

PROPERTIES OF EIGEN VALUES AND EIGEN VECTORS

Property: 1(a) The sum of the Eigen values of a matrix is equal to the sum of the elements of the principal (main) diagonal.

(or)

The sum of the Eigen values of a matrix is equal to the trace of the matrix.

1. (b) product of the Eigen values is equal to the determinant of the matrix.

Proof:

Let A be a square matrix of order n .

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

$$(i. e.) \lambda^n - S_1 \lambda^{n-1} + S_2 \lambda^{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^n S_n = 0 \quad \dots (1)$$

where $S_1 =$ Sum of the diagonal elements of A.

...

...

...

$S_n =$ determinant of A.

We know the roots of the characteristic equation are called Eigen values of the given matrix.

Solving (1) we get n roots.

Let the n be $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$.

i.e., $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are the Eigenvalues of A.

We know already,

$\lambda^n - (\text{Sum of the roots } \lambda^{n-1} + [\text{sum of the product of the roots taken two at a time}] \lambda^{n-2} -$

$$\dots + (-1)^n (\text{Product of the roots}) = 0$$

... (2)

Sum of the roots = S_1 by (1)&(2)

$$(i. e.) \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n = S_1$$

$$(i. e.) \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n = a_{11} + a_{22} + \dots + a_{nn}$$

Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of the main diagonal elements

Product of the roots = S_n by (1)&(2)

$$(i. e.) \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n = \det \text{ of } A$$

Product of the Eigen values = $ A $

Property: 2 A square matrix A and its transpose A^T have the same Eigenvalues.

(or)

A square matrix A and its transpose A^T have the same characteristic values.

Proof:

Let A be a square matrix of order n .

The characteristic equation of A and A^T are

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0 \quad \dots\dots (1)$$

and $|A^T - \lambda I| = 0 \quad \dots\dots (2)$

Since, the determinant value is unaltered by the interchange of rows and columns.

We know $|A| = |A^T|$

Hence, (1) and (2) are identical.

\therefore The Eigenvalues of A and A^T are the same.

Property: 3 The characteristic roots of a triangular matrix are just the diagonal elements of the matrix.

(or)

The Eigen values of a triangular matrix are just the diagonal elements of the matrix.

Proof: Let us consider the triangular matrix. Characteristic equation of is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & 0 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda & 0 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

On expansion it gives $(a_{11} - \lambda)(a_{22} - \lambda)(a_{33} - \lambda) = 0$

$$\text{i.e., } \lambda = a_{11}, a_{22}, a_{33}$$

which are diagonal elements of the matrix A .

Property: 4 If λ is an Eigenvalue of a matrix A , then $\frac{1}{\lambda}$, ($\lambda \neq 0$) is the Eigenvalue of A^{-1} .

(or)

If λ is an Eigenvalue of a matrix A , what can you say about the Eigenvalue of matrix A^{-1} .

Prove your statement.

Proof:

If X be the Eigenvector corresponding to λ ,

$$\text{then } AX = \lambda X \quad \dots (i)$$

Pre multiplying both sides by A^{-1} , we get

$$A^{-1}AX = A^{-1}\lambda X$$

$$(1) \Rightarrow X = \lambda A^{-1}X$$

$$X = \lambda A^{-1}X$$

$$\div \lambda \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda}X = A^{-1}X$$

$$(i.e.) \quad A^{-1}X = \frac{1}{\lambda}X$$

This being of the same form as (i), shows that $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ is an Eigenvalue of the inverse matrix A^{-1} .

Property: 5 If λ is an Eigenvalue of an orthogonal matrix, then $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ is an Eigenvalue.

Proof:

Definition: Orthogonal matrix.

A square matrix A is said to be orthogonal if $AA^T = A^T A = I$

$$i.e., A^T = A^{-1}$$

Let A be an orthogonal matrix.

Given λ is an Eigenvalue of A .

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda} \text{ is an Eigenvalue of } A^{-1}$$

Since, $A^T = A^{-1}$

$$\therefore \frac{1}{\lambda} \text{ is an Eigenvalue of } A^T$$

But, the matrices A and A^T have the same Eigenvalues, since the determinants

$|A - \lambda I|$ and $|A^T - \lambda I|$ are the same.

Hence, $\frac{1}{\lambda}$ is also an Eigenvalue of A .

Property: 6 If $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are the Eigenvalues of a matrix A , then A^m has the Eigenvalues $\lambda_1^m, \lambda_2^m, \dots, \lambda_n^m$ (m being a positive integer)

Proof:

Let λ_i be the Eigenvalue of A and X_i the corresponding Eigenvector.

$$\text{Then } AX_i = \lambda_i X_i \quad \dots (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We have } A^2 X_i &= A(A X_i) \\ &= A(\lambda_i X_i) \\ &= \lambda_i A(X_i) \\ &= \lambda_i (\lambda_i X_i) \\ &= \lambda_i^2 X_i \end{aligned}$$

$$|| \text{ } 1y A^3 X_i = \lambda_i^3 X_i$$

In general, $A^m X_i = \lambda_i^m X_i \dots (2)$

Hence, λ_i^m is an Eigenvalue of A^m .

The corresponding Eigenvector is the same X_i .

Note: If λ is the Eigenvalue of the matrix A then λ^2 is the Eigenvalue of A^2

Property: 7 The Eigen values of a real symmetric matrix are real numbers.

Proof:

Let λ be an Eigenvalue (may be complex) of the real symmetric matrix A . Let the corresponding Eigenvector be X . Let A denote the transpose of A .

$$\text{We have } AX = \lambda X$$

Pre-multiplying this equation by $1 \times n$ matrix \bar{X}' , where the bar denoted that all elements of \bar{X}' are the complex conjugate of those of X' , we get

$$\bar{X}' AX = \lambda \bar{X}' X \dots (1)$$

Taking the conjugate complex of this we get $X' A \bar{X} = \bar{\lambda} X' \bar{X}$ or

$$X' A \bar{X} = \bar{\lambda} X' \bar{X} \text{ since, } \bar{\bar{A}} = A \text{ for } A \text{ is real.}$$

Taking the transpose on both sides, we get

$$(X' A \bar{X})' = (\bar{\lambda} X' \bar{X})' \text{ (i.e.,) } \bar{X}' A' X = \bar{\lambda} \bar{X}' X$$

$$\text{(i.e.) } \bar{X}' A' X = \bar{\lambda} \bar{X}' X \text{ since } A' = A \text{ for } A \text{ is symmetric.}$$

But, from (1), $\bar{X}' A X = \lambda \bar{X}' X$ Hence $\lambda \bar{X}' X = \bar{\lambda} \bar{X}' X$

Since, $\bar{X}' X$ is an 1×1 matrix whose only element is a positive value, $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ (i.e.) λ is real).

Property: 8 The Eigen vectors corresponding to distinct Eigen values of a real symmetric matrix are orthogonal.

Proof:

For a real symmetric matrix A , the Eigen values are real.

Let X_1, X_2 be Eigenvectors corresponding to two distinct eigen values λ_1, λ_2 [λ_1, λ_2 are real]

$$AX_1 = \lambda_1 X_1 \quad \dots (1)$$

$$AX_2 = \lambda_2 X_2 \quad \dots (2)$$

Pre multiplying (1) by X_2' , we get

$$\begin{aligned} X_2'AX_1 &= X_2'\lambda_1 X_1 \\ &= \lambda_1 X_2'X_1 \end{aligned}$$

Pre-multiplying (2) by X_1' , we get

$$X_1'AX_2 = \lambda_2 X_1'X_2 \quad \dots (3)$$

$$\text{But } (X_2'AX_1)' = (\lambda_1 X_2'X_1)'$$

$$X_1'AX_2 = \lambda_1 X_1'X_2$$

$$(i.e) \quad X_1'AX_2 = \lambda_1 X_1'X_2 \quad \dots (4) \quad [\because A' = A]$$

From (3) and (4)

$$\lambda_1 X_1'X_2 = \lambda_2 X_1'X_2$$

$$(i.e.,) (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) X_1'X_2 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2, X_1'X_2 = 0$$

$\therefore X_1, X_2$ are orthogonal.

Property: 9 The similar matrices have same Eigen values.

Proof:

Let A, B be two similar matrices.

Then, there exists a non-singular matrix P such that $B = P^{-1}AP$

$$B - \lambda I = P^{-1}AP - \lambda I$$

$$= P^{-1}AP - P^{-1}\lambda IP$$

$$= P^{-1}(A - \lambda I)P$$

$$|B - \lambda I| = |P^{-1}| |A - \lambda I| |P|$$

$$= |A - \lambda I| |P^{-1}P|$$

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

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

Therefore, A, B have the same characteristic polynomial and hence characteristic roots.

\therefore They have same Eigen values.

Property: 10 If a real symmetric matrix of order 2 has equal Eigen values, then the matrix is a scalar matrix.

Proof :

Rule 1 : A real symmetric matrix of order n can always be diagonalised.

Rule 2 : If any diagonalized matrix with their diagonal elements are equal, then the matrix is a scalar matrix.

Given A real symmetric matrix 'A' of order 2 has equal Eigen values.

By Rule: 1 A can always be diagonalized, let λ_1 and λ_2 be their Eigenvalues then

we get the diagonalized matrix $= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$

Given $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2$

Therefore, we get $= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$

By Rule: 2 The given matrix is a scalar matrix.

Property: 11 The Eigen vector X of a matrix A is not unique.

Proof :

Let λ be the Eigenvalue of A, then the corresponding Eigenvector X such that $A X = \lambda X$.

Multiply both sides by non-zero K,

$$K (AX) = K (\lambda X)$$

$$\Rightarrow A (KX) = \lambda (KX)$$

(i. e.) an Eigenvector is determined by a multiplicative scalar.

(i. e.) Eigenvector is not unique.

Property: 12 $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ be distinct Eigenvalues of an $n \times n$ matrix, then the corresponding Eigenvectors X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n form a linearly independent set.

Proof:

Let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_m$ ($m \leq n$) be the distinct Eigen values of a square matrix A of order n .

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m be their corresponding Eigenvectors we have to prove $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i X_i = 0$ implies each $\alpha_i = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

Multiplying $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i X_i = 0$ by $(A - \lambda_1 I)$, we get

$$(A - \lambda_1 I)\alpha_1 X_1 = \alpha_1 (AX_1 - \lambda_1 X_1) = \alpha_1 (0) = 0$$

When $\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i X_i = 0$ Multiplied by

$$(A - \lambda_2 I)(A - \lambda_2 I) \dots (A - \lambda_{i-1} I)(A - \lambda_i I) (A - \lambda_{i+1} I) \dots (A - \lambda_m I)$$

We get, $\alpha_i (\lambda_i - \lambda_1)(\lambda_i - \lambda_2) \dots (\lambda_i - \lambda_{i-1})(\lambda_i - \lambda_{i+1}) \dots (\lambda_i - \lambda_m) = 0$

Since, λ 's are distinct, $\alpha_i = 0$

Since, i is arbitrary, each $\alpha_i = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i X_i = 0 \text{ implies each } \alpha_i = 0, i = 1, 2, \dots, m$$

Hence, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m are linearly independent.

Property: 13 If two or more Eigen values are equal it may or may not be possible to get linearly

independent Eigenvectors corresponding to the equal roots.

Property: 14 Two Eigenvectors X_1 and X_2 are called orthogonal vectors if $X_1^T X_2 = 0$

Property: 15 If A and B are $n \times n$ matrices and B is a non singular matrix, then A and $B^{-1} AB$ have same eigenvalues.

Proof:

Characteristic polynomial of $B^{-1} AB$

$$\begin{aligned} &= |B^{-1} AB - \lambda I| = |B^{-1} AB - B^{-1}(\lambda I)B| \\ &= |B^{-1} (A - \lambda I)B| = |B^{-1}| |A - \lambda I| |B| \\ &= |B^{-1}| |B| |A - \lambda I| = |B^{-1}B| |A - \lambda I| \\ &= \text{Characterisstisc polynomial of A} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, A and $B^{-1} AB$ have same Eigenvalues.

Example: Find the sum and product of the Eigen values of the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution:

Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of the main diagonal elements

$$= (-2) + (1) + (0)$$

$$= -1$$

Product of the Eigen values = $\begin{vmatrix} -2 & 2 & -3 \\ 2 & 1 & -6 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \end{vmatrix}$

$$= -2(0 - 12) - 2(0 - 6) - 3(-4 + 1)$$

$$= 24 + 12 + 9 = 45$$

Example: Find the sum and product of the Eigen values of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Solution:

Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of its diagonal elements = $1 + 2 + 1 = 4$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Product of Eigen values} = |C| &= \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ -1 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 1(2 - 1) - 2(-1 - 1) + 3(-1 - 2) \\ &= 1(1) - 2(-2) + 3(-3) \\ &= 1 + 4 - 9 = -4 \end{aligned}$$

Example: The product of two Eigen values of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ is 16. Find the third Eigenvalue.

Solution:

Let Eigen values of the matrix A be $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$.

Given $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 = 16$

We know that, $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 = |A|$

[Product of the Eigen values is equal to the determinant of the matrix]

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 &= \begin{vmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{vmatrix} \\ &= 6(9 - 1) + (-6 + 2) + 2(2 - 6) \\ &= 6(8) + 2(-4) + 2(-4) \\ &= 48 - 8 - 8 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 = 32$$

$$\Rightarrow 16 \lambda_3 = 32$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_3 = \frac{32}{16} = 2$$

Example: Two of the Eigen values of $\begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & 3 & -1 \\ 2 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ are 2 and 8. Find the third Eigen value.

Solution:

We know that, Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of its diagonal elements

$$= 6 + 3 + 3 = 12$$

Given $\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 8, \lambda_3 = ?$

We get, $\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 12$

$$2 + 8 + \lambda_3 = 12$$

$$\lambda_3 = 12 - 10$$

$$\lambda_3 = 2$$

\therefore The third Eigenvalue = 2

Example: If 3 and 15 are the two Eigen values of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -6 & 2 \\ -6 & 7 & -4 \\ 2 & -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ find $|A|$, without

expanding the determinant.

Solution:

Given $\lambda_1 = 3, \lambda_2 = 15, \lambda_3 = ?$

We know that, Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of the main diagonal elements

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 8 + 7 + 3$$

$$3 + 15 + \lambda_3 = 18$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_3 = 0$$

We know that, Product of the Eigen values = $|A|$

$$\Rightarrow (3)(15)(0) = |A|$$

$$\Rightarrow |A| = (3)(15)(0)$$

$$\Rightarrow |A| = 0$$

Example: If 2, 2, 3 are the Eigen values of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 10 & 5 \\ -2 & -3 & -4 \\ 3 & 5 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$ find the Eigen values of

A^T .

Solution:

By Property "A square matrix A and its transpose A^T have the same Eigen values".

Hence, Eigen values of A^T are 2, 2, 3

Example: If the Eigen values of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ are 2, -2 then find the Eigen values of A^T .

Solution:

Eigen values of $A =$ Eigen values of A^T

\therefore Eigen values of A^T are 2, -2.

Example: Two of the Eigen values of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & 1 \\ -1 & 5 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ are 3 and 6. Find the Eigen values of A^{-1} .

Solution:

Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of the main diagonal elements
 $= 3 + 5 + 3 = 11$

Let K be the third Eigen value

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore 3 + 6 + k &= 11 \\ \Rightarrow 9 + k &= 11 \\ \Rightarrow k &= 2 \end{aligned}$$

\therefore The Eigenvalues of A^{-1} are $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{6}$

Example: Two Eigen values of the matrix $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ are equal to 1 each. Find the

Eigenvalues of A^{-1} .

Solution:

$$\text{Given } A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Let the Eigen values of the matrix A be $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$

Given condition is $\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = 1$

We have, Sum of the Eigen values = Sum of the main diagonal elements

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 &= 2 + 3 + 2 \\ \Rightarrow \lambda_1 + 1 + 1 &= 7 \\ \Rightarrow \lambda_1 + 2 &= 7 \\ \Rightarrow \lambda_1 &= 5 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, the Eigen values of A are 1, 1, 5

Eigen values of A^{-1} are $\frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{1}, \frac{1}{5}$, i. e., $1, 1, \frac{1}{5}$