

## Solution 8

### Problem 1

Determine whether the following matrices are diagonalizable or not.

1.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$

2.  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$

3.  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$

4.  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}.$

**Solution:**

1. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 1$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . Since they are distinct, there must be two linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $A$  is diagonalizable.
2. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (2 - \lambda)^2$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 2$ . However, there is only one linearly independent eigenvector, so  $B$  is not diagonalizable.
3. Since  $C$  is diagonal, it is certainly diagonalizable.
4. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = \lambda(\lambda - 4)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 4$ . Since they are distinct, there must be two linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $D$  is diagonalizable.

### Problem 2

Determine whether the following matrices are diagonalizable or not.

$$1. A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$2. B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution:**

1. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (2 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 12)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = \sqrt{12}$  and  $\lambda_3 = -\sqrt{12}$ . Since they are distinct, there must be three linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $A$  is diagonalizable.
2. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (\lambda - 1)^2(\lambda + 1)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 1$  and  $\lambda_3 = -1$ . There exist three linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $B$  is diagonalizable.

### Problem 3

Determine whether  $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & 2 \\ -4 & 5 & 2 \\ -4 & 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$  is diagonalizable or not. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (3 - \lambda)^3$ .

**Solution:** The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 3$ . However, there are only two linearly independent eigenvectors, so  $A$  is not diagonalizable.

### Problem 4

Diagonalize the following matrices:

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

$$2. B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$3. C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$4. D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Solution:**

1. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 1$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . Correspondingly, the bases of eigenspaces are  $\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \left\{ \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Hence, letting  $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have  $S^{-1}AS = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .
2. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = \lambda(\lambda - 2)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . Correspondingly, the bases of eigenspaces are  $\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \left\{ \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Hence, letting  $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have  $S^{-1}BS = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .
3. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 2)$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -2$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . Correspondingly, the bases of eigenspaces are  $\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \left\{ \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Hence, letting  $S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have  $S^{-1}CS = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .
4. The characteristic polynomial is  $p(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)(\lambda - 2)^2$ . The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 1$  and  $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 2$ . Correspondingly, the bases of eigenspaces are  $\left\{ \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \left\{ \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}, \left\{ \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ . Hence, letting  $S = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , we have  $S^{-1}DS = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

**Problem 5**

Assume  $A$  is an invertible matrix.

1. Prove that 0 is not an eigenvalue of  $A$ .
2. Assume  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Show that  $\lambda^{-1}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^{-1}$ .

**Solution:**

1. We prove by contradiction. Assume 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ . Then  $\det(\lambda I - A) = \det(-A) = (-1)^n \det(A) = 0$ . Hence,  $\det(A) = 0$ , which means  $A$  is not invertible. This contradicts our assumption.
2.  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ , so there exists a vector  $\mathbf{x}$  such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$ . Then multiplying  $\lambda^{-1}A^{-1}$  on both sides, we have  $\lambda^{-1}\mathbf{x} = A^{-1}\mathbf{x}$ . Hence, we know  $\lambda^{-1}$  is an eigenvalue of  $A^{-1}$ . In particular, they have the same eigenspace.

**Remark 0.1.** Part (1) can also be proved as follows: If 0 is an eigenvalue, then there exists a nonzero vector  $\vec{v}$  such that  $A\vec{v} = 0\vec{v} = \vec{0}$ . Hence, the homogeneous equation  $A\mathbf{x} = 0$  has a nonzero solution, which yields that  $A$  must be non-invertible. This contradicts our assumption.

## Problem 6

Prove that  $e^x \sin(x)$  and  $e^x \cos(x)$  are linearly independent.

**Solution:** We compute the Wronskian  $W = \begin{vmatrix} e^x \sin(x) & e^x \cos(x) \\ e^x \sin(x) + e^x \cos(x) & e^x \cos(x) - e^x \sin(x) \end{vmatrix} = -e^x \neq 0$ . Hence, they are linearly independent.

## Problem 7

Find the general solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $y'' - 6y' + 9y = 0$ .

**Solution:** The characteristic equation is  $r^2 - 6r + 9 = 0$  which has repeated root  $r_1 = r_2 = 3$ . Hence, the general solution is  $y(x) = C_1 e^{3x} + C_2 x e^{3x}$ .

## Problem 8

Find the general solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $y'' - 2y' + 2y = 0$ .

**Solution:** The characteristic equation is  $r^2 - 2r + 2 = 0$  which has complex roots  $r_1 = 2 + 2i$  and  $r_2 = 2 - 2i$ . Hence, the general solution is  $y(x) = C_1 e^{2x} \sin(2x) + C_2 e^{2x} \cos(2x)$ .

## Problem 9

Find the general solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $2y'' + 3y' - 2y = 0$ .

**Solution:** The characteristic equation is  $2r^2 + 3r - 2 = 0$  which has distinct real roots  $r_1 = -2$  and  $r_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ . Hence, the general solution is  $y(x) = C_1 e^{-2x} + C_2 e^{\frac{1}{2}x}$ .

## Problem 10

1. Find the general solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $y'' + 6y' + 9y = 0$ .
2. Find a particular solution  $y_p(x)$  that has the form  $y_p(x) = Dx^2e^{-3x}$  for some constant  $D$  to the equation  $y'' + 6y' + 9y = 2e^{-3x}$ .
3. Find the general solution  $y(x)$  to the equation  $y'' + 6y' + 9y = 2e^{-3x}$ .

### Solution:

1. The characteristic equation is  $r^2 + 6r + 9 = 0$  whose roots are  $r_1 = r_2 = -3$ . Hence, the solution is

$$y(x) = C_1e^{-3x} + C_2xe^{-3x}.$$

2. We know

$$\begin{aligned}y'_p(x) &= 2Dxe^{-3x} - 3Dx^2e^{-3x}, \\y''_p(x) &= 2De^{-3x} - 12Dxe^{-3x} + 9Dx^2e^{-3x}.\end{aligned}$$

Insert above into the non-homogeneous equation, we have

$$\begin{aligned}y''_p + 6y'_p + 9y_p &= (2De^{-3x} - 12Dxe^{-3x} + 9Dx^2e^{-3x}) + 6(2Dxe^{-3x} - 3Dx^2e^{-3x}) + 9(Dx^2e^{-3x}) \\&= 2De^{-3x} = 2e^{-3x}.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have  $D = 1$ . Therefore, a particular solution is

$$y_p(x) = x^2e^{-3x}.$$

3. Hence, the general solution is

$$y(x) = C_1e^{-3x} + C_2te^{-3x} + x^2e^{-3x}.$$