

LINEAR ALGEBRA PRACTICE PROBLEMS BY DR. Y. CHEN

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1. Start with the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- Find a basis for the column space $C(A)$.
- Find a basis for the nullspace $N(A)$.
- Find a basis for the row space $C(A^T)$.
- Write the complete solution to $Ax = b$.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & -3 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Suppose the matrices A and B have the same column space. Give an example where A and B have different nullspaces—or say why this is impossible.
- Find a 3 by 3 matrix A whose column space is the plane $x + y + z = 0$ in \mathbb{R}^3 .
- Does there exist a matrix B whose column space is spanned by $(1, 2, 3)$, $(1, 0, 1)$ and whose nullspace is spanned by $(1, 2, 3, 6)$. If so, construct B . If not, explain why not.
- Is the set of matrices a vector space or not? All 3 by 3 matrices with $(1, 1, 1)$ in their column space. YES or NO with a reason.
- Suppose A is an $m \times n$ matrix of rank r .
 - If $Ax = b$ has a solution for every right side b , what is the column space of A .
 - In part (a), what are all equations or inequalities that must hold between the numbers m, n, r .
 - Give a specific example of rank 1 with first row $[2 \ 5]$. Describe the column space $C(A)$ and the nullspace $N(A)$ completely.
 - Suppose the right side b is the same as the first column in your example (part c). Find the complete solution to $Ax = b$.

7. Suppose that row operations (elimination) reduce the matrices A and B to the same row echelon form

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Which of the four subspaces are sure to be the same for A and B .
- Each time the subspaces in part (a) are the same for A and B , find a basis for the subspace.

8. Let

$$b_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, b_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, b_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and let T be the linear transformation from \mathbb{R}^2 into \mathbb{R}^3 defined by

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = x_1 b_1 + x_2 b_2 + (x_1 + x_2) b_3$$

Find the matrix A representing T with respect to the ordered bases $\{e_1, e_2\}$ and $\{b_1, b_2, b_3\}$.

9. Suppose T is reflection across the x -axis and S is the reflection across the y -axis. The domain V is the $x - y$ plane. If $v = (x, y)$ what is $S(T(v))$? Find a simple description of the product ST .

10. Suppose T is reflection across the 45° line, and S is a reflection across the y -axis. If $v = (1, 2)$ then $T(v) = (1, 2)$. Find $S(T(v))$ and $T(S(v))$.

11. Show that the product ST of two reflections is a rotation.

12. Let $E = \{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$ and $F = \{b_1, b_2\}$, where

$$u_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, u_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, u_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$b_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, b_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix},$$

For the following linear transformation T from \mathbb{R}^3 to \mathbb{R}^2 , find the matrix representing T with respect to the ordered bases E and F :

1. $T(x) = (x_3, x_1)^T$.
2. $T(x) = (x_1 + x_2, x_1 - x_3)^T$.
3. $T(x) = (2x_2, -x_1)^T$.

13. Find a matrix whose row space contains $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and whose nullspace contains $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, or prove that there is no such matrix.

14. Find the matrix that projects every point in the plane onto the line $x + 2y = 0$.

15. What matrix P projects every point in \mathbb{R}^3 onto the line of intersection of the planes $x + y + t = 0$ and $x - t = 0$?

16. Give a vector $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix}$ makes

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 11 \\ -8 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

an orthogonal basis for the vector space \mathbb{R}^3 .

17. Can you find a 3×3 matrix A such that $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is a basis for the left-nullspace of A

and $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is a basis for nullspace of A ?

18. The system $Ax = b$ has a solution if and only if b is orthogonal to what subspace?

19. Prove that the trace of $P = aa^T/a^T a$ —which is the sum of its diagonal entries—always equals 1.

20. Let S be the subspace of \mathbb{R}^4 containing all vectors $x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + x_4 = 0$. Find a basis for the space S^\perp , containing all vectors orthogonal to S .

21. Prove that if A is symmetric, then the column space of A is orthogonal to the nullspace of A .

22. Let P be the plane in \mathbb{R}^3 with equation $x + 2y - z = 0$. Find a vector perpendicular to P . What matrix has the plane P as its nullspace, and what matrix has P as its row space?

23. Find an orthonormal set q_1, q_2, q_3 for which q_1, q_2 span the column space of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Which fundamental subspace contains q_3 ? What is the least-squares solution of $Ax = b$

if $b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$.

24. Show that an orthogonal matrix that is upper triangular must be diagonal.

25. (a) Find a basis for the subspace S in \mathbb{R}^4 spanned by all solutions of

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 - x_4 = 0.$$

(b) Find a basis for the orthogonal complement S^\perp .

(c) Find b_1 in S and b_2 in S^\perp so that $b_1 + b_2 = b = (1, 1, 1, 1)$.

26. Suppose q_1, q_2, q_3 are orthonormal vectors in \mathbb{R}^6 . Under what condition on the vector v will there be a fourth orthonormal vector q_4 that is a combination of v, q_1, q_2, q_3 . Give a formula for that fourth orthonormal vector q_4 .

27. Find an orthonormal basis for the subspace S of \mathbb{R}^4 spanned by these three vectors:

$$a_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, a_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, a_3 = a_1 + a_2.$$

Find the closest vector p in that subspace S to the vector

$$a_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

28. Given that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 5 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix} A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Find $\det A$.

29. Find an orthonormal basis for the column space of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 \\ 1 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

30. Give an orthonormal basis for the nullspace of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & -5 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & -10 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

31. At $t = 1, 2, 3$ we are given values b_1, b_2, b_3 . The idea is to fit the best straight line $b = C + Dt$ to those three points.

(a) Find the best line $\bar{C} + \bar{D}t$ if the values are

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) What 3×3 matrix P projects every vector onto the plane containing the column vectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

32. Find the determinant of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 5 & -1 & 3 \\ 1 & -9 & 13 & 7 \\ 3 & -1 & 5 & -5 \\ 2 & 8 & -7 & -10 \end{bmatrix}.$$

33. Find the determinant of

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

34. Find the determinant of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 5 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

35. (a) If Q is an orthogonal matrix (square with orthonormal columns), show that $\det Q = 1$ or -1 .

(b) How many of the 24 terms in $\det A$ are nonzero, and what is $\det A$?

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

36. (a) Suppose A is a 4 by 4 matrix. If you add 1 to the entry a_{14} in the northeast corner, how much will the determinant change?

(b) Explain why the determinant of every projection matrix is either 0 or 1.

(c) Find the determinant of the “circulant matrix”

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & b & 0 & a \\ a & 0 & b & 0 \\ 0 & a & 0 & b \\ b & 0 & a & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

37. Compute the determinant of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

38. Using Cramer’s rule, find b_3 such that $x_3 = 0$ for the solution of

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ b_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

39. Using rules for the determinant (so do not compute it with any of the 3 formulas), show the steps and rules that lead to

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & a & b+c \\ 1 & b & c+a \\ 1 & c & a+b \end{vmatrix}$$

40. If you know that $\det A = 6$, what is the determinant of B ?

$$\det A = \begin{vmatrix} \text{row } 1 \\ \text{row } 2 \\ \text{row } 3 \end{vmatrix} = 6 \quad \det A = \begin{vmatrix} \text{row } 3 + \text{row } 2 + \text{row } 1 \\ \text{row } 2 + \text{row } 1 \\ \text{row } 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

41. Prove $\det A = 0$ for the 5 by 5 *all-ones matrix* (all $a_{ij} = 1$) in two ways:

- (1) Using Properties 1-10 for determinants.
- (2) Using the “big formula” = sum of 120 terms.

42. Compute the determinant of the following matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Mention the method used for each step in the calculation.

43. Show that the following determinant is zero for any values of a, b , and c :

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ a & b & c \\ b+c & c+a & a+b \end{vmatrix}$$

44. For the following 3×3 matrix A , compute its determinant by using the cofactor formula and expanding along the third column. Show that values of the 3 cofactors you compute.

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

45. The matrix A has varying $1 - x$ in the (1,2) position:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1-x & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) When $x = 1$ compute $\det A$. What is the (1,1) entry in the inverse when $x = 1$?
- (b) When $x = 0$ compute $\det A$.
- (c) How do the properties of the determinant say that $\det A$ is a linear function of x ?
For any x compute $\det A$. For which x 's is the matrix singular?

46. Find the determinant of A and A^{-1} and the (1,2) entry of A^{-1} if

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 47. (a) Find the area of the triangle on the plane \mathbb{R}^2 with the vertices $(1, 1), (2, 3), (3, 2)$.
- (b) Calculate the determinant of the 4×4 matrix

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

- (c) Find the inverse of the matrix A from part (b). Check your answer by multiplying it with A .

48. If A is the 4 by 4 matrix of ones, find the eigenvalues and the determinant of $A - I$.

49. Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

50. Find the eigenvalues for the following two permutation matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

51. If A has eigenvalues 0 and 1, corresponding to the eigenvectors

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

How can you tell in advance that A is symmetric? What are its trace and determinant? What is A ?

52. Find a complete set of eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Find A^{100} .

53. Suppose A has eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = 3, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = 0$ with corresponding eigenvectors

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, x_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

(a) How do you know that the third column of A contains all zeros?

(b) Find the matrix A .

(c) By transposing $S^{-1}AS = \Lambda$, find the eigenvectors y_1, y_2, y_3 of A^T .

54. The Fibonacci numbers $F_0, F_1, F_2, F_3, \dots$ are $0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ and they obey the rule $F_{k+2} = F_{k+1} + F_k$. In matrix form this is

$$\begin{pmatrix} F_{k+2} \\ F_{k+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} F_{k+1} \\ F_k \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad u_{k+1} = Au_k.$$

The eigenvalues of this particular matrix A will be called λ_1 and λ_2 .

(a) Find a matrix that has eigenvalues λ_1^2 and λ_2^2 .

(b) Find A^k .

(c) What is the determinant of A^k ?

55. Find the eigenvalues of

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & -6 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

56. (a) Find the matrix A (fill in the two blank entries) so that A has eigenvectors $x_1 = (3, 1)$ and $x_2 = (2, 1)$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 \\ & \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Find a different matrix B with those same x_1 and x_2 , and with eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = 1$ and $\lambda_2 = 0$. What is B^{10} ?

57. Let

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

Find all the eigenvalues and their corresponding eigenvectors of A .

58. Suppose u is a unit vector in \mathbb{R}^n , so $u^T u = 1$. This problem is about the n by n symmetric matrix $H = I - 2uu^T$. Find all the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of H .

59. There are six 3 by 3 permutation matrices. What numbers can be the determinants of P ? What numbers can be pivots? What numbers can be the trace of P ? What four numbers can be eigenvalues of P ?

60. If A is the n by n matrix and B is n by n , show that $\text{Trace}(AB) = \text{Trace}(BA)$.

61. Consider the following matrix

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

(a). Show that A is diagonalizable.

(b). Find A^k , where k is a positive integer.

62. Prove that there do not exist $n \times n$ matrices A and B such that

$$AB - BA = I.$$

63. Let A and B be $n \times n$ matrices. Show that

(a) If λ is a nonzero eigenvalue of AB , then it is also an eigenvalue of BA .

(b) If 0 is an eigenvalue of AB , then it is also an eigenvalue of BA .

64. Let $p(\lambda) = (-1)^n(\lambda^n - a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} - \cdots - a_1\lambda - a_0)$ be a polynomial of degree $n \geq 1$, and let

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} a_{n-1} & a_{n-2} & \cdots & a_1 & a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Show that if λ_i is a root of $p(\lambda) = 0$, then λ_i is an eigenvalue of C with eigenvector $x = (\lambda_i^{n-1}, \lambda_i^{n-2}, \dots, \lambda_i, 1)$.
- (b) Use part (a) to show that if $p(\lambda)$ has n distinct roots then $p(\lambda)$ is the characteristic polynomial of C .

65. Let A be a matrix whose columns all add up to a fixed constant δ . Show that δ is an eigenvalue of A .

66. Let Q be a 3×3 orthogonal matrix whose determinant is equal to 1.

- (a) If the eigenvalues of Q are all real and if they are ordered so that $\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \lambda_3$, determine the values of all possible triples of eigenvalues $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$.
- (b) In the case that the eigenvalues λ_2 and λ_3 are complex, what are the possible values for λ_1 ? Explain.
- (c) Explain why $\lambda = 1$ must be an eigenvalue of Q .

67. For the following matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find a matrix B such that $B^2 = A$.

68. Let x, y be nonzero vectors in \mathbb{R}^n , $n \geq 2$, and let $A = xy^T$. Show that

- (a) $\lambda = 0$ is an eigenvalue of A with $n - 1$ linearly independent eigenvectors and consequently has multiplicity at least $n - 1$.
- (b) the remaining eigenvalue of A is $\lambda_n = \text{tr}(A) = x^T y$ and x is an eigenvector belonging to λ_n .
- (c) if $\lambda_n = x^T y \neq 0$, then A is diagonalizable.

69. Let A be diagonalizable matrix whose eigenvalues are all either 1 or -1 . Show that $A^{-1} = A$.

70. Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -3 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors.

71. Let

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

Find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors.

72. Show that if U and V are unitary, so is UV .

73. Diagonalize A (real λ 's) and K (imaginary λ 's) to reach $U\Lambda U^H$.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1-i \\ i+1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1+i \\ 1+i & i \end{bmatrix}$$

74. Diagonalize this matrix by constructing its eigenvalue matrix Λ and its eigenvector matrix S :

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1-i \\ 1+i & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

75. (a) What matrix M changes the basis $V_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, V_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ to the basis $v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$?

- (b) For the same two bases, express the vector $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$ as a combination $c_1V_1 + c_2V_2$ also as $d_1v_1 + d_2v_2$. Check numerically that M connects c to d : $Md = c$.

76. On the space of 2×2 matrices, let T be the transformation that transposes every matrix. Find the eigenvalues and “eigenvectors” for $A^T = \lambda A$.

77. If A and B have the exactly the same eigenvalues and eigenvectors, does $A = B$?

78. Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of

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

79. (a) Find the matrix $P = aa^T/a^T a$ that projects any vector onto the line through $a = (2, 1, 2)$.

- (b) What is the only nonzero eigenvalue of P , and what is the corresponding eigenvector?

- (c) Find P^k , where k is a positive integer.

80. Suppose the first row of A is $7, 6$ and its eigenvalues are $i, -i$. Find A .

81. (a) For which numbers c and d does A have real eigenvalues and orthogonal eigenvectors?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & d & c \\ 0 & 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (b) For which c and d can we find three orthonormal vectors that are combinations of the columns (don't to it!)?

82. Explain why A is never similar to $A + I$.

83. Describe in words all matrices that are similar to

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

and find two of them.

84. (i) Find a nonzero matrix N such that $N^3 = 0$.
 (ii) If $Nx = \lambda x$, show that λ must be zero.
 (iii) Prove that N can not be symmetric.

85. If $A^2 = -I$, what are the eigenvalues of A ? If A is a real n by n matrix show that n must be even, and give an example.

86. Decide for or against the positive definiteness of

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

87. Decide for or against the positive definiteness of

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

88. Decide for or against the positive definiteness of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^2.$$

89. Show that if A is positive definite, so are A^2 and A^{-1} .

90. Write down the five conditions for a 3 by 3 matrix to be negative definite ($-A$ is positive definite) with special attention to condition III: How is $\det(-A)$ related to $\det A$?

91. If A has eigenvalues 1, 2, 3, what are the eigenvalues of $(A - I)(A - 2I)(A - 3I)$?

92. The matrix A has independent columns. The matrix C is square, diagonal, and has positive diagonal entries. Why is the matrix $K = A^T C A$ positive definite?

93. Show that if A is a diagonalizable and has orthonormal eigenvectors and real eigenvalues, then A must be symmetric.

94. Suppose A is a positive definite symmetric matrix.

(i) How do you know that A^{-1} is also positive definite?

(ii) Suppose Q is any orthogonal n by n matrix. How do you know that $Q A Q^T$ is positive definite?

(iii) Show that the block matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} A & A \\ A & A \end{pmatrix}$$

is positive semidefinite. How do you know B is not positive definite?

95. Let A be an $m \times n$ matrix with rank n . Show that the matrix $A^T A$ is symmetric positive definite.

96. Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$, $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$.

(i) Show that

$$\det(I_n + AB) = \det(I_m + BA).$$

(ii) Let x, y, u, v be given vectors in \mathbb{R}^n . Please give

$$|I_n - xy^T - uv^T|$$

in the form of the inner product of the given vectors.

97. And all the homework assignments.....

98. Happy New Year!