

2.6 Answers to 2.5 Exercise

Undergraduate Lectures in Mathematics : First Year Matrix Algebra

Answer 1

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ 4 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) - 8 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 4\lambda - 5 = 0$$

$$(\lambda + 1)(\lambda - 5) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = -1 \text{ or } \lambda_2 = 5$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{For } \lambda_1 = -1 : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -1 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow y = -x \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_1 = k_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, k_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{For } \lambda_2 = 5 : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 5 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow y = 2x \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_2 = k_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, k_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ from which } \mathbf{P}^{-1} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^k = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{D}^k \mathbf{P}^{-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^{100} &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}^{100} \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5^{100} \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 5^{100} + 2 & 5^{100} - 1 \\ 2 \times 5^{100} - 2 & 2 \times 5^{100} + 1 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

[6 marks]

Answer 2

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 1 \\ -2 & 4 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda)(4 - \lambda) + 2 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 5\lambda + 6 = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 3) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 3$$

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

$$\text{For } \lambda_1 = 2 : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow y = x \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_1 = k_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, k_1 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\text{For } \lambda_2 = 3 : \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow y = 2x \Rightarrow \mathbf{v}_2 = k_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, k_2 \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

[7 marks]**Answer 3**

$$\text{(a) } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ -6 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ which shows } \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is an eigenvector.}$$

The eigenvalue is $\lambda_1 = 3$ **[3 marks]**

(b)

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 - \lambda & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

If $\lambda_2 = 9$ is an eigenvalue it will make this equation true.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{LHS} &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 - \lambda & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} -8 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & -4 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & -6 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (-8) \begin{vmatrix} -4 & 4 \\ 4 & -6 \end{vmatrix} + 4 \begin{vmatrix} 0 & -4 \\ 4 & 4 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (-8)(24 - 16) + 4 \times 16 \\ &= 0 \\ &= \text{RHS} \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore 9$ is an eigenvalue $\square$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 9 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \begin{cases} x + 4z = 9x \\ 5y + 4z = 9y \\ 4x + 4y + 3z = 9z \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x = 2x \\ z = y \\ 2x + 2y - 3z = 0 \end{cases}$$

Let $x = 1$ in which case, $z = 2$ and $y = 2$

The eigenvector is $k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ where k is any constant

[5 marks]

(c) $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

Finding the associated eigenvalue, $\lambda_3 \dots$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \\ 4 & 4 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_3 = -3$$

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

[4 marks]

Answer 4**(a)**

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 7 - \lambda & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 5 - \lambda & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 6 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(7 - \lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -2 \\ -2 & 6 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} + (-2) \begin{vmatrix} 0 & 5 - \lambda \\ -2 & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(7 - \lambda)((5 - \lambda)(6 - \lambda) - 4) - 2(0 + 2(5 - \lambda)) = 0$$

$$(7 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 11\lambda + 26) - 20 + 4\lambda = 0$$

$$7\lambda^2 - 77\lambda + 182 - \lambda^3 + 11\lambda^2 - 26\lambda - 20 + 4\lambda = 0$$

$$\lambda^3 - 18\lambda^2 + 99\lambda - 162 = 0$$

As we are told that $\lambda = 9$ is a solution...

$$\begin{array}{r} \lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 18 \\ \lambda - 9 \overline{) \lambda^3 - 18\lambda^2 + 99\lambda - 162} \\ \underline{\lambda^3 - 9\lambda^2} \\ -9\lambda^2 + 99\lambda \\ \underline{-9\lambda^2 + 81\lambda} \\ 18\lambda - 162 \\ \underline{18\lambda - 162} \\ 0 \end{array} \leftarrow \text{As expected}$$

$$\lambda^3 - 18\lambda^2 + 99\lambda - 162 = (\lambda - 9)(\lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 18)$$

$$= (\lambda - 9)(\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 6) \Leftrightarrow \lambda_1 = 3, \lambda_2 = 6, \lambda_3 = 9$$

[5 marks]**(b)** For $\lambda_1 = 3$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 7x - 2z = 3x \\ 5y - 2z = 3y \\ -2x - 2y + 6z = 3z \end{array} \right. \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} z = 2x \\ z = y \\ 2x + 2y - 3z = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Let } x = 1 \text{ giving, } z = 2, y = 2 : \mathbf{v}_1 = k_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for any constant } k_1$$

For $\lambda_2 = 6$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 6 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 7x - 2z = 6x \\ 5y - 2z = 6y \\ -2x - 2y + 6z = 6z \end{array} \right. \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} x = 2z \\ y = -2z \\ y = -x \end{array}$$

$$\text{Let } x = 2 \text{ giving, } z = 1, y = -2 : \mathbf{v}_2 = k_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ for any constant } k_2$$

For $\lambda_3 = 9$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 5 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 9 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 7x - 2z = 9x \\ 5y - 2z = 9y \\ -2x - 2y + 6z = 9z \end{array} \right. \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} z = -x \\ z = -2y \\ 2x + 2y + 3z = 0 \end{array}$$

Let $x = 2$ giving, $z = -2$, $y = 1$: $\mathbf{v}_3 = k_3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ for any constant k_3

[5 marks]

(c) Finding all possible scalar products pairs...

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \bullet \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \bullet \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \times 2 + 2 \times (-2) + 2 \times 1 = 0$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 \bullet \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \bullet \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \times 2 + 2 \times 1 + 2 \times (-2) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{v}_2 \bullet \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \bullet \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \times 2 + (-2) \times 1 + 1 \times (-2) = 0$$

Therefore, the eigenvectors found in part (b) are mutually perpendicular. $\square$

[2 marks]

(d) Remembering to normalize the eigenvectors...

$$\mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

[2 marks]

Answer 5

(a) $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 - \lambda & 4 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Expanding down the first column,

$$(1 - \lambda) \begin{vmatrix} -3 - \lambda & 4 \\ -2 & 3 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda)((-3 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) + 8) = 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 1) = 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda)(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

The eigenvalues of $\mathbf{A}$ are 1, 1 and -1

[2 marks]

(b) For $\lambda_1 = -1$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = -1 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{cases} x - 2y + 2z = -x & x - y + z = 0 \\ -3y + 4z = -y & \Leftrightarrow y = 2z \\ -2y + 3z = -z & y = 2z \end{cases}$$

Let $z = 1$ giving, $y = 2$, $x = 1$: $\mathbf{v}_1 = k_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ for any constant k_1

For $\lambda_2 = 1$,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 0 & -3 & 4 \\ 0 & -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{cases} x - 2y + 2z = x & y = z \\ -3y + 4z = y & \Leftrightarrow y = z \\ -2y + 3z = z & y = z \end{cases}$$

The equations do not establish a relationship involving x and so x can be assigned an arbitrary value. The simplest pair of linearly independent

eigenvectors are $\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

The set $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3\}$ is thus a suitable basis for $\mathbb{R}^3$

[4 marks]

Answer 6

(a) $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = 0$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

Expanding along the top row,

$$(-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -\lambda \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} + 1 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & -\lambda \\ 0 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \mathbf{i}, \lambda_3 = -\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{2} \mathbf{i}$$

[4 marks]

(b) As $\mathbf{A}$ has distinct eigenvalues it is diagonalizable over $\mathbb{C}$

[2 marks]

(c) “The long way” will work but, looking for a short cut, ...

$$\mathbf{A}^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{A}^3 = \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{I}$$

Now, $2009 = 3 \times 669 + 2$ and so,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}^{2009} &= \mathbf{A}^{3 \times 669 + 2} \\ &= (\mathbf{A}^3)^{669} \mathbf{A}^2 \\ &= \mathbf{I}^{669} \mathbf{A}^2 \\ &= \mathbf{A}^2 \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Matrix $\mathbf{A}$ is a permutation matrix.

A property of such a matrix is that if it is raised to a sufficient power it will equal the identity matrix.

So this short cut is not as obscure as it might at first seem !

Permutation Matrices are explored in Lecture 2 of Graph Theory I

[4 marks]

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