

Here are answers to Version A. Other methods may also be correct.

(16) 1. This problem discusses the following system of linear equations: 
$$\begin{cases} 5x_1 + x_2 + x_3 - 2x_4 = a \\ -3x_1 + 4x_2 + x_4 = b \\ 7x_1 + 6x_2 + 2x_3 - 3x_4 = c \end{cases}$$

**Note** We use **GOAT** to answer this question.

a) Find specific numbers for which this system has no solution.

**Answer** There is *no solution* if  $c + 2a - b \neq 0$  because the last row of **GOAT**'s right side represents the equation  $0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 + 0x_4 = c + 2a - b$ . An example with specific numbers is  $a = 0$ ,  $b = 0$ , and  $c = 1$ .

b) Find specific numbers (*not all 0!*) for which this system has a solution, and display one specific solution.

**Answer** If  $c = 1$ ,  $a = 0$ , and  $b = 1$  then the last row is  $0 = 0$ . The other rows of **GOAT** (when  $x_3 = 0$  and  $x_4 = 0$ ) imply that  $x_1 = -\frac{1}{23}$  and  $x_2 = \frac{5}{23}$ .

c) Consider the collection of all possible  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  for which this system has a solution. Write the set of such vectors as a span.

**Answer** Here the condition is  $c - 2a - b = 0$  so  $c = 2a + b$ . Then  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ 2a + b \end{bmatrix} = a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  so

that the vectors we want to describe are the span of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

d) Consider the collection of all possible  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix}$  which are solutions for the associated homogeneous system.

Write the set of such vectors as a span.

**Answer** If all of  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are 0, then the last row of **GOAT** has no content. The first two rows tell us

that  $x_3$  and  $x_4$  are free variables, and that  $x_1 = -\frac{4}{23}x_3 + \frac{9}{23}x_4$  and  $x_2 = -\frac{3}{23}x_3 + \frac{1}{23}x_4$ . Therefore  $\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} =$

$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4}{23}x_3 + \frac{9}{23}x_4 \\ -\frac{3}{23}x_3 + \frac{1}{23}x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4}{23} \\ -\frac{3}{23} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{23} \\ \frac{1}{23} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  so that the set of solutions of the associated homogeneous system

is the span of  $\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{4}{23} \\ -\frac{3}{23} \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{23} \\ \frac{1}{23} \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(10) 2. Consider these four vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ :  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 11 \\ -6 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 8 \\ -12 \\ 18 \\ 14 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $v_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Is the set  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$  linearly dependent or linearly independent? If it is linearly dependent, find a non-trivial linear combination which is equal to the zero vector. If it is linearly independent, explain why.

**Note** We use **ELEPHANT** to answer this question.

**Answer** Since **ELEPHANT** has nullity = 2 there will be non-trivial solutions to  $\sum_{j=1}^4 c_j v_j = 0$ . Take  $c_3 = 14$

and  $c_4 = 0$ . Then  $c_1 = -2$  and  $c_2 = -3$  provide a solution. Therefore we know that  $-2v_1 - 3v_2 + 14v_3 = 0$ , a non-trivial linear combination equal to the zero vector.

(8) 3. Find the rank and the nullity of the  $5 \times 5$  matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 10 \\ 4 & 7 & 10 & 13 & 16 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . **Answer** The row operations

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_2 - 3r_1 \rightarrow r_2 \\ r_3 - 2r_1 \rightarrow r_3 \\ r_4 - 4r_1 \rightarrow r_4 \end{array} \right. \text{ result in the matrix } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 & -6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -2 & -3 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Then } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} -\frac{1}{2}r_2 \rightarrow r_2 \\ r_4 - r_2 \rightarrow r_4 \end{array} \right. \text{ give } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Do}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_3 \leftrightarrow r_5 \\ r_1 - r_2 \rightarrow r_1 \end{array} \right. \text{ to get } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Finally, } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_1 - r_3 \rightarrow r_1 \\ r_2 - 2r_3 \rightarrow r_2 \end{array} \right. \text{ produce } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ This is in RREF.}$$

The rank is 3 and the nullity is 2.

(10) 4. a) Find a set of 4 linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^5$ . You must give evidence that this set is linearly independent.

**Answer** The first 4 standard vectors can be used:  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . If  $\sum_{j=1}^4 c_j v_j = 0$  where  $v_j$

is the  $j^{\text{th}}$  vector in the preceding list, then the  $j^{\text{th}}$  component ( $1 \leq j \leq 4$ ) shows that  $c_j = 0$ . There is no non-trivial linear combination which equals the zero vector so this set is linearly independent.

b) Explain why any 4 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  must be linearly dependent.

**Answer** Suppose  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$  is any set of 4 vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . The coefficient matrix of the linear system  $\sum_{j=1}^4 c_j v_j = 0$  can be put into RREF. The result is a  $3 \times 4$  matrix which has at most 3 pivots, and its nullity is at least  $4 - 3 = 1$ . There will always be a free variable (at least 1). Any free variables can be given non-zero values, and then there will be a non-trivial solution to the original linear system.

(8) 5. Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $2 \times 2$  matrices with  $A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

a) Compute the inverse to  $AB^T$ .

**Answer**  $(AB^T)^{-1} = (B^{-1})^T A^{-1}$  so we compute  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  which is  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 13 \\ 3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

b) Find a vector  $X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$  so that  $(BA)X = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Answer**  $(BA)X = B(AX)$  so  $AX = B^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -12 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $X = A^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -12 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -23 \\ -35 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(4) 6. Give an example of a matrix  $M$  in reduced row echelon form so that the rank of  $M$  is **3**, the nullity of  $M$  is **2**, and the nullity of  $M^T$  is **1**. You need *not* verify your example.

**Answer**  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(12) 7. a) Find the inverse of the matrix  $W = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . **Answer** Start with  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 & | & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 & | & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 & | & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & | & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Use row operations so that  $I_4$  will appear on the left.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\downarrow \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}r_2 \rightarrow r_2 \\ -\frac{1}{2}r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \\ r_4 - r_1 \rightarrow r_4 \end{cases} & \downarrow \begin{cases} r_1 - 2r_3 \rightarrow r_1 \\ r_4 + 2r_3 \rightarrow r_4 \end{cases} & \downarrow -\frac{1}{3}r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \\
\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & -3 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{array} \right] & \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 4 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \frac{3}{2} & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \end{array} \right] \\
\text{Finally, } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} r_1 - 4r_4 \rightarrow r_1 \\ r_2 - \frac{3}{2}r_4 \rightarrow r_2 \end{array} \right. \text{ gives } \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|cccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{4}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \end{array} \right] & \text{so } W^{-1} \text{ is } \left[ \begin{array}{cccc} -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{4}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \end{array} \right].
\end{array}$$

b) Check your result: directly multiply  $W$  by your candidate for  $W^{-1}$ .

**Answer** Indeed, truly: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{3} & 0 & -\frac{1}{3} & \frac{4}{3} \\ -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{3} & 0 & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(10) 8. For which values of  $w$  is the span of the vectors  $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $v_4 = \begin{bmatrix} w+2 \\ w \\ 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

equal to all of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? That is, given *any* vector  $B = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ b_4 \end{bmatrix}$ , find all values of  $w$  so that some linear combination

of  $\{v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4\}$  will equal  $B$ . Support your assertion with reasoning explained in complete English sentences. **Note** We use **BEAR** to answer this question.

**Answer** We need to know if we can *always* solve  $\sum_{j=1}^4 c_j v_j = B$ . **BEAR** changes this system to an equivalent system. If  $17 + 6w \neq 0$ , then the changed system can always be solved by back substitution, getting  $c_4$  from the lowest row, then  $c_3$  (using  $c_4$ ) from the third row, etc. If  $17 + 6w = 0$  and we take, for example,  $b_4 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 0$ ,  $b_2 = 0$ , and  $b_3 = 0$ , then the last equation becomes  $0 = 1$  and there is no solution. Therefore the span is all of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  exactly when  $w \neq -\frac{17}{6}$ .

(8) 9. **True or false** You must briefly justify your answers.

a) If  $A$  is a matrix for which the sum  $A + A^T$  is defined, then  $A$  is a square matrix. **Answer** This is **TRUE**. If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix, then  $A^T$  is an  $n \times m$  matrix. The sum is defined when the dimensions agree, so that  $m$  must equal  $n$ . Therefore  $A$  is square.

b) If  $A$  and  $B$  are any  $2 \times 2$  matrices, then the matrix products  $AB$  and  $BA$  are equal. **Answer** This is **FALSE**. If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , then  $AB = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $BA = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . These aren't equal.

(6) 10. a) Suppose  $v_1, v_2, \dots$ , and  $v_k$  are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and also that  $w$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Define " $w$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, v_2, \dots$ , and  $v_k$ " using complete English sentences. **Answer**  $w$  is a linear combination of  $v_1, v_2, \dots$ , and  $v_k$  if there are scalars  $c_1, c_2, \dots$ , and  $c_k$  so that  $\sum_{j=1}^k c_j v_j = w$ .

b) Give an example of a vector  $w$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and vectors  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  so that  $w$  is *not* a linear combination of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$ . Give evidence supporting your assertion. **Answer** If  $w = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and both  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  are the zero vector, then any linear combination of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  is the zero vector. But  $w \neq 0$ .

(8) 11. Let  $u$  be a solution of  $Ax = b$  and  $v$  be a solution of  $Ax = 0$ , where  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix and  $b$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . Show that  $u + v$  is a solution of  $Ax = b$ .

**Answer**  $A(u + v) = Au + Av = b + 0 = b$ .