

12.59

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Question

Given matrix

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

The eigenvalue corresponding to the eigenvector

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is _____.

Theoretical Solution

Let the eigenvalue λ have \mathbf{v} as its corresponding eigenvector for the matrix \mathbf{A} .

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v} \quad (2)$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v}} \quad (3)$$

Here,

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (4)$$

Theoretical Solution

Using (3),

$$\lambda = \frac{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}}{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}} \quad (5)$$

$$\therefore \lambda = 3 \quad (6)$$