

## Required Problems

1. (Strang 6.1.3) Compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A$  and  $A^{-1}$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } A^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 & 1 \\ 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

$A^{-1}$  has the eigenvectors as  $A$ . When  $A$  has eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ , its inverse has eigenvalues  $\frac{1}{\lambda_1}$  and  $\frac{1}{\lambda_2}$ .

*Solution:* eigenvalues of  $A$  consists of solving the characteristic polynomial  $\det(A - \lambda I)$

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

We now have

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = -1$$

To solve for eigenvectors, we need to find solutions to:

$$N(A - \lambda I)$$

Calculations then yield,

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvalues of  $A^{-1}$  consists of solving the characteristic polynomial

$$\det(A^{-1} - \lambda I)$$

$$\det(A^{-1} - \lambda I) = \left(-\frac{1}{2} - \lambda\right)(-\lambda) - \frac{1}{2} = \lambda^2 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda - \frac{1}{2}$$

We now have

$$\lambda_1 = -\frac{1}{2}, \lambda_2 = 1$$

To solve for eigenvectors, we need to find solutions to:

$$N(A^{-1} - \lambda I)$$

Calculations then yield,

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can now complete the statement above:

$A^{-1}$  has the SAME eigenvectors as  $A$   
 $A^{-1}$  has eigenvalues  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$

2. (Strang 6.1.12) Find three eigenvectors for this matrix  $P$  (Projection matrices have  $\lambda = 1$  and  $0$ ):

$$\text{Projection matrix} \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} .2 & .4 & 0 \\ .4 & .8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

If two eigenvectors share the same  $\lambda$ , so do all of their linear combinations. Find an eigenvector of  $P$  with no zero components.

*Solution:*

Assuming the only two eigenvalues are  $0$  and  $1$ :

Solve for  $N(A - \lambda I)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \begin{bmatrix} .2 - \lambda & .4 & 0 \\ .4 & .8 - \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} .2 & .4 & 0 \\ .4 & .8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} -.8 & .4 & 0 \\ .4 & -.2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \implies \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ & \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Since all linear combinations of eigenvectors with the same eigenvalue are also eigenvectors of  $P$ , then adding the two above yields an eigenvector of  $P$  with no  $0$  components.

3. (Strang 6.1.16) The determinant of  $A$  equals the product  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n$ . Start with the polynomial  $\det(A - \lambda I)$  separated into its  $n$  factors (always possible). Then set  $\lambda = 0$ :

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda)(\lambda_2 - \lambda) \cdots (\lambda_n - \lambda) \text{ so } \det A =$$

Check this rule in Example 1 where the Markov matrix has  $\lambda = 1$  and  $1/2$ .

*Solution:*

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda)(\lambda_2 - \lambda) \cdots (\lambda_n - \lambda)$$

=

$$(\lambda_1 - 0)(\lambda_2 - 0) \cdots (\lambda_n - 0)$$

=

$$(\lambda_1)(\lambda_2)(\lambda_3)(\lambda_4) \cdots (\lambda_n)$$

=

$$\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} .8 & .3 \\ .2 & .7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det A = ad - bc = .56 - 0.06 = 0.5 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$(\lambda_1)(\lambda_2) = (1)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \frac{1}{2}$$

4. (Strang 6.1.25) Suppose  $A$  and  $B$  have the same eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  with the same independent eigenvectors  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$ . Then  $A = B$ . Reason: Any vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is a linear combination  $c_1\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n\mathbf{x}_n$ . What is  $A\mathbf{x}$ ? What is  $B\mathbf{x}$ ?

*Solution:*

Assume  $A$  and  $B$  have identical eigenvalues and eigenvectors

Since  $\mathbf{x}$  can be written as a linear combination of eigenvectors, we can express it as

$$\mathbf{x} = c_1\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n\mathbf{x}_n$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = A(c_1\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n\mathbf{x}_n)$$

$$= Ac_1\mathbf{x}_1 + Ac_2\mathbf{x}_2 + \dots + Ac_n\mathbf{x}_n \text{ (linearity)}$$

$$= c_1(A\mathbf{x}_1) + c_2(A\mathbf{x}_2) + \dots + c_n(A\mathbf{x}_n) \text{ (associativity)}$$

$$= c_1(\lambda_1\mathbf{x}_1) + c_2(\lambda_2\mathbf{x}_2) + \dots + c_n(\lambda_n\mathbf{x}_n) \text{ (property of eigenvalues)}$$

$$= c_1(B\mathbf{x}_1) + c_2(B\mathbf{x}_2) + \dots + c_n(B\mathbf{x}_n) \text{ (Assumption)}$$

$$= Bc_1\mathbf{x}_1 + Bc_2\mathbf{x}_2 + \dots + Bc_n\mathbf{x}_n \text{ (associativity)}$$

$$= B(c_1\mathbf{x}_1 + \dots + c_n\mathbf{x}_n)$$

$$= B\mathbf{x}$$

$$A\mathbf{x} = B\mathbf{x}$$

$$A = B$$

5. (Strang 6.2.16) Find  $\Lambda$  and  $X$  to diagonalize  $A = \begin{bmatrix} .6 & .9 \\ .4 & .1 \end{bmatrix}$  (in Strang 6.2.15).

What is the limit of  $\Lambda^k$  as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ ? What is the limit of  $X\Lambda^kX^{-1}$ ? In the columns of this limiting matrix you see the

*Solution:*

To find  $\Lambda$ , we must first find the eigenvalues of  $A$  and solve  $\det A - \lambda I$

$$\det A - \lambda I = (.6 - \lambda)(.1 - \lambda) - (.9)(.4) = \lambda^2 - .7\lambda - .3$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = -\frac{3}{10}$$

Plugging this back to find our eigenvectors to solve  $N(A - \lambda I)$

$$\begin{bmatrix} .6 - \lambda & .9 \\ .4 & .1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We now know that:

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

With this we can say that

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \Lambda^k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can apply this information to find  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} X\Lambda^kX^{-1}$

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} X\Lambda^kX^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{13} & \frac{1}{13} \\ -\frac{4}{13} & \frac{9}{13} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{13} & \frac{1}{13} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{13} & \frac{9}{13} \\ \frac{4}{13} & \frac{4}{13} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{13} \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 9 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

In the columns of the limiting matrix, we see the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue 1.

6. (Strang 6.2.29) Suppose the same  $X$  diagonalizes both  $A$  and  $B$ . They have the same eigenvectors in  $A = X\Lambda_1 X^{-1}$  and  $B = X\Lambda_2 X^{-1}$ . Prove that  $AB = BA$ .

*Solution:*

Begin with:

$$\begin{aligned} AB &= (X\Lambda_1 X^{-1})(X\Lambda_2 X^{-1}) \\ &= X\Lambda_1(X^{-1}X)\Lambda_2 X^{-1} \\ &= X\Lambda_1 I \Lambda_2 X^{-1} \\ &= X\Lambda_1 \Lambda_2 X^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

And Since A and B have the same X,  $\Lambda_1 = \Lambda_2$

$$= X\Lambda^2 X^{-1}$$

Similarly:

$$\begin{aligned} BA &= (X\Lambda_1 X^{-1})(X\Lambda_2 X^{-1}) \\ &= X\Lambda_1(X^{-1}X)\Lambda_2 X^{-1} \\ &= X\Lambda_1 I \Lambda_2 X^{-1} \\ &= X\Lambda_1 \Lambda_2 X^{-1} \\ &= X\Lambda^2 X^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we have that

$$X\Lambda^2 X^{-1} = X\Lambda^2 X^{-1}$$

$$AB = BA$$

7. Let  $A$  be a matrix, and  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  be eigenvectors for  $A$ . Prove or disprove each of the following statements.

- (a) For all scalars  $c \neq 0$ , the vector  $c\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector for  $A$ .
- (b) For all integers  $k \geq 1$ ,  $x$  is an eigenvector for  $A^k$ .
- (c) The vector  $\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y}$  is always an eigenvector for  $A$ .

*Solution:*

(a) True

An eigenvector must satisfy  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$

Checking  $c\mathbf{x}$ , We then have  $Ac\mathbf{x}$  and  $\lambda c\mathbf{x}$

By associativity we have:

$c(A\mathbf{x})$  and  $c(\lambda\mathbf{x})$

And since  $A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$

We have that  $Ac\mathbf{x} = \lambda c\mathbf{x}$

(b) True

Proof by induction:

Base case  $n = 1$ :

True, because it was given that  $\mathbf{x}$  was an eigenvalue of  $A$

Induction Step:

$A^n\mathbf{x} = \lambda^n\mathbf{x}$  (Induction hypothesis)

$= A(A^n\mathbf{x}) = A\lambda^n\mathbf{x}$  (Induction Hypothesis)

$A^{n+1}\mathbf{x} = \lambda^n(A\mathbf{x})$

$A^{n+1}\mathbf{x} = \lambda^n(\lambda\mathbf{x})$

$A^{n+1}\mathbf{x} = \lambda^{n+1}\mathbf{x}$

Since there exists a  $\lambda$ , s.t.  $A^{n+1}\mathbf{x} = \lambda^{n+1}\mathbf{x}$ , by the induction hypothesis, our proof is complete.

(c) False

Consider

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix has eigenvalues 2, 3 and eigenvectors  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

The sum of these 2,  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  is not an eigenvector, as  $A\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$ ,

and there is no such scalar  $\lambda$  that exists which when multiplied by 1 gives 2 and 3.



## Optional Problems

8. Prove that if  $A_1$  is similar to  $A_2$  and  $A_2$  is similar to  $A_3$ , then  $A_1$  is similar to  $A_3$ .
9. Prove or disprove:
  - (a) If  $\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector for  $A$  and  $B$ , then  $\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector for  $AB$  and  $BA$ .
  - (b) If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue for  $A$  and  $B$ , then  $\lambda^2$  is an eigenvalue for  $AB$  and  $BA$ .
10. List all matrices that are similar to the identity matrix.
11. Prove that the eigenvalues of a triangular matrix are the entries on the diagonal.
12. The trace of a matrix is the sum of the diagonal entries. Prove that the sum of the eigenvalues is equal to the trace.
13. Suppose  $\mathbf{x}_1$  and  $\mathbf{x}_2$  are eigenvectors for  $A$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . Under what conditions on  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  is  $\mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2$  an eigenvector for  $A$ ?
14. We have seen how it is possible to find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a matrix by finding roots of its characteristic polynomial. In this problem you will show how to do the reverse: You can find the roots of a polynomial by finding the eigenvectors of its “companion matrix.” Let  $p$  be the degree  $n$  polynomial  $p(z) = c_0 + c_1z + c_2z^2 + \cdots + z^n$ .

Note that the coefficient of  $z^n$  is 1.

Define the companion matrix for  $p$  to be the  $n \times n$  matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 & 1 \\ -c_0 & -c_1 & \cdots & -c_{n-2} & -c_{n-1} \end{bmatrix}.$$

- (a) Show that  $\det(C - \lambda I) = p(\lambda)$ .
  - (b) Prove that  $z$  is a root of  $p$  if and only if it is an eigenvalue of  $C$  with eigenvector  $(1, z, z^2, \dots, z^{n-1})$ .
  - (c) Explain how to determine the roots of any degree  $n$  polynomial (even if its leading coefficient is not 1) if you know how to find eigenvectors for a matrix. [This is actually how some polynomial solvers proceed: Rather than solving the polynomial they instead find the eigenvectors of its companion matrix. ]
15. Write Julia code to recursively calculate the determinant of any  $n \times n$  matrix using cofactors.