

§8.2 Diagonalization

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recall $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\lambda_1, \underline{v}_1$ $\lambda_2, \underline{v}_2$ $L(\underline{x}) = A\underline{x}$

suppose we have a vector in terms of $\{\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2\}$.

i.e. $\underline{v} = c_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \underline{v}_2$

$$L(\underline{v}) = L(c_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \underline{v}_2) = c_1 L(\underline{v}_1) + c_2 L(\underline{v}_2) \\ = c_1 \lambda_1 \underline{v}_1 + c_2 \lambda_2 \underline{v}_2$$

Q: what is matrix for L in terms of $\{\underline{v}_1, \underline{v}_2\}$.

A $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$! $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 c_1 \\ \lambda_2 c_2 \end{bmatrix}$

let P be the change of basis matrix $P = \begin{bmatrix} \underline{v}_1 & \underline{v}_2 \end{bmatrix}$

then $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = P^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} P$

Defn A matrix B is similar or conjugate to a matrix A if there is a non-singular matrix P s.t. $B = P^{-1}AP$.
(symmetric, transitive)

Defn A is diagonalizable if A is conjugate to a diagonal matrix.

Thm similar matrices have the same eigenvalues. (in fact same char polys).

Proof suppose $B = P^{-1}AP$

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

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

$$= \det(P^{-1}) \det(A - \lambda I) \det(P) = \det(A - \lambda I) = \chi_A(\lambda) \quad \text{D.}$$

Observation if D is diagonal, then the eigenvalues of D are the entries on the main diagonal.

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & d_n \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{then } \det(D - \lambda I) = \det \begin{pmatrix} d_1 - \lambda & & 0 \\ & d_2 - \lambda & \\ & & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & d_n - \lambda \end{pmatrix} \\ = (d_1 - \lambda) \dots (d_n - \lambda).$$

Thm A is diagonalizable iff it has n linearly independent eigenvectors.

Proof • Suppose A is diagonalizable, i.e. $\exists$ non-singular matrix P

s.t. $A \sim D \Rightarrow P^{-1}AP$. ~~$A = I$~~ $D = P^{-1}AP$.

$D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$ eigenvalues with eigenvector $\underline{e}_i$ standard basis vectors.

claim $P^{-1}\underline{e}_i$ is an eigenvector of $A = PDP^{-1}$

$$A P \underline{e}_i = P D P^{-1} P \underline{e}_i = P D \underline{e}_i = P \lambda_i \underline{e}_i = \lambda_i P \underline{e}_i$$

so $P \underline{e}_i$ has eigenvalue λ_i .

$\underline{e}_i$ basis so P non-singular $\Rightarrow P \underline{e}_i$ a basis.

• Suppose A has n linearly independent eigenvectors $\underline{v}_1, \dots, \underline{v}_n$ with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$. Let $P = [\underline{v}_1 \dots \underline{v}_n]$.

consider $P^{-1}AP \underline{e}_j = P^{-1}A \underline{v}_j = P^{-1} \lambda_j \underline{v}_j = \lambda_j P^{-1} \underline{v}_j = \lambda_j \underline{e}_j$

so $P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$ diagonal. $\square$.

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recall $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ diagonalizable $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ not diagonalizable.

Thm Eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are linearly indep.
~~Proof~~ matrix, let $v_1, \dots, v_k$ be eigenvectors with eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$
 all different. Suppose $c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 + \dots + c_k v_k = \underline{0}$

then $v_1 = -\frac{c_2}{c_1} v_2 - \dots - \frac{c_k}{c_1} v_k$. $\textcircled{1}$

$$A v_1 = -\frac{c_2}{c_1} A v_2 - \dots - \frac{c_k}{c_1} A v_k$$

$$\lambda_1 v_1 = -\frac{c_2}{c_1} \lambda_2 v_2 - \dots - \frac{c_k}{c_1} \lambda_k v_k$$

$$\lambda_1 \textcircled{1} \quad \lambda_1 v_1 = -\frac{c_2}{c_1} \lambda_2 v_2 - \dots - \frac{c_k}{c_1} \lambda_k v_k$$

so $\underline{0} = -\frac{c_2}{c_1} (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) v_2 - \dots - \frac{c_k}{c_1} (\lambda_k - \lambda_1) v_k$

so $\{v_2, \dots, v_k\}$ are dependent. continue until you have just

two vectors $c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2 = 0 \Rightarrow v_1, v_2$ parallel but then

$$A v_1 = \lambda_1 v_1 \quad A v_2 = \lambda_2 v_2 \quad A v_1 = \lambda_2 v_1 = c_2 \lambda_1 v_2 \neq c_2 \lambda_2 v_2 = A v_2 \quad \square$$

Corollary If the eigenvalues are all distinct then the matrix is diagonalizable.

Observation ① if A, B are similar (conjugate) then they have

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the same eigenvalues, and you can

$$A = PBP^{-1} \quad \text{suppose } \underline{v}, \lambda \text{ are eigenvector/eigenvalue}$$

for B i.e. $B\underline{v} = \lambda\underline{v}$ then $P^{-1}\underline{v}, \lambda$ is an eigenvector/value for A

$$P^{-1}BP P^{-1}\underline{v} = P^{-1}B\underline{v} = P^{-1}\lambda\underline{v} = \lambda P^{-1}\underline{v}$$

$$\textcircled{2} (P^{-1}DP)^2 = P^{-1}DP P^{-1}DP = P^{-1}D^2P \quad D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad D^2 = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Application : differential equations.

linear differential equations in two vars: $\frac{dx}{dt} = ax + by$

$$\underline{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = cx + dy$$

$$\text{or } \frac{d\underline{x}}{dt} = A\underline{x} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

D diagonal.

how can we solve this? suppose $A = P^{-1}DP$

$$\text{solve } \underline{\dot{x}} = A\underline{x} \quad \frac{dx}{dt} = \lambda_1 x \quad x = c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t}$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \lambda_2 y \quad y = c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t}$$

$$\text{i.e. } \underline{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{then solution to } \textcircled{*} \text{ is } P^{-1}\underline{x}(t)$$

$$\frac{d\underline{x}}{dt} = P^{-1}DP\underline{x} \quad \text{plug in } \frac{d}{dt}(P^{-1}\underline{x}(t)) = P^{-1}\frac{d}{dt}\underline{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ \lambda_2 c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1}DP P^{-1}\underline{x} = P^{-1}D\underline{x} = P^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} \\ \lambda_2 c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} \end{bmatrix} \quad \square$$