Week 8: Eigenvalues and eigenspaces

1.

A 5×5 matrix has eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_5$. If $\lambda_1 = 2 + i$, $\lambda_2 = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}$, $\lambda_3 = 2$ then what are the values of λ_4 and λ_5 ?

(a)
$$\lambda_4 = 2 - i, \lambda_5 = -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}} (100\%)$$

(b)
$$\lambda_4 = 2 + i, \lambda_5 = \frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}$$

(c)
$$\lambda_4 = \lambda_5 = 0$$

(d) The information given is insufficient to determine λ_4 and λ_5

Recall that complex eigenvalues come in pairs, hence we must have

$$\lambda_4 = \overline{\lambda_1} = (2 - i),$$

$$\lambda_5 = \overline{\lambda_2} = -\frac{i}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

2.

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix that has eigenvalues $1, 3, 5, \ldots, 2n - 1$. Compute $\operatorname{tr}(A)$ and $\det(A)$. (Recall that $n! := 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \cdot \cdots (n-1) \cdot n$.)

(a)
$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = n^2, \det(A) = \frac{(2n)!}{2^n(n!)}$$
 (100%)

(b)
$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = (n+1)^2, \det(A) = \frac{(2n+2)!}{2^n((n+1)!)}$$

(c)
$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = n^2, \det(A) = \frac{(2n)!}{2(n!)}$$

(d)
$$tr(A) = n, det(A) = \frac{(2n)!}{n!}$$

Recall that the trace is given by the sum of the eigenvalues and the determinant by the product of the eigenvalues. Hence

$$tr(A) = 1 + 2 + \dots + (2n - 1) = n^{2}$$
$$det(A) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot (2n - 1) = \frac{1 \cdot 2 \cdot \dots \cdot 2n}{2 \cdot 4 \cdot \dots \cdot 2(n - 1)} = \frac{(2n)!}{2^{n}(n!)}$$

3.

Let A be a matrix such that

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = -\lambda^3 (\lambda - 1)(2\lambda + 1)^2.$$

Compute tr(A) and det(A).

(a)
$$tr(A) = 0, det(A) = 0 (100\%)$$

(b)
$$tr(A) = \frac{1}{2}, det(A) = 0$$

(c)
$$tr(A) = 0$$
, $det(A) = -1$

(d)
$$tr(A) = \frac{1}{2}, det(A) = -\frac{1}{2}$$

Clearly, the eigenvalues of the matrix are $0, 1, -\frac{1}{2}$. These eigenvalues respectively occur with multiplicity 3, 1, 2. Hence

$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = \sum m_i \cdot \lambda_i = 3 \cdot 0 + 1 \cdot 1 + 2 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) = 0$$
$$\det(A) = \prod \lambda_i^{m_i} = 0^3 \cdot 1^1 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)^2 = 0.$$

4.

Let A be a 7×7 matrix such that

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda - 2 + i)(\lambda - i)(\lambda - \sqrt{2})^{2}(\lambda - 1)q(\lambda)$$

where $q(\lambda)$ is some polynomial. Compute $tr(A) \det(A)$.

(a)
$$tr(A) = 5 + 2\sqrt{2}, det(A) = 10. (100\%)$$

(b)
$$tr(A) = 2 + \sqrt{2}, det(A) = \sqrt{2} + 2\sqrt{2}i$$
.

(c)
$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = 2 + 2\sqrt{2}, \det(A) = 2 + 4i.$$

(d) Information given in insufficient to determine tr(A) and det(A).

From the given expression, we can easily see that five of the eigenvalues are (2-i), i, $\sqrt{2}$, 1 (here $\sqrt{2}$ appears with multiplicity 2). Since the non-real eigenvalues always appear in pairs, the remaining two eigenvalues are (2+i) and -i. Hence

$$\operatorname{tr}(A) = \sum m_i \cdot \lambda_i = (2-i) + (2+i) + i - i + 1 + 2 \cdot \sqrt{2} = 5 + 2\sqrt{2}$$
$$\det(A) = \prod \lambda_i^{m_i} = (2-i) \cdot (2+i) \cdot (i) \cdot (-i) \cdot (\sqrt{2})^2 \cdot 1 = 5 \cdot 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 = 10.$$

5.

Consider the eigenvalues of the matrix

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 3 & 5 & 5 & 7 \\ 2 & 3 & 9 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 5 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 7 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 8 \end{bmatrix}.$$

How many eigenvalues of the matrix are **not** real?

- (a) 0 (100%)
- (b) 1
- (c) 7
- (d) 3

Since we have $S = S^{\top}$ all eigenvalues are real.

6.

Let A be a matrix with characteristic polynomial

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 4)(\lambda - 5).$$

What is the dimension of ker(A)?

- (a) 0
- (b) 1 (100%)
- (c) 2
- (d) 3

Note that the kernel is the eigenspace corresponding to the eigenvalue 0. All eigenvalues occur with algebraic multiplicity 1, so all eigenspaces are one-dimensional.

7.

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 8 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Compute the set of tuples $(\lambda, a_{\lambda}, g_{\lambda})$ where λ is an eigenvalue, a_{λ} its algebraic multiplicity and g_{λ} is its geometric multiplicity.

- (a) $(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 2, g_1 = 1)$ (100%)
- (b) $(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 2, g_1 = 2)$
- (c) $(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 1, g_1 = 2)$
- (d) $(\lambda_1 = 0, a_1 = 2, g_1 = 2)$

 $We {\it first compute the characteristic polynomial}$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 8 \\ 0 & 1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)^2.$$

Hence the eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = 1$ occurs with algebraic multiplicity 2.

$$\lambda_1 = 1 : (A - \lambda I)v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} v = 0 \implies v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Since the eigenspace corresponding to the eigenvalue 1 is one dimensional, the geometric multiplicity is 1. Hence the required tuple is $(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 2, g_1 = 1)$.

8.

Consider the matrix

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

Compute the set of tuples $(\lambda, a_{\lambda}, g_{\lambda})$ where λ is an eigenvalue, a_{λ} its algebraic multiplicity and g_{λ} is its geometric multiplicity.

(a)
$$(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 1, g_1 = 1), (\lambda_2 = 2, a_2 = 1, g_2 = 1), (\lambda_3 = 3, a_3 = 1, g_3 = 1)$$
 (100%)

(b)
$$(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 1, g_1 = 0), (\lambda_2 = 2, a_2 = 1, g_2 = 0), (\lambda_3 = 3, a_3 = 1, g_3 = 0)$$

(c)
$$(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 0, g_1 = 1), (\lambda_2 = 2, a_2 = 0, g_2 = 1), (\lambda_3 = 3, a_3 = 0, g_3 = 1)$$

(d)
$$(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 3, g_1 = 2)$$

We first compute the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 3 - \lambda & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda).$$

Hence the eigenvalues are $\lambda_1 = 1$, $\lambda_2 = 2$, $\lambda_3 = 3$ with algebraic multiplicities 1, 1, and 1 respectively.

$$\lambda_{1} = 1 : (A - I)v = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} v = 0 \implies v_{1} = \mu \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -3 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{2} = 2 : (A - 2I)v = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} v = 0 \implies v_{2} = \mu \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_{3} = 3 : (A - 3I)v = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ -3 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} v = 0 \implies v_{3} = \mu \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The eigenspaces corresponding to the three eigenvalues are one dimensional, hence all geometric multiplicities are 1. The required tuples are

$$(\lambda_1 = 1, a_1 = 1, g_1 = 1), (\lambda_2 = 2, a_2 = 1, g_2 = 1), (\lambda_3 = 3, a_3 = 1, g_3 = 1).$$

9.

A matrix A has characteristic polynomial

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda(\lambda + 2)^2 + 3\lambda - 1.$$

Use the Cayley-Hamilton theorem to deduce a formula for A^{-1} in terms of A.

(a)
$$A^{-1} = (A+2)^2 + 3I (100\%)$$

- (b) $A^{-1} = A(A+2)^2 + 3A I$
- (c) $A^{-1} = A$
- (d) A is not invertible

The Cayley-Hamilton theorem states that a matrix satisfies its own characteristic equation, i.e., p(A) = 0. Hence,

$$p(A) = A(A+2)^2 + 3A - 1 = 0.$$

Multiplying by A^{-1} yields

$$(A+2)^2 + 3 - A^{-1} = 0.$$

Note that A is indeed invertible since 0 is not an eigenvalue $(p(0) = -1 \neq 0)$.

10.

Consider the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & 10 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Which of the following statements is false?

- (a) A^4 has an eigenvalue 1/4. (100%)
- (b) A^4 has an eigenvalue 1.
- (c) A is invertible.
- (d) A^{-1} has an eigenvalue 2.

A has eigenvalues 1/2 and 1. Since 0 is not an eigenvalue, A is invertible, with eigenvalues 1 and 2. The eigenvalues of A^4 are 1/16 and 1.

Total of marks: 10