

University of Ottawa  
Department of Mathematics and Statistics

MAT 1341C: Introduction to Linear Algebra  
Instructor: Erhard Neher

Assignment 3: due Thursday, March 4, 2010, 11:30 in the classroom

(version February 23, 2010)

FAMILY NAME (CAPITALS)	_____
FIRST NAME (CAPITALS)	_____
Signature	_____
Student number	_____

Please read these instructions carefully:

- The table below is for the TA. Do not write in it.
- The assignment has to be submitted with the two cover pages.
- For privacy reasons, this page of the assignment will be detached, and you will only get back the remaining pages. Therefore, **fill in your name on both pages and your student number on this page only.**

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Question	1	2	3	4	5	Total
Score						
Max. score	6	5	6	5	12	34

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Good luck! Bonne chance!

- (1) (6 pts) Use cofactor expansion and/or the properties of determinants to evaluate the following determinants:

$$(i) \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 6 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad (ii) \begin{vmatrix} 0 & b & c & d \\ b & 0 & d & c \\ c & d & 0 & b \\ d & c & b & 0 \end{vmatrix}$$

(2) (5 pts) Find a polynomial  $p$  of degree 3 satisfying

$$p(-2) = 49, \quad p(-1) = 10, \quad p(1) = -2, \quad p(2) = -23.$$

(3) (6 pts) Find all eigenvalues of the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

For each eigenvalue find a basis of the corresponding eigenspace. Finally, decide if  $A$  is diagonalizable or not. If yes, give an invertible matrix  $P$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $P^{-1}AP = D$ . Justify your answer.

(4) (5 pts) We consider the linear dynamical system  $V_k = A^k V_0, k = 1, 2, \dots$  with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 8 & 9 \end{bmatrix}, \quad V_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Find (i) a formula for  $A^k, k = 1, 2, \dots$ , and (ii) a general expression (= formula) for  $V_k$ .

- (5) (12 pts) Answer the following questions. Do not forget to justify your answer.
- (a) If  $\det(A) = -1$  and  $\det(3A) = -27$ , what can be said about the size of the matrix  $A$ ?

- (b) Find all values of  $x$  such that the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 & x \\ 1 & 1 & 9 & x^2 \\ 1 & -1 & 27 & x^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

is invertible.

- (c) Every  $2 \times 2$  matrix has a real eigenvector. True or false?

(d) If  $A$  and  $C$  are matrices such that  $\det A \neq 0$  and  $\det(CA) = 0$ , then the system  $CX = 0$  has a nontrivial solution.

(e) Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. If  $\det A = 0$ , then  $A$  has an eigenvector.

(f) Let  $A$  be a diagonalizable  $n \times n$  matrices. The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  can be written as product of  $n$  linear factors of the form  $x - \lambda_i$  with  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$ . True or false?