

Some Sample Questions on HW4:

Ex: Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 \\ x & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find the value of  $x$   
s.t.  $\lambda = 2$  is an e-value of  $A$ .

Recall:  $\lambda$  is an e-value of  $A \iff |A - \lambda I| = 0$

$$\text{So need } |A - 2I| = \begin{vmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ x & -2 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4 - 4x = 0 \Rightarrow x = 1$$

Ex: Find the entry in the first row & first  
col. of  $A^{10}$  where  $A = \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 5 \\ -2 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$

Warning: THE entries of  $A^{10}$  are NOT!  
those of  $A$  raised to the power 10. This  
is only true if  $A$  is diagonal.

Step I: Find the e-values of  $A$  i.e.

Solve  $|A - \lambda I| = 0$  (The characteristic eqn of  $A$ )

$$\text{i.e. } \begin{vmatrix} -3-\lambda & 5 \\ -2 & 4-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -12 - \lambda + \lambda^2 + 10 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda_1 = -1, \lambda_2 = 2$$

Step II: Find corresponding e-vectors

i.e. Solve  $(A - \lambda I)v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  for  $v = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix}$

For  $\lambda = -1$  have  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 5 \\ -2 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$(A - (-1)I)$   
 $(A + I)$

$\Rightarrow -2x + 5y = 0 \Rightarrow 2x = 5y$   
 $(\& -2x + 5y = 0!)$

e.g.  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$   $(A - 2I)$

For  $\lambda = 2$  have  $\begin{pmatrix} -5 & 5 \\ -2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$\Rightarrow 5x = 5y \Rightarrow x = y$  e.g.

$v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Now Let  $E = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$AE = ED$

$D = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A = EDE^{-1}$

Then

$A^{10} = \underbrace{EDE^{-1}EDE^{-1} \dots E^{-1}EDE^{-1}}_{10 \text{ times}}$

$= ED^{10}E^{-1}$

$= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2^{10} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

$= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2^{10} & (5)2^{10} \end{pmatrix}$

So (1,1) entry of  $A^{10}$

$= \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2^{10} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} (5 - 2^{10})$

THE CAYLEY-HAMILTON THEOREM: Let  $A$  be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix with characteristic equation  $|A - \lambda I| = 0 = \lambda^2 + b\lambda + c$ . Then  $A$  "satisfies" its characteristic equation in the following sense:

$$A^2 + bA + cI = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$