

The University of Alabama System
Joint Ph.D Program in Applied Mathematics
Linear Algebra and Numerical Linear Algebra JP Exam
September 2017

Instructions:

- This is a closed book examination. Once the exam begins, you have three and one half hours to do your best. You are required to do **seven of the eight problems for full credit**.
- Each problem is worth 10 points; parts of problems have equal value unless otherwise specified.
- Justify your solutions: cite theorems that you use, provide counter examples for disproof, give explanations, and show calculations for numerical problems.
- Begin each solution on a new page and write the last four digits of your university **student ID number**, and problem number, on every page. Please write only on one side of each sheet of paper.
- The use of calculators or other electronic gadgets is not permitted during the exam.
- Write legibly using dark pencil or pen.

1. Two $n \times n$ real matrices A and B are called *simultaneously diagonalizable* if there is an invertible matrix $S \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ such that $S^{-1}AS$ and $S^{-1}BS$ both are diagonal matrices. Let A and B be two $n \times n$ real matrices. Prove that

- (a) If A and B are simultaneously diagonalizable, then $AB = BA$.
- (b) If $AB = BA$ and if A has n different eigenvalues, then A and B are simultaneously diagonalizable.

2. Let A and B be two complex matrices, and suppose A and B have the same eigenvectors. Show that if the minimal polynomial of A is $(x + 1)^2$ and the characteristic polynomial of B is x^5 , then $B^3 = 0$.

3. Let A be a full column rank $n \times k$ matrix (so $k \leq n$) and \mathbf{b} be a column vector of size n . We want to minimize the squared Euclidean norm $L(\mathbf{x}) := \|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|_2^2$ with respect to \mathbf{x} .

- (a) Prove that, if $\text{rank}(A)=k$, then $A^T A$ is invertible.
- (b) Directly derive the normal equations by minimizing $L(\mathbf{x})$, and then provide the closed-form expression for \mathbf{x} that minimizes $L(\mathbf{x})$.
- (c) We consider a QR factorization of A where Q is $n \times k$ and R is $k \times k$ matrices. Show that an equivalent solution for \mathbf{x} is $\mathbf{x} = R^{-1}Q^T \mathbf{b}$.

4. Consider the map $\phi : \mathbb{R}^4 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ where

$$\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \\ d \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \begin{bmatrix} a + b - c & c - d \\ 2a + c & a - b + d \end{bmatrix}$$

- (a) Is ϕ bijective? Prove your claim.
 - (b) Compute $(a, b, c, d)^T$ such that $\phi((a, b, c, d)^T) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ or decide that this is not possible.
5. (a) Suppose $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m}$ has an SVD $A = U\Sigma V^*$. Find an eigenvalue decomposition of the $2m \times 2m$ Hermitian matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & A^* \\ A & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(b) If A is Hermitian with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$, show that

$$\kappa_2(A) = \frac{\max_i |\lambda_i|}{\min_i |\lambda_i|}$$

where $\kappa_2(A)$ is the 2-norm condition number.

6. Suppose that $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ is normal, i.e., $AA^* = A^*A$. Show that if A is also upper triangular, it must be diagonal. Use this to show that A is normal if and only if A has n orthonormal eigenvectors.
7. Let A be an $n \times n$ real matrix of full rank with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ and let X be a matrix that diagonalizes A , i.e. $X^{-1}AX = D$ where D is a diagonal matrix. If $A' = A + E$ and λ' is an eigenvalue of A' , prove that

$$\min_{1 \leq i \leq n} |\lambda' - \lambda_i| \leq \kappa_2(X) \|E\|_2$$

where $\kappa_2(X)$ is the 2-norm condition number of X .

8. Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ be an invertible matrix, $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ denote the unique exact solution of the linear system $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. Let also

$$(A + \delta A)\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{b} + \delta \mathbf{b}.$$

Assume that

$$\frac{\|\delta A\|}{\|A\|} \leq \epsilon, \quad \frac{\|\delta \mathbf{b}\|}{\|\mathbf{b}\|} \leq \epsilon,$$

and $\epsilon \kappa(A) = r < 1$, where $\kappa(A)$ is the condition number of A . Show that $A + \delta A$ is invertible and

$$\frac{\|\mathbf{y}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \leq \frac{1+r}{1-r}.$$