

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 17 & 0 & -102 \\ 102 & 68 & 204 \\ 0 & 0 & 68 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 36 & 0 & -72 \\ 72 & 72 & 144 \\ 0 & 0 & 72 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 20 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 20 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 20 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore A^4 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -30 \\ 30 & 16 & 60 \\ 0 & 0 & 16 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Exercises**

1. Obtain the characteristic polynomial for the following matrices.

(i)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$       (ii)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

2. Find the characteristic equation of the following matrices.

(i)  $\begin{pmatrix} -b & -c \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$       (ii)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

(iii)  $\begin{pmatrix} 8 & -6 & 2 \\ -6 & 7 & -8 \\ 2 & -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$       (iv)  $\begin{pmatrix} -b & -c & -d \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

3. Verify Cayley-Hamilton theorem for the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  and hence find  $A^{-1}$ .

4. If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$  prove that  $A^3 - 2A^2 - 5A + 6I = 0$ .

5. Verify Cayley-Hamilton theorem for  $A$  and hence find  $A^{-1}$ .

(a)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 1 \\ -15 & 6 & -5 \\ 5 & -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

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

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

(d)  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

6. If  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  find  $A^3$  and  $A^{-3}$ .

7. Verify that the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$  satisfies its own characteristic equation and hence find  $A^{-1}$  and  $A^4$ .

## 7.8. Eigen Values And Eigen Vectors

**Definition.** Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. A number  $\lambda$  is called an **eigen value** of  $A$  if there exists a non-

zero vector  $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix}$  such that  $AX = \lambda X$  and

$X$  is called an **eigen vector** corresponding to the eigen value  $\lambda$ .

**Remark 1.** If  $X$  is an eigen vector corresponding to the eigen value  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , then  $\alpha X$  where  $\alpha$  is any non-zero number, is also an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

**Remark 2.** Let  $X$  be an eigen vector corresponding to the eigen value  $\lambda$  of  $A$ . Then  $AX = \lambda X$  so that  $(A - \lambda I)X = 0$ . Thus  $X$  is a non-trivial solution of the system of homogeneous linear equations  $(A - \lambda I)X = 0$ . Hence  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ , which is the characteristic polynomial of  $A$ .

Let  $|A - \lambda I| = a_0\lambda^n + a_1\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_n$ .

The roots of this polynomial give the eigen values of  $A$ . Hence eigen values are also called **characteristic roots**.

### Properties of Eigen Values

**Property 1.** Let  $X$  be an eigen vector corresponding to the eigen values  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ . Then  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ .

**Proof.** By definition  $X \neq 0$ ,  $AX = \lambda_1 X$  and

$$\lambda_2 X = \lambda_1 X$$

$$\therefore \lambda_1 X = \lambda_2 X$$

$$\therefore (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)X = 0$$

Since  $X \neq 0$ ,  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$ .

**Property 2.** Let  $A$  be a square matrix.

Then (i) the sum of the eigen values of  $A$  is equal to the sum of the diagonal elements (trace) of  $A$ .

(ii) Product of eigen values of  $A$  is  $|A|$ .

**Proof.** (i) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$

The eigen values of  $A$  are the roots of the characteristic equation

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

Let  $|A - \lambda I| = a_0 \lambda^n + a_1 \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_n \dots (2)$

From (1) and (2) we get

$$a_0 = (-1)^n; a_1 = (-1)^{n-1}(a_{11} + a_{22} + \dots + a_{nn}); \dots \quad (3)$$

Also by putting  $\lambda = 0$  in (2) we get  $a_n = |A|$

Now let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  be the eigen values of  $A$ .

$\therefore \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  are the roots of (2).

$$\therefore \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n = -\frac{a_1}{a_0} = a_{11} + a_{22} + \dots + a_{nn} \text{ (using (3))}$$

$\therefore$  Sum of the eigen values = trace of  $A$ .

(ii) Product of the eigen values = product of the roots

$$\begin{aligned} &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n \\ &= (-1)^n \frac{a_n}{a_0} = \frac{(-1)^n a_n}{(-1)^n} \\ &= a_n \\ &= |A|. \end{aligned}$$

**Property 3.** The eigen values of  $A$  and its transpose  $A^T$  are the same.

**Proof.** It is enough if we prove that  $A$  and  $A^T$  have the same characteristic polynomial. Since for any square matrix  $M$ ,  $|M| = |M^T|$  we have,

$$\begin{aligned} |A - \lambda I| &= |(A - \lambda I)^T| = |A^T - (\lambda I)^T| \\ &= |A^T - \lambda I|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence the result.

**Property 4.** If  $\lambda$  is an eigen value of a non singular matrix  $A$  then  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$  is an eigen value of  $A^{-1}$ .

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

Then  $AX = \lambda X$ . Since  $A$  is non singular  $A^{-1}$  exists.

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore A^{-1}(AX) &= A^{-1}(\lambda X) \\ IX &= \lambda A^{-1}X \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore A^{-1}X = \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) X.$$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\lambda} \text{ is an eigen value of } A^{-1}.$$

**Corollary.** If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  are the eigen values of a non singular matrix  $A$  then

$$\frac{1}{\lambda_1}, \frac{1}{\lambda_2}, \dots, \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \text{ are the eigen values of } A^{-1}.$$

**Property 5.** If  $\lambda$  is an eigen value of  $A$  then  $k\lambda$  is an eigen value of  $kA$  where  $k$  is a scalar.

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .  
Then  $AX = \lambda X$ . ... (1)

Now,  $(kA)X = k(AX)$   
 $= k(\lambda X)$  (by (1))  
 $= (k\lambda)X$ .

$\therefore k\lambda$  is an eigen value of  $kA$ .

**Property 6.** If  $\lambda$  is an eigen value of  $A$  then  $\lambda^k$  is an eigen value of  $A^k$  where  $k$  is any positive integer.

**Proof.** Let  $X$  be an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .  
Then  $AX = \lambda X$ . ... (1)

Now,  $A^2X = (AA)X = A(AX)$   
 $= A(\lambda X)$  (by (1))  
 $= \lambda(AX)$   
 $= \lambda(\lambda X)$  (by (1))  
 $= \lambda^2X$ .

$\therefore \lambda^2$  is an eigen value of  $A^2$ .

Proceeding like this we can prove that  $\lambda^k$  is an eigen value of  $A^k$  for any positive integer.

**Corollary.** If  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$  are eigen values of  $A$  then  $\lambda_1^k, \lambda_2^k, \dots, \lambda_n^k$  are eigen values of  $A^k$  for any positive integer  $k$ .

**Property 7.** Eigen vectors corresponding to distinct eigen values of a matrix are linearly independent.

**Proof.** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$  be distinct eigen values of a matrix and let  $X_i$  be the eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda_i$ .

Hence  $AX_i = \lambda_i X_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$ ) ... (1)

Now, suppose  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k$  are linearly dependent. Then there exist real numbers  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k$ , not all zero, such that  $\alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2 + \dots + \alpha_k X_k = 0$ . Among all such relations, we choose one of shortest length, say  $j$ .

By rearranging the vectors  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k$  we may assume that

$$\alpha_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 X_2 + \dots + \alpha_j X_j = 0$$

$$\therefore A(\alpha_1 X_1) + A(\alpha_2 X_2) + \dots + A(\alpha_j X_j) = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha_1 (AX_1) + \alpha_2 (AX_2) + \dots + \alpha_j (AX_j) = 0$$

$$\therefore \alpha_1 \lambda_1 X_1 + \alpha_2 \lambda_2 X_2 + \dots + \alpha_j \lambda_j X_j = 0$$

Multiplying (2) by  $\lambda_1$  and subtracting from (3), we get

$$\alpha_2(\lambda_1 - \lambda_2)X_2 + \alpha_3(\lambda_1 - \lambda_3)X_3 + \dots + \alpha_j(\lambda_1 - \lambda_j)X_j = 0$$

and since  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_j$  are distinct and  $\alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_j$  are non-zero we have

$$\alpha_i(\lambda_1 - \lambda_i) \neq 0; \quad i = 2, 3, \dots, j.$$

Thus (4) gives a relation whose length is  $j - 1$ , giving a contradiction.

Hence  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_k$  are linearly independent

**Property 8.** The characteristic roots of a Hermitian matrix are all real.

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be a Hermitian matrix.

Hence

$$A = \bar{A}^T \quad (\text{by theorem 7.13}) \dots$$

Let  $\lambda$  be a characteristic root of  $A$  and let  $X$  be characteristic vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

$$\therefore AX = \lambda X \dots$$

Now,

$$AX = \lambda X \Rightarrow \bar{X}^T AX = \lambda \bar{X}^T X$$

$$\Rightarrow (\bar{X}^T AX)^T = \lambda \bar{X}^T X \quad (\text{since } X^T A \text{ a } 1 \times 1 \text{ mat})$$

$$\Rightarrow X^T A^T (\bar{X}^T)^T = \lambda \bar{X}^T X$$

$$\Rightarrow X^T A^T \bar{X} = \lambda \bar{X}^T X$$

$$\Rightarrow \overline{X^T A^T \bar{X}} = \overline{\lambda \bar{X}^T X}$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{X}^T \bar{A} X = \bar{\lambda} X^T \bar{X}$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{X}^T AX = \bar{\lambda} X^T \bar{X} \quad (\text{using 1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \bar{X}^T \lambda X = \bar{\lambda} X^T \bar{X} \quad (\text{using 2})$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda (\bar{X}^T X) = \bar{\lambda} (X^T \bar{X}) \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{X}^T X &= X^T \bar{X} = \bar{x}_1 x_1 + \bar{x}_2 x_2 + \dots + \bar{x}_n x_n \\ &= |x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 \\ &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

From (3) we get  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$   
Hence  $\lambda$  is real.

**Corollary.** The characteristic roots of a real symmetric matrix are real.

**Proof.** We know that any real symmetric matrix is Hermitian. Hence the result follows from the above property.

**Property 9.** The characteristic roots of a skew Hermitian matrix are either purely imaginary or zero.

**Proof.** Let  $A$  be a skew Hermitian matrix and  $\lambda$  be a characteristic root of  $A$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore |A - \lambda I| &= 0 \\ \therefore |iA - i\lambda I| &= 0 \\ \therefore i\lambda &\text{ is a characteristic root of } iA. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A$  is skew Hermitian  $iA$  is Hermitian (refer result by theorem 7.14)

$\therefore$  By theorem 7.32  $i\lambda$  is real. Hence  $\lambda$  is purely imaginary or zero.

**Corollary.** The characteristic roots of a real skew symmetric matrix are either purely imaginary or zero.

**Proof.** We know that any real skew symmetric matrix is skew Hermitian.

Hence the result follows from the above property.

**Property 10.** Let  $\lambda$  be a characteristic root of a unitary matrix  $A$ . Then  $|\lambda| = 1$ . (i.e) the characteristic roots of a unitary matrix are all the unit modulus.

**Proof.** Let  $\lambda$  be a characteristic root of a unitary matrix  $A$  and  $X$  be a characteristic vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

$$\therefore AX = \lambda X \dots \dots \dots (1)$$

Taking conjugate and transpose in (1) we get

$$(\overline{AX})^T = (\overline{\lambda X})^T$$

$$\therefore \bar{X}^T \bar{A}^T = \bar{\lambda} \bar{X}^T \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Multiplying (1) and (2) we get

$$(\bar{X}^T \bar{A}^T)(AX) = (\bar{\lambda} \bar{X}^T)(\lambda X)$$

$$\therefore \bar{X}^T (\bar{A}^T A) X = \bar{\lambda} \lambda (\bar{X}^T X)$$

Now, since  $A$  is an unitary matrix  $\bar{A}^T A = I$ .

$$\text{Hence } \bar{X}^T X = (\bar{\lambda} \lambda) \bar{X}^T X$$

Since  $X$  is non-zero vector  $\bar{X}^T$  is also non-zero vector and  $\bar{X}^T X = |x_1|^2 + |x_2|^2 + \dots + |x_n|^2 \neq 0$  we get  $\lambda \bar{\lambda} = 1$ .

Hence  $|\lambda|^2 = 1$ . Hence  $|\lambda| = 1$ .

**Corollary.** Let  $\lambda$  be a characteristic root of orthogonal matrix  $A$ . Then  $|\lambda| = 1$ .

Since any orthogonal matrix is unitary the result follows from property 10.

**Property 11.** Zero is an eigen value of  $A$  if and only if  $A$  is a singular matrix.

**Proof.** The eigen values of  $A$  are the roots of characteristic equation  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ . Now, 0 is eigen value of  $A \Leftrightarrow |A - 0I| = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow |A| = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A \text{ is a singular matrix}$$

**Property 12.** If  $A$  and  $B$  are two square matrices of the same order then  $AB$  and  $BA$  have the same eigen values.

**Solution.** Let  $\lambda$  be an eigen value of  $AB$  and  $X$  an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

$$\therefore (AB)X = \lambda X$$

$$\therefore B(AB)X = B(\lambda X) = \lambda(BX)$$

$$\therefore (BA)(BX) = \lambda(BX)$$

$$\therefore (BA)Y = \lambda Y \text{ where } Y = BX.$$

Hence  $\lambda$  is an eigen value of  $BA$ .

Also  $BX$  is the corresponding eigen vector.

**Property 13.** If  $P$  and  $A$  are  $n \times n$  matrices and  $P$  is a nonsingular matrix then  $A$  and  $P^{-1}AP$  have the same eigen values.

**Proof.** Let  $B = P^{-1}AP$ .

To prove  $A$  and  $B$  have same eigen values, it is enough to prove that the characteristic polynomials of  $A$  and  $B$  are the same.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now } |B - \lambda I| &= |P^{-1}AP - \lambda I| \\ &= |P^{-1}AP - P^{-1}(\lambda I)P| \\ &= |P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P| \\ &= |P^{-1}| |A - \lambda I| |P| \\ &= |P^{-1}| |P| |A - \lambda I| \\ &= |P^{-1}P| |A - \lambda I| \\ &= |I| |A - \lambda I| \\ &= |A - \lambda I|. \end{aligned}$$

$\therefore$  The characteristic equations of  $A$  and  $P^{-1}AP$  are the same.

**Property 14.** If  $\lambda$  is a characteristic root of  $A$  then  $f(\lambda)$  is a characteristic root of the matrix  $f(A)$  where  $f(x)$  is any polynomial.

**Proof.** Let  $f(x) = a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}x + a_n$  where  $a_0 \neq 0$  and  $a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n$  are all real numbers.

$$\therefore f(A) = a_0A^n + a_1A^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}A + a_nI.$$

Since  $\lambda$  is a characteristic root of  $A$ ,  $\lambda^n$  is a characteristic root of  $A^n$  for any positive integer  $n$  (refer Property 6)

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore A^n X &= \lambda^n X \\ A^{n-1} X &= \lambda^{n-1} X \\ \dots & \dots \\ AX &= \lambda X \\ \therefore a_0 A^n X &= a_0 \lambda^n X \\ a_1 A^{n-1} X &= a_1 \lambda^{n-1} X \\ \dots & \dots \\ \dots & \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$a_{n-1}AX = a_{n-1}\lambda X$$

Adding the above equations we have

$$\begin{aligned} a_0A^n X + a_1A^{n-1} X + \dots + a_{n-1}AX &= a_0\lambda^n X + a_1\lambda^{n-1} X + \dots + a_{n-1}\lambda X \\ \therefore (a_0A^n + a_1A^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}A)X &= (a_0\lambda^n + a_1\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}\lambda)X \\ \therefore (a_0A^n + a_1A^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}A + a_nI)X &= (a_0\lambda^n + a_1\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_{n-1}\lambda + a_n)X \\ \therefore f(A)X &= f(\lambda)X \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $f(\lambda)$  is a characteristic root of  $f(A)$ .

### Solved Problems

**Problem 1.** If  $X_1, X_2$  are eigen vectors corresponding to an eigen value  $\lambda$  then  $aX_1 + bX_2$  ( $a, b$  non-zero scalars) is also an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$

**Solution.** Since  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are given vectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ , we have

$$AX_1 = \lambda X_1 \text{ and } AX_2 = \lambda X_2.$$

Hence  $A(aX_1) = \lambda(aX_1)$  and  $A(bX_2) = \lambda(bX_2)$

$$\therefore A(aX_1 + bX_2) = \lambda(aX_1 + bX_2).$$

$\therefore aX_1 + bX_2$  is an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda$

**Problem 2.** If the eigen values of

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 10 & 5 \\ -2 & -3 & -4 \\ 3 & 5 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \text{ are } 2, 2, 3 \text{ find the eigen values of } A^{-1} \text{ and } A^2.$$

**Solution.** Since 0 is not an eigen value of  $A$ ,  $A$  is non singular matrix and hence  $A^{-1}$  exists.

Eigen values of  $A^{-1}$  are  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}$  and eigen values of  $A^2$  are  $2^2, 2^2, 3^2$ .

**Problem 3.** Find the eigen values of  $A^5$  when

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 4 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is obviously  $(3 - \lambda)(4 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) = 0$ .

Hence the eigen values of  $A$  are 3, 4, 1.

$\therefore$  The eigen values of  $A^5$  are  $3^5, 4^5, 1^5$ .

**Problem 4.** Find the sum and product of the eigen values of the matrix  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  without actually finding the eigen values.

**Solution.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -4 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

Sum of the eigen values = trace of  $A = 3 + (-2) + 3 = 4$ .

Product of the eigen values =  $|A|$ .

Now,  $|A| = \begin{vmatrix} 3 & -4 & 4 \\ 1 & -2 & 4 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$   
 $= 3(-6 + 4) + 4(3 - 4) - 4(-1 + 2)$   
 $= -6 - 4 - 4 = -14$ .

$\therefore$  Product of the eigen values =  $-14$ .

**Problem 5.** Find the characteristic roots of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$

The characteristic equation of  $A$  is given by  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ .

$$\begin{vmatrix} \cos \theta - \lambda & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & \cos \theta - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

$$(\cos \theta - \lambda)^2 - \sin^2 \theta = 0.$$

$$(\cos \theta - \lambda - \sin \theta)(\cos \theta - \lambda + \sin \theta) = 0.$$

$$[\lambda - (\cos \theta - \sin \theta)][\lambda - (\cos \theta + \sin \theta)] = 0.$$

$\therefore$  The two characteristic roots, (the two eigen values) of the matrix are  $(\cos \theta - \sin \theta)$  and  $(\cos \theta + \sin \theta)$ .

**Problem 6.** Find the characteristic roots of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & -\cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is given by  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ .

$$\text{(i.e.) } \begin{vmatrix} \cos \theta - \lambda & -\sin \theta \\ -\sin \theta & -\cos \theta - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\therefore -(\cos^2 \theta - \lambda^2) - \sin^2 \theta = 0.$$

$$\therefore \lambda^2 - (\cos^2 \theta + \sin^2 \theta) = 0.$$

$$\therefore \lambda^2 - 1 = 0.$$

$\therefore$  The characteristic roots are 1 and  $-1$ .

**Problem 7.** Find the sum and product of the eigen values of the matrix

$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$  without finding the roots of the characteristic equation.

**Solution.** Sum of the eigen values of  $A =$  trace of  $A = a_{11} + a_{22}$ .

Product of the eigen values of  $A = |A| = a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21}$ .

**Problem 8.** Verify the statement that the sum of the elements in the diagonal of a matrix is the sum of the eigen values of the matrix

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

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ .

$$\text{(i.e.) } \begin{vmatrix} -2 - \lambda & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda & -6 \\ -1 & -2 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

$$\text{(i.e.) } (-2 - \lambda)[(1 - \lambda)(-\lambda) - 12] - 2[-2\lambda - 6] - 3[-4 + (1 - \lambda)] = 0.$$

$$\text{(i.e.) } (-2 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - \lambda - 12) + 4(\lambda + 3)$$

$$(i.e.) \quad -2\lambda^2 + 2\lambda + 24 - \lambda^3 + \lambda^2 + 3(\lambda + 3) = 0.$$

$$+ 12\lambda + 4\lambda + 12 + 3\lambda + 9 = 0.$$

$$(i.e.) \quad -\lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + 21\lambda + 45 = 0.$$

$$(i.e.) \quad \lambda^3 + \lambda^2 - 21\lambda - 45 = 0.$$

This is a cubic equation in  $\lambda$  and hence it has 3 roots and the three roots are the three eigen values of the matrix.

$$\text{The sum of the eigen values} = -\left(\frac{\text{coefficient of } \lambda^2}{\text{coefficient of } \lambda^3}\right) = -1.$$

The sum of the elements on the diagonal of the matrix

$$A = -2 + 1 + 0 = -1.$$

Hence the result.

**Problem 9.** The product of two eigen values of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$  is 16. Find the third eigen value. What is the sum of the eigen values of  $A$ ?

**Solution.** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be the eigen values of  $A$ .

Given, product of 2 eigen values (say)  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  is 16.

$$\therefore \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 16$$

We know that the product of the eigen values is  $|A|$ .

$$(i.e.) \quad \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$(i.e.) \quad 16\lambda_3 = 6(9 - 1) + 2(-6 + 2) + 2(2 - 6)$$

$$= 48 - 8 - 8$$

$$= 32$$

$$\therefore \lambda_3 = 2$$

$\therefore$  The third eigen value is 2.

Also we know that the sum of the eigen values of

$$A = \text{trace of } A = 6 + 3 + 3 = 12$$

**Problem 10.** The product of two eigen values of the matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & -7 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$  is  $-12$ . Find the eigen values of  $A$ .

**Solution.** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be the eigen values of  $A$ . Given product of 2 eigen values, say,  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  is  $-12$ .

$$\therefore \lambda_1 \lambda_2 = -12 \quad \dots (1)$$

We know that the product of the eigen values is  $|A|$ .

$$\therefore \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 = \begin{vmatrix} 2 & 2 & -7 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$i.e. \quad 12\lambda_3 = -12$$

$$\therefore \lambda_3 = 1 \quad \dots (2)$$

Also we know sum of the eigen values = Trace of  $A$ .

$$\therefore \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 2 + 1 - 3 = 0$$

$$\therefore \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = -1 \quad (\text{using (2)}) \quad \dots (3)$$

Using (3) in (1) we get  $\lambda_1(-1 - \lambda_1) = -12$

$$\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_1 - 12 = 0$$

$$(\lambda_1 + 4)(\lambda_1 - 3) = 0$$

$$\therefore \lambda_1 = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad -4$$

Putting  $\lambda_1 = 3$  in (1) we get  $\lambda_2 = -4$ . Or putting  $\lambda_1 = -4$  in (1) we get  $\lambda_2 = 3$ .

Thus the three eigen values are 3,  $-4$ , 1.

**Problem 11.** Find the sum of the squares of the eigen

values of  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

**Solution.** Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$  be the eigen values of  $A$ .

We know that  $\lambda_1^2, \lambda_2^2, \lambda_3^2$  are the eigen values of  $A^2$ .

$$A^2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 4 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 5 & 38 \\ 0 & 4 & 42 \\ 0 & 0 & 25 \end{pmatrix}$$

Sum of the eigen values of  $A^2 = \text{Trace of } A^2$   
 $= 9 + 4 + 25$

(i.e)  $\lambda_1^2 + \lambda_2^2 + \lambda_3^2 = 38$

Sum of the squares of the eigen values of  $A = 38$ .

**Problem 12.** Find the eigen values and eigen vectors of the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0.$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5-\lambda & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

$$(1-\lambda)[(5-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 1] - [(1-\lambda) - 3] + 3[1 - 3(5-\lambda)] = 0.$$

$$(1-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 4) + (\lambda + 2) + 3(3\lambda - 14) = 0.$$

$$\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 4 - \lambda^3 + 6\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + \lambda + 2 + 9\lambda - 42 = 0.$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 7\lambda^2 - 36 = 0. \text{ Hence } \lambda^3 - 7\lambda^2 + 36 = 0.$$

$$(\lambda + 2)(\lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 18) = 0.$$

$$\text{Hence } (\lambda + 2)(\lambda - 6)(\lambda - 3) = 0.$$

$\lambda = -2, 3, 6$  are the three eigen values.

**Case (i)** Eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = -2$ .

Let  $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$  be an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = -2$ .

Hence  $AX = -2X$ .

$$\text{(i.e.) } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2x_1 \\ -2x_2 \\ -2x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\therefore x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = -2x_1$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 + x_3 = -2x_2$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = -2x_3$$

$$\therefore 3x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$x_1 + 7x_2 + x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (2)$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (3)$$

Clearly this system of three equations reduces to two equations only. From (1) and (2) we get

$$\therefore x_1 = -2k; x_2 = 0; x_3 = 2k.$$

$\therefore$  It has only one independent solution and can be obtained by giving any value to  $k$  say  $k = 1$ .

$\therefore (-2, 0, 2)$  is an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = -2$ .

**Case (ii)** Eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 3$ .

Then  $AX = 3X$  gives

$$-2x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 2x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - 2x_3 = 0.$$

Taking the first 2 equations we get

$$\frac{x_1}{-5} = \frac{x_2}{5} = \frac{x_3}{-5} = k(\text{say}).$$

$$\therefore x_1 = -k; x_2 = k; x_3 = -k.$$

Taking  $k = 1$  (say)  $(-1, 1, -1)$  is an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 3$ .

**Case (iii)** Eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 6$ .

We have  $AX = 6X$ .

$$\text{Hence } -5x_1 + x_2 + 3x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$3x_1 + x_2 - 5x_3 = 0.$$



Taking the first two equations we get

$$\frac{x_1}{4} = \frac{x_2}{8} = \frac{x_3}{4} = k.$$

$\therefore x_1 = k; x_2 = 2k; x_3 = k$ . It satisfies the third equation also.

Taking  $k = 1$  (say)  $(1, 2, 1)$  is an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 6$ .

**Problem 13.** Find the eigen values and eigen vectors of the matrix

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

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ .

$$\therefore \begin{vmatrix} 6-\lambda & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3-\lambda & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

$$\therefore (6 - \lambda)[(3 - \lambda)^2 - 1] + 2[(2\lambda - 6) + 2] + 2(2 - 6 + 2\lambda) = 0.$$

$$\therefore (6 - \lambda)(8 + \lambda^2 - 6\lambda) + 4\lambda - 8 + 4\lambda - 8 = 0.$$

$$\therefore 48 + 6\lambda^2 - 36\lambda - 8\lambda - \lambda^3 + 6\lambda^2 + 8\lambda - 16 = 0.$$

$$\therefore -\lambda^3 + 12\lambda^2 - 36\lambda + 32 = 0.$$

$$\text{Hence } \lambda^3 - 12\lambda^2 + 36\lambda - 32 = 0.$$

$$\therefore (\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 8) = 0.$$

$\therefore$  The eigen values are 2, 2, 8.

We now find the eigen vectors.

**Case (i)  $\lambda = 2$ .**

The eigen vector  $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$  is got from

$$AX = 2X.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 6x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= 2x_1 \\ -2x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 &= 2x_2 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 + 3x_3 &= 2x_3. \\ \therefore 4x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 &= 0 \\ -2x_1 + x_2 - x_3 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 + x_3 &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

The above three equations are equivalent to the single equation  $2x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$ .

The independent eigen vectors can be obtained by giving arbitrary values to any two of the unknowns  $x_1, x_2, x_3$ .

Giving  $x_1 = 1; x_2 = 2$  we get  $x_3 = 0$ .

Giving  $x_1 = 3; x_2 = 4$  we get  $x_3 = -2$ .

$\therefore$  Two independent vectors corresponding to  $\lambda = 2$  are  $(1, 2, 0)$  and  $(3, 4, -2)$ .

**Case (ii)  $\lambda = 8$ .**

The eigen vector  $X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$  is got from

$$AX = 8X.$$

$$\therefore -2x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$-2x_1 - 5x_2 - x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (2)$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 - 5x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (3)$$

From (1) and (2) we get

$$\frac{x_1}{12} = \frac{x_2}{-6} = \frac{x_3}{6} = k \text{ (say).}$$

$$\therefore x_1 = 2k; x_2 = -k; x_3 = k.$$

Giving  $k = 1$  we get an eigen vector corresponding to 8 as  $(2, -1, 1)$ .

**Problem 14.** Find the eigen values and eigen vectors of the matrix

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

**Solution.** The characteristic equation of  $A$  is  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$ .

$$(i.e.) \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0.$$

$$(2-\lambda)[-(1-\lambda)(1+\lambda) - 3] + 2[-(1+\lambda) - 1] + 2[3 - (1-\lambda)] = 0$$

$$(2-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 4) - 2(2+\lambda) + 2(2+\lambda) = 0$$

$$2\lambda^2 - 8 - \lambda^3 + 4\lambda - 4 - 2\lambda + 4 + 2\lambda = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 2\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 8 = 0$$

$$\text{Hence } \lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 8 = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda^2 - 4) = 0$$

$$\text{Hence } (\lambda - 2)(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 2) = 0$$

$\lambda = 2, 2, -2$  are the three eigen values.

Case (i)  $\lambda = 2$ .

Let  $X = (x_1, x_2, x_3)$  be an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 2$ ,  $X$  is got from  $AX = 2X$ .

$$(i.e.) \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2x_1 \\ 2x_2 \\ 2x_3 \end{pmatrix}.$$

The eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 2$  is given by the equations-

$$2x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 = 2x_1$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = 2x_2$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = 2x_3$$

$$(i.e.) -x_2 + x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (2)$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 - 3x_3 = 0 \quad \dots (3)$$

Taking (1) and (2) we get  $\frac{x_1}{0} = \frac{x_2}{1} = \frac{x_3}{1} = k$  (say).

$$\therefore x_1 = 0; x_2 = k; x_3 = k.$$

Taking  $k = 1$ , we get  $(0, 1, 1)$  as an eigen vector corresponding to  $\lambda = 2$ .

Case (ii)  $\lambda = -2$ .

Corresponding to  $\lambda = -2$  we have  $AX = -2X$ .

$$\therefore 2x_1 - 2x_2 + 2x_3 = -2x_1$$

$$x_1 + x_2 + x_3 = -2x_2$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 - x_3 = -2x_3$$

$$\therefore 2x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$$x_1 + 3x_2 + x_3 = 0$$

$\therefore$  Taking the first two equations we get,

$$\frac{x_1}{-4} = \frac{x_2}{-1} = \frac{x_3}{7} = k \text{ (say).}$$

$$\therefore x_1 = -4k; x_2 = -k; x_3 = 7k.$$

Taking  $k = 1$  we get  $(-4, -1, 7)$  as an eigen vector corresponding to the eigen value  $\lambda = -2$ .

### Exercises

- For each of the following matrices find the characteristic vectors corresponding to each characteristic root.

$$(a) \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -6 & 2 \\ -6 & 7 & -4 \\ 2 & -4 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(b) \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(c) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(d) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & i & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1/2 & -i & 0 \\ 1/3 & -i & \pi & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- For what value of  $k$  is 3 a characteristic root

$$\text{of } \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 3 & 5 & -k \\ 3 & k & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Find the characteristic roots and the corresponding characteristic vectors of

$$A^3 + A^2 + A + I \text{ if } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

4. Prove that if  $\lambda$  is a characteristic root of the matrix  $A$  then  $\lambda - k$  is a characteristic root of  $A - kI$ .
5. Show that the characteristic root of a triangular matrix are just the diagonal elements of the matrix.
6. Show that every orthogonal matrix of odd order should have 1 or  $-1$  as a characteristic root.
7. Show that if  $\lambda$  is a characteristic root of an unitary matrix then so is  $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ .
5. The transpose of a row matrix is a column matrix.
6. The transpose of a lower triangular matrix is an upper triangular matrix.
7. A matrix  $A$  is symmetric iff  $A = A^T$ .
8. For any square matrix  $A$ ,  $A + A^T$  and  $AA^T$  are symmetric.
9. For any square matrix  $A$ ,  $A - A^T$  is skew symmetric.
10. Any symmetric matrix is Hermitian.
11. Any Hermitian matrix over  $\mathbf{R}$  is symmetric.
12. Any orthogonal matrix is non-singular.
13. The product of two non-singular matrices is non-singular.
14. The product of a singular matrix and a non-singular matrix is singular.
15. For any square matrix  $A$ ,  $A(\text{adj}A) = |A|I$ .
16. (15) is true only for non-singular matrices.
17. For any singular matrix  $A$  we can find a matrix  $B$  such that  $AB = 0$ .
18. Any matrix can be reduced to a canonical form by elementary transformations.
19. Any matrix has a rank.
20. Rank is defined only for square matrices.
21. Any non-singular matrix of order  $n$  has rank  $n$ .
22. The degree of the characteristic polynomial of a square matrix  $A$  is equal to the order of the matrix.
23. Every square matrix satisfies its characteristic equation.
24. The characteristic vectors corresponding to a characteristic root form a vector space.

**Answers.**

1. (a) 0, 3, 15. The corresponding characteristic vectors are  $(1, 2, 2)$ ;  $(2, -1, -2)$ ;  $(2, -2, 1)$ .  
(b) 1, 1, 5; The characteristic vectors corresponding to 1 is a linear combination of  $(2, -1, 0)$  and  $(1, 0, -1)$ . A characteristic vector corresponding to 5 is  $(1, 1, 1)$ .  
(c) 1, 1, 1. A characteristic vector is  $(1, 0, 0)$ .
2.  $k = 2$ .

**Revision questions on chapter 7**

Determine which of the following statements are true and which are false.

1. The set of all  $n \times n$  matrices over a field  $F$  is a ring w.r.t matrix addition and matrix multiplication.
2. The set of all  $m \times n$  matrices over a field  $F$  is a vector space over  $F$  w.r.t matrix addition and scalar multiplication.
3. Matrix multiplication is commutative.
4. If  $A$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix,  $A^T$  is also an  $m \times n$  matrix.

**Answers.**

1. T    2. T    3. F    4. F    5. T    6. T    7. T  
8. T    9. T    10. F    11. T    12. T    13. T    14. T  
15. T    16. F    17. T    18. T    19. T    20. F    21. T  
22. T    23. T    24. T

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