

**TAKE-HOME CLASS QUIZ: DUE FRIDAY NOVEMBER 1: MATRIX  
MULTIPLICATION AND INVERSION: ABSTRACT BEHAVIOR PREDICTION**

MATH 196, SECTION 57 (VIPUL NAIK)

Your name (print clearly in capital letters): \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO DISCUSS ALL QUESTIONS.**

This quiz tests for *abstract behavior prediction* related to the structure of matrices defined based on the operations of matrix multiplication and inversion. It is based on part of the **Matrix multiplication and inversion** notes and is related to Sections 2.3 and 2.4. It does not, however, test all aspects of that material.

To understand this abstract behavior, we will consider *nilpotent*, *invertible*, and *idempotent* matrices.

- (1) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices such that  $B$  is invertible. Suppose  $r$  is a positive integer. What can we say that  $(BAB^{-1})^r$  definitely equals?
- (A)  $A^r$
  - (B)  $BA^rB^{-1}$
  - (C)  $B^rA^rB^{-r}$
  - (D)  $B^rAB^{-r}$
  - (E)  $BAB^{-1-r}$

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (2) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices ( $n$  not too small) such that  $(AB)^2 = 0$ . What is the smallest  $r$  for which we can conclude that  $(BA)^r$  is definitely 0?
- (A) 1
  - (B) 2
  - (C) 3
  - (D) 4
  - (E) 5

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (3) Suppose  $n > 1$ . A  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is termed *nilpotent* if there exists a positive integer  $r$  such that  $A^r$  is the zero matrix. It turns out that if  $A$  is nilpotent, then  $A^n = 0$ . Which of the following describes correctly the relationship between being invertible and being nilpotent for  $n \times n$  matrices?
- (A) A matrix is nilpotent if and only if it is invertible.
  - (B) Every nilpotent matrix is invertible, but not every invertible matrix is nilpotent.
  - (C) Every invertible matrix is nilpotent, but not every nilpotent matrix is invertible.
  - (D) An invertible matrix may or may not be nilpotent, and a nilpotent matrix may or may not be invertible.
  - (E) A matrix cannot be both nilpotent and invertible.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

- (4) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices. Which of the following is true? Please see Option (E) before answering.
- (A)  $AB$  is nilpotent if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are both nilpotent.
  - (B)  $AB$  is nilpotent if and only if at least one of  $A$  and  $B$  is nilpotent.
  - (C) If both  $A$  and  $B$  are nilpotent, then  $AB$  is nilpotent, but  $AB$  being nilpotent does not imply that both  $A$  and  $B$  are nilpotent.
  - (D) If  $AB$  is nilpotent, then both  $A$  and  $B$  are nilpotent. However, both  $A$  and  $B$  being nilpotent does not imply that  $AB$  is nilpotent.

(E) None of the above.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(5) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices. Which of the following is true? Please see Option (E) before answering.

(A)  $AB$  is invertible if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are both invertible.

(B)  $AB$  is invertible if and only if at least one of  $A$  and  $B$  is invertible.

(C) If both  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible, then  $AB$  is invertible, but  $AB$  being invertible does not imply that both  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible.

(D) If  $AB$  is invertible, then both  $A$  and  $B$  are invertible. However, both  $A$  and  $B$  being invertible does not imply that  $AB$  is invertible.

(E) None of the above.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_

(6) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  are  $n \times n$  matrices. Which of the following is true? We call a  $n \times n$  matrix *idempotent* if it equals its own square. Please see Option (E) before answering.

(A)  $AB$  is idempotent if and only if  $A$  and  $B$  are both idempotent.

(B)  $AB$  is idempotent if and only if at least one of  $A$  and  $B$  is idempotent.

(C) If both  $A$  and  $B$  are idempotent, then  $AB$  is idempotent, but  $AB$  being idempotent does not imply that both  $A$  and  $B$  are idempotent.

(D) If  $AB$  is idempotent, then both  $A$  and  $B$  are idempotent. However, both  $A$  and  $B$  being idempotent does not imply that  $AB$  is idempotent.

(E) None of the above.

Your answer: \_\_\_\_\_