

## MATH 350-01 - Solutions to review problems for Exam #2

The solution to #2 has been corrected and some minor typos have been fixed as of 6PM on Sunday, 4/13.

#1 Suppose that  $A$  is a 5 by 5 matrix and

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

If  $\det(A) = 1$  and  $\det(B) = 3$ , what is  $\det(2A + B)$ . Why?

**Solution:** Let  $a_i$  denote the  $i$ -th row of  $A$  and  $b_i$  denote the  $i$ -th row of  $B$ . Thus  $b_1 = a_1$ ,  $b_2 = a_2 + [1, -1, 2, 0, 1]$ ,  $b_3 = a_3$ ,  $b_4 = a_4$ ,  $b_5 = a_5$ , and we may write

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Let  $C = (\frac{2}{3})A + (\frac{1}{3})B$ . Thus

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ (\frac{2}{3})a_2 + (\frac{1}{3})b_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$\det C = (\frac{2}{3})\det \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{bmatrix} + (\frac{1}{3})\det \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_2 \\ a_3 \\ a_4 \\ a_5 \end{bmatrix} = (\frac{2}{3})\det(A) + (\frac{1}{3})\det(B) = (\frac{2}{3}) + (\frac{1}{3})3 = \frac{5}{3}.$$

Now  $2A + B = 3C = (3I)C$  and so

$$\det(2A + B) = \det(3I)\det(C) = 3^5(\frac{5}{3}) = 3^4(5) = 405.$$

#2 Let the 4 by 7 matrix  $A$  have columns  $a_1, \dots, a_7$ . Suppose the reduced row echelon form of  $A$  is

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

Suppose further that  $a_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 0 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $a_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ , and  $a_5 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find  $A$ .

**Solution:** Let  $R$  denote the reduced row echelon form of  $A$  and let  $r_i$  denote the  $i$ -th column of  $R$ . Then we know that if  $b_1, \dots, b_7 \in F$  we have  $b_1 a_1 + \dots + b_7 a_7 = 0$  if and only if  $b_1 r_1 + \dots + b_7 r_7 = 0$ . Now  $r_2 = 2r_1, r_5 = -r_1 + 2r_3 + r_4, r_6 = r_4$ , and  $r_7 = 3r_1 + r_3 + 3r_4$ . Hence  $a_2 = 2a_1$  and so

$$a_1 = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)a_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Also  $a_5 = -a_1 + 2a_3 + a_4$  and so

$$a_4 = a_1 - 2a_3 + a_5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Finally,

$$a_6 = a_4 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix},$$

and

$$a_7 = 3a_1 + a_3 + 3a_4 = 3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 3 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \\ -1 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -11 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & -2 & -1 & -2 & -2 \\ -2 & -4 & 1 & -2 & 2 & -2 & -11 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & -2 \\ 3 & 6 & 2 & -4 & -3 & -4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

#3 A 9 by 9 diagonalizable matrix  $A$  has three eigenvalues: 1, 2 and 3. If

$$\text{rank}(A - I) = 7$$

and

$$\text{rank}(A - 2I) = 5,$$

what is the multiplicity of the eigenvalue 3? Why?

**Solution:** Since the matrix is diagonalizable, the sum of the dimensions of the eigenspaces must equal 9. Now the 1-eigenspace,  $E_1$ , is equal to  $N(A - I)$  and so its dimension is the nullity of  $A - I$  which is equal to  $9 - \text{rank}(A - I) = 9 - 7 = 2$ . Similarly, the dimension of  $E_2$  is  $9 - \text{rank}(A - 2I) = 9 - 5 = 4$ . Then  $2 + 4 + \dim(E_3) = 9$  and so  $\dim(E_3) = 3$ . This is the (geometric) multiplicity of the eigenvalue 3.

#4 Let  $A$  be an  $m$  by  $n$  matrix. Write  $A = [a_1 \ a_2 \ \dots \ a_n]$  where  $A_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th column of  $A$ . Let  $A_k = [a_1 \ \dots \ a_k]$ , i.e., the matrix consisting of the first  $k$  columns of  $A$ . Set  $s_i(A) = \text{rank}(A_i)$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , and let  $s(A)$  denote the  $n$ -tuple  $[s_1(A) \ \dots \ s_n(A)]$ .

(a) Let  $P$  be an invertible  $m$  by  $m$  matrix. Prove that  $s(A) = s(PA)$ .

(b) Let  $R$  be the reduced row echelon form of  $A$ . Prove that  $s(R) = s(A)$ .

(c) Say that a column of  $A$  is a basic column if the corresponding column of  $R$  contains the initial nonzero entry of some row. Show how to determine the basic columns from the  $n$ -tuple  $s(A)$ .

(d) Show that the column  $a_i$  of  $A$  is a linear combination of the columns  $a_j$  such that  $j \leq i$  and  $a_j$  is basic.

(e) Explain why a matrix  $A$  has only one reduced row echelon form.

**Solution:**

(a) We know from the definition of matrix multiplication that the  $i$ -th column of  $PA$  is  $Pa_i$ . Therefore  $(PA)_k = P(A_k)$  and so,  $s_k(PA) = \text{rank}((PA)_k) = \text{rank}(P(A_k)) = \text{rank}(A_k) = s_k(A)$ .

(b) Since  $R = PA$  for some invertible matrix  $P$ , this follows from part (a).

(c) The  $k$ -th column of  $R$  is basic if and only if it is not contained in the span of the first  $k - 1$  columns. This occurs if and only if either  $k = 1$  and  $s_1(R) \neq 0$  or if  $k > 1$  and  $s_k(R) > s_{k-1}(R)$ . In view of part (b), this means that the  $k$ -th column is basic if and only if either  $k = 1$  and  $s_1(A) \neq 0$  or if  $k > 1$  and  $s_k(A) > s_{k-1}(A)$ .

(d) We know that for scalars  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  we have  $b_1a_1 + \dots + b_na_n = 0$  if and only if  $b_1r_1 + \dots + b_nr_n = 0$ . Since  $r_i$  is a linear combination of the columns  $r_j$  such that  $j \leq i$  and  $r_j$  is basic, the same result holds for the  $a_i$ .

(e) Suppose  $A$  has reduced row echelon forms

$$R = [r_1 \ r_2 \ \dots \ r_n]$$

and

$$T = [t_1 \quad t_2 \quad \dots \quad t_n].$$

Then by (c) the basic columns of  $R$  are the same as the basic columns of  $T$ . Furthermore, any column of  $A$  is a linear combination of basic columns of  $A$ . Therefore the corresponding column of  $R$  is the same linear combination of the basic columns of  $R$  and the corresponding column of  $T$  is the same linear combination of the basic columns of  $T$ . Thus every column of  $R$  is equal to the corresponding column of  $T$  and so the two matrices are equal.

#5 Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & -1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 5 & -1 & 0 & -2 \\ 2 & 3 & 1 & 4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Find the reduced row echelon form for  $A$
- Find a basis for the null space  $N(L_A)$
- Find a basis for the row space of  $A$
- Find a basis for the column space of  $A$ .

**Solution:**

(a)  $R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the reduced row echelon form.

(b) The free variables are  $x_3$  and  $x_4$ . Suppose  $R \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = 0$ . Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 + 2x_3 + 5x_4 \\ x_2 - x_3 - 2x_4, x_5 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

and so

$$x_1 = -2x_3 - 5x_4$$

$$x_2 = x_3 + 2x_4$$

$$x_3 = x_3$$

$$x_4 = x_4$$

$$x_5 = 0.$$

Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_3 - 5x_4 \\ x_3 + 2x_4 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_4 \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

is a basis for  $N(L_A)$ .

(c) The set of nonzero rows of the reduced row echelon form of  $A$  is (one) basis for the row space of  $A$ . Thus  $\{[1 \ 0 \ 2 \ 5 \ 0], [0 \ 1 \ -1 \ -2 \ 0], [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 1]\}$  is a basis for the row space of  $A$ .

(d) The set of basic columns of  $A$  (that is, those columns corresponding to the columns of  $R$  containing the initial nonzero element of some row) is one basis for the column space

of  $A$ . Thus  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for the column space of  $A$ .

#6 Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(a) Find all eigenvalues for  $A$  and find a basis for each eigenspace.

(b) Find an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $P^{-1}AP = D$ .

**Solution:**

$$(a) \det \begin{bmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 2 - \lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$(2 - \lambda) \det \begin{bmatrix} -3 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = (2 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 9 + 5) = (2 - \lambda)((\lambda^2 - 4) = -(\lambda - 2)^2(\lambda + 2).$$

Thus the eigenvalues are 2 and  $-2$ . Now  $E_2 = N(A - 2I) = N\left(\begin{bmatrix} -5 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ .

Thus  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $E_2$ . Also  $E_{-2} = N(A - (-2)I) = N(A + 2I) =$

$N\left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ . Thus  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $E_{-2}$ .

(b)  $P = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$  is one choice for  $O$  and  $D$ .

#7

(a) Compute  $\det A$  if

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

(b) Compute  $\det B$  if

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c) Let  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in F$ . Compute

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(n-1)} & a_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-1)} \\ a_1^{(n-2)} & a_2^{(n-2)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-2)} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(d) Let  $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in F$ . Find the characteristic polynomial of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & a_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution:**

$$(a) \det A = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$-\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = -\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} = -\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = -24.$$

$$(b) \det B = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 13 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -15 \end{bmatrix} = -15.$$

(c) Subtract  $a_1$  times the second row from the first row. Then subtract  $a_1$  times the third row from the second row. Continue in this way, finally subtracting  $a_1$  times the  $n$ -th row from the  $n - 1$ st row to get

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(n-1)} & a_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-1)} \\ a_1^{(n-2)} & a_2^{(n-2)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-2)} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & (a_2 - a_1)a_2^{(n-2)} & \dots & (a_n - a_1)a_n^{(n-2)} \\ 0 & (a_2 - a_1)a_2^{(n-3)} & \dots & (a_n - a_1)a_n^{(n-3)} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ 0 & a_2 - a_1 & \dots & a_n - a_1 \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Expanding along the first column shows that this is

$$\begin{bmatrix} (a_2 - a_1)a_2^{(n-2)} & \dots & (a_n - a_1)a_n^{(n-2)} \\ (a_2 - a_1)a_2^{(n-3)} & \dots & (a_n - a_1)a_n^{(n-3)} \\ \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ a_2 - a_1 & \dots & a_n - a_1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Factoring out the common factors from each column gives

$$(-1)^{n+1}(a_2 - a_1)(a_3 - a_1)\dots(a_n - a_1)\det \begin{bmatrix} a_2^{(n-2)} & a_3^{(n-2)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-2)} \\ a_2^{(n-3)} & a_3^{(n-3)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-3)} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$(a_1 - a_2)(a_1 - a_3)\dots(a_1 - a_n)\det \begin{bmatrix} a_2^{(n-2)} & a_3^{(n-2)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-2)} \\ a_2^{(n-3)} & a_3^{(n-3)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-3)} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ a_2 & a_3 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Continuing in this way gives

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} a_1^{(n-1)} & a_2^{(n-1)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-1)} \\ a_1^{(n-2)} & a_2^{(n-2)} & \dots & a_n^{(n-2)} \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ a_1 & a_2 & \dots & a_n \\ 1 & 1 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} = (a_1 - a_2)\dots(a_1 - a_n)(a_2 - a_3)\dots(a_2 - a_n)\dots(a_{n-1} - a_n).$$



(d) Expanding along the first row gives

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_0 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda & \dots & 0 & a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & a_3 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & a_{n-1} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$(-\lambda \det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda & \dots & 0 & a_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & a_4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & a_{n-1} - \lambda \end{bmatrix}) + (-1)^{1+n} \det \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the matrix in the second summand is upper triangular with diagonal entries 1, its determinant is 1. Thus the characteristic polynomial of the given matrix is

$$(-\lambda \det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_1 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 & a_2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda & \dots & 0 & a_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 & a_4 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \dots & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & a_{n-1} - \lambda \end{bmatrix}) + (-1)^{1-n} a_0.$$

Continuing in this way shows that the characteristic polynomial is

$$(-1)^n (\lambda^n - a_{n-1} \lambda^{n-1} - \dots - a_1 \lambda - a_0).$$

#8 Let  $A$  be an  $m$  by  $n$  matrix over  $\mathbf{R}$  and let  $R$  be the reduced row echelon form of  $A$ . Suppose that the columns of  $A$  are  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and that the columns of  $R$  are  $r_1, \dots, r_n$ . Let  $k_1, \dots, k_n \in \mathbf{R}$ . Prove that

$$k_1 a_1 + \dots + k_n a_n = 0$$

if and only if

$$k_1 r_1 + \dots + k_n r_n = 0.$$

**Solution:** Write  $k = \begin{bmatrix} k_1 \\ k_2 \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ k_n \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $k_1a_1 + \dots + k_na_n = Ak$  and  $k_1r_1 + \dots + k_nr_n = Rk$ .

But  $R = PA$  for some invertible  $n$  by  $m$  matrix  $P$ . Now if  $Ak = 0$  then  $Rk = (PA)k = P(Ak) = 0$  and if  $Rk = 0$  then  $Ak = (P^{-1}R)k = P^{-1}(Rk) = 0$ .

#9 Let  $T$  be the linear operator on  $P_3(\mathbf{R})$  defined by

$$T(f) = 3f - xf' + f''.$$

(Here  $f = f(x) \in P_3(\mathbf{R})$ ,  $f'$  denotes the derivative of  $f$ , and  $f''$  denotes the second derivative of  $f$ .) Let  $W$  be the  $T$ -cyclic subspace of  $P_3(\mathbf{R})$  generated by  $x^3$ .

- Find a basis for  $W$ .
- Find the characteristic polynomial of  $T_W$ , the restriction of  $T$  to  $W$ .

**Solution:**

(a)  $T(x^3) = 3x^3 - x(3x^2) + 6x = 6x$  and so  $T^2(x^3) = T(6x) = 18x - x(6) + 0 = 12x$ . Thus  $T^2(x^3) \in \text{span}\{x^3, T(x^3)\}$ . Since  $\{x^3, T(x^3)\} = \{x^3, 6x\}$  is linearly independent it is a basis for  $W$ .

(b)  $T^2(x^3) = 2T(x^3)$  and therefore  $t^2 - 2t$  is the characteristic polynomial of  $T_W$ .

#10 State the definitions of the following terms.

- An eigenvalue (respectively eigenvector, eigenspace) of a linear transformation from  $V$  to  $V$ .
- An eigenvalue (respectively eigenvector, eigenspace) of an  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $A$ .
- The direct sum of subspaces  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  of a vector space  $V$ .
- The determinant of an  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $A$ .
- The characteristic polynomial of an  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $A$ .
- Similar

**Solution:**

(a) A scalar  $\alpha \in F$  such that  $T(v) = \alpha v$  for some nonzero  $v \in V$  is called an eigenvalue for  $T$  and such a  $v$  is called an eigenvector belonging to  $\alpha$ . The  $\alpha$ -eigenspace, denoted  $E_\alpha$  is  $\{v \in V | T(v) = \alpha v\}$ .

(b) A scalar  $\alpha \in F$  such that  $Av = \alpha v$  for some nonzero column vector  $v \in F^n$  is called an eigenvalue for  $A$  and such a  $v$  is called an eigenvector belonging to  $\alpha$ . The  $\alpha$ -eigenspace, denoted  $E_\alpha$  is  $\{v \in F^n | Av = \alpha v\}$ .

(c) The sum,  $V_1 + \dots + V_k$  of the subspaces  $V_1, \dots, V_k$  is

$$\{v_1 + \dots + v_k \mid v_1 \in V_1, \dots, v_k \in V_k\}.$$

The sum  $V_1 + \dots + V_k$  is said to be a direct sum (and written  $V_1 \oplus \dots \oplus V_k$ ) if  $V_i \cap (V_1 + \dots + v_{i-1} + V_{i+1} + \dots + V_k) = \{0\}$  for all  $i, 1 \leq i \leq k$ .

(d) The determinant of the 1 by 1 matrix  $[a]$  is  $a$ . Assume that determinants of  $n - 1$  by  $n - 1$  matrices have been defined and that  $A = [a_{ij}]$  is an  $n$  by  $n$  matrix. Then

$$\det(A) = \sum_{j=1}^n (-1)^{1+j} a_{1j} \det A^{\bar{1}j}$$

where  $A^{\bar{1}j}$  is the matrix obtained from  $A$  by deleting the first row and the  $j$ -th column.

(e) The characteristic polynomial of the  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $A$  is  $\det(A - \lambda I)$  where  $I$  denotes the  $n$  by  $n$  identity matrix.

(f) Two  $n$  by  $n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are similar if there is an invertible  $n$  by  $n$  matrix  $P$  such that  $B = PAP^{-1}$ .

#11 Prove that similar matrices have the same characteristic polynomials and (hence) the same eigenvalues. Give an example to show that they do not necessarily have the same eigenvectors.

**Solution:**

Suppose  $B = PAP^{-1}$  where  $P$  is invertible. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \det(B - \lambda I) &= \det(PAP^{-1} - \lambda I) = \det(P(A - \lambda I)P^{-1}) = \det(P)\det(A - \lambda I)\det(P^{-1}) = \\ &= \det(P)\det(A - \lambda I)\det(P)^{-1} = \det(P)\det(P)^{-1}\det(A - \lambda I) = \det(A - \lambda I). \end{aligned}$$

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Then  $A$  and  $B$  are similar since  $B = PAP^{-1}$  where  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . However, the 0-eigenspace of  $A$  is  $N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left[\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}\right]$  and the 0-eigenspace of  $B$  is  $N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right) = F\left[\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}\right]$ .

#12 Let  $A$  be an  $m$  by  $n$  matrix and  $B$  be an  $n$  by  $p$  matrix.

- Is the row space of  $AB$  contained in the row space of  $A$ ? Why or why not?
- Is the row space of  $AB$  contained in the row space of  $B$ ? Why or why not?
- Is the column space of  $AB$  contained in the column space of  $A$ ? Why or why not?
- Is the column space of  $AB$  contained in the column space of  $B$ ? Why or why not?

(e) Prove that  $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(A)$  and  $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(B)$ .

**Solution:**

(a) No. In fact, the row space of  $A$  consists of (row) vectors in  $F^n$  and the row space of  $AB$  consists of vectors in  $F^p$ , so if  $n \neq p$  an inclusion is impossible. Even if  $n = p$  the inclusion does not hold. For example, if  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  then the row space of  $AB$  is  $F[0 \ 1]$  while the row space of  $A$  is  $F[1 \ 0]$ .

(b) Yes. Let  $E_{ij}$  denote the matrix with entry 1 in the  $(i, j)$  position and 0 in every other position. Then the  $i$ th row of  $E_{ij}B$  is equal to the  $j$ th row of  $B$  and all other rows of  $E_{ij}B$  are 0. Thus the row space of  $E_{ij}B$  is contained in the row space of  $B$ . Since  $A$  is a linear combination of the  $E_{ij}$  it follows that the row space of  $AB$  is contained in the row space of  $B$ .

(c) The column space of  $AB$  is the row space of  $(AB)^t = B^t A^t$ . Now the row space of  $B^t A^t$  is contained in the row space of  $A^t$  which is the column space of  $A$ . Thus the column space of  $AB$  is contained in the column space of  $A$ .

(d) The example of (a) shows that the answer is no.

(e) We know that the rank of  $A$  is equal to the dimension of the row space. Thus (b) gives  $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(B)$ . We also know that the rank of  $A$  is equal to the dimension of the column space. Thus (c) gives  $\text{rank}(AB) \leq \text{rank}(A)$ .

#13 Suppose  $A$  is a 5 by 7 matrix and  $B$  is a 7 by 5 matrix. Suppose further that  $\det(AB) = 3$ . What is  $\det(BA)$ ? Why?

**Solution:** We have  $\text{rank} A \leq 5$  (since  $A$  has only 5 rows). Thus by (e) of the previous problem,  $\text{rank}(BA) \leq 5$ . But  $BA$  is a 7 by 7 matrix. Hence  $BA$  is not invertible and so its determinant is equal to 0.

#14 Let

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

(a) Find all eigenvalues for  $A$  and for each eigenvalue find a basis for the corresponding eigenspace.

(b) Find an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $A = PDP^{-1}$ . (This is equivalent to  $P^{-1}AP = D$ .)

(c) Using your answer to (b), find the general solution of the following system of linear differential equations:

$$y_1' = y_1 + y_2 - y_3$$

$$y_2' = 2y_2 + y_3$$

$$y_3' = 3y_3$$

**Solution:** (a) The eigenvalues are 1, 2, 3. The 1-eigenspace has basis  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ; the 2-

eigenspace has basis  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ ; the 3-eigenspace has basis  $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ .

(b) We may take  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(c) Let  $y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{bmatrix}$  be the general solution to the system and let  $x = P^{-1}y$ . Then  $Ay = y'$  and  $Dx = P^{-1}APx = P^{-1}APP^{-1}y = P^{-1}Ay = P^{-1}y' = (P^{-1}y)' = x'$ . Thus

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 e^t \\ C_2 e^{2t} \\ C_3 e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 e^t \\ C_2 e^{2t} \\ C_3 e^{3t} \end{bmatrix}.$$

#15 A 3 by 3 matrix  $A$  has eigenvalues 1, 2, and 3. What are the eigenvalues of the matrix  $B = A^2 - I$ ? Why?

**Solution:** Suppose  $v$  is an eigenvector for the matrix  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $i$ . Then

$$A^2v = A(Av) = A(iv) = i(Av) = i(iv) = i^2v$$

and

$$(A^2 - I)v = A^2v - v = i^2v - v = (i^2 - 1)v.$$

Thus the eigenvalues of  $A^2 - I$  are  $1^2 - 1 = 0$ ,  $2^2 - 1 = 3$ , and  $3^2 - 1 = 8$ .

#16 In each part state whether or not the given matrix is diagonalizable and give your reason.

$$(a) R = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$(c) Q = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** (a) The characteristic polynomial is  $(1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)(4 - \lambda)$ . Since there are three distinct roots (and hence 3 eigenvalues), the matrix is diagonalizable.

(b) The characteristic polynomial is  $(2 - \lambda)^2(3 - \lambda)$  and  $E_2 = N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ . Thus  $E_2$  has dimension 1, so the geometric multiplicity of the eigenvalue 2 is not equal to its algebraic multiplicity. Hence  $P$  is not diagonalizable.

(c) The characteristic polynomial is  $(2 - \lambda)^2(3 - \lambda)$  and  $E_2 = N\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}\right)$ . Thus  $E_2$  has dimension 2, so the geometric multiplicity of the eigenvalue 2 is equal to its algebraic multiplicity. Hence  $Q$  is diagonalizable.