

# Matrix Theory Assignment 14

Ritesh Kumar  
EE20RESCH11005

**Abstract—This problem is all about to introducing the concept of characteristic polynomial over a field.**

All the codes for this document can be found at

[https://github.com/Ritesh622/  
Assignment\\_EE5609/tree/master/  
Assignment\\_14](https://github.com/Ritesh622/Assignment_EE5609/tree/master/Assignment_14)

## 1 PROBLEM

Let  $\mathbf{V}$  be a real vector space and  $\mathbf{E}$  an idempotent linear operator on  $\mathbf{V}$ , i.e., a projection. Prove that  $(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E})$  is invertible. Find  $(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E})^{-1}$ .

## 2 SOLUTION

Since  $\mathbf{E}$  is an idempotent matrix, that is :

$$\mathbf{E}^2 = \mathbf{E} \quad (2.0.1)$$

Hence it will satisfy the polynomial,

$$x^2 - x = 0 \quad (2.0.2)$$

Thus minimal polynomial will be,

$$m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x^2 - x = 0 \quad (2.0.3)$$

$$\Rightarrow m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x(x - 1) = 0 \quad (2.0.4)$$

Hence minimal polynomial  $m_{\mathbf{E}}(x)$ , of  $\mathbf{E}$  divides  $x^2 - x$  that is,

$$m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x \quad (2.0.5)$$

or,

$$m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x - 1 \quad (2.0.6)$$

if

$$m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x \quad (2.0.7)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{0} \quad (2.0.8)$$

if

$$m_{\mathbf{E}}(x) = x - 1 \quad (2.0.9)$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{E} = \mathbf{I} \quad (2.0.10)$$

Hence, if  $\mathbf{E}$  is idempotent then, minimal polynomial of  $\mathbf{E}$  is product of distinct polynomial of degree one. Thus matrix  $\mathbf{E}$  is similar to diagonal matrix with diagonal entries consisting of characteristic value 0 and 1.

Since  $\mathbf{E}$  is diagonalizable, then there exist at least one basis such that :

$$\mathcal{B} = \{\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_n\} \quad (2.0.11)$$

Such that

$$\mathbf{E}\beta_i = \beta_i, \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, k \quad (2.0.12)$$

and,

$$\mathbf{E}\beta_i = 0, \forall i = k + 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.0.13)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E})\beta_i = 2\beta_i, \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, k. \quad (2.0.14)$$

And,

$$\Rightarrow (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E})\beta_i = \beta_i, \forall i = k + 1, \dots, n. \quad (2.0.15)$$

In matrix form we can write it as:

$$[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\mathbf{I}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I}_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.0.16)$$

Where,  $\mathbf{I}_1$  is  $k \times k$  and  $\mathbf{I}_2$  is  $(n - k) \times (n - k)$  identity matrices, and each  $\mathbf{0}$  represents the zero matrix of appropriate dimension.

From 2.0.16 we can calculate the determinant as:

$$\det(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}) = 2^k \neq 0 \quad (2.0.17)$$

Since  $[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  is combination of identity matrices. Hence, from (2.0.16), inverse of the matrix  $[\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}}$  is given as :

$$\begin{aligned} ([\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}})^{-1} &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I}_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I}_2 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{I}_1 & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{2}[\mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}} \end{aligned} \quad (2.0.18)$$

Hence,

$$\left([\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}}\right)^{-1} = \mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{E}]_{\mathcal{B}} \quad (2.0.19)$$

we can also verify our results as:

$$(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{E})\left(\mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{E}\right) = \mathbf{I}^2 - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{E}^2 \quad (2.0.20)$$

From (2.0.1), We have  $\mathbf{E}^2 = \mathbf{E}$ , Hence (2.0.20) becomes,

$$\mathbf{I} - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{E} + \mathbf{E} + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{I} \quad (2.0.21)$$