**Honor code**: I pledge on my honor that: I have completed all steps in the below homework on my own, I have not used any unauthorized materials while completing this homework, and I have not given anyone else access to my homework.



Name and Signature

1. (1 point) Have you read and understood the honor code?

Solution: YES

Concept: System of linear equations

- 2. (2 points) This question has two parts as mentioned below:
  - (a) Find a  $2 \times 3$  system Ax = b whose complete solution is

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + w \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** As this system has infinite values for  $\mathbf{x}$ , we can conclude that this is possible when  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \in \mathcal{N}(A)$  and  $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} = \mathbf{b}$  (particular solution).  $\therefore \mathbf{a_1} + 2\mathbf{a_2} + \mathbf{a_3} = 0$  and we can have  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(b) Now find a 3 x 3 system which has these solutions exactly when  $b_1 + b_2 + b_3 = 0$ . (Note:  $b = [b_1 \ b_2 \ b_3]^T$ .)

**Solution:** Again, we can conclude that  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \in \mathcal{N}(A)$  and  $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} = \mathbf{b}$  (particular solution).  $\mathbf{a_1} + 2\mathbf{a_2} + \mathbf{a_3} = 0$ , which implies  $\mathbf{a_3} = -\mathbf{a_1} - 2\mathbf{a_2}$ .  $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} = \mathbf{a_1} + \mathbf{a_2} + \mathbf{a_3} = \mathbf{a_1} + \mathbf{a_2} - \mathbf{a_1} - 2\mathbf{a_2} = -\mathbf{a_2} = \mathbf{b}$ .  $\mathbf{b_1} + b_2 + b_3 = 0 = a_{21} + a_{22} + a_{23}$ .

We can have 
$$\mathbf{a_2}$$
 as  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ ,  $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ ,  $\mathbf{a_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$  and  $\mathbf{a_3} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ .  $\therefore$  the system can be  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

3. (2 points) Consider the matrices A and B below

(i) 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 12 & -6 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (ii)  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 12 & 4 & 8 \\ 6 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ 

(a) Write down the row reduced echelon form of matrices A and B (also mention the steps involved).

Solution: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 2 & 12 & -6 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2/2}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 6 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 6R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -15 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 12 & 4 & 8 \\ 6 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - 4R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 6 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 \leftarrow R_3 - 2R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftarrow R_1/3} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Find all solutions to  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$  and  $B\mathbf{x} = 0$ .

**Solution:** For  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ , we have two free variables (let them be  $x_3$  and  $x_4$ ).  $\therefore$ from the above RREF we have  $x_2 = -2x_3$  and  $x_1 = 15x_3 - 4x_4$ . Null space solu-

from the above RREF we have 
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 and  $x_1 = 15x_3 - 4x_4$ . Null space solution in parametric form can be written as 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 15x_3 - 4x_4 \\ -2x_3 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 15 \\ -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

For  $B\mathbf{x} = 0$ , we have two free variables (let them be  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ ).  $\therefore$  from the

above RREF we have 
$$x_1 = -\frac{1}{3}x_2 - \frac{2}{3}x_3$$
. Null space solution in parametric form can be written as 
$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3}x_2 - \frac{2}{3}x_3 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{2}{3} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) Write down the basis for the four fundamental subspaces of A.

**Solution:** Basis of  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  are pivot columns of A:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 12 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  Basis of  $\mathcal{N}(A)$  are solutions of  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$ :  $\begin{bmatrix} 15 & -2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  Basis of  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  are pivot rows of R:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -15 & 4 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  Basis of  $\mathcal{N}(A^T)$  are solutions of  $A^T\mathbf{x} = 0$ :  $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ 

(d) Write down the basis for the four fundamental subspaces of B.

**Solution:** Basis of C(B) are pivot columns of B:  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 12 & 6 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ Basis of  $\mathcal{N}(B)$  are solutions of  $B\mathbf{x} = 0$ :  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{-1}{3} & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{-2}{3} & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ Basis of  $\mathcal{R}(B)$  are pivot rows of R:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ Basis of  $\mathcal{N}(B^T)$  are solutions of  $B^T\mathbf{x} = 0$ :  $\begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ 

## Concept: Rank

4.  $(1 \frac{1}{2} \text{ points})$  Consider the matrices A and B as given below:

 $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ -6 & -4 & -2 \\ 3 & 2 & x \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } B = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 & 7 \\ y & 2 & y \end{bmatrix}$ 

Give the values for entries x and y such that the ranks of the matrices A and B are (a) 1

**Solution:** After Gaussian Elimination, A and B can be written as  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x-1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 & 7 \\ y-7 & 0 & y-7 \end{bmatrix}$  respectively. To have rank one, we need only one row with non-zero pivot, hence, x=1, y=7.

(b) 2

**Solution:** To have rank two,  $x \neq 1$  and  $y \neq 7$ , i.e. two rows with non-zero pivots.  $\therefore x = 0, y = 0$  can satisfy.

(c) 3

**Solution:** No values for x and y can give us rank three as A already has one dependent row and B has only two rows which means they can span a plane (2D) in the best case (when those have non-zero pivots) but not 3D.

## Concept: Nullspace and column space

5. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  point) State True or False and explain you answer: The nullspace of R is the same as the nullspace of U (where R is the row reduced echelon form of A and U is the matrix in LU decomposition of A).

**Solution:** True, as we can obtain R from U by elementary row operations.  $\therefore R = E_1E_2\dots E_kU$ , where  $E_1\dots E_k$  represents elementary matrices. To obtain null space of R, we solve  $R\mathbf{y} = E_1E_2\dots E_kU\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$  ( $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(R)$ ). If we represent  $E_1E_2\dots E_k$  as E and  $U\mathbf{y}$  as  $\mathbf{x}$ , we have to solve  $E\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ . As we know, E is obtained by as product of elementary matrices and elementary matrices are invertible, E is invertible and full rank, or all columns of E are independent. E is possible only when  $\mathbf{x} = 0$  or  $E\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ . This implies that  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(U)$ . Since every vector in null space of E also belongs to null space of E also belongs to null space of E as

6. (1 point) Construct a matrix whose column space contains  $[2,5,3]^{\top}$  and  $[0,3,1]^{\top}$  and whose null space contains  $[1,3,2]^{\top}$ 

**Solution:** Since  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  contains,  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  (which are independent), we can write the matrix A as  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & a_{13} \\ 5 & 3 & a_{23} \\ 3 & 1 & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$ . Also, as  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \in \mathcal{N}(A)$ .  $\therefore$   $\mathbf{a_3}$  can be written as  $-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{a_1} - \frac{3}{2}\mathbf{a_2}$ .  $\therefore$   $\mathbf{a_3} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -7 & -3 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  and  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 5 & 3 & -7 \\ 3 & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$ 

7. (2 points) Consider the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ . The column space of this matrix is a 2 dimensional plane. What is the equation of this plane? (You need to write down the steps you took to arrive at the equation)

**Solution:** Assuming the plane equation to be of the form ax + by + cz = 0. As this plane is formed by the column space of the given matrix, it will contain both the vectors (points), i.e.  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 9 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  and all their linear combinations.  $\therefore$  substituting them in the assumed plane equation we get, 3a + 2b + c = 0 and b + 9c = 0. Now we have one free variable that is c. Assuming c = 3, we have b = -27 and  $a = \frac{-3+54}{3} = 17$ .  $\therefore$  the plane equation can be 17x - 27y + 3z = 0.

- 8. (1 point) True or false? (If true give logical, valid reasoning or give a counterexample if false)
  - a. If the row space equals the column space then  $A^T = A$

**Solution:** False, as we can have  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Here, both row space and column space are  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (whole 3D space), but  $A \neq A^T$ 

b. If  $A^T = -A$  then the row space of A equals the column space.

**Solution:** True, as the row space of A can be written as  $A^T \mathbf{x}$ . But since  $A^T = -A$ , the row space becomes  $-A\mathbf{x}$ . Now replacing  $-\mathbf{x}$  by  $\mathbf{y}$ , row space is  $A\mathbf{y}$  which is linear combination of columns of A, i.e. the column space of A. : if  $A^T = -A$ , row space equals column space. Infact, if  $A^T = kA$ , this statement holds.

9. (1 point) What are the dimensions of the four subspaces for A, B, and C, if I is the  $3 \times 3$  identity matrix and 0 is the  $3 \times 2$  zero matrix?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} I & I \\ 0^{\top} & 0^{\top} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix}$ 

For  $A_{3\times 5}$ :

 $\dim(\mathcal{C}(A))$ : 3 (as it has 3 independent columns)

 $\dim(\mathcal{N}(A))$ : 5 – 3 = 2 (rank-nullity theorem)

 $\dim(\mathcal{R}(A))$ : 3 (dim of row space = dim of column space)

 $\dim(\mathcal{N}(A^T))$ : 3-3=0 (rank-nullity theorem)

For  $B_{5\times 6}$ :

 $\dim(\mathcal{C}(B))$ : 3 (as it has 3 independent columns)

 $\dim(\mathcal{N}(B))$ : 6-3=3 (rank-nullity theorem)

 $\dim(\mathcal{R}(B))$ : 3 (dim of row space = dim of column space)

 $\dim(\mathcal{N}(B^T))$ : 5 – 3 = 2 (rank-nullity theorem)

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For C_{3\times 2}:

\dim(\mathcal{C}(C)): 0 (no non-zero pivots)

\dim(\mathcal{N}(C)): 2-0=2 (rank-nullity theorem)

\dim(\mathcal{R}(C)): 0 (dim of row space = dim of column space)

\dim(\mathcal{N}(C^T)): 3-0=3 (rank-nullity theorem)
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- 10. (2 points) Solve the following questions.
  - (a) If A is an m×n matrix, find dim( $\mathcal{R}(A)$ ) + dim( $\mathcal{C}(A)$ ) + dim( $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ) + dim( $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ). (in terms of n & m)

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Solution: Let the \dim(\mathcal{C}(A) be r. Then, \dim(\mathcal{N}(A)) = n - r (Rank-Nullity Theorem) \dim(\mathcal{R}(A)) = r (row rank = column rank) \dim(\mathcal{N}(A^T)) = m - r (Rank-Nullity Theorem). \therefore \dim(\mathcal{R}(A)) + \dim(\mathcal{C}(A)) + \dim(\mathcal{N}(A)) + \dim(\mathcal{N}(A)) = r + r + n - r + m - r = n + m.
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(b) Let A and B be two  $n \times n$  matrices such that AB = 0. Show that the row space of A is contained in the left null space of B.

Solution: As AB = 0,  $(AB)^T = B^TA^T = \mathbf{0}_{n \times n}^T = \mathbf{0}_{n \times n}$ . If columns of  $A^T$  are  $\mathbf{a_1}, \mathbf{a_2} \dots \mathbf{a_n}$ , then  $B^T\mathbf{a_1} = \mathbf{0}, B^T\mathbf{a_2} = \mathbf{0}, \dots B^T\mathbf{a_n} = \mathbf{0}$ , which imples that  $\mathbf{a_1}, \mathbf{a_2} \dots \mathbf{a_n} \in \mathcal{N}(B^T)$ . Since all the columns of  $A^T$  belong to null space of  $B^T$ , any linear combination of those columns of  $A^T$ , i.e. the column space of  $A^T$  also belongs to the null space of  $B^T$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{C}(A^T) \in \mathcal{N}(B^T)$ . But as we know  $\mathcal{C}(A^T) = \mathcal{R}(A)$ , we can conclude that  $\mathcal{R}(A) \in \mathcal{N}(A^T)$ , i.e. row space of A is contained in left null space of B.

11. (1 point) True or false? If A is a  $n \times n$  square matrix then  $\mathcal{N}(A) = \mathcal{N}(AA^T)$  (If true give logical, valid reasoning or give a counterexample if false)

Solution: False, as we can find the following counter example. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  which upon Guassian elimination yields  $U_A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , which implies the null space is of the form  $\alpha \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ .  $AA^T = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 20 \\ 20 & 40 \end{bmatrix}$  which upon Gaussian Elimination yields  $U_{AA^T} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 & 20 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , which implies the null space is of the form  $\alpha \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ . Hence, we can observe that  $\mathcal{N}(A) \neq \mathcal{N}(AA^T)$ .

12. (2 points) Without explicitly computing the product of given two matrices, find bases for each of its four sub-spaces.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

And also explain the four sub-spaces along with the method you followed to compute them.

**Solution:** Given 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 and  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , let's denote the product by  $C$ , i.e.  $C = MA$ . Also, we have RREF of  $A$  as  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and RREF of  $M$  as  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

As M performs row operations on A to get C, i.e.  $R_2 \leftarrow R_1 + R_2$  and  $R_3 \leftarrow R_2 + R_3$ , the rows of C and A are linear combinations of each other.  $\therefore$  the space spanned by the rows of A, i.e.  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  is the same as the space spanned by rows of C, i.e.  $\mathcal{R}(C)$ .  $\therefore$  basis for  $\mathcal{R}(C)$  is same as basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  and is  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}$  (pivot rows in RREF).

To compute null space of C, we solve  $C\mathbf{y} = MA\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$  ( $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(C)$ ). If we denote  $A\mathbf{y}$  as  $\mathbf{x}$ , we need to now solve  $M\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ . As M is full rank,  $\mathbf{x}$  must be  $\mathbf{0}$ .  $\therefore A\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(A)$ . This implies that N(C) = N(A). Here for A,  $x_1, x_3, x_5$  are free variables. From the RREF of A, we have  $x_4 = -2x_5$  and  $x_2 = -2x_3 + 2x_5$ .  $\therefore$  parametric form of  $\mathcal{N}(A)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 & -2x_3 + 2x_5 & x_3 & -2x_5 & x_5 \end{bmatrix}^\top = x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top + x_5 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .  $\therefore$  we can conclude that basis for N(C) which is also basis for  $\mathcal{N}(A)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .

To compute column space space of C we solve  $C\mathbf{y} = MA\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{b}$  ( $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{C}(C)$ ). As  $A\mathbf{y}$  denotes column space of A, we have column space of C = M(column space of A). From the above RREF,  $\mathcal{C}(A) = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .  $\therefore \mathcal{C}(C) = M(\alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top) = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top + \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ . Hence basis for  $\mathcal{C}(C)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^\top$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .

The left null space of C is obtained by solving  $C^T\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{0}$  ( $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(C^T)$ ).  $C^T\mathbf{y} = A^TM^T\mathbf{y} = 0$ . If we denote  $M^T\mathbf{y}$  as  $\mathbf{x}$ , we have  $A^T\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{N}(A^T)$ . From the RREF of  $A^T$ , we have one free variable  $x_3$ , and  $x_1 = x_2 = 0$ ,  $\therefore \mathcal{N}(A^T)$  is of the form  $x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $\therefore$  we have  $M^T\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 + y_2 & y_2 + y_3 & y_3 \end{bmatrix}^\top = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . To obtain the basis of  $\mathcal{N}(C^T)$ , we solve  $\begin{bmatrix} y_1 + y_2 & y_2 + y_3 & y_3 \end{bmatrix}^\top = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\therefore y_3 = 1, y_2 = -1, y_1 = 1$ .  $\therefore$  basis for  $\mathcal{N}(C^T)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^\top$ .

## Concept: Free variables

- 13.  $(2 \frac{1}{2} \text{ points})$  True or False (with reason if true or example to show it is false).
  - (a) An matrix  $m \times n$  can have zero pivots.

**Solution:** True, as we can have zero matrix, i.e.  $\mathbf{0}_{m \times n}$ . This matrix has all elements as 0 and hence no pivots.

(b) A real-symmetric matrix  $m \times m$  has no free variables.

**Solution:** False. Consider the real symmetric matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ , which

upon Guassian Elimination produces  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . This matrix has two pivots and one free variable, which disproves the given statement.

(c) If A & B be are two  $m \times n$  matrices with non-zero pivots, then a matrix C = A + B can have zero pivots

**Solution:** True. Let A be a matrix with rank r (r > 0). Now if B = -A, B is also a matrix with rank r (r independent columns). Then  $C = A + B = A - A = \mathbf{0}_{m \times n}$  which has no pivots.

(d) A free variable in a matrix always implies that there is either a zero-row or zero-column in the matrix.

Solution: False. Consider  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . This matrix is in Row Reduced Echelon Form (RREF) and has one free-variable,  $x_4$  (null space is of the form

Echelon Form (RREF) and has one free-variable,  $x_4$  (null space is of the form  $x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -5 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{\mathsf{T}}$ ), but has no zero-row/zero-column. Hence, disproved.

(e) For any matrix A, does  $A^T$  and  $A^{-1}$  have the same number of pivots.

**Solution:** False, as  $A^T$  will have the same number of pivots as A (as  $\dim(\mathcal{R}(A))$ ) =  $\dim(\mathcal{C}(A))$ ), but if A is rectangular or non-invertible, we cannot have its inverse and cannot find pivots for  $A^{-1}$ . Hence, for all matrices, we cannot conclude the given statement.

Concept: Reduced Echelon Form

14. ( $\frac{1}{2}$  point) Suppose R is  $m \times n$  matrix of rank r, with pivot columns first:

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Find a right-inverse B with RB = I if r = m.

**Solution:** If r = m, then R is of the form  $\begin{bmatrix} I & F \end{bmatrix}$  (no zeros below). A possible value for B can be  $\begin{bmatrix} I \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$  where I is identity matrix of size  $m \times m$  and  $\mathbf{0}$  is a zero matrix of size  $m \times (n-m)$ .  $\therefore RB = \begin{bmatrix} I & F \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = I \cdot I + F \cdot \mathbf{0} = I$ .