

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

SEMESTER 2, 2022/2023

MA2001 Linear Algebra I

Tutorial 10

EXERCISE 6.9

For each of the following matrix A ,

- (i) determine whether A is diagonalizable; and
- (ii) if A is diagonalizable, find a matrix P that diagonalizes A and determine $P^{-1}AP$.

Note that it requires eigenvalues and eigenvectors to determine the diagonalizability. We first review the definitions.

Let A be a square matrix of order n . If for some $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ and nonzero $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $Av = \lambda v$, then λ is called an *eigenvalue* of A , and v an *eigenvector* associated to λ .

The *characteristic polynomial* $\det(\lambda I - A)$ is a monic polynomial in variable λ of degree n . Its zeros (i.e., the roots to the *characteristic equation* $\det(\lambda I - A) = 0$) are precisely all the eigenvalues of A . That is,

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue of } A &\Leftrightarrow \lambda I - A \text{ is a singular matrix} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \det(\lambda I - A) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

In particular,

- (i) If A is a triangular matrix, then its eigenvalues are the diagonal entries.
- (ii) If A is a square matrix of order 2, then the characteristic polynomial of A is

$$p_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - \text{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A),$$

where $\text{tr}(A)$ is the *trace* of A , defined as the sum of diagonal entries of A .

Let λ be an eigenvalue of A . Then the eigenvectors of A associated to λ are precisely all the *nonzero* vectors in the nullspace of $\lambda I - A$. The nullspace of $\lambda I - A$ is the *eigenspace* of A associated to λ , denoted by E_λ or $E_{A,\lambda}$. Since $\lambda I - A$ is singular, we have $\dim E_\lambda \geq 1$.

A square matrix A is said to be *diagonalizable* if there exists an invertible matrix P and a diagonal matrix D such that $P^{-1}AP = D$.

It is also prove that

- (i) The eigenvectors associated to distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent.

- (ii) A square matrix A of order n is diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow A$ has n linearly independent eigenvectors.
- (iii) If a square matrix A of order n has n distinct eigenvalues, then it is diagonalizable.

We have the **criterion for diagonalization**: Let A be a square matrix of order n .

- (a) If A has a non-real eigenvalue, or equivalently, if $\det(\lambda I - A)$ cannot be completely factorized as product of linear factors over \mathbb{R} , then A is not diagonalizable over \mathbb{R} .
- (b) A has a real eigenvalue λ with *algebraic multiplicity* $a(\lambda)$ (it is the multiplicity of λ as a root of the characteristic equation) such that $\dim(E_\lambda) < a(\lambda)$, then A is not diagonalizable.
- (c) Suppose that every eigenvalue λ of A is a real number and $\dim(E_\lambda) = a(\lambda)$.
- For each eigenvalue λ of A , solve the homogeneous linear system $(\lambda I - A)x = 0$ to get a basis for E_λ .
 - Let the union of the bases for the eigenspaces be $\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$. Let $P = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & \cdots & v_n \end{pmatrix}$. Then $D = P^{-1}AP$ is a diagonal matrix such that its diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of the columns of P .

After review, we are now ready to check the diagonalizability of the following matrices.

6.9(d). $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

Note that A is already a diagonal matrix. If we set $P = I$, then $P^{-1}AP = A$ is a diagonal matrix. Hence, we conclude that A is diagonalizable.

In general, *any diagonal matrix is diagonalizable* (by the identity matrix I).

6.9(b). $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$.

- (i) The characteristic polynomial of A is

$$\det(\lambda I - A) = \lambda^2 - \operatorname{tr}(A)\lambda + \det(A) = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4 = (\lambda - 2)^2.$$

Then A has a unique eigenvalue $\lambda = 2$.

- (ii) Find the eigenspace of A associated to $\lambda = 2$:

$$2I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(2I - A)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(1, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

So $\dim(E_2) = 1$ but the algebraic multiplicity of 2 is 2. It follows that A is not diagonalizable.

Alternatively, assume that A is diagonalized by P . Then we must have

$$P^{-1}AP = D,$$

where D is the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the eigenvalues of A , i.e.,

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = 2I.$$

Then

$$A = PDP^{-1} = P(2I)P^{-1} = 2(PP^{-1}) = 2I = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix},$$

which is clearly a contradiction.

6.9(h). $A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. In Tutorial 9, we have calculated that

(i) A has eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = 1$.

(ii) E_{-1} has a basis $\{(-1, -1, 1)\}$, and E_1 has a basis $\{(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 0), (\frac{1}{2}, 0, 1)\}$.

Let P be the matrix whose columns are the vectors in the bases, e.g., $P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of A .

6.9(j). $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. In Tutorial 9, we have calculated that

(i) A has eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = 1$.

(ii) E_{-1} has a basis $\{(-1, 0, 1, 0), (0, -1, 0, 1)\}$ and E_1 has a basis $\{(1, 0, 1, 0), (0, 1, 0, 1)\}$.

Let P be the matrix whose columns are the vectors in the bases, e.g., $P = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

Then

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of A .

6.9(f). $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 9 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$

(i) The characteristic polynomial of A is

$$\det(\lambda I - A) = \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 & 0 \\ -9 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda - 2 \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - 2) \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & -1 \\ -9 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - 2)(\lambda^2 - 9) = (\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 3).$$

Then the eigenvalues of A are $\lambda = 2$, $\lambda = 3$ and $\lambda = -3$.

Since A has 3 distinct eigenvalues, it is diagonalizable.

(ii) Find the basis for each eigenspace.

Let $\lambda = 2$. Then

$$2I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -9 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 + \frac{9}{2}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{5}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(2I - A)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(0, 0, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Hence, E_2 has a basis $\{(0, 0, 1)\}$.

Let $\lambda = 3$. Then

$$3I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ -9 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 + 3R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(3I - A)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(\frac{1}{3}, 1, 0), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then E_3 has a basis $\{(\frac{1}{3}, 1, 0)\}$.

(iii) Let $\lambda = -3$. Then

$$-3I - A = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -1 & 0 \\ -9 & -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - 3R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3} \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(-3I - A)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(-\frac{1}{3}, 1, 0), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Then E_{-3} has a basis $\{(-\frac{1}{3}, 1, 0)\}$.

- (iv) Let \mathbf{P} be the matrix whose columns are vectors in the bases of the eigenspaces, e.g., $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{1}{3} & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix},$$

the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .

EXERCISE 6.16

A square matrix $\mathbf{A} = (a_{ij})_{n \times n}$ is called a *stochastic matrix* if $a_{ij} \geq 0$ for all $i, j = 1, \dots, n$ and the sum of each column

$$\sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} = a_{1j} + a_{2j} + \dots + a_{nj} = 1, \quad j = 1, \dots, n.$$

- (a) Show that 1 is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} , and if λ is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} , then $|\lambda| \leq 1$.

- (b) Show that $\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.95 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.05 & 0.95 & 0.05 \\ 0 & 0.05 & 0.95 \end{pmatrix}$ is stochastic, and diagonalize it.

6.16(a). We write down all the conditions: $a_{ij} \geq 0$, and the sum of each column is 1. So

$$a_{11} + a_{21} + \dots + a_{n1} = 1$$

$$a_{12} + a_{22} + \dots + a_{n2} = 1$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$a_{1n} + a_{2n} + \dots + a_{nn} = 1.$$

We should be able to express these equations in matrix form

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{21} & \cdots & a_{n1} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{n2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{1n} & a_{2n} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that the coefficient matrix is \mathbf{A}^T . If we write $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then the given information

becomes $\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}$, or equivalently,

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{u} = 1\mathbf{u}.$$

This means that

- (i) $\lambda = 1$ is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} , and

(ii) $\mathbf{u} \neq \mathbf{0}$ is an eigenvector of \mathbf{A} associated to $\lambda = 1$.

However, we are expected to show that 1 is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} instead of \mathbf{A}^T . Can we find the relation between the eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} and eigenvalues of \mathbf{A}^T ?

We have seen that the eigenvalues of a square matrix are precisely all zeros to its characteristic polynomial. Then can we find the relation between the characteristic polynomials of \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^T ?

The characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A} is the determinant of the matrix $\lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}$, while the characteristic polynomial of \mathbf{A}^T is the determinant of the matrix $\lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}^T$.

We realize that $\lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}$ and $\lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}^T$ are the transpose of each other:

$$(\lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A})^T = \lambda \mathbf{I}^T - \mathbf{A}^T = \lambda \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}^T.$$

In particular, they have the same determinant. Hence, for any square matrix \mathbf{A} ,

- (i) \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^T have the same characteristic polynomial;
- (ii) \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^T have the same eigenvalues (including algebraic multiplicities).

Since we have shown that 1 is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A}^T , it is also an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} .

Next, we shall prove that if λ is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A} , then $|\lambda| \leq 1$.

Since \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{A}^T have the same eigenvalues, it is equivalent to showing that if λ is an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A}^T , then $|\lambda| \leq 1$.

In discussion of an eigenvalue, we must associate it with an eigenvector, and vice versa. Let

λ be an eigenvalue of \mathbf{A}^T and $\mathbf{v} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} \neq \mathbf{0}$ an associated eigenvector. Then

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{v} = \lambda \mathbf{v} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} a_{11}c_1 + a_{21}c_2 + \cdots + a_{n1}c_n = \lambda c_1 \\ a_{12}c_1 + a_{22}c_2 + \cdots + a_{n2}c_n = \lambda c_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{1n}c_1 + a_{2n}c_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}c_n = \lambda c_n \end{cases}$$

We analyze, in particular, the first equation:

$$a_{11}c_1 + a_{21}c_2 + \cdots + a_{n1}c_n = \lambda c_1.$$

In order to get an upper bound for $|\lambda|$, we first take absolute values:

$$|a_{11}c_1 + a_{21}c_2 + \cdots + a_{n1}c_n| = |\lambda||c_1|.$$

An upper bound is clearly obtained by *triangle inequality*:

$$|\lambda||c_1| \leq |a_{11}||c_1| + |a_{21}||c_2| + \cdots + |a_{n1}||c_n| = |a_{11}||c_1| + |a_{21}||c_2| + \cdots + |a_{n1}||c_n|.$$

Of course we must use the condition

$$a_{11} + a_{21} + \cdots + a_{n1} = 1,$$

in which the coefficients for $a_{11}, a_{21}, \dots, a_{n1}$ are the same, while $|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|$ may be distinct.

If $|c_1| \leq M, |c_2| \leq M, \dots, |c_n| \leq M$, then we may continue to get

$$|\lambda| |c_i| \leq a_{11}M + a_{21}M + \cdots + a_{n1}M = (a_{11} + a_{21} + \cdots + a_{n1})M = M.$$

What is the *best* choice for M ? In the sense of *best*, we hope to have the *least* M so that

$$|c_1| \leq M, |c_2| \leq M, \dots, |c_n| \leq M.$$

So the *best* choice for M is

$$M = \max\{|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|\},$$

the maximum value among $|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|$.

By definition, there is an index $i = 1, \dots, n$ such that $|c_i| = M$. Consider the i^{th} equation:

$$\lambda c_i = a_{1i}c_1 + a_{2i}c_2 + \cdots + a_{ni}c_n.$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} |\lambda|M &= |\lambda| |c_i| = |a_{1i}c_1 + a_{2i}c_2 + \cdots + a_{ni}c_n| \\ &\leq a_{1i}|c_1| + a_{2i}|c_2| + \cdots + a_{ni}|c_n| \\ &\leq a_{1i}M + a_{2i}M + \cdots + a_{ni}M \\ &= (a_{1i} + a_{2i} + \cdots + a_{ni})M = M. \end{aligned}$$

We should be able to arrive the desired result $|\lambda| \leq 1$ by dividing both sides by M . We can always do so as long as $M > 0$.

By definition, M is the largest value among all $|c_1|, |c_2|, \dots, |c_n|$. If $M = 0$, then

$$|c_1| = |c_2| = \cdots = |c_n| = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = c_2 = \cdots = c_n = 0,$$

and this implies that $v = 0$.

We shall emphasize again that *an eigenvector is must be a nonzero vector*. So this is impossible. Therefore, $M > 0$. Then dividing M both sides to $|\lambda|M \leq M$ yields $|\lambda| \leq 1$.

6.16(b). The verification that $B = \begin{pmatrix} 0.95 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.05 & 0.95 & 0.05 \\ 0 & 0.05 & 0.95 \end{pmatrix}$ is a stochastic matrix is straightforward:

(i) every entry is ≥ 0 , and (ii) the sum of each column is 1:

- The 1st column: $0.95 + 0.05 + 0 = 1$.
- The 2nd column: $0 + 0.95 + 0.05 = 1$.
- The 3rd column: $0 + 0.05 + 0.95 = 1$.

We now diagonalize B using the same method as **Exercise 6.9**.

(i) Find the characteristic polynomial of B :

$$\begin{aligned}\det(\lambda I - B) &= \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 0.95 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.05 & \lambda - 0.95 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & \lambda - 0.95 \end{vmatrix} = (\lambda - 0.95) \begin{vmatrix} \lambda - 0.95 & -0.05 \\ -0.05 & \lambda - 0.95 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= (\lambda - 0.95)[(\lambda - 0.95)(\lambda - 0.95) - (-0.05)(-0.05)] = (\lambda - 0.95)(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 0.9).\end{aligned}$$

Then B has eigenvalues $\lambda = 1$, $\lambda = 0.95$ and $\lambda = 0.9$.

Since B has 3 distinct eigenvalues, it is diagonalizable.

(ii) Find the bases for eigenspaces.

Let $\lambda = 1$.

$$1I - B = \begin{pmatrix} 0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.05 & 0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & 0.05 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2+R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & 0.05 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3+R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(1I - B)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(0, 1, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

So E_1 has a basis $\{(0, 1, 1)\}$.

Let $\lambda = 0.95$.

$$0.95I - B = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.05 & 0 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0 & -0.05 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.05 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_3} \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(0.95I - B)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(-1, 0, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

So $E_{0.95}$ has a basis $\{(-1, 0, 1)\}$.

Let $\lambda = 0.9$.

$$0.9I - B = \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ -0.05 & -0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & -0.05 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & -0.05 & -0.05 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 - R_2} \begin{pmatrix} -0.05 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.05 & -0.05 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$(0.9I - B)x = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = t(0, -1, 1), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

So $E_{0.9}$ has a basis $\{(0, -1, 1)\}$.

(iii) Let P be the matrix whose columns are the vectors in the bases of eigenspaces, e.g., $P = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$P^{-1}BP = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.95 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.9 \end{pmatrix},$$

the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of B .

EXERCISE 6.20

Find a general formula for a_n such that

- (a) $a_n = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2}$ with $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1 = 1$.
- (b) $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-2}$ with $a_0 = 1$ and $a_1 = 0$.

This is an application of diagonalization.

Suppose that a square matrix A . Then we can find an invertible matrix P and a diagonal matrix D such that

$$P^{-1}AP = D.$$

Note that the powers of D can be evaluated easily:

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow D^k = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^k & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^k & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n^k \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can thus easily find the powers of A :

$$A^k = PD^kP^{-1}.$$

Suppose that the values of a_0 and a_1 are given, and

$$a_n = \alpha a_{n-1} + \beta a_{n-2}, \quad n \geq 2.$$

Then

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_n \\ a_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_n \\ \alpha a_n + \beta a_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_{n-1} \\ a_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ \beta & \alpha \end{pmatrix}$. Then $Ax_{n-1} = x_n$.

Note that the characteristic polynomial of A is

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

Suppose that A can be diagonalized as $P^{-1}AP = D$. Then

$$x_n = A^n x_0 = PD^n P^{-1} x_0.$$

6.20(a). $a_n = 3a_{n-1} - 2a_{n-2}$ with $a_0 = 0$ and $a_1 = 1$.

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $x_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_n \\ a_{n+1} \end{pmatrix}$. Then $Ax_{n-1} = x_n$ with $x_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

(i) The characteristic polynomial of A is

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

Then A has eigenvalues $\lambda = 1$ and $\lambda = 2$.

(ii) Find the bases for the eigenspaces.

Let $\lambda = 1$. Then

$$1I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - 2R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $E_1 = \{(t, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(1, 1)\}$.

Let $\lambda = 2$. Then

$$2I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $E_2 = \{(\frac{1}{2}t, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(\frac{1}{2}, 1)\}$.

(iii) Let $P = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $P^{-1}AP = D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$. So

$$x_n = A^n x_0 = PD^n P^{-1} x_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1^n & 0 \\ 0 & 2^n \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2^n - 1 \\ 2^{n+1} - 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular, the first entry gives the general formula of the sequence:

$$a_n = 2^n - 1.$$

6.20(b). $a_n = a_{n-1} + 2a_{n-1}$ with $a_0 = 1$ and $a_1 = 0$.

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $x_n = \begin{pmatrix} a_n \\ a_{n+1} \end{pmatrix}$. Then $Ax_{n-1} = x_n$ and $x_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

(i) Find the characteristic polynomial of A :

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

Then A has eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = 2$.

(ii) Find the bases for the eigenspaces of \mathbf{A} .

Let $\lambda = -1$. Then

$$-1\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 - 2R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $E_{-1} = \{(-t, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(-1, 1)\}$.

Let $\lambda = 2$. Then

$$2\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 + R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $E_2 = \{(\frac{1}{2}t, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(\frac{1}{2}, 1)\}$.

(iii) Let $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$\mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{P}\mathbf{D}^n\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^n & 0 \\ 0 & 2^n \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{(-1) \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot \frac{1}{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{2} \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3}(-1)^n + \frac{1}{3}2^n \\ -\frac{2}{3}(-1)^n + \frac{2}{3}2^n \end{pmatrix}.$$

In particular, the first entry gives a general formula of the sequence

$$a_n = \frac{2}{3}(-1)^n + \frac{1}{3}2^n.$$

EXERCISE 6.24

For each of the following, find a matrix \mathbf{P} that orthogonally diagonalizes \mathbf{A} and determine $\mathbf{P}^T\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P}$.

Suppose \mathbf{A} is diagonalizable. Then there exist an invertible matrix \mathbf{P} such that $\mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{D}$ is a diagonal matrix.

If the order of \mathbf{A} is large, then it is complicated to find \mathbf{P}^{-1} (apply Gauss-Jordan elimination to $(\mathbf{P} \mid \mathbf{I}) \rightarrow (\mathbf{I} \mid \mathbf{P}^{-1})$). On the other hand, if \mathbf{P} is an *orthogonal matrix*, then its inverse is the same as the transpose $\mathbf{P}^{-1} = \mathbf{P}^T$, which can be easily obtained.

Let \mathbf{A} be a square matrix. If there exists an orthogonal matrix \mathbf{P} such that $\mathbf{P}^T\mathbf{A}\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{D}$ is a diagonal matrix, then \mathbf{A} is said to be *orthogonally diagonalizable*.

Surprisingly, the orthogonally diagonalizable matrices are precisely all the symmetric matrices:

A square matrix \mathbf{A} is orthogonally diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{A}$ is a symmetric matrix.

Moreover, suppose that \mathbf{A} is a symmetric (orthogonally diagonalizable) matrix. Then

- (i) All eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are real numbers.
- (ii) Eigenvectors associated to different eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} are orthogonal.

We have the following algorithm for orthogonal diagonalize a symmetric matrix \mathbf{A} :

- (i) Solve the characteristic equation $\det(\lambda\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}) = 0$ to find the eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .

- (ii) For each eigenspace E_λ , find an orthonormal basis S_λ .
- (iii) Let $\{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\}$ be the union of these orthonormal bases.
- (iv) Then $P = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_n \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthogonal matrix, which diagonalizes A . The diagonal entries of $P^T A P$ are the corresponding eigenvalues of A .

6.24(e). $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 & -2 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$

- (i) Find the characteristic polynomial

$$\begin{aligned} \det(\lambda I - A) &= \begin{vmatrix} \lambda & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & \lambda - 3 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & \lambda \end{vmatrix} = [\lambda^2(\lambda - 3) + (-4) + (-4)] - [4\lambda + 4\lambda + (\lambda - 3)] \\ &= \lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 - 9\lambda - 5 \\ &= (\lambda + 1)^2(\lambda - 5). \end{aligned}$$

Then A has eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = 5$.

- (ii) Find the orthonormal bases for the eigenspaces of A .

Let $\lambda = -1$. Then

$$-1I - A = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & -4 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_3 - R_1]{R_2 + 2R_1} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$E_{-1} = \{(2s - t, s, t) \mid s, t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(2, 1, 0), (-1, 0, 1)\}.$$

Apply Gram-Schmidt process to get an orthonormal basis:

$$v_1 = (2, 1, 0),$$

$$v_2 = (-1, 0, 1) - \frac{(-1, 0, 1) \cdot (2, 1, 0)}{(2, 1, 0) \cdot (2, 1, 0)}(2, 1, 0) = \left(-\frac{1}{5}, \frac{2}{5}, 1\right).$$

Normalize:

$$w_1 = v_1 / \|v_1\| = \left(\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}}, 0\right),$$

$$w_2 = v_2 / \|v_2\| = \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{30}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{30}}, \frac{5}{\sqrt{30}}\right).$$

Let $\lambda = 5$. Then

$$5I - A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow[R_3 + \frac{1}{5}R_1]{R_2 - \frac{2}{5}R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{6}{5} & \frac{12}{5} \\ 0 & \frac{12}{5} & \frac{24}{5} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_3 - 2R_2} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{6}{5} & \frac{12}{5} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$E_5 = \{(t, -2t, t) \mid t \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{span}\{(1, -2, 1)\}.$$

Normalize

$$\mathbf{w}_3 = (1, -2, 1) / \|(1, -2, 1)\| = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right).$$

(iii) Let $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{30}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{30}} & -\frac{2}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 0 & \frac{5}{\sqrt{30}} & \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \end{pmatrix}$. Then $\mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{w}_1 \quad \mathbf{w}_2 \quad \mathbf{w}_3)$ is an orthogonal matrix such that

$$\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Note that the diagonal entries of $\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}$ are the corresponding eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .

6.24(g). $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$

In a similar way to **6.9(j)**, we can calculate that

(i) \mathbf{A} has eigenvalues $\lambda = -1$ and $\lambda = 1$.

(ii) E_{-1} has a basis $\{(-1, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, -1, 1)\}$.

(iii) E_1 has a basis $\{(1, 1, 0, 0), (0, 0, 1, 1)\}$.

Note that the bases that we obtained for E_{-1} and E_1 are already orthogonal. We can simply normalize them to obtain orthonormal bases:

$$\mathbf{w}_1 = (-1, 1, 0, 0) / \|(-1, 1, 0, 0)\| = \left(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, 0 \right),$$

$$\mathbf{w}_2 = (0, 0, -1, 1) / \|(0, 0, -1, 1)\| = \left(0, 0, -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right),$$

$$\mathbf{w}_3 = (1, 1, 0, 0) / \|(1, 1, 0, 0)\| = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, 0 \right),$$

$$\mathbf{w}_4 = (0, 0, 1, 1) / \|(0, 0, 1, 1)\| = \left(0, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right).$$

Let $\mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{w}_1 \quad \mathbf{w}_2 \quad \mathbf{w}_3 \quad \mathbf{w}_4) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & 0 & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \end{pmatrix}$. Then \mathbf{P} is an orthogonal matrix such that

$$\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Again, the diagonal entries of $\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P}$ are the corresponding eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .

EXERCISE 6.29

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $u = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

(a) Show that u is an eigenvector of A .

(b) If $u \cdot v = 0$ and $v \neq 0$. Show that v is an eigenvector of A .

(c) Suppose $P = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & d_1 & d_2 & d_3 \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthogonal matrix. Find $P^T A P$.

6.29(a). We emphasize again that *eigenvalue and eigenvector come together as a pair*.

In order to show that (a nonzero vector) u is an eigenvector of A , we shall show that $Au = \lambda u$ for some eigenvalue λ .

The verification is straightforward:

$$Au = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 4 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 4u.$$

Since $u \neq 0$, we conclude that u is an eigenvector of A associated to the eigenvalue 4.

6.29(b). In order to show that v is an eigenvector of A , we need to show that $Av = \lambda v$ for a constant $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

It is given that $u \cdot v$, which is convenient to convert to the matrix form $u^T v = 0$. How can we link this condition to Av ?

The matrix multiplication can be decomposed in blocks — the first matrix can be decomposed into rows and the second can be decomposed into columns. In particular,

$$Av = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} v = \begin{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} v \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} v \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} v \\ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u^T v \\ u^T v \\ u^T v \\ u^T v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

Since $v \neq 0$, the only way to express $0 = \lambda v$ is setting $\lambda = 0$:

$$Av = 0 = 0v.$$

Therefore, v is an eigenvector of A associated to the eigenvalue 0.

Note that the eigenspace E_0 is the nullspace of \mathbf{A} . So $\dim(E_0) = \text{nullity}(\mathbf{A}) = 3$.

Before we proceed to **6.29(c)**, we summarize our findings:

- (i) \mathbf{A} is symmetric; so it is orthogonally diagonalizable. The vectors associated to distinct eigenvalues are orthogonal.
- (ii) \mathbf{A} has eigenvalues 0 and 4.
 - E_4 contains an eigenvector \mathbf{u} ; so $E_4 \supseteq \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$ and $\dim(E_4) \geq 1$.
 - E_0 is the nullspace of \mathbf{A} , and it is also the orthogonal complement of E_4 : $(E_4)^\perp = E_0$. Moreover, $\dim(E_0) = 3$.

Of course we can compute directly to see all eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} . Can we conclude immediately from the above for its eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

Given a diagonalizable matrix of order n , the sum of the dimensions of the eigenspaces must be n . So for this matrix \mathbf{A} ,

$$4 \geq \dim(E_0) + \dim(E_4) \geq 3 + 1 = 4.$$

There is no room for eigenvalues other than 0 and 4. Moreover, $\dim(E_4) = 1$, i.e., $E_4 = \text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\}$.

6.29(c). It is given that $\mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & a_1 & a_2 & a_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & b_1 & b_2 & b_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & c_1 & c_2 & c_3 \\ \frac{1}{2} & d_1 & d_2 & d_3 \end{pmatrix}$ is an orthogonal matrix. Then its columns must be normalized. Write

$$\mathbf{w} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{w}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ c_1 \\ d_1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{w}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \\ c_2 \\ d_2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{w}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} a_3 \\ b_3 \\ c_3 \\ d_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\{\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\}$ is an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^4 .

Note that \mathbf{w} normalized from \mathbf{u} :

$$\mathbf{u}/\|\mathbf{u}\| = (1, 1, 1, 1)/\|(1, 1, 1, 1)\| = \left(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}\right) = \mathbf{w}.$$

Then $\{\mathbf{w}\}$ is an orthonormal basis for $\text{span}\{\mathbf{u}\} = E_4$.

Recall that E_0 is the set of all vectors orthogonal to $E_4 = \text{span}\{\mathbf{w}\}$. We now have an orthonormal set of vectors $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\}$ that is orthogonal to $E_4 = \text{span}\{\mathbf{w}\}$. Then

$$\text{span}\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\} \subseteq E_0.$$

Since $\dim(E_0) = 3$ and $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\}$ is linearly independent (because it is an orthonormal set), we conclude that $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \mathbf{w}_2, \mathbf{w}_3\}$ is an orthonormal basis for E_0 .

Let $\mathbf{P} = (\mathbf{w} \quad \mathbf{w}_1 \quad \mathbf{w}_2 \quad \mathbf{w}_3)$. Then the columns of \mathbf{P} are linearly independent eigenvectors of \mathbf{P} . So

$$\mathbf{P}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

the diagonal matrix whose diagonal entries are the corresponding eigenvalues of \mathbf{A} .