

# 21MAB101T - CALCULUS AND LINEAR ALGEBRA

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# Symmetric Matrices With Repeated Eigenvalues

## Example-1

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The general form of characteristic equation is

$$\lambda^3 - S_1\lambda^2 + S_2\lambda - S_3 = 0$$

where

$$S_1 = \text{Sum of the main diagonal entries} \Rightarrow S_1 = 0$$

$$S_2 = \text{Sum of the minors of the main diagonal entries} \Rightarrow S_2 = -3$$

$$S_3 = \text{Determinant of the matrix } A \Rightarrow S_3 = 2$$

$$\lambda^3 - 3\lambda - 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda = -1, -1, 2$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda = -1, -1, 2$

The eigenvectors are given by  $(A - \lambda I) X = 0$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 - \lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 - \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

**Case (i):** For  $\lambda = 2$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$
$$\begin{aligned} -2x_1 + x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 - 2x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Solving first two equations we have

$$\frac{x_1}{1+2} = \frac{x_2}{1-(-2)} = \frac{x_3}{4-1}$$
$$\frac{x_1}{3} = \frac{x_2}{3} = \frac{x_3}{3}$$
$$\frac{x_1}{1} = \frac{x_2}{1} = \frac{x_3}{1}$$

The eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda = 2$  is

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Case (ii):** For  $\lambda = -1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

These three equations represent the same equation,

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 0.$$

Put  $x_1 = 0$  we get  $x_2 = -x_3$

$$\frac{x_2}{1} = \frac{x_3}{-1}$$

The eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda = -1$  is

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

**Case (iii):** For  $\lambda = -1$

Since the Matrix  $A$  is symmetric, all three eigenvectors are mutually orthogonal.

Let  $X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  be orthogonal to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , then

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0 \quad \& \quad X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Then we get

$$a + b + c = 0$$

$$0a + b - c = 0$$

$$\frac{a}{-1-1} = \frac{b}{0+1} = \frac{c}{1-0}$$

$$\frac{a}{-2} = \frac{b}{1} = \frac{c}{1}$$

The Eigen Vector for  $\lambda = 1$  is

$$X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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## Example-2

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The characteristic equation is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^3 - S_1\lambda^2 + S_2\lambda - S_3 = 0$$

$$S_1 = 2 + 2 + 2 = 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (4 - 1) + (4 - 1) + (4 - 1) \\ &= 9 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_3 &= |A| = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (2)(4 - 1) - (-1)(-2 + 1) + (1)(1 - 2) \\ &= 6 - 1 - 1 = 4 \end{aligned}$$

$$S_1 = 6, S_2 = 9, S_3 = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^3 - S_1\lambda^2 + S_2\lambda - S_3 = 0$$

The characteristic equation is  $\lambda^3 - 6\lambda^2 + 9\lambda - 4 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 1) = 0$$

$$\lambda = 4, 1, 1.$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 4, 1, 1$ .

The eigenvectors are given by  $[A - \lambda I] X = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (2 - \lambda)x_1 - x_2 + x_3 &= 0 \\ -x_1 + (2 - \lambda)x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \\ x_1 - x_2 + (2 - \lambda)x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1)$$

**Case (i):** For  $\lambda = 4$  in (1), we get

$$-2x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$-x_1 - 2x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 - x_2 - 2x_3 = 0$$

$$\frac{x_1}{2+1} = \frac{x_2}{1-4} = \frac{x_3}{2+1}$$

$$\frac{x_1}{3} = \frac{x_2}{-3} = \frac{x_3}{3}$$

$$\frac{x_1}{1} = \frac{x_2}{-1} = \frac{x_3}{1}$$

The eigenvector for  $\lambda = 4$  is

$$X_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Case (ii):** For  $\lambda = 1$  in (1), we get

$$x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$-x_1 + x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

All equations are same, so put  $x_1 = 0$ .

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 = x_3$$

$$\frac{x_2}{1} = \frac{x_3}{1}$$

The eigenvector for  $\lambda = 1$  is

$$X_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Case (iii):** For  $\lambda = 1$

Since the Matrix  $A$  is symmetric, all three eigen vectors are mutually orthogonal.

Let  $X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  be orthogonal to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , then

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0 \quad \& \quad X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Then we get

$$a - b + c = 0$$

$$0a + b + c = 0$$



$$\frac{a}{-1-1} = \frac{b}{0-1} = \frac{c}{1-0}$$

$$\frac{a}{-2} = \frac{b}{-1} = \frac{c}{1}$$

$$\frac{a}{2} = \frac{b}{1} = \frac{c}{-1}$$

The Eigen Vector for  $\lambda = 1$  is

$$X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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### Example-3

Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The characteristic equation is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^3 - S_1\lambda^2 + S_2\lambda - S_3 = 0$$

$$S_1 = 2 + 6 + 2 = 10$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_2 &= \begin{vmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 4 & 2 \end{vmatrix} + \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 12 + (4 - 16) + 12 \\ &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S_3 &= |A| = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (2)(12) + 4(-24) \\ &= -72 \end{aligned}$$

$$S_1 = 10, S_2 = 12, S_3 = -72$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^3 - S_1\lambda^2 + S_2\lambda - S_3 = 0$$

The characteristic equation is  $\lambda^3 - 10\lambda^2 + 12\lambda + 72 = 0$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 6) = 0$$

$$\lambda = -2, 6, 6.$$

The eigenvalues are  $\lambda = -2, 6, 6$ .

The eigenvectors are given by  $[A - \lambda I] X = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 6 - \lambda & 0 \\ 4 & 0 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (2 - \lambda)x_1 + 0x_2 + 4x_3 &= 0 \\ 0x_1 + (6 - \lambda)x_2 + 0x_3 &= 0 \\ 4x_1 + 0x_2 + (2 - \lambda)x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \quad (1)$$

**Case (i):** For  $\lambda = -2$  in (1), we get

$$4x_1 + 0x_2 + 4x_3 = 0$$

$$0x_1 + 8x_2 + 0x_3 = 0$$

$$4x_1 + 0x_2 + 4x_3 = 0$$

$$\frac{x_1}{0 - 32} = \frac{x_2}{0 - 0} = \frac{x_3}{32 - 0}$$

$$\frac{x_1}{-32} = \frac{x_2}{0} = \frac{x_3}{32}$$

$$\frac{x_1}{1} = \frac{x_2}{0} = \frac{x_3}{-1}$$

The eigenvector for  $\lambda = -2$  is

$$X_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Case (ii):** For  $\lambda = 6$  in (1), we get

$$-4x_1 + 0x_2 + 4x_3 = 0$$

$$0x_1 + 0x_2 + 0x_3 = 0$$

$$4x_1 + 0x_2 + 4x_3 = 0$$

first and third equations are same, second equation is 0. so take first equation

$$-4x_1 + 4x_3 = 0$$

The coefficient of  $x_2$  is already 0 we can directly take this as

$$-4x_1 = -4x_3$$

$$\frac{x_1}{1} = \frac{x_3}{1}$$

The eigenvector

$$X_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Case (iii):** For  $\lambda = 6$

Since the Matrix  $A$  is symmetric, all three eigen vectors are mutually orthogonal.



Let  $X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$  be orthogonal to  $X_1$  and  $X_2$ , then

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0 \quad \& \quad X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$X_1^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$X_2^T X_3 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Then we get

$$a + 0b + c = 0$$

$$a + 0b - c = 0$$

$$\frac{a}{0-0} = \frac{b}{1+1} = \frac{c}{0-0}$$

$$\frac{a}{0} = \frac{b}{2} = \frac{c}{0}$$

$$\frac{a}{0} = \frac{b}{1} = \frac{c}{0}$$

The Eigen Vector  $X_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

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## Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of the following matrices

1.  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 & -2 \\ 5 & 3 & 2 \\ -2 & 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

2.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

3.  $\begin{pmatrix} -9 & 2 & 6 \\ 5 & 0 & -3 \\ -16 & 4 & 11 \end{pmatrix}$

4.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

5.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

6.  $\begin{pmatrix} -9 & 4 & 4 \\ -8 & 3 & 4 \\ -16 & 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$

7.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

8.  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 & 4 \\ 5 & 7 & 5 \\ 4 & 5 & -2 \end{pmatrix}$

9.  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

10.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 & -6 \\ 4 & 2 & -6 \\ -6 & -6 & -15 \end{pmatrix}$

11.  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 6 & 9 \end{pmatrix}$

12.  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

13.  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 3 \\ 1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

## Answers

1. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = 2, \lambda_3 = 5$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = 3$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 11 \\ 1 \\ -14 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Answers

3. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = 2$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

4. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = 5$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Answers

5. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 1, \lambda_3 = 7$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

6. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = -1, \lambda_3 = 3$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Answers

7. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 2, \lambda_3 = 2$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \qquad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

8. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -3, \lambda_2 = -6, \lambda_3 = 12$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Answers

9. The eigenvalue are  $\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 4, \lambda_3 = 6$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

10. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 9, \lambda_3 = 18$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$



## Answers

11. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 0, \lambda_3 = 14$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

12. The eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = 3, \lambda_3 = 6$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

## Answers

13. The eigenvalue are  $\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 3, \lambda_3 = 3$   
and the eigenvectors are

$$X_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$X_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$