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a) Gram-Schmidt process.

Well done!

Let the vectors in the basis for  $U$  be  $w_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $w_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ , and  $w_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . Then find vectors

$v_1, v_2, v_3 \in U$  by the Gram-Schmidt process:

$$v_1 = w_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$v_2 = w_2 - \left( \frac{w_2 \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} \right) v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$v_3 = w_3 - \left( \frac{w_3 \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} \right) v_1 - \left( \frac{w_3 \cdot v_2}{v_2 \cdot v_2} \right) v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Thus, an orthogonal basis for  $U$  consists of the vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . To check that they

are orthogonal, calculate dot products between all vectors:

$$v_1 \cdot v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 - 1 = 0,$$

$$v_1 \cdot v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2} = 0,$$

$$v_2 \cdot v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} + 1 = 0.$$

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Therefore, the vectors  $v_1, v_2, v_3 \in U$  are orthogonal.

b)  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A$ .

i) Diagonalisation.

Since the characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is  $p_A(\lambda) = (\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 1)$ , the eigenspaces  $E_2, E_1$  can be found from eigenvalues  $\lambda_2 = 2, \lambda_1 = 1$ , respectively. When  $\lambda = 2$ ,

$$A - 2I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$E_2 = \text{null}(A - 2I_2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ t \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

When  $\lambda = 1$ ,

$$A - 1I_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then

$$E_1 = \text{null}(A - 1I_2) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} t \\ -4t \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{span} \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} \right\}.$$

Let  $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$ . Since  $A$  is a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with 2 linearly independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ ,  $A$  is diagonalisable. Furthermore, let  $P$  be the matrix  $P = [\mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_1]$  and let  $D$  be the matrix  $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_2, \lambda_1)$ . Then the equation  $P^{-1}AP = D$  is satisfied by the diagonalisation of  $A$  and the fact that  $\det(P) = -1 \neq 0$ , which means that it is invertible. *Show it.*

ii)  $A^4$ .

First, find  $P^{-1}$  to be  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $A^4$  can then be expressed as

*Prove the formula*

$$A^4 = PD^4P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2^4 & 0 \\ 0 & 1^4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 60 & 16 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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c) Proof about  $A^2 = I_n$ .

To prove that  $A$  is symmetric if and only if  $A$  is orthogonal, one needs to prove it as an implication that holds both ways. By a property of invertibility, given that  $A^2 = I_n$ ,  $A = A^{-1}$ . Firstly, assuming  $A$  is symmetric,  $A = A^T$ . Thus,  $A^T = A^{-1}$ , which is true if and only if  $A$  is orthogonal. Secondly, assuming  $A$  is orthogonal,  $A^{-1} = A^T$ . Thus, from the given identity,  $A = A^T$ , which is the definition of symmetry. Therefore,  $A$  is symmetric if and only if  $A$  is orthogonal, as required.

*If you want to type your answers try using LaTeX!*

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