

Recall: Eigenvalues are the roots of the characteristic polynomial.

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

$$(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

Note that if \vec{v} is an eigenvector of eigenvalue λ then \vec{v} is in $\ker(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)$.

Viceversa, if \vec{v} is in $\ker(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)$ then \vec{v} is an eigenvector of eigenvalue λ .

The subspace $\underbrace{\ker(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)}_{E_\lambda}$ is called the eigenspaces of A of eigenvalue λ .

Example: Compute/find the eigenspaces of $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 \\ 1/3 & 2/3 & 1/3 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 & 2/3 \end{bmatrix}$.

The eigenvalues of A are 1, 0.

E_1 E_0

$E_0 = \ker(A - 0 \cdot I_3) = \ker(A)$, so we have to solve $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 2/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 & 0 \\ 1/3 & 2/3 & 1/3 & 0 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 & 2/3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{so } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ -t \\ t \end{bmatrix} = t \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

so $E_0 = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$. \leftarrow all eigenvectors with eigenvalue 0.

$E_1 = \ker(A - 1 \cdot I_3)$, so we have to solve $\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 \\ 1/3 & -1/3 & 1/3 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 \end{bmatrix}}_{A - I_3} \vec{x} = \vec{0}$.

$$\left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} -1/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 & 0 \\ 1/3 & -1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \\ -1/3 & 1/3 & -1/3 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \text{so } \vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} t \\ t+s \\ s \end{bmatrix} = t \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$E_1 = \text{span} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right)$. \leftarrow all eigenvectors of eigenvalue 1.

the geometric multiplicity of an eigenvalue λ is $\dim(E_\lambda) = \text{geomu}(\lambda)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{geomu}(\lambda) &= \dim(E_\lambda) = \dim(\text{Ker}(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)) = n - \dim(\text{im}(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)) = \\ &= n - \text{rank}(A - \lambda \cdot I_n). \end{aligned}$$

Algebraic multiplicity and geometric multiplicity alone do not give information about the linear independence of eigenvectors.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = S^{-1} A S$$

↑ matrix of eigenvalues ↑ matrix of eigenvectors

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix, an eigenbasis of A is a basis of \mathbb{R}^n formed by eigenvectors of A .

Example:

(1) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ has eigenbasis $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

(2) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has eigenbasis $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

(3) $A = \frac{1}{3} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ has eigenbasis $\mathcal{B} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

(4) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ does not have an eigenbasis.

Let A be a matrix of size $n \times n$. Let λ be an eigenvalue of A . Then A

has an eigenbasis if and only if $\text{amu}(\lambda) = \text{geomu}(\lambda)$ for all λ . ⚠ and $f_A(x)$ factors

factor λ $n - \text{rank}(A - \lambda \cdot I_n)$

from $f_A(x)$

into linear terms.

Method to compute eigenbasis:

0. Check that there exists an eigenbasis.
1. Compute eigenvalues (solve $f_A(x) = 0$, obtain $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s$).
2. Compute eigenspaces (find E_λ , $\dim(E_\lambda) = \text{geomult}(\lambda)$).
3. Find a basis of the eigenspaces.
4. Concatenate these basis:

$$\left\{ \underbrace{\vec{v}_1^{\lambda_1}, \dots, \vec{v}_{\text{geomult}(\lambda_1)}^{\lambda_1}}_{\text{basis of } E_{\lambda_1}}, \underbrace{\vec{v}_1^{\lambda_2}, \dots, \vec{v}_{\text{geomult}(\lambda_2)}^{\lambda_2}}_{\text{basis of } E_{\lambda_2}}, \dots, \underbrace{\vec{v}_1^{\lambda_s}, \dots, \vec{v}_{\text{geomult}(\lambda_s)}^{\lambda_s}}_{\text{basis of } E_{\lambda_s}} \right\}$$

this is now an eigenbasis of \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark: We are using that eigenvectors with distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent.

$$v_1 \quad v_2 \quad A v_1 = \underline{\lambda_1} v_1 \quad A v_2 = \underline{\lambda_2} v_2$$

$$v_1 = k v_2$$

Check this!

Also, $\text{geomult}(\lambda) \leq \text{almult}(\lambda) \leq n$.

A has eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s$.

$f_A(x)$ has degree n .

What is the sum of the algebraic multiplicities?

$$\text{algebraic}(\lambda_1) + \dots + \text{algebraic}(\lambda_s) \leq n.$$

If we have an eigenbasis then $\text{algebraic}(\lambda_1) + \dots + \text{algebraic}(\lambda_s) = n$.

Also: $\text{geometric}(\lambda_1) = \text{algebraic}(\lambda_1), \dots, \text{geometric}(\lambda_s) = \text{algebraic}(\lambda_s)$, so

$$\underbrace{\text{geometric}(\lambda_1) + \dots + \text{geometric}(\lambda_s)} = n.$$

the concatenation of the eigenspaces has n vectors

A matrix A of size $n \times n$ has an eigenbasis if and only if:

$$\text{geometric}(\lambda_1) + \dots + \text{geometric}(\lambda_s) = n.$$

Question: Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix with n distinct eigenvalues.

Does it have an eigenbasis? What is this eigenbasis?

So $f_A(x) = (x - \lambda_1) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$. \leftarrow associated eigenvectors $\mathbb{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & 2 & & & \\ & & 3 & & \\ & & & 4 & \\ & & & & 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad f_A(x) = (x-1)(x-2)(x-3)(x-4)(x-5) \cdot (-1)$$

If A and B are similar then:

(1) $f_A(x) = f_B(x)$ so they have the same eigenvalues.

(2) $\text{rank}(A) = \text{rank}(B)$

(3) $\text{algebraic}_A(\lambda) = \text{algebraic}_B(\lambda)$

for all eigenvalues λ .

$$\text{geom}_A(\lambda) = \text{geom}_B(\lambda)$$

$$(4) \quad \det(A) = \det(B) \quad \text{and} \quad \text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(B).$$

Let A be such that the sum of the geometric multiplicities is the size of the matrix. We say that A is diagonalizable.

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_n\}$ be an eigenbasis of A . Consider $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, then

$$\vec{x} \mapsto A\vec{x}$$

the matrix associated to T in the basis \mathcal{B} is diagonal, and the diagonal entries are eigenvalues of A .

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is not diagonalizable.

$$f_A(x) = (x-1)^2 \quad \text{so} \quad \text{algebraic}(1) = 2.$$

But $E_1 = \ker \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ has dimension 1. So $\text{geom}(1) = 1$.

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 8 & -9 \\ 4 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$, is it diagonalizable (does it have an eigenbasis)?

Eigenvalues: 2.

Algebraic multiplicity: 2.

Geometric multiplicity: 1.

Example: $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ find an eigenbasis and find a diagonal matrix D

similar to A .

