

**Assignment 4.** Chapter 3.

**Due date:** June 11

Section 3.5. 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 13, 14

Section 3.6. 4, 8

Section 3.7. 2, 5, 6, 10, 11

Section 3.8. 1, 2, 3, 6, 8, 12, 13, 14

**Problems to be turned in for grading.**

1. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 5 \\ 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} a & 3 \\ b & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

For which values of  $a$  and  $b$  does  $AB = BA$ ?

2. Recall that a square matrix  $C$  is *upper triangular* if  $c_{ij} = 0$  when  $i > j$ . Show that the matrix product of two upper triangular  $n \times n$  matrices is also upper triangular.

3. Let  $A, B, C$  be general  $n \times n$  matrices. Simplify the expression  $A^{-1}(BA^{-1})^{-1}(CB^{-1})^{-1}$ .

4. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix that satisfies

$$A^m + a_{m-1}A^{m-1} + \cdots + a_1A + I_n = 0.$$

Show that  $A$  is invertible.

5. For which values of  $a, b, c$  is the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & a & b \\ 0 & 1 & c \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

invertible? Find  $A^{-1}$  when it exists.

6. (Computer exercise) Try to compute the inverse of the matrix

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}. \tag{3.7.7*}$$

in MatLab using the command `inv`. What happens — can you explain the outcome?

Now compute the inverse of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & \epsilon & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

for some nonzero numbers  $\epsilon$  of your choice. What can be observed in the inverse if  $\epsilon$  is very small? What happens when  $\epsilon$  tends to zero?

7. Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix having integer entries. Find a condition on the entries of  $A$  that guarantees that  $A^{-1}$  has integer entries.
8. If  $a$  and  $b$  are real numbers and  $ab = 0$ , then either  $a = 0$  or  $b = 0$ , or both numbers are 0. Show by example that this property does not hold for matrices. That is, find two non-zero matrices  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $AB = 0$ .
9. Prove that if  $A$  is an invertible matrix such that
- (a)  $AB = AC$ , then  $B = C$ .
  - (b)  $AB = 0$ , then  $B = 0$ .
10. What is incorrect about the following “proof?”

Let  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  be a system of linear equations, and let  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  be solutions.  
Then

$$A\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{b} \quad \text{and} \quad A\mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{b}.$$

Therefore

$$A\mathbf{x}_1 = A\mathbf{x}_2$$

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_2.$$