

Matrices

2013

Q3 – 5 marks

Matrices A and B are defined by $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & p \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} x & -6 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (a) Find A^2 . 1
- (b) Find the value of p for which A^2 is singular. 2
- (c) Find the values of p and x if $B = 3A'$. 2

Marking Instructions

Expected Answer/s	Max Mark	Additional Guidance
<p>Matrices A and B are defined by $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & p \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} x & -6 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$</p> <p>(a) Find A^2.</p> <p>(b) Find the value of p for which A^2 is singular.</p> <p>(c) Find the values of p and x if $B = 3A'$.</p> $A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & p \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & p \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 16-2p & 4p+p \\ -8-2 & -2p+1 \end{pmatrix}$ $= \begin{pmatrix} 16-2p & 5p \\ -10 & 1-2p \end{pmatrix}$	<p>1</p> <p>2</p> <p>2</p>	<p>•¹ Correct answer.^{3,1}</p> <p>Improved alternative.</p>

<p>A^2 is singular when $\det A^2 = 0$</p> $(16-2p)(1-2p) + 50p = 0$ $16 - 34p + 4p^2 + 50p = 0$ $4p^2 + 16p + 16 = 0$ $4(p+2)^2 = 0$ $p = -2$ <p>OR</p> <p>A^2 is singular when A is singular, [i.e. when $\det A = 0$]</p> $4 + 2p = 0$ $p = -2$		<p>•² Property stated or implied.⁴</p> <p>•³ Correct value of p.^{5,1}</p> <p>•² Explicitly states property. [not essential, but preferred]</p> <p>•³ Correct value of p.¹</p>
<p>$A' = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ p & 1 \end{pmatrix}$</p> $\begin{pmatrix} x & -6 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ p & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ $\begin{pmatrix} x & -6 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 12 & -6 \\ 3p & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad x=12, p=\frac{1}{3}$		<p>•⁴ A transpose (A^T) correct. Does not have to be explicitly stated.</p> <p>•⁵ Values of p and x correct.^{1,2}</p>

2012

Q9 – 4 marks

A non-singular $n \times n$ matrix A satisfies the equation $A + A^{-1} = I$, where I is the $n \times n$ identity matrix. Show that $A^3 = kI$ and state the value of k .

Marking Instructions

Method 1

	$A + A^{-1} = I$	
	$A^2 + I = A$	1 for multiplying by A
Hence	$A^2 + I = I - A^{-1}$	1 for rearranging $A + A^{-1} = I$
	$A^2 = -A^{-1}$	1 for subtracting I
	$A^3 = -I$, i.e. $k = -1$	1 for multiplying by A

Method 2

	$A + A^{-1} = I$	
	$A = I - A^{-1}$	1 for rearranging
	$A^2 = I - 2A^{-1} + (A^{-1})^2$	1 for squaring
	$A^3 = A - 2I + A^{-1}$	1 for multiplying by A
	$A^3 = (A + A^{-1}) - 2I = I - 2I$	
Hence	$A^3 = -I$, i.e. $k = -1$	1

Method 3

	$A + A^{-1} = I$	
	$A = I - A^{-1}$	1 for rearranging
	$A^3 = A^2 - A$	1 for multiplying by A^2
	$A^3 = (A - I) - A$	1 using $A^2 = A - I$
	$= -I$, i.e. $k = -1$	1

Plus other valid methods.

2012

Q14 – 9 marks

- (a) Use Gaussian elimination to obtain the solution of the following system of equations in terms of the parameter λ .

$$4x + 6z = 1$$

$$2x - 2y + 4z = -1$$

$$-x + y + \lambda z = 2$$

5

- (b) Describe what happens when $\lambda = -2$.

1

- (c) When $\lambda = -1.9$ the solution is $x = -22.25$, $y = 8.25$, $z = 15$.

Find the solution when $\lambda = -2.1$.

2

Comment on these solutions.

1

Marking Instructions

(a)	$\left \begin{array}{ccc c} 4 & 0 & 6 & 1 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & \lambda & 2 \end{array} \right $	1	for augmented matrix
	$\left \begin{array}{ccc c} 4 & 0 & 6 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 6 + 4\lambda & 9 \end{array} \right $	1	
	$\left \begin{array}{ccc c} 4 & 0 & 6 & 1 \\ 0 & 4 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 + 4\lambda & 6 \end{array} \right $	1	triangular form needed
	$z = \frac{6}{8 + 4\lambda} = \frac{3}{2(2 + \lambda)}$	1	first root
	$4y = 3 + 2z \Rightarrow 4y = \frac{18 + 6\lambda}{4 + 2\lambda}$		
	$\Rightarrow y = \frac{3\lambda + 9}{4(2 + \lambda)}$		
	$4x = 1 - 6z \Rightarrow 4x = \frac{2\lambda - 14}{4 + 2\lambda}$		
	$\Rightarrow x = \frac{\lambda - 7}{4(2 + \lambda)}$	1	other two roots
(b)	When $\lambda = -2$, the final row gives $0 = 6$ which is inconsistent. There are no solutions.	1	
(c)	$\lambda = -2.1$; $x = 22.75$; $y = -6.75$; $z = -15$ Although the values of λ are close, the values of x , y and z are quite different. The system is ill-conditioned near $\lambda = -2$.	1,1	1 for first 2 values; 1 for third
		1	

2011

Q4 – 6 marks

(a) For what value of λ is $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & \lambda & 6 \end{pmatrix}$ singular?

(b) For $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2\alpha - \beta & -1 \\ 3\alpha + 2\beta & 4 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$, obtain values of α and β such that

$$A' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 & -1 \\ -1 & 4 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Marking Instructions

(a) Singular when the determinant is 0.	
$1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ \lambda & 6 \end{pmatrix} - 2 \det \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} + (-1) \det \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$	M1
$-2\lambda - 2(18 + 2) - 1(3\lambda - 0) = 0$	1
$-5\lambda - 40 = 0$ when $\lambda = -8$	1
(b) From $A, A' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 3\alpha + 2\beta & -1 \\ 2\alpha - \beta & 4 & 3 \\ -1 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$.	1 for transpose
Hence $2\alpha - \beta = -1$ and $3\alpha + 2\beta = -5$.	1
$4\alpha - 2\beta = -2$	
$3\alpha + 2\beta = -5$	
$7\alpha = -7 \Rightarrow \alpha = -1$ and $\beta = -1$.	1 for both values

2010

Q4 – 4 marks

Obtain the 2×2 matrix M associated with an enlargement, scale factor 2, followed by a clockwise rotation of 60° about the origin.

Marking Instructions

The matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ gives an enlargement, scale factor 2.	1	correct matrix
The matrix $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}$ gives a clockwise rotation of 60° about the origin.	1	correct matrix
$M = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	1	correct order
$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{3} \\ -\sqrt{3} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.	1	

2010

Q14 – 10 marks

Use Gaussian elimination to show that the set of equations

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

has a unique solution when $a \neq 2.5$.

5

Explain what happens when $a = 2.5$.

1

Obtain the solution when $a = 3$.

1

Given $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -3 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$, calculate AB .

1

Hence, or otherwise, state the relationship between A and the matrix

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

2

Marking Instructions

$\begin{array}{ccc c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & a & 2 \end{array}$	1	for a structured approach
$\begin{array}{ccc c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & a-2 & 0 \end{array}$	1	
$\begin{array}{ccc c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2a-5 & 1 \end{array}$	1	for triangular form
$z = \frac{1}{2a-5};$	1	one correct variable
$2y + \frac{1}{2a-5} = -1 \Rightarrow 2y = \frac{-2a+5-1}{2a-5}$ $\Rightarrow y = \frac{2-a}{2a-5};$		
$x - \frac{2-a}{2a-5} + \frac{1}{2a-5} = 1$ $\Rightarrow x = \frac{2a-5}{2a-5} + \frac{1-a}{2a-5} = \frac{a-4}{2a-5}.$	1	for the two other variables {other justifications for uniqueness are possible}

which exist when $2a - 5 \neq 0$.

From the third row of the final tableau, when $a = 2.5$, there are no solutions

1

When $a = 3$, $x = -1$, $y = -1$, $z = 1$.

1

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -3 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

1

From above, we have $C \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ and

also $A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ which suggests $AC = I$ and

this can be verified directly. Hence

A is the inverse of C (or vice versa).

2

A candidate who obtains $AC = I$ directly may be awarded full marks.

2009

Q2 – 5 marks

Given the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} t+4 & 3t \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (a) Find A^{-1} in terms of t when A is non-singular. 3
 (b) Write down the value of t such that A is singular. 1
 (c) Given that the transpose of A is $\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$, find t . 1

Marking Instructions

- (a) $\det \begin{pmatrix} t+4 & 3t \\ 3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = 5(t+4) - 9t$ 1
 $= 20 - 4t$
 $A^{-1} = \frac{1}{20 - 4t} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3t \\ -3 & t+4 \end{pmatrix}$ 1,1
 (b) $20 - 4t = 0 \Rightarrow t = 5$ 1
 (c) $\begin{pmatrix} t+4 & 3t \\ 3t & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 3 \\ 6 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow t = 2$ 1

2009

Q16(a) – 5 marks

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - z &= 6 \\ 2x - 3y + 2z &= 2 \\ -5x + 2y - 4z &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Marking Instructions

$$\begin{aligned} x + y - z &= 6 \\ 2x - 3y + 2z &= 2 \\ -5x + 2y - 4z &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 6 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 6 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -3 & 2 & 2 & \Rightarrow & 0 & -5 & 4 & -10 & \Rightarrow & 0 & -5 & 4 & -10 \\ -5 & 2 & -4 & 1 & & 1 & 0 & 7 & -9 & & 31 & 0 & 0 & -17 \\ & & & & & & & & & & & & & 17 \end{array}$$

1,1,1

$$z = 17 + \left(\frac{-17}{5}\right) = -5$$

1

$$-5y - 20 = -10 \Rightarrow y = -2$$

$$x - 2 + 5 = 6 \Rightarrow x = 3$$

1

2008

Q6 – 5 marks

Let the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ x & 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (a) Obtain the value(s) of x for which A is singular.
(b) When $x = 2$, show that $A^2 = pA$ for some constant p .
Determine the value of q such that $A^4 = qA$.

Marking Instructions

(a)

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x \\ x & 4 \end{pmatrix} = 4 - x^2 \quad \mathbf{1}$$

A matrix is singular when its determinant is 0, hence $x = \pm 2$. **1**

(b) When $x = 2$, $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 10 \\ 10 & 20 \end{pmatrix} = 5A. \quad \mathbf{1}$$

$$A^4 = (A^2)^2 = (5A)^2 = 25A^2 = 125A. \quad \mathbf{2E1}$$

Evaluating $A^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 125 & 250 \\ 250 & 500 \end{pmatrix} = 125A$ was accepted.

2007

Q5 – 5 marks

Matrices A and B are defined by

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} x+2 & x-2 & x+3 \\ -4 & 4 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) Find the product AB .
 (b) Obtain the determinants of A and of AB .

Hence, or otherwise, obtain an expression for $\det B$.

Marking Instructions

(a)
$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x+2 & x-2 & x+3 \\ -4 & 4 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} x & x & x \\ -6 & 6 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{2E1}$$

(b) $\det A = 1 \times (2 + 1) - 0 - 1 \times 0 = 3 \quad \mathbf{1}$
 $\det AB = x(48 - 0) - x(-48 - 0) + x(0 - 0) = 96x \quad \mathbf{1}$

Since $\det AB = \det A \det B$

$$\det B = \frac{\det AB}{\det A} = \frac{96x}{3} = 32x \quad \mathbf{1}$$

2005

Q6 – 6 marks

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the system of equations below when $\lambda \neq 2$:

$$\begin{aligned} x + y + 2z &= 1 \\ 2x + \lambda y + z &= 0 \\ 3x + 3y + 9z &= 5. \end{aligned}$$

Explain what happens when $\lambda = 2$.

Marking Instructions

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & \lambda & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 9 & 5 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda - 2 & -3 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 2 \end{array} \right) \quad \mathbf{2E1}$$

$$z = \frac{2}{3}; \quad \mathbf{1}$$

$$(\lambda - 2)y - 2 = -2 \Rightarrow y = 0; x = 1 - 0 - \frac{4}{3} = -\frac{1}{3}. \quad \mathbf{1}$$

When $\lambda = 2$, the second and third rows of the second matrix are the same, so there is an infinite number of solutions. $\mathbf{1(\dagger)}$

(†) Use of 'redundant' is worth a mark.

Interpretation in geometrical terms can be given both the marks.

2005

Q7 – 6 marks

Given the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$, show that $A^2 + A = kI$ for some

constant k , where I is the 3×3 unit matrix.

Obtain the values of p and q for which $A^{-1} = pA + qI$.

Marking Instructions

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad 2E1$$

$$A^2 + A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \quad 1$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = 2I \quad 1$$

$$A^{-1}(A^2 + A) = 2A^{-1} \quad 1$$

$$2A^{-1} = A + I$$

$$A^{-1} = \frac{1}{2}A + \frac{1}{2}I \quad 1$$

2004

Q6 – 5 marks

Write down the 2×2 matrix M_1 associated with an anti-clockwise rotation of $\frac{\pi}{2}$ radians about the origin.

Write down the matrix M_2 associated with reflection in the x -axis.

Evaluate M_2M_1 and describe geometrically the effect of the transformation represented by M_2M_1 .

Marking Instructions

$$M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \frac{\pi}{2} & -\sin \frac{\pi}{2} \\ \sin \frac{\pi}{2} & \cos \frac{\pi}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad 2$$

$$M_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad 1$$

$$M_2M_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad 1$$

The transformation represented by M_2M_1 is reflection in $y = -x$. 1

2003

A6 – 6 marks

Use elementary row operations to reduce the following system of equations to upper triangular form

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + 3z &= 1 \\ 3x + ay + z &= 1 \\ x + y + z &= -1.\end{aligned}$$

Hence express x , y and z in terms of the parameter a .

Explain what happens when $a = 3$.

Marking Instructions

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + 3z &= 1 \\ 3x + ay + z &= 1 \\ x + y + z &= -1.\end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + 3z &= 1 \\ (a - 3)y - 8z &= -2 \\ -2z &= -2\end{aligned}\quad 2^*$$

When $a \neq 3$, we can solve to give a unique solution.

$$z = 1; \quad y = \frac{6}{a-3}; \quad x = -2 + \frac{6}{3-a}.\quad 2E1$$

When $a = 3$, we get $z = \frac{1}{2}$ from the second equation but $z = 1^{\frac{1}{2}}$ from the third, i.e. inconsistent[§].

2

2002

A1 – 5 marks

Use Gaussian elimination to solve the following system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + 3z &= 2 \\ 2x + y + z &= 2 \\ 3x + 2y + 5z &= 5.\end{aligned}$$

Marking Instructions

$$\begin{aligned}1 \ 1 \ 3 \ 2 & \quad 1 \ 1 \ 3 \ 2 \\ 2 \ 1 \ 1 \ 2 & \Rightarrow \quad -1 \ -5 \ -2 \\ 3 \ 2 \ 5 \ 5 & \quad -1 \ -4 \ -1 \\ & \Rightarrow \quad 1 \ 1 \ 3 \ 2 \\ & \quad -1 \ -5 \ -2 \\ & \quad -1 \ -1 \\ z = 1; \quad y = -3; \quad x = 2\end{aligned}$$

Second row 1 mark
Third row 1 mark

Third row 1 mark

Values 2E1.
(available whatever method used above)

Total 5

2002

B4 – 4 marks

Write down the 2×2 matrix A representing a reflection in the x -axis and the 2×2 matrix B representing an anti-clockwise rotation of 30° about the origin.

Hence show that the image of a point (x, y) under the transformation A followed

by the transformation B is $\left(\frac{kx+y}{2}, \frac{x-ky}{2}\right)$, stating the value of k .

Marking Instructions

$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	1 for A
$B = \begin{pmatrix} \cos 30^\circ & -\sin 30^\circ \\ \sin 30^\circ & \cos 30^\circ \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} & -1 \\ 1 & \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}$	1 for B
$BA \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} & -1 \\ 1 & \sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$	1 method for tackling a composition
$= \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3} & 1 \\ 1 & -\sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{3}x + y \\ x - \sqrt{3}y \end{pmatrix}$	
$\text{i.e. } (x, y) \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{3}x + y, x - \sqrt{3}y)$	
$\text{so } k = \sqrt{3}.$	1 for value of k
	Total 4