

Math 250–Section #4 Hourly #2

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

1. [15 pts]

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{find:}$$

- (a) its characteristic polynomial
- (b) its eigenvalues
- (c) corresponding eigenvectors
- (d) the matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is a diagonal matrix

Answer: (a) We must find the determinant of the matrix  $\lambda I - A$ . We should try to keep the factors by expanding along the first row:

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 3 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & \lambda - 5 & -2 \\ -3 & -2 & \lambda - 2 \end{vmatrix} &= (\lambda - 3) \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 5 & -2 \\ -2 & \lambda - 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (\lambda - 3)((\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 2) - 4) = (\lambda - 3)((\lambda^2 - 7\lambda + 6)). \end{aligned}$$

Factoring the quadratic [same as in Quiz 6] we get

$$|\lambda I - A| = (\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 1).$$

- (b)  $\lambda = 1, 3, 6$  are the eigenvalues.
- (c) For each of these values we find the nullspace of the matrix  $\lambda I - A$ , whose bases give us the desired eigenvectors:

$$\lambda = 1 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \lambda = 3 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -5 \\ 8 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \lambda = 6 \leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (d) The matrix  $P$  that effects the diagonalization has for columns the eigenvectors:

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -6 & 0 \\ 1 & -5 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. [15 pts] Given the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 7 & -8 & 3 \\ 5 & -7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find:

- (a) basis for its row space
- (b) basis for its column space
- (c) basis for its nullspace

Answer: (a) Reduced row reduction leads to a basis for the row space

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 7 & -8 & 3 \\ 5 & -7 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -1 \\ 0 & 3 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The rows with the pivots give a basis of the row space:

$$\{(1, -2, -1), (0, 3, 5)\}.$$

(b) The columns of the original matrix  $A$  with the pivots give a basis of the column space (note that there is no need to process  $A^T$ ):

$$\{(1, 2, 7, 5), (-2, -1, -8, -7)\}$$

(c) To find the nullspace we use the row reduced matrix [to solve for  $Ax = 0$ ] to get that the solution set is made up of the multiples [the basis] of  $(-13/3, -5/3, 1)$

3. [10 pts] Find a basis for the vector space of all  $2 \times 3$  matrices.

Answer: All these matrices

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \end{bmatrix}$$

are unique linear combinations of the 6 particular  $2 \times 3$  matrices

$$a \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + b \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + c \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + d \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + e \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} + f \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This shows that these 6 matrices form a basis for the space.

4. [12 pts] Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix with eigenvalues  $1/2$ ,  $3$  and  $4$ .

(a) Show that  $A$  is diagonalizable.

(b) Show that  $\det A \neq 0$ .

(c) What are the eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$  [explain]?

(d) Explain why the eigenvalues of  $A^2$  are  $1/4$ ,  $9$  and  $16$ .

Answer: (a)  $A$  is  $3 \times 3$  with distinct eigenvalues, so it is diagonalizable by class discussion.

(b) No eigenvalue is  $0$  so the nullspace of  $A$  is and therefore it is nonsingular. More precisely, since  $A$  is diagonalizable, there exists an invertible matrix  $P$  such that

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

from which we get

$$\det(A) = \det(P^{-1}AP) = \det(P^{-1}) \det A \det P = 1/2 \times 3 \times 4 = 6.$$

(c) The other parts would follow from (b) but it is better seen as follows: If  $v$  is an eigenvector of eigenvalue  $\lambda$

$$Av = \lambda v,$$

since  $A$  is invertible, we get by multiplying the equation by  $A^{-1}$

$$A^{-1}Av = v = \lambda A^{-1}v,$$

and therefore

$$A^{-1}v = \lambda^{-1}v.$$

(d) Similarly, multiplying the eigenvector equation by  $A$ , we get

$$A(Av) = A(\lambda v) = \lambda(Av) = \lambda \cdot \lambda v = \lambda^2 v.$$

5. [14 pts] (a) Find the basis for the vector subspace  $W$  of  $P_3$  consisting of all vectors of the form  $at^3 + bt^2 + ct + d$ , where  $a = b$  and  $c = d$ .  
(b) Determine  $W^\perp$ , the orthogonal complement of  $W$ .

Answer: In this problem, only part (a) will count [for the full score] as we did not discuss in class a notion of ‘dot product’ for the space  $P_3$ .

The polynomials specified above are simply those of the form

$$at^3 + at^2 + ct + d = a(t^3 + t^2) + c(t + 1),$$

that is the set of linear combinators of  $t^3 + t^2$  and  $t + 1$ . Since they are linear independent, these polynomials form a basis for  $W$ .

6. [12 pts] Show that the following two matrices are NOT diagonalizable:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Answer: The characteristic polynomial for the first matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 1 & -1 \\ 0 & \lambda - 1 \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - 1)^2.$$

Thus  $\lambda = 1$  is the only eigenvalue. Let us check whether we have enough eigenvectors: If nullspace of  $\lambda I - A$  has just one equation  $x_2 = 0$ , which gives the eigenvector  $(1, 0)$ . This means that we don't have a basis for the space  $\mathbb{R}^2$  made up of eigenvectors, so  $A$  is not diagonalizable.

For the other matrix, the characteristic polynomial

$$\begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 1.$$

Its roots are  $\pm\sqrt{-1}$ , so  $A$  does not have real eigenvalues [and therefore cannot be diagonalizable in real space].

7. [12 pts] Let  $W$  be the subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  with basis  $(1, 1, 0, 1), (0, 1, 1, 0)$ . Find the projection of the vector  $v = (2, 1, 3, 0)$  onto  $W$ .

Answer: We must first use the Gram–Schmidt process to get an orthonormal basis for  $W$ . According to the given formula, we set  $u_1 = (1, 1, 0, 1)$  and

$$\begin{aligned}u_2 &= (0, 1, 1, 0) - \frac{(0, 1, 1, 0) \cdot (1, 1, 0, 1)}{(1, 1, 0, 1) \cdot (1, 1, 0, 1)}(1, 1, 0, 1) \\ &= (0, 1, 1, 0) - 1/3(1, 1, 0, 1) = (-1/3, 2/3, 1, -1/3)\end{aligned}$$

We now normalize  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  to obtain the desired basis  $w_1$  and  $w_2$ :

$$w_1 = \frac{u_1}{\|u_1\|} = 1/\sqrt{3}(1, 1, 0, 1)$$

$$w_2 = \frac{u_2}{\|u_2\|} = \sqrt{1/15}(-1, 2, 3, -1)$$

Finally we use the projection formula

$$\text{proj}_W(v) = (v \cdot w_1)w_1 + (v \cdot w_2)w_2 = 1/5(2, 11, 9, 2).$$

8. [10 pts] Give a solid explanation of the following fact: If  $A$  is a  $m \times n$  matrix then the dimension of its row space is equal to the dimension of its column space. Begin by explaining the terms ‘row space’ and ‘column space’ of a matrix.

Answer: The *row space* of the matrix  $A$  is the *subspace* spanned by the row vectors of the matrix, that is, it is the set of all linear combinations of the row vectors  $r_1, \dots, r_m$  of  $A$ . [Note that this is much more than just the row vectors of the matrix.] Note that all the row vectors of all the matrices that occur when we carry out row reduction in  $A$  are linear combinations of the rows of  $A$ . Row reduction provides a set of vectors that is a basis for the row space.

There is a similar description of the column space.

**[Important point:]** As we carry out row reduction, the columns are changing with the new columns that may not lie in the original column space. **However**, the relationships between the original and the new columns have not changed [after all, the relationships are expressed as the solutions of the corresponding systems—and the solutions are still the same]. At the end point of row reduction, it becomes clear that the columns with the pivots form a basis of the new column space, so that any additional column is a combination of the pivot columns. Consequently, the column of  $A$  in the same position is the ‘same’ linear combination of the columns of  $A$  designated by the pivot positions.

The routine to obtain a basis that is orthogonal from another basis

[Gram–Schmidt process]: Input basis  $S = \{u_1, \dots, u_n\}$

Step 1: Set  $v_1 = u_1$

Step 2: Compute  $v_2, \dots, v_n$  successively, one at a time, by

$$v_i = u_i - \left(\frac{u_i \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1}\right)v_1 - \left(\frac{u_i \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2}\right)v_2 - \cdots - \left(\frac{u_i \cdot v_{i-1}}{v_{i-1} \cdot v_{i-1}}\right)v_{i-1}$$

Step 3: Set

$$w_i = \frac{v_i}{\|v_i\|}$$

Then  $T = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$  is an orthonormal basis.