

**Math 290 ELEMENTARY LINEAR ALGEBRA**  
**SOLUTION FOR EXTRA CREDIT HOMEWORK – I (09/13)**

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[I] (20pts) (1) Consider the system

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 -x_1 - x_6 = 0, & x_4 - x_{10} = 0, & -x_3 - x_{14} = 0, \\
 x_8 + x_9 = 0, & -x_7 + x_{13} = 0, & -x_{11} - x_{16} = 0, \\
 (**)\quad x_3 - x_8 = 0, & -x_2 - x_{12} = 0, & -x_1 - x_{16} = 0, \\
 -x_6 - x_{11} = 0, & -x_5 - x_{15} = 0, & -x_9 + x_{14} = 0, \\
 -x_4 - x_7 = 0, & -x_1 - x_{11} = 0, & x_2 - x_{15} = 0, \\
 -x_5 + x_{12} = 0, & x_6 + x_{16} = 0, & x_{10} + x_{13} = 0.
 \end{array}$$

Clearly, (\*\*) is a system of linear equations. Clearly, (\*\*) is a homogeneous system.

(2) We are to solve the above system (\*\*). First, look at the six equations highlighted below:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 \boxed{-x_1 - x_6 = 0}, & x_4 - x_{10} = 0, & -x_3 - x_{14} = 0, \\
 x_8 + x_9 = 0, & -x_7 + x_{13} = 0, & \boxed{-x_{11} - x_{16} = 0}, \\
 (**)\quad x_3 - x_8 = 0, & -x_2 - x_{12} = 0, & \boxed{-x_1 - x_{16} = 0}, \\
 \boxed{-x_6 - x_{11} = 0}, & -x_5 - x_{15} = 0, & -x_9 + x_{14} = 0, \\
 -x_4 - x_7 = 0, & \boxed{-x_1 - x_{11} = 0}, & x_2 - x_{15} = 0, \\
 -x_5 + x_{12} = 0, & \boxed{x_6 + x_{16} = 0}, & x_{10} + x_{13} = 0.
 \end{array}$$

Those highlighted equations read

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 x_1 = -x_6, & x_{11} = -x_1, & x_{11} = -x_{16}, \\
 -x_6 = x_{11}, & -x_{16} = x_6, & x_1 = -x_{16}.
 \end{array}$$

From  $x_1 = -x_6$  and  $-x_6 = x_{11}$ , we have

$$x_1 = x_{11}.$$

This and  $x_{11} = -x_1$  yield

$$x_1 = x_{11} = 0.$$

This,  $x_1 = -x_6$ , and  $-x_{16} = x_6$  yield

$$x_6 = x_{16} = 0.$$

In short, we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1, & x_6, & x_{11}, & x_{16} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0, & 0, & 0, & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Second, look at the four equations highlighted below:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 -x_1 - x_6 = 0, & x_4 - x_{10} = 0, & -x_3 - x_{14} = 0, \\
 x_8 + x_9 = 0, & -x_7 + x_{13} = 0, & -x_{11} - x_{16} = 0, \\
 x_3 - x_8 = 0, & \boxed{-x_2 - x_{12} = 0}, & -x_1 - x_{16} = 0, \\
 -x_6 - x_{11} = 0, & \boxed{-x_5 - x_{15} = 0}, & -x_9 + x_{14} = 0, \\
 -x_4 - x_7 = 0, & -x_1 - x_{11} = 0, & \boxed{x_2 - x_{15} = 0}, \\
 \boxed{-x_5 + x_{12} = 0}, & x_6 + x_{16} = 0, & x_{10} + x_{13} = 0.
 \end{array}$$

(\*\*)

Those highlighted equations read

$$-x_5 = -x_{12}, \quad x_2 = -x_{12}, \quad -x_5 = x_{15}, \quad x_2 = x_{15}.$$

These yield

$$x_2 = -x_5 = -x_{12} = x_{15}.$$

In other words, using a parameter  $b$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_2, & x_5, & x_{12}, & x_{15} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b, & -b, & -b, & b \end{pmatrix}.$$

Third, look at the four equations highlighted below:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 -x_1 - x_6 = 0, & x_4 - x_{10} = 0, & \boxed{-x_3 - x_{14} = 0} , \\
 \boxed{x_8 + x_9 = 0} , & -x_7 + x_{13} = 0, & -x_{11} - x_{16} = 0, \\
 \boxed{x_3 - x_8 = 0} , & -x_2 - x_{12} = 0, & -x_1 - x_{16} = 0, \\
 -x_6 - x_{11} = 0, & -x_5 - x_{15} = 0, & \boxed{-x_9 + x_{14} = 0} , \\
 -x_4 - x_7 = 0, & -x_1 - x_{11} = 0, & x_2 - x_{15} = 0, \\
 -x_5 + x_{12} = 0, & x_6 + x_{16} = 0, & x_{10} + x_{13} = 0.
 \end{array}$$

(\*\*)

Those highlighted equations read

$$x_3 = -x_{14}, \quad x_8 = -x_9, \quad x_3 = x_8, \quad -x_9 = -x_{14}.$$

These yield

$$x_3 = x_8 = -x_9 = -x_{14}.$$

In other words, using a parameter  $c$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_3, & x_8, & x_9, & x_{14} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c, & c, & -c, & -c \end{pmatrix}.$$

Last, look at the four equations highlighted below:

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 -x_1 - x_6 = 0, & \boxed{x_4 - x_{10} = 0} , & -x_3 - x_{14} = 0, \\
 x_8 + x_9 = 0, & \boxed{-x_7 + x_{13} = 0} , & -x_{11} - x_{16} = 0, \\
 x_3 - x_8 = 0, & -x_2 - x_{12} = 0, & -x_1 - x_{16} = 0, \\
 -x_6 - x_{11} = 0, & -x_5 - x_{15} = 0, & -x_9 + x_{14} = 0, \\
 \boxed{-x_4 - x_7 = 0} , & -x_1 - x_{11} = 0, & x_2 - x_{15} = 0, \\
 -x_5 + x_{12} = 0, & x_6 + x_{16} = 0, & \boxed{x_{10} + x_{13} = 0} .
 \end{array}$$

(\*\*)

Those highlighted equations read

$$x_4 = x_{10}, \quad -x_7 = -x_{13}, \quad x_4 = -x_7, \quad x_{10} = -x_{13}.$$

These yield

$$x_4 = -x_7 = x_{10} = -x_{13}.$$

In other words, using a parameter  $d$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_4, & x_7, & x_{10}, & x_{13} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} d, & -d, & d, & -d \end{pmatrix}.$$

**[Answer] :**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, \\ x_5, & x_6, & x_7, & x_8 \\ x_9, & x_{10}, & x_{11}, & x_{12}, \\ x_{13}, & x_{14}, & x_{15}, & x_{16} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \underline{0}, & \underline{b}, & \underline{c}, & \underline{d}, \\ \underline{-b}, & \underline{0}, & \underline{-d}, & \underline{c}, \\ \underline{-c}, & \underline{d}, & \underline{0}, & \underline{-b}, \\ \underline{-d}, & \underline{-c}, & \underline{b}, & \underline{0} \end{pmatrix}.$$

(2) Substitute the parametrized solution in (1) into

$$\begin{aligned} x_1x_6 - x_2x_5 + x_3x_8 - x_4x_7 &= 1, & x_9x_{14} - x_{10}x_{13} + x_{11}x_{16} - x_{12}x_{15} &= 1, \\ x_1x_{10} - x_2x_9 + x_3x_{12} - x_4x_{11} &= 0, & x_5x_{14} - x_6x_{13} + x_7x_{16} - x_8x_{15} &= 0, \\ x_1x_{14} - x_2x_{13} + x_3x_{16} - x_4x_{15} &= 0, & x_5x_{10} - x_6x_9 + x_7x_{12} - x_8x_{11} &= 0, \\ x_1x_8 - x_4x_5 + x_2x_7 - x_3x_6 &= 0, & x_9x_{16} - x_{12}x_{13} + x_{10}x_{15} - x_{11}x_{14} &= 0, \\ (*) \quad x_1x_{12} - x_4x_9 + x_2x_{11} - x_3x_{10} &= 0, & x_5x_{16} - x_8x_{13} + x_6x_{15} - x_7x_{14} &= 0, \\ x_1x_{16} - x_4x_{13} + x_2x_{15} - x_3x_{14} &= 1, & x_5x_{12} - x_8x_9 + x_6x_{11} - x_7x_{10} &= 1, \\ x_1x_7 - x_3x_5 - x_2x_8 + x_4x_6 &= 0, & x_9x_{15} - x_{11}x_{13} - x_{10}x_{16} + x_{12}x_{14} &= 0, \\ x_1x_{11} - x_3x_9 - x_2x_{12} + x_4x_{10} &= 1, & x_5x_{15} - x_7x_{13} - x_6x_{16} + x_8x_{14} &= -1, \\ x_1x_{15} - x_3x_{13} - x_2x_{16} + x_4x_{14} &= 0, & x_5x_{11} - x_7x_9 - x_6x_{12} + x_8x_{10} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The result is

$$\begin{array}{ll}
0 \cdot 0 - b(-b) + cc - d(-d) = 1, & (-c)(-c) - d(-d) + 0 \cdot 0 - (-b)b = 1, \\
0d - b(-c) + c(-b) - d0 = 0, & (-b)(-c) - 0(-d) + (-d)0 - cb = 0, \\
0(-c) - b(-d) + c0 - db = 0, & (-b)d - 0(-c) + (-d)(-b) - c0 = 0, \\
0c - d(-b) + b(-d) - c0 = 0, & (-c)0 - (-b)(-d) + db - 0(-c) = 0, \\
0(-b) - d(-c) + b0 - cd = 0, & (-b)0 - c(-d) + 0b - (-d)(-c) = 0, \\
0 \cdot 0 - d(-d) + bb - c(-c) = 1, & (-b)(-b) - c(-c) + 0 \cdot 0 - (-d)d = 1, \\
0(-d) - c(-b) - bc + d0 = 0, & (-c)b - 0(-d) - d0 + (-b)(-c) = 0, \\
0 \cdot 0 - c(-c) - b(-b) + dd = 1, & (-b)b - (-d)(-d) - 0 \cdot 0 + c(-c) = -1, \\
0b - c(-d) - b0 + d(-c) = 0, & (-b)0 - (-d)(-c) - 0(-b) + cd = 0.
\end{array}$$

These are simplified as

$$\begin{array}{ll}
b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & -b^2 - c^2 - d^2 = -1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0.
\end{array}$$

$$\left[ \underline{\text{Answer}} \right] : \quad b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1.$$

(3) Let's move back to the substitution done in (2):

$$\begin{array}{ll}
0 \cdot 0 - b(-b) + cc - d(-d) = 1, & (-c)(-c) - d(-d) + 0 \cdot 0 - (-b)b = 1, \\
0d - b(-c) + c(-b) - d0 = 0, & (-b)(-c) - 0(-d) + (-d)0 - cb = 0, \\
0(-c) - b(-d) + c0 - db = 0, & (-b)d - 0(-c) + (-d)(-b) - c0 = 0, \\
0c - d(-b) + b(-d) - c0 = 0, & (-c)0 - (-b)(-d) + db - 0(-c) = 0, \\
0(-b) - d(-c) + b0 - cd = 0, & (-b)0 - c(-d) + 0b - (-d)(-c) = 0, \\
0 \cdot 0 - d(-d) + bb - c(-c) = 1, & (-b)(-b) - c(-c) + 0 \cdot 0 - (-d)d = 1, \\
0(-d) - c(-b) - bc + d0 = 0, & (-c)b - 0(-d) - d0 + (-b)(-c) = 0, \\
0 \cdot 0 - c(-c) - b(-b) + dd = 1, & (-b)b - (-d)(-d) - 0 \cdot 0 + c(-c) = -1, \\
0b - c(-d) - b0 + d(-c) = 0, & (-b)0 - (-d)(-c) - 0(-b) + cd = 0.
\end{array}$$

In these, if you replace 0s on the left-hand side with as, then accordingly you obtain

$$\begin{array}{ll}
aa - b(-b) + cc - d(-d) = 1, & (-c)(-c) - d(-d) + aa - (-b)b = 1, \\
ad - b(-c) + c(-b) - da = 0, & (-b)(-c) - a(-d) + (-d)a - cb = 0, \\
a(-c) - b(-d) + ca - db = 0, & (-b)d - a(-c) + (-d)(-b) - ca = 0, \\
ac - d(-b) + b(-d) - ca = 0, & (-c)a - (-b)(-d) + db - a(-c) = 0, \\
a(-b) - d(-c) + ba - cd = 0, & (-b)a - c(-d) + ab - (-d)(-c) = 0, \\
aa - d(-d) + bb - c(-c) = 1, & (-b)(-b) - c(-c) + aa - (-d)d = 1, \\
a(-d) - c(-b) - bc + da = 0, & (-c)b - a(-d) - da + (-b)(-c) = 0, \\
aa - c(-c) - b(-b) + dd = 1, & (-b)b - (-d)(-d) - aa + c(-c) = -1, \\
ab - c(-d) - ba + d(-c) = 0, & (-b)a - (-d)(-c) - a(-b) + cd = 0.
\end{array}$$

These are simplified as

$$\begin{array}{ll}
a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0, \\
a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1, & -a^2 - b^2 - c^2 - d^2 = -1, \\
0 = 0, & 0 = 0.
\end{array}$$

So the following answer works for the system (\*):

**[Answer] :**

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, \\ x_5, & x_6, & x_7, & x_8 \\ x_9, & x_{1a}, & x_{11}, & x_{12}, \\ x_{13}, & x_{14}, & x_{15}, & x_{16} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{a}{-b}, & \frac{b}{a}, & \frac{c}{-d}, & \frac{d}{c}, \\ \frac{-c}{-d}, & \frac{d}{-c}, & \frac{a}{b}, & \frac{-b}{a}, \\ \frac{-d}{-c}, & \frac{-c}{b}, & \frac{b}{a}, & \frac{a}{c} \end{pmatrix},$$

with the constraint  $\boxed{a^2 + b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1}$  .

★ The above argument only proves that this last answer is a part of the solution set for the system (\*).

★ The issue of whether the above answer in (3) exhausts the entire solution set for the system (\*), and also where the system (\*) comes from, how it is related to the system (\*\*), *etc.* will be addressed in the next extra assignment (“Extra Credit Homework – II”).