

No books, watches, notes or cell phones are allowed. You must show all your work, the correct answer is worth 1 mark the remaining marks are given for the work.

Definitions. Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix.

The set of all $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $Ax = 0$ is called the *null space* of A , that is, $\text{Nul}(A) = \{x \mid Ax = 0\}$.

The set of all $x \in \mathbb{R}^m$ such that x is span of the vectors that are the columns of A is called the *column space* of A , that is, if a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n are the columns of A then $\text{Col}(A) = \text{span}(\{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\})$.

Question 1.¹ (1 mark each) Complete the following sentences with the word **must**, **might** or **cannot**, as appropriate.

- The columns of an $n \times n$ elementary matrix must be a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .
- If A is an $m \times n$ matrix and $\dim(\text{Nul}(A)) = n$, then must A be a $m \times n$ zero matrix

Question 2. (1 mark each) Fill in the blank.

- The vector space of all diagonal $n \times n$ matrices has dimension n .
- The vector space of all skew-symmetric (i.e. $A^T = -A$) $n \times n$ matrices has dimension $\frac{n(n+1)}{2} - n = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$

Question 3.¹ Consider the following matrix A and its reduced row echelon form B given below. Justify completely!

$$A = \begin{matrix} & \underline{a_1} & \underline{a_2} & \underline{a_3} & \underline{a_4} & \underline{a_5} & \underline{a_6} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 3 & 4 & -14 & 1 & 0 & 14 \\ 1 & -1 & 7 & 2 & 0 & -9 \\ -3 & -2 & 4 & 3 & 0 & -24 \end{bmatrix} & & & & & & \end{matrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

a. (4 marks) Find a basis for $\text{Col}(A)$.

$\beta = \{\underline{a_1}, \underline{a_2}, \underline{a_4}\}$ is linearly independent since it follows from the RREF (B) of A that $c_1 \underline{a_1} + c_2 \underline{a_2} + c_3 \underline{a_4} = 0$ has only the trivial solution.

Is $\text{span}(\beta) = \text{span}(\{\underline{a_1}, \underline{a_2}, \underline{a_3}, \underline{a_4}, \underline{a_5}, \underline{a_6}\})$? $\underline{a_5} \in \text{span}(\beta)$ since $0 = 0 \cdot \underline{a_1} + 0 \cdot \underline{a_2} + 0 \cdot \underline{a_4}$, $\underline{a_3} \in \text{span}(\beta)$ since $\underline{a_3} = 2\underline{a_1} - 5\underline{a_2} + 0\underline{a_4}$. $\underline{a_6} \in \text{span}(\beta)$ since $\underline{a_6} = 2\underline{a_1} + 3\underline{a_2} - 4\underline{a_4}$. $\therefore \text{span}(\beta) = \text{span}(\{\underline{a_1}, \underline{a_2}, \underline{a_3}, \underline{a_4}, \underline{a_5}, \underline{a_6}\})$

b. (4 marks) Find a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$.

$[A \mid 0] \sim \text{Gauss Jordan} \sim [B \mid 0] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 & 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ Let $x_3 = s$
 $x_5 = t$ $s, t, u \in \mathbb{R}$
 $x_6 = u$

$S = \{\underline{b_1}, \underline{b_2}\}$ is linearly indep. since the vectors are not multiples of each other. In addition $\underline{b_3} \notin \text{span}(S)$ therefore $\beta = \{\underline{b_1}, \underline{b_2}, \underline{b_3}\}$ is linearly independent. $\therefore \beta$ is a basis for $\text{Nul}(A)$

$\therefore (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6)$
 $= (-2u - 2s, -3u + 5s, s, 4u, t, u)$
 $= u(-2, -3, 0, 4, 0, 0) + s(-2, 5, 1, 0, 0, 0)$
 $+ t(0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0)$
 $\therefore \text{Nul}(A) = \text{span}(\{\underline{b_1}, \underline{b_2}, \underline{b_3}\})$

c. (1 mark) Express the third column of matrix A relative to the basis found in part a.

$\begin{pmatrix} \underline{a_3} \\ -3 \end{pmatrix}_B = \text{Rep}_B(\underline{a_3}) = (2, -5, 0)$ by \ast

d. (1 mark) Determine the dimension of $\text{Col}(A)$ and $\text{Nul}(A)$.

$\dim(\text{Col}(A)) = 3$ and $\dim(\text{Nul}(A)) = 3$

¹From or modified from John Abbott College.