

**Eigen Exercises**

Key  
(NAME)

1. If matrix A is 2 by 2 and has eigenvalues  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda = -2$ , what are the eigenvalues of  $A^3$ ?  
 Answer:  $1^3, (-2)^3 \Rightarrow 1, -8$

2. The characteristic polynomial of matrix A is  $\lambda^4 - 3\lambda^2 - 4 \rightarrow (\lambda^2 + 1)(\lambda^2 - 4)$

- (a) What size is matrix A?  $4 \times 4$
- (b) What are the eigenvalues of A?  $\pm i, -2, 2$
- (c) How many linearly independent eigenvectors does matrix A have? 4  
 (because the eigenvalues are distinct.)

3. The characteristic polynomial of matrix A is  $\lambda^3 + 4\lambda^2 + 4\lambda \rightarrow \lambda(\lambda^2 + 4\lambda + 4) = \lambda(\lambda + 2)^2$

- (a) What size is matrix A?  $3 \times 3$
- (b) What are the eigenvalues of A?  $0, -2, -2$
- (c) Is it guaranteed that A has 3 linearly independent eigenvectors?  
 Circle the appropriate response: YES  NO   
 Briefly explain why your answer is correct: We have a repeated eigenvalue

4. Find a basis for the eigenspace of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  corresponding to eigenvalue 4.

Basis:  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$       What is the dimension of this eigenspace? 1

5. Find a basis for the eigenspace of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  corresponding to eigenvalue 4.

Basis:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$       What is the dimension of this eigenspace? 2

6. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (a)  $\lambda = 3$  is an eigenvalue of A. Find a corresponding eigenvector. Answer:  $r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, r \neq 0$
- (b) Without doing any computations name an eigenvalue of A different from  $\lambda = 3$ .  
 Answer: 0 Give a reason that your answer is correct: Matrix is singular

7. The eigenvalues of A are 2, -3, 6, and 1. What is  $\det(A)$ ? Answer:  $(2)(-3)(6)(1) = -36$

8. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . One eigenvalue of A is  $\lambda = 4$ .

- (a) Find an eigenvector of A corresponding to  $\lambda = 4$ . Answer:  $r \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, r \neq 0$
- (b) Find an eigenvector of  $A^T$  corresponding to  $\lambda = 4$ . Answer:  $r \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, r \neq 0$

