

Last time: • def. and motivation of diagonalization

square matrix  $A$   $\xrightarrow[\text{find}]{\text{try to}}$  diagonal matrix  $D$ , inv. matrix  $P$  s.t.  $A = PDP^{-1}$ ,

useful for finding powers of  $A$ , and "better representing" lin. maps.

• def of eigenvalue and eigenvector of a square matrix  $A$ .

A scalar  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is an e-value of  $A$  if there is a nonzero vector  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  st.  $\underline{Av = \lambda v}$ ; any such vector  $v$  is called an e-vector of  $A$  w/ e-value  $\lambda$ .

Today. • how to find eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

# 1. Finding eigenvalues Let $A$ be an $n \times n$ matrix.

Last time, we stated that the eigenvalues of  $A$  are precisely the roots of the characteristic polynomial  $\chi(A) = \det(A - xI)$ .

Eg. 1. Find all e-values of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Soln:  $\chi(A) = \det(A - xI) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2-x & 3 \\ 3 & -6-x \end{bmatrix} = (2-x)(-6-x) - 9$

$$= x^2 + 4x - 12 - 9 = x^2 + 4x - 21$$

$x^2 + 4x - 21 = 0$   $\rightarrow$  factor:  $(x+7)(x-3) = 0 \Rightarrow x = -7$  or  $x = 3$

The e-values of  $A$   
are  $-7$  and  $3$ .

$\leftarrow$  use the quadratic formula: the solns are

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

$$\frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-4 \pm \sqrt{16 + 84}}{2} = \frac{-7}{2} \text{ or } \frac{3}{2}$$

Ex. Find all e-values of  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ , assuming 1 is an e-value.

Soln.  $\chi(A) = \det \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1-x & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5-x & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1-x \end{bmatrix} \right) = (1-x)(-5-x)(1-x) + (-27) + (-27)$   
 $- 3 \cdot 3 \cdot (-5-x) + 9(1-x) + 9(1-x)$

$$= -(15+x)(x^2-2x+1) - 54 + 45 + 9x + 9 - 9x + 9 - 9x$$

$$= -(x^3 - 2x^2 + x + 5x^2 - 10x + 5) + 9 - 9x$$

$$= -x^3 - 3x^2 + 9x - 5 - 9x = -x^3 - 3x^2 + 4$$

1 is an e-value  $\Rightarrow -x^3 - 3x^2 + 4 = (x-1) \cdot ? \rightarrow = \underline{\underline{(-x^3 + x^2) - x^2}}$

$$= -x^2(x-1) - 4x^2 + 4 = -x^2(x-1) - 4x^2 + 4x - 4x + 4$$

$$= -x^2(x-1) - 4x(x-1) - 4(x-1) = (x-1)(-x^2 - 4x - 4) = \underline{\underline{- (x-1)(x+2)^2}}$$

So the e-values of A are 1 and -2.

$-3x^2 + 4$

## 2. Theory: e-values / e-vecs via $A - \lambda I$

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

We'll now justify why the e-values of  $A$  are the roots of  $\det(A - \lambda I)$  and explain how to find eigenvectors for a e-value  $\lambda$ .

Key observation: we have  $Av = \lambda v = (\lambda I_n) \cdot v$  for a nonzero vec  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and scalar  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\Leftrightarrow Av - \lambda v = (A - \lambda I_n)v = 0 \text{ for a nonzero vec } v \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n) \text{ is nontrivial and } v \in \text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0 \text{ and } v \in \text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n)$$

Conclusion: (1)  $\lambda$  is e-value of  $A \Leftrightarrow \lambda$  is a root of  $\det(A - \lambda I_n)$ .

(2) If  $\lambda$  is an e-value of  $A$ , the eigenvectors of  $A$  w/ e-value  $\lambda$  forms precisely the set  $\text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n)$ .

### 3. Finding eigenvectors Let $A$ be an $n \times n$ matrix.

Def. (eigenspace) For each e-value  $\lambda$  of  $A$ , we call the set

$$E_\lambda := \{ v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Av = \lambda v \} (= \text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n))$$

the eigenspace of  $A$  w/ e-value  $\lambda$ .

E.g. Find all e-spaces of  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$ . (recall that  $A$  has e-values  $-7$  and  $3$ )

Soln:  $\lambda = -7$ :  $E_{-7} = \text{Null}(A - (-7)I_2) = \text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 0 \\ 0 & -7 \end{bmatrix}\right)$

$$= \text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) \leftarrow$$

$$\text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \mid \begin{array}{l} x+y/3=0 \\ y \in \mathbb{R} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & 3 & | & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \textcircled{1} & 1/3 & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -y/3 \\ y \end{bmatrix} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \left\{ y \cdot \underline{\begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$\lambda = 3: E_3 = \text{Null}(A - 3I_2) = \text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \text{Null}\left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 3 \\ 3 & -9 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \vdots \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{matrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} x & y \\ \textcircled{1} & -3 \\ 0 & 0 \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} \vdots \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{matrix} \rightarrow E_3 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} : \begin{matrix} x-3y=0 \\ y \in \mathbb{R} \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3y \\ y \end{bmatrix} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ y \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

So the eigenspaces of  $A$  are  $E_{-7} = \left\{ y \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$

and  $E_3 = \left\{ y \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$ .

Check:  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} +7/3 \\ -7 \end{bmatrix} = -7 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -1/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = 3 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .  $\checkmark$

E.g. Find all e-values and e-spaces of  $B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & 5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ .

(Recall that  $\chi(B) = -(x-1)(x+2)^2$ )

Soln. E-x find  $E_1$  and  $E_{-2}$ . Check that  $\dim E_1 = 1$ ,  $\dim E_{-2} = 2$ .

Next time: algebraic vs. geometric multiplicities.  
the diagonalizability theorem.