

West of House  
You are standing  
in an open field  
west of a white  
house, with a  
boarded front door.

**MATH 124: Matrixology (Linear Algebra)**  
**Level Zork (1977) ↗, 2 of 10**  
**University of Vermont, Spring 2015**

There is a small  
mailbox here.  
> open mailbox  
Opening the small  
mailbox reveals  
a leaflet  
> ■

**Dispersed:** Thursday, January 22, 2015.

**Due:** By start of lecture, Thursday, January 29, 2015.

**Sections covered:** 2.3, 2.4.

*Some useful reminders:*

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**Office hours:** 2 to 2:45 pm, Mondays; 3 to 3:45 pm Tuesdays; and 1 to 2:30 pm Wednesdays

**Course website:** <http://www.uvm.edu/~pdodds/teaching/courses/2015-01UVM-124>

**Textbook:** "Introduction to Linear Algebra" (3rd or 4th edition) by Gilbert Strang (published by Wellesley-Cambridge Press).

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- All questions are worth 3 points unless marked otherwise.
  - Please use a cover sheet and write your name on the back and the front of your assignment.
  - You must show all your work clearly.
  - You may use Matlab to check your answers for non-Matlab questions (usually Qs. 1–8).
  - Please list the names of other students with whom you collaborated.

1. (similar to Q 24, Section 2.3) Apply elimination to the 2 by 3 augmented matrix  $[A \ \vec{b}]$  for the equation given below. Do this using elimination matrix  $E_{21}$ . What is the triangular system  $U\vec{x} = \vec{c}$ ? What is the solution  $\vec{x}$ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. Write down the 3 by 3 matrices that produce the following elimination or permutation steps:
  - (a)  $E_{21}$  subtracts 4 times row 1 from row 2.
  - (b)  $E_{32}$  subtracts -3 times row 2 from row 3.
  - (c)  $P_{23}$  swaps rows 2 and 3.

3. (modified version of Q 3, Section 2.3) Which three matrices  $E_{21}$ ,  $E_{31}$ , and  $E_{32}$  put  $A$  into triangular form  $U$ ? What is  $U$  here?  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 4 & 6 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $E_{32}E_{31}E_{21}A = U$ .

4. (Q 6, Section 2.4) Show that  $(A + B)^2$  is different from  $A^2 + 2AB + B^2$ , when

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Write down the correct rule for  $(A + B)(A + B)$ .

5. (Q 14, Section 2.4) True or false (briefly explain why):
- (a) If  $A^2$  is defined then  $A$  is necessarily square.
  - (b) if  $AB$  and  $BA$  are defined then  $A$  and  $B$  are square.
  - (c) if  $AB$  and  $BA$  are defined then  $AB$  and  $BA$  are square.
  - (d) if  $AB = B$  then  $A = I$  (where  $I$  is the identity matrix and the matrix  $B$  is not filled with zilches (0s)).
6. (Q 26, Section 2.4) Multiply  $AB$  using columns times rows:

$$AB = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(You are calculating 'outer products' instead of inner products as we did for an example in Episode 4.)

7. Find all the powers  $A^2, A^3, \dots$  and  $AB, (AB)^2, \dots$  for

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} .5 & .5 \\ .5 & .5 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

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

8. (Q 36, Section 2.4) Find all matrices  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  that satisfy

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

9. (2 pts)

Matlab action: Compute the following

$$\mathbf{A} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix} \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Incredibly, the above product of three matrices will be one very useful way to view  $A$ . More later.

10. (4 pts)

Matlab action:

For the  $A$  you found in the previous question, compute (a)  $A^2$ , (b)  $A^5$ , (c)  $A^{10}$ , and (d)  $A^{100}$ .

What appears to be happening? We'll fully understand what's going on in about 10 more weeks.

11. (Bonus, 1 point)

List five of the numerous peculiarities of the very curious species *ornithorhynchus anatinus*.