MATH 240 Quiz 7

Name: _____

Question:

Find all eigenvalues of the matrix

$$A = \left[\begin{array}{rrr} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right].$$

Solution:

Eigenvalues are roots of the characteristic polynomial $p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I)$. Since we have

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 0 & 0\\ 0 & -\lambda & -1\\ 0 & 1 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (2 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 + 1)$$

therefore eigenvalues are 2, i, -i.