Math 54 quiz solutions

October 21, 2009

1 Find an invertible matrix P and a matrix C such that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = PCP^{-1} \quad where \ C = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix}.$$

(4 points)

The characteristic equation is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 5-\lambda & -5\\ 1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 5 - 6\lambda + \lambda^2 + 5 = \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 10.$$

By the quadratic formula, its roots are:

$$\frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 40}}{2} = \frac{6 \pm 2i}{2} = 3 \pm i.$$

Choosing the "+" root, we have that

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

To find, P, we need to find a corresponding eigenvector, which is an element of the null space of the matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2-i & -5\\ 1 & -2-i \end{bmatrix}.$$

By looking at the second row, we can see that

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2+i\\1\end{bmatrix}$$

is an eigenvector. Taking the real and imaginary parts of this matrix, we have

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

2 Find an orthonormal basis for the vector space spanned by the vectors: (6 points)

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}, v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\-2\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix}, v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 4\\-2\\-2\\3 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We set $u_1 = v_1$. Then we compute:

$$v_2 \cdot u_1 = 0 - 2 + 0 + 0 = -2,$$

 $u_1 \cdot u_1 = 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 = 2.$

Thus,

$$u_{2} = v_{2} - \frac{v_{2} \cdot u_{1}}{u_{1} \cdot u_{1}} u_{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\-2\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1\\-1\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix}$$

To find u_3 , we compute

$$v_3 \cdot u_1 = 4 - 2 + 0 + 0 = 2,$$

 $v_3 \cdot u_2 = 4 + 2 + 0 + 3 = 9,$
 $u_2 \cdot u_2 = 1 + 1 + 0 + 1 = 3.$

Thus,

$$u_3 = v_3 - \frac{v_3 \cdot u_1}{u_1 \cdot u_1} u_1 - \frac{v_3 \cdot u_2}{u_2 \cdot u_2} u_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4\\-2\\-2\\3 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix} - 3\begin{bmatrix} 1\\-1\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\-2\\0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The vectors u_1 , u_2 , and u_3 form an orthogonal basis. To find an orthonormal basis, we divide each by the square root of its dot product with itself to get the basis:

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 0 \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$