Question:

Let
$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$
 and let $\lambda_1 \ge \lambda_2 \ge \lambda_3$ be the eigen values of \mathbf{A} .

(a) The triple $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3)$ equals

- 1) (9,4,2)
- 2) (8,4,3) 3) (9,3,3) 4) (7,5,3)

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(b) The Matrix P such that

$$\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

is

$$1) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & 0 & \frac{-2}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \end{pmatrix} \\ 2) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{-2}{\sqrt{6}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$

3)
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
4)
$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ \frac{1}{1} & 0 & \frac{-1}{1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution:

Let us solve the given question theoretically and then verify the solution computationally.

(a) The eigen values of A is obtained using characteristic polynomial, which is given by,

$$det|\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}| = 0 \tag{4.1}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 - \lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \tag{4.2}$$

$$\therefore (3 - \lambda) \left((6 - \lambda)^2 - 4 \right) = 0 \tag{4.3}$$

$$\implies (\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 4)(\lambda - 8) = 0 \tag{4.4}$$

$$\therefore (\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) = (8, 4, 3) \tag{4.5}$$

(b) The given relation can be computed as,

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{P}^{-1} \tag{4.6}$$

where **D** is the diagonal matrix of eigenvalues of **A**.

From (4.6), we can infer that it is the Eigen-value decomposition of matrix A.

Therefore, P is the ortho-normalized matrix of collection of eigen vectors of A.

$$\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \mathbf{v}_2 & \mathbf{v}_3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.7}$$

where v_1 , v_2 and v_3 are the normalized eigen vectors of A.

Eigenvectors v for any square matrix A is defined as

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v} \tag{4.8}$$

where λ is a scalar and is called the eigen value of **A**.

As we could observe that matrix A has zeroes along the first row and first column except the the first pivot,

$$\implies \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.9}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{e_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.10}$$

To obtain the other eigen vectors of A, we can use the fact that the A is symmetric.

Let us consider two eigen vectors of symmetric matrix \mathbf{A} to be \mathbf{u} and \mathbf{w} such that,

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \lambda \mathbf{u} \quad and \quad \mathbf{A}\mathbf{w} = \mu \mathbf{w} \tag{4.11}$$

Consider the scalar $\mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{w}$. Because \mathbf{A} is symmetric,

$$\mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{w} = (\mathbf{A} \mathbf{u})^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} = (\lambda \mathbf{u})^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} = \lambda \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w}$$
(4.12)

Similarly,

$$\mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}}(\mathbf{A}\mathbf{w}) = \mu \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{w} \tag{4.13}$$

From (4.12) and (4.13),

$$\lambda \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} = \mu \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} \implies (\lambda - \mu) \mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} = 0 \tag{4.14}$$

As λ and μ are distinct,

$$\mathbf{u}^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{w} = 0 \tag{4.15}$$

 \implies **u** and **w** are orthogonal.

Therefore, the other eigenvectors of **A** would be orthogonal to the eigen vector $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Any vector of form $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$ will be orthogonal to $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

As we could observe that the 2×2 block from A, i.e,

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 2 \\ 2 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.16}$$

is also symmetric,

$$\therefore \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ is an eigen-vector of } \mathbf{B} \tag{4.17}$$

$$\implies \text{Eigen vector of } \mathbf{A} \ (\mathbf{e_2}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.18}$$

As we know that from (4.15), we could say that the other eigen-vector is orthogonal to both $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

The third eigen-vector
$$\mathbf{e_3}$$
 is the vector-product of $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\implies \mathbf{e_3} = \mathbf{e_2} \times \mathbf{e_1} \tag{4.19}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{e_3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.20}$$

The eigen-vectors of A:
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$, $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ (4.21)

As we require unit eigen-vectors,

$$\implies \mathbf{v_1} = \begin{pmatrix} 1\\0\\0 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{v_2} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\\\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \mathbf{v_3} = \begin{pmatrix} 0\\\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\\\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix} \tag{4.22}$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$$
(4.23)