

## Exercises 3.2

In Exercises 1, 2, 3, and 4, solve the equation for  $X$ , given that  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

1.  $X - 2A + 3B = O$

2.  $3X = A - 2B$

3.  $2(A + 2B) = 3X$

4.  $2(A - B + 2X) = 3(X - B)$

In Exercises 5, 6, 7, and 8, write  $B$  as a linear combination of the other matrices, if possible.

5.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

6.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

7.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

8.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 5 \\ -2 & 8 & 6 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  
 $A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

In Exercises 9, 10, 11, and 12, find the general form of the span of the indicated matrices, as in Example 3.17.

9.  $\text{span}(A_1, A_2)$  in  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

10.  $\text{span}(A_1, A_2, A_3)$  in  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  
 $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

11.  $\text{span}(A_1, A_2, A_3)$  in  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  
 $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

12.  $\text{span}(A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4)$  in  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 5 \\ -2 & 8 & 6 \\ 5 & 6 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  
 $A_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

In [Exercises 13](#), [14](#), [15](#), and [16](#), determine whether the given matrices are linearly independent.

13.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

14.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

15.  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -3 \\ 1 & 9 \\ 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$

16.  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 9 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

17. Prove [Theorem 3.2\(a\)](#), [3.2\(b\)](#), [3.2\(c\)](#), and [3.2\(d\)](#).

18. Prove [Theorem 3.2\(e\)](#), [3.2\(f\)](#), [3.2\(g\)](#), and [3.2\(h\)](#).

19. Prove [Theorem 3.3\(c\)](#).

20. Prove [Theorem 3.3\(d\)](#).

21. Prove the half of [Theorem 3.3\(e\)](#) that was not proved in the text.

22. Prove that, for square matrices  $A$  and  $B$ ,  $AB = BA$  if and only if  $(A - B)(A + B) = A^2 - B^2$ .

In [Exercises 23, 24, and 25](#), if  $B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ , find conditions on  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  such that  $AB = BA$ .

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

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

25.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

26. Find conditions on  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  such that  $B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  commutes with both  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

27. Find conditions on  $a, b, c$ , and  $d$  such that  $B = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$  commutes with every  $2 \times 2$  matrix.

28. Prove that if  $AB$  and  $BA$  are both defined, then  $AB$  and  $BA$  are both square matrices.

A square matrix is called **upper triangular** if all of the entries below the main diagonal are zero. Thus, the form of an upper triangular matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} * & * & \cdots & * & * \\ 0 & * & \cdots & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & & * & * \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & * \end{bmatrix}$$

where the entries marked  $*$  are arbitrary. A more formal definition of such a matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is that  $a_{ij} = 0$  if  $i > j$ .

29. Prove that the product of two upper triangular  $n \times n$  matrices is upper triangular.

30. Prove [Theorem 3.4\(a\)](#), [3.4\(b\)](#), and [3.4\(c\)](#).
31. Prove [Theorem 3.4\(e\)](#).
32. Using induction, prove that for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  

$$(A_1 + A_2 + \cdots + A_n)^T = A_1^T + A_2^T + \cdots + A_n^T.$$
33. Using induction, prove that for all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $(A_1 A_2 \cdots A_n)^T = A_n^T \cdots A_2^T A_1^T$ .
34. Prove [Theorem 3.5\(b\)](#).
35. a. Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, then so is  $A + B$ .  
 b. Prove that if  $A$  is a symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix, then so is  $kA$  for any scalar  $k$ .
36. a. Give an example to show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, then  $AB$  need not be symmetric.  
 b. Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, then  $AB$  is symmetric if and only if  $AB = BA$ .

A square matrix is called **skew-symmetric** if  $A^T = -A$ .

37. Which of the following matrices are skew-symmetric?

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

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

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & -1 \\ -3 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(d)  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 0 & 5 \\ 2 & 5 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

38. Give a componentwise definition of a skew-symmetric matrix.
39. Prove that the main diagonal of a skew-symmetric matrix must consist entirely of zeros.
40. (a) Prove that if  $A$  and  $B$  are skew-symmetric  $n \times n$  matrices, then so is  $A + B$ .

- (b) Prove that if  $A$  is a skew-symmetric  $n \times n$  matrix, then so is  $kA$  for any scalar  $k$ .
41. If  $A$  and  $B$  are skew-symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrices, under what conditions is  $AB$  skew-symmetric?
42. Prove that if  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix, then  $A - A^T$  is skew-symmetric.
43. (a) Prove that any square matrix  $A$  can be written as the sum of a symmetric matrix and a skew-symmetric matrix. [Hint: Consider [Theorem 3.5](#) and [Exercise 42](#).]
- (b) Illustrate [part \(a\)](#) for the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- The [trace](#) of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is the sum of the entries on its main diagonal and is denoted by  $\text{tr}(A)$ . That is,
- $$\text{tr}(A) = a_{11} + a_{22} + \cdots + a_{nn}$$
44. If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices, prove the following properties of the trace:
- (a)  $\text{tr}(A + B) = \text{tr}(A) + \text{tr}(B)$
- (b)  $\text{tr}(kA) = k\text{tr}(A)$ , where  $k$  is a scalar
45. Prove that if  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $B$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix, then  $\text{tr}(AB) = \text{tr}(BA)$ .
46. If  $A$  is any matrix, prove that  $\text{tr}(AA^T)$  is equal to the sum of the squares of the entries of  $A$ .
47. Prove that there are no  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $AB - BA = I_n$ .

## Chapter 3: Matrices: Exercises 3.2

Book Title: Linear Algebra: A Modern Introduction

Printed By: Amir Valizadeh (amv214@pitt.edu)

© 2026 Cengage Learning, Inc., Cengage Learning, Inc.

© 2025 Cengage Learning Inc. All rights reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means - graphic, electronic, or mechanical, or in any other manner - without the written permission of the copyright holder.