

- (8 points) Construct a real symmetric matrix with eigenvalues 3, 2, 1 so that the leading  $2 \times 2$  submatrix has eigenvalues 2.8, 1.5.
- (8 points) Let  $A^* = A = (a_{ij}) \in M_n$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ . Then  $a_{11} + \dots + a_{kk} = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_k$  if and only if  $A = A_{11} \oplus A_{22}$  such that  $A_{11} \in M_k$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ .  
Hint: Let  $\mathcal{S}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  be the set of Hermitian matrices with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ . Suppose  $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathcal{S}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  is such that  $a_{11} + \dots + a_{kk}$  is maximum. First prove  $A = A_{11} \oplus A_{22}$  as follows. Suppose  $a_{ij} \neq 0$  for some  $a_{ij}$  with  $i \leq k < j$ . Show that the submatrix lying in rows  $i$  and  $j$  is unitarily similar to a matrix with  $(1, 1)$  entry  $\mu > a_{ii}$ . Then deduce that  $A$  is unitarily similar to  $\hat{A}$  with the sum of the first  $k$  diagonal entries having a sum larger than that of  $A$  to derive a contradiction. After that show that  $A_{11}$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ .
- (8 points) Let  $A \in M_n$  with singular values  $s_1 \geq \dots \geq s_n$ . Show that there is a unitary matrix  $U \in M_n$  such that  $U^*AU = (a_{ij})$  such that  $|a_{11}| + \dots + |a_{nn}| = s_1 + \dots + s_n$ .  
Hint: Let  $A = PV$  where  $P$  is positive semidefinite, and  $V$  is unitary such that  $V = UDU^*$ , where  $U$  is unitary and  $D$  is diagonal.
- (4 points) A matrix  $A \in M_n$  with singular values  $s_1 \geq \dots \geq s_n$  with  $s_1 \leq 1$  is called a contraction. Show that  $A$  is a contraction if and only if  $I \geq AA^*$ , i.e.,  $I - AA^*$  is positive semidefinite.
- (8 points) For a positive definite matrix  $X \in M_n$ , let  $|X| = \sqrt{X}$  be the (unique) positive semidefinite matrix such that  $|X|^2 = X^*X$ . Let  $A \in M_n$  be a contraction.
  - Show that  $A\sqrt{I - A^*A} = \sqrt{I - AA^*}A$ . (Hint: Let  $A = UDV$ , the svd, then  $I - A^*A = V^*(I - D^2)V$  so that  $\sqrt{I - A^*A} = \dots$ )
  - Show that if  $A \in M_n$  is a contraction, then  $\begin{pmatrix} A & \sqrt{I - AA^*} \\ \sqrt{I - A^*A} & -A^* \end{pmatrix}$  is unitary.
- (8 points) Let  $A \in M_n$  be a contraction with polar decomposition  $PV$  such that  $P$  is positive semidefinite and  $V$  is unitary.
  - Show that  $A_1 = (P + i\sqrt{I - P^2})V$  and  $A_2 = (P - i\sqrt{I - P^2})V$  are unitary.
  - Show that  $A = (A_1 + A_2)/2$ .
 Note that if  $n = 1$ , this shows that every complex number  $\mu$  with  $|\mu| \leq 1$  is the average of two complex numbers of unit moduli.
- (8 points) Let  $A \in M_n$  be a nonzero positive semidefinite matrix. Show that  $\text{tr } A^2 \leq (\text{tr } A)^2$ ; the equality holds if and only if  $A$  has rank one.
- (Extra 8 points) Let  $(a_1, \dots, a_n), (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  be real vectors. Show that there is  $A \in M_n$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  satisfying  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) = (\lambda_1 + \bar{\lambda}_1, \dots, \lambda_n + \bar{\lambda}_n)$  such that  $A + A^*$  has eigenvalues  $b_1, \dots, b_n$  if and only if  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \prec (b_1, \dots, b_n)$ .  
Hint: Suppose  $U^*AU$  is in triangular form. Consider the diagonal entries and eigenvalues of  $U^*(A + A^*)U, \dots$ . Conversely, let  $H$  be a Hermitian matrix with diagonal entries  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  and eigenvalues  $b_1, \dots, b_n$ . Construct  $G = G^*$  such that  $A = H + iG$  has the desired eigenvalues and diagonal entries. (Think about a  $2 \times 2$  matrix.)