

MA251 - Algebra I

**Assignment 3**

**Autumn 2013**

Answer the questions on your own paper. Write your own name in the top left-hand corner, and your university ID number in the top right-hand corner. Use the problems at the beginning as well as exercises in the lecture notes for a warm up. Solutions to the **FOUR TEST** problems must be handed in by **15.00** on **MONDAY 11 NOVEMBER** (Monday of the seventh week of term), or they will not be marked. There will be an award of 5 extra marks for clarity, so do a good job.

These are practice problems for you to sharpen your teeth on.

**P1.** Calculate the rank and signature of the quadratic forms corresponding to the matrices

$$(i) \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**P2.** Call two quadratic forms on the  $n$ -dimensional vector space  $V$  over field  $\mathbb{K}$  *equivalent* if one can be obtained from the other by a change of coordinates. How many equivalence classes are there when (i)  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  and  $n = 4$ ; and (ii)  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$  and  $n = 3$ .

**P3.** What is the answer to parts (i) and (ii) of Question P2 for general  $n$ ?

**P4.** (i) Show that any  $2 \times 2$  real orthogonal matrix is equal to

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

for some  $\theta$ . (Hence the matrix represents a rotation about the origin or a reflection about a line through the origin in the 2-dimensional plane.)

(ii) Show that a  $3 \times 3$  real orthogonal matrix  $A$  represents either a rotation about a line through the origin, or a reflection about a plane through the origin followed by a rotation (*Hint:* First show that  $A$  has an eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$ , and change basis to include  $\mathbf{v}$ .)

**P5.** Part (ii) of this problem deals with a square root of a matrix. Part (iii) establishes a *polar decomposition* of a matrix  $A$ : it is analogous to writing a complex number in the polar form  $re^{i\theta}$ .

Let  $A$  be any invertible  $n \times n$  matrix over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

(i) Show that  $AA^T$  is symmetric and positive definite.

(ii) Show that there is a symmetric positive definite matrix  $S$  with  $S^2 = AA^T$ .

(iii) Show that there is a symmetric positive definite matrix  $S$  and an orthogonal matrix  $R$  such that  $A = SR$ . (*Hint:* same  $S$  as in (ii).)

**P6.** This question outlines a proof of the convergence of the exponential series for any matrix. For  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n,n}$  with entries  $(a_{ij})_{1 \leq i,j \leq n}$ , let  $|A| = \sup_{i,j} |a_{ij}|$ .

(i) Show that  $|AB| \leq n|A||B|$  for any  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n,n}$ .

(ii) Hence deduce that  $|A^k| \leq n^{k-1}|A|^k$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(iii) Prove that there exists  $0 < r < 1$  and  $C < \infty$  (depending on  $A$ ) such that  $|A^k|/k! < Cr^k$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and deduce that for each  $i, j$ , the sequence whose  $n$ th term is the  $(i, j)$  entry of  $\sum_{k=0}^n A^k/k!$  is convergent.

**P7.** Find a  $2 \times 2$  symmetric matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$  which is not diagonalisable.

**The following problems are test problems for you to submit for marking.** Write concise but complete solutions only to the questions asked. Additional 5 marks are awarded for clarity.

1. Prove that the 2-dimensional quadratic form  $q(x, y) = \alpha x^2 + \beta xy + \gamma y^2$  is positive definite if and only if  $\alpha > 0$  and  $\beta^2 - 4\alpha\gamma < 0$ . [2 marks]

2. Find orthogonal matrices  $P$  such that  $P^T A P$  is diagonal for

$$(i) A = \begin{pmatrix} -5 & 12 \\ 12 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \quad (ii) A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 2 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

[2,3 marks]

3. For the following Euclidean vector spaces  $(V, \omega)$  and a basis  $f_1, \dots, f_n$ , run Gram-Schmidt orthonormalisation process to arrive at an orthonormal basis.

(i)  $V = \mathbb{R}^3$  with the standard dot-product  $\omega(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{v}^T \mathbf{w}$ ;  $f_1 = (1, 0, 0)^T$ ,  $f_2 = (1, 1, 1)^T$  and  $f_3 = (1, -1, 1)^T$ . [2 marks]

(ii)  $V = \mathbb{R}[X]_{\leq 4}$  is the space of real polynomials of degree at most 4,

$$\omega(f(X), g(X)) = \int_{-1}^1 f(X)g(X)dX ;$$

$f_i = X^{i-1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ . [2 marks]

(iii)  $V = \mathbb{R}[X]_{\leq 4}$  is the space of real polynomials of degree at most 4,

$$\omega(f(X), g(X)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} e^{-X^2} f(X)g(X)dX ;$$

$f_i = X^{i-1}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ . (*Hint*: You will need the Gaussian integral  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} X^{2k} e^{-X^2} dX = 2^{-k}(2k-1)!!\sqrt{\pi}$  where  $(2k-1)!!$  is the double factorial defined by  $n!! = n \cdot (n-2)!!$  and  $(-1)!! = 1$ .) [2 marks]

4. Let  $\tau: W \times V \rightarrow \mathbb{K}$  be a bilinear map, where  $V$  and  $W$  are vector spaces over a field  $\mathbb{K}$ . Recall that the dual space is denoted by  $V^*$ . Let  $U, U_i$  be subspaces of  $V$ .

(i) Prove that  $U^\perp$ , defined by

$$U^\perp = \{\mathbf{w} \in W \mid \tau(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{u} \in U\},$$

is a subspace of  $W$ . [1 marks]

(ii) Prove that  $U \subseteq (U^\perp)^\perp$  [1 marks]

(iii) Prove that  $U_1 \subseteq U_2$  implies  $U_2^\perp \subseteq U_1^\perp$  and [1 marks]

(iv) Show that the map  $T_U: W \rightarrow U^*$  defined by  $T_U(\mathbf{w})(\mathbf{u}) = \tau(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{u})$  for  $\mathbf{w} \in W, \mathbf{u} \in U$  is a linear map from  $W$  to  $U^*$ , and that  $\ker(T_U) = U^\perp$ . [2 marks]

(v) Deduce that  $\dim(U) + \dim(U^\perp) \geq \dim(W)$ . [2 marks]