

Remember that your work is graded on the quality of your writing and explanation as well as the validity of the mathematics.

- (1) (10 Points) Is  $\lambda = 3$  an eigenvalue of  $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 1 & -3 \\ 2 & 4 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$ ? If so, find one corresponding eigenvector.

**Answer:** Assume vector  $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have

$$A\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 4x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 \\ -x_1 + x_2 - 3x_3 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_2 + 9x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Simplify the equations  $A\mathbf{u} = 3\mathbf{u}$ , we have  $x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$ . Therefore,  $A\mathbf{u} = 3\mathbf{u}$  has solutions of two free variables.  $\lambda = 3$  is an eigenvalue of the given matrix.

Corresponding eigenvectors can be  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ , or  $\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (2) (10 Points) Find the characteristic polynomial and all eigenvalues of matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 6 & 7 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Answer:** By calculating the determinant of  $A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 - \lambda & 0 \\ 6 & 7 & -2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$  we get the characteristic polynomial of  $A$  should be

$$(1 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 28) = (1 - \lambda)(\lambda - 7)(\lambda + 4)$$

Thus, all the eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 1, 7, -4$ .