

### 4.8.1 Exercise: Spaces, bases, and dimensions.

1. Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^5$  over the reals. Let  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4 \in \mathcal{W}$ , and  $V = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \mathbf{v}_3 & \mathbf{v}_4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

It is known that  $\dim(\mathcal{W}) = 3$ , and  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4$  are pairwise distinct.

- (a) Is it possible for  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$  to constitute a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$  over the reals?

Justify your answer with reference to the definitions for the notions of basis and dimension.

- (b) Is it possible for  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4$  to constitute a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$ ?

Justify your answer with reference to the definitions for the notions of basis and dimension.

- (c) Is the statement (#) below true or false?

(#) *Suppose  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$  constitute a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$  over the reals. Then the  $\mathcal{N}(V)$  contains a non-zero column vector belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .*

Justify your answer.

2. Let  $A$  be a  $(5 \times 6)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  be a  $(5 \times 9)$ -matrix with real entries.

Suppose  $\mathcal{V}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^9$  over the reals, and

$$\mathcal{W} = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^6 \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{There exists some } \mathbf{t} \in \mathcal{V} \\ \text{such that } A\mathbf{x} = B\mathbf{t}. \end{array} \right\}.$$

- (a) Verify that  $\mathbf{0}_6 \in \mathcal{W}$ .

- (b) Verify the statement (#):

(#) *For any  $\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^6$ , if  $\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{W}$ , then  $\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{W}$ .*

- (c) Verify that  $\mathcal{W}$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^6$  over the reals.

3. Let  $A$  be a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries.

Verify that  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^p$  over the reals, with direct reference to the definition for the notion of subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

4. Let  $S_1 = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{The sum of the first two entries of } \mathbf{x} \text{ is greater than or equal to the last entry of } \mathbf{x}. \end{array} \right\}$ .

- (a) For each statement below, determine whether it is true or false. Justify your answer.

$$\begin{array}{lllll} \text{i. } \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S_1. & \text{ii. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \in S_1. & \text{iii. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \in S_1. & \text{iv. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \in S_1. & \text{v. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in S_1. \end{array}$$

- (b) i. Let  $\mathbf{u} \in S_1$ . Denote the  $j$ -th entry of  $\mathbf{u}$  by  $u_j$  for each  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

Verify the statement (#).

(#) *Let  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ . Suppose  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \in S_1$ . Then  $\alpha \geq 0$ .*

ii. Name some  $\mathbf{w} \in S_1$  and some  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  for which  $\mathbf{u} \in S_1$  and  $\alpha\mathbf{u} \notin S_1$ , if such exist. Justify your answer.

iii. Is  $S_1$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Justify your answer.

5. Let  $S = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^3 \mid \begin{array}{l} \text{The sum of the cubes of the respective entries of } \mathbf{x} \text{ is } 0 \end{array} \right\}$ .

- (a) For each statement below, determine whether it is true or false. Justify your answer.

$$\begin{array}{lllll} \text{i. } \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S. & \text{ii. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S. & \text{iii. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S. & \text{iv. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \in S. & \text{v. } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \in S. \end{array}$$

- (b) i. Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in S$ . Denote the respective  $j$ -th entries of  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  by  $u_j, v_j$  for each  $j = 1, 2, 3$ .

Verify the statement (#):—

(#) Suppose  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \in S$ . Then  $u_1v_1(u_1 + v_1) + u_2v_2(u_2 + v_2) + u_3v_3(u_3 + v_3) = 0$ .

ii. Name some  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in S$  for which  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v} \notin S$ , if such exist. Justify your answer.

iii. Is  $S$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Justify your answer.

6. Let  $C$  be the  $(4 \times 4)$ -square matrix given by  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Let  $S$  be the set given by

$$S = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid \mathbf{x}^t C \mathbf{x} = 0. \right\}.$$

(a) Verify the statements  $(\#_1), (\#_2)$ :—

$(\#_1)$   $\mathbf{0}_4 \in S$ .

$(\#_2)$  For any  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^4$ , for any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $\mathbf{v} \in S$  then  $\alpha \mathbf{v} \in S$ .

(b) i. Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^4$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ .

Verify that  $\mathbf{w}^t C \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}^t C \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}^t C \mathbf{v} + 2\mathbf{u}^t C \mathbf{v}$ .

ii. Is it true that  $\mathbf{e}_1^{(4)} \in S$ ? Justify your answer.

iii. Is  $S$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? Justify your answer.

7. Let  $C$  be the  $(4 \times 4)$ -square matrix given by  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Let  $S$  be the set given by

$$S = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid \mathbf{x}^t C \mathbf{x} = 0. \right\}.$$

(a) Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^4$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ .

Verify that  $\mathbf{w}^t C \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}^t C \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}^t C \mathbf{v} + 2\mathbf{u}^t C \mathbf{v}$ .

(b) Is  $S$  a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? Justify your answer.

8. For each part below, consider the column vectors belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , denoted by  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$  here.

With direct reference to the definitions for the notion of set equality and span, verify that  $\text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4\}) = \mathbb{R}^4$ .

(a)  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

(c)  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

(b)  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

(d)  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$

9. For each part below, consider the column vectors belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^n$  (for various values of  $n$ ) denoted by  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  here.

- Determine whether  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  constitute a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Where  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  indeed constitute a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , express any arbitrary column vector  $\mathbf{v}$  belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , whose  $j$ -th entry is denoted by  $v_j$  for each  $j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , as a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  over the reals.

Justify your answer. (You may use whatever characterization of basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . However, a characterization in terms of invertibility of square matrices may be more convenient, in view of what you are asked to do beyond determining whether  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots, \mathbf{u}_n$  constitute a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$  over the reals.)

$$(a) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(b) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(c) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(d) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(e) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(f) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(g) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

10. Consider each of the collection of column vectors  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots$  below. Write  $\mathcal{W} = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots\})$ .

- Determine the dimension of  $\mathcal{W}$ ,
- obtain a basis for  $\mathcal{W}$  over the reals which is a minimal spanning set extracted from  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \dots$ , and
- express the remaining column vectors as linear combinations of the column vectors in the basis obtained.

$$(a) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(b) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ 3 \\ -3 \\ -14 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(c) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -2 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 8 \\ 0 \\ -5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(d) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 5 \\ 5 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 \\ 8 \\ 11 \\ 13 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$(e) \mathbf{u}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -4 \\ 9 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -3 \\ 8 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{u}_6 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ -8 \\ 19 \\ 17 \end{bmatrix}.$$

11. Let  $A$  be a  $(3 \times 6)$ -matrix with real entries,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^6$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{u}$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{LS}(A, \mathbf{b})$ , and  $\mathbf{v}$  is a solution of  $\mathcal{LS}(A, 3\mathbf{b})$ .

(a) Write down, if such exists, a scalar multiple of  $\mathbf{u}$  which is also a solution of  $\mathcal{LS}(A, 3\mathbf{b})$ .

Justify your answer.

(b) Write down, if such exists, some  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^6$  which simultaneously satisfies  $(\#_1), (\#_2)$ :—

$(\#_1)$   $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{N}(A)$ ,

$(\#_2)$   $\mathbf{y} = \alpha\mathbf{u} + \beta\mathbf{v}$  for some non-zero real numbers  $\alpha, \beta$ .

Give your answer in the form of an appropriate linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$ .

Justify your answer.

(c) Suppose  $\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3 \in \mathbb{R}^6$ , and  $\mathcal{N}(A) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\})$ .

Fill in the blanks, labelled (I), (II), with appropriate non-zero real numbers to make  $(*)$  a true statement:—

$(*)$  *There exist some  $c_1, c_2, c_3 \in \mathbb{R}$  such that*  $\frac{\quad}{\text{(I)}} \mathbf{u} + \frac{\quad}{\text{(II)}} \mathbf{v} = c_1 \mathbf{w}_1 + c_2 \mathbf{w}_2 + c_3 \mathbf{w}_3$ .

(d) Further suppose it is known that  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ -5 \\ 5 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \kappa \\ 0 \\ \lambda \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\kappa, \lambda$  are some

real numbers.

What are the values of  $\kappa, \lambda$ ? Justify your answer.

**Remark.** You do not need to know what  $A, \mathbf{b}$  are, and you are not required to find them.

12. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 & 7 & 1 & -2 & -3 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 & -1 & 6 & 5 & -3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 4 & 2 & -2 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -2 & 0 & -9 & 2 & -2 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & -2 & 9 & 4 & -3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 3 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 2 & -1 & 8 & -1 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Denote the columns of  $A$ , from left to right, by  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5, \mathbf{a}_6, \mathbf{a}_7, \mathbf{a}_8$ .

Take for granted that  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $B$ , and that  $B$  is a row-echelon form.

(a) Identify the pivot columns in  $B$ .

(b) What is the rank of  $A$ ?

(c) Write down a basis for  $\text{Span}(\{\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5, \mathbf{a}_6, \mathbf{a}_7, \mathbf{a}_8\})$  which is extracted as a minimal spanning set from amongst the column vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5, \mathbf{a}_6, \mathbf{a}_7, \mathbf{a}_8$ .

(d) i. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{C}(A)$ ?

ii. Name a basis for  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  from amongst the column vectors  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5, \mathbf{a}_6, \mathbf{a}_7, \mathbf{a}_8$ .

iii. Write down the reduced row-echelon form  $C$  which is row-equivalent to  $A$ .

Hence, or otherwise, express  $\mathbf{a}_8$  in terms of the column vectors in the basis for  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  that you have named in the previous part.

(e) i. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ?

ii. Name a basis for  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ .

(f) i. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ ?

ii. Name a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  from amongst the columns of  $C^t$ , if such exists.

iii. Name a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  from amongst the columns of  $B^t$ , if such exists.

iv. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{N}(A^t)$ ?

13. Let  $A$  be a  $(6 \times 9)$ -matrix with real entries, whose columns from left to right are denoted by  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5, \mathbf{u}_6, \mathbf{u}_7, \mathbf{u}_8, \mathbf{u}_9$  respectively.

Let  $B$  be a  $(6 \times 9)$ -matrix with real entries, given by

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & c_{13} & 0 & c_{15} & c_{16} & 0 & 0 & c_{19} \\ 0 & 1 & c_{23} & 0 & c_{25} & c_{26} & 0 & 0 & c_{29} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & c_{35} & c_{36} & 0 & 0 & c_{39} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & c_{49} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & c_{59} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

in which the  $c_{ij}$ 's are some real numbers.

Suppose  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $B$ .

- (a) Is  $B$  a reduced row-echelon form?
- If *yes*, also name all pivot columns of  $B$ .
  - If *no*, write ' $B$  is not a reduced row-echelon form'.
- (b) i. Name a basis for  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  over the reals from amongst the column vectors

$$\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5, \mathbf{u}_6, \mathbf{u}_7, \mathbf{u}_8, \mathbf{u}_9.$$

- ii. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  over the reals?
- (c) i. Name those sets amongst  $\mathcal{R}(A^t), \mathcal{C}(A), \mathcal{R}(B), \mathcal{C}(B^t), \mathcal{R}(B^t)$  which are equal to  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ .
- ii. Write down a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  over the reals.
- iii. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  over the reals?
- (d) i. Write down an equality which relates the respective dimensions of  $\mathcal{N}(A^t)$  and  $\mathcal{C}(A^t)$  over the reals.
- ii. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{N}(A^t)$  over the reals?

14. Let  $A, C$  be  $(4 \times 6)$ -matrices respectively given by

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & a_{12} & 3 & a_{14} & 2 & 2 \\ 0 & a_{22} & 2 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & a_{32} & 3 & a_{34} & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & a_{42} & 0 & a_{44} & 5 & -6 \end{bmatrix}, \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & 1 & c_{14} & 1 & c_{16} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & 2 & c_{24} & 1 & c_{26} \\ c_{31} & c_{32} & c_{33} & c_{34} & c_{35} & c_{36} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & c_{45} & c_{46} \end{bmatrix}$$

in which the  $a_{ij}$ 's,  $c_{ij}$ 's are some numbers.

It is known that:—

- the matrix  $A$  row-equivalent to  $C$ , and
  - $C$  is a reduced row-echelon form whose 2-nd column is a pivot column, and whose 6-th column is a free column.
- (a) i. Is the 1-st column in  $C$  a pivot column? How about the 3-rd column in  $C$ ? Why?
- ii. What are the values of  $c_{11}, c_{21}, c_{31}, c_{12}, c_{22}, c_{32}, c_{33}$  and  $a_{12}, a_{22}, a_{32}, a_{42}$ ?
- iii. Is the 5-th column in  $C$  a pivot column or a free column? How about the 4-th column in  $C$ ? Why?
- iv. What are the values of  $c_{14}, c_{24}, c_{34}, c_{35}, c_{45}, c_{16}, c_{26}, c_{36}, c_{46}$ , and  $a_{41}, a_{43}, a_{44}$ ?
- (b) What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{C}(A)$ ? What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ?
- (c) We denote the columns of  $A$ , from left to right, by  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4, \mathbf{a}_5, \mathbf{a}_6$ .

For each collection of column vectors below, decide whether it constitutes a bases for  $\mathcal{C}(A)$ ?

- i.  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3$ ,
- ii.  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4$ ,
- iii.  $\mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_4$ ,
- iv.  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2, \mathbf{a}_4$ ,
- v.  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_3, \mathbf{a}_6$ .

Justify your answer.

- (d) i. What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{R}(A)$ ?  
 ii. We denote the rows of  $C$ , from top to bottom, by  $\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{d}_2, \mathbf{d}_3, \mathbf{d}_4$ .  
 Name a basis for  $\mathcal{R}(A)$  amongst  $\mathbf{d}_1^t, \mathbf{d}_2^t, \mathbf{d}_3^t, \mathbf{d}_4^t$ , if such exists.
- (e) Determine whether the statement ( $\sharp$ ) is true or false. Justify your answer.
- ( $\sharp$ ): Any two non-trivial solutions of the homogeneous system  $\mathcal{LS}(A^t, \mathbf{0}_6)$  are scalar multiples of each other.

15. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & -3 & 4 & 5 \\ -2 & -1 & 1 & 3 & -3 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $A' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & -5 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Take for granted that  $A'$  is the reduced row-echelon form which is row-equivalent to  $A$ .

Let  $\mathbf{z}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{z}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\mathbf{z}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -4 \\ 9 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (a) What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ?  
 (b) Do  $\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2, \mathbf{z}_3$  constitute a basis for  $\mathcal{N}(A)$ ? Justify your answer.
16. (a) Let  $B$  be a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries.  
 With reference to the definition for the notions of set equality and of column space, prove that the statements ( $\sharp_1$ ), ( $\sharp_2$ ) are logically equivalent:—  
 ( $\sharp_1$ ) For any  $c \in \mathbb{R}^p$ , the system  $\mathcal{LS}(B, \mathbf{c})$  is consistent.  
 ( $\sharp_2$ )  $\mathcal{C}(B) = \mathbb{R}^p$ .

**Remark.** Recall how column space is defined in terms of span, and how consistency of systems can be reformulated in terms of linear combinations.

(b) Let  $\alpha$  be a real number, and  $A_\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 0 & 4 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 5 & \alpha \end{bmatrix}$ .

- i. For which value(s) of  $\alpha$  is it true that  $\mathcal{N}(A_\alpha) = \{\mathbf{0}_4\}$ ? Justify your answer.  
 ii. Let  $\beta, c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4$  be real numbers.  
 For which value(s) of  $\beta$  is the system  $(S_{\beta; c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4})$

$$(S_{\beta; c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4}) \quad \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 & & + 2x_5 = c_1 \\ & x_3 + x_4 + 5x_5 = c_2 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 & + x_4 + 5x_5 = c_3 \\ -3x_1 - 6x_2 + x_3 + 3x_4 + \beta x_5 = c_4 \end{cases}$$

inconsistent for some values of  $c_1, c_2, c_3, c_4$ ?

Justify your answer. You may apply results which are related to the Rank-nullity Formulae, if relevant and applicable.

17. We denote the rank of an arbitrary matrix with real entries, say,  $D$ , by  $r(D)$ .

Take for granted the result ( $\sharp$ ):—

( $\sharp$ ) Let  $B, C$  be square matrices of the same size with real entries. Suppose  $r(B) = s$ ,  $r(C) = t$ . Then the rank of  $BC$  is at most  $\min(s, t)$ .

- (a) Apply mathematical induction to prove the statement below:—  
 Suppose  $A$  is a  $(p \times p)$ -square matrix. Then, for any positive integer  $n$ , the inequality  $r(A^{n+1}) \leq r(A^n)$ .  
 (b) Name an appropriate  $(2 \times 2)$ -square matrix  $F$  for which  $r(F^n) = r(F)$  for each positive integer  $n$ .

(c) Name an appropriate  $(4 \times 4)$ -square matrix  $G$  for  $r(G^4) < r(G^3) < r(G^2) < r(G)$ .

18. Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^5$ .

Suppose none of  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$ ,  $\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{v}$  is the zero column vector.

Prove that the statements below are logically equivalent, with direct reference to the definitions for the notions of set equality and span:—

(1)  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}$  are non-zero scalar multiples of each other.

(2)  $\text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}\}) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\})$ .

(3)  $\text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}\}) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}\})$ .

19. Suppose  $A$  is a  $(7 \times 8)$ -matrix with real entries,  $B$  is an  $(8 \times 8)$ -square matrix with real entries, and  $C$  is an  $(8 \times 9)$ -matrix with real entries.

(a) Show that  $\mathcal{N}(3A(B^2 - 3B)C) = \mathcal{N}(A(B^2 - 3B)C)$  are equal as sets.

(b) What is the value of  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(3A(B^2 - 3B)C)) + \dim(\mathcal{C}(2A(B^2 - 3B)C))$ ?

Justify your answer.

20. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^9$ , and  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4\})$ ,  $\mathcal{W} = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4\})$ .

Suppose the statements (1), (2), (3) hold:—

(1)  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$  are linearly independent over the reals.

(2)  $\mathbf{v}$  is the linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$  with respect to real scalars  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4$ .

(3)  $\alpha_1 \neq 0$ .

(a) Verify that  $\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$  are linearly independent.

(b) Verify the statements below:—

i. For any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^9$ , if  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{V}$  then  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{W}$ .

ii. For any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^9$ , if  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{W}$  then  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{V}$ .

**Remark.** According to part (b), we may conclude that  $\mathcal{V} = \mathcal{W}$  as sets. Overall, the result described by the entire question is an illustration on what is usually known as ‘Replacement Theorem’ in linear algebra.

21. Let  $a, b, c$  be positive real numbers, and  $k$  be a real number.

Let

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} k \\ a \\ a^2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 + a^2 \\ b \\ b^2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 + a^2 \\ 0 \\ 1 + b^2 \\ c \\ c^2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -a \\ 1 \\ b \\ b^2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -b \\ 1 \\ c \\ c^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

and

$$\mathcal{W} = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4\}).$$

Suppose  $\mathbf{v}_1^t \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$ .

(a) What is the value of  $k$ ? Justify your answer.

(b) Show that  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4$  are linearly independent, with direct reference to the definition of linear dependence/independence.

(c) i. Show that  $\mathbf{x}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3$ .

ii. Show that  $\mathbf{v}_3$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{x}$ .

iii. Hence, or otherwise, show that the statement  $(\sharp_1)$  is true, with reference to the definition for set equality:—

$$(\sharp_1) \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{x}\}).$$

(d) Determine whether the statement  $(\sharp_2)$  is true or false. Justify your answer.

$$(\sharp_2) \text{ Span}(\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3, \mathbf{v}_4\}) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}\}).$$

22. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5 \in \mathbb{R}^8$ , and  $\mathcal{V} = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5\})$ .

Define  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{u}_1 - \mathbf{u}_2 + \mathbf{u}_3$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{u}_2 + \mathbf{u}_4 - \mathbf{u}_5$ .

Suppose  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5$  are linearly independent over the reals.

- (a) Are  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5$  linearly independent over the reals? Justify your answer with direct reference to the definition of *linear independence*.
- (b) Does every linear combination of  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5$  belong to  $\mathcal{V}$ ? Justify your answer with direct reference to the definition of *linear combinations*.
- (c) Is every column vector belonging to  $\mathcal{V}$  a linear combination of  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5$ ? Justify your answer with direct reference to the definition of *linear combinations*.
- (d) Do  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{u}_5$  constitute a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$ ? Justify your answer with reference to the definition of *basis*.

23. Let  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{v}_4, \mathbf{v}$  be column vectors belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^7$ .

Prove that the statements (1), (2) are logically equivalent, with direct reference to the definitions for the notions of set equality, span, linear combination:—

- (1)  $\mathbf{v}$  is a linear combination of  $\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4$  over the reals.
- (2)  $\text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4, \mathbf{v}\}) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{u}_4\})$ .

24. Determine whether the statement  $(\sharp)$  is true. Justify your answer with an appropriate argument with reference to the definitions for the notions of row space, and invertible matrices.

- $(\sharp)$  Let  $A, B$  be  $(6 \times 8)$ -matrices with real entries, and  $P, Q$  are invertible  $(6 \times 6)$ -matrices with real entries. Suppose  $\mathcal{R}(A) = \mathcal{R}(B)$ . Then  $\mathcal{R}(PA) = \mathcal{R}(QB)$ .

25. Let  $A, B$  be  $(5 \times 7)$ -matrices. Suppose  $\mathcal{R}(A) = \mathcal{R}(B)$ .

- (a) Verify the statements below:—
  - i. Suppose the rank of  $A$  is 1. Then  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $B$ .
  - ii. Suppose the rank of  $A$  is 2. Then  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $B$ .

**Remark.** What can you say about the reduced row-echelon forms  $A', B'$  respectively row-equivalent to  $A, B$ ? In particular, what can be said of the non-zero rows in  $A', B'$ ?

- (b) Determine whether the statement  $(\sharp)$  is true. Justify your answer.
  - $(\sharp)$  Suppose the rank of  $A$  is 3. Then  $A$  is row-equivalent to  $B$ .

26. Determine whether the statement  $(\sharp)$  is true. Justify your answer with an appropriate argument, with reference to the definitions for the notions of *subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$* , *basis* and *dimension*.

- $(\sharp)$  Let  $\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V}$  be subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^5$  over the reals, and  $\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{V}$ .  
Suppose  $\dim(\mathcal{U}) = 3$  and  $\dim(\mathcal{V}) = 3$ .  
Then  $\mathcal{W}$  contains a non-zero column vector belonging to  $\mathbb{R}^5$ .

27. Prove the statement  $(\sharp)$ :

- $(\sharp)$  Let  $A, B$  be two  $(5 \times 5)$ -square matrices with real entries.  
Let  $C$  be the  $(5 \times 5)$ -square matrix defined by  $C = A^t A + B^t B$ , and  $D$  be the  $(10 \times 5)$ -matrix defined by

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} A \\ B \end{bmatrix}.$$

Suppose  $C$  is not invertible. Then the rank of  $D$  is at most 4.

**Remark.** The Rank-nullity Formula may be useful at some point of the argument.

You may also find the statement  $(\natural)$  useful at some point:—



(‡) Let  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Suppose  $\mathbf{v}^t \mathbf{v} = 0$ . Then  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}_n$ .

(Can you give a proof for (‡)?)

28. Recall the definition for the notion of subspace of a subspace:

Let  $\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{W}$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  over the reals.

We say that  $\mathcal{V}$  is a **subspace of  $\mathcal{W}$  over the reals** if and only if the statement (†) holds:—

(†) For any  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , if  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{V}$  then  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{W}$ .

(a) Prove the statement (‡):—

(‡) Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  is an  $(n \times p)$ -matrix with real entries. Then  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(A)$ .

(b) Dis-prove the statement (‡) by providing a counter-example against it:—

(‡) Suppose  $A$  is an  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  is an  $(2 \times 2)$ -matrix with real entries. Then  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$ .

**Remark.** Can you name some appropriate  $A, B$  for which  $\mathcal{C}(A) = \mathbb{R}^2$  and  $\mathcal{C}(B) \neq \mathbb{R}^2$ ?

(c) For each of the statements below, determine whether it is true or false. Justify your answer.

- i. Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  is an  $(n \times p)$ -matrix with real entries. Further suppose  $\mathcal{C}(B) = \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$ .
- ii. Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  is an  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with real entries. Further suppose  $B$  is invertible. Then  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$ .
- iii. Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $B$  is an  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with real entries. Further suppose  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$ . Then  $B$  is invertible.
- iv. Suppose  $B$  is an  $(n \times n)$ -matrix with real entries. Further suppose  $\mathcal{C}(A)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{C}(AB)$  for every  $(n \times n)$ -square matrix  $A$ . Then  $B$  is invertible.

29. Take for granted the validity of the results (★) below:—

(★) Suppose  $G$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $H$  is an  $(n \times p)$ -matrix with real entries. Then  $\mathcal{N}(GH)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{N}(H)$ .

(a) Prove the statement (‡):

(‡) Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries,  $B$  is an  $(n \times p)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $C$  is a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries.  
Suppose  $\mathcal{N}(AB)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{N}(B)$  over the reals.  
Then  $\mathcal{N}(ABC)$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{N}(BC)$  over the reals.

(b) Hence, or otherwise, deduce the statement (‡‡):

(‡‡) Suppose  $A$  is an  $(m \times n)$ -matrix with real entries,  $B$  is an  $(n \times p)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $C$  is a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries.  
Suppose  $\mathcal{N}(AB) = \mathcal{N}(B)$ .  
Then  $\mathcal{N}(ABC) = \mathcal{N}(BC)$ .

(c) Prove the statement (‡):

(‡) Let  $E$  be a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries, and  $D$  be a  $(p \times p)$ -matrix with real entries.  
Suppose there is some positive integer  $\ell$  such that  $\mathcal{N}(D^\ell) = \mathcal{N}(D^{\ell+1})$ .  
Then (for the same  $\ell$ ,)  $\mathcal{N}(D^\ell E) = \mathcal{N}(D^{\ell+n} E)$  for any positive integer  $n$ .

(d) Name some  $(6 \times 6)$ -matrix  $D$  which satisfies both conditions (1), (2) below:—

- (1)  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(D)) = 1$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(D^2)) = 2$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(D^3)) = 3$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(D^4)) = 4$ .
- (2)  $\mathcal{N}(D^n) = \mathcal{N}(D^4)$  for each positive integer  $n$  greater than 4.

Justify your answer.

30. (a) Let  $A$  be a  $(p \times q)$ -matrix with real entries.

Prove the statements below:—

i.  $\mathcal{C}(A) = \left\{ \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^p \mid \text{The system } \mathcal{LS}(A, \mathbf{y}) \text{ is consistent} \right\}.$

ii. For each integer  $k$  between 0 and  $p$ ,  $\dim(\mathcal{C}(A)) = p - k$  if and only if  $\dim(\mathcal{N}(A^t)) = k$ .

**Remark.** Apply the Rank-nullity Formula, where relevant and appropriate.

- (b) Determine whether the statement is true or false. Justify your answer with an appropriate argument:—

Let  $A$  be a  $(5 \times 7)$ -matrix with real entries.

Suppose  $\mathcal{LS}(A^t, \mathbf{0}_7)$  has a non-trivial solution, say,  $\mathbf{u}$ , and  $\mathcal{N}(A^t) = \text{Span}(\{\mathbf{u}\})$ .

then there exists some non-zero column vector  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^5$  such that both statements (1), (2) hold:

- (1) For any  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ , if  $\alpha \neq 0$  then  $\mathcal{LS}(A, \alpha\mathbf{b})$  is inconsistent.  
(2) For any  $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^5$ , if  $\mathcal{LS}(A, \mathbf{d})$  is inconsistent, then there exists some unique  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mathcal{LS}(A, \mathbf{d} - \beta\mathbf{b})$  is consistent.