



**FACULTY OF SCIENCE**

**DEPARTMENT OF PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS**

**LINEAR ALGEBRA A**  
**ASMA2A2**

**EXAMINATION 2019**

**DATE:** NOVEMBER 2019 **SESSION: 8:30 - 10:30**

**ASSESSOR:** C MARAIS

**MODERATOR:** G BRAATVEDT

**DURATION:** 120 MINUTES **MARKS: 50**

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SURNAME AND INITIALS:.....

STUDENT NUMBER:.....

CONTACT NUMBER:.....

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**NUMBER OF PAGES:** 9

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN PEN  
SHOW NECESSARY WORKING AND CALCULATIONS  
YOU MAY USE NOT A CALCULATOR  
USE THE BLANK PAGES FOR ROUGH WORK  
**INDICATE IF YOU WANT WORK ON BLANK  
PAGES TO BE MARKED**  
GOOD LUCK!

## Question 1 - 5

Choose the correct option for the multiple choice questions below and write your answer in the table provided.

[5]

Question	Answer
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

1. Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$ , then using cofactor expansion along the first row, we have

- a)  $\det(A) = aei + afh + bdi + bfg + cdh + ceg$
- b)  $\det(A) = aei + afh - bdi - bfg + cdh + ceg$
- c)  $\det(A) = aei - afh - bdi + bfg + cdh - ceg$
- d)  $\det(A) = aei - afh + bdi - bfg + cdh - ceg$
- e) None of these.

2. Suppose  $A$  is reduced to  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$  by first subtracting 3 times row 2 from row 3, then interchanging row 1 and row 2, and then dividing row 3 by  $-5$ . What is the determinant of  $A$ ?

- a)  $-6$
- b)  $6/5$
- c)  $30$
- d)  $-6/5$
- e) None of these.

3. Suppose  $A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{bmatrix}$  such that  $\det(A) = 0$ , then the linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  can

- a) only have no solutions.
- b) only have infinitely many solutions.
- c) only have a unique solution.
- d) have no solutions or infinitely many solutions.
- e) None of these.

4. Which of the following statements is correct for  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$ ?

- a)  $\det(A^{-1}) = -\det(A)$
- b)  $\det(A^{-1}) = -\frac{1}{\det(A)}$
- c)  $\det(A+B) = \det(A) + \det(B)$
- d)  $\det(3A) = 3\det(A)$
- e) None of these.

5. If  $A$  is a lower triangular matrix then

- a)  $\det(A)$  is the sum of the entries on the main diagonal.
- b)  $\det(A) = 0$  if there is a zero entry on the main diagonal.
- c)  $\det(A)$  is the product of the non-zero entries of  $A$ .
- d) None of these.

Question 6 - 8

Determine whether the following statements are true or false. Give a short justification if true or counter example when false.

6. If the augmented matrix of a linear system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is row equivalent to the identity matrix, then the system must be consistent. [2]

TRUE	
FALSE	

7. If the system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  has a unique solution for all  $\mathbf{b}$ , then  $A$  must be an invertible matrix. [2]

TRUE	
FALSE	

8. If  $A$  and  $B$  are square matrices such that  $AB = B$ , then  $A$  is the identity matrix. [2]

TRUE	
FALSE	

Question 9

Determine whether the lines  $\mathbf{r}_1(t) = (1, 1, 1) + t(1, 2, -1)$  and  $\mathbf{r}_2(t) = (3, 2, 1) + t(-1, -5, 3)$  are parallel, intersect, or neither. [3]

Question 10

Suppose  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$  are orthogonal vectors such that  $\|\mathbf{u}\| = 8$  and  $\|\mathbf{v}\| = 3$ . Find  $\|\mathbf{u} - 2\mathbf{v}\|$ . [3]

Question 11

Let  $U$  and  $W$  be subspaces of a vector space  $V$ . Show that the union,  $U \cup W$ , is not closed under vector addition.

Hint: You may use the method of Proof by Contradiction. [3]

Question 12

Consider  $\mathcal{M}_{22}$ , the vector space consisting of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices and let  $W = \left\{ A \in \mathcal{M}_{22} : A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & -a \end{bmatrix}, a, b, c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

a) Show that  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_{22}$ .

[3]

b) What is the dimension of  $W$ ? Explain.

[2]

Question 13

Find the values of  $h$  for which the set of vectors,  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$  are linearly independent where  $\mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = (h, 1, -h)$  and  $\mathbf{v}_3 = (1, 2h, 3h + 1)$ .

[3]

Question 14

Let  $\mathcal{P}_3$  be the vector space consisting of all polynomials of degree 3 or less. Consider  $S = \{\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \mathbf{p}_3, \mathbf{p}_4\} \subset \mathcal{P}_3$  where  $\mathbf{p}_1(x) = 1 + 3x + 2x^2 - x^3$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_2(x) = x + x^3$ ,  $\mathbf{p}_3(x) = x + x^2 - x^3$  and  $\mathbf{p}_4(x) = 3 + 8x + 8x^3$ . Find a basis,  $B$ , for  $\text{span}(S)$  consisting of vectors in  $S$ .

[3]

Question 15

Let  $B = \{(1, 2), (3, 4)\}$  and  $C = \{(7, 3), (4, 2)\}$  be two bases for  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and let  $\mathbf{v} = (1, 0)$ .

a) Find the coordinate vectors  $[\mathbf{v}]_B$  and  $[\mathbf{v}]_C$ .

[3]

b) Find the change of basis matrix  $P_{B \rightarrow C}$ .

[2]

c) Use the matrix in b) to compute  $[\mathbf{v}]_C$  and compare your answer in a).

[1]

Question 16

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

a) Find the reduced row echelon form of  $A$ .

[2]

b) Find a basis for the column space of  $A$ .

[1]

c) Find a basis for the null space of  $A$ .

[2]

#### Question 17

Prove the following theorems:

a) A set  $S$  with two or more vectors is linearly dependent if and only if at least one of the vectors in  $S$  is expressible as a linear combination of the other vectors in  $S$ .

[4]



- b) If  $\mathbf{v}$  is a vector in  $S$  that is expressible as a linear combination of other vectors in  $S$ , and if  $S - \{\mathbf{v}\}$  denotes the set obtained by removing  $\mathbf{v}$  from  $S$ , then  $S$  and  $S - \{\mathbf{v}\}$  span the same space.
- [4]