

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Math 221: Matrix Algebra**  
**Practice Midterm 2**

(1) Indicate whether each of the following hold by *writing the complete word* True or False (you will lose points for simply writing *T* or *F*). *You do not need to justify your answers.*

- (a) If  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices, and  $AB = 0$ , then either  $A = 0$  or  $B = 0$ . (Here  $0$  denotes the  $n \times n$  zero matrix.)
- (b) Every  $n \times n$  invertible matrix is row equivalent to the  $n \times n$  identity matrix.
- (c) Every matrix is the standard matrix of a linear transformation.
- (d) If  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible  $n \times n$  matrices, then  $(AB)^{-1} = A^{-1}B^{-1}$ .
- (e) If a set  $S$  of vectors spans  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $S$  is linearly dependent.
- (f) If  $A$  is not invertible, then  $A^T$  is not invertible.

(2) Indicate whether or not each of the following is a linear subspace by writing either *yes*, if it *is* a linear subspace, and otherwise *no*. *You do not need to justify your answers.*

(a)  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^3 : x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 0 \right\}.$

- (b) The union of two subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (c) The set  $\{\mathbf{0}\}$  consisting of the zero vector in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (d) The set of vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  whose third coordinate is 1.

(3) Answer each of the following:

(a) Compute the determinant of the following matrix  $A$ :

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 1/3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -5 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) Is the following matrix  $B$  invertible? If not, explain why. If so, compute its inverse.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (4) Let  $A = (\mathbf{a}_1 \ \mathbf{a}_2 \ \mathbf{a}_3 \ \mathbf{a}_4 \ \mathbf{a}_5)$  be the  $4 \times 5$  matrix whose columns are the vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4$ , and  $\mathbf{a}_5$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Suppose the reduced echelon form of  $A$  is

$$\text{REF}(A) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) What is the rank of  $A$ ?
- (b) What is the dimension of the nullspace of  $A$ ?
- (c) Give a basis for the column space of  $A$ .
- (d) Give a basis for the nullspace of  $A$ .