

Practice Exam Questions Week 5, **Linear Algebra**,

1. Consider the following matrix A and vectors \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 & -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Show that \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 are both eigenvectors of A . What are the corresponding eigenvalues?
 - Show that 0 is an eigenvalue of A .
 - Compute a basis for the eigenspace of A for the eigenvalue 0.
 - Compute a basis for $\text{Nul } A$.
 - Is the matrix A diagonalizable? If it is, determine a matrix M such that $M^{-1}AM$ is a diagonal matrix. If it is not, explain why not.
 - Compute the matrix A^9 .
2. True or false? If the given statement is true, give a brief explanation. If it is false, give a counterexample.
- If $A = QR$ and Q is invertible, then A is similar to $B = RQ$;
 - An elementary row operation on A does not change the determinant of A .
 - If λ is an eigenvalue of A , then it is also an eigenvalue of A^T
 - Each eigenvalue of A is also an eigenvalue of A^2 .
 - If M is a (2×2) matrix such that $\dim \text{Nul } A$ equals 1, then M has one eigenvalue equal to 0.
 - Let B be an $(n \times n)$ matrix. Let \mathbf{e}_1 be the first column of the identity matrix I_n . If \mathbf{e}_1 is an eigenvector of B with eigenvalue 1, then the first column of B is \mathbf{e}_1 .
 - Any invertible matrix can also be diagonalized.
 - If A and B are 2×2 matrices which can both be diagonalized, then their sum $C = A + B$ can also be diagonalized.
 - If K and L are 3×3 matrices and \mathbf{v} is an eigenvector of K and also of L , then \mathbf{v} is an eigenvector of the matrix product KL .
 - If \mathbf{x} is an eigenvector of an invertible matrix P , then it is also an eigenvector of P^{-1}

3. Consider the following matrix Q :

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the characteristic polynomial and the eigenvalues of Q .