

SIGNATURE:

ID:

1 True/False (20 points)

Instructions: Decide whether each of the statements below is **true** or **false**. Circle your choice. Then, in the space below, **justify your answer**. You will receive a maximum of **1 point** for correctly answering "true" or "false". You will receive the remaining **3 points** for correct justification.

Problem 1.1 (4 points).

Suppose that A is a square matrix. If the linear system $A^2\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ is consistent then so is $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$.

True

False

Justification:

Solution. True. If $A^2\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$, set $\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x}$. Then $A\mathbf{y} = A^2\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$, so \mathbf{y} is a solution of $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. Thus $\mathbf{b} \in \text{Im}(A^2) \subseteq \text{Im}(A)$.

Problem 1.2 (4 points).

There exists an invertible 2×2 matrix A such that $A^{-1} = A$.

True

False

Justification:

Solution. True. Taking $A = -I_2$ gives $A^{-1} = -I_2 = A$.

SIGNATURE:

ID:

Problem 1.3 (4 points).

Let $f(t) = 7 + 3t + t^2$, $g(t) = 8 + 8t + 4t^2$, and $h(t) = 2 + 2t + t^2$. The set $\{f, g, h\}$ is linearly independent in P_2 .

True

False

Justification:

Solution. False. Note that $g(t) = 4h(t)$

Problem 1.4 (4 points).

There exists a subspace V of \mathbb{R}^5 such that $\dim(V) = \dim(V^\perp)$.

True

False

Justification:

Solution. False. We know that $\dim(V) + \dim(V^\perp) = n = 5$. Furthermore, dimensions are always integers. So since 5 is odd, this is impossible.

Problem 1.5 (4 points).

If A and B are 3×3 matrices with the same trace and the same determinant, then they have the same eigenvalues.

True

False

Justification:

Solution. False. Trace and determinant give only the sum and product of eigenvalues. For instance,

$$A = \text{diag}(0, 1, 6), \quad B = \text{diag}(0, 2, 5)$$

both have trace 7 and determinant 0, but their eigenvalues differ.

2 Basic Skills (20 points)

Instructions: Each question in this section is worth 5 points. **Show your work!!!**

Problem 2.1 (5 points). Find the rank of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Solution. Row reduce:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

There are **two pivot rows**, so

$$\text{rank}(A) = 2.$$

Problem 2.2 (5 points). Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Write a basis for $\text{Im}(A)$ and a basis for $\ker(A)$.

Solution. All columns are multiples of $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$, so

$$\text{Im}(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Solve $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$. Let $x_2 = t$, $x_3 = s$, then $x_1 = -t - s$. Thus

$$\ker(A) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

SIGNATURE: ID: **Problem 2.3** (5 points). Diagonalize the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

That is, find an invertible matrix P and a diagonal matrix D such that

$$A = PDP^{-1}.$$

Solution. First find the eigenvalues of A . Since A is upper triangular, the eigenvalues are the diagonal entries:

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \quad \lambda_2 = 2.$$

$$E_1 = \ker(A - I) = \ker \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$E_2 = \ker(A - 2I) = \ker \left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right) = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Thus an eigenbasis for A is

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

Thus $A = PDP^{-1}$ where

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Problem 2.4 (5 points). Let

$$\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

be a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 . Find the \mathcal{B} -coordinate vector of $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$.**Solution.** Solve

$$a \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then $(a + b, b) = (3, 5)$, so $b = 5$ and $a = 3 - 5 = -2$. Thus

$$[\mathbf{v}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3 Typical Problems (60 points)

Instructions: Each question in this section is worth **20 points**. **Show your work!!!**

Problem 3.1. Let $A : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ satisfy

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) (6 points). Compute the matrix of A in the basis $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.
- (b) (6 points). Compute all eigenvalues of A .
- (c) (8 points). Determine all the subspaces of \mathbb{R}^3 that are *invariant* with respect to A . That is, find all the subspaces $V \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ such that whenever $\mathbf{v} \in V$, $A\mathbf{v} \in V$.

Solution. Let $\mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

(a) The columns of $[A]_{\mathcal{B}}$ are $[A\mathbf{b}_i]_{\mathcal{B}}$. We have

$$A\mathbf{b}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 3\mathbf{b}_1 \quad A\mathbf{b}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{b}_2 \quad A\mathbf{b}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = 2\mathbf{b}_3$$

Thus

$$[A]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) The eigenvalues are the diagonal entries in this basis:

$$\lambda = 3, 1, 2,$$

each with geometric multiplicity 1.

(c) The invariant subspaces are

$$\begin{aligned} & \{\mathbf{0}\} \\ & \text{span}\{\mathbf{b}_i\} \\ & \text{span}\{\mathbf{b}_i, \mathbf{b}_j \mid i \neq j\} \\ & \text{span}\{\mathbf{b}_1, \mathbf{b}_2, \mathbf{b}_3\} = \mathbb{R}^3. \end{aligned}$$

SIGNATURE:

ID:

Problem 3.2. Let W be the set of *all* matrices A such that

- $\det A = 2$
- and $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$

- (a) (8 points). Is W a linear subspace? If yes, find its dimension.
- (b) (6 points). Suppose that $A \in W$. What are the possible values of $\text{tr} A$?
- (c) (6 points). For which values of the trace does A have two real eigenvalues?

Solution.

(a) Suppose that $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R}$ satisfy

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

The condition $A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a+b \\ c+d \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix},$$

so

$$a + b = 4, \quad c + d = 2.$$

Use the two linear equations above to solve in terms of c . From $c + d = 2$ we get

$$d = 2 - c.$$

From $a + b = 4$ we get

$$a = 4 - b.$$

Plugging these in to $\det(A) = 2$,

$$(4 - b)(2 - c) - bc = 2.$$

Expanding,

$$(4 - b)(2 - c) - bc = 8 - 4c - 2b + bc - bc = 8 - 4c - 2b,$$

so

$$8 - 4c - 2b = 2 \implies 2b + 4c = 6 \implies \boxed{b = 3 - 2c}.$$

Then

$$a = 4 - b = 4 - (3 - 2c) \implies \boxed{a = 1 + 2c} \quad \text{and} \quad \boxed{d = 2 - c}.$$

In other words,

$$W = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 + 2c & 3 - 2c \\ c & 2 - c \end{bmatrix} \mid c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}.$$

This set is clearly **not** closed under addition and is therefore not a linear subspace.

(b) by the above calculation, the trace of A is

$$\text{tr}(A) = a + d = (1 + 2c) + (2 - c) = 3 + c.$$

As c can be any real number, $\text{tr}(A)$ can be *any* real number. So all real numbers occur as possible traces.

SIGNATURE:

ID:

(c) For a 2×2 matrix, the eigenvalues λ satisfy

$$\lambda^2 - (\operatorname{tr}A)\lambda + \det(A) = 0.$$

Here $\det(A) = 2$, so the characteristic polynomial is

$$\lambda^2 - (\operatorname{tr}A)\lambda + 2 = 0.$$

So A has two distinct real eigenvalues when

$$(\operatorname{tr}A)^2 - (4 \cdot 1 \cdot 2) > 0 \iff (\operatorname{tr}A)^2 > 8 \iff |\operatorname{tr}A| > \sqrt{8}.$$

SIGNATURE:

ID:

Problem 3.3 (20 points). Consider the discrete dynamical system defined by

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_n,$$

Let $\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Compute \mathbf{x}_{50} .

Solution. Note that $A = I + H$ where $H = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. Also,

$$H^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= (I + H)^2 = I + 2H \\ A^3 &= (I + 2H)(I + H) = I + 3H \\ &\vdots \\ A^n &= I + nH. \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x}_{50} &= (I + 50H) \mathbf{x}_0 \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} + 50 \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 101 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

4 Challenge Problem: 10 Bonus Points

Instructions: This is a *challenge problem* and should only be attempted if you are finished with the rest of the exam. It is worth 10 bonus points.

Problem 4.1.

Suppose that A is a 4×4 matrix with entries 1 , -1 , or 0 . What is the *maximum* possible value of its determinant? Give an example of a matrix whose determinant is equal to this maximum value.

Solution. Let $\mathbf{r}_1, \mathbf{r}_2, \mathbf{r}_3, \mathbf{r}_4$ be the rows of A . The Gram–Schmidt process implies that

$$|\det A| \leq \prod_{i=1}^4 \|\mathbf{r}_i\|.$$

By assumption, the maximum *length* of each row vector is 4. Thus

$$|\det A| \leq \|\mathbf{r}_1\| \|\mathbf{r}_2\| \|\mathbf{r}_3\| \|\mathbf{r}_4\| \leq 16.$$

To construct an example, we just need to find 4 orthogonal vectors, whose components are all 0, 1, or -1, each with length 2. For example,

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

One easily checks that $\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j = \mathbf{0}$. Therefore

$$AA^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = [\mathbf{r}_i \cdot \mathbf{r}_j]_{ij} = I.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} |\det(AA^T)| &= |\det A|^2 = \det(4I) = 4^4 \\ |\det A| &= 4^2 = 16. \end{aligned}$$

END OF EXAMINATION.