

**Notes.**

- (a) Justify all your steps.  
(b)  $\mathbb{Z}$  = integers,  $\mathbb{Q}$  = rational numbers,  $\mathbb{R}$  = real numbers,  $\mathbb{C}$  = complex numbers,  $\mathbb{F}_p = \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ .  
(c) By default,  $F$  denotes a field.
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1. [22 points] Let  $A$  denote the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -5 & 2 \\ 2 & -3 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (i) Find the characteristic polynomial, the eigenvalues and the eigenvectors of  $A$ .  
(ii) Find an invertible  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $X$  such that  $XAX^{-1}$  is a diagonal matrix and verify by explicitly multiplying out that  $XAX^{-1}$  is indeed diagonal.  
(iii) Using (ii) or otherwise calculate  $A^{1000}$ .  
(iv) Find the minimal polynomial of  $A$ .

2. [12 points] Let  $v_1, \dots, v_r$  and  $w_1, \dots, w_r$  be orthonormal subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that there exists an orthogonal matrix  $A$  such that  $Av_i = w_i$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, r$ .

3. [12 points] Let  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be a linear operator on a finite dimensional vector space. If  $T$  satisfies  $T \circ T = T$ , then prove that  $V = \ker(T) \oplus \text{im}(T)$ .

4. [20 points] Let  $F$  be a field and let  $N = (n_{ij})$  be an  $m \times m$  matrix over  $F$  which is *strictly upper triangular*, i.e.,  $n_{ij} = 0$  for  $i \geq j$ . Prove that  $N^m = 0$ . Conversely if  $A$  is an  $m \times m$  matrix and if there exists an integer  $k > 0$  such that  $A^k = 0$  then prove that there exists an invertible  $m \times m$  matrix  $X$  such that  $XAX^{-1}$  is strictly upper triangular.

5. [4 points] Let  $A$  be a square matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$  such that  $A^3 + 5A^2 + 2A - 3I = 0$ . Prove that every eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$  satisfies  $\lambda^3 + 5\lambda^2 + 2\lambda - 3 = 0$ .

6. [30 points] In each of the following cases, give an example satisfying the given property. Give very brief justifications.

- (i) A  $2 \times 2$  matrix over  $\mathbb{C}$  which is not normal.  
(ii) A symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix whose associated symmetric bilinear form is neither positive semi-definite nor negative semi-definite.  
(iii) A  $2 \times 2$  invertible matrix  $B$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  with all positive entries such that  $B$  cannot be written as  $X^t X$  for any invertible matrix  $X$ .  
(iv) A matrix in  $SO_3(\mathbb{R})$  which is not the identity matrix and whose eigenvalues are all real.

(v) The matrix of a reflection about a line through the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .