

# Fundamentals of Linear Algebra and Optimization

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## Homework 6

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Beginning of class

**Problem B1 (20  $+\infty_2/\infty_1 \approx 40$  pts).** (1) Let  $H$  be the affine hyperplane in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  given by the equation

$$a_1x_1 + \cdots + a_nx_n = c,$$

with  $a_i \neq 0$  for some  $i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ . The linear hyperplane  $H_0$  parallel to  $H$  is given by the equation

$$a_1x_1 + \cdots + a_nx_n = 0,$$

and we say that a vector  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is *orthogonal* (or *perpendicular*) to  $H$  iff  $y$  is orthogonal to  $H_0$ . Let  $h$  be the intersection of  $H$  with the line through the origin and perpendicular to  $H$ . Prove that the coordinates of  $h$  are given by

$$\frac{c}{a_1^2 + \cdots + a_n^2} (a_1, \dots, a_n).$$

(2) For any point  $p \in H$ , prove that  $\|h\| \leq \|p\|$ . Thus, it is natural to define the *distance*  $d(O, H)$  from the origin  $O$  to the hyperplane  $H$  as  $d(O, H) = \|h\|$ . Prove that

$$d(O, H) = \frac{|c|}{(a_1^2 + \cdots + a_n^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

(3) Let  $S$  be a finite set of  $n \geq 3$  points in the plane ( $\mathbb{R}^2$ ). Prove that if for every pair of distinct points  $p_i, p_j \in S$ , there is a third point  $p_k \in S$  (distinct from  $p_i$  and  $p_j$ ) such that  $p_i, p_j, p_k$  belong to the same (affine) line, then all points in  $S$  belong to a common (affine) line.

*Hint.* Proceed by contradiction and use a minimality argument. This is either  $\infty$ -hard or relatively easy, depending how you proceed!

**Problem B2 (10 pts).** Let  $A$  be any real or complex  $n \times n$  matrix and let  $\|\cdot\|$  be any operator norm.

Prove that for every  $m \geq 1$ ,

$$\|I\| + \sum_{k=1}^m \left\| \frac{A^k}{k!} \right\| \leq e^{\|A\|}.$$

If you know some analysis, deduce from the above that the sequence  $(E_m)$  of matrices

$$E_m = I + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{A^k}{k!}$$

converges to a limit denoted  $e^A$ , and called the *exponential* of  $A$ .

**Problem B3 (90 pts).** (The space of closed polygons in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , after Hausmann and Knutson)

An *open polygon*  $P$  in the plane is a sequence  $P = (v_1, \dots, v_{n+1})$  of point  $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$  called *vertices* (with  $n \geq 1$ ). A *closed polygon*, for short a *polygon*, is an open polygon  $P = (v_1, \dots, v_{n+1})$  such that  $v_{n+1} = v_1$ . The sequence of *edge vectors*  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  associated with the open (or closed) polygon  $P = (v_1, \dots, v_{n+1})$  is defined by

$$e_i = v_{i+1} - v_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Thus, a closed or open polygon is also defined by a pair  $(v_1, (e_1, \dots, e_n))$ , with the vertices given by

$$v_{i+1} = v_i + e_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

Observe that a polygon  $(v_1, (e_1, \dots, e_n))$  is closed iff

$$e_1 + \dots + e_n = 0.$$

Since every polygon  $(v_1, (e_1, \dots, e_n))$  can be translated by  $-v_1$ , so that  $v_1 = (0, 0)$ , we may assume that our polygons are specified by a sequence of edge vectors.

Recall that the plane  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{C}$ , via the isomorphism

$$(x, y) \mapsto x + iy.$$

We will represent each edge vector  $e_k$  by the square of a complex number  $w_k = a_k + ib_k$ . Thus, every sequence of complex numbers  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$  defines a polygon (namely,  $(w_1^2, \dots, w_n^2)$ ). This representation is many-to-one: the sequences  $(\pm w_1, \dots, \pm w_n)$  describe the same polygon. To every sequence of complex numbers  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , we associate the pair of vectors  $(a, b)$ , with  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , such that if  $w_k = a_k + ib_k$ , then

$$a = (a_1, \dots, a_n), \quad b = (b_1, \dots, b_n).$$

The mapping

$$(w_1, \dots, w_n) \mapsto (a, b)$$

is clearly a bijection, so we can also represent polygons by pairs of vectors  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ .

(a) Prove that a polygon  $P$  represented by a pair of vectors  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$  is closed iff  $a \cdot b = 0$  and  $\|a\|_2 = \|b\|_2$ .

(b) Given a polygon  $P$  represented by a pair of vectors  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ , the length  $l(P)$  of the polygon  $P$  is defined by  $l(P) = |w_1|^2 + \cdots + |w_n|^2$ , with  $w_k = a_k + ib_k$ . Prove that

$$l(P) = \|a\|_2^2 + \|b\|_2^2.$$

Deduce from (a) and (b) that every closed polygon of length 2 with  $n$  edges is represented by a  $n \times 2$  matrix  $A$  such that  $A^\top A = I$ .

**Remark:** The space of all a  $n \times 2$  real matrices  $A$  such that  $A^\top A = I$  is a space known as the *Stiefel manifold*  $S(2, n)$ .

(c) Recall that in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , the rotation of angle  $\theta$  specified by the matrix

$$R_\theta = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

is expressed in terms of complex numbers by the map

$$z \mapsto ze^{i\theta}.$$

Let  $P$  be a polygon represented by a pair of vectors  $(a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that the polygon  $R_\theta(P)$  obtained by applying the rotation  $R_\theta$  to every vertex  $w_k^2 = (a_k + ib_k)^2$  of  $P$  is specified by the pair of vectors

$$(\cos(\theta/2)a - \sin(\theta/2)b, \sin(\theta/2)a + \cos(\theta/2)b) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ a_n & b_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) & \sin(\theta/2) \\ -\sin(\theta/2) & \cos(\theta/2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

(d) The reflection  $\rho_x$  about the  $x$ -axis corresponds to the map

$$z \mapsto \bar{z},$$

whose matrix is,

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

Prove that the polygon  $\rho_x(P)$  obtained by applying the reflection  $\rho_x$  to every vertex  $w_k^2 = (a_k + ib_k)^2$  of  $P$  is specified by the pair of vectors

$$(a, -b) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ a_n & b_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

(e) Let  $Q \in \mathbf{O}(2)$  be any isometry such that  $\det(Q) = -1$  (a reflection). Prove that there is a rotation  $R_{-\theta} \in \mathbf{SO}(2)$  such that

$$Q = \rho_x \circ R_{-\theta}.$$

Prove that the isometry  $Q$ , which is given by the matrix

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & \sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix},$$

is the reflection about the line corresponding to the angle  $\theta/2$  (the line of equation  $y = \tan(\theta/2)x$ ).

Prove that the polygon  $Q(P)$  obtained by applying the reflection  $Q = \rho_x \circ R_{-\theta}$  to every vertex  $w_k^2 = (a_k + ib_k)^2$  of  $P$ , is specified by the pair of vectors

$$(\cos(\theta/2)a + \sin(\theta/2)b, \sin(\theta/2)a - \cos(\theta/2)b) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & b_1 \\ a_2 & b_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ a_n & b_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta/2) & \sin(\theta/2) \\ \sin(\theta/2) & -\cos(\theta/2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

(f) Define an equivalence relation  $\sim$  on  $S(2, n)$  such that if  $A_1, A_2 \in S(2, n)$  are any  $n \times 2$  matrices such that  $A_1^\top A_1 = A_2^\top A_2 = I$ , then

$$A_1 \sim A_2 \quad \text{iff} \quad A_2 = A_1 Q \quad \text{for some } Q \in \mathbf{O}(2).$$

Prove that the quotient  $G(2, n) = S(2, n)/\sim$  is in bijection with the set of all 2-dimensional subspaces (the planes) of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The space  $G(2, n)$  is called a *Grassmannian manifold*.

Prove that up to translations and isometries in  $\mathbf{O}(2)$  (rotations and reflections), the  $n$ -sided closed polygons of length 2 are represented by planes in  $G(2, n)$ .

**Problem B4 (100 pts).** (a) For any matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -c & b \\ c & 0 & -a \\ -b & a & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

if we let  $\theta = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$  and

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} a^2 & ab & ac \\ ab & b^2 & bc \\ ac & bc & c^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

prove that

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= -\theta^2 I + B, \\ AB &= BA = 0. \end{aligned}$$

From the above, deduce that

$$A^3 = -\theta^2 A.$$

(b) Prove that the exponential map  $\exp: \mathfrak{so}(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is given by

$$\exp A = e^A = \cos \theta I_3 + \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} A + \frac{(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2} A^2,$$

or, equivalently, by

$$e^A = I_3 + \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} A + \frac{(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2} A^2, \quad \text{if } \theta \neq 0,$$

with  $\exp(0_3) = I_3$ .

(c) Prove that  $e^A$  is an orthogonal matrix of determinant  $+1$ , i.e., a rotation matrix.

(d) Prove that the exponential map  $\exp: \mathfrak{so}(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is surjective. For this, proceed as follows: Pick any rotation matrix  $R \in \mathbf{SO}(3)$ ;

- (1) The case  $R = I$  is trivial.
- (2) If  $R \neq I$  and  $\text{tr}(R) \neq -1$ , then

$$\exp^{-1}(R) = \left\{ \frac{\theta}{2 \sin \theta} (R - R^T) \mid 1 + 2 \cos \theta = \text{tr}(R) \right\}.$$

(Recall that  $\text{tr}(R) = r_{11} + r_{22} + r_{33}$ , the *trace* of the matrix  $R$ ).

Show that there is a unique skew-symmetric  $B$  with corresponding  $\theta$  satisfying  $0 < \theta < \pi$  such that  $e^B = R$ .

- (3) If  $R \neq I$  and  $\text{tr}(R) = -1$ , then prove that the eigenvalues of  $R$  are  $1, -1, -1$ , that  $R = R^T$ , and that  $R^2 = I$ . Prove that the matrix

$$S = \frac{1}{2}(R - I)$$

is a symmetric matrix whose eigenvalues are  $-1, -1, 0$ . Thus,  $S$  can be diagonalized with respect to an orthogonal matrix  $Q$  as

$$S = Q \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} Q^T.$$

Prove that there exists a skew symmetric matrix

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -d & c \\ d & 0 & -b \\ -c & b & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

so that

$$U^2 = S = \frac{1}{2}(R - I).$$

Observe that

$$U^2 = \begin{pmatrix} -(c^2 + d^2) & bc & bd \\ bc & -(b^2 + d^2) & cd \\ bd & cd & -(b^2 + c^2) \end{pmatrix},$$

and use this to conclude that if  $U^2 = S$ , then  $b^2 + c^2 + d^2 = 1$ . Then, show that

$$\exp^{-1}(R) = \left\{ (2k+1)\pi \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -d & c \\ d & 0 & -b \\ -c & b & 0 \end{pmatrix}, k \in \mathbb{Z} \right\},$$

where  $(b, c, d)$  is any unit vector such that for the corresponding skew symmetric matrix  $U$ , we have  $U^2 = S$ .

(e) To find a skew symmetric matrix  $U$  so that  $U^2 = S = \frac{1}{2}(R - I)$  as in (d), we can solve the system

$$\begin{pmatrix} b^2 - 1 & bc & bd \\ bc & c^2 - 1 & cd \\ bd & cd & d^2 - 1 \end{pmatrix} = S.$$

We immediately get  $b^2, c^2, d^2$ , and then, since one of  $b, c, d$  is nonzero, say  $b$ , if we choose the positive square root of  $b^2$ , we can determine  $c$  and  $d$  from  $bc$  and  $bd$ .

Implement a computer program to solve the above system.

**Problem B5 (120 pts).** (a) Consider the set of affine maps  $\rho$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  defined such that

$$\rho(X) = \alpha R X + W,$$

where  $R$  is a rotation matrix (an orthogonal matrix of determinant +1),  $W$  is some vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , and  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  with  $\alpha > 0$ . Every such a map can be represented by the  $4 \times 4$  matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha R & W \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

in the sense that

$$\begin{pmatrix} \rho(X) \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha R & W \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

iff

$$\rho(X) = \alpha R X + W.$$

Prove that these maps form a group, denoted by **SIM**(3) (the *direct affine similitudes* of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ).

(b) Let us now consider the set of  $4 \times 4$  real matrices of the form

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma & W \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $\Gamma$  is a matrix of the form

$$\Gamma = \lambda I_3 + \Omega,$$

with

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -c & b \\ c & 0 & -a \\ -b & a & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so that

$$\Gamma = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & -c & b \\ c & \lambda & -a \\ -b & a & \lambda \end{pmatrix},$$

and  $W$  is a vector in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

Verify that this set of matrices is a vector space isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{R}^7, +)$ . This vector space is denoted by  $\mathfrak{sim}(3)$ .

(c) Given a matrix

$$B = \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma & W \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

as in (b), prove that

$$B^n = \begin{pmatrix} \Gamma^n & \Gamma^{n-1}W \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\Gamma^0 = I_3$ . Prove that

$$e^B = \begin{pmatrix} e^\Gamma & VW \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

where

$$V = I_3 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\Gamma^k}{(k+1)!}.$$

(d) Prove that if  $\Gamma = \lambda I_3 + \Omega$  as in (b), then

$$V = I_3 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\Gamma^k}{(k+1)!} = \int_0^1 e^{\Gamma t} dt.$$

(e) For any matrix  $\Gamma = \lambda I_3 + \Omega$ , with

$$\Omega = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -c & b \\ c & 0 & -a \\ -b & a & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

if we let  $\theta = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2 + c^2}$ , then prove that

$$e^\Gamma = e^\lambda e^\Omega = e^\lambda \left( I_3 + \frac{\sin \theta}{\theta} \Omega + \frac{(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2} \Omega^2 \right), \quad \text{if } \theta \neq 0,$$

and  $e^\Gamma = e^\lambda I_3$  if  $\theta = 0$ .

*Hint.* You may use the fact that if  $AB = BA$ , then  $e^{A+B} = e^A e^B$ . In general,  $e^{A+B} \neq e^A e^B$ !

(f) Prove that

1. If  $\theta = 0$  and  $\lambda = 0$ , then

$$V = I_3.$$

2. If  $\theta = 0$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ , then

$$V = \frac{(e^\lambda - 1)}{\lambda} I_3;$$

3. If  $\theta \neq 0$  and  $\lambda = 0$ , then

$$V = I_3 + \frac{(1 - \cos \theta)}{\theta^2} \Omega + \frac{(\theta - \sin \theta)}{\theta^3} \Omega^2.$$

4. If  $\theta \neq 0$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} V &= \frac{(e^\lambda - 1)}{\lambda} I_3 + \frac{(\theta(1 - e^\lambda \cos \theta) + e^\lambda \lambda \sin \theta)}{\theta(\lambda^2 + \theta^2)} \Omega \\ &+ \left( \frac{(e^\lambda - 1)}{\lambda \theta^2} - \frac{e^\lambda \sin \theta}{\theta(\lambda^2 + \theta^2)} - \frac{\lambda(e^\lambda \cos \theta - 1)}{\theta^2(\lambda^2 + \theta^2)} \right) \Omega^2. \end{aligned}$$

*Hint.* You will need to compute  $\int_0^1 e^{\lambda t} \sin \theta t \, dt$  and  $\int_0^1 e^{\lambda t} \cos \theta t \, dt$ .

(g) Prove that  $V$  is invertible iff  $\lambda \neq 0$  or  $\theta \neq k2\pi$ , with  $k \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ .

*Hint.* Express the eigenvalues of  $V$  in terms of the eigenvalues of  $\Gamma$ .

In the special case where  $\lambda = 0$ , show that

$$V^{-1} = I - \frac{1}{2} \Omega + \frac{1}{\theta^2} \left( 1 - \frac{\theta \sin \theta}{2(1 - \cos \theta)} \right) \Omega^2, \quad \text{if } \theta \neq 0.$$

*Hint.* Assume that the inverse of  $V$  is of the form

$$Z = I_3 + a\Omega + b\Omega^2,$$

and show that  $a, b$ , are given by a system of linear equations that always has a unique solution.



(h) Prove that the exponential map  $\exp: \mathfrak{sim}(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{SIM}(3)$ , given by  $\exp(B) = e^B$ , is surjective. You may use the fact that  $\exp: \mathfrak{so}(3) \rightarrow \mathbf{SO}(3)$  is surjective, proved in another Problem.

**Remark:** As in the case of the plane, curves in  $\mathbf{SIM}(3)$  can be used to describe certain deformations of bodies in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Problem B6 (30 pts).** Let  $E$  be a real vector space of finite dimension,  $n \geq 1$ . Say that two bases,  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  and  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , of  $E$  have the *same orientation* iff  $\det(P) > 0$ , where  $P$  the change of basis matrix from  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  and  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , namely, the matrix whose  $j$ th columns consist of the coordinates of  $v_j$  over the basis  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$ .

(a) Prove that having the same orientation is an equivalence relation with two equivalence classes.

An *orientation* of a vector space,  $E$ , is the choice of any fixed basis, say  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$ , of  $E$ . Any other basis,  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ , has the *same orientation* as  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  (and is said to be *positive* or *direct*) iff  $\det(P) > 0$ , else it is said to have the *opposite orientation* of  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  (or to be *negative* or *indirect*), where  $P$  is the change of basis matrix from  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  to  $(v_1, \dots, v_n)$ . An *oriented* vector space is a vector space with some chosen orientation (a positive basis).

(b) Let  $B_1 = (u_1, \dots, u_n)$  and  $B_2 = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$  be two orthonormal bases. For any sequence of vectors,  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , in  $E$ , let  $\det_{B_1}(w_1, \dots, w_n)$  be the determinant of the matrix whose columns are the coordinates of the  $w_j$ 's over the basis  $B_1$  and similarly for  $\det_{B_2}(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ .

Prove that if  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  have the same orientation, then

$$\det_{B_1}(w_1, \dots, w_n) = \det_{B_2}(w_1, \dots, w_n).$$

Given any oriented vector space,  $E$ , for any sequence of vectors,  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , in  $E$ , the common value,  $\det_B(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ , for all positive orthonormal bases,  $B$ , of  $E$  is denoted

$$\lambda_E(w_1, \dots, w_n)$$

and called a *volume form* of  $(w_1, \dots, w_n)$ .

(c) Given any Euclidean oriented vector space,  $E$ , of dimension  $n$  for any  $n - 1$  vectors,  $w_1, \dots, w_{n-1}$ , in  $E$ , check that the map

$$x \mapsto \lambda_E(w_1, \dots, w_{n-1}, x)$$

is a linear form. Then, prove that there is a unique vector, denoted  $w_1 \times \dots \times w_{n-1}$ , such that

$$\lambda_E(w_1, \dots, w_{n-1}, x) = (w_1 \times \dots \times w_{n-1}) \cdot x,$$

for all  $x \in E$ . The vector  $w_1 \times \cdots \times w_{n-1}$  is called the *cross-product* of  $(w_1, \dots, w_{n-1})$ . It is a generalization of the cross-product in  $\mathbb{R}^3$  (when  $n = 3$ ).

**Problem B7 (40 pts).** Given  $p$  vectors  $(u_1, \dots, u_p)$  in a Euclidean space  $E$  of dimension  $n \geq p$ , the *Gram determinant* (or *Gramian*) of the vectors  $(u_1, \dots, u_p)$  is the determinant

$$\text{Gram}(u_1, \dots, u_p) = \begin{vmatrix} \|u_1\|^2 & \langle u_1, u_2 \rangle & \dots & \langle u_1, u_p \rangle \\ \langle u_2, u_1 \rangle & \|u_2\|^2 & \dots & \langle u_2, u_p \rangle \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \langle u_p, u_1 \rangle & \langle u_p, u_2 \rangle & \dots & \|u_p\|^2 \end{vmatrix}.$$

(1) Prove that

$$\text{Gram}(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \lambda_E(u_1, \dots, u_n)^2.$$

*Hint.* If  $(e_1, \dots, e_n)$  is an orthonormal basis and  $A$  is the matrix of the vectors  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  over this basis,

$$\det(A)^2 = \det(A^\top A) = \det(A^i \cdot A^j),$$

where  $A^i$  denotes the  $i$ th column of the matrix  $A$ , and  $(A^i \cdot A^j)$  denotes the  $n \times n$  matrix with entries  $A^i \cdot A^j$ .

(2) Prove that

$$\|u_1 \times \cdots \times u_{n-1}\|^2 = \text{Gram}(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}).$$

*Hint.* Letting  $w = u_1 \times \cdots \times u_{n-1}$ , observe that

$$\lambda_E(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}, w) = \langle w, w \rangle = \|w\|^2,$$

and show that

$$\begin{aligned} \|w\|^4 &= \lambda_E(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}, w)^2 = \text{Gram}(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1}, w) \\ &= \text{Gram}(u_1, \dots, u_{n-1})\|w\|^2. \end{aligned}$$

**TOTAL: 450 points.**