

## Exam 2010. Further Linear algebra. Solutions. Andrei Vafar

## QUESTION 1.

- (a) Euclidean division:  $68 = 5 \cdot 12 + 8$ , then  $12 = 1 \cdot 8 + 4$  and then  $8 = 2 \cdot 4 + 0$  hence  $\text{hcf}(68, 12) = 4$ .  
By doing algorithm in reverse, one finds:  
 $4 = 1 \cdot 12 + (-1) \cdot 8 = (-1) \cdot 68 + 6 \cdot 12 = 6 \cdot 12 + (-1) \cdot 68$  hence  $h = -1$  and  $k = 6$ .
- (b) The equation  $68x + 12y = 4$  has solutions in integers because 4 divides 4.  
The general solution is  $(-1 + 3n, 6 - 17n)$  where  $n$  runs through the integers.  
The equation  $68x + 12y = 6$  does not have solutions in integers because 4 does not divide 6.
- (c) Chinese remainder theorem. Let  $m$  and  $n$  two coprime integers. For any integers  $x$  and  $y$ , there exists a unique  $[z]$  in  $\mathbb{Z}/mn$  such that  $z \equiv x \pmod{m}$  and  $z \equiv y \pmod{n}$ .  
For  $m = 21$  and  $n = 5$ , we have  $1 = 21 - 4 \cdot 5$ . We take

$$z = 21 \cdot 7 - 4 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 = 87$$

## QUESTION 2.

- (a) Euclidean division: For any  $f, g$  in  $k[x]$  with  $\deg(f) \geq \deg(g)$ , there exist a unique pair  $(q, r)$  such that  $f = gq + r$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(g)$ .  
Bézout's identity: there exist  $h, k \in k[x]$  such that  $\text{hcf}(f, g) = fh + gk$ .
- (b)  $f$  irreducible if for any  $g$  dividing  $f$ ,  $g$  is either constant or equal to  $f$ .  
Unique factorisation theorem: For any monic polynomial  $f$  in  $k[x]$ , there exist monic irreducible polynomials  $p_1, \dots, p_r$  such that

$$f = p_1 \cdots p_r$$

If  $f = q_1 \cdots q_s$  with  $q_i$  monic irreducibles, then  $s = r$  and (after reordering)  $q_i = p_i$  for all  $i$ .

- (c) In  $\mathbb{C}[x]$ ,  $x^3 - 1 = (x-1)(x-\omega)(x-\omega^2)$  where  $\omega = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{3}}$ . Factors irreducible because they have degree one.

Now  $(x-\omega)(x-\omega^2) = x^2 + x + 1$ . This is irreducible in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$  because has degree two and no real root.  $(x-1)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$  because has degree one. Hence, in  $\mathbb{R}[x]$  the factorisation is  $x^3 - 1 = (x-1)(x^2 + x + 1)$ .

In  $\mathbb{F}_3[x]$ ,  $x^2 + x + 1 = (x-1)^2$  hence the factorisation is  $(x-1)^3$ . Factors irreducible because of degree one.

In  $\mathbb{F}_2[x]$ ,  $x^2 + x + 1$  is irreducible because degree two and has no root. Hence factorisation is  $(x-1)(x^2 + x + 1)$ .

- (c) Minimal polynomial  $m_T$ : monic polynomial such that  $m_T(T) = 0$  and for any non-zero  $f$  such that  $f(T) = 0$ ,  $\deg(f) \geq \deg(m_T)$ .

Let  $f$  be such that  $f(T) = 0$ , then  $\deg(f) \geq \deg(m_T)$ . Euclidean division:  $f = qm_T + r$  with  $\deg(r) < \deg(m_T)$ . By definition of the minimal polynomial  $r = 0$  which implies that  $m_T$  divides  $f$ .



QUESTION 3.

- (a)  $V_{b_i}(\lambda_i) = \ker((T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i})$ .  
 (b) Let  $v \in V_{b_i}(\lambda_i)$ , then  $(T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i}v = 0$ . Apply  $T - \lambda_i Id$  and get  $(T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i+1}v = 0$ . Hence

$$V_{b_i}(\lambda_i) \subseteq V_{b_i+1}(\lambda_i)$$

Let  $v \in V_{b_i}(\lambda_i)$ , then  $(T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i}v = 0$ , hence

$$T(T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i}v = (T - \lambda_i Id)^{b_i}T(v) = 0$$

, it follows that  $T(v) \in V_{b_i}(\lambda_i)$ . Hence

$$T(V_{b_i}(\lambda_i)) \subseteq V_{b_i}(\lambda_i)$$

- (c)  $T$  is diagonalisable if  $V$  has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of  $T$ .  
 Criterion :  $T$  is diagonalisable if and only if  $m_T(x) = (x - \lambda_1) \cdots (x - \lambda_r)$ .  
 (d) For the first matrix one finds  $m_A(x) = x(x - 2)$ . It is diagonalisable over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\mathbb{F}_3$  but not over  $\mathbb{F}_2$  (over  $\mathbb{F}_2$   $m_A(x) = x^2$ ).  $2 \times 4 = 8$   
 (e) Because the minimal polynomial is  $x - \lambda$ ,  $T_1$  is diagonalisable and in a certain basis is represented by the diagonal matrix with  $\lambda$  on the diagonal. In fact, this is true in *any* basis (change of basis is a conjugation by an invertible matrix and a diagonal matrix with same entries on the diagonal commutes with everything).

Same is true for  $T_2$ , so for any basis  $B$ ,  $[T_1]_B = [T_2]_B$

QUESTION 4.

- (a) The characteristic polynomial is  $(x - 3)^2$ , the minimal polynomial is the same.

$V_1(3)$  is spanned by  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $V_2(3) = k^2$ .

Choose  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$A - 3I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We have  $(A - 3I)v_2 = -v_1$ .

$\{-v_1, v_2\}$  is a Jordan basis.

The Jordan normal form is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (b) (i)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (ii)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$



(iii)

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

(iv)

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

### QUESTION 5.

(a)  $f(v, w) = \frac{1}{2}(q(v + w) - q(v) - q(w))$  hence  $q(v) = 0$  for all  $v$  implies  $f = 0$ . Therefore if  $f$  is non-zero, there is a  $v$  such that  $q(v) \neq 0$ .

(b) **Orthogonal basis** : a basis  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  such that  $f(b_i, b_j) = 0$  if  $i \neq j$ .  
**Existence of orthogonal basis**: By induction on  $\dim(V)$ . If  $\dim(V) = 1$ , then take any basis (any non-zero vector).

Suppose true for all vector spaces of dimension  $n - 1$ . Let  $V$  be of dimension  $n$ . If  $f$  is zero, then it's matrix is zero and nothing to prove. If  $f$  is non-zero, then there exists a vector such that  $q(v) \neq 0$ . (see question (a))

Now  $V = \text{Span}(v) \oplus \{v\}^\perp$ , therefore  $\dim\{v\}^\perp = n - 1$ . By induction assumption, one chooses an orthogonal basis  $\{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}\}$  of  $\{v\}^\perp$ . Then  $\{b_1, \dots, b_{n-1}, v\}$  is an orthogonal basis :  $f(b_i, b_j) = 0$  if  $i \neq j$  and  $f(v, b_i) = 0$  for all  $i$  because  $b_i \in \{v\}^\perp$ .

(c) **Canonical form** : matrix of  $f$  the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} I_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -I_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

with respect to a certain (necessarily orthogonal) basis.

Signature is the pair  $(r, s)$  and the rank is  $r + s$ .

Let  $\{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$  be an orthogonal basis. Number  $b_i$ s such that  $b_1, \dots, b_r$  are such that  $f(b_i, b_i) > 0$ ;  $b_{r+1}, \dots, b_{r+s}$  such that  $f(b_i, b_i) < 0$  for  $i = r + 1, \dots, r + s$  and  $f(b_i, b_i) = 0$  for  $i > r + s$ . Then replace the basis by

$$\left\{ \frac{b_1}{\sqrt{f(b_1, b_1)}}, \dots, \frac{b_r}{\sqrt{f(b_r, b_r)}}, \frac{b_{r+1}}{\sqrt{-f(b_{r+1}, b_{r+1})}}, \dots, \frac{b_{r+s}}{\sqrt{-f(b_{r+s}, b_{r+s})}}, b_{r+s+1}, \dots, b_s \right\}$$

In this basis,  $f$  is in the canonical form.

(d) One finds, by doing row-column operations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

The signature is  $(2, 0)$ , rank is two.



## QUESTION 6.

- (a) The adjoint  $T^*$  is a linear map  $T^*: V \rightarrow V$  such that

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle = \langle v, T^*w \rangle$$

for all  $v, w$  in  $V$ .

If  $T'$  is another adjoint, then for all  $v, w$

$$\langle v, T^*w \rangle = \langle v, T'w \rangle$$

hence for all  $v, w$

$$\langle v, (T^* - T')w \rangle = 0$$

Set  $v = (T^* - T')w$ , then

$$\|(T^* - T')w\| = 0$$

for all  $w$ . It follows that  $T^* = T'$ .

- (b) Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue and  $v$  an eigenvector :  $Tv = \lambda v$  and  $v \neq 0$ . Then

$$\langle Tv, v \rangle = \lambda \langle v, v \rangle = \langle v, Tv \rangle \text{ because } T = T^* = \bar{\lambda} \langle v, v \rangle$$

As  $v \neq 0$ ,  $\langle v, v \rangle \neq 0$  (because it is an inner product), it follows that  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$  hence  $\lambda$  is real.

Let  $v$  and  $w$  be eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$ . Then

$$\langle Tv, w \rangle = \lambda \langle v, w \rangle = \langle v, Tw \rangle = \bar{\mu} \langle v, w \rangle = \mu \langle v, w \rangle$$

(we have used that  $\mu$  is real). It follows that  $(\lambda - \mu) \langle v, w \rangle = 0$  and  $\lambda - \mu \neq 0$ , hence  $\langle v, w \rangle = 0$ .

- (c) For any  $v$  we have

$$\langle Tv, Tv \rangle = \langle v, T^*Tv \rangle = 0$$

hence  $Tv = 0$  for any  $v$ , hence  $T = 0$ .