

Fundamentals of Math I  
Second Partial Exam

AI Degree  
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**Exercise 1.** (1,5 points + 1,5 points + 1 point)

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \in M_3(\mathbb{R}).$$

- (a) Compute all the eigenvalues of  $A$ .
- (b) Find an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $D = P^{-1}AP$ .
- (c) Find a basis of the image of  $f_A$ . Check that if  $v$  is any vector *in the image* of  $f_A$ , then  $\|f_A(v)\| = 2\|v\|$ .

**Exercise 2.** (1,5 points + 1,5 points + 1 point)

Let  $V$  be the linear subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  given by:

$$V = \langle (1, 0, 1, 0), (1, -1, 1, -1) \rangle$$

- (a) Find an orthonormal basis of  $V$ . What is the dimension of  $V$ ? What is the dimension of  $V^\perp$ ?
- (b) Find an orthonormal basis of  $V^\perp$ , the orthogonal subspace of  $V$ . Give an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  containing the orthonormal basis of  $V$  found in (a).
- (c) Find the matrix of the orthogonal projection  $\text{proj}_V$  onto the linear subspace  $V$ , with respect to the canonical basis of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Using this matrix, compute the vector  $\text{proj}_V(w)$ , where  $w = (5, 0, 2, 1)$ .

**Theory.** (0, 7 points + 0, 7 points + 0, 6 points)

For each of the following assertions, say if the assertion is true or false. Justify your answer in each case.

- (a) If  $A$  is an orthogonal matrix, then the determinant of  $A$  is either 1 or  $-1$ .
- (b) If a square matrix  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  is diagonalizable, and all the eigenvalues of  $A$  are strictly positive, then  $A$  is invertible.
- (c) If  $X \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$  for some positive integers  $m, n$ , then the  $n \times n$  matrix  $X^T X$  is diagonalizable. (Hint: Show that  $X^T X$  is a symmetric matrix.)

All answers must be carefully explained. You must specify the theoretical results used in your arguments and procedures.

① (a)  $P_A(x) = \begin{vmatrix} 2-x & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -4-x & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2-x \end{vmatrix} = (2-x) \begin{vmatrix} 2-x & 4 \\ -2 & -4-x \end{vmatrix}$  ①

$$= (2-x) [(2-x)(-4-x) + 8] = -(x-2)[x^2 + 2x] = -x(x-2)(x+2).$$

Hence  $P_A(x) = -x(x-2)(x+2)$ , and the eigenvalues of  $A$  are:

$$\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = -2, \lambda_3 = 2.$$

(b) We find eigenvectors for each eigenvalue:

$\lambda_1 = 0$   $\rightarrow \ker(A): \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -4 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x+2y=0 \\ x+y+z=0 \end{cases}$

$$\rightarrow x = -2y \Rightarrow -2y + y + z = 0 \Rightarrow -y + z = 0 \Rightarrow y = z.$$

We get  $\begin{cases} x = -2y \\ z = y \end{cases}$  and an eigenvector  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  of eigenvalue 0.

$\lambda_2 = -2$   $\rightarrow \ker(A + 2I_3): \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = -y \\ z = 0 \end{cases}$

and we get an eigenvector  $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  of eigenvalue -2.

$\lambda_3 = 2$   $\rightarrow \ker(A - 2I_3): \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 0 \\ -2 & -6 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow x = y = 0,$

and we get an eigenvector  $\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  of eigenvalue 2.

Hence we have the diagonal matrix  $D = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ , and

the invertible matrix  $P = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , so that  $D = P^{-1} \cdot A \cdot P$ .

(c) Since  $[\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3]$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , for each  $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^3$  we have

$$\vec{v} = a\vec{v}_1 + b\vec{v}_2 + c\vec{v}_3 \text{ for some } a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ so that}$$

$$f(\vec{v}) = a f(\vec{v}_1) + b f(\vec{v}_2) + c f(\vec{v}_3) = -2b\vec{v}_2 + 2c\vec{v}_3.$$

Hence any vector in  $\text{Im}(f_A)$  is a linear combination of  $\vec{v}_2$  and  $\vec{v}_3$ , and since  $\vec{v}_2$  and  $\vec{v}_3$  are linearly independent, we get that  $[\vec{v}_2, \vec{v}_3]$  is a basis of  $\text{Im}(f_A)$ . (2)

Now take any vector  $\vec{v} \in \text{Im}(f_A)$ . We can write

$$\vec{v} = a\vec{v}_2 + b\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -a \\ a \\ b \end{pmatrix}, \text{ for } a, b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Hence } f(\vec{v}) &= a f(\vec{v}_2) + b f(\vec{v}_3) = -2a\vec{v}_2 + 2b\vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2a \\ -2a \\ 2b \end{pmatrix} \\ &= 2 \begin{pmatrix} a \\ -a \\ b \end{pmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_A(\vec{v})\| &= \left\| 2 \begin{pmatrix} a \\ -a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \right\| = 2\sqrt{a^2 + (-a)^2 + b^2} = \\ &= 2\sqrt{(-a)^2 + a^2 + b^2} = 2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|, \text{ and we get } \|f_A(\vec{v})\| = 2 \cdot \|\vec{v}\|. \end{aligned}$$

(2)  $V = \left\langle \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\rangle \subseteq \mathbb{R}^4$ .

(a) We use the Gram-Schmidt method: Take  $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{then } \vec{u}_1 = \frac{\vec{v}_1}{\|\vec{v}_1\|} = \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}_2' = \vec{v}_2 - (\vec{v}_2 \cdot \vec{u}_1) \vec{u}_1 =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sqrt{2} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Hence } \vec{u}_2 = \frac{\vec{u}_2'}{\|\vec{u}_2'\|} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We have  $\dim(V) = 2$ , and  $\dim(V^\perp) = 4 - \dim(V) = 4 - 2 = 2$ .

(b) Observe that a vector  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^4$  belongs to  $V^\perp$  if and only if:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ t \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ We solve this HSLF:}$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(3)

Hence the solutions are given by:  $\begin{cases} x = -z \\ y = -z \end{cases}$

We get the orthonormal basis of  $V^\perp$ :

$$u_3 = \begin{pmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad u_4 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Observe that  $[\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2, \vec{u}_3, \vec{u}_4]$  is an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , obtained by joining the basis  $[\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2]$  of  $V$  and the basis  $[\vec{u}_3, \vec{u}_4]$  of  $V^\perp$ .

(c) Let  $Q = \begin{bmatrix} \vec{u}_1 & \vec{u}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$ . We know from

theory that  $[\text{proj}_V]_{\text{can}} = Q \cdot Q^T$ . Hence we compute:

$$[\text{proj}_V]_{\text{can}} = Q Q^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & 1/\sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} & 0 & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} = 1/2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Now } \text{proj}_V(\vec{w}) = \text{proj}_V \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 0 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} 7 \\ 1 \\ 7 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 7/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 7/2 \\ 1/2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

## THEORY:

(4)

(a) True: If  $A$  is an orthogonal matrix, then

$$A^{-1} = A^t, \text{ and so from } A \cdot A^t = I_m, \text{ we get}$$

$$\det(A) \cdot \det(A^t) = \det(A \cdot A^t) = \det(I_m) = 1$$

$$\overset{11}{\det(A)} \cdot \det(A) = \det(A)^2.$$

Hence  $\det(A)^2 = 1$ , and thus  $\det(A) = \pm 1$ .

(b) True: Suppose that  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  is diagonalizable, and all the eigenvalues of  $A$  are strictly positive. We can write

$$D = P^{-1} \cdot A \cdot P, \text{ where } D = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & & 0 \\ & a_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & a_n \end{pmatrix}, \text{ the elements}$$

$a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are the eigenvalues of  $A$ , so that  $a_i > 0$  for all  $i$ ,

and  $P$  is an invertible matrix.

Hence  $A = P \cdot D \cdot P^{-1}$  is a product of invertible matrices, and no invertible, because  $D$  is invertible with inverse  $D^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1^{-1} & & 0 \\ & a_2^{-1} & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & a_n^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1/a_1 & & 0 \\ & 1/a_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots & \\ & & & 1/a_n \end{pmatrix}. \text{ You can also obtain the same result taking}$$

determinants in the expression  $A = P \cdot D \cdot P^{-1}$ :

$$\det(A) = \det(P) \cdot \det(D) \cdot \det(P)^{-1} = \det(D) = a_1 \cdot a_2 \cdot \dots \cdot a_n \neq 0,$$

so  $\det(A) \neq 0$  and hence  $A$  is invertible.

(c) True: If  $X \in M_{m \times n}(\mathbb{R})$ , then we have  $X^T X \in M_{n \times n}(\mathbb{R})$

and  $(X^T X)^T = X^T \cdot (X^T)^T = X^T \cdot X$ , hence  $X^T X$  is a symmetric matrix. Hence by the Spectral Theorem,  $X^T X$  is diagonalizable in an orthonormal basis.