

1. Use the Gershgorin theorem to show that a symmetric, strictly row diagonally dominant real matrix with positive diagonal elements is positive definite.

2. (JPE, May 2003) Let A be a symmetric matrix with eigenvalues such that $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_2| \geq \dots \geq |\lambda_{n-1}| > |\lambda_n|$. Suppose $z \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with $z^T x_1 \neq 0$, where $Ax_1 = \lambda_1 x_1$. Prove that, for some constant C ,

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A^k z}{\lambda_1^k} = C x_1$$

and use this result to devise a reliable algorithm for computing λ_1 and x_1 . Explain how the calculation should be modified to obtain (a) λ_n and (b) the eigenvalue closest to 2.

3. (JPE, September 1996) The matrix

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

has eigenpairs

$$(\lambda, x) = \left(2, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right), \left(-1, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right), \left(3, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right),$$

Suppose the power method is applied with starting vector

$$z_0 = [1, 1, -1]^T / \sqrt{3}$$

(a) Determine whether or not the iteration will converge to an eigenpair of A , and if so, which one. Assume exact arithmetic.

(b) Repeat (a), except now use the inverse iteration with the same starting vector z_0 and the Rayleigh quotient of z_0 as approximation for the eigenvalue.

(c) Now answer both (a) and (b) again, except this time use standard fixed precision floating point arithmetic, i.e. computer arithmetic.

[Bonus] (JPE May, 2010) Let

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 4 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(a) Find the QR factorization of A by Householder reflectors.

(b) Use the results in (a) to find the least squares solution of $Ax = b$, where

$$b = [16 \ 11 \ 17]^T$$

(Note: there is a typo in the original JPE exam, it is corrected here.)