

**Solutions for 2013-2014 Spring Semester MATH 3210/5210 (Barsamian) Homework 8**  
**(Due Wednesday, April 9, 2014)**

(Three problems similar to suggested exercise 5-1#3(a),(b),(c))

For each matrix  $A \in M_{n \times n}(F)$

- (i) Determine all the eigenvalues of  $A$ . Show all details of the calculation.
- (ii) For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , find the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .
- (iii) If possible, find a basis for  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ .
- (iv) If successful in finding such a basis, determine an invertible matrix  $Q$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $Q^{-1}AQ = D$ .

[1] (20 points) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{3 \times 3}(R)$

(i) Determine all the eigenvalues of  $A$ . Show all details of the calculation.

**Solution:** We start by finding the characteristic polynomial  $f(\lambda)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda) &= \det(A - \lambda I_3) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \text{do determinant along } 3^{\text{rd}} \text{ column} = \\ &= (-1)\det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 - \lambda \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} - (-1)\det \begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 1 \\ 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix} + (-\lambda)\det \begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 1 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (-1)((2)(2) - (2)(2 - \lambda)) + ((3 - \lambda)(2) - (2)(1)) - (\lambda)((3 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda) - (2)(1)) \\ &= \dots = -\lambda^3 + 5\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 4 \end{aligned}$$

(A check with Wolfram Alpha confirms that this is correct.)

The eigenvalues of  $A$  are the roots of the characteristic polynomial. We find them by setting  $f(\lambda)$  equal to zero and solving for  $\lambda$ .

$$0 = f(\lambda) = -\lambda^3 + 5\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 4 = -(\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 2)^2$$

We see that the eigenvalues will be  $\lambda_1 = 1$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ . (Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

(ii) For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , find the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .

**Solution:** Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1$ .

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \\ v_{31} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_1$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $(A - \lambda_1 I_3)v_1 = 0$ . That is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda_1 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda_1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -\lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \\ v_{31} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $(A - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 - \lambda_1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda_1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -\lambda_1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_1 = 1$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $(A - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add (-1)R1 to R2.
- Add (-1)R1 to R3.
- Add R3 to R1.
- Multiply R1 by (1/2).
- Multiply R3 by (-1).
- Interchange R2 and R3.

We obtain the reduced row echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & (-1/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  (Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

This corresponds to the system 
$$\begin{cases} v_{11} - (1/2)v_{31} = 0 \\ v_{21} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Clearly  $v_{21}$  must be zero. But  $v_{11}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{31} = 2v_{11}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(s, 0, 2s), s \in R\}$ . A basis for this solution set is  $\beta = \{(1, 0, 2)\}$ . We can let the basis

vector be  $v_1$ . That is, we can let  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

We check by multiplying  $Av_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3(1) + 1(0) - 1(2) \\ 2(1) + 2(0) - 1(2) \\ 2(1) + 2(0) + 0(2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = v_1$

This confirms that  $v_1$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue 1.

**Now find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 2$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{32} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $x$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $(A - \lambda_2 I_3)v_2 = 0$ . That is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda_2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda_2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -\lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{32} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $(A - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 - \lambda_2 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 - \lambda_2 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -\lambda_2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_2 = 2$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $(A - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add  $(-2)R_1$  to  $R_2$ .
- Add  $(-2)R_1$  to  $R_3$ .
- Multiply  $R_2$  by  $(-1/2)$ .
- Add  $(-2)R_2$  to  $R_1$ .

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & (-1/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & (-1/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to system  $\begin{cases} v_{12} - (1/2)v_{32} = 0 \\ v_{22} - (1/2)v_{32} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{32}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{12} = (1/2)v_{32}$  and  $v_{22} = (1/2)v_{32}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{((1/2)s, (1/2)s, s), s \in R\}$ . A basis for this set is  $\beta = \{(1, 1, 2)\}$ .

We can let the basis vector be  $v_2$ . That is, we can let  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

We check by multiplying  $Av_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3(1) + 1(1) - 1(2) \\ 2(1) + 2(1) - 1(2) \\ 2(1) + 2(1) + 0(2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = 2v_2$

This confirms that  $v_2$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue 2.

**(iii) If possible, find a basis for  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ . Solution:** Since we only found two eigenvectors for  $A$ , we conclude that it is not possible to find a basis for  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ .

**(iv) If successful in finding such a basis, determine an invertible matrix  $Q$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $Q^{-1}AQ = D$ . Solution:** Since it is not possible to find a basis for  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ , we conclude that  $A$  is not diagonalizable.

[2] (20 points) Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(C)$

(i) Determine all the eigenvalues of  $A$ . Show all details of the calculation.

**Solution:** We start by finding the characteristic polynomial  $f(\lambda)$ .

$$f(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I_2) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda & -2 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) - (2)(-2) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5$$

(Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

The eigenvalues of  $A$  are the roots of the characteristic polynomial. We find them by setting  $f(\lambda)$  equal to zero and solving for  $\lambda$ .

$$0 = f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5$$

It is not obvious how to factor this polynomial, so we use the quadratic formula.

$$\lambda = \frac{-(-2) \pm \sqrt{(-2)^2 - 4(1)(5)}}{2(1)} = \frac{2 \pm \sqrt{-16}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 4\sqrt{-1}}{2} = \frac{2 \pm 4i}{2} = 1 \pm 2i$$

We see that the eigenvalues will be  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$ . (Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

**Remark:** This tells us that the characteristic polynomial factors over the field  $\mathbb{C}$  in the following way:

$$f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5 = (\lambda - \lambda_1)(\lambda - \lambda_2) = (\lambda - (1 + 2i))(\lambda - (1 - 2i))$$

**(ii) For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , find the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .**

**Solution:** Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$ .

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_1$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $(A - \lambda_1 I_2)v_1 = 0$ . That is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda_1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda_1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $(A - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 - \lambda_1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda_1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$ , this augmented matrix becomes

$$(A - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 - (1 + 2i) & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 - (1 + 2i) & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} -2i & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -2i & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Multiply R1 by  $(i/2)$ .
- Add  $(-2)R1$  to R2.

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{11} - iv_{21} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{21}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{11} = iv_{21}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(is, s), s \in \mathbb{C}\}$ . A basis for this solution set is  $\beta = \{(i, 1)\}$ . We can let the basis vector be  $v_1$ . That is, we can let  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $Av_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1(i) - 2(1) \\ 2(i) + 1(1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 + i \\ 1 + 2i \end{pmatrix} = (1 + 2i) \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_1 v_1$

This confirms that  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$ .

**Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_2$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $(A - \lambda_2 I_2)v_2 = 0$ . That is

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 - \lambda_2 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $(A - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 - \lambda_2 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 - \lambda_2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$ , this augmented matrix becomes

$$(A - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 - (1 - 2i) & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 - (1 - 2i) & 0 \end{array} \right) = \left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 2i & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2i & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Multiply R1 by  $(-i/2)$ .
- Add  $(-2)R1$  to R2.

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{12} + iv_{22} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{22}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{12} = -iv_{22}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(-is, s), s \in \mathbb{C}\}$ . A basis for this solution set is  $\beta = \{(-i, 1)\}$ . We can let the basis vector be  $v_2$ . That is, we can let  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $Av_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1(-i) - 2(1) \\ 2(-i) + 1(1) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 - i \\ 1 - 2i \end{pmatrix} = (1 - 2i) \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_2 v_2$

This confirms that  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$ .

**(iii) If possible, find a basis for  $F^n$  consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ .**

**Solution:** We found two eigenvectors,  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . Because they are linearly independent vectors in  $\mathbb{C}^2$ , we can use them as a basis of  $\mathbb{C}^2$ . So our basis is  $\beta = \{v_1, v_2\} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

**(iv) If successful in finding such a basis, determine an invertible matrix  $Q$  and a diagonal matrix  $D$  such that  $Q^{-1}AQ = D$ .**

**Solution:** The invertible matrix  $Q$  can be made by using the eigenvectors  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  as columns. That is  $Q = (v_1 \ v_2) = \begin{pmatrix} i & -i \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ . We know that  $Q$  is invertible because it has rank 2.

The diagonal matrix  $D$  can be made by using the corresponding eigenvalues on the diagonal.

That is  $D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (1 + 2i) & 0 \\ 0 & (1 - 2i) \end{pmatrix}$ .

**[3] (20 points)** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in M_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{R})$

**(i) Determine all the eigenvalues of  $A$ . Show all details of the calculation.**

**Solution:** This is the same matrix that was used in problem [2], but now the field is  $\mathbb{R}$  instead of  $\mathbb{C}$ .

In problem [2], we found that the characteristic polynomial was  $f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5$ .

We used the quadratic formula to find roots of this polynomial, and the result was that we found two complex roots:  $\lambda_1 = 1 + 2i$  and  $\lambda_2 = 1 - 2i$ . Those are the eigenvalues when the field is  $\mathbb{C}$ .

This told us that the characteristic polynomial factors over the field  $\mathbb{C}$  in the following way:

$$f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5 = (\lambda - \lambda_1)(\lambda - \lambda_2) = (\lambda - (1 + 2i))(\lambda - (1 - 2i))$$

But now in that we are using the field  $\mathbb{R}$  instead of  $\mathbb{C}$ , we must say that **there are no real eigenvalues!**

Remark: This tells us that the polynomial  $f(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 5$  does not factor over the field  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**(ii),(iii) Since there are no real eigenvalues, there are no eigenvectors, either.**

**(iv) Since there are no real eigenvalues, the matrix  $A$  is not diagonalizable over the field  $\mathbb{R}$ .**

**[4] (20 points)** Let  $V = \mathbb{R}^2$  and define  $T: V \rightarrow V$  by  $T(a, b) = (a + b, 4a + b)$ .

Find the eigenvalues of  $T$  and find an ordered basis  $\beta$  for  $V$  such that  $[T]_\beta$  is diagonal.

**Solution:**

**First we get a matrix representation for  $T$  in the standard basis.**

Let  $\alpha = \{e_1, e_2\} = \{(1,0), (0,1)\}$  be the standard basis for  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

$[T]_\alpha$  will be a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $[T]_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix}$  with entries obtained from the two equations:

$$\begin{cases} T(e_1) = A_{11}e_1 + A_{21}e_2 \\ T(e_2) = A_{12}e_1 + A_{22}e_2 \end{cases}$$

So we investigate what happens when these basis vectors are used as input to  $T$ .

$$\begin{cases} T(e_1) = T(1,0) = (1 + 0, 4(1) + 0) = (1,4) = 1(1,0) + 4(0,1) = (1)e_1 + (4)e_2 \\ T(e_2) = T(0,1) = (0 + 1, 4(0) + 1) = (1,1) = 1(1,0) + 1(0,1) = (1)e_1 + (1)e_2 \end{cases}$$

Matching the coefficients in the two sets of equations, we find  $[T]_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$

**Now we find the characteristic polynomial and the eigenvalues of the matrix  $[T]_\alpha$ .**

$$f(\lambda) = \det([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda I_2) = \det\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}\right) = \det\begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda) & 1 \\ 4 & (1-\lambda) \end{pmatrix}$$

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

We conclude that the eigenvalues of the matrix  $[T]_{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  are  $\lambda_1 = -1$  and  $\lambda_2 = 3$ .

(Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

**Now we find the corresponding eigenvectors.**

**Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = -1$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = -1$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_1$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_1 I_2)v_1 = 0$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda_1) & 1 \\ 4 & (1-\lambda_1) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_1 I_2 | 0) = \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} (1-\lambda_1) & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & (1-\lambda_1) & 0 \end{array}\right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_1 = -1$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_1 I_2 | 0) = \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{array}\right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add  $(-2)R_1$  to  $R_2$ .
- Multiply  $R_1$  by  $(1/2)$ .

We obtain the echelon form  $\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & (1/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{11} + (1/2)v_{21} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{11}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{21} = -2v_{11}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(s, -2s), s \in R\}$ , and a basis for the solution set is  $\beta = \{(1, -2)\}$ . We can let the basis vector be  $v_1$ . That is, let  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $[T]_{\alpha} v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1(1) + 1(-2) \\ 4(1) + 1(-2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = (-1) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_1 v_1$

This confirms that  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = -1$ .

**Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 3$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 3$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_2$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_2)v_2 = 0$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda_2) & 1 \\ 4 & (1-\lambda_2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_2 | 0) = \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} (1-\lambda_2) & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & (1-\lambda_2) & 0 \end{array}\right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_2 = 3$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_2 | 0) = \left(\begin{array}{cc|c} -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 4 & -2 & 0 \end{array}\right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add  $(2)R_1$  to  $R_2$ .
- Multiply  $R_1$  by  $(-1/2)$ .

We obtain the echelon form  $\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & (-1/2) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array}\right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{12} + (-1/2)v_{22} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{12}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{22} = 2v_{12}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(s, 2s), s \in R\}$ , and a basis for the solution set is  $\beta = \{(1, 2)\}$ . We can let the basis vector be  $v_2$ . That is, we can let  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $[T]_{\alpha} v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1(1) + 1(2) \\ 4(1) + 1(2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 6 \end{pmatrix} = (3) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} = \lambda_2 v_2$

This confirms that  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 3$ .

## Conclusion

Switching from column form to ordered-pair form for the eigenvectors, we have the following:

The vector  $v_1 = (1, -2)$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = -1$ .

The vector  $v_2 = (1, 2)$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 3$ .

Introduce ordered basis  $\beta = \{v_1, v_2\} = \{(1, -2), (1, 2)\}$ .

In this basis, the matrix representation of  $T$  will be the diagonal matrix  $[T]_\beta = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

**[5] (20 points)** Let  $V = P_2(\mathbb{R})$  and define  $T: V \rightarrow V$  by  $T(f(x)) = xf'(x) + f(2)x + f(3)$ .

(a) Let  $\alpha = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\} = \{1, x, x^2\}$ , the standard basis for  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$ . Find  $[T]_\alpha$ .

**Solution:** Observe that the formula for  $T$  is given with a general function  $f(x)$  as input. But we know that our inputs will be elements of  $P_2(\mathbb{R})$ , that is, functions of the form  $f(x) = a + bx + cx^2$ . So it will be helpful to have a formula for  $T(a + bx + cx^2)$ . For that, we get some of the parts first.

If  $f(x) = a + bx + cx^2$ , then

- The derivative of  $f$  will be  $f'(x) = b + 2cx$ .
- The value of  $f$  at  $x = 2$  will be the number  $f(2) = a + b(2) + c(2)^2 = a + 2b + 4c$ .
- The value of  $f$  at  $x = 3$  will be the number  $f(3) = a + b(3) + c(3)^2 = a + 3b + 9c$ .

We use those parts to get the formula for  $T(a + bx + cx^2)$ .

$$\begin{aligned} T(a + bx + cx^2) &= x(b + 2cx) + (a + 2b + 4c)x + (a + 3b + 9c) \\ &= (a + 3b + 9c) + (a + 3b + 4c)x + (2c)x^2 \end{aligned}$$

$[T]_\alpha$  will be a  $3 \times 3$  matrix  $[T]_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & A_{13} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & A_{23} \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} \end{pmatrix}$  with entries obtained from the three equations:

$$\begin{cases} T(v_1) = A_{11}v_1 + A_{21}v_2 + A_{31}v_3 \\ T(v_2) = A_{12}v_1 + A_{22}v_2 + A_{32}v_3 \\ T(v_3) = A_{13}v_1 + A_{23}v_2 + A_{33}v_3 \end{cases}$$

So we investigate what happens when the basis vectors are used as input to  $T$ .

$$\begin{cases} T(v_1) = T(1 + 0x + 0x^2) = (1) + (1)x + (0)x^2 = (1)v_1 + (1)v_2 + (0)v_3 \\ T(v_2) = T(0 + 1x + 0x^2) = (3) + (3)x + (0)x^2 = (3)v_1 + (3)v_2 + (0)v_3 \\ T(v_3) = T(0 + 0x + 1x^2) = (9) + (4)x + (2)x^2 = (9)v_1 + (4)v_2 + (2)v_3 \end{cases}$$

Matching the coefficients in the two sets of equations, we find  $[T]_\alpha = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

(b) Find the eigenvalues of the matrix  $[T]_\alpha$  and the corresponding eigenvectors of  $[T]_\alpha$ . These eigenvectors should be column vectors representing elements of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

**Solution:**

**We start by finding the characteristic polynomial and the eigenvalues.**

The characteristic polynomial is

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda) &= \det([T]_\alpha - \lambda I_3) = \det \begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda) & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & (3-\lambda) & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & (2-\lambda) \end{pmatrix} = (2-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda) & 3 \\ 1 & (3-\lambda) \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (2-\lambda)[(1-\lambda)(3-\lambda) - (1)(3)] = (2-\lambda)[\lambda^2 - 4\lambda] = (2-\lambda)(\lambda)(\lambda-4) \end{aligned}$$

We conclude that the eigenvalues are  $\lambda_1 = 0$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$  and  $\lambda_3 = 4$ . (Wolfram Alpha confirms this.)

**Now we find the corresponding eigenvectors.**

**Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 0$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 0$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \\ v_{31} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_1$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $([T]_\alpha - \lambda_1 I_3)v_1 = 0$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1-\lambda_1) & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & (3-\lambda_1) & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & (2-\lambda_1) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{21} \\ v_{31} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} (1 - \lambda_1) & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & (3 - \lambda_1) & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (2 - \lambda_1) & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_1 = 0$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_1 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add (-1)R1 to R2.
- Multiply R2 by (-1/5).
- Add (-9)R2 to R1.
- Add (-2)R2 to R3.

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{11} + 3v_{21} = 0 \\ v_{31} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

Clearly, we must have  $v_{31} = 0$ . We see that  $v_{21}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{11} = -3v_{21}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(-3s, s, 0), s \in R\}$ , and a basis for this solution set is  $\beta = \{(-3, 1, 0)\}$ .

We can let the basis vector be  $v_1$ . That is, we can let  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $[T]_{\alpha} v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \cdots = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (0)v_1 = \lambda_1 v_1$

This confirms that  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 0$ .

### Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue $\lambda_2 = 2$ .

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 2$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{32} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_2$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_3)v_2 = 0$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1 - \lambda_2) & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & (3 - \lambda_2) & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & (2 - \lambda_2) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{12} \\ v_{22} \\ v_{32} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} (1 - \lambda_2) & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & (3 - \lambda_2) & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (2 - \lambda_2) & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_2 = 2$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_2 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -1 & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

- Add R1 to R2.
- Multiply R2 by (1/4).
- Add (-3)R2 to R1.
- Multiply R1 by (-1).

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & (3/4) & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & (13/4) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{12} + (3/4)v_{32} = 0 \\ v_{22} + (13/4)v_{32} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

$v_{32}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{12} = (-3/4)v_{32}$  and  $v_{22} = (-13/4)v_{32}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{((-3/4)s, (-13/4)s, s), s \in R\}$ . A basis for the solution set is  $\beta = \{(-3, -13, 4)\}$ .

We can let the basis vector be  $v_2$ . That is, we can let  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -13 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $[T]_{\alpha}v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -13 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix} = \cdots = \begin{pmatrix} -6 \\ -26 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix} = (-2)v_2 = \lambda_2 v_2$

This confirms that  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ -13 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 2$ .

**Find the eigenvector corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_3 = 4$ .**

Corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda_3 = 4$  will be an eigenvector that we can denote  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} v_{13} \\ v_{23} \\ v_{33} \end{pmatrix}$ .

The vector  $v_3$  must satisfy the matrix equation  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_3 I_3)v_3 = 0$ . That is,

$$\begin{pmatrix} (1 - \lambda_3) & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & (3 - \lambda_3) & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & (2 - \lambda_3) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_{13} \\ v_{23} \\ v_{33} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

This corresponds to the augmented matrix  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_3 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} (1 - \lambda_3) & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & (3 - \lambda_3) & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (2 - \lambda_3) & 0 \end{array} \right)$

Using the value  $\lambda_3 = 4$ , this augmented matrix becomes  $([T]_{\alpha} - \lambda_3 I_3 | 0) = \left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} -3 & 3 & 9 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

- |   |
|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiply R1 by (-1/3).</li> <li>• Add (-1)R1 to R2.</li> <li>• Add (3)R3 to R2.</li> <li>• Add (3)R2 to R1.</li> <li>• Add (2)R2 to R3.</li> </ul> |
|---|

Perform the following row operations on this matrix:

We obtain the echelon form  $\left( \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$  corresponding to the system  $\begin{cases} v_{13} - v_{23} = 0 \\ v_{33} = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases}$

Clearly we must have  $v_{33} = 0$ . We see that  $v_{13}$  can be any real number, as long as  $v_{23} = v_{13}$ . So the solution set is  $K_H = \{(s, s, 0), s \in R\}$ . A basis for the solution set is  $\beta = \{(1, 1, 0)\}$ .

We can let the basis vector be  $v_3$ . That is, we can let  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Check by multiplying  $[T]_{\alpha}v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \cdots = \begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = (4)v_3 = \lambda_3 v_3$

This confirms that  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  is in fact an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda_3 = 4$ .

**(c) Using your result from (b), find a corresponding ordered basis  $\beta$  for  $P_2(R)$  such that  $[T]_{\beta}$  is a diagonal matrix. (The basis vectors in  $\beta$  should be polynomials, elements of  $P_2(R)$ .)**

**Solution:** Converting our column vectors to functions, we have

The eigenvector  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  correspond to

the functions  $v_1 = -3 + x$  and  $v_2 = -3 - 13x + 4x^2$  and  $v_3 = 1 + x$ .

So our basis of eigenvectors is  $\beta = \{v_1, v_2, v_3\} = \{-3 + x, -3 - 13x + 4x^2, 1 + x\}$ .

In this basis, the matrix representation of  $T$  will be  $[T]_{\alpha} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$ .