

## 1.2. 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,

$$\lambda^n - (\text{Sum of the roots } \lambda^{n-1} + [\text{sum of the product of the roots taken two at a time}] \lambda^{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^n (\text{Product of the roots}) = 0 \quad \dots (2)$$

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.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & 0 \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

Characteristic equation of is

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

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

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

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

which are diagonal elements of the matrix A.

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

(or)

If  $\lambda$  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  $\lambda$ ,

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

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  $\lambda$  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  $\lambda$  is an Eigenvalue of  $A$ .

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

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

$\therefore \frac{1}{\lambda}$  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  $\lambda_i$  be the Eigenvalue of  $A$  and  $X_i$  the corresponding Eigenvector.

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

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

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

$$\text{In general, } A^m X_i = \lambda_i^m X_i \quad \dots (2)$$

Hence,  $\lambda_i^m$  is an Eigenvalue of  $A^m$ .

The corresponding Eigenvector is the same  $X_i$ .

**Note:** If  $\lambda$  is the Eigenvalue of the matrix  $A$  then  $\lambda^2$  is the Eigenvalue of  $A^2$

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

**Proof:**

Let  $\lambda$  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

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

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  $1 \times 1$  matrix whose only element is a positive value,  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$  (i.e.)  $\lambda$  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  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$

[ $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  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

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

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

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

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

$$X_1' A X_2 = \lambda_1 X_1' X_2$$

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

From (3) and (4)

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

$$\text{(i.e.) } (\lambda_1 - \lambda_2) X_1' X_2 = 0$$

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

$\therefore X_1, X_2$  are orthogonal.

**Property: 9 The similar matrices have same Eigen values.**

**Proof:**

Let A, B be two similar matrices.

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

$$\begin{aligned} B - \lambda I &= P^{-1} A P - \lambda I \\ &= P^{-1} A P - P^{-1} \lambda I P \\ &= P^{-1} (A - \lambda I) P \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} |B - \lambda I| &= |P^{-1}| |A - \lambda I| |P| \\ &= |A - \lambda I| |P^{-1} P| \\ &= |A - \lambda I| |I| \\ &= |A - \lambda I| \end{aligned}$$

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  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  be their Eigenvalues then

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

$$\text{Given } \lambda_1 = \lambda_2$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Since,  $\lambda$ '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:**

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= (-2) + (1) + (0) \\ &= -1 \end{aligned}$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} &= -2(0 - 12) - 2(0 - 6) - 3(-4 + 1) \\ &= 24 + 12 + 9 = 45 \end{aligned}$$

**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

$$\therefore 3 + 6 + k = 11$$

$$\Rightarrow 9 + k = 11$$

$$\Rightarrow k = 2$$

$\therefore$  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

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 2 + 3 + 2$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 + 1 + 1 = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 + 2 = 7$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_1 = 5$$

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.,  $1, 1, \frac{1}{5}$

