

1. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find all matrices  $X$  such that  $AX = XA$ .

**Solution.** Letting  $X = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$ , we get

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{that is,}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} a + 3c & b + 3d \\ 3a + 2c & 3b + 2d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a + 3b & 3a + 2b \\ c + 3d & 3c + 2d \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence we get the system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned} a + 3c &= a + 3b \\ b + 3d &= 3a + 2b \\ 3a + 2c &= c + 3d, & \text{or, in the matrix form,} \\ 3b + 2d &= 3c + 2d \end{aligned}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} \underline{a} & \underline{b} & \underline{c} & \underline{d} & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & -1 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 & 1 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

Solving the system (computations omitted), we get  $d = s$ ,  $c = t$ ,  $b = t$ ,  $a = s - t/3$ , where  $s$  and  $t$  can be any numbers.

**Answer.**  $X = \begin{bmatrix} s - t/3 & t \\ t & s \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $s$  and  $t$  can be any numbers.