

**[Solution Key]**

**KING SAUD UNIVERSITY**  
**COLLEGE OF SCIENCES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS**

Mid-term Exam / MATH-244 (Linear Algebra) / Semester 443

**Max. Marks: 30****Max. Time: 2 hrs****Question 1:** [Marks: 3+3+3]:

a) Find  $\lambda$  that satisfies the matrix equation  $\mathbf{X}^8 - 8\lambda\mathbf{I} = \mathbf{O}$  where  $\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:**  $\mathbf{X}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow 2^4 - 8\lambda = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2$ .

b) Let  $\mathbf{A}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  be  $3 \times 3$  matrices such that  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $|\mathbf{B}| = 1$  and  $|\mathbf{C}| = 2$ .

Then evaluate the determinant  $|(\mathbf{A}^{-2}\mathbf{C})^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B} - 2\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}|$ .

**Solution:**  $|(\mathbf{A}^{-2}\mathbf{C})^{-1}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B} - 2\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{B} - 2\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{C}|^{-1}(|\mathbf{A} - 2\mathbf{I}||\mathbf{B}|) = \frac{|\mathbf{B}|}{|\mathbf{C}|} \begin{vmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{2}(5) = \frac{5}{2}$ .

c) Find the matrix  $\mathbf{B}$  such that  $(2\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{-1} = \text{adj}(\mathbf{A})$  where  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:**  $(2\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{-1} = \text{adj}(\mathbf{A}) = |\mathbf{A}|\mathbf{A}^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \Rightarrow 2\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} = -\mathbf{A} \Rightarrow \mathbf{B} = 3\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Question 2:** [Marks: 3+3+3]:

a) Solve the following system of linear equations:

$$\begin{aligned} 2x + y + z &= 1 \\ x + 2y + z &= -1 \\ x + y + 2z &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**  $|\mathbf{A}| = 4$ ,  $|\mathbf{A}_x| = 4$ ,  $|\mathbf{A}_y| = -4$  and  $|\mathbf{A}_z| = 0$ . Hence,  $x = \frac{|\mathbf{A}_x|}{|\mathbf{A}|} = 1$ . Similarly,  $y = -1$  and  $z = 0$ .

b) Find the value of  $\delta$  for which the following system is inconsistent:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 1 \\ x_1 + \delta x_2 + x_3 &= 2 \\ 3x_1 + 3x_2 + \delta x_3 &= 3. \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**  $[A|B] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & \delta-1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \delta-3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \delta = 1$  for consistency of the given system.

c) Find a condition on  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  sufficient for the following system to be consistent:

$$\begin{aligned} 3w + x + 2y + z &= \alpha \\ 2w + 2x + y + 3z &= \beta \\ 9w - x + 7y - 4z &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**  $[A|B] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 & \alpha \\ 0 & -3 & 1 & -4 & \beta - 2\alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 3\beta - 5\alpha + 1 \end{bmatrix}$  So, for consistency of the given system  $3\beta - 5\alpha + 1 = 0$ .

**Question 3:** [Marks: 3+4+5]

a) Show that  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x & y \\ 0 & 2x - y \end{bmatrix} : x, y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$  is a 2-dimensional vector subspace of  $M_2(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Solution:** The given set is a vector subspace of  $M_2(\mathbb{R})$  because  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2(0) - 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\alpha \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 0 & 2a - b \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} c & d \\ 0 & 2c - d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha a + c & \alpha b + d \\ 0 & 2(\alpha a + c) - (\alpha b + d) \end{bmatrix}$ . Further, it has a basis  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ , and so its dimension is 2.

b) Let  $P_2$  denote the vector space of all real polynomials in  $x$  with degree  $\leq 2$  under usual addition and scalar multiplication. Show that  $B = \{1 + x + x^2, 1 - x, 1 - x^2\}$  is a basis of  $P_2$ . Also find the coordinate vector  $[x^2 - x]_B$ .

**Solution:** Clearly,  $\alpha(1 + x + x^2) + \beta(1 - x) + \gamma(1 - x^2) = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = \gamma = 0$ . So,  $B$  is linearly independent. However,  $\dim(P_2) = 3$ . Therefore,  $B$  is a basis of  $P_2$ . Further,  $x^2 - x = 0(1 + x + x^2) + 1(1 - x) - 1(1 - x^2)$  gives  $[x^2 - x]_B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

c) Find a basis of  $\text{col}(A)$ , rank and nullity of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** Since  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (REF),  $\{(1, 0, -1, 1), (-1, 1, 0, -1)\}$  is a basis of  $\text{col}(A)$  and so  $\text{rank}(A) = \dim(\text{col}(A)) = 2$ . Hence,  $\text{nullity}(A) = 4 - \text{rank}(A) = 2$ .

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