

**AI 비전공자를 위한 기초 수학 1: 선형 대수학**

**Math for AI Beginner Part 1: Linear Algebra**

**Week 5: Determinant of Square Matrix and Eigenvalue Problem**

# Linear Algebra

*What we will do during the first 4 weeks...*

## Review of matrices



**Systems of linear algebraic equations  $AX=B$**

*Finding solution(s) by row operations*

**Inverse of a square matrix  $A$**

*Finding inverse by row operations*

**Determinant of a square matrix  $A$**

*Calculating determinant by row operations*

*Bigger pictures: how are these 3 topics connected together with AI?*

*In between, we will look at vector space and **linearly independent vectors**.*

**Matrix eigen-problem**

**Diagonalisation problem**

**AI Applications: Deep Learning & SVM**

## Example:

**A** and **B** are two  $N \times N$  matrices which are invertible.

Show that:  $(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$ .

Note that  $(AB)^{-1}$  denotes “the inverse of AB”.

So, what we are asked to do is this:

Prove that the “inverse of AB” is  $B^{-1}A^{-1}$ .

$(AB) (B^{-1}A^{-1})$  *Is this equal to I?*

$$\begin{aligned} &= A \begin{pmatrix} B & B^{-1} \end{pmatrix} A^{-1} \\ &= A I A^{-1} = A A^{-1} = I \end{aligned}$$

Thus:

$$(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1}A^{-1}$$

We will now look at the idea of the **determinant of a square matrix.**

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1N} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2N} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{N1} & a_{N2} & a_{N3} & \dots & a_{NN} \end{pmatrix}$$

The elements  $a_{ij}$  of the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  can be used to compute a number called the **determinant of  $\mathbf{A}$** .  $\det(\mathbf{A})$   
 $|\mathbf{A}|$

**For a starting point, our approach is to define  $\det(A)$  in terms of determinants of smaller matrices.**

The smallest square matrix one can find is of order  $1 \times 1$ .

Let  $A = (a)$  then we define  $\det(A) = a$ .

**We calculate  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  using the  $I$ -th row of  $\mathbf{A}$ .**

**$I$ -th row of  $\mathbf{A}$**

$$a_{I1} \quad a_{I2} \quad a_{I3} \quad \cdots \quad a_{Ij} \quad \cdots \quad a_{IN}$$

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{j=1}^N (-1)^{I+j} a_{Ij} \det(\mathbf{A}_{Ij})$$

↑  
sum over all the  
columns in the row

↑  
 $(N-1) \times (N-1)$  matrix  
obtained by deleting the  
 $I$ -th row and the  $j$ -th  
column of  $\mathbf{A}$

**It can be shown that no matter which row we use to do the calculation the value of  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  is the same.**

We calculate  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  using the  $J$ -th column of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

$J$ -th column of  $\mathbf{A}$

$a_{1J}$

sum over all the  
rows in the column

$(N-1) \times (N-1)$  matrix  
obtained by deleting the  
 $i$ -th row and the  $J$ -th  
column of  $\mathbf{A}$

$a_{2J}$

$\vdots$

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (-1)^{i+J} a_{iJ} \det(\mathbf{A}_{iJ})$$

$a_{iJ}$

$\vdots$

It can be shown that no matter which column we use to do the calculation the value of  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  is the same. The value is also the same as the one calculated using “row expansion”.

$a_{NJ}$

Take  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ .

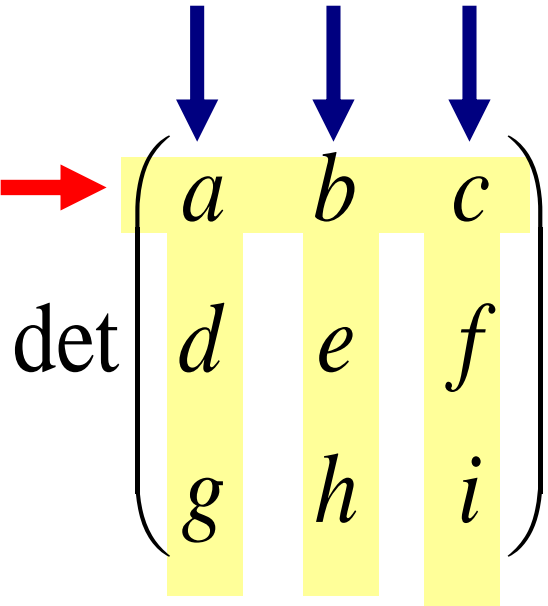
Calculating  $\det(A)$  using first row:

$$\begin{aligned} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \quad \det(A) &= (-1)^{1+1} a \det(d) \\ &\quad + (-1)^{1+2} b \det(c) \\ &= ad - bc \end{aligned}$$

Calculating  $\det(A)$  using second column:

$$\begin{aligned} \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \quad \det(A) &= (-1)^{2+1} b \det(c) \\ &\quad + (-1)^{2+2} d \det(a) \\ &= -bc + ad \end{aligned}$$



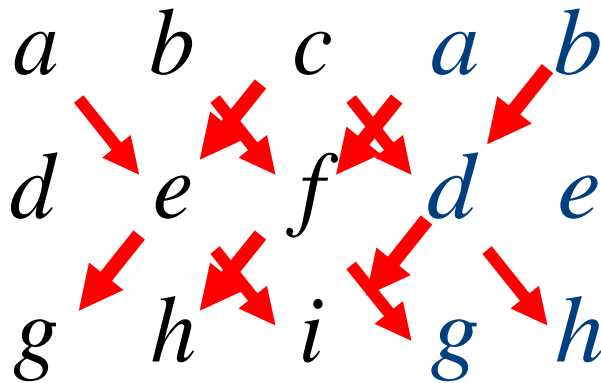


$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix} = (-1)^{1+1} a \det \begin{pmatrix} e & f \\ h & i \end{pmatrix} + (-1)^{1+2} b \det \begin{pmatrix} d & f \\ g & i \end{pmatrix} + (-1)^{1+3} c \det \begin{pmatrix} d & e \\ g & h \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= a(ei - fh) - b(di - fg) + c(dh - eg)$$

$$= aei + bfg + cdh - bdi - ceg - afh$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a & b & c \\ d & e & f \\ g & h & i \end{pmatrix} = aei + bfg + cdh - bdi - afh - ceg$$



*There is no such  
secret formula for the  
determinants of 4×4  
or larger square  
matrices!*

It is easy to compute the determinant of an upper triangular matrix.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det \begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & u_{13} & u_{14} & u_{15} \\ 0 & u_{22} & u_{23} & u_{24} & u_{25} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{33} & u_{34} & u_{35} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u_{44} & u_{45} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & u_{55} \end{pmatrix} &= (-1)^{1+1} u_{11} \det \begin{pmatrix} u_{22} & u_{23} & u_{24} & u_{25} \\ 0 & u_{33} & u_{34} & u_{35} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{44} & u_{45} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & u_{55} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= u_{11} (-1)^{1+1} u_{22} \det \begin{pmatrix} u_{33} & u_{34} & u_{35} \\ 0 & u_{44} & u_{45} \\ 0 & 0 & u_{55} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &\quad \vdots \\
 &= u_{11} u_{22} u_{33} u_{44} u_{55}
 \end{aligned}$$

**The determinant of an upper (or lower) triangular matrix is the product of all the diagonal elements of the matrix.**

**To calculate the determinant of a matrix  $A$ , can we first perform row operations on  $A$  to obtain an upper triangular matrix  $U$ , work out  $\det(U)$  easily, and deduce what  $\det(A)$  is?**

If we perform a legitimate row operation on **A** to obtain **B**, there is a simple relation between  $\det(\mathbf{A})$  and  $\det(\mathbf{B})$ .

$$\mathbf{A} \xrightarrow{R_i \leftrightarrow R_j \text{ (once)}} \mathbf{B} \quad (-1) \det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{B})$$

$$\mathbf{A} \xrightarrow{R_i \rightarrow \alpha R_i + \beta R_j \text{ (once)}} \mathbf{B} \quad \alpha \det(\mathbf{A}) = \det(\mathbf{B})$$

## Example:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -8 \end{pmatrix}$$

All the row operations used are:

$$R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1$$

$$R_4 \leftrightarrow R_3$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_1$$

$$R_5 \rightarrow R_5 + R_1$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow 2R_4 + R_2$$

$$R_5 \rightarrow 2R_5 - 3R_2$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - 5R_3$$

$$R_5 \rightarrow R_5 + 5R_3$$

$$R_5 \rightarrow R_5 + 3R_4$$

To find the determinant of  $\mathbf{A}$ :

$$(-1)(-1)(1)(1)(2)(2)(1)(1)(1) \det(\mathbf{A})$$

$$= \det(\mathbf{U})$$

$$= (-1)(2)(1)(1)(-8)$$

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# *The Big Picture*

Solving  $AX = B$

$A \mid B$



$U \mid C$

Finding inverse of  $A$

$A \mid I$



$U \mid P$



$I \mid V$  (if possible)

Finding  $\det(A)$

$A$



$U$

$$c \det(A) = \det(U)$$

If all diagonal elements of  $U$  are not zero, then  $AX=B$  has a unique solution,  $A$  is invertible and  $\det(A)$  is not zero.

If  $U$  has a zero diagonal element, then  $\det(A)=0$ ,  $A$  does not have an inverse and  $AX=B$  has either no solution or infinitely many solutions.



**We can say something about  $\det(A)$  and the solutions of the homogeneous system  $AX=0$ .**

**If  $\det(A)$  is not zero then  $AX=0$  has a unique solution given by  $X=0$ .**

**If  $\det(A)$  is zero then  $AX=0$  has infinitely many solutions.**

**If  $AX=0$  has a unique solution  $X=0$  then  $\det(A)$  is not zero.**

**If  $AX=0$  has infinitely many solutions then  $\det(A)=0$ .**

**Example:**

Are the vectors  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$  linearly independent?

Does the homogeneous system

$$c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{have a unique solution?}$$

If the system has a unique solution then the vectors are linearly independent. Otherwise, they are linearly dependent.

$$c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_4 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 7 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



$$c_1 + c_2 + c_3 + c_4 = 0$$

$$2c_1 + 2c_4 = 0$$

$$2c_1 + 3c_2 + 7c_4 = 0$$

$$c_2 - c_4 = 0$$



$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (-1)^{3+1} (1) \det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 & 7 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= -16$$

***The system has a unique solution. Thus, the given vectors are linearly independent.***

# Linear Algebra

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**Matrix eigen-problem**

**Diagonalisation problem**

**AI Applications: Deep Learning & SVM**

**We will now look at two related problems:**  
**matrix eigen-problem and the diagonalisation of**  
**a square matrix.**

**These two problems have many applications:**

**vibration in complicated spring-mass systems**

**finding principal strains and stresses**

**finding principal axes**

**modeling population growth**

**Queue theory in Financial Engineering**

**Machine Learning Algorithm (Deep Learning)**

## Review

The homogeneous system  $AX=O$  has infinitely many solution if and only of  $\det(A)=0$ .

The matrix eigen-problem may be stated as follows:

Given an  $N \times N$  matrix  $A$ , can we find  $N \times 1$  matrix  $X$  such that  $AX = \lambda X$ , where  $\lambda$  is a real or complex number?

Obviously  $X = 0$  satisfies  $AX = \lambda X$  for any  $\lambda$  !

But we are more interested in finding  $X \neq 0$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{\textcolor{red}{N} \times \text{\textcolor{red}{1}} matrix} \\
 \downarrow \\
 \text{\textcolor{red}{N} \times \text{\textcolor{red}{N}} matrix} \uparrow \text{\textcolor{red}{A}} \text{\textcolor{red}{X}} = \text{\textcolor{red}{\lambda}} \uparrow \text{\textcolor{red}{number}} \text{\textcolor{red}{X}} = \text{\textcolor{red}{\lambda}} \downarrow \text{\textcolor{red}{N} \times \text{\textcolor{red}{N}} identity matrix} \text{\textcolor{red}{I}} \text{\textcolor{red}{X}}
 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{\textcolor{black}{A}} \text{\textcolor{black}{X}} - \text{\textcolor{black}{\lambda}} \text{\textcolor{black}{I}} \text{\textcolor{black}{X}} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\text{\textcolor{black}{A}} - \text{\textcolor{black}{\lambda}} \text{\textcolor{black}{I}}) \text{\textcolor{black}{X}} = \mathbf{0}$$

*Regard this as a homogeneous system of linear algebraic equations*

**For more than just the trivial solution  $X=0$ , it is required that**

$$\det(\text{\textcolor{black}{A}} - \text{\textcolor{black}{\lambda}} \text{\textcolor{black}{I}}) = 0$$



**We can find non-trivial  $\mathbf{X}$  such that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = \lambda\mathbf{X}$  only for  $\lambda$  which satisfies  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$ .**

**To solve the eigen-matrix problem, we find  $\lambda$  first from:**

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$$

*characteristic (polynomial) equation of  $\mathbf{A}$*

**Values of  $\lambda$  satisfying the characteristic equation are called eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ .**

**If  $\mathbf{A}$  is an  $N \times N$  matrix, the characteristic equation is a polynomial equation of order  $N$ .**

**The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  can then have up to  $N$  distinct eigenvalues.**

If  $\lambda$  is known then we may solve the homogeneous system

$$(A - \lambda I) X = 0$$

to find non-trivial  $X$  for the eigen-problem.

We refer to all the solutions  $X$  of the above homogeneous system as **eigenvectors of  $A$**  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

**Example:**

Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\det\left[\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right] = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow \det\begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 2 \\ 1 & 2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(3 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - 2 = 0$$
$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 4) = 0$$

**The eigenvalues of A are  $\lambda=1$  and  $\lambda=4$ .**

To find the eigenvectors, we have to solve the homogeneous system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 1 & 2-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{for each eigenvalue.}$$

$$\lambda = 1$$

Easy to see that if we let  $y = t$  then  $x = -t$ .

$$\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$

All eigenvectors corresponding to the

eigenvalue 1 are given by  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -t \\ t \end{pmatrix}$ .

$$\lambda = 4$$

Easy to see that if we let  $y = s$  then  $x = 2s$ .

$$\begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array}$$

All eigenvectors corresponding to the

eigenvalue 4 are given by  $\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2s \\ s \end{pmatrix}$ .

**Example:**

**Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of**

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

**The eigenvalues are 1, -1 and 2.**

**The characteristic equation is**

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \begin{aligned} &\Rightarrow \lambda(1-\lambda)^2 + 2(1-\lambda) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow (1-\lambda)(\lambda-2)(\lambda+1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

To find eigenvectors, we have to solve the homogeneous system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 1$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array}$$

First 2 rows imply  $z = 0$ .

Let  $y = t$ . Last row implies that  $x = -y + z = -t$ .

All eigenvectors corresponding to eigenvalue 1 are

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -t \\ t \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

*Note that  $t$  represents an arbitrary real number.*

To find eigenvectors, we have to solve the homogeneous system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -1$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

Eigenvectors corresponding to eigenvalue  $-1$  are

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -p/2 \\ -p/2 \\ p \end{pmatrix}$$



Let  $z = p$ .

2<sup>nd</sup> row implies that  $2y + z = 0$ . Thus,  $y = -p/2$ .

1<sup>st</sup> row implies that  $2x + z = 0$ . Thus,  $x = -p/2$ .

To find eigenvectors, we have to solve the homogeneous system:

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array}$$



$$\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

All eigenvectors corresponding to eigenvalue 2 are

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} s \\ s \\ s \end{pmatrix}$$



Let  $z = s$ .

2<sup>nd</sup> row implies that  $-y + z = 0$ .

Thus,  $y = s$ .

1<sup>st</sup> row implies that  $-x + z = 0$ .

Thus,  $x = s$ .



### Example:

Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

This matrix has only one eigenvalue, that is, 3.

We say that the eigenvalue 3 has a multiplicity of 4.

From the characteristic equation, we may think of the matrix A as having 4 eigenvalues with the same value 3.

The characteristic equation is

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 3-\lambda & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad (3-\lambda)^4 = 0$$

To find the eigenvectors, we have to solve

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3-\lambda & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 3-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 3-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 3-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

The 4<sup>th</sup> row gives  $x + y + z = 0$ .

The 3<sup>rd</sup> row gives  $x + y = 0$ .

Thus,  $z = 0$ .

If we let  $x = t$  then  $y = -t$ .

$$\lambda = 3$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{array}$$

*What about  $w$ ?*

*It can be anything!*

Let  $w = s$ .

The eigenvectors are given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t \\ -t \\ 0 \\ s \end{pmatrix}$$

# Summary

Can we find  $\mathbf{X} \neq \mathbf{0}$  such that  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{X} = \lambda\mathbf{X}$ ?

Yes, provided that  $\lambda$  satisfies  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$ .

Values of  $\lambda$  satisfying  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$  are called *eigenvalues* of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , we solve the homogeneous system  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{0}$  to find eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$ .