

Announcements April 1

- Class participation (Piazza polls) is optional for the rest of the semester.
- We will use Blue Jeans Meetings for the rest of the semester.
- The new schedule is on the web page.
- Midterm 3 on **April 17**
- WeBWork 5.1 due tomorrow: Thu April 2.
- Official quiz on Friday on Canvas on 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 5.1.
It will be open all day Friday, but there will be a time limit.
- My office hours ~~Monday 3-4 and Wed 2-3 on Blue Jeans~~ *by appt*
- TA office hours on Blue Jeans (you can go to any of these!)
 - ▶ Isabella Mon 11-12, Wed 11-12
 - ▶ Kyle Wed 3-5, Thu 1-3
 - ▶ Kalen Mon/Wed 1-2
 - ▶ Sidhanth Tue 10-12
- Supplemental problems and practice exams on the master web site
- Counseling Center: <http://counseling.gatech.edu> ▶ Click

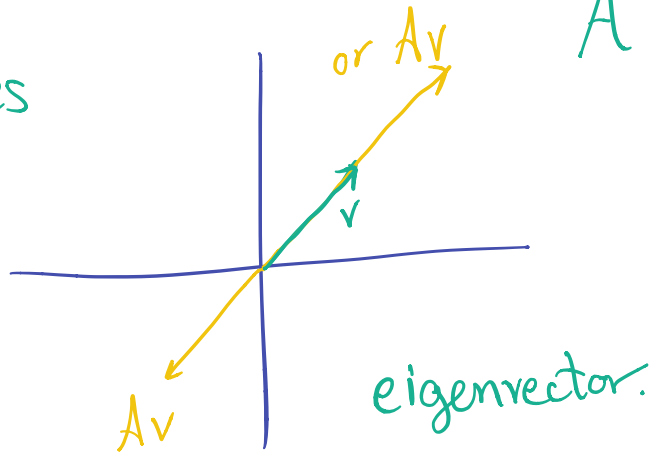
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Section 5.2

The characteristic polynomial

Today

③ Find eigenvalues



A

So far

- ① Can check if $\lambda=3$ is an eigenvalue.
- ② Can find the 3-eigenspace

Characteristic polynomial

$$\begin{aligned}Av &= \lambda v \\ Av - \lambda I v &= 0 \\ (A - \lambda I)v &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Recall:

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

So to find eigenvalues of A we solve

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

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

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

The eigenrecipe

Say you are given an square matrix A .

Step 1. Find the eigenvalues of A by solving

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

Today
Sec 5.2

Step 2. For each eigenvalue λ_i the λ_i -eigenspace is the solution to

$$(A - \lambda_i I)x = 0$$

Last class
Sec 5.1

To find a basis, find the vector parametric solution, as usual.

Characteristic polynomial

Find the characteristic polynomial and eigenvalues of

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{pmatrix} 5-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} &= (5-\lambda)(1-\lambda) - 4 \\ &= \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 5 - 4 \\ &= \lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 1 \end{aligned}$$

Char
poly

~

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

$$= 3 \pm \sqrt{32}/2 \dots$$

$$= 3 \pm \sqrt{8}$$

Characteristic polynomials, trace, and determinant

The **trace** of a matrix is the sum of the diagonal entries.

The characteristic polynomial of an $n \times n$ matrix A is a polynomial with leading term $(-1)^n$, next term $(-1)^{n-1}\text{trace}(A)$, and constant term $\det(A)$:

$$(-1)^n \lambda^n + (-1)^{n-1} \text{trace}(A) \lambda^{n-1} + \dots + \det(A)$$

So for a 2×2 matrix:

$$\lambda^2 - \text{trace}(A)\lambda + \det(A)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \boxed{5} & 2 \\ 2 & \boxed{1} \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \lambda^2 - \underline{\underline{6}}\lambda + 1$$

$\text{trace} = 5 + 1$

Characteristic polynomials

3 × 3 matrices

Find the characteristic polynomial of the following matrix.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & 3 \\ -3 & 2 & -3 \\ -3 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} + & - & + \\ - & + & - \\ + & - & + \end{pmatrix}$$

What are the eigenvalues? Hint: Don't multiply everything out!

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{pmatrix} 7-\lambda & 0 & 3 \\ -3 & 2-\lambda & -3 \\ -3 & 0 & -1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} &= (2-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 7-\lambda & 3 \\ -3 & -1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (2-\lambda) ((7-\lambda)(-1-\lambda) + 9) \\ &= (2-\lambda) (\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 2) \end{aligned}$$

trace formula

$$-\lambda^3 + 8\lambda^2 + ? \cdot \det$$

$$\lambda = 2$$

$$\lambda = \frac{6 \pm \sqrt{36-8}}{2}$$

Characteristic polynomials

3 × 3 matrices

$$+ (7-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & -3 \\ 2 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} + 3 \det \begin{pmatrix} -3 & 2-\lambda \\ 4 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find the characteristic polynomial of the following matrix.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7 & 0 & 3 \\ -3 & 2 & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \det \begin{pmatrix} 7-\lambda & 0 & 3 \\ -3 & 2-\lambda & -3 \\ 4 & 2 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

Answer: $-\lambda^3 + 9\lambda^2 - 8\lambda$

What are the eigenvalues?

$$\lambda = 0 \quad \text{b/c:}$$

$$-\lambda(\lambda^2 - 9\lambda + 8) \xrightarrow{\text{factor}} \lambda = 8, 1$$

$$\lambda = 0$$

$$\frac{9 \pm \sqrt{81 - 32}}{2}$$

Characteristic polynomials

3×3 matrices

Find the characteristic polynomial of the rabbit population matrix.

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

Answer:

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

What are the eigenvalues?

$\lambda = 2$

Hint: We already know one eigenvalue! Polynomial long division \rightsquigarrow

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

Don't really need long division: the first and last terms of the quadratic are easy to find; can guess and check the other term.

Without the hint, could use the rational root theorem: any integer root of a polynomial with leading coefficient ± 1 divides the constant term.

Eigenvalues

Triangular matrices

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

Why?

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

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightsquigarrow \lambda = 1, 4, 0$$

$\lambda = 4$
(multiplicity)
3

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4-\lambda & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(4-\lambda)(6-\lambda)$$

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

$$\rightsquigarrow \lambda = 1, 4, 6$$

Algebraic multiplicity

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

Example. Find the algebraic multiplicities of the eigenvalues for

example
In identity
 $\lambda = 1$ has
multipl. = n
char poly: $(1-\lambda)^n$

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

$\lambda = 0$ has
mult 2
 $\lambda = \pm 1$ have
mult. 1.

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

Fact. The sum of the algebraic multiplicities of the (real) eigenvalues of an $n \times n$ matrix is at most n .

Later. \dim eigenspace \leq alg mult

Review of Section 5.2

True or false: every $n \times n$ matrix has an eigenvalue.

True or false: every $n \times n$ matrix has n distinct eigenvalues.

True or false: the nullity of $A - \lambda I$ is the dimension of the λ -eigenspace.

What are the eigenvalues for the standard matrix for a reflection?

Summary of Section 5.2

- The characteristic polynomial of A is $\det(A - \lambda I)$
- The roots of the characteristic polynomial for A are the eigenvalues
- Techniques for 3×3 matrices:
 - ▶ Don't multiply out if there is a common factor
 - ▶ If there is no constant term then factor out λ
 - ▶ If the matrix is triangular, the eigenvalues are the diagonal entries
 - ▶ Guess one eigenvalue using the rational root theorem, reverse engineer the rest (or use long division)
 - ▶ Use the geometry to determine an eigenvalue
- Given an square matrix A :
 - ▶ The eigenvalues are the solutions to $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$
 - ▶ Each λ_i -eigenspace is the solution to $(A - \lambda_i I)x = 0$

Section 5.4

Diagonalization

Section 5.4 Outline

- Diagonalization
- Using diagonalization to take powers
- Algebraic versus geometric dimension

We understand diagonal matrices

We completely understand what diagonal matrices do to \mathbb{R}^n . For example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

stretches by 2 in
x-dir
by 3 in y-dir

We have seen that it is useful to take powers of matrices: for instance in computing rabbit populations.

If A is diagonal, powers of A are easy to compute. For example:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}^{10} = \begin{pmatrix} 2^{10} & 0 \\ 0 & 3^{10} \end{pmatrix}$$

Powers of matrices that are similar to diagonal ones

What if A is not diagonal? Suppose want to understand the matrix

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

geometrically? Or take it's 10th power? What would we do?

What if I give you the following equality:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5/4 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 5/4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

$A = C D C^{-1}$

eigenvalues (pointing to 2 and 1/2)

eigenvectors (pointing to columns of C)

This is called **diagonalization**.

How does this help us understand A ? Or find A^{10} ?

$$A^2 = (C D C^{-1}) (C D C^{-1}) = C D^2 C^{-1} \quad A^{100} = C D^{100} C^{-1}$$

" $C \begin{pmatrix} 2^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (1/2)^{100} \end{pmatrix} C^{-1}$

Powers of matrices that are similar to diagonal ones

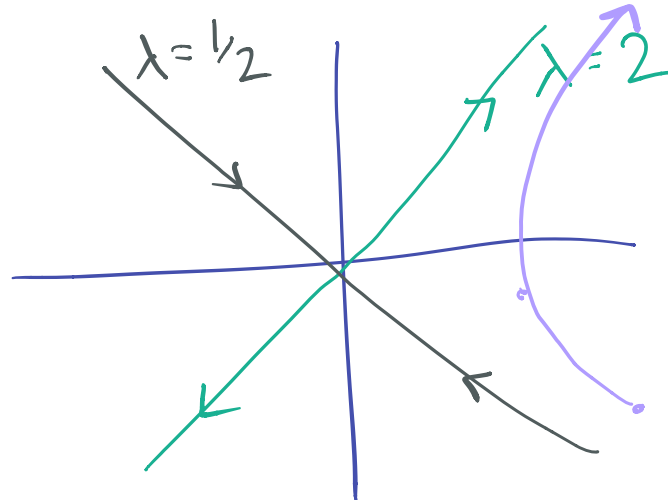
What if I give you the following equality:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5/4 & 3/4 \\ 3/4 & 5/4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

$A \quad = \quad C \quad D \quad C^{-1}$

This is called **diagonalization**.

How does this help us understand A ? Or find A^{10} ? [▶ Demo](#)



Diagonalization

Suppose A is $n \times n$. We say that A is **diagonalizable** if we can write:

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

$$D = \text{diagonal}$$

We say that A is similar to D .

How does this factorization of A help describe what A **does** to \mathbb{R}^n ?
How does this help us take powers of A ?

Understanding the rabbit example: since 2 is the largest eigenvalue, (almost) all other vectors get pulled towards that eigenvector. Compare with the example from the last slide.

Diagonalization

The recipe

Theorem. A is diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow A$ has n linearly independent eigenvectors.

In this case

$$A = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} | & | & \cdots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_n \\ | & | & \cdots & | \end{pmatrix}}_C \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda_n & \end{pmatrix}}_D \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} | & | & \cdots & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \cdots & v_n \\ | & | & \cdots & | \end{pmatrix}}_{C^{-1}}^{-1}$$

where v_1, \dots, v_n are linearly independent eigenvectors and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ are the corresponding eigenvalues (in **order**).

Why?

Example

Diagonalize if possible.

$\lambda=2$
eigenv.

$\lambda=-1$
eigenv.

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

eigenvalues: $2, -1$

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

C

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

D

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

C^{-1}

eigen vectors $\lambda=2 \rightsquigarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Example

Diagonalize if possible.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example

Diagonalize if possible.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 3/4 & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & 3/4 \end{pmatrix}$$

▶ Demo

More Examples

Diagonalize if possible.

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

Poll

Poll

Which are diagonalizable?

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

Distinct Eigenvalues

Fact. If A has n distinct eigenvalues, then A is diagonalizable.

Why?

Non-Distinct Eigenvalues

Theorem. Suppose

- $A = n \times n$, has eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$
- $a_i =$ algebraic multiplicity of λ_i
- $d_i =$ dimension of λ_i eigenspace (“geometric multiplicity”)

Then

1. $d_i \leq a_i$ for all i
2. A is diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow \sum d_i = n$
 $\Leftrightarrow \sum a_i = n$ and $d_i = a_i$ for all i

So: if you find one eigenvalue where the geometric multiplicity is less than the algebraic multiplicity, the matrix is not diagonalizable.

Review of Section 5.4

True or false: If A is a 3×3 matrix with eigenvalues 0, 1, and 2, then A is diagonalizable.

True or false: It is possible for an eigenspace to be 0-dimensional.

Summary of Section 5.4

- A is diagonalizable if $A = CDC^{-1}$ where D is diagonal
- A diagonal matrix stretches along its eigenvectors by the eigenvalues, similar to a diagonal matrix
- If $A = CDC^{-1}$ then $A^k = CD^kC^{-1}$
- A is diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow A$ has n linearly independent eigenvectors \Leftrightarrow the sum of the geometric dimensions of the eigenspaces is n
- If A has n distinct eigenvalues it is diagonalizable