

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE  
SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION 2008-2009  
**MA2101    Linear Algebra II**  
November/December 2008 — Time allowed : 2 hours

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

1. This examination paper contains **ELEVEN (11)** questions and comprises **FIVE (5)** printed pages.
2. Answer **ALL** questions. Marks for each question are indicated at the beginning of the question.
3. Candidates may use calculators. However, they should lay out systematically the various steps in the calculations.

**Answer all questions.**

**Question 1** [8 marks] For each of the following, determine if it is true or false. There is no need to justify your answer.

- (a) For any matrix  $A$ , if  $A$  is diagonalizable, then all its eigenvalues are distinct.
- (b) Suppose  $V$  is infinite dimensional and  $S$  is any infinite linearly independent set. Then  $S$  is a basis of  $V$ .
- (c) For any subspaces  $U, W, W'$  in a vector space  $V$ , if  $U \oplus W = U \oplus W'$ , then  $W = W'$ .
- (d) For any orthogonal matrix  $A$ ,  $A^2$  is also orthogonal.

**Question 2** [8 marks] In  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , we define

$$(a, b) + (c, d) = (a + c, b + d) \text{ and } (a, b) \times (c, d) = (ac, bd)$$

for all  $(a, b), (c, d) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ .

- (i) Find the multiplicative identity and additive identity in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .
- (ii) Prove that  $(\mathbb{R}^2, +, \times)$  is not a field. Note that A1-A4 are satisfied.

**Question 3** [8 marks] Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$  and  $W = \{\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R}) \mid \mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{BA}\}$ . Suppose  $m_{\mathbf{A}}(x)$  is the minimal polynomial of  $A$  and

$$m_{\mathbf{A}}(x) = x^r + a_{r-1}x^{r-1} + \cdots + a_0.$$

- (i) Prove that  $W$  is a subspace of  $\mathcal{M}_{nn}(\mathbb{R})$ .
- (ii) Prove that  $\mathbf{I}, \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{A}^2, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{r-1}$  are linearly independent vectors contained in  $W$ .

**Question 4** [6 marks] Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional space and  $B = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$  be a basis of  $V$ . For any positive integer  $r$  with  $r < n$ , find a subspace of dimension  $r$ . Note that you need to justify why the subspace constructed is of dimension  $r$ .

**Question 5** [10 marks] Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow P_m(\mathbb{R})$  be linear transformation. Here  $P_m(\mathbb{R})$  denotes the set of real polynomials with degree less than or equal to  $m$ .

- (i) Find the dimensions of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $P_m(\mathbb{R})$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ . [No need to justify your answers.]
- (ii) Prove that if  $m + 1 < n$ , then  $\text{Ker}(T) \neq \{0\}$ .
- (iii) Let  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  be bases in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $P_m(x)$  respectively. Prove that if  $m + 1 = n$  and the null space of  $[T]_{B_2, B_1} = \{0\}$ , then  $T$  is bijective.

**Question 6** [8 marks] Let  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$  be the ordered bases for  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $P_3(\mathbb{R})$  given by

$$\mathcal{B}_1 = \{1, x, x^2\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B}_2 = \{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$$

respectively. Note that  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $P_3(\mathbb{R})$  are the set of polynomials with degree less than or equal to 2 and 3 respectively.

- (i) Let  $T_1 : P_2(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_3(\mathbb{R})$  be given by

$$T_1(a + bx + cx^2) = (b - a) + (a - b + c)x + cx^2 + (b + 2c)x^3.$$

Find the matrix  $[T_1]_{\mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_1}$ .

- (ii) Let  $T_2 : P_3(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow P_2(\mathbb{R})$  be the linear transformation such that

$$[T_2]_{\mathcal{B}_1, \mathcal{B}_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Find the matrix  $[T_2 \circ T_1]_{\mathcal{B}_1}$ .

**Question 7** [12 marks] Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be a linear transformation.

- (i) For any positive integers  $i, j$ , prove that  $\text{Ker}T^i \subset \text{Ker}T^j$  if  $i < j$ .
- (ii) Prove that if  $\{u_1, u_2, u_3\}$  is a basis of  $V$  with

$$T(u_1) = u_2, T(u_2) = u_3 \text{ and } T(u_3) = 0,$$

then  $T^3 = 0$  and  $\text{Ker}T \neq \text{Ker}T^2 \neq \text{Ker}T^3 = V$ .

- (iii) Find a basis for  $\text{Ker}T, \text{Ker}T^2$  and  $\text{Ker}T^3$ .

**Question 8** [10 marks]

Let  $A$  be the real matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & a \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (i) Find the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ .
- (ii) Find all the values of  $a$  for which  $A$  is diagonalizable.
- (iii) For those values of  $a$  for which  $A$  is not diagonalizable, find all possible Jordan forms.

**Question 9** [10 marks] Let  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

- (i) Compute the characteristic polynomial of  $\mathbf{A}$  and find all its roots. Hence, find all possible minimal polynomial for  $A$ .
- (ii) Find the minimal polynomial of  $A$  and hence find a Jordan canonical form of  $A$ .

**Question 10** [10 marks] In  $\mathbb{R}^4$ , we define  $\langle (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4), (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) \rangle = u_1v_1 + 2u_2v_2 + 3u_3v_3 + u_4v_4$  for any  $(u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4), (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) \in \mathbb{R}^4$ .

- (i) Prove that  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  defines an inner product on  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .
- (ii) Let  $W = \text{span}\{(1, -2, 1, -1), (2, -3, 2, -3), (3, -5, 3, -4), (-1, 1, -1, 2)\}$ . Find  $W^\perp$  with respect to the inner product defined by  $\langle (u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4), (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) \rangle = u_1v_1 + 2u_2v_2 + 3u_3v_3 + u_4v_4$  for any  $(u_1, u_2, u_3, u_4), (v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4) \in \mathbb{R}^4$ .

**Question 11** [10 marks] Let  $A$  be a symmetric matrix in  $M_4(\mathbb{R})$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ . Let  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  be the eigenspaces corresponding to  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  respectively.

Suppose  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $E_1$  and  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for  $E_2$ .

- (i) Find an orthonormal basis (with respect to the Euclidean inner product) of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  consisting of only eigenvectors of  $A$ .
- (ii) Find an orthogonal matrix that diagonalizes  $A$ .

[END OF PAPER]