Math 2331 – Linear Algebra

2.1 Matrix Operations
Key Exercises 13, 17–26

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- The definition of a matrix product AB is important; it gives the proper view of AB for nearly all matrix calculations.
- The dual fact about the rows of A and the rows of AB is seldom used here, mainly because vectors are usually written as columns.
- Key Exercises: 13, 17–26
  - Exercises 23 and 26 are cited in the proof of Theorem 8 in Section 2.3.
  - Exercises 27 and 28 introduce the scalar product (or inner product) and the outer product of two vectors. Outer products also appear in the spectral decomposition of a symmetric matrix in Section 7.1.

13. Let $\mathbf{r}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{r}_p$ be vectors in $\mathbb{R}^n$, and let Q be an $m \times n$ matrix. Write the matrix $[\, Q\mathbf{r}_1 \quad \cdots \quad Q\mathbf{r}_p \,]$ as a *product* of two matrices (neither of which is an identity matrix).

17. If $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ and $AB = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -11 \\ 1 & 17 \end{bmatrix}$, determine the first and second columns of B.

18. Suppose the third column of B is all zeros. What can be said about the third column of AB?

19. Suppose the third column of B is the sum of the first two columns. What can be said about the third column of AB? Why?

20. Suppose the first two columns, $\mathbf{b}_1$ and $\mathbf{b}_2$, of B are equal. What can be said about the columns of AB? Why?

21. Suppose the last column of AB is entirely zeros but B itself has no column of zeros. What can be said about the columns of A?

22. Show that if the columns of B are linearly dependent, then so are the columns of AB.

23. Suppose $CA = I_n$ (the $n \times n$ identity matrix). Show that the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution. Explain why A cannot have more columns than rows.

24. Suppose A is a $3 \times n$ matrix whose columns span $\mathbb{R}^3$. Explain how to construct an $n \times 3$ matrix D such that $AD = I_3$.

25. Suppose A is an $m \times n$ matrix and there exist $n \times m$ matrices C and D such that $CA = I_n$ and $AD = I_m$. Prove that $m = n$ and $C = D$. [*Hint:* Think about the product CAD.]

26. Suppose $AD = I_m$ (the $m \times m$ identity matrix). Show that for any $\mathbf{b}$ in $\mathbb{R}^m$, the equation $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ has a solution. [*Hint:* Think about the equation $AD\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}$.] Explain why A cannot have more rows than columns.