

# Announcements Mar 16

- WebWork 5.1 due Thursday
- Quiz 7 on 5.1 on Friday
- Homework 7 to be completed on Piazza
- Midterm 3 in class [Friday April 8](#) on [Chapter 5](#)
- Office Hours Tuesday and Wednesday 2-3, after class, and by appt in Skiles 244 [or 236](#)
- LA Office Hours: Scott Mon 12-1, Yashvi Mon 2-3, Shivang Tue 5-6, Baishen Wed 4-5, Matt Thu 3-4
- Math Lab, Clough 280
  - Regular hours: Mon/Wed 11-5 and Tue/Thu 11-5
  - Math 1553 hours: Mon-Thu 5-6 and Tue/Thu 11-12
  - LA hours: Matt Tue 11-12, Scott Tue 5-6, Baishen Thu 11-12, Yashvi/Shivang Thu 5-6

# Chapter 5

## Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

# Section 5.1

## Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

## Where are we?

Remember:

Almost every engineering problem, no matter how huge, can be reduced to linear algebra:

$$Ax = b \quad \text{or}$$

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

We have said most of what we are going to say about the first problem. We now begin in earnest on the second problem.

## A Question from Biology

In a population of rabbits...

- half of the new born rabbits survive their first year
- of those, half survive their second year
- the maximum life span is three years
- rabbits produce 0, 6, 8 rabbits in their first, second, and third years

If I know the population one year, what is the population the next year?

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 8 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ s_0 \\ t_0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ s_1 \\ t_1 \end{pmatrix} \quad Av_0 = v_1$$

Now choose some starting population vector  $u = (f, s, t)$  and choose some number of years  $N$ . What is the new population after  $N$  years?  $N + 1$  years?

$$A \cdots AAv_0 = A^{10}v_0 \quad A^{20}v$$

Use a computer to find the actual numbers.

$$\& A^{21}v$$

# A Question from Biology

Year 0

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 7 \\ 9 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 4 \\ 7 \\ 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

Year 10

$$\begin{pmatrix} 30189 \\ 7761 \\ 1844 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 9459 \\ 2434 \\ 577 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 28856 \\ 7405 \\ 1765 \end{pmatrix}$$

Year 11

$$\begin{pmatrix} 61316 \\ 15095 \\ 3881 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 19222 \\ 4729 \\ 1217 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 58550 \\ 14428 \\ 3703 \end{pmatrix}$$

Observation 1 All 3 segments of the popln

2 is double each year.  
2 is an eigenvalue

Observation 2 Ratios get close to 16:4:1

eigen vector

# Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

Suppose  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix and there is a  $v \neq 0$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  so that

$$Av = \lambda v$$

then  $v$  is called an **eigenvector** for  $A$ , and  $\lambda$  is the corresponding **eigenvalue**.

*eigen = characteristic*

This the the most important definition in the course.

# Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

## Examples

$$Av = \lambda v \quad v \neq 0, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 8 \\ 1/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 32 \\ 8 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda = 2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 64 \\ 16 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -4 & 8 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda = 4$$

How do you check?



# Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

Confirming eigenvectors

$$Av = \lambda v \quad v \neq 0, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

Which of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$  are eigenvectors of  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ ?

What are the eigenvalues?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{yes} \quad \lambda = 2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{yes} \quad \lambda = 0.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{yes} \quad \lambda = 0.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{no}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{no because } 0\text{-vect is never an e-vector}$$

# Eigenvectors and Eigenvalues

## Confirming eigenvalues

Confirm that  $\lambda = 3$  is an eigenvalue of  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$ .  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -12 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$

want  $A v = 3v$

$$A v - 3v = 0$$

$$A v = 0$$

$$(A - 3I)v = 0 \quad \text{row reduce!}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ -5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 0 \\ -15 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A - 3I = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -4 \\ -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -4 \\ -1 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$-x_1 - 4x_2 = 0$$

$$\rightsquigarrow x_2 \begin{pmatrix} -4 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

a whole line  
of eigenvectors.

$A - \lambda I$  not invertible.

What is a general procedure for finding eigenvalues?

# Eigenspaces

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix. The set of eigenvectors for a given eigenvalue  $\lambda$  of  $A$  is a subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  called the  $\lambda$ -**eigenspace** of  $A$ .

$\curvearrowright$  plus 0 vector.

Why is this a subspace?

$$Av = \lambda v$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v = 0$$

$$Av = \lambda v$$

$$Aw = \lambda w$$

$$A(v+w) = Av + Aw$$

$$= \lambda v + \lambda w$$

$$= \lambda(v+w)$$

Fact.  $\lambda$ -eigenspace for  $A = \text{Nul}(A - \lambda I)$

Example. Find the eigenspaces for  $\lambda = 2$  and  $\lambda = -1$  and sketch.

$$A - 2I = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -6 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -6 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$\text{Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -6 \\ 3 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$$

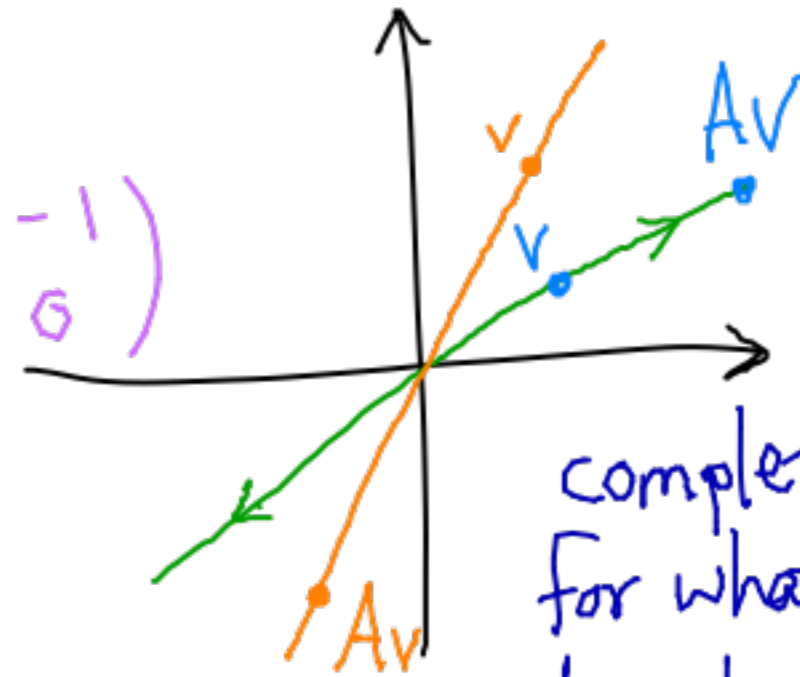
$$= \text{Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -1$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & -6 \\ 3 & -3 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



complete pic for what  $A$  does to  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

# Eigenspaces

## Bases

Find a basis for the 2-eigenspace:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & 1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A - 2I$$

$$\text{Find Nul} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \\ 2 & -1 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\leadsto$  2-dim plane in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ .

$$2x_1 - x_2 + 6x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + x_3 \begin{pmatrix} -3 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

basis

# Eigenvalues

## And invertibility

Fact.  $A$  invertible  $\Leftrightarrow 0$  is not an eigenvalue of  $A$

Why?

$0$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$

$\Leftrightarrow (A - 0 \cdot I)v = 0$  has non-zero  
solns

$\Leftrightarrow Av = 0$  has non-0 solns

$\Leftrightarrow$   $A$  not invertible.

# Eigenvalues

## Triangular matrices

upper or lower

Fact. The eigenvalues of a triangular matrix are the diagonal entries.

Why?

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

If you subtract 1, 4, or 6 from diagonal, you lose a pivot  $\rightsquigarrow$  not invertible.

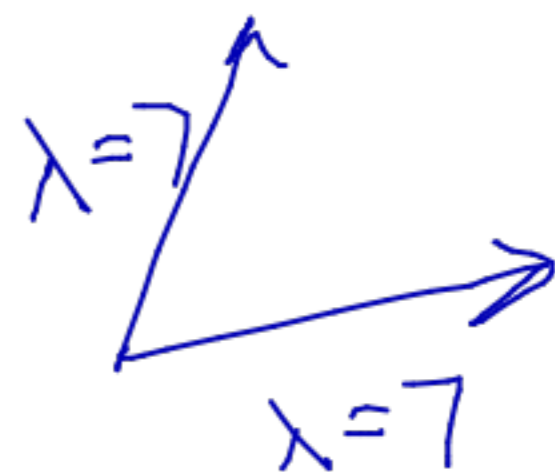
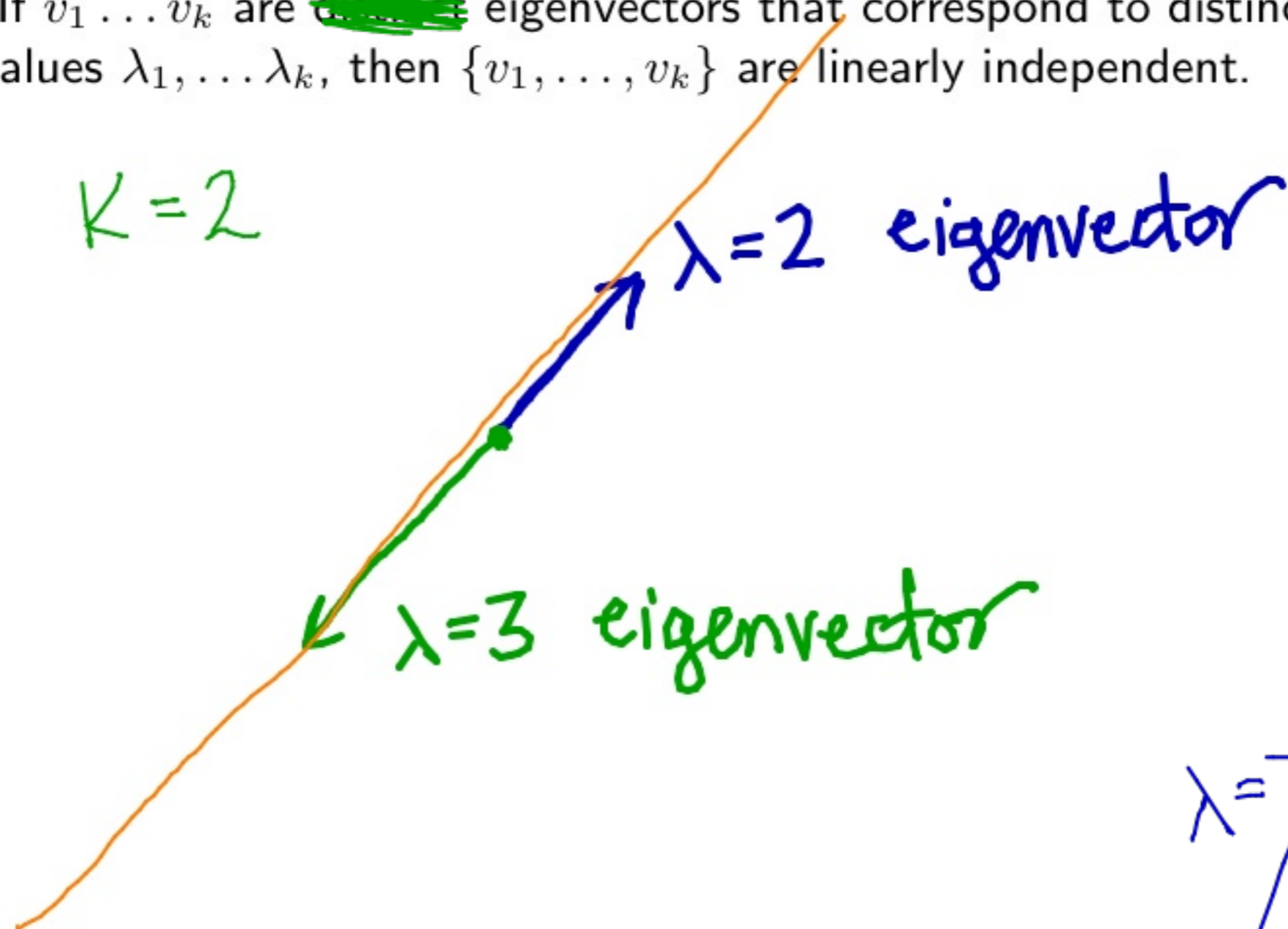
# Eigenvalues

## Distinct eigenvalues

Fact. If  $v_1 \dots v_k$  are ~~distinct~~ eigenvectors that correspond to distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ , then  $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$  are linearly independent.

Why?

$k=2$



# Section 5.2

## The characteristic polynomial



# 5.2 The characteristic polynomial

## Outline

- The characteristic polynomial: a systematic way to find eigenvalues
  - ▶  $2 \times 2$  matrices
  - ▶  $3 \times 3$  matrices
- algebraic multiplicity of eigenvalues
- similar matrices  $\rightsquigarrow$  same eigenvalues

## Characteristic polynomial

*Recall:*

$\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A \Leftrightarrow A - \lambda I$  is not invertible

So to find eigenvalues of  $A$  we solve

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

The left hand side is a polynomial called the **characteristic polynomial** of  $A$ .

The roots of the characteristic polynomial are the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

## Characteristic polynomial

The characteristic polynomial of  $\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  is:

$$\det\left(\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \lambda \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \det\begin{pmatrix} 5-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

So the eigenvalues are:

$$= (5-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 4$$

$$= \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36 - 4}}{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \parallel \\ & (\lambda - (3 + 2\sqrt{2})) \\ & (\lambda - (3 - 2\sqrt{2})) \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{32}}{2} = \frac{6 \pm 4\sqrt{2}}{2} = 3 \pm 2\sqrt{2}$$

# Characteristic polynomial

$2 \times 2$  matrices

The characteristic polynomial of

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

is:

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} a-\lambda & b \\ c & d-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (a-\lambda)(d-\lambda) - bc$$
$$= \lambda^2 - (a+d)\lambda + ad - bc$$

∩

# Characteristic polynomials

3 × 3 matrices

Find the characteristic polynomial of the rabbit population matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 6 & 8 \\ \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 6 & 8 \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

What are the eigenvalues?

2 (from before)  
-1 (Ben)

Hint: We already know one eigenvalue!

$$= -\lambda(\lambda^2) - \frac{1}{2} \det \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 8 \\ \frac{1}{2} & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= -\lambda^3 - \frac{1}{2}(-6\lambda - 4)$$

$$= -\lambda^3 + 3\lambda + 2$$

$$= (\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) \left( \overset{a}{\frac{1}{2}}\lambda + \overset{b}{\frac{1}{2}} \right)$$

$$= -(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1)^2$$

$\uparrow$  -1       $\uparrow$  -1

## Algebraic multiplicity

The **algebraic multiplicity** of an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is its multiplicity as a root of the characteristic polynomial.

*Example.* Find the algebraic multiplicities of the eigenvalues for

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda^2 (\lambda + 1) (\lambda - 1)$$

$\lambda = 0$  has alg mult 2

$\lambda = 1, -1$  alg mult 1.

# Similar matrices

Two  $n \times n$  matrices  $A$  and  $B$  are **similar** if there is a matrix  $C$  so that

$$A = CBC^{-1}$$

Idea:  $A$  and  $B$  are doing the same thing, but with respect to different bases.

## Similar matrices

And the characteristic polynomial

$$A, B \text{ Similar: } A = CBC^{-1}$$

Fact. If  $A$  and  $B$  similar, they have the same characteristic polynomial.

and hence same eigenvalues.

Why?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{char poly of } A &= \det(A - \lambda I) = \det(CBC^{-1} - \lambda I) \\ &= \det(CBC^{-1} - \lambda C I C^{-1}) \\ &= \det(C \underline{(B - \lambda I)} C^{-1}) \\ &= \cancel{\det(C)} \det(B - \lambda I) \cancel{\det(C^{-1})} \end{aligned}$$



# Similar matrices

## Example

*Similar:*  $A = CBC^{-1}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

Idea:  $A$  and  $B$  are doing the same thing, but with respect to different bases.

# Similar matrices

## Example

Do a similar analysis of

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

# Eigenvectors and difference equations

Say we want to solve  $x_{k+1} = Ax_k$ . In other words, we need a sequence  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  with  $x_1 = Ax_0$ ,  $x_2 = Ax_1$ , etc.

*Example.*  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b \\ a + b \end{pmatrix}.$

# Structural engineering

## Column buckling

Say we have a column with a compressive force. How will the column buckle?



Approximate column with finite number of points, say

$$(0, 0), (0, 1), (0, 2), \dots (0, 5), (0, 6)$$

Buckling leads to (roughly)

$$(0, 0), (x_1, 1), (x_2, 2), \dots (x_5, 5), (0, 6)$$

Engineers use a difference equation to model this

$$x_{i-1} - 2x_i + x_{i+1} + \lambda x_i = 0$$

# Structural engineering

## Column buckling

Difference equation for column buckling:

$$x_{i-1} - 2x_i + x_{i+1} + \lambda x_i = 0$$

We solve this difference equation as above. We need the eigenvector of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

For most  $\lambda$ , the only eigenvector is 0, which corresponds to no buckling. This matrix has three eigenvalues, 1, 2, and 3.

