

**Exam 3 Practice Problems Solution**  
**MATH 240 (Spring 2024)**

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**Problem 1.**

(a) Since the matrix is (upper) triangular, the eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 1, 2, 3$ .

(b)

$$A - \lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

is an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to 1 (by observation). To see this without guess-and-check, note that for  $[x \ y \ z]^T$  to be an eigenvector for 1, by the first and the third row, we must have  $y = 0, z = 0$ .

(c)  $A$  is diagonalizable because  $A$  is  $3 \times 3$  and has three distinct eigenvalues.

(d)  $A$  is invertible because  $\det(A) = 1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 = 6 \neq 0$ .

**Problem 2.** Since  $Av = \lambda v$ , we have  $A^2v = A(\lambda v) = \lambda Av = \lambda^2v$ . By the same reasoning,

$$0 = A^5v = \lambda^5v.$$

For a nonzero vector  $v$ ,  $\lambda^5v = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^5 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 0$ .

**Problem 3.** We want to find the least squares solution to the system

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix}}_{=A} x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}}_{=b}$$

We have

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 3 \\ -2 & 1 \\ 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 18 & -18 \\ -18 & 27 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

The augmented matrix corresponding to  $A^T A x = A^T b$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 18 & -18 & -6 \\ -18 & 27 & 15 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 & -1 \\ 0 & 9 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,  $x_2 = 1$ , and  $x_1 = \frac{2}{3}$ . The least square solution is thus,

$$\hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Problem 4.** We want to find the least squares solution to

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix}}_{=A} x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{=b}$$

Then normalized equation is

$$A^T A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -6 \\ -6 & 11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A^T b = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

The augmented matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & -6 & 6 \\ -6 & 11 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then  $x_2 = \frac{4}{5}$  and  $x_1 = 1 + x_2 = \frac{9}{5}$ . Therefore, the least square solution is

$$\hat{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{9}{5} \\ \frac{4}{5} \end{bmatrix}$$

**Problem 5.** The point in  $W$  that is closest to the point  $y$  is

$$\text{Proj}_W y = \frac{y \cdot (1, 1)}{(1, 1) \cdot (1, 1)} (1, 1) = \frac{(3, 4) \cdot (1, 1)}{(1, 1) \cdot (1, 1)} (1, 1) = \frac{7}{2} (1, 1) = \left( \frac{7}{2}, \frac{7}{2} \right).$$

**Problem 6.** By orthogonal decomposition,

$$y = \text{Proj}_W y + \underbrace{z}_{\in W^\perp} = \left( \frac{7}{2}, \frac{7}{2} \right) + z \Rightarrow z = \left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

To conclude,

$$y = \underbrace{\left( \frac{7}{2}, \frac{7}{2} \right)}_{\in W} + \underbrace{\left( -\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2} \right)}_{\in W^\perp}.$$

**Problem 7.**

$$\begin{aligned} w' = \text{Proj}_W y &= \frac{(-5, 2, 2) \cdot (-2, 3, 3)}{(-2, 3, 3) \cdot (-2, 3, 3)} (-2, 3, 3) + \frac{(-5, 2, 2) \cdot (-3, 0, -2)}{(-3, 0, -2) \cdot (-3, 0, -2)} (-3, 0, -2) \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{22}{22} (-2, 3, 3) + \frac{11}{13} (-3, 0, -2) \\ &= \left( -\frac{26}{13}, 3, \frac{39}{13} \right) + \left( -\frac{33}{13}, 0, -\frac{22}{13} \right) = \left( -\frac{59}{13}, 3, \frac{17}{13} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $z$ , we should see that

$$(-5, 2, 2) = \left( -\frac{59}{13}, 3, \frac{17}{13} \right) + z \Rightarrow z = \left( -\frac{59}{13}, 3, \frac{17}{13} \right) + \left( -\frac{6}{13}, -1, \frac{9}{13} \right)$$

**Problem 8.** Let  $x_1 = (1, 0, 1)$  and  $x_2 = (0, 1, 1)$ . Then the Gram-Schmidt process yields

$$v_1 = x_1 = (1, 0, 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} v_2 &= x_2 - \frac{x_2 \cdot v_1}{v_1 \cdot v_1} v_1 = (0, 1, 1) - \frac{(0, 1, 1) \cdot (1, 0, 1)}{(1, 0, 1) \cdot (1, 0, 1)} (1, 0, 1) \\ &= (0, 1, 1) - \frac{1}{2} (1, 0, 1) = \left( -\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Then  $\{(1, 0, 1), (-\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{2})\}$  is an orthogonal basis. Next,

$$u_1 = \frac{v_1}{\|v_1\|} = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right)$$

$$u_2 = \frac{v_2}{\|v_2\|} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{3}} \left( -\frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{1}{2} \right) = \left( -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right)$$

Then  $\left\{ \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, 0, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right), \left( -\frac{1}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{2}{\sqrt{6}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \right) \right\}$  is an orthonormal basis.

**Problem 9.**

- (a) **False** Let  $v$  be an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda$ . Then  $av$  is also an eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda$  for any  $a \neq 0$ . If you have one, then you have infinitely many of them.
- (b) **True** An orthogonal set of nonzero vectors is automatically linearly independent. You cannot have linearly independent set in  $\mathbb{R}^5$  with 6 elements because the dimension of  $\mathbb{R}^5$  is 5.
- (c) **False.** Consider the following least squares problem

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{=A} x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{=b} \Rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{A^T A} x = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{A^T b}$$

- (d) **True** We use the theorem that says  $y \in W$  if and only if  $y = \text{Proj}_W y$ .

**Problem 10.**

- (a) The matrix for  $T$  relative to basis  $\mathcal{B}_1$  and  $\mathcal{B}_2$  is given by

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_1} = [[T(2, 4)]_{\mathcal{B}_2} \quad [T(1, 7)]_{\mathcal{B}_2}] = [[(-2, -2)]_{\mathcal{B}_2} \quad [(5, -1)]_{\mathcal{B}_2}]$$

This matrix is constructed in a way that

$$(\dagger) \quad [T]_{\mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_1} [x]_{\mathcal{B}_1} = [T(x)]_{\mathcal{B}_2}$$

Since

$$(-2, -2) = (1, 3) + (-3, -5) \Rightarrow [(-2, -2)]_{\mathcal{B}_2} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(5, -1) = -7(1, 3) - 4(-3, -5) \Rightarrow [(5, -1)]_{\mathcal{B}_2} = \begin{bmatrix} -7 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

For the second equation, we can work with the augmented matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3 & 5 \\ 3 & -5 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) By observation,  $(3, 11) = (2, 4) + (1, 7)$ . Therefore,  $[(3, 11)]_{\mathcal{B}_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

- (c) By (a), (b), and  $(\dagger)$  above, we have

$$[T(3, 11)]_{\mathcal{B}_2} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}_2, \mathcal{B}_1} [(3, 11)]_{\mathcal{B}_1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -7 \\ 1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -6 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In particular,  $T(3, 11) = -6(1, 3) - 4(-3, -5) = (6, 2)$

**Problem 11.**

- (a) Let

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ then } \det B = 1 \text{ and } B^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Then by Theorem 8 of Chapter 5 (or Theorem 9 of the Study Guide),

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = B^{-1}AB = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -4 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & -11 \\ 8 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) By observation,  $(7, -5) = (3, -2) - (-4, 3)$ , so  $[(7, -5)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(c) We have

$$[T(7, -5)]_{\mathcal{B}} = [T]_{\mathcal{B}}[(7, -5)]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & -11 \\ 8 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 23 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$T(7, -5) = 23(3, -2) + 15(-4, 3) = (9, -1)$$

**Problem 12.** The characteristic polynomial is

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & -3 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)(-3 - \lambda) + 5 = \lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 2.$$

Then

$$\lambda = \frac{-2 \pm \sqrt{4 - 8}}{2} = -1 \pm i.$$

Then

$$A - (-1 + i)I = \begin{bmatrix} 2 - i & -5 \\ 1 & -2 - i \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 2 - i & -5 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Here we used the fact that  $(2 - i) \cdot [1 \quad -2 - i] = [2 - i \quad -5]$ . Alternatively, we know that the algebraic multiplicity of  $-1 + i$  is 1, so the dimension of the null space  $\text{Null}(A - (-1 + i)I) = 1$ . Therefore, the row reduction is immediate. Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 - i \end{bmatrix}$$

is an eigenvector for  $-1 + i$ . Then we immediately get that an eigenvector for  $-1 - i$  is

$$\overline{\begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 - i \end{bmatrix}} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 + i \end{bmatrix}$$

We did not cover the decomposition  $A = PCP^{-1}$ , so we will skip the solution.

**Problem 13.** Consider the  $3 \times 3$  identity matrix  $A = I_3$ . Then

$$A = I_3 I_3 I_3^{-1}$$

therefore,  $A$  is diagonalizable. Since  $I_3$  is an upper triangular matrix, the only eigenvalue is 1.

**Problem 14.** The characteristic polynomial is

$$\det \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \lambda & 5 \\ 5 & 1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)^2 - 25 = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 24 = (\lambda - 6)(\lambda + 4)$$

Therefore, the eigenvalues are  $\lambda = 6, -4$ .

$$A - 6I = \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 5 \\ 5 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so, an eigenvector of  $A$  for 6 is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

$$A + 4I = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 5 \\ 5 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

so, an eigenvector of  $A$  for 4 is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Therefore,  $P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ . Since  $\det P = -2$ , we have

$$P^{-1} = -\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore, the diagonalization is

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ 5 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$