

# ALGEBRA

## 5. DIAGONALIZATION

*Grau de Matemàtiques. FME*  
2018-2019

Marta Casanellas  
Departament de Matemàtiques



UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA  
DE CATALUNYA  
BARCELONATECH

# OUTLINE

- 1 EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS
- 2 DIAGONALIZATION THEOREM
- 3 ANNIHILATOR POLYNOMIALS
- 4 APPLICATIONS
- 5 BIBLIOGRAPHY

# OUTLINE

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# MOTIVATION

Throughout the chapter we work on a  $\mathbb{K}$ -e.v.  $E$  of finite dimension  $n$ .

- Goal: **compute powers of matrices**.
- If  $M$  is a diagonal matrix, then it is easy to compute  $M^m$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ .
- If  $M$  is not diagonal, is there a change of basis that converts it to a diagonal matrix?

## DEFINITION

We say that an endomorphism  $f : E \rightarrow E$  is **diagonalizable** in  $\mathbb{K}$  if there exists a basis  $\mathbf{v}$  of  $E$  such that  $M_{\mathbf{v}}(f)$  is a diagonal matrix  $D \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{K})$ .

In other words,  $f$  is diagonalizable in  $\mathbb{K}$  if there exists an invertible matrix  $P \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{K})$  such that

$$P^{-1}M_{\mathbf{e}}(f)P$$

is a diagonal matrix ( $P$  can be thought as a change of basis matrix).

- An  $n \times n$  matrix **diagonalizes** if there exists an invertible matrix  $P$  such that  $P^{-1}MP$  is a diagonal matrix.
- If  $M$  diagonalizes, then  $M = PDP^{-1}$  for a certain diagonal matrix  $D$ . Hence,  $M^m$  can be easily computed:

$$M^m = PDP^{-1}PDP^{-1} \dots PDP^{-1}PDP^{-1} = PD^mP^{-1}.$$

# EIGENVALUES AND EIGENVECTORS

**Remark:** If  $M_{\mathbf{v}}(f)$  is diagonal, then  $f(v_i) = d_i v_i$  ( $d_i = i$ th value in the diagonal).

## DEFINITION

Let  $f \in \text{End}(E)$ . A vector  $u \neq 0 \in E$  is an **eigenvector (VEP)** of  $f$  if  $f(u) = \lambda u$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$ . In this case, we say that  $\lambda$  is an **eigenvalue (VAP)** of  $f$  and that  $u$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

## EXAMPLE

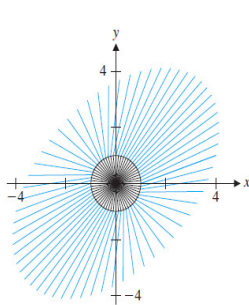
Consider the endomorphism of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  given by  $f(x, y) = (5x, 2y)$ . Then,  $e_1 = (1, 0)$  is an eigenvector of  $f$  with eigenvalue 1, and  $e_2 = (0, 1)$  is an eigenvector of  $f$  with eigenvalue 2.

The standard matrix of  $f$  is

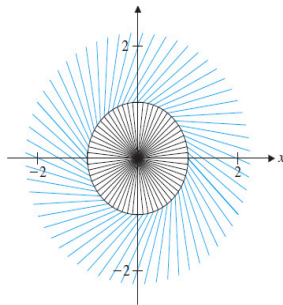
$$M_e(f) = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

# GEOMETRIC INTERPRETATION

In black  $v$ ; in blue  $f(v)$ .



A map with  
eigenvectors  $[(1, 1)]$   
and  $[(1, -1)]$



A map with no  
eigenvectors.

[D.Poole]

# EIGENVECTORS AND EIGENVALUES

Let  $f$  be an endomorphism of  $E$ .

## LEMMA

- $u \in E$  is a VEP of VAP  $\lambda \in \mathbb{K} \Leftrightarrow u \in \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda \text{Id})$  and  $u \neq 0$ .
- $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$  is an eigenvalue of  $f \Leftrightarrow \det(f - \lambda \text{Id}) = 0$ .

## DEFINITION

If  $\lambda$  is a VAP of  $f$ , we call  $E_\lambda$  the subspace  $\text{Nuc}(f - \lambda \text{Id}) \subseteq E$ . This is the subspace formed by all VEP's of VAP  $\lambda$  plus  $0$ .

Remark: A vector  $u \neq 0$  is a VEP with VAP  $0 \Leftrightarrow u \in \text{Nuc}(f)$ .

The **spectrum** of  $f$  is the set of all its eigenvalues and is denoted by  $\sigma(M)$ .



## DEFINITION

The **characteristic polynomial of  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{K})$**  is

$$P_A(x) := \det(A - xId) = \begin{vmatrix} a_{1,1} - x & a_{1,2} & \dots & a_{1,n} \\ a_{2,1} & a_{2,2} - x & \dots & a_{2,n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ a_{n,1} & a_{n,2} & \dots & a_{n,n} - x \end{vmatrix}.$$

If  $f \in \text{End}(E)$ , the **characteristic polynomial of  $f$**  is  $p_A(x)$  where  $A = M_{\mathbf{u}}(f)$  for some basis  $\mathbf{u}$ .

## PROPOSITION

- ➊  $P_f(x)$  does not depend on the basis  $\mathbf{u}$  chosen.
- ➋  $P_f(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$ ,  
 $P_f(x) = c_n x^n + c_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$ . Moreover, if  $M_{\mathbf{u}}(f) = (a_{i,j})$ ,  $\Rightarrow$ 
$$c_n = (-1)^n,$$
$$c_{n-1} = (-1)^{n-1} \text{tr}(f) = (-1)^{n-1} (a_{1,1} + \dots + a_{n,n}),$$
$$c_0 = \det(f).$$
- ➌ In particular,  $\det$  and  $\text{tr}$  are the same for any matrix of the endomorphism  $f$ .
- ➍ The roots of  $P_f(x)$  are the eigenvalues of  $f$ , that is,  
 $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$  is an eigenvalue of  $f \Leftrightarrow P_f(\lambda) = 0$ .

# ALGEBRAIC AND GEOMETRIC MULTIPLICITY OF AN EIGENVALUE

## DEFINITION

If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $f$ , the **algebraic multiplicity of  $\lambda$** , denoted by  $a_\lambda$ , is the multiplicity as a root of  $P_f(x)$ .

## DEFINITION

The **geometric multiplicity of  $\lambda$** , denoted by  $g_\lambda$ , is the dimension of the vector subspace  $\text{Nuc}(f - \lambda Id)$ , that is,  $n - \text{rk}(A - \lambda I)$ .

## PROPOSITION

*For every eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , we have  $1 \leq g_\lambda \leq a_\lambda$ .*

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# LINEAR INDEPENDENCY OF VEPs

Let  $f \in \text{End}(E)$ . Then,

## LEMMA

- If  $u, v$  are VEP's of different VAP's  $\Rightarrow u, v$  are l.i.
- If  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_r$  are different VAP's  $\Rightarrow$  the sum  $E_{\lambda_1} + \dots + E_{\lambda_r}$  is a direct sum,

$$E_{\lambda_1} + \dots + E_{\lambda_r} = E_{\lambda_1} \oplus \dots \oplus E_{\lambda_r}$$

## COROLLARY

If all the roots of  $P_f(x)$  are in  $\mathbb{K}$  and simple ( $a_{\lambda_i} = 1$  for each  $\lambda_i$ ), then  $f$  diagonalizes.

## THEOREM (DIAGONALIZATION)

*An endomorphism  $f$  of  $E$  is diagonalizable in  $\mathbb{K}$  if and only if*

- 1  $P_f(x)$  has all its roots  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$  in  $\mathbb{K}$  ( $P_f$  fully decomposes in  $\mathbb{K}$ ) and*
- 2 for every VAP  $\lambda_i$ , the algebraic multiplicity and geometric multiplicity are equal:  $g_{\lambda_i} = a_{\lambda_i}$ .*

*If it diagonalizes, it does so in a basis of VEP's.*

# PROCEDURE TO DIAGONALIZE AN ENDOMORPHISM

Given an endomorphism  $f$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , let  $A$  be its standard matrix.

- 1 Compute the characteristic polynomial  $P_f(x) = \det(A - x Id)$ .
- 2 Compute the roots  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$  of  $P_f(x)$ : if some  $\lambda_i \notin \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow f$  does not diagonalize in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Otherwise,
- 3 For each eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ , compute its algebraic multiplicity as a root of  $P_f(x)$ ,  $a_{\lambda_i}$ .
- 4 For each  $\lambda_i$ , compute  $\text{Nuc}(A - \lambda_i Id)$ : this is the set of all eigenvectors of  $f$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ . The dimension of this space is the geometric multiplicity  $g_{\lambda_i}$  of  $\lambda_i$ .
- 5 If  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $g_{\lambda_i} = a_{\lambda_i}$  for each eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ , then  $f$  diagonalizes.

# PROCEDURE TO DIAGONALIZE AN ENDOMORPHISM

In this case, for each eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ , let  $\{v_1^i, \dots, v_{a_{\lambda_i}}^i\}$  be a basis for  $\text{Nuc}(A - \lambda_i Id)$ . Then,

- 1  $\mathbf{v} = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \{v_1^i, \dots, v_{a_{\lambda_i}}^i\}$  is a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- 2  $M_{\mathbf{v}}(f)$  is a diagonal matrix:

$$M_{\mathbf{v}}(f) = D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}.$$

Recall that  $M_{\mathbf{v}}(f)$  can be computed by doing a change of basis: if  $\mathbf{e}$  is the standard basis of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  and , then

$$A_{\mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}} A A_{\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}} = D.$$

(Equivalently,  $A_{\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}} D A_{\mathbf{e} \rightarrow \mathbf{v}} = A$ ).



# REAL MATRICES WITH COMPLEX EIGENVALUES

If we allow to work in  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  then,

## THEOREM

An endomorphism  $f$  is diagonalizable **in  $\mathbb{C}$**  if and only if

- for every VAP  $\lambda_i$ , the algebraic multiplicity and geometric multiplicity are equal:  $g_{\lambda_i} = a_{\lambda_i}$ .

If  $A$  is a **real** matrix and we allow diagonalization in  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$ , then VAP's and VEP's go "in pairs":

- $p_A(x) \in \mathbb{R}[x] \Rightarrow \lambda$  is a VAP of  $A$  if and only if  $\bar{\lambda}$  is also a VAP.
- If  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ , and  $w \in \mathbb{C}^n$  is a VEP with VAP  $\lambda$ , then we can write  $w = u + iv$  where  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Then,  $\bar{w} := u - iv$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue  $\bar{\lambda}$ .

If we want to work only in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the one can rearrange complex VAP's and VEP's in conjugate pairs to obtain a "diagonalization" of  $A$  in  $2 \times 2$  blocks.

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## LEMMA

*Let  $f \in \text{End}(E)$ . Then, there exists a basis  $\mathbf{u}$  in which  $M_{\mathbf{u}}$  is triangular if and only if  $P_f(x)$  fully decomposes in  $\mathbb{K}$ .*

In this case the triangular matrix has the VAP's  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  (repeated if necessary) of  $f$  in the diagonal and

$$\det(A) = \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n,$$

$$\text{tr}(A) = \lambda_1 + \dots + \lambda_n.$$

# FIRST DECOMPOSITION THEOREM

## THEOREM (FIRST DECOMPOSITION)

Let  $f$  in  $\text{End}(E)$  such that

$$P_f(x) = (-1)^n (x - \lambda_1)^{m_1} (x - \lambda_2)^{m_2} \dots (x - \lambda_r)^{m_r}.$$

Then  $\dim \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_i \text{Id})^{m_i} = m_i$  for each  $i$  and

$$E = \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_1 \text{Id})^{m_1} \oplus \dots \oplus \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_r \text{Id})^{m_r}.$$

## LEMMA

Let  $f \in \text{End}(E)$ ,  $\lambda \neq \mu \in \mathbb{K}$  and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ . Then,

- the endomorphisms  $f - \lambda \text{Id}$  and  $f - \mu \text{Id}$  commute,
- $V = \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda \text{Id})^k$  is invariant by  $f - \mu \text{Id}$
- $f - \mu \text{Id}$  restricted to  $V$  is bijective.

# CAYLEY-HAMILTON THEOREM

## DEFINITION

A polynomial  $q(x)$  is an **annihilator polynomial for  $f$**  if the endomorphism  $q(f)$  is 0 (equivalently,  $q(A) = 0$  if  $A$  is the matrix of  $f$  in any basis).

## THEOREM (CAYLEY-HAMILTON)

*The characteristic polynomial  $P_f(x)$  of  $f$  is an annihilator polynomial for  $f$ ,  $p_f(f) = 0$ .*

Consequences: if  $A$  is the standard matrix of  $f \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $P_f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$ , then

- $a_0 Id + a_1 A + \dots + a_n A^n = 0$
- $A^n$  can be computed as a linear combination of  $Id, A, A^2, \dots, A^{n-1}$
- If  $A$  is invertible  $\Rightarrow A^{-1}$  can be computed as a linear combination of  $Id, A, \dots, A^{n-1}$

## DEFINITION

There exists a monic annihilator polynomial  $m_f(x)$  such that any other annihilator polynomial for  $f$  is multiple of it. This polynomial is called the **minimal** annihilator polynomial.

Properties of  $m_f(X)$ :

- $m_f(X)$  is (up to a scalar) the annihilator polynomial of smallest degree for  $f$ .
- $m_f(X) | P_f(X)$
- $\lambda \in \mathbb{K}$  is a zero of  $P_f(x)$  if and only if it is a zero of  $m_f(X)$ .
- If  $P_f(x) = (-1)^n (x - \lambda_1)^{m_1} (x - \lambda_2)^{m_2} \dots (x - \lambda_r)^{m_r} \Rightarrow$

$$m_f(x) = (x - \lambda_1)^{n_1} (x - \lambda_2)^{n_2} \dots (x - \lambda_r)^{n_r} \quad \text{with} \quad n_i \leq m_i.$$

- How do we find  $n_i$ ?  $n_i$  is the smallest exponent  $k$  such that

$$\{0\} \subsetneq \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_i Id) \subsetneq \dots \subsetneq \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_i Id)^k = \text{Nuc}(f - \lambda_i Id)^{k+1} = \dots$$

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# NON-DIAGONALIZABLE MATRICES

If a matrix does not diagonalize in  $\mathbb{C}$ , one can do a change of basis to obtain a **triangular** matrix and one can reduce it even more to obtain its **Jordan canonical form**; that is, a block-diagonal matrix formed by blocks of type:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & \lambda & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \vdots & \\ 0 & \dots & 1 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

In the exercise list there are some examples of how to obtain a Jordan form.



# STUDY OF $A^k x$ WHEN $k \rightarrow \infty$

Let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$ , with  $A = PDP^{-1}$ ,  $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ ,  $P =$  change-of-basis  $= A_{\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}}$ ,  $\mathbf{v} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ . Then,

- $A^k = PD^kP^{-1}$ .
- If  $x = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n \Rightarrow A^k x = c_1 \lambda_1^k v_1 + \dots + c_n \lambda_n^k v_n$
- If  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_i|$ , then  $\lambda_1^k$  grows faster than  $\lambda_i^k$  so, if  $c_1 \neq 0$ ,

$$A^k x \sim c_1 \lambda_1^k v_1 \quad \text{for } k \text{ big, and}$$

- This is the technical basis to efficiently compute VAPs (and VEPs)  
 $\rightsquigarrow$  Algebra Lineal Numèrica (Q2).

# DEFINITION

## DEFINITION

A **homogeneous linear discrete dynamical system** is a matrix equation of the form

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A\mathbf{x}(k), \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  square matrix, and

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(k) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(k) \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  is called an **initial condition**.

A **solution** (or trajectory) is a collection of vectors  $\{\mathbf{x}(k)\}_{k \geq 0}$  such that each  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  satisfies the equation above.

## LEMMA

The solutions to  $\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A\mathbf{x}(k)$  are  $\{\mathbf{x}(k) = A^k \mathbf{x}(0)\}_k$ .

## DEFINITION

A (column) **stochastic matrix** is a non-negative  $n \times n$  matrix whose columns sum to 1.

A similar definition can be made for rows.

If  $A$  is a stochastic matrix we have:

- 1 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .
- If  $x$  sums to 1, then  $Ax$  still sums to 1.

We say that a matrix  $A$  is positive if all its entries are  $> 0$ .

## THEOREM (PERRON-FROBENIUS THEOREM)

*Let  $A$  be a positive  $n \times n$  matrix then  $A$  has a real eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  with the following properties:*

- $\lambda_1 > 0$
- $\lambda_1 > |\lambda|$  for any other eigenvalue  $\lambda$  ( $\lambda_1$  is dominant).
- $\lambda_1$  has algebraic multiplicity 1.
- $\lambda_1$  has a corresponding positive eigenvector,  $v$ ,  
 $\text{Null}(A - \lambda_1 \text{Id}) = [v]$ .
- There are no other positive eigenvectors for other eigenvalues.

This theorem also holds for certain types of non-negative matrices.

## THEOREM

*If  $A$  is a stochastic matrix, then 1 is VAP and, if  $A$  is positive,*

- *$1 > |\lambda|$  for any other VAP  $\lambda$*
- *1 has a positive VEP  $v$ .*
- *no other VAP has positive eigenvectors.*
- *If we take  $v$  to **sum to 1**, then we have*

$$\lim A^k = (v \ v \ \dots \ v)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \lim A^k \mathbf{x} = v$$

*for **any** positive vector  $\mathbf{x}$  that sums to 1.*

*⇒ This is the theory behind Google Pagerank algorithm.*

# EXPONENTIAL OF A MATRIX

If  $f$  is a diagonalizable endomorphism with standard matrix  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ , so that  $A = S D S^{-1}$ , where  $D$  diagonal:  $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ ,  $S = A_{\mathbf{v} \rightarrow \mathbf{e}}$ , and  $\mathbf{v} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$  is the corresponding basis of eigenvectors. Then, we define the **exponential** of the matrix  $A$ :

$$e^A = S e^D S^{-1} = S \begin{pmatrix} e^{\lambda_1} & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & e^{\lambda_2} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & e^{\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix} S^{-1}$$

and this coincides with  $\sum_{n \geq 0} \frac{A^n}{n!}$ .

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