# **Problem Set 10**

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December 1, 2019

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## 1 Problem 1

Let  $\phi$  be an *n*-form. If suffices to show these statements for n=2.

 $\implies$ : Suppose  $\phi$  is alternating, then  $\phi(b,b)=0$  for all  $b\in B$ .

Letting  $a, b \in B$  be arbitrary, we then have

$$\begin{split} \phi(a+b,a+b) &= \phi(a,a+b) + \phi(b,a+b) \\ &= \phi(a,a) + \phi(a,b) + \phi(b,a) + \phi(b,b) \\ &= \phi(a,b) + \phi(b,a) \\ &\Longrightarrow \phi(a,b) = -\phi(b,a), \end{split}$$

which shows that  $\phi$  is skew-symmetric.

 $\Leftarrow$  Suppose  $\phi$  is skew-symmetric, so  $\phi(a,b) = -\phi(b,a)$  for all  $a,b \in B$ . Then  $\phi(b,b) = -\phi(b,b)$  by transposing the terms, which says that  $\phi(b,b) = 0$  for all  $b \in B$  and thus  $\phi$  is alternating.

#### 2 Problem 2

Let  $f(x) = \det(P + xQ) \in R[x]$ , then f is a polynomial in x which is not identically zero.

To see that  $f \not\equiv 0$ , we can use that fact that P is invertible to evaluate  $f(0) = \det(P) \neq 0$ .

We can now note that f has finite degree, and thus finitely many zeroes in R.

## 3 Problem 3

Letting  $k[x] \curvearrowright_{\phi} E$  to yield a k[x]-module structure on E and take an invariant factor decomposition,

$$E = E_1 \oplus E_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus E_t, \quad E_i = \frac{k[x]}{(q_i)}, \quad q_1 \mid q_2 \mid \cdots \mid q_t$$

where  $E_i = k[x]/(q_i)$ . Then  $q_t = q$ , the minimal polynomial of E.

In particular,  $E_t$  is a  $\phi$ -invariant subspace of E, and if deg  $q_t = m$ , then  $E_t$  is in fact an m-dimensional cyclic module with basis  $\{\mathbf{v}, \phi(\mathbf{v}), \phi^2(\mathbf{v}), \cdots, \phi^{m-1}(\mathbf{v})\}$  for some  $\mathbf{v} \in E_t$ .

But since  $E_t \leq E$  is a subspace, we have

$$m = \deg q(x) = \deg q_t(x) = \dim E_t \le \dim E.$$

#### 4 Problem 4

 $\implies$ : Suppose  $A \sim D$  where D is diagonal. Then JCF(A) = JCF(D) = D, which means that every Jordan block of A has size exactly 1.

Since the elementary divisors of A are precisely the minimal polynomials of the Jordan blocks of A, and the minimal polynomial of any  $1 \times 1$  matrix  $[a_{ij}]$  is given by the linear polynomial  $x - a_{ij}$ , every elementary divisor of A must be linear.

 $\Leftarrow$ : Suppose all of the elementary divisors of A are linear. Every elementary divisor is the minimal polynomial of a Jordan block of A, and so if we write  $JCF(A) = \bigoplus M_i$ , then the minimal polynomial of each  $M_i$  is linear.

Supposing that  $M_i$  has minimal polynomial  $p_i(x) = x - c$  for some scalar c, we have

$$p_i(M_i) = 0 \implies M_i - cI_n = 0 \implies M_i = cI_n$$

which shows that  $M_i$  is a diagonal matrix with only c on its diagonal.

But if every Jordan block of A is diagonal, then JCF(A) = D is diagonal and  $A \sim D$ .

## 5 Problem 5

#### 5.1 Part 1

We'll use the fact that the minimal polynomial q is the invariant factor of highest degree, and so every other invariant factor must divide q.

Moreover,  $RCF(A) = C_1 \oplus C_2 \oplus \cdots \oplus C_k$  where each  $C_i$  is the companion matrix of the *i*th invariant factor if we write  $V \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^k k[x]/(a_i)$ . So it suffices to determine all of the possible distinct combinations of invariant factors.

We can restrict this list by noting that the characteristic polynomial satisfies  $\chi_A(x) = \prod a_i$ , and in particular, deg  $\chi_A(x) = 6$ . Noting that deg q(x) = 3, the degrees of the remaining invariant factors must sum to 3.

These are:

$$R_1: a_1 = (x-2),$$
  $a_2 = (x-2)^2,$   $a_3 = q(x),$   $a_2 = (x-2)(x-3),$   $a_3 = q(x),$   $a_3 = q(x),$ 

Noting that

• 
$$(x-2)^2 = x^2 - 4x + 4$$

• 
$$(x-2)^2 = x^2 - 4x + 4$$
,  
•  $(x-2)(x-3) = x^2 - 5x + 6$ , and  
•  $q(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 + 16x - 12$ ,

• 
$$q(x) = x^3 - 7x^2 + 16x - 12$$
,

these choices correspond to the matrices

$$R_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -16 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, R_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -16 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, R_3 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{3 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -6 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 12 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -16 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note: these are perhaps transposed from Hungerford's notation.