

**Question 1.**

- (a) We compute the determinant of  $A$  using cofactor expansion along the second column:

$$|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 4 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix} = 2 \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

We compute the 3-minor by cofactor expansion along the middle column, and this gives

$$|A| = 2 \cdot (-2) \cdot (9 - 1) = -4 \cdot 8 = -32$$

- (b) Since  $A$  is a  $4 \times 4$  matrix with  $|A| \neq 0$ , we have that  $\text{rk}(A) = 4$ . This means that

$$\dim \text{Col}(A) = \text{rk}(A) = 4, \quad \dim \text{Null}(A) = 4 - \text{rk}(A) = 0$$

- (c) We solve the linear system  $(A - 2I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , to simultaneously check that  $\lambda = 2$  is an eigenvalue and to find a base of  $E_2$ :

$$A - 2I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & -4 & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & -4 & -4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

We see that there are two free variables  $x_2$  and  $x_4$ , hence  $\lambda = 2$  is an eigenvalue and  $\dim E_2 = 2$ . We solve the linear system using back substitution, and find  $x_3 = -x_4$  and  $x_1 = -x_4$ . The solutions are therefore given by

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x_4 \\ x_2 \\ -x_4 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

It follows that the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1 = (0, 1, 0, 0)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = (-1, 0, -1, 1)$  form a base of  $E_2$ .

- (d) The eigenvalues of  $A$  are the solutions of the characteristic equation  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ , and we compute the determinant on the left-hand side by cofactor expansion along the second column:

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 - \lambda & 4 & 4 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2 - \lambda) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

We compute the resulting 3-minor using cofactor expansion along the second column, and write the characteristic equation in the form

$$(2 - \lambda) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & -2 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & 0 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (2 - \lambda)(-2 - \lambda) \cdot \begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

This gives  $\lambda = 2$ ,  $\lambda = -2$ , or  $\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 8 = 0$ , which gives  $\lambda = 2$  or  $\lambda = 4$ . We conclude that the eigenvalues of  $A$  are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 4$ ,  $\lambda_4 = -2$ .

**Question 2.**

- (a) We use superposition to solve the linear difference equation  $6y_{t+2} + y_{t+1} - y_t = 6t + 1$ : To find the homogeneous solution  $y_t^h$ , we consider the characteristic equation  $6r^2 + r - 1 = 0$ , with two distinct roots  $r = 1/3$ ,  $r = -1/2$ , and therefore

$$y_t^h = C_1 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^t + C_2 \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^t$$

To find a particular solution  $y_t^p$ , we consider the difference equation  $6y_{t+2} + y_{t+1} - y_t = 6t + 1$ . We try to find a constant solution  $y_t = At + B$ , which gives  $y_{t+1} = A(t+1) + B = At + A + B$ ,

and  $y_{t+2} = A(t+2) + B = At + 2A + B$ . When we substitute this into the difference equation, we get

$$\begin{aligned} 6(At + 2A + B) + (At + A + B) - (At + B) &= 6t + 1 \\ (6A)t + (13A + 6B) &= 6t + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Comparing coefficients, we find  $6A = 6$ , or  $A = 1$ , and  $13A + 6B = 1$ , or  $6B = 1 - 13 = -12$ , which gives  $B = -2$ . The general solution is therefore given by

$$y_t = y_t^h + y_t^p = C_1 \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^t + C_2 \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^t + t - 2$$

- (b) The differential equation  $ty' - 2y = t^2$  can be written  $y' - (2/t)y = t$ , and is linear. Since  $\int -(2/t)dt = -2\ln|t| + C$ , the integrating factor is  $u = e^{-2\ln|t|} = |t|^{-2} = 1/t^2$ . Multiplication with the integrating factor gives the differential equation

$$\left(\frac{1}{t^2} \cdot y\right)' = \frac{1}{t} \Rightarrow \frac{1}{t^2} \cdot y = \int 1/t dt = \ln|t| + C$$

Therefore, the differential equation has general solution  $y = t^2 \cdot \ln|t| + Ct^2$ .

- (c) We write  $y^2 - 3t^2y + (2ty - t^3)y' = 0$  in the form  $p(t, y) + q(t, y)y' = 0$  to check if it is exact: We look for a function  $h(t, y)$  in two variables such that

$$\begin{aligned} h'_t &= p(t, y) = y^2 - 3t^2y \\ h'_y &= q(t, y) = 2ty - t^3 \end{aligned}$$

We see that  $h(t, y) = y^2t - t^3y$  satisfies both conditions, therefore the differential equation is exact, and its general solution can be written in the form  $h(t, y) = y^2t - t^3y = C$ . The implicit form of the solution can be written  $ty^2 - t^3y - C = 0$ , and we use the quadratic formula to solve it for  $y$ :

$$y = \frac{t^3 \pm \sqrt{t^6 - 4t(-C)}}{2t} = \frac{t^2 \pm \sqrt{t^6 + 4Ct}}{2t} = \frac{1}{2} \left( t^2 \pm \sqrt{t^4 + 4C/t} \right)$$

- (d) We let  $A$  be the  $3 \times 3$  matrix such that the system of difference equations can be written in the form  $\mathbf{y}_{t+1} = A\mathbf{y}_t$ . The eigenvalues of  $A$  is given the characteristic equation

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

We use cofactor expansion along the second row to compute the determinant, and get

$$+1 \cdot (1 - \lambda + 1) + (2 - \lambda)((2 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - 3) = (2 - \lambda)(1 + \lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 2 - 3)$$

This gives the characteristic equation  $(2 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 3\lambda) = -\lambda(\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 3) = 0$ , and there are three distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 = 0$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 2$ , and  $\lambda_3 = 3$ . This means that  $A$  is diagonalizable. We find a base  $\{\mathbf{v}_i\}$  for  $E_{\lambda_i}$  in each case: We use the Gaussian processes

$$\begin{aligned} E_0 : \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} & E_2 : \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\ E_3 : \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 \\ 3 & -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} &\rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

and back substitution, and find base vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1 = (-2, -1, 5)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_2 = (0, -1, 1)$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_3 = (1, -1, 2)$  for the three eigenspaces. The general solution is therefore given by

$$\mathbf{y}_t = C_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \lambda_1^t + C_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \lambda_2^t + C_3 \mathbf{v}_3 \lambda_3^t = C_1 \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -1 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \cdot 0^t + C_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \cdot 2^t + C_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot 3^t$$

where  $0^t = 1$  if  $t = 0$  and  $0^t = 0$  if  $t > 0$  is a positive integer.

**Question 3.**

- (a) We write  $f$  on matrix form  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} + B \mathbf{x}$ , where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = (6 \ 6 \ 6)$$

To find the stationary points, we solve the first order conditions  $f'(\mathbf{x}) = 2A\mathbf{x} + B^T = \mathbf{0}$ , or  $A\mathbf{x} = -1/2 \cdot B^T$ . This gives a linear system, and we solve it using Gaussian elimination:

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & -1 & 0 & -3 \\ -1 & 0 & -2 & -3 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & -1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & -4 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & -1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -8 & -3 \end{array} \right)$$

Back substitution gives  $-9z = -3$  or  $z = 3/8$ ,  $y = 2(3/8) = 3/4$ , and that  $-x = 3/4 - 3 = -9/4$  or  $x = 9/4$ . Hence  $\mathbf{x}^* = (9/4, 3/4, 3/8)$  is the unique stationary point  $f$ . To classify it, notice that  $A$  is indefinite since  $D_2 = -1$ . This means that  $H(f)(\mathbf{x}^*) = 2A$  is also indefinite, and  $\mathbf{x}^* = (9/4, 3/4, 3/8)$  is a saddle point for  $f$  by the second derivative test.

- (b) The Kuhn-Tucker problem is in standard form with Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L} = \mathbf{x}^T A \mathbf{x} + B \mathbf{x} - \lambda(\mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{x} - 9)$ , where  $D$  is the symmetric matrix of the quadratic form  $g$ , given by

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

The first order conditions (FOC) can therefore be written  $\mathcal{L}'(\mathbf{x}) = 2A\mathbf{x} + B^T - \lambda(2D\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$ , the constraint (C) can be written  $\mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{x} \leq 9$ , and the complementary slackness conditions can be written  $\lambda \geq 0$  and  $\lambda(\mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{x} - 9) = 0$ . Together, the conditions FOC + C + CSC are the Kuhn-Tucker conditions of the problem:

$$\text{FOC+C+CSC: } 2A\mathbf{x} + B^T - \lambda(2D\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}, \quad \mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{x} \leq 9, \quad \lambda \geq 0, \quad \lambda(\mathbf{x}^T D \mathbf{x} - 9) = 0$$

- (c) When  $\lambda = 1$ , the first order conditions are  $2A\mathbf{x} + B^T - 2D\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ , or  $(A - D)\mathbf{x} = -1/2 \cdot B^T$ . This is a linear system, and we solve it using Gaussian elimination (where the first step is to subtract the last row from the first to simplify computations):

$$\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -3 & -1 & -4 & -3 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & -3 \\ -4 & -2 & -7 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & -3 \\ -4 & -2 & -7 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & -3 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 5 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -3 \end{array} \right)$$

Back substitution gives  $z = -3$ ,  $2y = -5(-3) - 3 = 12$  or  $y = 6$ , and that  $x = -(6) - 3(-3) = 3$ . We get the solution  $(x, y, z; \lambda) = (3, 6, -3; 1)$  of the FOC. We see that the constraint is binding since

$$g(3, 6, -3) = 2(3)^2 + 6^2 + 3(-3)^2 + 8(3)(-3) = 9$$

at this point, and that the CSC is satisfied since  $\lambda > 0$ . We conclude that there is one candidate point  $(x, y, z; \lambda) = (3, 6, -3; 1)$  with  $\lambda = 1$  that satisfies the Kuhn-Tucker conditions.

- (d) We use the second order condition (SOC) to test the candidate point  $(x, y, z; \lambda) = (3, 6, -3; 1)$ , and therefore consider the function

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}; 1) = 2A\mathbf{x} + B^T - 2D\mathbf{x} = 2(A - D)\mathbf{x} + B^T$$

We notice that  $h$  is a quadratic function with Hessian  $H(h) = 2(A - D)$ , and that  $H(h)$  has the same definiteness as

$$A - D = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -1 & -4 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 \\ -4 & -2 & -7 \end{pmatrix}$$

We compute the principal minors of  $A - D$ : We have  $D_1 = -3$ ,  $D_2 = 3 - 1 = 2$ , and that  $D_3 = -3(7 - 4) + 1(7 - 8) - 4(2 - 4) = -2$ . We conclude that  $A - D$ , and therefore  $H(h) = 2(A - D)$ , is negative definite, and it follows that  $h$  is a concave function. By the SOC, it follows that  $(x, y, z) = (3, 6, -3)$  is a maximizer in the Kuhn-Tucker problem, and that  $f_{\max} = f(3, 6, -3) = 27$  is the maximum value.

- (e) We have that  $g(x, y, z)$  can be written as a sum of the quadratic forms  $2x^2 + 3z^2 + 8xz$  and  $y^2$ . We see that the second one is positive definite, while the first is indefinite. This means that  $D$  is **not bounded**, and therefore **not compact**. For example, we can let  $y = 0$  and  $z = -x$ . Then the constraint

$$g(x, y, z) = 2x^2 + 3(-x)^2 + 8x(-x) = 5x^2 - 8x^2 = -3x^2 \leq 9$$

is satisfied for all values of  $x$ , and this means that there is no upper or lower bound on  $x$  for admissible points  $(x, y, z)$  in  $D$ .