

Last time:

Let A be a $n \times n$ matrix.

• finding eigenvectors / bases of eigenspaces $E_\lambda = \{v \mid Av = \lambda v\}$

• algebraic mult. vs. geometric mult. ($\dim E_\lambda$)

• Thm.: For every e-value λ of A , we have

$1 \leq \text{geom. mult.}(\lambda) \leq \text{alg. mult.}(\lambda)$; if $\text{geom. mult.}(\lambda) = \text{alg. mult.}(\lambda)$

for all e-value λ of A , then the union of the bases of the spaces is a basis of \mathbb{R}^n . \rightarrow "nice": means that $A \Rightarrow$ diagonalizable

Today:

• diagonalizable matrices: def and applications

• diagonalization: algorithm, connection to eigenvectors / e-values, examples.

1. Diagonalizable matrices.

Def. (similarity of matrices). Two $n \times n$ matrices A, B are called similar if there is an invertible matrix P s.t. $B \stackrel{*}{=} P A P^{-1}$; in this case we write $A \sim B$.

Note: If A is similar to B , then

$$\det(A) = \det(B); \quad \det B \stackrel{*}{=} \det(P A P^{-1}) = \det P \det A \det(P^{-1})$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \Downarrow \\ & (\underbrace{P^{-1}}_Q B \underbrace{P}_{Q^{-1}} = A) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & = \det A \det P (\det P)^{-1} \\ & = \det A. \end{aligned}$$

Def. (diagonalizability) We say an $n \times n$ matrix A is diagonalizable if it is similar to a diagonal matrix, i.e., if there is diag. matrix D and an invertible mat. P s.t. $A = P D P^{-1}$.

E.x.: $A \sim B \Rightarrow \text{char}_A(x) = \text{char}_B(x)$

Why are diagonalizable matrices interesting?

Main reason for us: their powers are easier to compute than those of general matrices: if A is diagonalizable, say

$$A = P D P^{-1} \text{ for a diagonal matrix}$$

$$D = \text{diag}(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n) = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & & 0 \\ & a_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & a_n \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\text{then } A^k = \underbrace{P D P^{-1} \cdot P D P^{-1} \cdot P D P^{-1} \cdot \dots \cdot P D P^{-1}}_{k \text{ copies}}$$

$$= P \cdot D^k \cdot P^{-1} = P \text{diag}(a_1^k, a_2^k, \dots, a_n^k) P^{-1}.$$

relatively easy to compute.

E.g. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ from the last lecture.

Recall that A has eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = -7$ and $\lambda_2 = 3$,

with $\text{alg. mult}(\lambda_i) = \text{geom. mult}(\lambda_i) = 1 \quad \forall i \in \{1, 2\}$.

Also recall that E_{λ_1} has basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ E_{λ_2} has basis $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$.

It will turn out that we have $A = P D P^{-1}$ where $D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$

and $P = [v_1 | v_2] = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. Thus,

$$A^k = P D^k P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -7^k & 0 \\ 0 & 3^k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{7} & \frac{1}{7} \\ \frac{1}{7} & -\frac{2}{7} \end{bmatrix}; \rightarrow \text{easy.}$$

at most two hard computations ✓

On the other hand, computing $A^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ is tedious.

2. Diagonalizability and diagonalization via e vectors. Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix.

Thm. · If we have $\text{geom. mult}(\lambda) = \text{alg. mult}(\lambda)$ for every eigenvalue λ of A , then A is diagonalizable. Moreover, if $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ are the distinct eigenvalues of A and $B_1 = \{v_{11}, v_{12}, v_{13}, \dots, v_{1n_1}\}, B_2 = \{v_{21}, v_{22}, \dots, v_{2n_2}\}, \dots, B_k = \{v_{k1}, \dots, v_{kn_k}\}$ are the bases of $E_{\lambda_1}, \dots, E_{\lambda_k}$, respectively, then $A = P D P^{-1}$ where

$$D = \text{diag}(\underbrace{\lambda_1, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_1}_{n_1}, \underbrace{\lambda_2, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_2}_{n_2}, \dots, \underbrace{\lambda_k, \dots, \lambda_k}_{n_k}) \text{ and } P = \begin{bmatrix} | & & | & & | \\ v_{11} & \dots & v_{n_1} & \dots & v_{k1} & \dots & v_{kn_k} \\ | & & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

· If for some eigenvalue λ of A we have $\text{geom. mult}(\lambda) < \text{alg. mult}(\lambda)$, then

A is not diagonalizable, i.e., we cannot find a diagonal matrix D and an inv.

matrix P s.t. $A = P D P^{-1}$.

Corollary. If $\text{alg. mult}(\lambda) = 1$ for all eigenvalue λ of A , then A is diagonalizable.

Examples. (1). $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. \rightarrow also from last time

$\lambda_1 = 1$, $\text{geom. mult} = \text{alg. mult} = 1$; $\lambda_2 = -2$, $\text{geom. mult} = \text{alg. mult} = 2$.

$$B_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

v_{11}

A is diagonalizable.

$$B_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

v_{21} v_{22}

$$A = P D P^{-1} \text{ where } P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } D = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(2) $A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 2 \\ -4 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$. \rightarrow diagonalize it and find A^k .

find a (P,D) pair w/ $A = PDP^{-1}$.

Soln:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{char}_A(x) &= \begin{vmatrix} 7-x & 2 \\ -4 & 1-x \end{vmatrix} = (7-x)(1-x) + 8 = x^2 - 8x + 7 + 8 \\ &= x^2 - 8x + 15 = (x-3)(x-5) \end{aligned}$$

So $\lambda_1 = 3$, $\lambda_2 = 5$ are the eigenvalues, each of alg. mult 1

and hence also of geom. mult. 1. In particular, A must be diagonalizable. Let's find " B_1 " and " B_2 ":

$$E_{\lambda_1} = \text{Null}(A - \lambda_1 I) = \text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix}\right).$$

$B_1 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is
a basis of E_{λ_1} .

Note that we should have $\dim E_{\lambda_1} = \text{geom. mult}(\lambda_1) = 1$ }
and that $v_{11} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \in E_{\lambda_1}$ since $\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$.

$$\bar{E}_{\lambda_2} = \text{Null}(A - \lambda_2 I) = \text{Null} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \right).$$

Similarly, we note that $\dim \bar{E}_{\lambda_2} = \text{geom. mult}(\lambda_2) = 1$.

and that $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \in \bar{E}_{\lambda_2}$

so $B_2 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \Rightarrow$ a basis of \bar{E}_{λ_2} . $\frac{1}{1} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

By our theorem, we may diagonalize A as $A = P D P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}$.

It follows that $A^k = (P D P^{-1})^k = P D^k P^{-1}$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3^k & 0 \\ 0 & 5^k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

next time: more examples of diagonalization, why $A = P D P^{-1}$.

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -3^k & -3^k \\ 2 \cdot 5^k & 5^k \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3^k + 2 \cdot 5^k & -3^k + 5^k \\ 2 \cdot 3^k - 2 \cdot 5^k & 2 \cdot 3^k - 5^k \end{bmatrix}. \quad \square$$