sin(\theta + \phi) & \cos(\theta + \phi) \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(1) We may write out  $AB$  in terms of  $\sin \theta$ ,  $\cos \theta$ ,  $\sin \phi$  and  $\cos \phi$ , as

$AB$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cos \phi & -\sin \phi \\ \sin \phi & \cos \phi \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (\cos \theta)(\cos \phi) - (\sin \theta)(\sin \phi) & -[(\sin \theta)(\cos \phi) + (\cos \theta)(\sin \phi)] \\ (\sin \theta)(\cos \phi) + (\cos \theta)(\sin \phi) & (\cos \theta)(\cos \phi) - (\sin \theta)(\sin \phi) \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

(2) We may read off the four entries of  $C = AB$ , and may write out the consequence as

$$\cos(\theta + \phi) = (\cos \theta)(\cos \phi) - (\sin \theta)(\sin \phi),$$

$$\sin(\theta + \phi) = (\sin \theta)(\cos \phi) + (\cos \theta)(\sin \phi).$$

(3) True or false : “ For the above  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $AB = BA$  holds. ”

The answer is “true”. Indeed,  $AB$  equals

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta + \phi) & -\sin(\theta + \phi) \\ \sin(\theta + \phi) & \cos(\theta + \phi) \end{bmatrix}.$$

By interchanging the roles of  $\theta$  and  $\phi$ , it follows that  $BA$  equals

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos(\phi + \theta) & -\sin(\phi + \theta) \\ \sin(\phi + \theta) & \cos(\phi + \theta) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since  $\phi + \theta = \theta + \phi$ , it follows that this last matrix equals  $C$ . In short,  $AB$  and  $BA$  both equal  $C$ . In particular,  $AB = BA$ .