

Problem Set 1

DUE: To Shanshan's mailbox, January 18, 1 pm. No extensions.

These problems are intended to be straightforward with not much computation.

1. Solve all of the following equations. [Note that the left sides of these equations are identical.]

$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{a). } 2x + 5y = 5 & \text{b). } 2x + 5y = 0 & \text{c). } 2x + 5y = 1 & \text{d). } 2x + 5y = 2 \\ x + 3y = -1 & x + 3y = -2 & x + 3y = 0 & x + 3y = 1 \end{array}$$

2. [Bretscher, Sec.2.1 #13]

- a) Let $A := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ c & 6 \end{pmatrix}$. With your bare hands (not using anything about determinants) show that A is invertible if and only if $c \neq 3$.
- b) Let $M := \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$. With your bare hands (not using anything about determinants) show that M is invertible if and only if $ad - bc \neq 0$. [Hint: Treat the cases $a \neq 0$ and $a = 0$ separately.]

3. Let A and B be 2×2 matrices.

- a) If B is invertible and $AB = 0$, show that $A = 0$.
- b) Give an example where $AB = 0$ but $BA \neq 0$.
- c) Find an example of a 2×2 matrix with the property that $A^2 = 0$ but $A \neq 0$.
- d) Find all *invertible* $n \times n$ matrices A with the property $A^2 = 3A$.

4. [Bretscher, Sec.2.3 #19] Find all the matrices that commute with $A := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

5. a) Find a real 2×2 matrix A (other than $A = \pm I$) such that $A^2 = I$.
- b) Find a real 2×2 matrix A such that $A^4 = I$ but $A^2 \neq I$.

6. Let L , M , and N be linear maps from the (x_1, x_2) plane to the (y_1, y_2) plane:

L is rotation by 90 degrees counterclockwise.

M is reflection across the line $x_1 = x_2$.

$N\vec{v} := -\vec{v}$ for any vector $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

- a) Find matrices representing each of the linear maps L , M , and N .
- b) Draw pictures describing the actions of the maps L , M , and N and the compositions: LM , ML , LN , NL , MN , and NM .
- c) Which pairs of these maps commute?

d) Which of the following identities are correct—and why?

- 1) $L^2 = N$ 2) $N^2 = I$ 3) $L^4 = I$ 4) $L^5 = L$
5) $M^2 = I$ 6) $M^3 = M$ 7) $MNM = N$ 8) $NMN = L$

1[Last revised: January 11, 2013]