Week 9: Diagonalization and Normal Matrices

1.

Is the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonalizable?

- (a) A is diagonalizable (100%)
- (b) A is not diagonalizable
- (c) Information given is insufficient

We first compute the characteristic polynomial of A.

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (6 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) + 2 = \lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 20 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 4).$$

Since the eigenvalues of A are distinct, A is diagonalizable.

2.

Is the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonalizable?

- (a) A is diagonalizable (100%)
- (b) A is not diagonalizable
- (c) Information given is insufficient

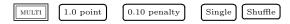
We first compute the characteristic polynomial of A:

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = -(2 + \lambda)[(1 - \lambda)(5 - \lambda) - 4] + 2[-4(5 - \lambda) - 4] + 4[-8 - 2(1 - \lambda)]$$

= $(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 5)$.

Since the eigenvalues of A are distinct, A is diagonalizable.

3.



Let $0 < \mu < 1$ and suppose an $n \times n$ matrix B has characteristic equation

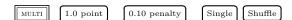
$$\lambda(\lambda-\mu)(\lambda-\mu^2)\cdots(\lambda-\mu^{n-1}).$$

Is B diagonalizable?

- (a) B is diagonalizable (100%)
- (b) B is not diagonalizable
- (c) Information given is insufficient

The condition $0 < \mu < 1$ ensures that all μ^k are distinct and non-zero. Hence all eigenvalues of B are distinct and B is diagonalizable.

4.



Consider the vector space \mathcal{P}_n of polynomials of degree n and consider the linear map $D: \mathcal{P}_n \to \mathcal{P}_n$ that maps each polynomial to its derivative. First compute the matrix of D in the standard basis $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$ (you can refer to a previous exercise here). If n > 0, is D diagonalizable?

- (a) D is diagonalizable
- (b) D is not diagonalizable (100%)
- (c) Information given is insufficient

Using the solution from a previous exercise, D has the form

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & n \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Clearly all eigenvalues are 0. Moreover it is easy to see that the eigenspace of 0 is spanned by $(1,0,\ldots,0)$. Hence for n>0, D is not diagonalizable.

5.

Is the matrix

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -i & i \\ i & 0 & -i \\ -i & i & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

diagonalizable?

- (a) B is diagonalizable (100%)
- (b) B is not diagonalizable
- (c) Information given is insufficient

Observe that $B = B^{\dagger}$. Hence, $BB^{\dagger} = B^{\dagger}B$ and B is normal. Since every normal matrix is diagonalizable, B is diagonalizable.

6.

Find all values of k that make the matrix

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

diagonalizable.

- (a) A is diagonalizable only when k = 0. (100%)
- (b) A is diagonalizable only when $k \neq 0$.
- (c) A is diagonalizable only when $|k| \neq 1$.
- (d) A is diagonalizable only when |k|=1.

Since the matrix is upper triangular, we can easily compute its characteristic polynomial

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (1 - \lambda)^2 (2 - \lambda).$$

Since 1 is the repeated eigenvalue, we need to ensure that the corresponding eigenspace is 2 dimensional. That is we want two linearly independent vectors v = (x, y, z) satisfying

$$0 = (A - I)v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & k & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & k \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ky \\ kz \\ z \end{bmatrix}.$$

If k = 0, then we see that, e.g., (1,1,0) and (1,0,0) are two linearly independent eigenvectors and the eigenspace of 1 is two dimensional. However if $k \neq 0$ then the equation above implies that z = 0 and $ky = 0 \implies y = 0$ so the eigenspace of 1 is just one dimensional. Hence A is diagonalizable only when k=0.

7.

Consider the 2×2 matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Find a formula for A^k .

(a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & -5^k + 4^k \\ 2 \cdot 5^k - 2 \cdot 4^k & -5^k + 2 \cdot 4^k \end{bmatrix} \cdot (100\%)$$
(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & 5^k + 4^k \\ 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & -5^k + 2 \cdot 4^k \end{bmatrix} \cdot$$

(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & 5^k + 4^k \\ 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & -5^k + 2 \cdot 4^k \end{bmatrix}$$

(c)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 5^k & 0 \\ 0 & 4^k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(d) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We first find the eigenvalues of A.

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (6 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) + 2 = \lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 20 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 4).$$

Hence A is diagonalizable so set

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Now the eigenvectors of A are

$$\lambda = 5 : (A - 5I)v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} v \implies v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\lambda = 4 : (A - 4I)v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} v \implies v = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence setting

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \implies V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We see that $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$ and therefore

$$A^k = V\Lambda^k V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5^k & 0 \\ 0 & 4^k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \cdot 5^k - 4^k & -5^k + 4^k \\ 2 \cdot 5^k - 2 \cdot 4^k & -5^k + 2 \cdot 4^k \end{bmatrix}.$$

8.

Suppose A is an $n \times n$ matrix with distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$. Suppose that for all $k, |\lambda_k| < 1$. Compute the limits $\lim_{p \to \infty} A^p$ and $\lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(A^p)$.

- (a) $\lim_{p\to\infty} A^p = 0$, $\lim_{p\to\infty} \exp(A^p) = I$ (100%) (b) $\lim_{p\to\infty} A^p = I$, $\lim_{p\to\infty} \exp(A^p) = 0$

- (c) $\lim_{p \to \infty} A^p = I$, $\lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(A^p) = I$ (d) $\lim_{p \to \infty} A^p = 0$, $\lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(A^p) = 0$

Since A has distinct eigenvalues there exists a matrix V such that $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$ where Λ is the diagonal matrix

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since $|\lambda_k| < 1$, $\lim_{p \to \infty} \lambda_k^p = 0$. Therefore

$$\lim_{p \to \infty} A^p = \lim_{p \to \infty} V \Lambda^p V^{-1} = V \begin{bmatrix} \lim_{p \to \infty} \lambda_1^p & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \lim_{p \to \infty} \lambda_n^p \end{bmatrix} V^{-1} = V 0 V^{-1} = 0,$$

$$\lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(A^p) = V \begin{bmatrix} \lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(\lambda_1^p) & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \lim_{p \to \infty} \exp(\lambda_n^p) \end{bmatrix} V^{-1} = VIV^{-1} = I.$$

9.

Recall that when x, y are real numbers, we have the identity $\exp(x) \exp(y) = \exp(x + y)$. In this exercise we will investigate whether this holds for matrices. Consider the matrices

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } Y = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute $\exp(X) \exp(Y)$ and $\exp(X + Y)$.

(a)
$$\exp(X) \exp(Y) = \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}, \exp(X+Y) = \begin{bmatrix} e & e^2 - e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 (100%)

(b)
$$\exp(X) \exp(Y) = \exp(X+Y) = \begin{bmatrix} e & e^2 - e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(c)
$$\exp(X) \exp(Y) \exp(X+Y) = \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(d) The matrix is exponential is undefined for $\exp(Y)$.

The exponential of X can be computed directly as it is in diagonal form. So

$$\exp(X) = \begin{bmatrix} e & 0 \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Even though Y is not diagonalizable, we have $Y^k = 0$ for all k > 2. Therefore we can compute $\exp(Y)$ using the series formula for the exponential. Hence we can compute

$$\exp(Y) = \sum \frac{Y^k}{k!} = Y^0 + Y^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1\\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

to get

$$\exp(X) \cdot \exp(Y) = \begin{bmatrix} e & e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We now compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of X + Y.

$$\det(X + Y - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)$$

so X+Y is diagonalizable. We also see that the eigenvectors corresponding to 2 and 1 are (1,1) and (1,0) respectively and $X+Y=V\Lambda V^{-1}$ where

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, V = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Hence

$$\exp(X+Y) = V \cdot \begin{bmatrix} e^2 & 0 \\ 0 & e \end{bmatrix} \cdot V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} e & e^2 - e \\ 0 & e^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Note. In case of matrices, $\exp(X) \cdot \exp(Y)$ is given by the Baker-Campbell-Hausdorff formula. You can read more about it in the relevant Wikipedia page.

10.

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 - i & 4\exp(i\frac{\pi}{4}) \\ 1 + i & i & 2 - 7i \end{bmatrix}$$

What is A^{\dagger} ?

(a)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ -2+i & -i \\ 4\exp(-i\frac{\pi}{4}) & 2+7i \end{bmatrix}$$
 (100%)
(b)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2+i & 4\exp(-i\frac{\pi}{4}) \\ 1-i & -i & 2+7i \end{bmatrix}$$

(c)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1+i \\ -2-i & i \\ 4\exp(i\frac{\pi}{4}) & 2-7i \end{bmatrix}$$

(d)
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 - i & 4\exp(i\frac{\pi}{4}) \\ 1 + i & i & 2 - 7i \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^{\dagger} = \overline{A}^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2+i & 4\exp(-i\frac{\pi}{4}) \\ 1-i & -i & 2+7i \end{bmatrix}^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1-i \\ -2+i & -i \\ 4\exp(-i\frac{\pi}{4}) & 2+7i \end{bmatrix}$$

Total of marks: 10