

1. Let  $A$  be a  $(n \times n)$ -matrix over the field  $F$ .
  - (a) Define the nullspace  $N_A$  of  $A$  and the column space  $C_A$  of  $A$ .
  - (b) Show that if  $A^2 = 0$ , then  $C_A \subset N_A$ .
  - (c) Show that if  $A^2 = A$ , then  $C_A \cap N_A = 0$  and  $F^n = C_A + N_A$ .

2. Let

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

With  $N_A$  and  $C_A$  as in question 1, find  $\dim N_A$  and  $\dim C_A$ . Determine a basis for  $C_A \cap N_A$ .

3. Let  $V$  be the vectorspace of complex polynomials of degree  $\leq 2$ . For  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , define

$$\varepsilon_z : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$$

by  $\varepsilon_z(p) = p(z)$ .

- (a) Show that  $\varepsilon_z$  is a linear map.
  - (b) Let  $z_1 = 1$ ,  $z_2 = -1$  and  $z_3 = i$ . Let  $\lambda_i = \varepsilon_{z_i}$ . Show that  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3\}$  is a basis of the vectorspace  $\hat{V}$  of linear maps from  $V$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ .
  - (c) Express  $\varepsilon_0$  as a linear combination of  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ .
4. Let  $A$  be the  $(n \times n)$ -matrix

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

( $A$  has entries 1 just above and below the diagonal, i.e.  $a_{ij} = 1$  if  $|i - j| = 1$ , and all other entries are zero.) Compute  $\det(A)$  (in terms of  $n$ ).

5. Let

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

- (a) Determine the characteristic polynomial  $\chi_A$ , the eigenvalues of  $A$  and bases for the eigenspaces.
  - (b) Find the minimal polynomial  $\mu_A$  and determine the Jordan canonical form of  $A$ . Justify your answer.
  - (c) Compute  $A^{10}$ . Hint:  $A^r = ((A - I) + I)^r$ .
6. Let  $V$  be  $\mathbb{R}^4$  with the standard inner product. Let  $U$  be the subspace generated by  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$ , and  $(0, 1, 1, 1)$ .
- (a) Find orthonormal bases for  $U$  and for  $U^\perp$ .
  - (b) Find the vector  $u \in U$  that is closest to  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ .

7. Find an orthogonal matrix  $P$  that diagonalizes the quadratic form

$$Q(x_1, x_2, x_3) = x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + 2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_3 + 2x_2x_3.$$

8. Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 3 + 4i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 - 4i & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (a) Compute  $A^*$ . Is  $A$  Hermitian? Is  $A$  normal? Is  $A$  unitary? Justify your answer.
- (b) Find a unitary matrix  $U$  so that  $U^*AU$  is diagonal. Give an a priori reason why this is possible.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

FINAL EXAMINATION

MATHEMATICS 189-247B

LINEAR ALGEBRA

Examiner: Professor K.P. Russell  
Associate Examiner: Professor J.R. Choksi

Date: Thursday, April 24, 1997  
Time: 2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

This exam comprises the cover and 2 pages of questions.