

# Week 7 Worksheet **Metas**

Term: **Spring 2020**

Name:

## Problem 1: Linear Algebra Review

**Meta:** Description: Meant to be a review of eigenvectors, eigenvalues and transformations.

- Suppose  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue for the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ . Consider the  $\lambda$ -eigenspace of  $\mathbf{A}$ : the set of all vectors  $\mathbf{v}$  satisfying the equation  $\mathbf{A}\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$ . Show that this eigenspace is a subspace by directly checking the three conditions needed to be a subspace.

**Solution:** First, we have to check that  $\vec{0}$  is in the subspace: this is true because  $\mathbf{A}\vec{0} = \lambda\vec{0} = \vec{0}$  (regardless of what the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is).

Next, suppose  $\vec{u}$  and  $\vec{v}$  are in the subspace. This means that:

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{u} = \lambda\vec{u}$$

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

$$\mathbf{A}(\vec{u} + \vec{v}) = \mathbf{A}\vec{u} + \mathbf{A}\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{u} + \lambda\vec{v} = \lambda(\vec{u} + \vec{v})$$

This means  $\vec{u} + \vec{v}$  is also in the subspace.

Finally, suppose  $\vec{v}$  is in the subspace and  $r$  is a scalar. Then,

$$\mathbf{A}(r\vec{v}) = r(\mathbf{A}\vec{v}) = r(\lambda\vec{v}) = \lambda(r\vec{v})$$

This means that  $r\vec{v}$  is also in the subspace.

Since the eigenspace satisfies all three conditions of being a subspace, we can say that it is a subspace.

- Solve for the eigenvalue-eigenvector pairs for the following 2 by 2 matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Solution:** To solve for eigenvalues and eigenvectors, let's go back and review the definition of eigenvectors and eigenvalues:

If  $\vec{x}$  and  $\lambda$  are the eigenvector and eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , respectively, then the following equation holds:

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$$

Since the (appropriately sized) identity matrix is analogous to multiplying by 1 in arithmetic, we can say:

$$\mathbf{A}\vec{x} = \lambda\mathbf{I}\vec{x}$$

Rearranging, we get:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{A}\vec{x} - (\lambda\mathbf{I})\vec{x} &= \vec{0} \\ (\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\vec{x} &= \vec{0}\end{aligned}$$

What does this look like? It looks similar to solving for the nullspace of  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})$ !

Assuming that there is a nontrivial nullspace, that also means that  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$ !

Let's solve for  $\lambda$  first:

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 - \lambda & 1 \\ 3 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \\ \det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) &= (4 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - 3 \\ &= 5 - 6\lambda + \lambda^2 \\ &= (\lambda - 5)(\lambda - 1)\end{aligned}$$

By factoring:

$$\lambda = 5, 1$$

Let's check: We've just solved for the eigenvalues. But what about the eigenvectors?

To do that, we plug in  $\lambda$  into  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})$  and solve for the nullspace!

For  $\lambda = 5$ :

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\vec{x} &= \vec{0} \\ \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} &= \vec{0}\end{aligned}$$

We can see that eigenvector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  spans the nullspace of the above matrix.

So the first pair is

$$\lambda = 5, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Repeating for  $\lambda = 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\vec{x} &= \vec{0} \\ \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} &= \vec{0}\end{aligned}$$

We can see that eigenvector  $\begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$  spans the nullspace of the above matrix.

So, the second pair is

$$\lambda = 1, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

3. Projection of a vector  $\vec{u}$  onto  $\vec{v}$  is given by:

$$\frac{\vec{u} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v}$$

Prove that projection onto a vector  $\vec{v}$  is a linear transformation.

**Solution:** Let us represent this transformation using  $P$ .

$$P(\vec{a}) = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v}$$

Let's check if it satisfies the condition of linearity.

$$\begin{aligned} P(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) &= \frac{(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v} \\ P(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) &= \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v} + \frac{\vec{b} \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v} \\ P(\vec{a} + \vec{b}) &= P(\vec{a}) + P(\vec{b}) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the projection transformation satisfies additivity. Let's check if it satisfies the condition of scalar multiplication.

$$\begin{aligned} P(r\vec{a}) &= \frac{(r\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v} \\ P(r\vec{a}) &= r \cdot \frac{(\vec{a}) \cdot \vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|^2} \vec{v} \\ P(r\vec{a}) &= r \cdot P(\vec{a}) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the projection transformation is a linear transformation as it satisfies both the conditions - vector addition and scalar multiplication.