

Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors I

(1) Let $U_n =$ all upper triangular matrices
 $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, i.e.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}, \quad a_{ij} = 0 \text{ if } i > j$$

Then

$$\det A = \prod_{i=1}^n a_{ii}$$

and same for
 $A \in L_n$ (lower
 triangular).

ex. 1. $\det \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -2 & 3 \\ 0 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{pmatrix} = 5 \cdot (-4) \cdot 3 = -60$

(2) Let $E_n =$ all elementary matrices in $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$.

and let us decompose E_n into its 3 types:

$$E_n^i = E_n^I \cup E_n^{II} \cup E_n^{III}$$

where $E_n^I =$ type I, row-swapping elementary matrices

$E_n^{II} =$ type II, scaling a row by $c \neq 0$, elem. matrices

$E_n^{III} =$ type III, adding a multiple of a row to another row, elementary matrices

Then,

(i) for any $E \in E_n^I$ & any $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$

$$\boxed{\det(EA) = -\det A}$$

(ii) for any $E \in E_n^{II}$, if E scales
a row by $c \neq 0$,

$$\boxed{\det(EA) = c \det A}$$

(iii) $E \in E_n^{III}$ \Rightarrow $\boxed{\det(EA) = \det A}$

ex. 2. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in M_3(\mathbb{R})$.

Let us reduce A to an upper triangular matrix & apply (1) & (2):

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{E_1 \in \mathcal{E}_3^{\text{III}} \\ E_2 \in \mathcal{E}_3^{\text{III}}}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{E_3 \in \mathcal{E}_3^{\text{I}}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathcal{U}_3$$

where

$$E_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{add } 2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{II}$$

$$E_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{add } \mathbf{I} \text{ to } \mathbf{III}$$

$$E_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{swap } \mathbf{II} \text{ \& } \mathbf{III}$$

Indeed,

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_3 E_2 E_1 A &= \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{1st}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{\text{2nd}} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & -5 \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

as before. But now:

$$\det(E_3 E_2 E_1 A) \stackrel{(1)}{=} 1 \cdot 3 \cdot (-5) = -15$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
 -15 &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \det(E_3 E_2 E_1 A) \\
 &\stackrel{\text{thm.}}{=} (\det E_3)(\det E_2)(\det E_1)(\det A) \\
 &\stackrel{(2)}{=} (-1) \cdot 1 \cdot 1 \cdot \det A \\
 &= -\det A
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\det A = 15}$$

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Indeed, let us verify this by using the def.:

$$\det A = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 1 \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} 8 & -9 \\ 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix} - (-4) \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -9 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} + 2 \cdot \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 8 \\ -1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= 63 + 4 \cdot (-9) + 2 \cdot (-14 + 8)$$

$$= 63 - 36 - 12$$

$$= 63 - 48$$

$$= 15$$



(6)

ex. 3 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -3 \\ -2 & -3 & -5 & 2 \\ 4 & -4 & 4 & -6 \end{pmatrix}$ in $M_4(\mathbb{R})$.

$$E_1, E_2 \in \mathcal{E}_4^{\text{III}} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0 & 0 & 16 & -8 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} E_1: \text{add I to III} \\ E_2: \text{add } -2\text{I to IV} \end{array}$$

$$E_3, E_4 \in \mathcal{E}_4^{\text{III}} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & -6 \\ 0 & 0 & 16 & -20 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} E_3: \text{add } 3\text{II to III} \\ E_4: \text{add } 4\text{II to IV} \end{array}$$

$$E_5 \in \mathcal{E}_4^{\text{III}} \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad E_5: \text{add } -4\text{III to IV}$$

Since $E_1, \dots, E_5 \in \mathcal{E}_4^{\text{III}}$,

$$\det A \stackrel{(2)}{=} \det (E_5 E_4 E_3 E_2 E_1 A)$$

$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 3 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 4 & -7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\stackrel{(1)}{=} 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 4 \cdot 4$$

$$= 32$$

(3) For any $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \in U_n$

the eigenvalues of A are

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_1 &= a_{11} \\ \lambda_2 &= a_{22} \\ &\vdots \\ \lambda_n &= a_{nn} \end{aligned}$$

counting duplicates

pf: $\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ 0 & a_{22} - \lambda & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & a_{nn} - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$

$$\stackrel{(1)}{=} (a_{11} - \lambda)(a_{22} - \lambda) \dots (a_{nn} - \lambda)$$

$$= 0$$

$$\implies \lambda = a_{11}, a_{22}, \dots, a_{nn},$$

QED

Similarly, for any $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \in L_n,$

$\lambda_1 = a_{11}, \dots, \lambda_n = a_{nn}$ counting duplicates

ex. 4 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 6 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \implies \lambda_1 = 3 \implies A \notin GL(3, \mathbb{R})$

$\lambda_2 = 0$

$\lambda_3 = 2$

ex. 5 $A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 5 & 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \implies \lambda_1 = 4 \implies A \in GL(3, \mathbb{R})$

$\lambda_2 = 1$

$\lambda_3 = 4$

(4) For any $A \in M_n(F)$, if $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ are distinct eigenvalues, then corresponding eigenvectors $\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_k \in F^n$ are linearly independent.

pf: If not, if the \vec{v}_i are linearly dependent, then let \vec{v}_p be the last vector, with index $p \leq k$.

largest, such that $\vec{v}_p \in \text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{p-1})$, but $\vec{v}_{p-1} \notin \text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{p-2})$.

so that

$$\vec{v}_P = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1} \quad (1)$$

if apply A :

$$\text{LHS: } A\vec{v}_P = \lambda_P \vec{v}_P$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS: } A(a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1}) \\ &= a_1 A\vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} A\vec{v}_{P-1} \\ &= a_1 \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \lambda_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1} \end{aligned}$$

But LHS = RHS:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_P \vec{v}_P &= a_1 \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \lambda_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1} \quad (2) \\ &\stackrel{(1)}{=} \lambda_P (a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1}) \quad (3) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \vec{0} &= \lambda_P \vec{v}_P - \lambda_P \vec{v}_P \\ &\stackrel{(2)-(3)}{=} (a_1 \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \lambda_{P-1} \vec{v}_{P-1}) \leftarrow \text{plug in} \\ &\quad - (a_1 \lambda_P \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} \lambda_P \vec{v}_{P-1}) \leftarrow (3) \\ &= a_1 (\lambda_1 - \lambda_P) \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{P-1} (\lambda_{P-1} - \lambda_P) \vec{v}_{P-1} \end{aligned}$$

But now we clash in our assumption that
the λ_i are all distinct, so $\lambda_1 - \lambda_p \neq 0, \dots, \lambda_{p-1} - \lambda_p \neq 0$.

But $\vec{v}_{p-1} \notin \text{span}(\vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{p-2}) \Rightarrow \vec{v}_1, \dots, \vec{v}_{p-1}$ are
 linearly independent, so

$$a_1 \underbrace{(\lambda_1 - \lambda_p)}_{\neq 0} = \dots = a_{p-1} \underbrace{(\lambda_{p-1} - \lambda_p)}_{\neq 0} = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$\Rightarrow a_1 = \dots = a_{p-1} = 0$$

$$\stackrel{(1)}{\Rightarrow} \vec{v}_p = a_1 \vec{v}_1 + \dots + a_{p-1} \vec{v}_{p-1} = \vec{0}$$

which is impossible since \vec{v}_p is an eigenvector.
 We conclude that the \vec{v}_i are all linearly
 independent. QED

the question of equivalence:

The problem with row equivalence is, though
it allows us to compute $\det A$ more easily,
 namely, if

$$E_k \dots E_1 A = B \in \mathcal{U}_n$$

then

$$\det A = \frac{1}{(\det E_2) \dots (\det E_1)} \det B$$

where

$$\det E_k = -1 \text{ or } c$$

$\uparrow \quad \uparrow$
 type I type II

nevertheless it fails at helping calculate:

$$\underline{\det(A - \lambda I) \neq \det(B - \lambda I) !}$$

or even $\frac{1}{\prod \det E_i} \det(B - \lambda I)$, etc.

ex. 6. Consider the matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8 & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$
of example 2 (p. 3). Even though

$$E_3 E_2 E_1 A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 3 & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

yet

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & -4 & 2 \\ -2 & 8-\lambda & -9 \\ -1 & 7 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (1-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 8-\lambda & -9 \\ 7 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+ 4 \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & -9 \\ -1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+ 2 \det \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 8-\lambda \\ -1 & 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (1-\lambda)((8-\lambda)(-\lambda) + 63)$$

$$+ 4(2\lambda - 9)$$

$$+ 2(\underbrace{-14 + 8 - \lambda}_{-6})$$

$$= (1-\lambda)(\lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 63)$$

$$+ 8\lambda - 36$$

$$\del{-12} - 2\lambda$$

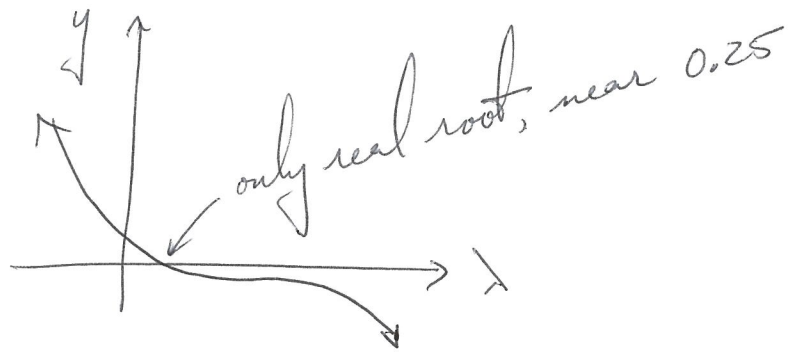
$$= -\lambda^3 + 8\lambda^2 - 63\lambda$$

$$+ \lambda^2 - 8\lambda + 63$$

$$\pm 8\lambda - 36$$

$$\Rightarrow \det(A - \lambda I) = -\lambda^3 + 9\lambda^2 - 65\lambda + 15$$

But this polynomial doesn't factor completely over \mathbb{R} : it has one real root,



Whereas

$$\begin{aligned} \det(E_3 E_2 E_1 A - \lambda I) \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & -4 & 2 \\ 0 & 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 0 & 0 & 5-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ &= (1-\lambda)(3-\lambda)(5-\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

has 3 real roots, $\lambda = 1, 3, 5$!

They're totally different polynomials!

The right equivalence will be one which leaves $\det(A - \lambda I)$ unaffected, and fortunately one is ready-to-hand!

Def: Two square matrices $A, B \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$ are said to be similar if there exists an invertible $P \in GL(n, \mathbb{C})$ such that

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

Prop: Similarity is an equivalence relation on $M_n(\mathbb{C})$, and the equivalence classes are called similarity classes.

pf: (1) Any $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is similar to itself,

(reflexivity) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} A \sim A \text{ since } A = I_n A I_n^{-1} \\ \& I_n \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \end{array} \right.$

(2) If $A \sim B$, then $A = PBP^{-1}$ for

some $P \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$. But then

$P^{-1} \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$, too, &

$$B = (P^{-1})AP$$

$$= (P^{-1})A(P^{-1})^{-1},$$

so $B \sim A$.

(3) If $A \sim B$ and $B \sim C$, then

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

$$B = QCQ^{-1}$$

for some $P, Q \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$

$$\Rightarrow A = PBP^{-1}$$

$$= P(QCQ^{-1})P^{-1}$$

$$\& PQ \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$

$$= (PQ)C(PQ)^{-1}$$

QED

$$\Rightarrow A \sim C$$

(transitivity)

Remark: Similarity, $A \sim B \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} A = PBP^{-1}$,
has a ~~more~~ special meaning for us, since

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \vec{p}_1 & \cdots & \vec{p}_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$

$$\iff \rho = (\vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_n) \text{ is a basis for } \mathbb{R}^n$$

What kind of basis is ρ ?

Prop. 1

$$\cancel{A} \sim B \implies \det(A - \lambda I) = \det(B - \lambda I)$$

pf. $A \sim B \implies A = PBP^{-1} \implies$

$$\det(\cancel{A} - \lambda I) = \det(PBP^{-1} - \lambda(PP^{-1}))$$

$$= \det(P(B - \lambda I)P^{-1})$$

$$= \cancel{\det P} \det(B - \lambda I) \cancel{\det P^{-1}} \quad \text{QED}$$

Cor. 1 Let β, γ be two bases for \mathbb{R}^n , \downarrow or \mathbb{C}^n
 that for any $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$, \downarrow or \mathbb{C}

$$\det [A]_{\beta} = \det [A]_{\gamma} = \det A$$

pf. Apply Prop. 1 to

$$[A]_{\gamma} = M_{\beta\gamma} [A]_{\beta} M_{\beta\gamma}^{-1}$$

which says

$$[A]_{\gamma} \sim [A]_{\beta}$$

Apply it also to $A = [A]_{\sigma} = M_{\beta\sigma} [A]_{\beta} M_{\beta\sigma}^{-1}$.

QED

Def. For any linear operator $T \in \mathcal{L}(V)$
 on a finite-dimensional vector space V ,

$$\det T \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \det [T]_{\beta} \text{ for any basis } \beta \text{ for } V$$

Returning to $A \sim B \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} A = PBP^{-1}$

for some $P = (\vec{p}_1 \dots \vec{p}_n) \in GL(n, \mathbb{R}) \iff$

$\rho = (\vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_n)$ a basis for $\mathbb{R}^n \iff P = M_{\rho\sigma}$

\iff ~~scribble~~ $A = PBP^{-1} =$ ~~scribble~~ $M_{\rho\sigma} B M_{\rho\sigma}^{-1}$

$\iff B = [A]_{\rho} \neq A = [B]_{\sigma}$, since

$$\begin{aligned} [B]_{\sigma} &= M_{\rho\sigma} [B]_{\rho} M_{\rho\sigma}^{-1} \\ &= PBP^{-1} \\ &= A \end{aligned}$$

} ? yes

\neq

$$\begin{aligned} [A]_{\rho} &= M_{\sigma\rho} [A]_{\sigma} M_{\sigma\rho}^{-1} \\ &= M_{\rho\sigma}^{-1} A M_{\rho\sigma} \\ &= P^{-1}AP \\ &= B \end{aligned}$$

Suppose, now, that all \vec{p}_i are eigenvectors
of A :

$$A\vec{p}_i = \lambda_i\vec{p}_i$$

Not all λ_i are assumed to be distinct
 (e.g. $A = I_n$ has $\lambda_i = 1$ for all i), but
 since $P^{-1}\vec{p}_i = \vec{e}_i$ (bec. $P^{-1}P = I_n$)

$$\begin{aligned} P^{-1}AP &= P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ A\vec{p}_1 & \dots & A\vec{p}_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \\ &= P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \lambda_1\vec{p}_1 & \dots & \lambda_n\vec{p}_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 P^{-1}\vec{p}_1 & \dots & \lambda_n P^{-1}\vec{p}_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \vec{e}_1 & \dots & \lambda_n \vec{e}_n \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \dots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Let $D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$, so that we
may write

$$P^{-1}AP = D$$

where

$$P = (\vec{p}_1 \dots \vec{p}_n) \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$$

Thus,

$$p = (\vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_n)$$

basis of eigenvectors of A
for \mathbb{R}^n , w/ corresponding
eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$
(not nec. distinct)

$$\Rightarrow P = M_{p_0} \text{ and } P^{-1}AP = D$$

$$\text{where } D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix} = [A]_p$$

\Leftrightarrow

$$A = PDP^{-1} \text{ i.e. } A \sim D$$

↑ similar to

Def: $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is said to be diagonalizable if $A \sim D$, i.e. A is similar to a diagonal matrix D , via $P = M_{p_0} \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$.

If A is diagonalizable,

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

$$\Leftrightarrow D = P^{-1}AP$$

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

$$\Leftrightarrow AP = PD$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \begin{pmatrix} A\vec{p}_1 & \dots & A\vec{p}_n \end{pmatrix} &= P(\lambda_1\vec{e}_1 \dots \lambda_n\vec{e}_n) \\ &= (\lambda_1 P\vec{e}_1 \dots \lambda_n P\vec{e}_n) \\ &= (\lambda_1\vec{p}_1 \dots \lambda_n\vec{p}_n) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\underline{A\vec{p}_i = \lambda_i\vec{p}_i}$$

We have just proven:

Thm. 1 $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ is diagonalizable
 ($A \sim D \stackrel{\text{def}}{\iff} A = PDP^{-1}$ for some
 $P \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$) iff $\underline{P} = (\vec{p}_1, \dots, \vec{p}_n)$ is
 a basis for \mathbb{R}^n (or \mathbb{C}^n) consisting of
 eigenvectors of A corresponding to the
 eigenvalues λ_i appearing along the diagonal
 of $D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$. ☒