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**KIRIRI WOMENS' UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATION, 2024/2025 ACADEMIC YEAR**  
**FIRST YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION**  
**FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF EDUCATION**  
**(ARTS)**

Date: 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2024  
Time: 8.30am – 10.30am

**KMA 2104 - LINEAR ALGEBRA 1**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

**ANSWER QUESTION ONE (COMPULSORY) AND ANY OTHER TWO QUESTIONS**

**QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

a) For what value of  $k$  is the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -3 & -1 \\ 2 & 4 & k \\ 3 & -5 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is singular?} \quad (4 \text{ Marks})$$

b) Given the linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  defined by  $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 - 2x_2, x_2 + 3x_3)$ , find:

- i) Kernel (T). (2 Marks)
- ii) Nullity (T). (1 Mark)
- iii) Rank (T). (1 Mark)

c) What condition must be satisfied by  $a, b$  and  $c$  so that the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x - 2y - 3z &= a \\ 2x + 6y - 11z &= b \\ x - 2y + 7z &= c \end{aligned} \text{ has a solution?} \quad (4 \text{ Marks})$$

d) Determine which of the following are subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

- i) All vectors of the form  $(a, 0, 0)$ . (1 Mark)
- ii) All vectors of the form  $(a, 1, 1)$ . (1 Mark)
- iii) All vectors of the form  $(a, b, c)$ , where  $b = a + c$ . (2 Mark)

e) Find the dimension of the row space of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 5 \\ -1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . (3 Marks)

f) Show that the vector  $(-7, -6)$  is a linear combination of the vectors  $(-2, 3)$  and  $(1, 4)$ . (3 marks)

g) Solve the following linear system of equations using row reduction method.

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 3 \\3x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 &= 3 \\x_1 - 2x_2 - 5x_3 &= 1\end{aligned}$$

(5 marks)

h) Solve the following system of linear equations using Cramer's rule.

$$\begin{aligned}2x + 4y &= -4 \\5x + 4y &= 11\end{aligned}$$

(3 Marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

a) Is  $-1 + x^2$  in the span of  $p = 1 + x + x^3$  and  $q = -x - x^2 - x^3$  in  $P_3$ ?

(5 Marks)

b) Given the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Evaluate;}$$

i) the determinant of  $A$

(2 Marks)

ii) the inverse of  $A$

(2 Marks)

iii) hence or otherwise solve the system

$$\begin{aligned}2x + y + z &= 2 \\2x + 2z &= 1 \\x + 2y + z &= 0\end{aligned}$$

(3 Marks)

c) Find the inverse of the following matrix by cofactor expansion method.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(5 Marks)

d) Is  $W = \{(a, b, 3) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ?

(3 Marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Solve the following system of linear equations using Cramer's rule.

$$5x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 = 1$$

$$3x_1 - 2x_2 = 3$$

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

(5 Marks)

- b) Determine if  $b$  is a linear combination of the vectors

$$u_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, u_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, u_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(5 Marks)

- c) Compute the inverse of the following matrix using row reduction method

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -2 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(5 Marks)

- d) Determine the value(s) of  $h$  and  $k$  such that the system

$$x_1 + hx_2 = 1$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 = k$$

- i) No solution. (3 marks)

- ii) Many solutions. (2 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) i) Define linear independence of vectors.

(1 Mark)

- ii) Determine whether the set of vectors  $\{(3, 1, 1), (2, -1, 5), (4, 0, -3)\}$  is linearly dependent in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . (5 Marks)

- b) Determine a basis and dimension of the solution space to

$$x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$-2x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

$$-x_1 + x_3 = 0$$

(5 Marks)

- c) Use Gaussian elimination method to solve the following system of linear equations

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 9$$

$$2x_1 + 4x_2 - 3x_3 = 1$$

$$3x_1 + 6x_2 - 5x_3 = 0$$

(5 Marks)

- d) Given the vectors  $v_1 = [a, 1]$ ,  $v_2 = [1, a]$ , determine the values of  $a$  for which the vectors form a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . (4marks)

**QUESTION FIVE( 20 MARKS)**

- a) Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a linear transformation defined as

$$f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find:

- i) Basis for range of  $f$ . (3 Marks)
- ii) Basis for kernel of  $f$ . (3 Marks)
- iii) Rank ( $f$ ) (3 Marks)
- iv) nullity ( $f$ ). (3 Marks)
- b) Find the values of  $k$  for which the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} k-3 & 4 \\ k & k+2 \end{bmatrix}$  has no inverse. (4 Marks)
- c) Find the value of  $k$  for which the following matrix  $A$  is non-singular.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & k \\ 3 & -1 & 1 \\ 5 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(4 Marks)