

Mathematical physics (1)

HW #5 - Solution

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① problem 3.8.2: determine whether the following vectors are dependent or independent. if they are dependent find the linearly independent subset.

$$\vec{A} = (1, -2, 3); \vec{B} = (1, 1, 1); \vec{C} = (-2, 1, -4); \vec{D} = (3, 0, 5)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & -4 \\ 3 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{row reduce}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 3 & -2 \\ \{0 & 0 & 0\} \\ \{0 & 0 & 0\} \end{pmatrix} \begin{matrix} \text{indicates} \\ \text{linear} \\ \text{dependence} \end{matrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \vec{A}, \vec{B}, \vec{C}, \vec{D}$ are linearly dependent

the basis vectors are $u = \hat{i} - 2\hat{j} + 3\hat{k} = (1, -2, 3)$
and $v = 3\hat{j} - 2\hat{k} = (0, 3, -2)$

now $\vec{y} = f\vec{u} + g\vec{v} = f(1, -2, 3) + g(0, 3, -2) = (f, -2f+3g, 3f-2g)$

i) let $\vec{y} = \vec{A} = (1, -2, 3) = (f, -2f+3g, 3f-2g) \Rightarrow f=1$ and

$$-2f+3g = -2 \Rightarrow -2+3g = -2 \Rightarrow g=0$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{A} = \vec{u} = (1, -2, 3) \checkmark$$

ii) let $\vec{y} = \vec{B} = (1, 1, 1) = (f, -2f+3g, 3f-2g) \Rightarrow f=1$ and $g=1$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{B} = \vec{u} + \vec{v} = (1, -2, 3) + (0, 3, -2) = (1, 1, 1) \checkmark$$

iii) let $\vec{y} = \vec{C} = (-2, 1, -4) = (f, -2f+3g, 3f-2g) \Rightarrow f=-2, g=-1$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{C} = -2\vec{u} - \vec{v} = -2(1, -2, 3) - (0, 3, -2) = (-2, 1, -4) \checkmark$$

iiii) let $\vec{y} = \vec{D} = (3, 0, 5) = (f, -2f+3g, 3f-2g) \Rightarrow f=3, g=2$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{D} = 3\vec{u} + 2\vec{v} = 3(1, -2, 3) + 2(0, 3, -2) = (3, 0, 5) \checkmark$$

② problem 3.8.10 check linear dependence of the functions e^{ix} , e^{-ix} using wronskian method

$$\begin{vmatrix} e^{ix} & e^{-ix} \\ ie^{ix} & -ie^{-ix} \end{vmatrix} = -2e^{ix} \Rightarrow \text{they are linearly independent}$$

③ problem 3.8.15 e^x , e^{ix} , $\cosh x \Rightarrow$

$$\begin{vmatrix} e^x & e^{ix} & \cosh x \\ e^x & ie^{ix} & \sinh x \\ e^x & -e^{ix} & \cosh x \end{vmatrix} = 2e^x e^{ix} (\sinh x - \cosh x) \\ = 2e^x e^{ix} \left[\frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2} - \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} \right] \\ = -2e^{ix} \text{ linearly independent}$$

④ problem 3.9.1: show that $(AB)C = A(BC)$ using index notations

$$[(AB)C]_{ij} = \sum_k (AB)_{ik} C_{kj} \quad ; \quad \text{but } (AB)_{ik} = \sum_l A_{il} B_{lk} \\ = \sum_k \sum_l A_{il} B_{lk} C_{kj} = (A(BC))_{ij} \\ \therefore (AB)C = A(BC) \checkmark$$

⑤ problem 3.9.5: show that AA^T is symmetric matrix

$$(AA^T)^T = (A^T)^T A^T = AA^T \quad ; \quad \text{where I used } (AB)^T = B^T A^T$$

$\therefore (AA^T)^T = AA^T \Rightarrow AA^T$ is symmetric since for symmetric matrix, the matrix is equal to its transpose

⑥ Problem 3.9.17:

- (a) Show that if A and B are symmetric, then AB is not symmetric unless A and B commute.

If A and B are symmetric, then $A = A^T$ and $B = B^T$. We now examine

$$(AB)^T = B^T A^T = BA,$$

after using the fact that A and B are symmetric matrices. We conclude that $(AB)^T = AB$ if and only if $AB = BA$. That is, AB is not symmetric unless A and B commute.

- (b) Show that a product of orthogonal matrices is orthogonal.

Consider orthogonal matrices Q_1 and Q_2 . By definition [cf. the table at the top of p. 138 of Boas], we have $Q_1^{-1} = Q_1^T$ and $Q_2^{-1} = Q_2^T$. We now compute

$$(Q_1 Q_2)^{-1} = Q_2^{-1} Q_1^{-1} = Q_2^T Q_1^T = (Q_1 Q_2)^T, \quad (4)$$

after using the fact that Q_1 and Q_2 are orthogonal. In deriving Eq. (4), we have used the following properties of the inverse and the transpose

$$(AB)^{-1} = B^{-1} A^{-1}, \quad \text{and} \quad (AB)^T = B^T A^T,$$

for any pair of matrices A and B . Thus, we have shown that

$$\boxed{(Q_1 Q_2)^{-1} = (Q_1 Q_2)^T, \text{ which implies that } Q_1 Q_2 \text{ is orthogonal.}}$$

- (c) Show that if A and B are Hermitian, then AB is not Hermitian unless A and B commute.

If A and B are Hermitian, then $A = A^\dagger$ and $B = B^\dagger$. We now examine

$$(AB)^\dagger = B^\dagger A^\dagger = BA, \quad (5)$$

after using the fact that A and B are Hermitian matrices. In deriving Eq. (5), we have used the fact that:

$$(AB)^\dagger = ((AB)^*)^T = (A^* B^*)^T = (B^*)^T (A^*)^T = B^\dagger A^\dagger. \quad (6)$$

We conclude that $(AB)^\dagger = AB$ if and only if $AB = BA$. That is, AB is not Hermitian unless A and B commute.

- (d) Show that a product of unitary matrices is unitary.

Consider unitary matrices U_1 and U_2 . By definition [cf. the table at the top of p. 138 of Boas], we have $U_1^{-1} = U_1^\dagger$ and $U_2^{-1} = U_2^\dagger$. We now compute

$$(U_1 U_2)^{-1} = U_2^{-1} U_1^{-1} = U_2^\dagger U_1^\dagger = (U_1 U_2)^\dagger,$$

after using the fact that U_1 and U_2 are unitary and employing the property of the Hermitian conjugation given in Eq. (6). Thus, we have shown that $(U_1 U_2)^{-1} = (U_1 U_2)^\dagger$, which implies that $U_1 U_2$ is orthogonal.

⑦ problem 3.9.19 (a) prove that $\text{Tr}(AB) = \text{Tr}(BA)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Tr}(AB) &= \sum_i (AB)_{ii} \quad ; \quad \text{but} \quad (AB)_{ij} = \sum_k A_{ik} B_{kj} \\ &= \sum_i \sum_k A_{ik} B_{ki} \quad \text{let } j \rightarrow i \\ &= \sum_k \sum_i B_{ki} A_{ik} \\ &= \sum_k (BA)_{kk} = \text{Tr}(BA) \end{aligned}$$

⑧ problem 3.9.23: show that the following matrices are hermitian whether A is Hermitian or not

i) AA^\dagger
 $\Rightarrow (AA^\dagger)^\dagger = (A^\dagger)^\dagger A^\dagger = AA^\dagger$ ✓ where I used $(AB)^\dagger = B^\dagger A^\dagger$

ii) $A + A^\dagger$
 $\Rightarrow (A + A^\dagger)^\dagger = A^\dagger + (A^\dagger)^\dagger = A^\dagger + A = A + A^\dagger$ ✓

iii) $c(A - A^\dagger)$
 $[c(A - A^\dagger)]^\dagger = (A - A^\dagger)^\dagger (c)^\dagger = (A^\dagger - A) (-c) = (A^\dagger - A) (-c) = c(A - A^\dagger)$ ✓

⑨ problem 3.11.9: show that $\det(c^{-1}Mc) = \det(M)$?

now $\det(c^{-1}c) = \det(c\bar{c}) \cdot \det(c)$
 $\det(I) = \det(c^{-1}) \cdot \det(c)$
 $1 = \det(c^{-1}) \cdot \det(c)$ $\rightarrow \det(\bar{c}) = \frac{1}{\det(c)}$
 \Rightarrow follow

$$\det(C^{-1}MC) = \det(C^{-1}) \cdot \det(M) \cdot \det(C) = \frac{\det(M) \cdot \det(C)}{\det(C)} = \det(M) \checkmark$$

⑩ problem 3.11.10 : show that

$$\text{Tr}(C^{-1}MC) = \text{Tr}(M)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Tr}(C^{-1}MC) = \text{Tr}(CC^{-1}M) = \text{Tr}(IM) = \text{Tr}(M) \checkmark$$

⑪ problem 3.11.12: Find the eigenvalues and the normalized eigenvectors of the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 \\ 2 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (1-\lambda)(2-\lambda) - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow 2 - \lambda - 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 4 = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 1) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 4, -1$$

$$c') \text{ for } \lambda = 4 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 4 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x + 3y = 4x \text{ --- (1)} \\ 2x + 2y = 4y \text{ --- (2)} \end{array}$$

from (1) and (2) we get $x = y$, set $x = 1 \Rightarrow y = 1$

eigenvector $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, normalized eigenvector $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$c'') \text{ for } \lambda = -1 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -1 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} x + 3y = -x \text{ --- (3)} \\ 2x + 2y = -y \text{ --- (4)} \end{array}$$

from (3) and (4), we get $y = -\frac{2}{3}x$

$$\text{set } x = 3 \Rightarrow y = -2$$

eigenvector $\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$; normalized eigenvector $\frac{1}{\sqrt{13}} \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

note that eigenvectors are not orthogonal as the original matrix (A) is not orthogonal matrix ($A^{-1} \neq A^T$)

⑫ Problem 3.11.16: Find the eigenvalues and

normalized eigenvectors of $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow (2-\lambda)(2-\lambda)(-1-\lambda) + 2[0 - 2(2-\lambda)] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 4(2-\lambda) + (2-\lambda)(2-\lambda)(1+\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow (2-\lambda)[4 + (2-\lambda)(1+\lambda)] = 0$$

either $2-\lambda=0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda = +2}$ or

$$4 + (2-\lambda)(1+\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 - \lambda - 6 = 0 \Rightarrow (\lambda-3)(\lambda+2) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 3, -2$$

$\therefore \boxed{\lambda = 2, 3, -2}$ Three eigenvalues

i) for $\lambda=2 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$

$$2x + 2z = 2x \dots (1)$$

$$2y = 2y \dots (2)$$

$$2x - z = 2z \dots (3)$$

from (1), $z=0$. from (3), $x=0$. from (2) y is arbitrary

Set $y=1 \Rightarrow$

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ normalized eigenvectors

ii) for $\lambda=3 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$

$$2x + 2z = 3x \dots (4)$$

$$2y = 3y \dots (5)$$

$$2x - z = 3z \dots (6)$$

from (5), $y=0$. from (4) and (6) $z = \frac{x}{2}$, set $x=2 \Rightarrow z=1$

$\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ normalized $\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

iii) for $\lambda=-2 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = -2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow$

$$2x + 2z = -2x \dots (7)$$

$$2y = -2y \dots (8)$$

$$2x - z = -2z \dots (9)$$

from (8), $y=0$.

from (7) and (9), $z = -2x$. set $x=1 \Rightarrow z=-2$

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow$ normalize $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$.

Note that all eigenvectors are orthogonal, although A is not orthogonal matrix ($A^{-1} \neq A^T$)

13) problem 3.11.43: verify that the following matrix is hermitian. Find its eigenvalues and eigenvectors. write a unitary matrix which diagonalizes the matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i \\ -2i & 2 \end{pmatrix}; A^\dagger = (A^*)^T = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i \\ -2i & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow A \text{ is hermitian as } A = A^\dagger$$

$$\text{now } \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2i \\ -2i & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow (1-\lambda)(2-\lambda) - 4 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda^2 + \lambda - 6 = 0$$

i) for $\lambda = 2$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i \\ -2i & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = 2 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + 2iy = 2x & \text{---(1)} \\ -2ix - 2y = 2y & \text{---(2)} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda = 2, -3} \text{ eigenvalues}$$

from (1) and (2), $2iy = x \Rightarrow y = -\frac{c}{2}x$. Set $x=2 \Rightarrow y=-c$

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -c \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow$ normalize $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -c \end{pmatrix}$ first eigenvector

ii) for $\lambda = -3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i \\ -2i & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = -3 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x + 2iy = -3x & \text{---(3)} \\ -2ix - 2y = -3y & \text{---(4)} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y = 2c'x \\ \text{set } x=1 \\ \Rightarrow y=2c' \end{cases}$$

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2c' \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow$ normalize $\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2c' \end{pmatrix}$ second eigenvector

$$\Rightarrow U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -c & 2c' \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Find } U^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & c' \\ 1 & -2c' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{now } A_{\text{diag}} = U^{-1} A U = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & c' \\ 1 & -2c' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2i \\ -2i & 2 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -c & 2c' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2c' \\ -3 & 6c' \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -c & 2c' \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 0 \\ 0 & -15 \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \checkmark$$

(11) problem 3.11.24! Consider $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$
 Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors.
 and Find unitary matrix that diagonalizes A

$$\begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & -\lambda & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda^3 - 6\lambda^2 - 15\lambda - 8 = 0}$$

cubic eqⁿ

solve by google cubic root calculator $\Rightarrow \lambda = 8, \underbrace{-1, -1}_{\text{repeated eigenvalues}}$

i) for $\lambda = 8$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = 8 \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3x + 2y + 4z = 8x & \text{---(1)} \\ 2x + 2z = 8y & \text{---(2)} \\ 4x + 2y + 3z = 8z & \text{---(3)} \end{cases}$$

subtract (3)-(1) $\Rightarrow x - z = 8z - 8x \Rightarrow z = x$. from (2)

$$2x + 2x = 8y \Rightarrow y = \frac{x}{2}. \text{ Set } x=2 \Rightarrow z=2 \text{ and } y=1$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{normalize } \frac{1}{\sqrt{9}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{3} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{r}_1$$

$$\text{ii) } \lambda = -1 \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 0 & 2 \\ 4 & 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} = (-1) \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} 3x + 2y + 4z = -x \\ 2x + 2z = -y \\ 4x + 2y + 3z = -z \end{cases}$$

or $\begin{cases} 4x + 2y + 4z = 0 \\ 2x + y + 2z = 0 \\ 4x + 2y + 4z = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow$ basically one eqⁿ so x, y, z can't be determined. So set $x=0$
 $\Rightarrow 2y + 4z = 0 \Rightarrow z = -\frac{y}{2}$. Set $y=2$
 $\Rightarrow z = -1$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{normalize } \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \vec{r}_2$$

iii) $\lambda = -1$, second repeated eigenvalue. The third eigenvector must be orthogonal to both \vec{r}_1 and \vec{r}_2 i.e

$$\vec{r}_3 = \vec{r}_1 \times \vec{r}_2 = \frac{1}{3\sqrt{5}} \begin{vmatrix} i & j & k \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{vmatrix} = \frac{1}{3\sqrt{5}} \begin{pmatrix} -5 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} \text{ already normalized}$$

define $U = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{2}{3} & 0 & \frac{-5}{3\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{2}{3\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{2}{3} & \frac{-1}{\sqrt{5}} & \frac{4}{3\sqrt{5}} \end{pmatrix}$ and check that $A_{\text{diag}} = U^{-1}AU = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$