



## Solutions

1. Set

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & -3 & -7 \\ 2 & 5 & -7 & -15 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Then  $\mathbf{x} \in \ker A$  if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0} &\Leftrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & -3 & -7 & 0 \\ 2 & 5 & -7 & -15 & 0 \end{array} \right] \Leftrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 2 & -3 & -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = s(1, 1, 1, 0) + t(5, 1, 0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

for some real numbers  $s$  and  $t$ . Hence, the vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1 = (1, 1, 1, 0)$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2 = (5, 1, 0, 1)$  span  $\ker A$ , and since they are linearly independent, they form a basis for  $\ker A$ . We now apply the Gram–Schmidt process to them to obtain an orthonormal basis for  $\ker A$ . Set  $\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{u}_2 = s\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2$ . Then  $\langle \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2 \rangle = 0$  if

$$s = -\frac{\langle \mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{v}_2 \rangle}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|^2} = -\frac{6}{3} = -2.$$

Hence,  $\mathbf{u}_2 = -2\mathbf{u}_1 + \mathbf{v}_2 = (3, -1, -2, 1)$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{u}_1$  and

$$\mathbf{e}_1 = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{u}_1\|} \mathbf{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(1, 1, 1, 0) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{e}_2 = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{u}_2\|} \mathbf{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{15}}(3, -1, -2, 1)$$

form an orthonormal basis for  $\ker A$ .

**Answer:** E.g.  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}(1, 1, 1, 0)$ ,  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{15}}(3, -1, -2, 1)$ .

2. The eigenvalues of the coefficient matrix are given by

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1+\lambda & 1 \\ 2 & -1-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1+\lambda & 1 \\ 3-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} \\ &= -(\lambda+1)(\lambda-1)(\lambda-3) \end{aligned}$$

and are  $\lambda_1 = -1$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 1$  and  $\lambda_3 = 3$ .

The eigenvectors belonging to  $\lambda_1$  are the non-zero vectors given by

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \Leftrightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = t\mathbf{e}_1$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_1 = (1, -1, 0)$ .

The eigenvectors belonging to  $\lambda_2$  are the non-zero vectors given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & 0 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = t\mathbf{e}_2$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_2 = (1, -1, 2)$ .

Those belonging to  $\lambda_3$  are the non-zero vectors given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 2 & -2 & -1 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 0 & -3 & | & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -2 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = t\mathbf{e}_3$$

where  $\mathbf{e}_3 = (3, 5, -4)$ .

Since the eigenvalues are distinct, the eigenvectors  $\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \mathbf{e}_3$  form a basis for  $\mathbf{R}^3$ . The general solution of the system of linear equations is therefore given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ x_3(t) \end{bmatrix} = c_1 e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + c_2 e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + c_3 e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The initial condition gives

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & | & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 5 & | & 15 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & | & -12 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 3 & | & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 8 & | & 16 \\ 0 & 2 & -4 & | & -12 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

**Answer:** 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \\ x_3(t) \end{bmatrix} = -3e^{-t} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} - 2e^t \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 2e^{3t} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \\ -4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

3. The matrix of the quadratic form  $q$  is

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix},$$

and since

$$\begin{aligned} \det(B - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & -2 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 - \lambda & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & -2 & 0 \\ -2 & -1 - \lambda & -1 - \lambda \\ 2 & 0 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} \\ &= \begin{vmatrix} 6 - \lambda & -2 & 0 \\ -4 & -1 - \lambda & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -1 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = -(\lambda + 2)(\lambda + 1)(\lambda - 7), \end{aligned}$$

the eigenvalues of  $q$  are  $\lambda_1 = -2$ ,  $\lambda_2 = -1$ ,  $\lambda_3 = 7$ . Two eigenvalues are negative, one is positive and the right-hand side of the equation is positive. The surface is therefore a hyperboloid of two sheets. Let  $\mathbf{e}'_1, \mathbf{e}'_2, \mathbf{e}'_3$  be an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors belonging to  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3$ . Then

$$q(\mathbf{x}) = -2(x'_1)^2 - (x'_2)^2 + 7(x'_3)^2$$

if  $\mathbf{x} = x'_1 \mathbf{e}'_1 + x'_2 \mathbf{e}'_2 + x'_3 \mathbf{e}'_3$ . For a point  $\mathbf{x}$  on the surface, we have that

$$\|\mathbf{x}\|^2 = \|\mathbf{x}'\|^2 = \frac{1}{7}(7(x'_1)^2 + 7(x'_2)^2 + 7(x'_3)^2) \geq \frac{1}{7}(-2(x'_1)^2 - (x'_2)^2 + 7(x'_3)^2) = \frac{28}{7} = 4$$

with equality if and only if  $x'_1 = x'_2 = 0$  and  $x'_3 = \pm 2$ . Since

$$\begin{aligned} B\mathbf{x} = \lambda_3 \mathbf{x} &\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & 2 & | & 0 \\ -2 & -8 & 0 & | & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -8 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -2 & 2 & | & 0 \\ -2 & -8 & 0 & | & 0 \\ -2 & -8 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = t(4, -1, 1), \end{aligned}$$

we can take  $\mathbf{e}'_3 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{18}}(4, -1, 1)$ . The points on the surface closest to the origin are therefore

$$\pm 2\mathbf{e}'_3 = \pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}(4, -1, 1).$$

**Answer:** The surface is a hyperboloid of two sheets and the points on the surface closest to the origin are  $\pm \frac{\sqrt{2}}{3}(4, -1, 1)$ .

4. If  $A$  is the matrix of  $F$ , we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \langle A_1, A_1 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(36 + 4 + 9) = 1, \\ \langle A_2, A_2 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(4 + 9 + 36) = 1, \\ \langle A_3, A_3 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(9 + 36 + 4) = 1, \\ \langle A_1, A_2 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(12 + 6 - 18) = 0, \\ \langle A_1, A_3 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(-18 + 12 + 6) = 0, \\ \langle A_2, A_3 \rangle &= \frac{1}{49}(-6 + 18 - 12) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $A$  is orthogonal, and since the basis is orthonormal,  $F$  is an isometry. From

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 2 & -4 & 6 & | & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & -5 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 & -3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -14 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \Leftrightarrow \mathbf{x} = t(2, 1, 0),$$

we conclude that  $\ker(A - I)$  is the line spanned by the vector  $\mathbf{w}$  with coordinates  $(2, 1, 0)$ . This shows that  $F$  is a rotation about that line. Take  $\mathbf{u}$  to be the vector with coordinates  $(1, -2, 0)$ . Then  $\mathbf{u}$  is orthogonal to  $\mathbf{w}$ . The coordinates of  $\mathbf{v} = F(\mathbf{u})$  are

$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{7} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 15 \end{bmatrix}$$

The angle of rotation  $\theta$  is the angle between  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$ , and we have that

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle}{\|\mathbf{u}\| \|\mathbf{v}\|} = \frac{10}{\sqrt{245}\sqrt{5}} = \frac{10}{35} = \frac{2}{7}.$$

*Please, turn over!*

The determinant of the matrix whose columns are the coordinates of  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $7\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  is

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 15 & 0 \end{vmatrix} = -15 \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = -75 < 0.$$

This shows that the rotation appears to be clockwise when looking from the point with coordinates  $(2, 1, 0)$  towards the origin.

**Answer:**  $F$  is rotation about the line spanned by the vector with coordinates  $(2, 1, 0)$  through the angle  $\theta$  where  $\cos \theta = \frac{2}{7}$  in the clockwise direction when looking from the point with coordinates  $(2, 1, 0)$  towards the origin.

5. See the proof of Theorem 3.29.

6. a) We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} \in V_\lambda &\Rightarrow A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x} \\ &\Rightarrow A(B\mathbf{x}) = (AB)\mathbf{x} = (BA)\mathbf{x} = B(A\mathbf{x}) = B(\lambda\mathbf{x}) = \lambda(B\mathbf{x}) \\ &\Rightarrow B\mathbf{x} \in V_\lambda. \end{aligned}$$

This proves the assertion.

b) By the spectral theorem,  $\mathbf{R}^n$  has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of  $A$ . Let  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$  be the distinct eigenvalues of  $A$ . Then every vector  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbf{R}^n$  can be written uniquely as

$$\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{u}_k$$

where  $\mathbf{u}_i \in V_{\lambda_i}$  for  $i = 1, \dots, k$ . By the result shown in 6 a), the restriction of the mapping  $\mathbf{x} \mapsto B\mathbf{x}$  to  $V_{\lambda_i}$  is a symmetric linear transformation on  $V_{\lambda_i}$ . Hence, each  $V_{\lambda_i}$  has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of  $B$ . These vectors are also eigenvectors of  $A$ , and  $\mathbf{u}_i$  can be written uniquely as a linear combination of them. Consequently,  $\mathbf{u}$  can be written uniquely as a linear combination of all these eigenvectors taken together, which therefore form a basis for  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .