

**M 340L – CS**  
**Homework Set 12 Solutions**

**Note: Scale all eigenvectors so the largest component is +1.**

1. For each of these matrices,

- find the characteristic polynomial  $p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I)$ .
- factor it to get the eigenvalues:  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ .
- for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ : find  $x^i$  the eigenvector corresponding  $\lambda_i$ . (that is, find a vector  $x^i$  in the nullspace of  $A - \lambda_i I$ ).

a.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ .

The characteristic polynomial is  $(1 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - 12 = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 10 = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 2)$  so the eigenvalues are 5 and -2. The null space of  $A - 5I = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). The null space of  $A - (-2)I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples).

Thus the eigenvectors are  $\begin{bmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

b.  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & 9 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ .

The characteristic polynomial is  
 $(8 - \lambda)(9 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) + (-12)(-3)(-5) + 0 - 0 - (8 - \lambda)(-3)3 - (3 - \lambda)(-3)(-12)$   
 $= -\lambda^3 + 20\lambda^2 - \lambda 96 = -(\lambda - 8)(\lambda - 12)(\lambda - 0)$

so the eigenvalues are 8, 12, and 0. The null space of  $A - 8I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & -5 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples) since

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & 1 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & -5 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 3 & -5 \\ -3 & 1 & -3 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 3 & -5 \\ 0 & -4/5 & 0 \\ 0 & -12 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -5 & 3 & -5 \\ 0 & -4/5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The null}$$

space of  $A-12I = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & -3 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & -9 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1/3 \\ -2/3 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples) since

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & -3 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -12 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & -3 \\ 0 & 18 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -12 & 0 \\ 0 & 6 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The null space of}$$

$A-0I = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & 9 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples) since

$$\begin{bmatrix} 8 & -12 & 0 \\ -3 & 9 & -3 \\ -5 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -12 & 0 \\ 0 & 9/2 & -3 \\ 0 & -9/2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -12 & 0 \\ 0 & 9/2 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ Thus the eigenvectors are } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1/3 \\ -2/3 \end{bmatrix}, \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

## 2. Two eigenvectors of an upper triangular matrix:

Let  $U = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & \cdots \\ 0 & c & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$  be  $n$  by  $n$  and upper triangular. Assume  $a \neq c$ .

a. Show that the eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $a$  is  $e_1$  (i.e the first column of the  $n$  by  $n$  identity matrix). (Use this below.)

$$Ue_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & \cdots \\ 0 & c & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{bmatrix} e_1 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = ae_1.$$

b. Show that the eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $c$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} b/(c-a) \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$ . (Use this or a

scaled version  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ (c-a)/b \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$ . below.)

$$U \begin{bmatrix} b/(c-a) \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & \cdots \\ 0 & c & \cdots \\ 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} b/(c-a) \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ab/(c-a)+b \\ c \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = c \begin{bmatrix} b/(c-a) \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}.$$

### 3. How do perturbations affect eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

a. Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors? (See the note above regarding the scaling of eigenvectors and make sure you do it throughout the homework.)

The eigenvalues are 2 and 2. The null space of  $A - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples).  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is only one linearly independent eigenvector.

b. Let  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2+\varepsilon \end{bmatrix}$ . What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors? (Your answers should be in terms of the perturbation parameter  $\varepsilon$ .)

The eigenvalues are 2 and  $2+\varepsilon$ . The null space of  $B - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). The null space of  $B - (2+\varepsilon)I = \begin{bmatrix} -\varepsilon & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \varepsilon \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples).

Thus the eigenvectors are  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \varepsilon \end{bmatrix}$ .

c. Describe the effect of the perturbation  $\varepsilon$  on eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $A$ . Comment on the linear independence of the eigenvectors of  $B$ .

The perturbation has introduced a second eigenvector but it is nearly linearly dependent upon the first.

d. Let  $C = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors? (Choose linearly independent eigenvectors.)

The eigenvalues are 2 and 2. The null space of  $C - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is all of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . Two linearly independent eigenvectors are  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

e. Let  $D = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & \varepsilon \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ . What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

The eigenvalues are 2 and 2. The null space of  $D - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \varepsilon \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). The only eigenvector is  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

f. Describe the effect of the perturbation  $\varepsilon$  on eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $C$ .

The perturbation has left the eigenvalues unperturbed but has removed the second eigenvector.

#### 4. Using the diagonal form to compute high powers:

Let  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ . *Feel free to express answers in parts c, d, and e using expressions involving powers.*

a. What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors? (See Problem 1, if necessary.)

The characteristic polynomial is  $(1 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - 4 = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 3 = (\lambda - 3)(\lambda + 1)$  so the eigenvalues are 3 and -1. The null space of  $A - 3I = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). The null space of  $A - (-1)I = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). Thus the eigenvectors are  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

b. Using part a., form  $D$ , a diagonal matrix of eigenvalues, form  $V$  whose columns are the associated eigenvectors, then compute  $V^{-1}$ , and finally  $VDV^{-1}$ . Compare  $VDV^{-1}$  to  $A$ .

$$\text{Since } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}, A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

c. Using part b., what is  $A^{100}y$ , for  $y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ? (Do **not** compute  $A^{100}$  - yet. Use associativity in a clever way.)

$$\begin{aligned} A^{100}y &= VD^{100}V^{-1}y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3^{100}/2 \\ 3/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (3-3^{100})/2 \\ (3^{100}+3)/2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

d. Express your answer in part c as  $A^{100}y = \gamma \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\gamma$  is such that the largest component of  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  is +1. Compare  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  to the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_1$ .

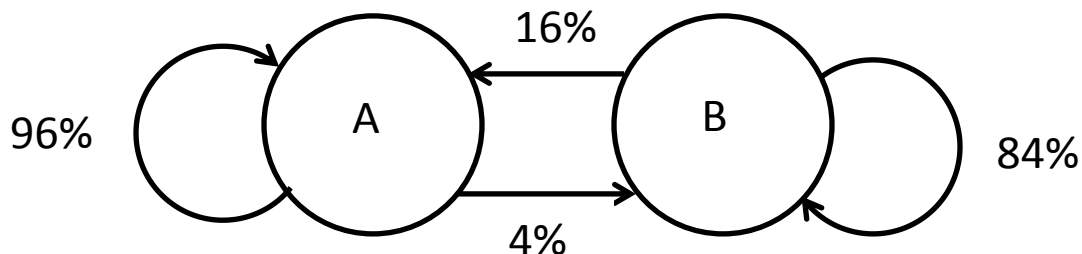
$$A^{100}y = \begin{bmatrix} (3-3^{100})/2 \\ (3^{100}+3)/2 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{(3^{100}+3)}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-3^{100}+3}{3^{100}+3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The vector } \begin{bmatrix} \frac{-3^{100}+3}{3^{100}+3} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ is very close (within } 10^{-46} \text{) to the negative of the eigenvector } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

e. Using part b., what is  $A^{100}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} A^{100} &= VD^{100}V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (-1)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 & -1/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^{100}/2 & -3^{100}/2 \\ 1/2 & 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (3^{100}+1)/2 & (-3^{100}+1)/2 \\ (-3^{100}+1)/2 & (3^{100}+1)/2 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

### 5. A Markov process:

Repeat all five parts of Problem 4 with  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 24/25 & 4/25 \\ 1/25 & 21/25 \end{bmatrix}$  except in part c. use  $y = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$ .



a. What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

The characteristic polynomial is  $(24/25 - \lambda)(21/25 - \lambda) - 4/25^2 = \lambda^2 - 9/5\lambda + 4/5 = (\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 4/5)$  so the eigenvalues are 1 and  $4/5$ . The null space of  $A - I = \begin{bmatrix} -1/25 & 4/25 \\ 1/25 & -4/25 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). The null space of  $A - 4/5I = \begin{bmatrix} 4/25 & 4/25 \\ 1/25 & 1/25 \end{bmatrix}$  is the vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  (and its multiples). Thus the eigenvectors are  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$  and  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

b. Using part a. express  $A = VDV^{-1}$  (where the columns of  $V$  are the eigenvectors and  $D$  is a diagonal matrix containing the associated eigenvalues.)

$$\text{Since } \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 4/5 \\ 1/5 & -4/5 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 24/25 & 4/25 \\ 1/25 & 21/25 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 4/5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 4/5 \\ 1/5 & -4/5 \end{bmatrix}.$$

c. Using part b., what is  $A^{100}y$ , for  $y = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$ ? (Do **not** compute  $A^{100}$  - yet.)

$$\begin{aligned}
A^{100}y &= VD^{100}V^{-1}y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (4/5)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 4/5 \\ 1/5 & -4/5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (4/5)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 \\ -3/10 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 \\ -3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 - 3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10 \\ 1/5 + 3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

d. Express your answer in part c as  $A^{100}y = \gamma \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$ , where  $\gamma$  is such that the largest component of  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  is +1. Compare  $\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$  to the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_1$ .

$$A^{100}y = \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 - 3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10 \\ 1/5 + 3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10 \end{bmatrix} = (4/5 - 3 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{1 + 15 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10}{4 - 15 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10} \end{bmatrix}. \text{ The}$$

vector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{1 + 15 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10}{4 - 15 \cdot (4/5)^{100} / 10} \end{bmatrix}$  is very close (within  $10^{-10}$ ) to the eigenvector  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1/4 \end{bmatrix}$ .

e. Using part b., what is  $A^{100}$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}
A^{100} &= VD^{100}V^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (4/5)^{100} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 4/5 \\ 1/5 & -4/5 \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1/4 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 & 4/5 \\ (4/5)^{100} / 5 & -(4/5)^{101} \end{bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{bmatrix} 4/5 + (4/5)^{100} / 5 & 4/5 - (4/5)^{101} \\ 1/5 - (4/5)^{100} / 5 & 1/5 + (4/5)^{101} \end{bmatrix}.
\end{aligned}$$

## 6. All zero eigenvalues:

Find a simple non-zero matrix having all zero eigenvalues.

The matrix  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$  is a non-zero matrix having all zero eigenvalues

