

ASSIGNMENT 2

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1 PROBLEM

If A is a square matrix such that $A^2 = A$, then $(I + A)^3 - 7A$ is equal to

- (A) A
- (B) $I - A$
- (C) I
- (D) $3A$

2 SOLUTION

Given $A^2 = A \implies A^2 - A = 0$

Let λ is the eigen value then the every eigen value satisfies its very own characteristic equation

$$\implies \lambda^2 = \lambda \text{ then } \lambda^2 - \lambda = 0 \quad (2.0.1)$$

Then $(I + A)^3 - 7A$ can be written as $(I + \lambda)^3 - 7\lambda$

$$(1 + \lambda)^3 - 7\lambda = 1^3 + \lambda^3 + 3(1^2)\lambda + 3\lambda^2(1) - 7\lambda \quad (2.0.2)$$

we know that

$$I^3 = I^2 = I = 1 \quad (2.0.3)$$

$$= 1 + \lambda^3 + 3(1)\lambda + 3\lambda^2(1) - 7\lambda \quad (2.0.4)$$

$$= 1 + \lambda^3 + 3\lambda + 3\lambda^2 - 7\lambda \quad (2.0.5)$$

$$= 1 + (\lambda^2\lambda) + 3\lambda + 3\lambda - 7\lambda \quad (2.0.6)$$

$$= 1 + (\lambda\lambda) - \lambda \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$= I + \lambda^2 - \lambda \quad (2.0.8)$$

From the equation $\lambda^2 - \lambda = 0$

$$= I + 0 \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$= I \quad (2.0.10)$$

3 ANSWER

Option C is the valid answer.