
124 Linear Algebra - Final - Practice

Name:

The final will cover the material from the entire semester. This practice exam only covers material not on Midterm 1 or 2.

Justify all of your answers.

Question 1

(a) **Without justification**, cross out the items in the list which do not apply:

For **every** square matrix A , if we know the characteristic polynomial of a A , then we can infer the

- eigenvalues
- eigenvectors
- eigenspaces
- trace
- determinant
- algebraic multiplicities
- geometric multiplicities
- invertibility
- rank

of A .

(b) [6 points] Find all the eigenvalues and eigenspaces of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 4 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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Question 2

Let $L \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ be the span of $\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (a) [4 points] Give the 2×2 matrix A of the projection onto L , and find the projections of the standard basis vectors. *Hint: use Gram-Schmidt.*
- (b) [6 points] Is A diagonalizable? If so, give an invertible matrix S and a diagonal matrix B , such that $A = SBS^{-1}$. Otherwise, explain why A is not diagonalizable.

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Question 3

(a) [6 points] Diagonalize the following matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

(b) [4 points] Can you diagonalize A^2 ? In general, what do the powers A^2, A^3, \dots of a diagonalizable matrix look like? *Hint: do not try to square A directly. Instead notice that $SBS^{-1}SBS^{-1} = SB^2S^{-1}$.*

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Question 4

- (a) [6 points] Show that the composition of linear transformations on \mathbb{R}^1 is commutative. *Hint: you have shown before that linear transformations on \mathbb{R}^1 have a very restricted form.*
- (b) [4 points] Is this true for linear transformations on \mathbb{R}^n in general? Prove or give a counter-example.

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Question 5

Show that λ is an eigenvalue of an $n \times n$ matrix A if and only if the map represented by $A - \lambda I_n$ is not an isomorphism. *Hint: what do you know about the kernel of isomorphisms?*

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