

Part IB Paper 7: Mathematical Methods (2)

Linear Algebra

Examples Paper 2

*Straightforward questions are marked † Tripos standard questions are marked **
Apart from the questions marked MATLAB, all questions can be done by hand.

1. Four readings from an experiment are as follows:

$$b = 2 \text{ when } u = 1, v = 1$$

$$b = 0 \text{ when } u = 1, v = 0$$

$$b = 0 \text{ when } u = 0, v = 0$$

$$b = -2 \text{ when } u = 0, v = 0$$

We want to fit a plane, $b = C + Du + Ev$ to this obviously inconsistent data.

- (a) Set up four equations in three unknowns relating the experimental readings to the coefficients of the equation of the plane.
- (b) Find the least squares solution for C, D and E .

2. Apply Gram-Schmidt to the vectors $(-1, 1, 0)$, $(0, 1, -1)$ and $(1, 0, -1)$. How many non-zero vectors come out of Gram-Schmidt and how does this relate to the dimension formed by the space spanned by the original three vectors ?

3. Carry out the QR decomposition on the matrix you found in Q. 1(a). Use these matrices to solve the least squares problem.

4.† Find the eigenvalues and a set of eigenvectors for the matrix:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

5. Suppose the 3×3 matrix \mathbf{A} has eigenvalues 0, 1, 2 with associated eigenvectors $\mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$.

(a) Describe the nullspace and the column space of \mathbf{A} .

(b) Solve the equation $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2$.

(c) Show that $\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{v}_0$ has no solution.

6.* Fibonacci numbers are calculated by the formula:

$$F_{k+2} = F_{k+1} + F_k$$

They start with the numbers 0, 1, and so the sequence is:

$$0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13$$

(a) By writing $\mathbf{u}_k = \begin{bmatrix} F_{k+1} \\ F_k \end{bmatrix}$, set up a *finite difference* equation, $\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_k$

(b) What will be the 100th Fibonacci number ?

(Hint: \mathbf{A} is a symmetric matrix, so you can diagonalise it as $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{Q}^t$. Work to four decimal places).

7† (MATLAB)

For the matrix $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & -1 \\ 1 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and using the initial guess $\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$, find an estimate of the eigenvector with the largest eigenvalue using three steps of the power method.

8. Find the singular value decomposition of:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

9.* Consider the matrix equation $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$. If the matrix \mathbf{A} has the singular value decomposition $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q}_1 \mathbf{\Sigma} \mathbf{Q}_2^T$, show that the equation can be re-written as $\mathbf{\Sigma y} = \mathbf{c}$, where $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Q}_2 \mathbf{y}$ and $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{Q}_1^T \mathbf{b}$.

The matrix \mathbf{A} has the following singular value decomposition:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 0.5 & -0.5 & -0.5 & -0.5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

(a) Use the SVD to find the complete solution to $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$, if $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$;

(b) Use the SVD to find the least squares solution to $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$, if $\mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \\ 5 \\ 7 \end{bmatrix}$.

(Hint: In each case, first rewrite the equation as $\mathbf{\Sigma y} = \mathbf{c}$.)

Relevant Paper 7 IB Tripos Questions:

2002 Q4d, Q5; 2003 Q5, 2004 Q5, 2005 Q5, 2006 Q4, 2007 Q4, 2008 Q6

Answers

$$1. \quad (a) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C \\ D \\ E \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (b) \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

2. 2 non-zero vectors.

$$4. \quad \lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = 2, \lambda_3 = 1; \text{ a possible set is } \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}; \mathbf{x}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$5. \quad (b) \mathbf{x} = \alpha \mathbf{v}_0 + \mathbf{v}_1 + 0.5 \mathbf{v}_2$$

$$6. \quad (a) \begin{bmatrix} F_{k+2} \\ F_{k+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F_{k+1} \\ F_k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(b) \mathbf{u}_{100} = \mathbf{A}^{99} \mathbf{u}_1; F_{100} = 2.1847 \times 10^{20} \text{ if 4 decimal places are used} \\ (2.1892 \times 10^{20} \text{ exact})$$

$$7. \quad \mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.9833 \\ 0.1749 \\ 0.0502 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$8. \quad \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1/\sqrt{2} & 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$9. \quad (a) \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}; (b) \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

J P Jarrett

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