

Exercise/Review for Eigen-problems  
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## 1 Standard Hermitian Eigenvalue Problem

*Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be Hermitian.*

*A subspace  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is called an invariant subspace of  $A$  if  $A\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{X}$ .*

*The Rayleigh quotient of  $A$  with respect to a vector  $x \neq 0$  is*

$$\rho(x) := \frac{x^H A x}{x^H x}.$$

**P-1.1.** Show that

1.  $A$  is unitarily similar to a real diagonal matrix:

$$A = U \Lambda U^H,$$

where  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is unitary and  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  is real and diagonal. These  $\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues arranged, for convenience, as

$$\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n.$$

Write  $U = [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$ . Then  $u_i$  is the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda_i$ .

2.  $\lambda_1 = \min_{x \neq 0} \rho(x)$ ,  $\lambda_n = \max_{x \neq 0} \rho(x)$ .

Notations  $U$  and  $\lambda_i$  will be assigned as in this problem for the rest of this section.

**P-1.2.** 1. Show that  $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is an invariant subspace of  $A$  if and only if there exists a square matrix  $M$  such that

$$AY = YM,$$

where the columns of  $Y$  consist of basis vectors of  $\mathcal{Y}$ . How are the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $M$  and those of  $A$  are related?

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2. Let  $V = [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k]$ . Find the eigen-decomposition of  $A + \xi VV^H$ . What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

**P-1.3.** Let  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$  satisfying  $X^H X = I_k$ . Define  $\mathcal{R}(H) = AX - XH$ . Show that

$$\|\mathcal{R}(X^H A X)\|_F \leq \|\mathcal{R}(M)\|_F$$

for any Hermitian  $M \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}$ , with equality if and only if  $M = X^H A X$ , where  $\|\cdot\|_F$  stands for the matrix Frobenius norm.

## 2 Generalized Hermitian Eigenvalue Problem

Let  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  be Hermitian with  $B \succ 0$  (positive definite). We are interested in the generalized eigenvalue problem for the matrix pencil  $A - \lambda B$ .

The Rayleigh quotient of  $A - \lambda B$  with respect to a vector  $x \neq 0$  is

$$\rho(x) := \frac{x^H A x}{x^H B x}.$$

In an optimization approach, it is often needed to solve

$$\inf_t \rho(x + tp),$$

the so-called Line Search, where  $t$  is either among  $\mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$ .

A subspace  $\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is called an invariant subspace of  $A - \lambda B$  if  $A\mathcal{X} \subseteq B\mathcal{X}$ .

**P-2.1.** Show that

1. There exists nonsingular  $U \equiv [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n] \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  such that

$$U^H A U = \Lambda, \quad U^H B U = I_n,$$

where  $\Lambda = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$  is real and diagonal. These  $\lambda_i$  are the eigenvalues of  $A - \lambda B$  arranged, for convenience, as

$$\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$$

with the corresponding eigenvectors  $u_i$ .

2.  $\lambda_1 = \min_{x \neq 0} \rho(x)$ ,  $\lambda_n = \max_{x \neq 0} \rho(x)$ .

Notations  $U$  and  $\lambda_i$  will be assigned as in this problem for the rest of this section.

**P-2.2.** 1. Show that  $\mathcal{Y} \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is an invariant subspace of  $A - \lambda B$  if and only if there exists a square matrix  $M$  such that

$$A Y = B Y M,$$

where the columns of  $Y$  consist of basis vectors of  $\mathcal{Y}$ . How are the eigenvalues and eigenvectors of  $M$  and those of  $A - \lambda B$  are related?

2. Let  $V = [u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k]$ . Find the eigen-decomposition of matrix pencil

$$A + \xi(BV)(BV)^H - \lambda B.$$

What are its eigenvalues and eigenvectors?

**P-2.3.** Let  $X \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times k}$  satisfying  $X^H B X = I_k$ . Define  $\mathcal{R}(H) = AX - BXH$ . Show that

$$\|B^{-1/2} \mathcal{R}(X^H A X)\|_F \leq \|B^{-1/2} \mathcal{R}(M)\|_F$$

for any Hermitian  $M \in \mathbb{C}^{k \times k}$ , with equality if and only if  $M = X^H A X$ .

**P-2.4.** Let  $x, p \in \mathbb{C}^n$  are nonzero vectors.

1. Verify that the gradient of  $\rho$  at a point  $x$  is

$$\nabla \rho(x) = \frac{2}{x^H B x} [A - \rho(x)B]x \equiv \frac{2}{x^H B x} r(x).$$

(Be mindful about the distinction between the real case and complex case.)

2. In the complex case, it is possible that

$$\inf_{t \in \mathbb{R}} \rho(x + tp) > \inf_{t \in \mathbb{C}} \rho(x + tp).$$

Find an example.

3. Verify that

$$\inf_{t \in \mathbb{C}} \rho(x + tp) = \min_{|\xi|^2 + |\zeta|^2 > 0} \rho(\xi x + \zeta p)$$

which is the smaller eigenvalue of  $[x, p]^H (A - \lambda B) [x, p]$ , provided  $x$  and  $p$  are linearly independent.

4. Suppose  $p^H B x = 0$  and  $p^H A x \neq 0$ . Show that

$$\inf_{t \in \mathbb{C}} \rho(x + tp) = \min_{t \in \mathbb{C}} \rho(x + tp) < \min\{\rho(x), \rho(p)\}.$$

### 3 Programming Assignment

These assignments will be posted at

[www.uta.edu/faculty/rcli/G2S3/g2s3.html](http://www.uta.edu/faculty/rcli/G2S3/g2s3.html).