

Document 23: Eigenvalues / Eigenvectors Continued

Reexamining the methods for computing Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors, we have a new formula for the characterisic polynomial of the vector.

$$\text{Given } A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}, \text{ we have } A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} a - \lambda & b \\ c & d - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P_A(\lambda) = (a - \lambda)(d - \lambda) - bc$$

$$\text{Or, } P_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + \text{trace}(A)\lambda + \det(A)$$

These formulas only work for 2×2 matrices. Another theorem that exists for 2×2 matrices is that for any given matrix A , defined above, the following holds true.

$$\text{Define } B_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}, B_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 1 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}, B_3 = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma & -\tau \\ \tau & \sigma \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = \sigma \pm \tau i$$

$$A \sim B_1 \vee A \sim B_2 \vee A \sim B_3$$

It is worthy of noting that B_1, B_2, B_3 are each referred to as the Jordan Canonical Forms of the matrix A . Shifting to diagonalization, lets define Algebraic Multiplicity as the number of times an eigenvalue appears in the characteristic polynomial.

The eigenvalues of triangular matrices are the diagonal entries.

Given a characteristic polynomial $P_A(\lambda) = (1 - \lambda)^3(2 - \lambda)^2 = 0$, we have $\lambda_1 = 1$, with an Algebraic Multiplicity of 3, and $\lambda_2 = 2$, with an Algebraic Multiplicity of 2.

Definition Geometric Multiplicity: Let $A\vec{v} - \lambda\vec{v} = 0 \Rightarrow (A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = 0 \Rightarrow \vec{v} \in \ker(A - \lambda I)$. Let $E_\lambda = \ker(A - \lambda I)$. Then, $\dim(E_\lambda)$ is the Geometric Multiplicity of λ .

Definition diagonalizable: Let the function yielding the Algebraic Multiplicity be $\text{a.m.}(\lambda_i)$. Let the function yielding the Geometric Multiplicity be $\text{g.m.}(\lambda_i)$. $A_{m \times n}$ is diagonalizable $\Leftrightarrow \text{a.m.}(\lambda_i) = \text{g.m.}(\lambda_i)$. Then, $\exists B$ matrix such that $A \sim B$ with $S = [\text{eigenvector}(A)]$.