

FINAL EXAM SAMPLE PROBLEM PARTIAL SOLUTIONS FOR MATH 407

3. Solve the following LP stating its solution and optimal value.

$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \text{maximize} & 4x_1 & + & 4x_2 & + & 5x_3 & + & 3x_4 \\ \text{subject to} & x_1 & + & x_2 & + & x_3 & + & x_4 \leq 40 \\ & x_1 & + & x_2 & + & 2x_3 & + & x_4 \leq 40 \\ & 2x_2 & + & 2x_2 & + & 3x_3 & + & x_4 \leq 60 \\ & 3x_1 & + & 2x_2 & + & 2x_3 & + & 2x_4 \leq 50 \\ & 0 & \leq & x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4. \end{array}$$

Also, state the dual of this LP and give its solution.

**Solution:**  $x = (0, 15, 10, 0)^T$ ,  $y = (0, 0, 1, 1)^T$ ,  $z = 110$ .

4. (a) Put the following LP in standard form.

$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \text{minimize} & & & -x_2 & + & x_3 & & \\ \text{subject to} & x_1 & & & & -4x_3 & \geq & -5 \\ & -3x_1 & + & x_2 & & & = & -3 \\ & x_1 & + & x_2 & + & x_3 & \leq & 10 \\ & x_1 \geq -1 & , & 0 \geq & x_2 & & & \end{array}$$

**Solution:**  $x_1 = z_1 - 1$ ,  $x_2 = -z_2$ ,  $x_3 = z_3^+ - z_3^-$

$$\begin{array}{llllllll} \text{maximize} & & & -z_2 & - & z_3^+ & + & z_3^- \\ \text{subject to} & -z_1 & & & + & 4z_3^+ & - & 4z_3^- \leq 4 \\ & -3z_1 & - & z_2 & & & & \leq -6 \\ & 3z_1 & + & z_2 & & & & \leq 6 \\ & z_1 & - & z_2 & + & z_3^+ & - & z_3^- \leq 11 \\ & 0 & \leq & z_1, & z_2, & z_3^+, & z_3^- \end{array}$$

(b) Formulate a dual for the following LPs.

i.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{minimize} & c^T x \\ \text{subject to} & Ax \leq 0 \\ & Bx = 0, \end{array}$$

where  $c \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times n}$ , and  $B \in \mathbb{R}^{t \times n}$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \max & 0 \\ \text{s.t.} & A^T u + B^T v = -c \\ & 0 \leq u. \end{array}$$

ii.

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{maximize} & 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 10x_3 \\ \text{subject to} & x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 12 \\ & x_1 - x_2 + x_3 \leq 8 \\ & 0 \leq x_2 \leq 10 \end{array}$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{array}{ll} \min & 12y_1 + 8y_2 + 10y_3 \\ \text{s.t.} & y_1 + y_2 = 2 \\ & y_1 - y_2 + y_3 \geq -3 \\ & -y_1 + y_2 = 10 \\ & 0 \leq y_2, y_3. \end{array}$$

- (c) Use both the Complementary Slackness Theorem and the Geometric Duality Theorem to determine if the vector  $x = (0, 5, 0, 1, 1)^T$  solves the LP

$$\begin{array}{rcllclclclcl}
 \text{maximize} & & x_2 & & & + & 5x_4 & + & 5x_5 & & \\
 \text{subject to} & x_1 & + & 2x_2 & - & x_3 & + & x_4 & & & \leq 11 \\
 & 3x_1 & + & x_2 & + & 4x_3 & + & x_4 & + & x_5 & \leq 10 \\
 & 2x_1 & - & x_2 & + & 2x_3 & + & x_4 & + & 2x_5 & \leq -2 \\
 & x_1 & & & & & & + & x_4 & + & 3x_5 \leq 4 \\
 & 0 & \leq & x_1, & x_2, & x_3, & x_4, & x_5 & & & 
 \end{array}$$

**Solution:** The given  $x$  is not optimal.

6. Let  $M, A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $x^0, \hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $S$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

(a) Theory

- i. If  $y^T Mx = 0$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , show that  $M = 0$ .

**Solution:**  $0 = e_i^T M e_j = M_{ij} \forall i, j$

- ii. Show that  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) = \text{Nul}(A)$ .

**Solution:** If  $Ax = 0$ , then  $A^T Ax = 0$  so  $\text{Nul}(A) \subset \text{Nul}(A^T A)$ . On the other hand, if  $A^T Ax = 0$ , then  $0 = x^T A^T Ax = \|Ax\|_2^2$ , so  $Ax = 0$ . Consequently,  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) \subset \text{Nul}(A)$ , and so these sets are equivalent.

- iii. State the Fundamental Theorem of the Alternative (FTA) for the matrix  $A$  and use it and the previous result to show that  $\text{Ran}(A^T A) = \text{Ran}(A)$ .

**Solution:** The FTA states that, for any matrix  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ ,  $\text{Ran}(A) = \text{Nul}(A^T)^\perp$  and  $\text{Nul}(A) = \text{Ran}(A^T)^\perp$ . By the previous problem  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) = \text{Nul}(A)$  and so, by the FTA,  $\text{Ran}(A^T A) = \text{Nul}(A^T A)^\perp = \text{Nul}(A)^\perp = \text{Ran}(A^T)$ .

- iv. Show that the linear least squares problem

$$\mathcal{LLS} \quad \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \|Ax - b\|_2^2$$

always has a solution.

**Solution:** We know that  $\bar{x}$  solves  $\mathcal{LLS}$  if and only if  $A^T A \bar{x} = A^T b$ , and since  $\text{Ran}(A^T A) = \text{Ran}(A)$ , the system  $A^T Ax = A^T b$  must always have a solution. Hence,  $\mathcal{LLS}$  must always have a solution.

*Note: The hard part here is showing that  $\bar{x}$  solves  $\mathcal{LLS}$  if and only if  $A^T A \bar{x} = A^T b$  which is avoided in this proof.*

- v. If  $\text{Nul}(A) = \{0\}$ , show that the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Ran}(A)$  is given by  $P_{\text{Ran}(A)} = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$ .

**Solution:** First, recall that since  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) = \text{Nul}(A)$ , we know that  $\text{Nul}(A^T A) = \{0\}$  and so the square matrix  $A^T A$  is invertible. Hence the matrix  $P := A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T$  is well defined. To show that it is the orthogonal projector onto  $\text{Ran}(A)$ , we need to show that  $P^2 = P$ ,  $P^T = P$ , and  $\text{Ran}(P) = \text{Ran}(A)$ . The two facts  $P^2 = P$  and  $P^T = P$  are obvious upon inspection, so it remains only to show that  $\text{Ran}(P) = \text{Ran}(A)$ . Obviously,  $\text{Ran}(P) \subset \text{Ran}(A)$ .

On the other hand, let  $y \in \text{Ran}(A)$  so that there exists  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $y = Ax$ . Set  $z = (A^T A)x$ . Then  $x = (A^T A)^{-1} z$ , and, since the FTA tells us that  $\text{Ran}(A^T A) = \text{Ran}(A^T)$ , there is a  $w \in \mathbb{R}^m$  such that  $z = A^T w$ . Putting this all together gives  $y = Ax = A(A^T A)^{-1} z = A(A^T A)^{-1} A^T w = Pw$ , and so  $\text{Ran}(A) \subset \text{Ran}(P)$  which completes the proof.

- vi. If  $\text{Ran}(A) = \mathbb{R}^m$ , show that the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Nul}(A)$  is given by  $P_{\text{Nul}(A)} = I - A^T(AA^T)^{-1}A$ .

**Solution:** The FTA tells us that  $P_{\text{Nul}(A)} = I - P_{\text{Nul}(A)^\perp} = I - P_{\text{Ran}(A^T)}$ , so we need only show that  $P_{\text{Ran}(A^T)} = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}A$ . By replacing  $A$  by  $A^T$  in the previous result, we see that  $P_{\text{Ran}(A^T)} = A^T(AA^T)^{-1}A$  if  $\{0\} = \text{Nul}(A^T)$ , or equivalently,  $\mathbb{R}^m = \text{Nul}(A^T)^\perp = \text{Ran}(A)$  where the final inequality follows from the FTA. This proves the result.

- vii. Suppose  $m < n$ ,  $b \in \text{Ran}(A)$ ,  $Ax^0 = b$ , and  $A\hat{x} \neq b$ . Show that the closest point in the set  $\{x : Ax = b\}$  to the point  $\hat{x}$  is given by

$$\bar{x} := x^0 + P_{\text{Nul}(A)}(\hat{x} - x^0).$$

**Solution:** As previously observed,  $\{x : Ax = b\} = x^0 + \text{Nul}(A)$ , so we may write this least distance problem as

$$\min_{z \in \text{Nul}(A)} \frac{1}{2} \|x^0 + z - \hat{x}\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|z - (\hat{x} - x^0)\|_2^2$$

whose solution in  $z$  is the projection of  $(\hat{x} - x^0)$  onto  $\text{Nul}(A)$ . Therefore, the solution  $\bar{x}$  is given by  $\bar{x} = x^0 + P_{\text{Nul}(A)}(\hat{x} - x^0)$ .

(b) Computation

- i. Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  and consider the hyperplane  $H := \{x : a^T x = \beta\}$ .

A. Show that the orthogonal projector onto  $\{a\}^\perp$  is given by  $I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a}$ .

**Solution:** Set  $P := \frac{aa^T}{a^T a}$ . Then  $P^2 = P$ ,  $P = P^T$ , and  $\text{Ran}(P) = \text{Span}[a]$ . Therefore,  $P = P_{\text{Span}[a]}$ , the orthogonal projection onto the linear span of  $a$ . Consequently,

$$I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a} = I - P_{\text{Span}[a]} = P_{\text{Span}[a]^\perp} = P_{\{a\}^\perp}.$$

- B. Show that the nearest point in the hyperplane  $H$  to the origin is  $\bar{x} := \frac{\beta}{a^T a} a$ .

**Solution:** Note that  $H = \{\bar{x} + z \mid a^T z = 0\} = \{\bar{x} + z \mid z \in \{a\}^\perp\}$ , so the nearest point in the hyperplane  $H$  to the origin solves the problem

$$\min_{z \in \{a\}^\perp} \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{x} + z\|_2^2.$$

By the previous problem, the solution in  $z$  is  $\bar{z} = P_{\{a\}^\perp}(-\bar{x}) = (I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a})(-\bar{x})$ . Hence, the nearest point solution is

$$\bar{x} + (I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a})(-\bar{x}) = \frac{aa^T}{a^T a} \bar{x} = \frac{aa^T}{a^T a} \frac{\beta}{a^T a} a = \bar{x}.$$

- C. Suppose  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is such that  $a^T \hat{x} \neq \beta$ . Show that the closest point to  $\hat{x}$  on the hyperplane  $H$  is the point

$$\bar{x} := \hat{x} + \frac{\beta - a^T \hat{x}}{a^T a} a,$$

and that the distance of  $\hat{x}$  to the hyperplane  $H$  is  $\frac{|\beta - a^T \hat{x}|}{\|a\|_2}$ .

**Solution:** We follow the reasoning of the previous problem to see that the nearest point in the hyperplane to  $\hat{x}$  solves the problem

$$\min_{z \in \{a\}^\perp} \frac{1}{2} \|\bar{x} + z - \hat{x}\|_2^2 = \frac{1}{2} \|z - (\hat{x} - \bar{x})\|_2^2.$$

The solution in  $z$  is given by  $\bar{z} = P_{\{a\}^\perp}(\hat{x} - \bar{x})$ , and so the solution in  $x$  is given by

$$\bar{x} + \bar{z} = \frac{\beta}{a^T a} a + (I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a})(\hat{x} - \bar{x}) = \frac{\beta}{a^T a} a + (I - \frac{aa^T}{a^T a})(\hat{x}) = \hat{x} + \frac{\beta - a^T \hat{x}}{a^T a} a.$$

Hence the distance of  $\hat{x}$  to  $H$  is

$$\left\| \hat{x} - \left( \hat{x} + \frac{\beta - a^T \hat{x}}{a^T a} a \right) \right\|_2 = \frac{|\beta - a^T \hat{x}|}{\|a\|_2}.$$

D. What is the distance of the point  $(-3, 2)^T$  to the line  $3x_1 - 2x_2 = 1$ , and what is the closest point on the line to this point?

**Solution:** By the previous problem (with  $a = (3, -2)^T$  and  $\beta = 1$ ) the distance is  $|1 + 13|/\sqrt{13} = 14/\sqrt{13}$  and the point on the line that is closest is  $\bar{x} = (-3, 2)^T + (14/13)(3, -2)^T = (1/13)(3, -2)^T$ .

E. What is the distance of the point  $(2, 0, 2)^T$  to the plane  $x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 3$  and what is the point in the plane that achieves this distance?

**Solution:** Just as in the previous problem (with  $a = (1, -1, 2)^T$  and  $\beta = 3$ ), the distance is  $|3 - 6|/\sqrt{6} = 3/\sqrt{6}$  and the point on the line that is closest is  $\bar{x} = (2, 0, 2)^T - (1/2)(1, -1, 2)^T = (3/2, 1/2, 1)^T$ .

ii. Given  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ , under what conditions do the two hyperplanes  $H_1 := \{x \mid a^T x = \alpha\}$  and  $H_2 = \{x \mid b^T x = \beta\}$  intersect in a line? If they intersect in a line, what point on this line is the closest point to the origin?

**Solution:** The intersection of the two hyperplanes is  $\{x \mid Ax = c\}$ , where

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} a^T \\ b^T \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } c = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}.$$

So  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times n}$ , and the set of solutions (when it is non-empty) is given by  $x^0 + \text{Nul}(A)$  where  $x^0$  is any particular solution to  $Ax = c$ . For the solution to be a line we must have  $1 = \text{nullity}(A) \geq n - 2$ , so it must be the case that  $n = 3$  and  $\text{rank}(A) = 3 - 1 = 2$ , i.e.,  $a$  and  $b$  are linearly independent.

Recapping, we have shown the intersection of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  is a line if and only if  $n = 3$  and  $a$  and  $b$  are linearly independent. It remains only to determine the point closest to the origin on this line. For this we need to solve the problem

$$\min_{z \in \text{Nul}(A)} \frac{1}{2} \|x^0 + z\|_2^2,$$

where  $x^0$  is any particular solution to  $Ax = c$ . Since  $\text{rank}(A) = 2$ ,  $AA^T$  is invertible and  $\bar{x} := A^T(AA^T)^{-1}c$  is the least norm solution to  $Ax = c$ . Written more explicitly, we have

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{\|a\|_2^2 \|b\|_2^2 - \langle a, b \rangle^2} \begin{bmatrix} a^T & b^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \|b\|_2^2 & -\langle a, b \rangle \\ -\langle a, b \rangle & \|a\|_2^2 \end{bmatrix} c = \xi_1 a^T + \xi_2 b^T,$$

where  $c = (c_1, c_2)^T$  and

$$\xi_1 = \frac{c_1 \|b\|_2^2 - c_2 \langle a, b \rangle}{\|a\|_2^2 \|b\|_2^2 - \langle a, b \rangle^2} \text{ and } \xi_2 = \frac{c_1 \langle a, b \rangle - c_2 \|a\|_2^2}{\|a\|_2^2 \|b\|_2^2 - \langle a, b \rangle^2}.$$

iii. Consider the matrix

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

A. Compute the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Ran}(A)$ .

**Solution:** If  $AP = QR$  is the QR factorization of  $A$ , then the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Ran}(A)$  is given by  $QQ^T$ . In class it was shown that

$$Q = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

so that

$$P_{\text{Ran}(A)} = QQ^T = \frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

B. Compute the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Null}(A)$ .

**Solution:** Since the columns of  $A$  are linearly independent we have  $\text{Nul}(A) = \{0\}$ . Therefor the orthogonal projection on  $\text{Nul}(A)$  is given by the  $3 \times 3$  zero matrix.

C. Compute the QR factorization of  $A$ .

**Solution:** The matrix  $Q$  is as given above for  $A$  (not the one for  $A^T$ ) and  $P = I$ , so we need only compute  $R$  knowing that  $R_{ij} = \langle A_{\cdot i}, Q_{\cdot j} \rangle$  giving

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

iv. Consider the matrix

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

**Solution:** Follow the recipe given for solving the previous problem starting with the Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization procedure on the columns of  $A$ .

A. Compute the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Ran}(A)$ .

B. Compute the orthogonal projection onto  $\text{Null}(A^T)$ .

C. Compute the QR factorization of  $A$ .

v. Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and consider the function

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3) = \frac{1}{2}[(2x_1 - 2a)^2 + (x_1 - x_2)^2 + (ax_2 + x_3)^2 + x_2^2].$$

- A. Write this function in the form of the objective function for a linear least squares problem by specifying the matrix  $A$  and the vector  $b$ .

**Solution:**

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & a & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2a^4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- B. Describe the solution set of this linear least squares problem as a function of  $a$ .

**Solution:** Use the normal equations (or simply differentiate) to show that the unique solution is given by  $\bar{x} = (-a^7, a^4, -a^5)^T$ .

- vi. Find the quadratic polynomial  $p(t) = x_0 + x_1t + x_2t^2$  that best fits the following data in the least-squares sense:

$$\begin{array}{c|cccccc} t & -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline y & 2 & -10 & 0 & 2 & 1 \end{array}.$$

**Solution:** As shown in the notes, we formulate this as a LLS problem with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } b = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -10 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We then simply solve the normal equations to get the optimal coefficients  $(x_0, x_1, x_2)^T$ . The normal equations are

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 10 \\ 0 & 10 & 0 \\ 10 & 0 & 34 \end{bmatrix} x = A^T A x = A^T b = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 10 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

giving  $\bar{x} = (-3, 1, 1)^T$ , or  $p(t) = -3 + t + t^2$ .

- vii. Consider the problem LLS with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution:** This is essentially the same as problems ii and iii above. Just start with Gram-Schmidt on the columns of  $A$ . Of course, one can also solve the problem in a piecemeal fashion by first directly solving the normal equations.

- What are the normal equations for this  $A$  and  $b$ .
- Solve the normal equations to obtain a solution to the problem LLS for this  $A$  and  $b$ .
- What is the general reduced QR factorization for this matrix  $A$ ?
- Compute the orthogonal projection onto the range of  $A$ .

E. Use the recipe

$$AP = Q[R_1 \ R_2] \quad \text{the general reduced QR factorization}$$

$$\hat{b} = Q^T b \quad \text{a matrix-vector product}$$

$$\bar{w}_1 = R_1^{-1} \hat{b} \quad \text{a back solve}$$

$$\bar{x} = P \begin{bmatrix} R_1^{-1} \hat{b} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{a matrix-vector product.}$$

to solve LLS for this  $A$  and  $b$ .

F. If  $\bar{x}$  solves LLS for this  $A$  and  $b$ , what is  $A\bar{x} - b$ ?