University of Mannheim School of Social Sciences Math Refresher for Political Science, Fall 2025 Carlos Gueiros

Problem Set: Linear Algebra II

1. Let

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \ \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -6 & 9 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{pmatrix}, \ \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$
Determine $x = \frac{\det((\mathbf{A}')^{-1}) \cdot \det(\mathbf{A}^3 \cdot \mathbf{B} \cdot \mathbf{C}) \cdot \det(((\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B})^{-1})^4)}{\det(\mathbf{C}^{-1})}$

- 2. Calculate the determinant of $\mathbf{A}_t = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & t & 0 \\ -2 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & t \end{pmatrix}$, and show that it is never 0.
- 3. Determine the inverse of the following matrices.

$$\mathbf{A} = (-\frac{1}{42}), \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 8 \\ 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 4 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

4.
$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve the matrix equation $-\mathbf{D}^3 \cdot \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{F} = \mathbf{D}^2 \cdot \mathbf{I} \cdot \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D} \cdot \mathbf{F} \cdot \mathbf{G}$ for \mathbf{X} .

5.
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -7 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -7 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solve the matrix equation $3 \cdot \mathbf{X} - (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^3 \cdot \mathbf{X} - \mathbf{C} \cdot \mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C}' \cdot \mathbf{X}$ for \mathbf{X} .

6. Consider the following system of equations.

$$x_1 - x_2 - x_3 = 1$$

$$-3x_1 + 4x_2 + 2x_3 = -8$$

$$-2x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = -7$$

- (a) Rewrite the system of equations in matrix form.
- (b) How many solutions does the system have? Why?