

Name:

Problem 1: Compute the inverse of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solution: We follow the process outlined in class: we write

$$\left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right)$$

and do row operations (on both sides!) until the left matrix has become the identity matrix. Then the matrix on the right is the inverse of A .

$$\begin{array}{l} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \begin{array}{l} \rho_2 \sim \rho_1 \\ \rho_3 \sim \rho_1 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & -1 & 3 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{l} \rho_1 + \rho_2 \\ \rho_3 - 3\rho_2 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right) \\ \begin{array}{l} \rho_1 - 2\rho_3 \\ \rho_2 + \rho_3 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|ccc} 1 & 0 & 0 & -4 & 7 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 & -3 & 1 \end{array} \right) \end{array}$$

Therefore we have

$$A^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 7 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Bonus: We can check that our answer is correct by doing the matrix multiplication

$$AA^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 7 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and making sure that we get the identity matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$