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Challenge 2

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Abstract—This document is to know the conditions where matrix multiplication can be commutative

Download all python codes from

https://github.com/Zeeshan-IITH/IITH-EE5609/new/master/codes

and latex-tikz codes from

https://github.com/Zeeshan-IITH/IITH-EE5609

1 PROBLEM

The conditions when matrix multiplication can be commutative, especially where both the matrices are simultaneously diagonalizable.

2 EXPLANATION

Let P be an invertible matrix that can simultaneously diagonalize matrices A and B

Let $P = (X_1 \ X_2 ... \ X_n)$ where $X_1, X_2 ... X_n$ are the eigen vectors.

Then

$$AX_1 = \lambda_{a1}X_1, BX_1 = \lambda_{b1}X_1$$

 $AX_2 = \lambda_{a2}X_2, BX_2 = \lambda_{b2}X_2$

and so on

$$AX_n = \lambda_{an}X_n, BX_1 = \lambda_{bn}X_n \tag{1}$$

But using the above equations we can write

$$A(\mathbf{B}^{-1}\lambda_{b1}X_1) = \lambda_{a1}X_1$$
$$A(\mathbf{B}^{-1}\lambda_{b2}X_2) = \lambda_{a2}X_2$$

and so on

$$A(\mathbf{B}^{-1}\lambda_{bn}\mathbf{X}_{n}) = \lambda_{an}\mathbf{X}_{n} \tag{2}$$

Since $X_1, X_2...X_n$ are not zero matrices We can write

$$\lambda_{b1} \boldsymbol{A} = \lambda_{a1} \boldsymbol{B}$$

$$\lambda_{b2}\mathbf{A} = \lambda_{a2}\mathbf{B}$$

and so on

$$\lambda_{bn} \mathbf{A} = \lambda_{an} \mathbf{B} \tag{3}$$

Therefore this is possible only if

$$\frac{\lambda_{a1}}{\lambda_{b1}} = \frac{\lambda_{a2}}{\lambda_{b2}} = \dots = \frac{\lambda_{an}}{\lambda_{bn}} \tag{4}$$

and

Matrix A is a scalar multiple of B