

This is a two-stage quiz. You will receive this back with each question graded pass/fail in our next class meeting. You have until the date specified above to submit corrections for partial credit.

1. (4 points) Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(i) Find the eigenvalues of A .

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} 4-\lambda & 2 \\ 3 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (4-\lambda)(-1-\lambda) - 6 \\ &= \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 - 6 = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 10 \\ &= (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \text{ if } (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 2) = 0$$

So $\lambda_1 = 5$ and $\lambda_2 = -2$
are the eigenvalues of A .

(ii) Give an eigenvector for each eigenvalue you found in part (i).

$$[A - 5I \quad \vec{0}] \sim \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow (A - 5I)\vec{x} = \vec{0} \text{ if } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If \vec{x} is not $\vec{0}$, it is an eigenvector w/ eigenvalue 5

in particular, $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

Similarly,

$$[A + 2I \quad \vec{0}] \sim \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

is an eigenvector
with eigenvalue -2.

2. (6 points) Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(i) Give the characteristic polynomial of A .

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (2 - \lambda)(-3 - \lambda)^2(-2 - \lambda)$$

(ii) Give the eigenvalues of A along with their multiplicities.

$$\lambda_1 = 2 \quad 1$$

$$\lambda_2 = -3 \quad \text{with multiplicity } 2$$

$$\lambda_3 = -2 \quad 1$$

(iii) Find a basis for the eigenspace of the least eigenvalue of A .

Least eigenvalue is $\lambda_2 = -3$. Need basis for $\text{Nul}(A + 3I)$.

$$[A + 3I \quad \vec{0}] = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is in } \text{Nul}(A + 3I) \text{ if } \begin{aligned} x_1 &= \frac{1}{5}x_3 \\ x_4 &= 0 \\ \text{with } x_2, x_3 &\text{ free.} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } \vec{x} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1/5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{Nul}(A + 3I) = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

Thus a basis for the eigenspace of $\lambda_2 = -3$ ($\text{Nul}(A + 3I)$)

$$\text{is } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/5 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$