



Algebra I  
MIDTERM 2  
– JANUARY 20, 2022 –

Time: 135 minutes. Maximum number of points: 100. You are allowed to use a pen and a calculator. Write clearly, and justify all your answers. Good luck!

1. (a) Write the definition of a left and right inverse of an  $m \times n$  matrix  $A$ . Then, prove the following statement: If a square matrix  $A$  has both a left inverse  $X$  and a right inverse  $Y$ , then  $X = Y$ . (5 points)
- (b) Prove the following statement: Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix. Then,  $A$  has a right inverse if and only if  $\text{rang}(A) = m$ . (8 points)
- (c) For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ , write the definition of the adjoint matrix  $\text{adj}(A)$ . Then, prove the following statements:
  - i)  $A \cdot \text{adj}(A) = \det(A) \cdot I_n = \text{adj}(A) \cdot A$ . (4 points)
  - ii) If  $A$  is invertible, then  $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(A)} \text{adj}(A)$ . (3 points)

2. i) Find the inverse of matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  by elementary row operations. (10 points)

- ii) Express  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 5 & -7 \\ -9 & 12 & 4 \\ 15 & -13 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  as the sum of a lower triangular matrix and an upper triangular matrix with zero leading (main) diagonal. (10 points)

3. Show that the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 2x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 &= \lambda x_1 \\ 2x_1 - 3x_2 + 2x_3 &= \lambda x_2 \\ -x_1 + 2x_2 &= \lambda x_3 \end{aligned}$$

can possess a non-trivial solution only if  $\lambda = 1$  or  $\lambda = -3$ . Obtain the general solution in each case. (20 points)

4. (a) Determine  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\det(AB) = 0$ , where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} x & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & x \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(10 points)

- (b) Let  $A, B, X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be matrices such that  $\det(B) = \det(A) - 1$  and  $3A^2X = XB$ . Determine  $\det(X)$ .

5. Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Compute the determinant of the following  $n \times n$  matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & b & \cdots & b & b \\ b & a & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ b & 0 & a & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ b & 0 & 0 & \cdots & a & 0 \\ b & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

(20 points)