

Lecture 12

In-class exercises' solutions:

1. Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$. You're given that $A \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $A \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{2} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$.

Compute A^{100} , rounding to 3 decimal places.

We change A to the basis \mathcal{B} : $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$. So set $S = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$. Then $S^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$.

and by last lecture, $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$. Now $A^{100} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} (-1)^{100} & 0 \\ 0 & (\frac{1}{2})^{100} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\stackrel{\text{to 3 dec. places}}{=} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 3 & -4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & -1 \\ 12 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$$

2. If $A \sim B$, then there exists S_0 invertible s.t. $A = S_0^{-1} B S_0$

$$B \sim C \quad S_1 \quad \text{s.t.} \quad B = S_1^{-1} C S_1$$

$$\mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{S_0} \mathbb{R}^n \xrightarrow{S_1} \mathbb{R}^n$$

$\xleftarrow{S_0^{-1}}$ $\xleftarrow{S_1^{-1}}$

So $A = S_0^{-1} S_1^{-1} C S_1 S_0$. Now observe that $(S_1 S_0)^{-1} = S_0^{-1} S_1^{-1}$. So $A \sim C$.

Crucial Recap:

- Given a basis \mathcal{B} of \mathbb{R}^n with vectors v_1, \dots, v_n , the \mathcal{B} -coordinates of $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ are $[v]_{\mathcal{B}} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$, where $v = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n$.
- The canonical basis is $e_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \dots, e_n = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and we denote it \mathcal{e} .
- There exist change of basis matrices $S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}} = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$, $S_{\mathcal{e} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}} = S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}}^{-1}$ s.t. $[v]_{\mathcal{e}} = S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}} [v]_{\mathcal{B}}$ and $[v]_{\mathcal{B}} = S_{\mathcal{e} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}} [v]_{\mathcal{e}}$.
- Given a linear transformation $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ with matrix A , and a basis \mathcal{B} as above, the matrix of T with respect to \mathcal{B} is $S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}}^{-1} A S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}}$. (Then $[T v]_{\mathcal{B}} = S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}}^{-1} A S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{e}} [v]_{\mathcal{B}}$)
- If there exists an invertible matrix S s.t. $A = S^{-1} B S$, then $A \sim B$.
- If $A \sim D$, where D is diagonal, then A is diagonalizable.

Definition 1: To diagonalize an $n \times n$ matrix is to find an invertible matrix S s.t. $S^{-1}AS$ is diagonal.

Discussion: In-class exercise revisited.

Recall that the exercise gave us two vectors $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$. These had the property that $Av_1 = -v_1$ and $Av_2 = \frac{1}{2}v_2$. This allowed us to compute A^{100} by hand!

Problem: in real life we're rarely handed such vectors. We have to find them.

Definition 2: Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear transformation with matrix A . Then a nonzero vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is an eigenvector of A with eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ iff $Av = \lambda v$. Note: "eigen" means "own" in German.

Example 1: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$ are eigenvectors of $A = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$, with eigenvalues -1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ respectively.

Discussion: how to find these in the first place? Brilliant idea: if $Av = \lambda v$ then

$(A - \lambda I_n)v = 0$. This is saying $A - \lambda I_n$ has a nonzero vector in its kernel!

Therefore, $A - \lambda I_n$ is not invertible, so $\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0$!

So if we want to find λ , a good starting point is solving the equation (in λ):

$$\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0.$$

Definition 3: Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear transformation with matrix A . Then the characteristic polynomial of T (or of A) is $\det(A - \lambda I_n)$. (This is a polynomial in λ)

Example 1 (ctd'): Suppose we don't know the eigenvalues -1 and $\frac{1}{2}$ of A .

The equation $\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0$ says: $\det\left(\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}\right) = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow \det\left(\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} - \lambda & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}\right) = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left(-\frac{11}{2} - \lambda\right)(5 - \lambda) + \frac{3}{2} \cdot 18 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lambda^2 - 5\lambda + \frac{11}{2}\lambda - \frac{55}{2} + 27 = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lambda^2 + \frac{1}{2}\lambda - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \quad \rightsquigarrow \lambda = \frac{-\frac{1}{2} \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{4} - 4 \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right)}}{2} = \begin{cases} \lambda = \frac{1}{2} \\ \lambda = -1 \end{cases}$$

Great! We found the eigenvalues. What about the eigenvectors $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$?

These are linear systems!

- $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$: $Av = \frac{1}{2}v \Leftrightarrow v \in \text{Ker}(A - \frac{1}{2}I_n)$. We know how to compute these!

$$A - \frac{1}{2}I_n = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} - \frac{1}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 - \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -6 & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & \frac{9}{2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(A - \frac{1}{2}I_n)v = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} : \begin{pmatrix} -6 & \frac{3}{2} & | & 0 \\ -18 & \frac{9}{2} & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{I \rightarrow \frac{1}{6}I \\ II \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}II}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{4} & | & 0 \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{4} & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{II \rightarrow II - I} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{4} & | & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & | & 0 \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Ker}(A - \frac{1}{2}I_n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4}t \\ t \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is an eigenvector of A with eigenvalue $\frac{1}{2}$. Basis: $\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

Notice: we can scale the basis to eg. $-4 \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -4 \end{pmatrix}$ but we don't need to.

- $\lambda = -1$:

$$A - \lambda I_n = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{11}{2} + 1 & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 5 + 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{9}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Ker}(A - \lambda I_n) : \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{9}{2} & \frac{3}{2} \\ -18 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\substack{I \rightarrow \frac{2}{9}I \\ II \rightarrow \frac{1}{18}II}} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 1 & -\frac{1}{3} \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{II \rightarrow II - I} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1}{3} \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Ker}(A - \lambda I_n) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3}t \\ t \end{pmatrix} : t \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{Span}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) \rightsquigarrow \text{Basis: } \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{3} \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is an eigenvector for A with eigenvalue -1 .

Upshot: "Algorithm" to diagonalize a matrix:

1. Solve the polynomial equation $\det(A - \lambda I_n) = 0 \rightsquigarrow$ Get eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$.
2. Find nonzero vectors in $\text{Ker}(A - \lambda_1 I_n), \dots, \text{Ker}(A - \lambda_k I_n)$ forming a basis $\mathcal{B} = v_1, \dots, v_n$.
"an eigenbasis"

(! Warning: Step 2 may fail!)

3. Let $S = S_{\mathcal{B} \rightarrow e} = \begin{pmatrix} | & \dots & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_n \\ | & \dots & | \end{pmatrix}$. Then $D = S^{-1}AS$ is diagonal with entries $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$.

(some eigenvalues may be repeated).

Exploring where our "Algorithm" can fail

Definition 3: Let $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$, $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ a linear transformation with matrix A . Then the λ -eigenspace of T is $E_\lambda = \text{Ker}(A - \lambda I_n)$. Equivalently, E_λ is the subspace of all the vectors $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ such that $Av = \lambda v$.

Example 2: Consider the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. This represents a 90° rotation:



Intuitively, this has no eigenvectors. Let's perform the "algorithm".

1. Char poly: $\det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 1$. This has no real roots. Thus A has no eigenvalues

\rightarrow There are no eigenvectors. $\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is not diagonalizable.

Example 3: Consider the matrix $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. This represents a shear:



Intuitively, the only eigenvectors lie on the x-axis. Let's perform the "algorithm".

1. Char poly: $\det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2$. The only root is $\lambda = 1$.

2. Let us find bases for the E_λ 's. Our only E_λ is $E_1 = \text{Ker}(A - 1 \cdot I_n) = \text{Ker} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\text{Now } \text{Ker} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \begin{pmatrix} y \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$= \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} x \\ y \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : y = 0 \right\}$$

$$= \text{Span} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right).$$

Unfortunately, this is a 1-dimensional subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 , hence any basis for it will only have

1 vector. Since E_1 is the only eigenspace, this means we will not be able to find an eigenbasis.

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is not diagonalizable.

Remark: Examples 2 and 3 are the two kinds of things that can go wrong.

Example 4: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 1) Char poly: $\det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)^2(2-\lambda) \Rightarrow$ Eigenvalues: $\lambda = 1, \lambda = 2$.

$$2) E_1 = \text{Ker} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Span} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \dim = 1$$

$$E_2 = \text{Ker} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} = \text{Span} \left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \dim = 1$$

Cannot get an eigenbasis

$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is not diagonalizable

The following theorem should not be surprising at this point:

Theorem 1: Let $T: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a linear transformation with matrix A . Then the following statements are equivalent:

- 1) A is diagonalizable.
- 2) There exists a basis of \mathbb{R}^n consisting of eigenvectors for A .
- 3) The dimensions of the eigenspaces add up to n .

You may worry that the bases for E_{λ} and E_{μ} are linearly dependent.

The following theorem says this cannot happen.

Theorem 1: If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, $v, w \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $c_1, c_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ with $c_1 \neq c_2$ satisfy $Av = c_1v$ and $Aw = c_2w$ then v and w are linearly independent.

Proof: Suppose $\lambda v + \mu w = 0$ (*) Then $A(\lambda v + \mu w) = A \cdot 0 \Rightarrow \lambda c_1 v + \mu c_2 w = 0$ } Subtracting these get

Multiplying (*) by c_1 , we get $c_1 \lambda v + c_1 \mu w = 0$ } $\mu(c_1 - c_2)w = 0$

Since $c_1 - c_2 \neq 0$, $\mu w = 0 \Rightarrow \mu = 0$. Similarly, $\lambda = 0$. Thus v and w are l.i. \square

In-class exercises:

1. Determine whether the following matrices are diagonalizable and diagonalize them if possible:

1) $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

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

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