

Attempt all questions and show all your work. Due April 9, 2010. Hand in your paper in the box outside my office door (425 Machray Hall) **BEFORE 1:30pm**.

1. For each of the following matrices, find the characteristic polynomial, the eigenvalues, and the corresponding eigenspaces for each eigenvalue:

(a)  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:  $x^2 - 6x + 9$

Eigenvalues: 3

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 3:  $\{(1, 1)\}$

(b)  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:  $x^3 - 5x^2 + 7x - 3$

Real eigenvalues: 1, 3

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 1:  $\{(1, 1, 1)\}$

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 3:  $\{(0, 1, 1)\}$

(c)  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$  1-

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:  $x^4 - 14x^3 + 68x^2 - 136x + 96$

Real eigenvalues: 2, 4, 6

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 2:  $\{(-1, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 1)\}$

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 4:  $\{(0, -1, 0, 1)\}$

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 6:  $\{(1, 0, 0, 1)\}$

2. What are the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $I_n$ ?

**Solution:**  $|\lambda I_n - I_n| = |(\lambda - 1)I_n| = (\lambda - 1)^n$ , which is equal to zero if and only if  $\lambda = 1$ . Therefore the only eigenvalue is  $\lambda = 1$ .

However, when  $\lambda = 1$ ,  $\lambda I_n - I_n = \mathbf{0}$ . This is the coefficient matrix for a system of equations. However, every vector is a solution to  $\mathbf{0x} = \mathbf{0}$ . Therefore a basis for the eigenspace of eigenvalue 1 is the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :

$$\{(1, 0, \dots, 0), (0, 1, \dots, 0), \dots, (0, 0, \dots, 1)\}.$$

3. Compute  $A^9$  using the process of diagonalization if  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:  $x^2 - x - 2$

Real eigenvalues:  $-1, 2$ .

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue  $-1$ :  $(-2, 1)$

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue  $2$ :  $(-1, 1)$

Therefore  $P = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  diagonalizes  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -6 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $P^{-1}AP = D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Finding  $P^{-1}$ :

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} -2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1 \leftarrow R_1 + 3R_2$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 & -2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_2 \leftarrow -R_2$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

$$R_1 \leftarrow R_1 - 2R_2$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|cc} 1 & 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right]$$

Therefore  $P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Then  $A = PDP^{-1}$ , and  $A^9 = PD^9P^{-1}$ .

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} A^9 &= PD^9P^{-1} \\ &= P \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}^9 P^{-1} \\ &= P \begin{bmatrix} (-1)^9 & 0 \\ 0 & 2^9 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} \\ &= P \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 512 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 512 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -512 \\ -1 & 512 \end{bmatrix} P^{-1} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -512 \\ -1 & 512 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} -514 & -1026 \\ 513 & 1025 \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

4. Show that  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  is not diagonalizable.

**Solution:** Characteristic polynomial:  $x^2 - 4x + 4$

Real eigenvalues: 2

Basis for eigenspace of eigenvalue 2:  $\{(1, 1)\}$

Since it is impossible to choose 2 linearly independent eigenvectors of  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have that it is not diagonalizable.

5. Consider the vector space  $P_n$  of polynomials of degree less than or equal to  $n$ . Let  $f$  and  $g$  be two elements of  $P_n$ .

(a) Prove that

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_0^1 f(x)g(x) dx$$

defines an inner product on  $P_n$  (note this is defined on  $P_n$  where  $n$  is arbitrary, and thus you must prove this in general).

**Solution:**

- $\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u} \rangle$

Let  $f, g \in P_n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle f, g \rangle &= \int_0^1 f(x)g(x) dx \\
&= \int_0^1 g(x)f(x) dx \\
&= \langle g, f \rangle.
\end{aligned}$$

- $\langle \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle = \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{w} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w} \rangle$

Let  $f, g, h \in P_n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle f + g, h \rangle &= \int_0^1 (f + g)(x)h(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 (f(x) + g(x))h(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 f(x)h(x) + g(x)h(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 f(x)h(x) \, dx + \int_0^1 g(x)h(x) \, dx \\
 &= \langle f, h \rangle + \langle g, h \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\langle k\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = k\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle$

Let  $f, g \in P_n, k \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle kf, g \rangle &= \int_0^1 (kf)(x)g(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 k(f(x))g(x) \, dx \\
 &= k \int_0^1 f(x)g(x) \, dx \\
 &= k\langle f, g \rangle.
 \end{aligned}$$

- $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \geq 0$ , and  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0$  if and only if  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}_V$ .

Let  $f \in P_n$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \langle f, f \rangle &= \int_0^1 f(x)f(x) \, dx \\
 &= \int_0^1 f^2(x) \, dx.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since this is the net area between the curve  $f^2(x)$  and the  $x$ -axis, and since  $f^2(x)$  is always positive, we know that this value is always non-negative.

Further, if this area is zero, then since  $f^2(x)$  is always non-negative, it must be that  $f^2(x)$ , and thus  $f(x)$ , is the zero function, and thus  $f(x) = 0 = \mathbf{0}$ .

(b) Find  $\langle x^2 + 2x - 1, 4x + 1 \rangle$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\langle x^2 + 2x - 1, 4x + 1 \rangle &= \int_0^1 (x^2 + 2x - 1)(4x + 1) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 4x^3 + x^2 + 8x^2 + 2x - 4x - 1 dx \\ &= \int_0^1 4x^3 + 9x^2 - 2x - 1 dx \\ &= (x^4 + 3x^3 - x^2 - x) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= (1^4 + 3(1)^3 - (1)^2 - 1) - (0^4 + 3(0)^3 - (0)^2 - 0) = 1 + 3 - 1 - 1 \\ &= 2.\end{aligned}$$

(c) Show that  $f(x) = 1$  and  $g(x) = \frac{1}{2} - x$  are orthogonal

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\langle 1, \frac{1}{2} - x \rangle &= \int_0^1 (1)(\frac{1}{2} - x) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} - x dx \\ &= (\frac{1}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}x^2) \Big|_0^1 \\ &= (\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2}) - 0 \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $f$  and  $g$  are orthogonal.

(d) Determine which of the functions  $g(x) = x^2 + 2x - 3$  or  $h(x) = x^2 - 3x + 4$  is closest to the function  $f(x) = x^2$ .

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}d(f, g) &= \|f - g\| \\ &= \|x^2 - (x^2 + 2x - 3)\| \\ &= \|-2x + 3\| \\ &= \sqrt{\langle -2x + 3, -2x + 3 \rangle} \\ &= \sqrt{\int_0^1 (-2x + 3)(-2x + 3) dx} \\ &= \sqrt{\int_0^1 4x^2 - 12x + 9 dx}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sqrt{\left(\frac{4}{3}x^3 - 6x^2 + 9x\right)\Big|_0^1} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} - 6 + 9} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{4}{3} + 3} \\
&= \sqrt{\frac{13}{3}}.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
d(f, h) &= \|f - h\| \\
&= \|x^2 - (x^2 - 3x + 4)\| \\
&= \|3x - 4\| \\
&= \sqrt{\langle 3x - 4, 3x - 4 \rangle} \\
&= \sqrt{\int_0^1 (3x - 4)(3x - 4) \, dx} \\
&= \sqrt{\int_0^1 9x^2 - 24x + 16 \, dx} \\
&= \sqrt{(3x^3 - 12x^2 + 16x)\Big|_0^1} \\
&= \sqrt{3 - 12 + 16} \\
&= \sqrt{7} > \sqrt{\frac{13}{3}}.
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $f$  is closer to  $g$  than to  $h$ .

6. Show that in any inner product space  $V$ , for all  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ ,  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{0} \rangle = 0$ .

**Solution:** Let  $\mathbf{v} \in V$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{0} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{v}, 0 \cdot \mathbf{0} \rangle \\
&= 0\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{0} \rangle \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

7. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix and let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Let  $V$  be the set of all eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ , together with the zero vector. Prove that  $V$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

**Solution:** Let  $E$  be the set of all eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ , together with the zero vector. Let  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in E, k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- Closure under addition:

$$\begin{aligned}A(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}) &= A\mathbf{u} + A\mathbf{v} \\ &= \lambda\mathbf{u} + \lambda\mathbf{v} \\ &= \lambda(\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{v}$  is also in  $E$ .

- Closure under scalar mult:

$$\begin{aligned}A(k\mathbf{u}) &= kA(\mathbf{u}) \\ &= k(\lambda\mathbf{u}) \\ &= \lambda(k\mathbf{u}).\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $k\mathbf{u} \in E$  as well.

Therefore by the subspace theorem,  $E$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

8. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Prove that  $A$  and  $A^T$  have the same eigenvalues.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}|\lambda I - A| &= |(\lambda I - A)^T| \\ &= |(\lambda I)^T - A^T| \\ &= |\lambda I - A^T|.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A$  and  $A^T$  have the same characteristic polynomials, and so must have the same eigenvalues.

9. Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. Prove that  $A$  is invertible if and only if 0 is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

**Solution:** I will solve this problem by proving the contrapositives: that  $A$  is not invertible if and only if 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Assume  $A$  is not invertible. Then  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$  has infinitely many solutions, and thus at least one non-zero solution, say  $\mathbf{x}_0$ . Then

$$A\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{0} = 0\mathbf{x}_0$$

and thus 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}_0$ .

( $\Leftarrow$ ): Assume 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Then  $\det(A - 0I) = \det(A) = 0$ . Thus  $A$  is not invertible.

10. An  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  is said to be **nilpotent** if for some  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ,  $A^k$  is a zero matrix. Prove that if  $A$  is nilpotent, then 0 is the only eigenvalue of  $A$ .

**Solution:** Let  $A$  be a nilpotent matrix and let  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$  be such that  $A^k$  is a zero matrix. Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{x} &= \lambda\mathbf{x} \\ A^2\mathbf{x} &= A(\lambda\mathbf{x}) = \lambda(A\mathbf{x}) = \lambda^2\mathbf{x}. \\ &\vdots \\ A^k\mathbf{x} &= \lambda^k\mathbf{x}. \end{aligned}$$

But  $A^k$  is a zero matrix, and so the left hand side is a zero matrix. Thus  $\lambda^k\mathbf{x}$  is a zero matrix. However  $\mathbf{x}$  being an eigenvector forces  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , and thus  $\lambda^k = 0$ , and so  $\lambda = 0$ . Thus 0 is the only eigenvalue of  $A$ .

11. Prove that if  $B = C^{-1}AC$ , then  $B$  and  $A$  have the same eigenvalues (HINT: Look at the characteristic polynomials of  $B$  and  $A$ ).

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned} |\lambda I - B| &= |\lambda I - C^{-1}AC| \\ &= |\lambda C^{-1}C - C^{-1}AC| \\ &= |C^{-1}(\lambda C - AC)| \\ &= |C^{-1}(\lambda I - A)C| \\ &= |C^{-1}| |\lambda I - A| |C| \\ &= |\lambda I - A| |C^{-1}| |C| \\ &= |\lambda I - A| |C^{-1}C| \\ &= |\lambda I - A| |I| \\ &= |\lambda I - A|. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A$  and  $B$  have the same characteristic polynomials, and so must have the same eigenvalues.

12. Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be a nonzero vector in an inner product space  $V$ . Let  $W$  be the set of all vectors in  $V$  that are orthogonal to  $\mathbf{v}$ . Prove that  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ .

**Solution:** Let  $W = \{\mathbf{w} \in V : \langle \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{v} \rangle = 0\}$ . Certainly  $W$  is non-empty since the zero vector is orthogonal to every vector in  $V$ .

Let  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in W$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{R}$ .

A1. We need to check if  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{v}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \\ &= 0 + 0 = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $\mathbf{a} + \mathbf{b} \in W$ .

M1. We need to check if  $k\mathbf{a} \in W$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\langle k\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{v} \rangle &= k\langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{v} \rangle \\ &= k(0) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $k\mathbf{a} \in W$ .

Therefore by the subspace theorem,  $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ .