

**Linear Algebra**

**Lesson 21**

**Eigenvalues and Characteristic Polynomials**

***Be sure to put your notes and homework in a document:***

***MAT313F21-lesson21-lastname-firstname***

***If you have a question email me with QUESTION in the subject line.***

**Watch the [Playlist 313F20-Lesson21](#) pausing to do classwork and homework.**

## Lesson 2.1

I Eigenvalues and  
 II the Characteristic Polynomial

Defn Given a  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$   
 we say a number  $\lambda$   
 is an eigenvalue for  $A$   
 if  $\exists \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $\vec{v} \neq \vec{0}$   
 s.t.  $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$   
 We say  $\vec{v}$  is the eigenvector  
 for eigenvalue  $\lambda$

Example  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$

Notice

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 0 \\ 0 \cdot 1 + 4 \cdot 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So 2 is an eigenvalue  
 with eigenvector  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot 1 \\ 0 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So 4 is an eigenvalue  
 with eigenvector  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**Example ESMS4** Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**HW1**

Check which of the following are  
eigenvectors

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Do this  
before  
continuing

**Example ESMS4** Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Check which of the following are eigenvectors  
and find their eigenvalues:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+0+3+4 \\ 0+2+3+4 \\ 1+2+3+0 \\ 1+2+0+4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 9 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \neq \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} 8 = \lambda \cdot 1 \Rightarrow \lambda = 8 \\ 9 = 8 \cdot 2 \quad \otimes \\ \text{Not an eigenvector} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+0+1+1 \\ 0+1+1+1 \\ 1+1+1+0 \\ 1+1+0+1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Yes is an evector} \\ \text{with evalue } \lambda = 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+0+2+2 \\ 0+2+2+2 \\ 2+2+2+0 \\ 2+2+0+2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Also an evector} \\ \text{with evalue } \lambda = 3 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thm If  $\vec{v}$  is an evector for  $A$   
with evalue  $\lambda$   $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$   
then any multiple of  $\vec{v}$ , say  $\vec{w} = k\vec{v}$   
for  $k \neq 0$  is also an evector  
with evalue  $\lambda$ .  
Proof  $A\vec{w} = A(k\vec{v}) = kA\vec{v} = k\lambda\vec{v} = \lambda k\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{w} \quad \square$

**Example ESMS4** Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Check which of the following are eigenvectors  
and find their eigenvalues:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+0+3+4 \\ 0+2+3+4 \\ 1+2+3+0 \\ 1+2+0+4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 8 \\ 9 \\ 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix} \neq \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} 8=\lambda \cdot 1 \Rightarrow \lambda=8 \\ 9=8 \cdot 2 \otimes \end{matrix}$$

Not an eigenvector

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+0+1+1 \\ 0+1+1+1 \\ 1+1+1+0 \\ 1+1+0+1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Yes is an evector with eval  $\lambda=3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2+0+2+2 \\ 0+2+2+2 \\ 2+2+2+0 \\ 2+2+0+2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Also an evector with eval  $\lambda=3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1+0+0+0 \\ 0+1+0+0 \\ -1+1+0+0 \\ -1+1+0+0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So this is an evector with eval  $\lambda=1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0+0-1+1 \\ 0+0-1+1 \\ 0+0-1+0 \\ 0+0+0+1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So also an evector with  $\lambda=1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1+0+1+1 \\ 0-1+1+1 \\ -1-1+1+0 \\ -1-1+0+1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = -1 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

So yes an evector with eval  $\lambda=-1$

How to find  
eigenvectors and  
eigenvalues?

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{solve for} \\ \vec{v} \neq 0 \end{array}$$

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

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda I\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

Solve this homogeneous  
system  
for  $\vec{v} \neq 0$

Need  $A - \lambda I$  to be singular  
 $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$

2x2 case

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(a_{11} - \lambda)(a_{22} - \lambda) - a_{12}a_{21} = 0$$

How to find  
eigenvectors and  
eigenvalues?

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} \quad \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{solve for} \\ \vec{v} \neq 0 \end{array}$$

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

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda I\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

Solve this homogeneous  
system  
for  $\vec{v} \neq 0$

Need  $A - \lambda I$  to be singular  
 $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$

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

characteristic polynomial  
for the matrix  $A$   
Solve for its roots.

$$\lambda = \text{a list of roots}$$

↑  
these answers are the  
eigenvalues.

For each eigenvalue  
solve the homogeneous  
system to find its  
eigenvectors.



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

characteristic polynomial  
for the matrix  $A$   
Solve for its roots.

$$\lambda = \text{a list of roots}$$

these answers are the  
eigenvalues.

For each eigenvalue  
solve the homogeneous  
system to find its  
eigenvectors.



$$\text{Example } \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -3 \\ 1 & 6-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(6-\lambda) - (-3)(1) = 0$$

$$= 12 - 6\lambda - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 + 3 = \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 15 = 0$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$



Example  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -3 \\ 1 & 6-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(6-\lambda) - (-3)(1) = 0$$

$$= 12 - 6\lambda - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 + 3 = 0$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 15 = 0$$

These are our eigenvalues  $\rightarrow (\lambda-3)(\lambda-5) = 0$   
 $\lambda = 3 \quad \lambda = 5$

$\lambda = 3$  Solve the homog system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2-3 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 6-3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow -R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = -3x_2 \\ x_2 = x_2 \text{ (free)} \end{cases} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3x_2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is the vector

Check our vector  $\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6-3 \\ -3+6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{Match!}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

any multiple of  $\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$   
 is also an vector  
 with value 3.

Try classwork

$\lambda = 5$

Pause

Example  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -3 \\ 1 & 6-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (2-\lambda)(6-\lambda) - (-3)(1) = 0$$

$$= 12 - 6\lambda - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 + 3 = 0$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 15 = 0$$

These are our values  $\lambda = 3 \quad \lambda = 5$

$\lambda = 3$  Solve the homog system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2-3 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 6-3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_1 \rightarrow -R_1 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = -3x_2 \\ x_2 = x_2 \text{ (free)} \end{cases} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3x_2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is the vector

Check  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$   $3 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -9 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$  ✓

$\lambda = 5$  Solve homog system

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2-5 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 6-5 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$R_1 \rightarrow -\frac{1}{3}R_1 \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = -x_2 \\ x_2 = x_2 \text{ (free)} \end{cases}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -x_2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

vector is  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Check

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -3 \\ 1 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2-3 \\ -1+6 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$5 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \text{Match!}$$

**Example ESMS4** Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example ESMS4 Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$\begin{aligned}
 \det(C - \lambda I) &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \\
 &= (1-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} - 0 + 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} - 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= (1-\lambda) \left( (1-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} - 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} + 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1-\lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\
 &\quad - 0 + 1 \left( 0 - (1-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} + 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) - 1 \left( 0 - (1-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1-\lambda & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 1 \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\
 &= (1-\lambda) \left( (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda)^2 - (1(1-\lambda) - 1 \cdot 0) + 1(1 \cdot 0 - 1(1-\lambda)) \right) \\
 &\quad + 1 \left( - (1-\lambda)(1(1-\lambda)) + 1(1 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot 1) \right) - 1 \left( - (1-\lambda)(1 \cdot 0 - 1(1-\lambda)) + (1 \cdot 1 - 1 \cdot 1) \right) \\
 &= (1-\lambda) \left( (1-\lambda)^3 - (1-\lambda) - (1-\lambda) \right) - (1-\lambda)^2 - (1-\lambda)^2 = (1-\lambda)^4 - 4(1-\lambda)^2 \quad \text{Do not multiply out.}
 \end{aligned}$$

**Example ESMS4** Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \det(C - \lambda I) &= \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^4 - 4(1-\lambda)^2 = (1-\lambda)^2 ((1-\lambda)^2 - 4) \\ &= (1-\lambda)^2 (1 - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 4) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Our eigenvalues are 1, -1, 3.



Example ESMS4 Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(C - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^4 - 4(1-\lambda)^2 = (1-\lambda)^2 ((1-\lambda)^2 - 4)$$

$$= (1-\lambda)^2 (1 - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 4) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 1)$$

Our eigenvalues are 1, -1, 3.

Find the eigenvector for  $\lambda = 1$ :

$$\left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1-1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-1 & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_3} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - R_1} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

subtract  $\lambda$  on diagonal

$$\xrightarrow{R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - R_2} \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{cases} x_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ x_3 + x_4 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} x_1 = -x_2 \\ x_2 = x_2 \text{ (free)} \\ x_3 = -x_4 \\ x_4 = x_4 \text{ (free)} \end{cases} \quad \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_4 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2, x_4 \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

both eigenvectors  
can check them.

Example ESMS4 Eigenvalues, symmetric matrix of size 4  
Consider the matrix

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(C - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-\lambda & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^4 - 4(1-\lambda)^2 = (1-\lambda)^2 ((1-\lambda)^2 - 4)$$

$$= (1-\lambda)^2 (1 - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 4) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3) = (1-\lambda)^2 (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 1)$$

Our eigenvalues are 1, -1, 3.

HW2

Find the eigenvector for ~~lambda~~  $\lambda = -1$

$$\text{Hint: } \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1-(-1) & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1-(-1) & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1-(-1) & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 1-(-1) & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{cccc|c} 2 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

HW3

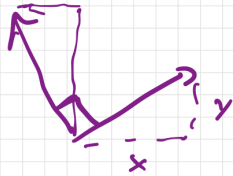
Find the evector for  $\lambda = 3$ .

Show all work when taking the det as I do in the classwork to complete your HW and check your answers as taught in HW1.



Example

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

Rotation by  $90^\circ$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \text{ is } \perp \text{ to } \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix}$  because  
the dot product is 0

$$\begin{pmatrix} -y \\ x \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -yx + xy = 0$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v} ?$$

Impossible!

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(-\lambda)(-\lambda) - (-1)(1) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 = -1$$

has no real solutions!

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$\lambda = \pm i$$

$$-i = -\sqrt{-1}$$





Use  $\mathbb{C}$  complex numbers  
 $a+bi$  where  $i^2 = -1$   
 imaginary

$$\begin{aligned}(a+bi)(c+di) &= \\ &= ac + bic + adi + dbi^2 \\ &= ac + bci + adi - bd \\ &= (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(a+bi) + (c+di) &= \\ &= (a+c) + (b+d)i\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{a+bi} &= \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{a+bi}\right) \left(\frac{a-bi}{a-bi}\right) = \\ &= \frac{a-bi}{a^2 - b^2 \cancel{i^2}^{-1}} = \frac{a-bi}{a^2 + b^2} \\ &= \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2} i\end{aligned}$$





Use  $\mathbb{C}$  complex numbers  
 $a+bi$  where  $i^2 = -1$   
 imaginary

$$\begin{aligned}(a+bi)(c+di) &= \\ &= ac + bic + adi + dbi^2 \\ &= ac + bci + adi - bd \\ &= (ac - bd) + (ad + bc)i\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}(a+bi) + (c+di) &= \\ &= (a+c) + (b+d)i\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{1}{a+bi} =$$

$$= \left( \frac{1}{a+bi} \right) \left( \frac{a-bi}{a-bi} \right) =$$

$$= \frac{a-bi}{a^2 - b^2 \cancel{i^2}^{-1}} = \frac{a-bi}{a^2 + b^2}$$

$$= \frac{a}{a^2 + b^2} - \frac{b}{a^2 + b^2} i$$

---

Can do row reduction  
 with  $\mathbb{C}$  numbers  
 and find  $\mathbb{C}$  euectors!



$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v} ?$$

Impossible!

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(-\lambda)(-\lambda) - (-1)(1) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 = -1$$

has no real solutions!

$$i = \sqrt{-1}$$

$$-i = -\sqrt{-1}$$

$$\lambda = \pm i$$



$\lambda = +i$  Find its evector

Solve

$$\begin{pmatrix} -i & -1 \\ 1 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 \rightarrow iR_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 1 & -i \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - R_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_1 - ix_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 = ix_2$$

$$x_2 = x_2 \text{ (free)}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ix_2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

evector is  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  free in  $\mathbb{C}$

Check

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0i - 1 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot i + 0 \cdot 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \checkmark$$

$$i \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i^2 \\ i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow \checkmark$$

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$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v} ?$$

Impossible!

---


$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(-\lambda)(-\lambda) - (-1)(1) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 = -1$$

has no real solutions!

$$i = \sqrt{-1} \quad \lambda = \pm i$$

$$-i = -\sqrt{-1}$$

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$\lambda = +i$  Find its evector

Solve  $-i(i) = -i^2 = -(-1) = +1$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -i & -1 & | & 0 \\ 1 & -i & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{P_1 \rightarrow iP_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i & | & 0 \\ 1 & -i & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\xrightarrow{P_2 \rightarrow P_2 - P_1} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -i & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$x_1 - ix_2 = 0 \quad x_1 = ix_2$   
 $x_2 = x_2$  (free)

$$\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} ix_2 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} = x_2 \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \mid x_2 \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

So the evector is  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  free in  $\mathbb{C}$

Check

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0i - 1 \cdot 1 \\ 1 \cdot i + 0 \cdot 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

$$i \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} i^2 \\ i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ i \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

**HW4** Find evector for  $\lambda = -i$ .

Read [Beezer Preliminaries on Complex numbers](#) and then practice at [IXL](#) if you did not do this before or need a review.

See a nice youtube video on this topic: <https://youtu.be/i8FukKfMKCI>

**HW5** Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

**HW6** Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for

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

**HW7** Find the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hint: the characteristic polynomial is  $(4-x)(1-x)^2$

**Before you submit your work: Please check all your eigenvectors are not the 0 vector and multiply them by their matrix as in HW1 to check that they match their eigenvalue. If anything is not working email me with QUESTION in the subject line.**

**If your eigenvector is the zero vector, then this means either an error in row reduction or that you found the wrong eigenvalue. A common mistake when finding eigenvalues is forgetting parentheses:**

(HW6) Find the values & vectors for:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (1-\lambda) \det \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix} - (-1) \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1-\lambda \end{bmatrix} + (1) \det \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 1-\lambda & -1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$= (1-\lambda)((1-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - (-1)(-1)) + (1)((-1)(1-\lambda) - (-1)(-1)) + (1)((-1)(-1) - (1-\lambda)(-1))$$

$$= (1-\lambda)((1-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 1) + (1)((-1)(1-\lambda) - 1) + (1)(1 - (1-\lambda))$$

$$= (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda+1)(1-\lambda+1) + 2(-1 \cdot (1-\lambda) + 1) + 1 \cdot 1$$

I do not know where this is from.

Maybe it would help if you used colors? It helps me.

The determinant parentheses in blue

$$= (1-\lambda) \left( (1-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - (-1)(-1) \right) + (1) \left( (-1)(1-\lambda) - (-1)(-1) \right) + (1) \left( (-1)(-1) - (1-\lambda)(-1) \right)$$

Then work out what is inside the blue first

$$= (1-\lambda) \left( 1-\lambda-\lambda+\lambda^2 - 1 \right) + 1 \left( -1+\lambda + 1 \right) + 1 \left( 1 - 1+\lambda \right)$$

$$= (1-\lambda) \left( \lambda^2 - 2\lambda \right) + 1 \left( \lambda \right) + 1 \left( \lambda \right)$$

Now we start the distribution of the terms outside blue parentheses

$$= 1 \cdot \lambda^2 - 2 \cdot \lambda^2 + 1(-2\lambda) - \lambda(-2\lambda) + \lambda + \lambda$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 2\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 2\lambda^2 + \lambda + \lambda$$

Now combine like terms:

$$= -\lambda^3 + 3\lambda^2$$

Now factor

$$= \lambda^2(-\lambda + 3)$$

So  $\lambda = 0$  and  $\lambda = 3$

After you submit, continue to the next lesson. Do not await feedback! You have checked yourself.

Note that I expect to see these checks completed.