

DUKE UNIVERSITY

MATH 218D-2

MATRICES AND VECTORS

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## Exam III

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Name:

Unique ID:

\_\_\_\_\_ [Solutions](#) \_\_\_\_\_

*I have adhered to the Duke Community Standard in completing this exam.*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

November 22, 2024

- There are 100 points and 4 problems on this 50-minute exam.
- Unless otherwise stated, your answers must be supported by clear and coherent work to receive credit.
- The back of each page of this exam is left blank and may be used for scratch work.
- Scratch work will not be graded unless it is clearly labeled and requested in the body of the original problem.

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**Problem 1.** The data below depicts a matrix  $Q$  with orthonormal columns, the adjugate of an upper triangular matrix  $R$ , and the characteristic polynomial of  $R$ .

$$Q = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 3 \\ -2 & -4 & -2 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{adj}(R) = \begin{bmatrix} -20 & -20 & 10 \\ 0 & 20 & -20 \\ 0 & 0 & -25 \end{bmatrix} \quad \chi_R(t) = t^3 + 4t^2 - 25t - 100$$

Let  $A = QR$ . *Do not ignore the factor of  $1/5$  used to define  $Q$ .*

(6 pts) (a)  $\text{trace}(Q^T Q) = \underline{3}$  and  $\text{trace}(R) = \underline{-4}$

(4 pts) (b) The (3,1) cofactor of  $R$  is 10.

(5 pts) (c) Each of the following statements is true. However, only one is equivalent to the statement “ $R^{-1}$  exists.” Select this statement.

$\text{trace}(\text{adj}(R)) \neq 0$     The eigenvalues of  $R$  do not sum to zero.     $\chi_R(t)$  is monic.

$\chi_R(0) \neq 0$      $\text{adj}(R)$  exists.

(12 pts) (d) Let  $\mathbf{b} = [0 \ 0 \ 500 \ 0 \ 0]^T$ . The system  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  is inconsistent. Find the least squares approximate solution  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ . Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit.

**Solution.** The relevant feature of  $A = QR$  is that the least squares problem associated to  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  reduces to  $R\hat{\mathbf{x}} = Q^T \mathbf{b}$ .

We are given  $\text{adj}(R)$  and we also know that  $\det(R) = (-1)^3 \cdot \chi_R(0) = -(-100) = 100$ . The adjugate formula for inverses then allows us to solve for  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}$  with

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathbf{x}} &= \frac{1}{100} \begin{bmatrix} -20 & -20 & 10 \\ 0 & 20 & -20 \\ 0 & 0 & -25 \end{bmatrix} \overset{R^{-1}}{\frac{1}{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 3 & -2 & 2 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \overset{Q^T}{\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{b} \\ 0 \\ 500 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -20 & -20 & 10 \\ 0 & 20 & -20 \\ 0 & 0 & -25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 0 & -1 & -2 \\ 3 & -2 & 2 & -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} -20 & -20 & 10 \\ 0 & 20 & -20 \\ 0 & 0 & -25 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 40 \\ -40 \\ -50 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(18 pts) **Problem 2.** Let  $\mathbf{u}(t)$  be the solution to the initial value problem  $\mathbf{u}' = A\mathbf{u}$  with  $\mathbf{u}(0) = \mathbf{u}_0$  where

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 1 \\ 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{u}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find  $\mathbf{u}(t)$ . Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit.

**Solution.** From class we know that  $\mathbf{u}(t) = \exp(At)\mathbf{u}_0$ . Calculating matrix exponentials is hard, so we hope we can diagonalize  $A = XDX^{-1}$ , which gives  $\mathbf{u}(t) = X \exp(Dt)X^{-1}$ .

The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is

$$\chi_A(t) = t^2 - \text{trace}(A)t + \det(A) = t^2 + 7t + 6 = (t + 1) \cdot (t + 6)$$

This tells us that  $E\text{-Vals}(A) = \{-1, -6\}$ . The eigenspaces are

$$\mathcal{E}_A(-1) = \text{Null} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \cdot I_2 - A \\ 4 & -1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \qquad \mathcal{E}_A(-6) = \text{Null} \begin{bmatrix} -6 \cdot I_2 - A \\ -1 & -1 \\ -4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Our diagonalization is then  $A = XDX^{-1}$  where

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \qquad D = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \qquad X^{-1} = \frac{1}{-5} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here, we have used the adjugate formula for inverses to calculate  $X^{-1}$ . Putting all this together gives

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}(t) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{(-t)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{(-6t)} \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{-5} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} e^{(-t)} & 0 \\ 0 & e^{(-6t)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2e^{(-t)} \\ -7e^{(-6t)} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 2e^{(-t)} - 7e^{(-6t)} \\ 8e^{(-t)} + 7e^{(-6t)} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

**Problem 3.** Suppose that  $x > 0$  is a real number and consider the spectral factorization  $H = UDU^*$  given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} ? & -i & 1-i & i \\ i & ? & -1 & 1-i \\ 1+i & -1 & ? & -1 \\ -i & 1+i & -1 & ? \end{bmatrix}^H = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{5}{\sqrt{60}} \\ -2 & \frac{1+i}{2} & 0 & \frac{-1-3i}{\sqrt{60}} \\ \frac{2+i}{\sqrt{x}} & \frac{i}{2} & \frac{-i}{2} & \frac{-2-i}{\sqrt{60}} \\ \frac{-1-i}{\sqrt{x}} & 0 & \frac{1-i}{2} & \frac{-2+4i}{\sqrt{60}} \end{bmatrix}^U \begin{bmatrix} 3 & & & \\ & 1 & & \\ & & -1 & \\ & & & -3 \end{bmatrix}^D \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & U^* \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that each entry in the first column of  $U$  has a denominator of  $\sqrt{x}$  and that every diagonal entry of  $H$  is unknown and marked ?.

(5 pts) (a)  $x = \underline{12}$

**Solution.** Every column of  $U$  must be a unit vector, so we need

$$1 = \left\| \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \cdot [1 \quad -2 \quad 2+i \quad -1-i]^T \right\|^2 = (1/x) \cdot (1^2 + (-2)^2 + 2^2 + 1^2 + (-1)^2 + (-1)^2) = 12/x$$

Hence  $x = 12$ .

(16 pts) (b) Which of the following scalars is equal to zero? Select all that apply (2pts each).

$\text{trace}(H)$      $\det(H)$      $\text{nullity}(i \cdot I_4 - H)$     The “imaginary part” of every entry marked ?.

$\chi_H(i^2)$      $\det(3 \cdot I_4 - H)$     One of the eigenvalues of  $U$ .

The “real part” of  $\exp(h_{31} \cdot \pi/2) = e^{h_{31} \cdot \pi/2}$  where  $h_{31}$  is the  $(3, 1)$  entry of  $H$ .

**Solution.** First,  $\text{trace}(H) = \text{trace}(D) = 3 + 1 - 1 - 3 = 0$ . Then,  $\det(H) = \det(D) = 3 \cdot (1) \cdot (-1) \cdot (-3) \neq 0$ . Since  $\lambda = i$  is not an eigenvalue of  $H$ , the characteristic matrix  $i \cdot I_4 - H$  is *nonsingular*, which means  $\text{nullity}(i \cdot I_4 - H) = 0$ . Next, since  $H^* = H$ , every diagonal entry ? of  $H$  must satisfy  $\bar{?} = ?$ , which means every ? is a real number. Since  $i^2 = -1$  is an eigenvalue of  $H$ ,  $\chi_H(i^2) = 0$ . Similarly,  $\det(3 \cdot I_4 - H) = 0$ . We know  $U^* = U^{-1}$ , so none of the eigenvalues of  $U$  is zero. Finally, Euler’s formula tells us that

$$\exp(h_{31} \cdot \pi/2) = \exp((\pi/2) + (\pi/2) \cdot i) = e^{\pi/2} \{ \cos(\pi/2) + i \sin(\pi/2) \} = e^{\pi/2} \{ 0 + i \cdot 1 \} = i e^{\pi/2}$$

So, the “real part” of this number is zero.

(10 pts) (c) Suppose that  $Y$  is invertible and let  $A = (U^*Y^{-1})D(YU)$ . Calculate  $\chi_A(2)$ . Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit.

**Solution.** Let  $X = U^*Y^{-1}$  and note that  $X(YU) = U^*Y^{-1}YU = U^*IU = U^*U = I$ . This means  $X^{-1} = YU$  so  $A = XDX^{-1}$ . It follows that

$$\chi_A(t) = (t-3)(t-1)(t+1)(t+3)$$

Hence

$$\chi_A(2) = (2-3)(2-1)(2+1)(2+3) = (-1)(1)(3)(5) = -15$$

**Problem 4.** Let  $S$  be the  $4 \times 4$  real symmetric matrix that defines the quadratic form

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, S\mathbf{x} \rangle = 5x_1^2 - 2x_1x_2 + x_2^2 + 8x_1x_3 + 4x_2x_3 + 4x_3^2 + 6x_1x_4 - 2x_2x_4 + 8x_3x_4 + 5x_4^2$$

If we “complete the square”, then this quadratic form simplifies to

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_1 y_1^2 + 3y_2^2 + 2y_3^2 - 2y_4^2$$

where  $\lambda_1$  is a scalar and  $y_1, y_2, y_3$  are expressions that depend on  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ .

(4 pts) (a) What is the definiteness of  $S$ ? Select all that apply (no partial credit here).

- positive definite   
 positive semidefinite   
 negative definite   
 negative semidefinite   
 indefinite

(5 pts) (b) Only one of the following expressions is a correct formula for the quadratic form  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \exp(S)\mathbf{x} \rangle$ . Select this expression.

- $f(\mathbf{x}) = e^{\lambda_1} y_1^2 + e^3 y_2^2 + e^2 y_3^2 + e^{-2} y_4^2$    
  $f(\mathbf{x}) = e^{\lambda_1} y_1^2 e^3 y_2^2 e^2 y_3^2 e^{-2} y_4^2$   
  $f(\mathbf{x}) = e^{\lambda_1} y_1^2 + e^3 y_2^2 + e^2 y_3^2 + e^{-2} y_4^2$    
  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_1 e^{y_1^2} + 3e^{y_2^2} + 2e^{y_3^2} - 2e^{y_4^2}$    
 none of these

(5 pts) (c)  $\lambda_1 = \underline{12}$

**Solution.** The formula  $q(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_1 y_1^2 + 3y_2^2 + 2y_3^2 - 2y_4^2$  from “completing the square” tells us that  $\text{E-Vals}(S) = \{\lambda_1, 3, 2, -2\}$ . The “square” terms in the first formula for  $q(\mathbf{x})$  are  $5x_1^2, x_2^2, 4x_3^2, 5x_4^2$ , which means that the diagonal entries of  $S$  are 5, 1, 4, 5. The eigenvalue formula for trace then tells us that

$$\lambda_1 + 3 + 2 - 2 = \text{trace}(S) = 5 + 1 + 4 + 5 = 15$$

It follows that  $\lambda_1 = 15 - 3 - 2 + 2 = 12$ .

(10 pts) (d) Calculate  $y_3^2$  when  $x_1 = 2, x_2 = 4, x_3 = 6,$  and  $x_4 = 8$ . Clearly explain your reasoning to receive credit.

**Solution.** The technique of “completing the square” expresses our quadratic form as

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = \lambda_1 y_1^2 + 3y_2^2 + 2y_3^2 - 2y_4^2$$

Here,  $\text{E-Vals}(S) = \{\lambda_1, 3, 2, -2\}$  and  $\mathbf{y} = U^T \mathbf{x}$  where  $S = UDU^T$  is a spectral factorization. This spectral factorization looks like

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -1 & 4 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 4 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ 3 & -1 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}^S = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & | & | \\ \mathbf{u}_1 & \mathbf{u}_2 & \mathbf{u}_3 & \mathbf{u}_4 \\ | & | & | & | \end{bmatrix}^U \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & 3 & & \\ & & 2 & \\ & & & -2 \end{bmatrix}^D \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \mathbf{u}_1^T & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{u}_2^T & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{u}_3^T & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \mathbf{u}_4^T & \text{---} \end{bmatrix}^{U^T}$$

We know that  $y_3 = \langle \mathbf{u}_3, \mathbf{x} \rangle$  and that  $\mathbf{u}_3$  is a unit basis vector of  $\mathcal{E}_S(2)$ . We then turn our attention to the eigenspace

$$\mathcal{E}_S(2) = \text{Null} \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 1 & -4 & -3 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -4 & -2 & -2 & -4 \\ -3 & 1 & -4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}^{2 \cdot I_4 - S} = \text{Span} \left\{ \mathbf{u}_3 = \frac{\pm 1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Here, the two valid formulas for  $\mathbf{u}_3$  were found by noticing the column relation  $\text{Col}_1 = \text{Col}_4$  in the characteristic matrix  $2 \cdot I_4 - S$ . Now, we have

$$y_3^2 = \left( \frac{\pm(x_1 - x_4)}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{\pm(2 - 8)}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 = \left( \frac{\pm 6}{\sqrt{2}} \right)^2 = \frac{36}{2} = 18$$