



### UPSC CSE Mathematics: Previous Year Questions: Linear Algebra

#### 2025

- 1) Can the set  $\{(0,0,0,3), (1,1,0,0), (0,1,-1,0)\}$  be extended to form a basis of the vector space  $\mathbb{R}^4$ ? Justify your answer.
- 2) Find the range, rank, kernel and nullity of the linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $T(x, y, z, w) = (x - w, y + z, z - w)$ .
- 3) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be a linear transformation such that  $T(1,1,-1) = (1,0)$ ,  $T(4,1,1) = (0,1)$  and  $T(1,-1,2) = (1,1)$ . Find  $T$ .

- 4) Reduce the following matrix to echelon form:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 & 1 \\ -3 & 6 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & -7 & 10 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

- 5) Find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors of the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -6 \\ 2 & -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 6) Let  $P_n$  denote the vector space of all polynomials of degree  $\leq n$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Verify that

$$\dim\left(\frac{P_4}{P_2}\right) = \dim P_4 - \dim P_2$$

#### 2024

- 1) Let  $H$  be a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$  spanned by the vectors  $v_1 = (1, -2, 5, -3)$ ,  $v_2 = (2, 3, 1, -4)$ ,  $v_3 = (3, 8, -3, -5)$ . Then find a basis and dimension of  $H$ , and extend the basis of  $H$  to a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ .
- 2) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a linear operator and  $B = (v_1, v_2, v_3)$  be a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Suppose that  $Tv_1 = (1,1,0)$ ,  $Tv_2 = (1,0,-1)$ ,  $Tv_3 = (2,1,-1)$ . Find a basis for the range space and null space of  $T$ .
- 3) Consider a linear operator  $T$  on  $\mathbb{R}^3$  over  $\mathbb{R}$  defined by  $T(x,y,z) = (2x, 4x - y, 2x + 3y - z)$ . Is  $T$  invertible? If yes, justify your answer and find  $T^{-1}$ .
- 4) Let  $V = M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$  denote a vector space over the field of real numbers. Find the matrix of the linear mapping  $\phi: V \rightarrow V$  given by  $\phi(v) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} v$  with respect to standard basis of  $M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$ , and hence find the rank of  $\phi$ . Is  $\phi$  invertible? Justify your answer.

- 5) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix. Find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors of  $A$ . Hence find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors of  $A^{-15}$ , where  $A^{-15} = (A^{-1})^{15}$ .

**2023**

- 1) Let  $V_1 = (2, -1, 3, 2)$ ,  $V_2 = (-1, 1, 1, -3)$  and  $V_3 = (1, 1, 9, -5)$  be three vectors of the space  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . Does  $(3, -1, 0, -1) \in \text{span}\{V_1, V_2, V_3\}$ ? Justify your answer.
- 2) Find the rank and nullity of the linear transformation:  
 $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  given by  $T(x, y, z) = (x + z, x + y + 2z, 2x + y + 3z)$
- 3) If the matrix of a linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  relative to the basis  $(1, 0, 0), (0, 1, 0), (0, 0, 1)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  then find the matrix of  $T$  relative to the basis  $\{(1, 1, 1), (0, 1, 1), (0, 0, 1)\}$ .
- 4) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$   
 (i) Verify the Cayley-Hamilton theorem for the matrix  $A$ .  
 (ii) Show that  $A^n = A^{n-2} + A^2 - I$  for  $n \geq 3$ , where  $I$  is the identity matrix of order 3. Hence, find  $A^{40}$ .

- 5) Find the rank of matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 3 & 0 & -4 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & -2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  by reducing to row-reduced echelon form.

**2022**

- 1) Prove that any set of  $n$  linearly independent vectors in a vector space  $V$  of dimension  $n$  constitutes a basis for  $V$ .
- 2) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a linear transformation and  $T\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $T\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 2 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find  $T\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$
- 3) Let the set  $P = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mid \begin{matrix} x - y - z = 0 \\ 2x - y + z = 0 \end{matrix} \right\}$  be the collection of vectors of a vector space  $\mathbb{R}^3(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  
 (i) prove that  $P$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .  
 (ii) find a basis and dimension of  $P$ .
- 4) Find a linear map  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  which rotates each vector of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  by an angle  $\theta$ . Also, prove that for  $\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$ ,  $T$  has no eigenvalue in  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- 5) Find all solutions to the following system of equations by row-reduced method:  
 $x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 2 \quad 2x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 = 5 \quad -x_1 - 3x_2 + 8x_3 = -1$

## 2021

- 1) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , then show that  $A^2 = A^{-1}$  (without finding  $A^{-1}$ ).
- 2) Find the matrix associated with the linear operator on  $V_3(R)$  defined by  $T(a, b, c) = (a + b, a - b, 2c)$  with respect to ordered basis  $B = \{(0,1,1), (1,0,1), (1,1,0)\}$ .
- 3) Show that  $S = \{(x, 2y, 3z) : x, y, z \text{ are real numbers}\}$  is a subspace of  $R^3(R)$ . Find two bases of  $S$ . Also find the dimension of  $S$ .
- 4) Prove that the eigen vectors, corresponding to two distinct eigen values of a real symmetric matrix, are orthogonal.
- 5) For two square matrices  $A$  and  $B$  of order 2, show that  $\text{trace}(AB) = \text{trace}(BA)$ . Hence show that  $AB - BA \neq I_2$ , where  $I_2$  is an identity matrix of order 2
- 6) Reduce the matrix to row-reduced echelon form and also find rank:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 6 & 2 & 6 & 2 \\ 3 & 9 & 1 & 10 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$
- 7) Find the eigen values and corresponding eigen vectors of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , over the complex-number field.

## 2020

- 1) Consider the set  $V$  of all  $n \times n$  real magic squares. Show that  $V$  is a vector space over  $R$ . Give examples of two distinct  $2 \times 2$  magic squares.
- 2) Let  $T: M_2(R) \rightarrow M_2(R)$  be the vector space of all  $2 \times 2$  real matrices. Let  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . Suppose  $T: M_2(R) \rightarrow M_2(R)$  is a linear transformation defined by  $T(A) = BA$ . Find the rank and nullity of  $T$ . Find a matrix  $A$  which maps to the null matrix.
- 3) Define an  $n \times n$  matrix as  $A = I - 2u \cdot u^T$ , where  $u$  is a unit column vector
  - (i) Examine if  $A$  is symmetric.
  - (ii) Examine if  $A$  is orthogonal.
  - (iii) Show that  $\text{trace}(A) = n - 2$ .
  - (iv) Find  $A_{3 \times 3}$  when  $u = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$
- 4) Let  $F$  be a subfield of complex numbers and  $T$  a function from  $F^3 \rightarrow F^3$  defined by  $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3, 2x_1 - x_2, -3x_1 + x_2 - x_3)$ . What are the conditions on  $a, b, c$  such that  $(a, b, c)$  be in the null space of  $T$ ? find the nullity of  $T$ .
- 5) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \\ 4 & 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -11 & 2 & 2 \\ -4 & 0 & 1 \\ 6 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ 
  - a) Find  $AB$
  - b) Find  $\det(A)$  and  $\det(B)$
  - b) Solve the linear equations:  $x + 2z = 3$     $2x - y + 3z = 3$     $4x + y + 8z = 14$

## 2019

- 1) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be a linear map such that  $T(2,1) = (5,7)$  and  $T(1,2) = (3,3)$ . If  $A$  is the matrix corresponding to  $T$  with respect to the standard bases  $e_1, e_2$ , then find rank
- 2) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 3 & 0 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  then show that  $AB = 6I_3$ . Use this result to solve the system of equations.  $2x + y + z = 5$ ,  $x - y = 0$ ,  $2x + y - z = 1$
- 3) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be two orthogonal matrices of same order and  $\det A + \det B = 0$ . Show that  $A + B$  is a singular matrix.
- 4) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 7 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -8 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 0 \\ 3 & 4 & -3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
- a) Find the rank of matrix  $A$
- b) Find the dimension of the subspace
- $$V = \left\{ (x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \in \mathbb{R}^4 \mid A \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \right\}$$
- 5) State the Cayley-Hamilton theorem. Use this theorem to find  $A^{100}$  where  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

## 2018

- 1) Let  $A$  be a  $3 \times 2$  matrix and  $B$  a  $2 \times 3$  matrix. Show that  $C = A \cdot B$  is a singular matrix.
- 2) Express basis vectors  $e_1 = (1,0)$  and  $e_2 = (0,1)$  as linear combination of  $\alpha_1 = (2, -1)$  and  $\alpha_2 = (1,3)$ .
- 3) Show that if  $A$  and  $B$  are similar  $n \times n$  matrices, then they have the same Eigen values.
- 4) For the linear equations  $x + 3y - 2z = -1$ ,  $5y + 3z = -8$ ,  $x - 2y - 5z = 7$  determine which of the following statements are true and which are false:
- a. The system has no solution.
- b. The system has a unique solution.
- c. The system has infinitely many solutions.

## 2017

- 1) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a non-singular matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is diagonal matrix.
- 2) Show that similar matrices have the same characteristic polynomial.
- 3) Suppose  $U$  and  $W$  are distinct four dimensional subspaces of a vector space  $V$ , where  $\dim V = 6$ . Find the possible dimensions of subspace  $U \cap W$

4) Consider the matrix mapping  $A: R^4 \rightarrow R^3$ , where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 5 & -2 \\ 3 & 8 & 13 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find a basis and dimension of the image of  $A$  and those of the kernel  $A$ .

5) Prove that distinct non-zero eigenvectors of a matrix are linearly independent.

6) Consider the following system of equation in  $x, y, z$

$$x + 2y + 2z = 1, \quad x + ay + 3z = 3, \quad x + 11y + az = b$$

- For which values of  $a$  does the system have a unique solution?
- For which of values  $(a, b)$  does the system have more than one solution?

### 2016

1) Using elementary row operations, find the inverse of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

2) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 5 & 2 & 6 \\ -2 & -1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$  then find  $A^{14} + 3A - 2I$ .

3) Using elementary row operation find the condition that the linear equations have a solution

$$\begin{aligned} x - 2y + z &= a \\ 2x + 7y - 3z &= b \\ 3x + 5y - 2z &= c \end{aligned}$$

4) If  $W_1 = \{(x, y, z) \mid x + y - z = 0\}$ ,  $W_2 = \{(x, y, z) \mid 3x + y - 2z = 0\}$ ,  $W_3 = \{(x, y, z) \mid x - 7y + 3z = 0\}$  then find  $\dim(W_1 \cap W_2 \cap W_3)$  and  $\dim(W_1 + W_2)$

5) If  $M_2(R)$  is space of real matrices of order  $2 \times 2$  and  $P_2(x)$  is the space of real polynomials of degree at most 2, then find the matrix representation of  $T: M_2(R) \rightarrow P_2(x)$  such that  $T\left(\begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}\right) = a + c + (a - d)x + (b + c)x^2$ , with respect to the standard bases of  $M_2(R)$  and  $P_2(x)$ , Further find null space of  $T$

6) If  $T: P_2(x) \rightarrow P_3(x)$  is such that  $T(f(x)) = f(x) + 5 \int_0^x f(t) dt$ , then choosing  $\{1, 1 + x, 1 - x^2\}$  and  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$  as bases of  $P_2(x)$  and  $P_3(x)$  respectively find the matrix of  $T$ .

7) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , then find the eigenvalues and Eigenvectors of  $A$ .

8) Prove that the eigenvalues of a Hermitian matrix are all real.

9) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is the matrix representation of a linear transformation

$T: P_2(x) \rightarrow P_2(x)$  with respect to bases  $\{1 - x, x(1 - x), x(1 + x)\}$  and  $\{1, 1 + x, 1 + x^2\}$ , then find  $T$ .

## 2015

- 1) The vectors  $V_1 = (1,1,2,4), V_2 = (2, -1, -5,2), V_3 = (1, -1, -4,0)$  and  $V_4 = (2,1,1,6)$  are linearly independent. Is it true? Justify your answer.

- 2) Reduce the matrix to row echelon form and find its rank: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 1 & 4 & 5 \\ 1 & 5 & 5 & 7 \\ 8 & 1 & 14 & 17 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 3) If matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  then find  $A^{30}$

- 4) Find the Eigen values and Eigen vectors of the matrix 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 5) Let  $V = R^3$  and  $T \in A(V)$ , for all  $a_i \in A(V)$ , be defined by  $T(a_1, a_2, a_3) = (2a_1 + 5a_2 + a_3, -3a_1 + a_2 - a_3, a_1 + 2a_2 + 3a_3)$ . What is the matrix  $T$  relative to the basis  $V_1 = (1,0,1), V_2 = (-1,2,1), V_3 = (3, -1,1)$  ?

- 6) Find the dimension of the subspace of  $R^4$ , spanned by the set  $\{(1,0,0,0), (0,1,0,0), (1,2,0,1), (0,0,0,1)\}$ . Hence find its basis.

## 2014

- 1) Find one vector in  $R^3$  which generates the intersection of  $V$  and  $W$ , where  $V$  is the  $xy$ -plane and  $W$  is the space generated by the vectors  $(1,2,3)$  and  $(1, -1,1)$

- 2) Using elementary row or column operations, find rank of the matrix 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- 3) Let  $V$  and  $W$  be the following subspaces of  $R^4$   
 $V = \{(a, b, c, d): b - 2c + d = 0\}$  and  $W = \{(a, b, c, d): a = d, b = 2c\}$ . Find a basis and the dimension of (i)  $V$  (ii)  $W$  (iii)  $V \cap W$

- 4) Investigate the values of  $\lambda$  and  $\mu$  so that the equations  $x + y + z = 6, x + 2y + 3z = 10, x + 2y + \lambda z = \mu$  have (i) no solution (ii) unique solution, (iii) an infinite number of solutions.

- 5) Verify Cayley-Hamilton theorem for the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  and hence find its inverse. Also, find the matrix represented by  $A^5 - 4A^4 - 7A^3 + 11A^2 - A - 10I$

- 6) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the Eigen values of  $A$  and the corresponding Eigen vectors.

- 7) Prove that Eigen values of a unitary matrix have absolute value 1.

## 2013

- 1) Find the inverse of the matrix:  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 7 \\ 3 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  by using elementary row operations.  
Hence solve the linear equations  $x + 3y + z = 10$ ,  $2x - y + 7z = 12$ ,  $3x + 2y - z = 4$
- 2) Let  $A$  be a square matrix and  $A^*$  be its adjoint, show that the Eigen values of matrices  $AA^*$  and  $A^*A$  are real. Further show that  $\text{trace}(AA^*) = \text{trace}(A^*A)$
- 3) Let  $P_n$  denote the vector space of all real polynomials of degree at most  $n$  and  $T: P_2 \rightarrow P_3$  be linear transformation given by  $T(f(x)) = \int_0^x p(t)dt, p(x) \in P_2$ . Find the matrix of  $T$  with respect to the bases  $\{1, x, x^2\}$  and  $\{1, x, 1 + x^2, 1 + x^3\}$  of  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  respectively. Also find the null space of  $T$
- 4) Let  $V$  be an  $n$ -dimensional vector space and  $T: V \rightarrow V$  be an invertible linear operator. If  $\beta = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$  is a basis of  $V$ , show that  $\beta' = \{TX_1, TX_2, \dots, TX_n\}$  is also a basis of  $V$
- 5) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & \omega^2 & \omega \\ 1 & \omega & \omega^2 \end{bmatrix}$  where  $\omega (\neq 1)$  is a cube root of unity. If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  denote the Eigen values of  $A^2$ , show that  $|\lambda_1| + |\lambda_2| + |\lambda_3| \leq 9$
- 6) Find the rank of the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 2 & 3 & 5 & 8 & 12 \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 12 & 17 \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 17 & 23 \\ 8 & 12 & 17 & 23 & 30 \end{bmatrix}$
- 7) Let  $A$  be a Hermitian matrix having all distinct Eigen values  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ . If  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are corresponding Eigen vectors then show that the  $n \times n$  matrix  $C$  whose  $k^{\text{th}}$  column consists of the vector  $X_n$  is nonsingular.
- 8) Show that the vectors  $X_1 = (1, 1 + i, i), X_2 = (i, -i, 1 - i)$  and  $X_3 = (0, 1 - 2i, 2 - i)$  in  $C^3$  are linearly independent over the field of real numbers but are linearly dependent over the field of complex numbers.

## 2012

- 1) Prove or disprove the following statement:  
If  $B = \{b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4, b_5\}$  is a basis for  $\mathbb{R}^5$  and  $V$  is a two-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^5$ , then  $V$  has a basis made of two members of  $B$ .
- 2) Let  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation defined by  
 $T(\alpha, \beta, \gamma) = (\alpha + 2\beta - 3\gamma, 2\alpha + 5\beta - 4\gamma, \alpha + 4\beta + \gamma)$ . Find a basis and the dimension of the image of  $T$  and the kernel of  $T$
- 3) Let  $V$  be the vector space of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices over the field of real numbers. Let  $W$  be the set consisting of all matrices with zero determinant. Is  $W$  a subspace of  $V$ ? Justify your answer?
- 4) Find the dimension and a basis for the space  $W$  of all solutions of the following homogeneous system using matrix notation:  
 $x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 - 2x_4 + 4x_5 = 0$   
 $2x_1 + 4x_2 + 8x_3 + x_4 + 9x_5 = 0$        $3x_1 + 6x_2 + 13x_3 + 4x_4 + 14x_5 = 0$

- 5) Consider the linear mapping  $f: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  by  $f(x, y) = (3x + 4y, 2x - 5y)$ . Find the matrix  $A$  relative to the basis  $(1,0), (0,1)$  and the matrix  $B$  relative to the basis  $(1,2), (2,3)$
- 6) If  $\lambda$  is a characteristic root of a non-singular matrix  $A$ , then prove that  $\frac{|A|}{\lambda}$  is a characteristic root of  $\text{Adj } A$
- 7) Let  $H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & i & 2+i \\ -i & 2 & 1-i \\ 2-i & 1+i & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  be a Hermitian matrix. Find a non-singular matrix  $P$  such that  $D = P^T H \bar{P}$  is diagonal.

## 2011

- 1) Let  $A$  be a non-singular  $n \times n$ , square matrix. Show that  $A \cdot (\text{adj } A) = |A| \cdot I_n$ . Hence show that  $|\text{adj } (\text{adj } A)| = |A|^{(n-1)^2}$

2) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 6 & 7 \end{bmatrix}, X = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix}, B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$

Solve the system of equations given by  $AX = B$ . Using the above, also solve the system of equations  $A^T X = B$  where  $A^T$  denotes the transpose of matrix  $A$ .

- 3) Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the Eigen values of a  $n \times n$  square matrix  $A$  with corresponding Eigen vectors  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ . If  $B$  is a matrix similar to  $A$ , show that the Eigen values of  $B$  is same as that of  $A$ . Also find the relation between the Eigen vectors of  $B$  and Eigen vectors of  $A$ .
- 4) Show that the subspaces of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  spanned by two sets of vectors  $\{(1,1, -1), (1,0,1)\}$  and  $\{(1,2, -3), (5,2,1)\}$  are identical. Also find the dimension of this subspace.
- 5) Find the nullity and a basis of the null space of the linear transformation  $A: \mathbb{R}^{(4)} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{(4)}$  given by the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -3 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- 6) Show that the vectors  $(1,1,1), (2,1,2)$  and  $(1,2,3)$  are linearly independent in  $\mathbb{R}^{(3)}$ . Let  $\mathbb{R}^{(3)} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{(3)}$  be a linear transformation defined by  $T(x, y, z) = (x + 2y + 3z, x + 2y + 5z, 2x + 4y + 6z)$  Show that images of above vectors are linearly dependent. Given reason for the same.
- 7) Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $C$  be a non-singular matrix of order  $3 \times 3$ . Find the Eigen values of the matrix  $B^3$  where  $B = C^{-1}AC$ .
- 8) Verify the Cayley-Hamilton theorem for the matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & -5 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Using this, show that  $A$  is non-singular and find  $A^{-1}$ .

## 2010

- 1) If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_3$  are the Eigen values of matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 26 & -2 & 2 \\ 2 & 21 & 4 \\ 44 & 2 & 28 \end{bmatrix}$  show  $\sqrt{\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \lambda_3^2} \leq \sqrt{1949}$
- 2) What is the null space of the differentiation transformation  $\frac{d}{dx}: P_n \rightarrow P_n$  where  $P_n$  is the space of all polynomials of degree  $\leq n$  over the real numbers? What is the null space of the second derivative as a transformation of  $P_n$ ? What is the null space of the  $k$ th derivative  $P_n$ ?
- 3) Let  $M = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the unique linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  so that  $M$  is the matrix of  $T$  with respect to the basis  $\beta = \{v_1 = (1,0,0), v_2 = (1,1,0), v_3 = (1,1,1)\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  and  $\beta' = \{w_1 = (1,0), w_2 = (1,1)\}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Also find  $T(x, y, z)$ .
- 4) Let  $A$  and  $B$  be  $n \times n$  matrices over reals. Show that  $I - BA$  is invertible if  $I - AB$  is invertible. Deduce that  $AB$  and  $BA$  have the same Eigen values.
- 5) In the  $n$ -space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , determine whether or not the  $\{e_1 - e_2, e_2 - e_3, \dots, e_{n-1} - e_n, e_n - e_1\}$  is linearly independent.
- 6) Let  $T$  be a linear transformation from a vector  $V$  space over reals into  $V$  such that  $T - T^2 = I$ . Show that  $T$  is invertible.

## 2009

- 1) Find a Hermitian and Skew Hermitian matrix each whose sum is the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2i & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 2+3i & 2 \\ -i+1 & 4 & 5i \end{bmatrix}$$

- 2) Prove that the set  $V$  of the vectors  $(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^4$  which satisfy the equation  $x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3 + x_4 = 0$  and  $2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 + x_4 = 0$ , is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^4$ . What is dimension of this subspace? Find one of its bases.
- 3) Let  $\beta = \{(1,1,0), (1,0,1), (0,1,1)\}$  and  $\beta' = \{(2,1,1), (1,2,1), (-1,1,1)\}$  be the two ordered bases of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ . Then find a matrix representing the linear transformation  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  which transforms  $\beta$  into  $\beta'$ . Use this matrix representation to find  $T(x)$ , where  $x = (2,3,1)$ .
- 4) Find a  $2 \times 2$  real matrix  $A$  which is both orthogonal and skew-symmetric. Can there exist a  $3 \times 3$  real matrix which is both orthogonal and skew-symmetric? Justify your answer.
- 5) Let  $L: \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be a linear transformation defined by  $L(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = (x_3 + x_4 - x_1 - x_2, x_3 - x_2, x_4 - x_1)$ . Then find the rank and nullity of  $L$ . Also, determine null space and range space of  $L$ .
- 6) Prove that the set  $V$  of all  $3 \times 3$  real symmetric matrices form a linear subspace of the space of all  $3 \times 3$  real matrices. What is the dimension of this subspace? Find at least one of the bases for  $V$ .

## 2008

- 1) Show that the matrix  $A$  is invertible if and only if the  $\text{adj}(A)$  is invertible. Hence find  $|\text{adj}(A)|$
- 2) Let  $S$  be a non-empty set and let  $V$  denote the set of all functions from  $S$  into  $R$ . Show that  $V$  is vector space with respect to the vector addition  $(f + g)(x) = f(x) + g(x)$  and scalar multiplication  $(c \cdot f)(x) = cf(x)$
- 3) Show that  $B = \{(1,0,0), (1,1,0), (1,1,1)\}$  is a basis of  $R^3$ . Let  $T: R^3 \rightarrow R^3$  be a linear transformation such that  $T(1,0,0) = (1,0,0)$ ,  $T(1,1,0) = (1,1,1)$  and  $T(1,1,1) = (1,1,0)$ . Find  $T(x, y, z)$
- 4) Let  $A$  be a non-singular matrix. Show that if  $I + A + A^2 + \dots + A^n = 0$  then  $A^{-1} = A^n$ .
- 5) Find the dimension of the subspace of  $R^4$  spanned by the set  $\{(1,0,0,0), (0,1,0,0), (1,2,0,1), (0,0,0,1)\}$ . Hence find a basis for the subspace.

## 2007

- 1) Let  $S$  be the vector space of all polynomials,  $p(x)$  with real coefficients, of degree less than or equal to two considered over the real field  $R$ , such that  $p(0)=0$  and  $p(1) = 0$ . Determine a basis for  $S$  and hence its dimension
- 2) Let  $T$  be the linear transformation from  $R^3$  to  $R^4$  define by  $T(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (2x_1 + x_2 + x_3, x_1 + x_2, x_1 + x_3, 3x_1 + x_2 + 2x_3)$  for each  $(x_1, x_2, x_3) \in R^3$ . Determine a basis for Null space of  $T$ . What is the dimension of Range space of  $T$ ?
- 3) Let  $W$  be the set of all  $3 \times 3$  symmetric matrices over  $R$ . Does it form a subspace of the vector space of the  $3 \times 3$  matrices over  $R$ ? In case it does, construct a basis for this space and determine its dimension
- 4) Consider the vector space  $X := \{p(x)\}$ ,  $p(x)$  is a polynomial of degree less than or equal to 3 with real coefficients, over the real field  $R$ . Define the map  $D: X \rightarrow X$  by  $(Dp)(x) := p_1 + 2p_2x + 3p_3x^2$  where  $p(x) = p_0 + p_1x + p_2x^2 + p_3x^3$ . Is  $D$  a linear transformation on  $X$ ? If it is, then construct the matrix representation for  $D$  with respect to the order basis  $\{1, x, x^2, x^3\}$  for  $X$ .
- 5) Reduce the quadratic form  $q(x, y, z) := x^2 + 2y^2 - 4xz + 4yz + 7z^2$  to canonical form. Is  $q$  positive definite?

## 2006

- 1) Let  $V$  be the vector space of all  $2 \times 2$  matrices over the field  $F$ . Prove that  $V$  has dimension 4 by exhibiting a basis for  $V$ .
- 2) State Cayley-Hamilton theorem and using it, find the inverse of  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ .
- 3) If  $T: R^2 \rightarrow R^2$  is defined by  $T(x, y) = (2x - 3y, x + y)$ . Compute the matrix of  $T$  relative to the basis  $\beta = \{(1,2), (2,3)\}$

- 4) Using elementary row operations, find the rank of the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & -2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & -3 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- 5) Investigate for what values of  $\lambda$  the equations

$$\begin{aligned}x + y + z &= 6 \\x + 2y + 3z &= 10 \\x + 2y + \lambda z &= \mu\end{aligned}$$

Have-

- no solution;
  - a unique solution;
  - infinitely many solutions
- 6) Find the quadratic form  $q(x, y)$  corresponding to the symmetric matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -3 \\ -3 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$ . Is this quadratic form positive definite? Justify your answer.

### 2005

- Find the values of  $k$  for which the vectors  $(1, 1, 1, 1)$ ,  $(1, 3, -2, k)$ ,  $(2, 2k - 2, -k - 2, 3k - 1)$  and  $(3, k + 2, -3, 2k + 1)$  are linearly independent in  $R^4$ .
- Let  $V$  be the vector space of polynomials in  $x$  of degree  $\leq n$  over  $R$ . Prove that the set  $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$  is a basis for  $V$ . Extend this basis so that it becomes a basis for the set of all polynomials in  $x$ .
- Let  $T$  be a linear transformation on  $R^3$  whose matrix relative to the standard basis of  $R^3$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$ . Find the matrix of  $T$  relative to the basis  $\beta = \{(1, 1, 1), (1, 1, 0), (0, 1, 1)\}$ .
- Find the inverse of matrix using elementary row operations only:  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$
- If  $S$  is skew-Hermitian matrix, then show that  $A = (I + S)(I - S)^{-1}$  is a unitary matrix. Also show that every unitary matrix can be expressed in the above form provided  $-1$  is not an Eigen value of  $A$ .
- Reduce the quadratic form  $6x_1^2 + 3x_2^2 + 3x_3^2 - 4x_1x_2 - 2x_2x_3 + 4x_3x_1$  to the sum of squares. Also find the corresponding linear transformation, index and signature.

### 2004

- Let  $S$  be space generated by the vectors  $\{(0, 2, 6), (3, 1, 6), (4, -2, -2)\}$ . What is the dimension of the space  $S$ ? Find a basis for  $S$ .
- Show that  $f: R^3 \rightarrow IR$  is a linear transformation, where  $f(x, y, z) = 3x + y - z$ . what is the dimension of the Kernel? Find a basis for the Kernel.
- Show that the linear transformation from  $R^3$  to  $R^4$  which is represented by the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$  is one-to-one. Find a basis for its image.

- 4) Verify whether the following system of equation is consistent

$$\begin{aligned}x + 3z &= 5 \\ -2x + 5y - z &= 0 \\ -x + 4y + z &= 4\end{aligned}$$

- 5) Find the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ . Hence find  $A^{-1}$  and  $A^6$
- 6) Define a positive definite quadratic form. Reduce the quadratic form  $x_1^2 + x_3^2 + 2x_1x_2 + 2x_2x_3$  to canonical form. Is this quadratic form positive definite?

### 2003

- 1) Let  $S$  be any non-empty subset of a vector space  $V$  over the field  $F$ . Show that the set  $\{a_1\alpha_1 + a_2\alpha_2 + \dots + a_n\alpha_n : a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n \in F, \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in S, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is the subspace generated by  $S$ .

- 2) If  $f = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  then find matrix  $2A^{10} - 10A^9 + 14A^8 - 6A^7 - 3A^6 + 15A^5 - 21A^4 + 9A^3 + A - 1$ .

- 3) Prove that the Eigen vectors corresponding to distinct Eigen values of a square matrix are linearly independent.
- 4) If  $H$  is a Hermitian matrix, then show that  $A = (H + iI)^{-1}(H - iI)$  is a unitary matrix. Also, so that every unitary matrix can be expressed in this form, provided 1 is not Eigen value of  $A$ .

- 5) If  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  then find a diagonal matrix  $D$  and a matrix  $B$  such that  $A = BDB'$  where  $B'$  denotes the transpose of  $B$ .

- 6) Reduce the quadratic form given below to canonical form and find its rank and signature  $x^2 + 4y^2 + 9z^2 + u^2 - 12yz + 6zx - 4xy - 2xu - 6zu$ .

### 2002

- 1) Show that the mapping  $T: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  where  $T(a, b, c) = (a - b, b - c, a + c)$  is linear and non-singular
- 2) A square matrix  $A$  is non-singular if and only if the constant term in its characteristic polynomial is different from zero.
- 3) Let  $\mathbb{R}^5 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^5$  be a linear mapping given by  $T(a, b, c, d, e) = (b - d, d + e, b, 2d + e, b + e)$  Obtain bases for its null space and range space.
- 4) Let  $A$  be a real  $3 \times 3$  symmetric matrix with Eigen values 0, 0 and 5. If the corresponding Eigen-vectors are  $(2, 0, 1)$ ,  $(2, 1, 1)$  and  $(1, 0, -2)$ , then find the matrix  $A$ .

- 5) Solve the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 - 2x_2 - 3x_3 + 4x_4 &= -1 \\ -x_1 + 3x_2 + 5x_3 - 5x_4 - 2x_5 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 + 3x_4 - 4x_5 &= 17,\end{aligned}$$

- 6) Use Cayley-Hamilton theorem to find the inverse of matrix:  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

**2001**

- 1) Show that vectors  $(1, 0, -1)$ ,  $(0, -3, 2)$  and  $(1, 2, 1)$  form a basis for the vector space  $R^3(R)$
- 2) If  $\lambda$  is characteristic root of non-singular matrix  $A$  then prove  $\frac{|A|}{\lambda}$  is characteristic root of  $\text{Adj.}A$
- 3) If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  show that for every integer  $n \geq 3$ ,  $A^n = A^{n-2} + A^2 - I$ . Hence find  $A^{50}$ .
- 4) When is a square matrix  $A$  said to be congruent to a square matrix  $B$ ? Prove that every matrix congruent to skew-symmetric matrix is skew symmetric.
- 5) Determine an orthogonal matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}AP$  is a diagonal matrix, where
- $$A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 4 & 4 \\ 4 & -8 & -1 \\ -4 & -1 & -8 \end{pmatrix}$$
- 6) Show that the real quadratic form  $\phi = n(x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2) - (x_1 + x_2 + \dots + x_n)^2$  in  $n$  variables is positive semi-definite.

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