

Dimension - Rank - Eigenproblems - Markov Chains - Dynamical Systems

1. Determine the eigenvalues and a basis for the eigenspace of \mathbf{A} given by,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ -2 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

2. Given,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Is \mathbf{A} diagonalizable? If so, then determine \mathbf{D} and \mathbf{P} associated with a diagonal decomposition \mathbf{PDP}^{-1} of \mathbf{A} .

3. Prove the following statements:

- (a) $\dim \text{Row } \mathbf{A} + \dim \text{Nul } \mathbf{A} = n$ where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$.
- (b) $\text{Rank } \mathbf{A} + \dim \text{Nul } \mathbf{A}^T = m$ where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$.
- (c) $\mathbf{Ax}=\mathbf{b}$ has a solution for each $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ if and only if the equation $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x}=\mathbf{0}$ has only the trivial solution.¹
- (d) The characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is equal to the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A}^T .²
- (e) If \mathbf{A} is an invertible matrix with eigenvalue λ then λ^{-1} is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A}^{-1} .³
- (f) If \mathbf{A} is both diagonalizable and invertible, then so is \mathbf{A}^{-1} .⁴
- (g) If \mathbf{A} has n linearly independent eigenvectors, then so does \mathbf{A}^T .⁵

4. Square matrices having columns whose entries sum to 1 are often called stochastic matrices. Those with only non-negative entries, for some power, are called *regular* stochastic matrices. Given a random process, with an initial state \mathbf{x}_0 , the application of \mathbf{P} on \mathbf{x}_0 discretely steps the process forward in time. That is $\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{P}^n \mathbf{x}_0$, $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. If a matrix is a *regular* stochastic matrix then there exists a steady-state vector \mathbf{q} such that $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{q}=\mathbf{q}$. This vector determines the long term probabilities associated with an arbitrary initial state \mathbf{x}_0 . The sequence of states, $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n+1}\}$, is called a *Markov Chain*. Given the regular stochastic matrix:

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{bmatrix} .1 & .6 \\ .9 & .4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Show that the steady-state vector of \mathbf{P} is $\mathbf{q} = \left[\frac{2}{5} \quad \frac{3}{5} \right]^T$.⁶
- (b) Find the matrices \mathbf{D} and \mathbf{Q} such that $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{QDQ}^{-1}$. That is, diagonalize the matrix \mathbf{P} .
- (c) Show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}^n \mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{q}$ where $\mathbf{x}_0 = [x_1, x_2]^T$ is an arbitrary vector in \mathbb{R}^2 such that $x_1 + x_2 = 1$.⁷

5. Given,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Determine the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions associated with the system of differential equations $\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{x}(t)$.

¹For the forward direction use theorem 1.4.4 on page 43 and problem 3b to prove that the dimension of the null space of \mathbf{A}^T is zero.

²Note that \mathbf{I} is a symmetric matrix then use rules for the transposition of a sum and determinants of transposes.

³Start with $\mathbf{Ax} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$ and multiply on the left by \mathbf{A}^{-1} .

⁴Note that if \mathbf{D} is a diagonal matrix then \mathbf{D}^{-1} is the matrix whose diagonal elements are scalar inverses of the diagonal elements of \mathbf{D} .

⁵Use theorem 5.3.5 and the fact that if \mathbf{P} is invertible then $(\mathbf{P}^T)^{-1} = (\mathbf{P}^{-1})^T$. It is also useful to note that diagonal matrices are symmetric.

⁶You could try to solve $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$ for \mathbf{x} , but is easier to show that $\mathbf{P}\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{q}$.

⁷Notice that $\mathbf{P}^n = \mathbf{QD}^n\mathbf{Q}^{-1}$ allows you to replace $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}^n = \mathbf{Q} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{D}^n \mathbf{Q}^{-1}$, where the limit can now be calculated.