Math 217 - Spring 2014 Quiz 1 Solutions

1. (7 points) Perform Gauss Jordan elimination on the augmented matrix to solve the following linear system

Solution : The augmented matrix
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 6 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$
 has reduced row-echelon form $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

The original linear system is equivalent to a linear system with the third equation 0 = 1. Therefore it must be inconsistent, that is, it has no solutions.

2. (4 points) Let $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^3$ such that

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_1 + 5x_2 \\ 0 \\ 7x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Show that T is a linear transformation and find its matrix.

Solution: Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 5\\ 0 & 0\\ 0 & 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then $T(\mathbf{x}) = A\mathbf{x}$ for all $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$. By definition, T is a linear transformation and A is its matrix.

3. (9 points) In each part below is the augmented matrix of a linear system. First, determine whether each augmented matrix is in reduced-row echelon form. Then find all the solutions of the linear system and clearly state how many solutions are possible for each linear system.

(a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: The augmented matrix is in reduced row-echelon form.

The second row corresponds to the equation 0 = 1, so there are no solutions.

(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: The augmented matrix is in reduced row-echelon form.

Since x_1 is a free variable, there are infinitely many solutions: $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}$, $x_2 = x_3 = x_4 = 1$.

$$(c) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solution: The augmented matrix is not in reduced row-echelon form because the fourth row has a pivot while a row above it, namely the third row, does not.

The system has the unique solution $x_1 = x_2 = x_3 = 0$.