

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Hung-yi Lee



Chapter 5

- In chapter 4, we already know how to consider a function from different aspects (coordinate system)
- Learn how to find a “good” coordinate system for a function
- Scope: Chapter 5.1 – 5.4
 - Chapter 5.4 has *

Outline

- What is Eigenvalue and Eigenvector?
 - Eigen (German word): "unique to" or "belonging to"
- How to find eigenvectors (given eigenvalues)?
- Check whether a scalar is an eigenvalue
- How to find all eigenvalues?
- Reference: Textbook Chapter 5.1 and 5.2

Definition

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

- If $A\underline{v} = \lambda\underline{v}$ ($\overset{0}{\lambda} \neq \overset{0}{v}$ (v is a vector, λ is a scalar)
 - v is an eigenvector of A **excluding zero vector**
 - λ is an eigenvalue of A that corresponds to v

A must be square

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \overset{v}{1} \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \overset{\text{Eigen value}}{\underset{\text{Eigen vector}}{4}} \begin{bmatrix} \overset{v}{1} \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

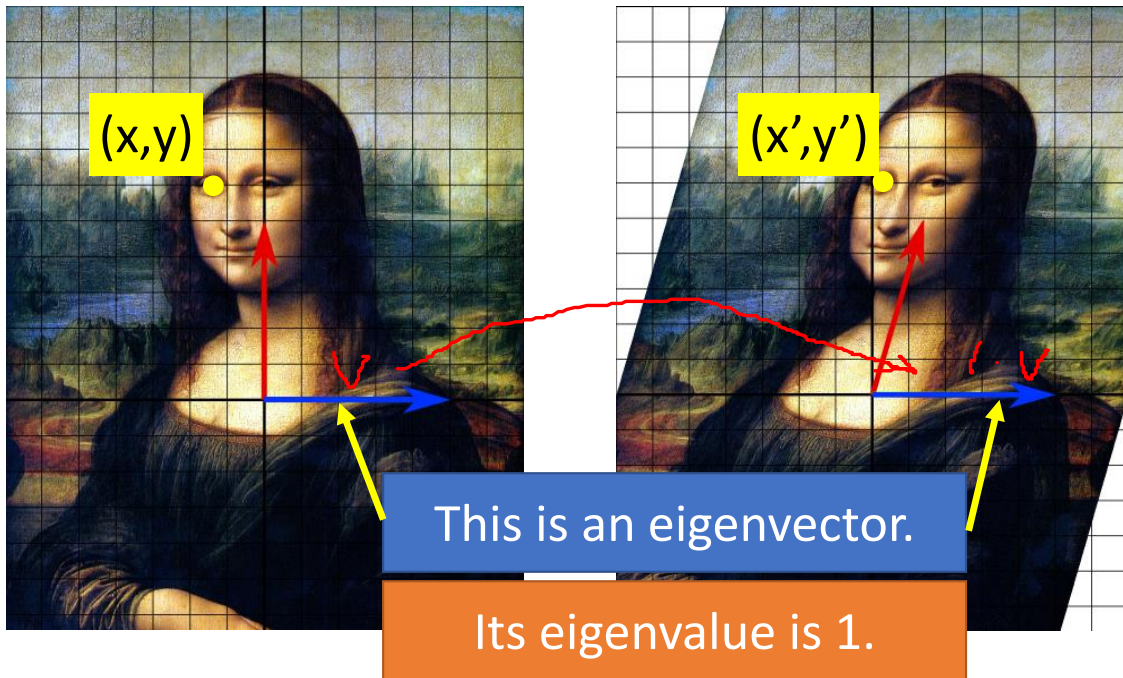
The diagram illustrates the eigenvalue equation $Av = \lambda v$ with a 3x3 matrix A and a 3x1 vector v . The matrix A is $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$. The vector v is $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$. The result of the matrix multiplication is $\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -4 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$, which is equal to the scalar 4 multiplied by the vector v . The scalar 4 is labeled as the "Eigen value" and the vector v is labeled as the "Eigen vector".

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

- If $Av = \lambda v$ (v is a vector, λ is a scalar)
 - v is an eigenvector of A **excluding zero vector**
 - λ is an eigenvalue of A that corresponds to v
- T is a **linear operator**. If $T(\underline{v}) = \underline{\lambda v}$ (v is a vector, λ is a scalar)
 - v is an eigenvector of T **excluding zero vector**
 - λ is an eigenvalue of T that corresponds to v

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

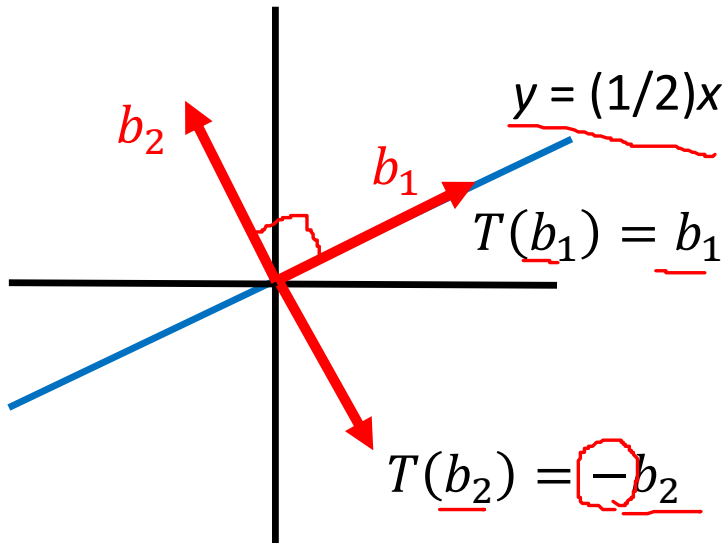
- Example: Shear Transform $\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = T \left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \right)$



Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

- Example: Reflection

reflection operator T about the line $y = (1/2)x$



\mathbf{b}_1 is an eigenvector of T

Its eigenvalue is 1.

\mathbf{b}_2 is an eigenvector of T

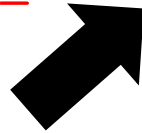
Its eigenvalue is -1.

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

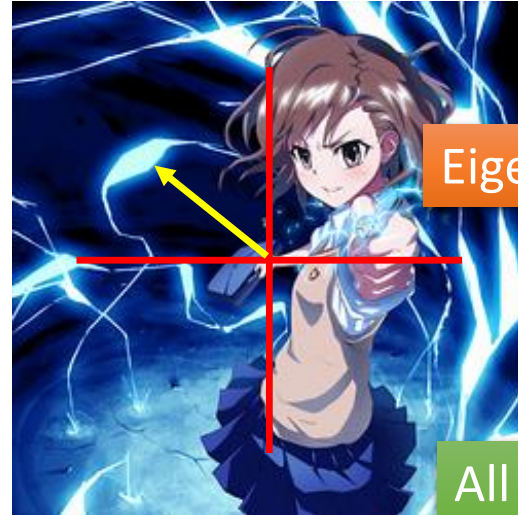
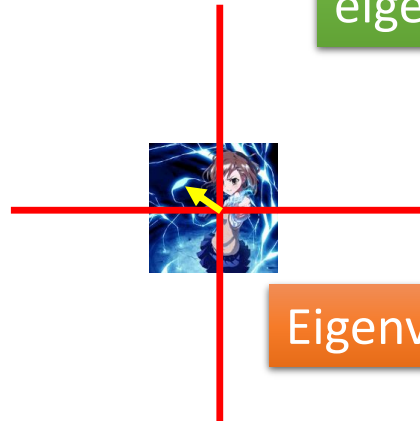
- Example:

**Expansion and
Compression**

$$2 \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$



Eigenvalue is 2

All vectors are
eigenvectors.

Eigenvalue is 0.5

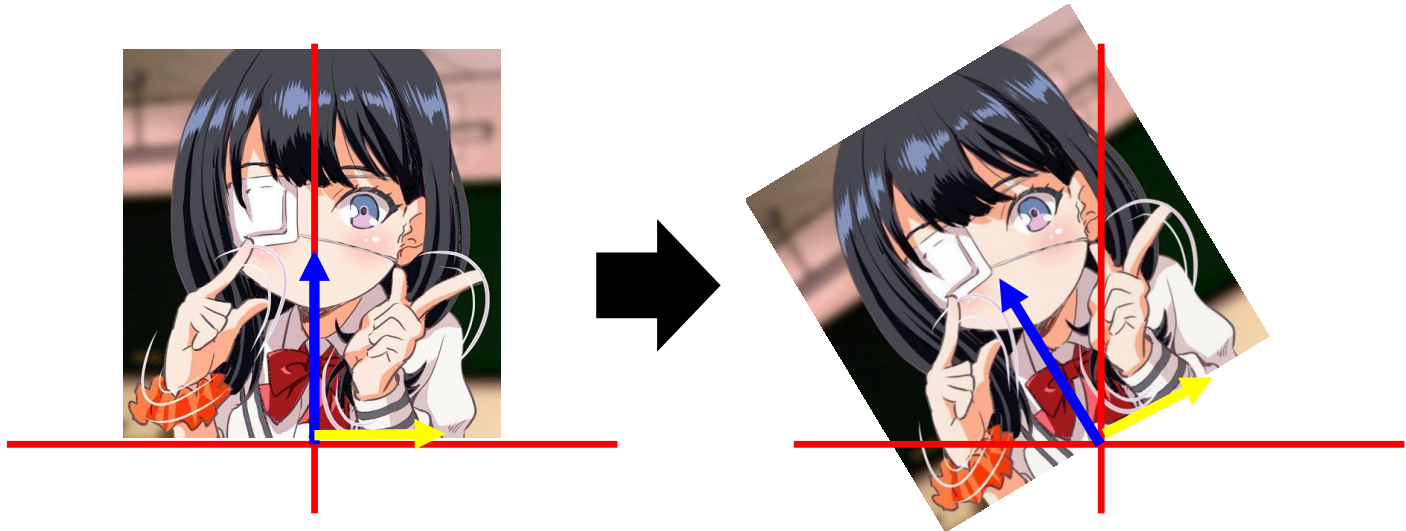
Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Source of image:

<https://twitter.com/circleponiponi/status/1056026158083403776>



- Example: Rotation



Do any $n \times n$ matrix or linear operator have eigenvalues?

How to find eigenvectors
(given eigenvalues)

$$Av = \lambda v \quad A(c v) = c A v = c \lambda v = \lambda (c v)$$

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

$$A u = \lambda u \quad A(v + u)$$

- An eigenvector of A corresponds to a unique eigenvalue.
- An eigenvalue of A has infinitely many eigenvectors.

Example:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{v} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{u} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

✓ Eigenvalue = -1

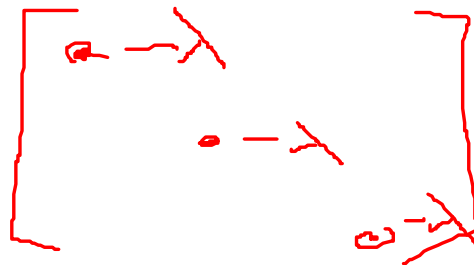
$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

✓ Eigenvalue = -1

Do the eigenvectors correspond to the same eigenvalue form a subspace?

✗ $-2 \neq 0$

Eigenspace



- Assume we know λ is the eigenvalue of matrix A
- Eigenvectors corresponding to λ

$$\underline{A}\mathbf{v} = \underline{\lambda}\mathbf{v}$$

$$A\mathbf{v} - \underline{\lambda}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$A\mathbf{v} - \underline{\lambda I_n}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\boxed{(A - \lambda I_n)}\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

matrix

Eigenvectors corresponding to λ are nonzero solution of

$$(A - \lambda I_n)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

Eigenvectors corresponding to λ

$$= \underline{\text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n)} - \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

eigenspace

Eigenspace of λ :

Eigenvectors corresponding to λ + $\{\mathbf{0}\}$

Check whether a scalar
is an eigenvalue

Check Eigenvalues

$Null(A - \lambda I_n)$:
eigenspace of λ

- How to know whether a scalar λ is the eigenvalue of A?

Check the dimension of eigenspace of λ

If the dimension is 0

➡ Eigenspace only contains $\{0\}$

➡ No eigenvector

➡ λ is not eigenvalue

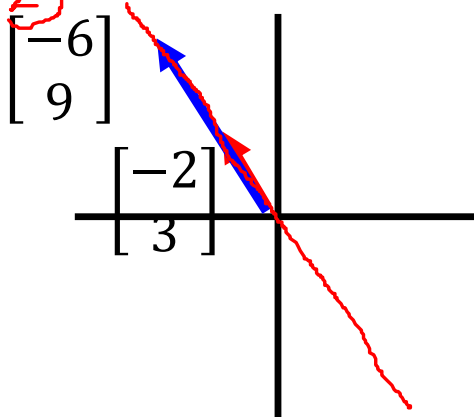
Check Eigenvalues

$Null(A - \lambda I_n)$:
eigenspace of λ

- Example: to check 3 and -2 are eigenvalues of the linear operator T

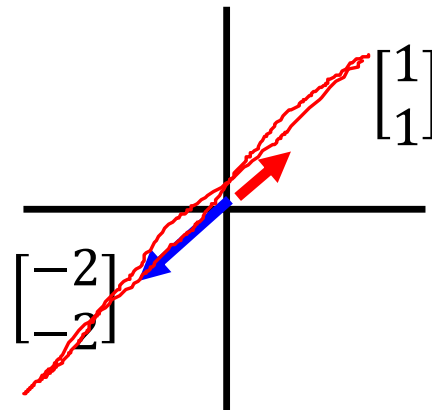
$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -2x_2 \\ -3x_1 + x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -2 \\ -3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ -2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$ $Null(A - 3I_n) = ?$



$Null(A + 2I_n) = ?$

$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$



Check Eigenvalues

$Null(A - \lambda I_n)$:
eigenspace of λ

- Example: check that 3 is an eigenvalue of B and find a basis for the corresponding eigenspace

$B = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 \\ 0 & 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$ find the solution set of $(B - 3I_3)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$

find the RREF of
 $B - 3I_3$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_3 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= x_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Looking for Eigenvalues

Looking for Eigenvalues

A scalar t is an eigenvalue of A

↔ Existing $v \neq 0$ such that $Av = tv$

↔ Existing $v \neq 0$ such that $Av - \underline{t}v = 0$

↔ Existing $v \neq 0$ such that $(A - tI_n)v = 0$

↔ $(A - tI_n)v = 0$ has multiple solution

↔ The ~~columns~~ of $(A - tI_n)$ are **Dependent**

↔ $(A - tI_n)$ is not invertible

↔ $\det(A - \underline{t}I_n) = 0$

Looking for Eigenvalues

- Example 1: Find the eigenvalues of $A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

A scalar t is an eigenvalue of $A \iff \det(A - tI_n) = 0$

$$A - tI_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -4-t & -3 \\ 3 & 6-t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - tI_2) \quad \text{-----} \quad = 0$$

$$\det A = -15$$

$$\text{trace } A = 2$$

$$\longrightarrow t = -3 \text{ or } 5$$

The eigenvalues of A are -3 or 5.

(
sum of Eigenvalues)

Looking for Eigenvalues

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{Trace}(A) \\ &\text{Sum of Eigenvalues} \\ &= \text{Det}(A) \end{aligned}$$

- Example 1: Find the eigenvalues of $A = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & -3 \\ 3 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$

The eigenvalues of A are -3 or 5.

Eigenspace of -3

$$Ax = -3x \quad \longrightarrow \quad (A + 3I)x = 0$$

find the solution

Eigenspace of 5

$$Ax = 5x \quad \longrightarrow \quad (A - 5I)x = 0$$

find the solution

Looking for Eigenvalues

- Example 2: find the eigenvalues of linear operator

$$T\left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -x_1 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 - x_3 \\ -x_3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[\text{matrix}]{\text{standard}} A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

A scalar t is an eigenvalue of A $\iff \det(A - tI_n) = 0$

$$A - tI_n = \begin{bmatrix} -1 - t & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 - t & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 - t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\longrightarrow \det(A - tI_n) = (-1 - t)^3$$

Looking for Eigenvalues

- Example 3: linear operator on \mathcal{R}^2 that rotates a vector by 90°

A scalar t is an eigenvalue of A $\iff \det(A - tI_n) = 0$

standard matrix of the 90° -rotation: $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - tI_2 \right)$$

No eigenvalues, no eigenvectors

Characteristic Polynomial

A scalar t is an eigenvalue of A  $\det(A - tI_n) = 0$



A is the standard matrix of linear operator T

$\det(A - tI_n)$: Characteristic polynomial of A
linear operator T

$\det(A - tI_n) = 0$: Characteristic equation of A
linear operator T

Eigenvalues are the roots of characteristic polynomial or solutions of characteristic equation.

Characteristic Polynomial

- In general, a matrix A and RREF of A have different characteristic polynomials.  Different Eigenvalues
- Similar matrices have the same characteristic polynomials  The same Eigenvalues

不同特征值

$$\det(B - tI) = \det(P^{-1}AP - P^{-1}(tI)P)$$

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

$$= \det(P^{-1}(A - tI)AP)$$

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

$$= \left(\frac{1}{\det(P)}\right)\det(A - tI)\det(P) = \det(A - tI)$$

Characteristic Polynomial

- Question: What is the order of the characteristic polynomial of an $n \times n$ matrix A ?
 - The characteristic polynomial of an $n \times n$ matrix is indeed a polynomial with degree n
 - Consider $\det(A - tI_n)$
- Question: What is the number of eigenvalues of an $n \times n$ matrix A ?
 - Fact: An $n \times n$ matrix A have less than or equal to n eigenvalues
 - Consider complex roots and multiple roots

Characteristic Polynomial v.s. Eigenspace

- Characteristic polynomial of A is

$$\det(A - tI_n)$$

Factorization

multiplicity

$$= (t - \lambda_1)^{m_1} (t - \lambda_2)^{m_2} \dots (t - \lambda_k)^{m_k} (\dots)$$

Eigenvalue:

λ_1

λ_2

λ_k

Eigenspace:

d_1

d_2

d_k

(dimension)

$\leq m_1$

$\leq m_2$

$\leq m_k$



Characteristic Polynomial

- The eigenvalues of an upper triangular matrix are its diagonal entries.

Characteristic Polynomial:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & * & * \\ 0 & b & * \\ 0 & 0 & c \end{bmatrix} \quad \det \begin{bmatrix} a - t & * & * \\ 0 & b - t & * \\ 0 & 0 & c - t \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= (a - t)(b - t)(c - t)$$

The determinant of an upper triangular matrix is the product of its diagonal entries.

Summary

- If $Av = \lambda v$ (v is a vector, λ is a scalar)
 - v is an eigenvector of A **excluding zero vector**
 - λ is an eigenvalue of A that corresponds to v

- Eigenvectors corresponding to λ are **nonzero** solution of $(A - \lambda I_n)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$

Eigenvectors

corresponding to λ

$$= \underline{\text{Null}(A - \lambda I_n)} - \{\mathbf{0}\}$$

eigenspace

Eigenspace of λ :

Eigenvectors

corresponding to $\lambda + \{\mathbf{0}\}$

- A scalar t is an eigenvalue of A



$$\det(A - tI_n) = 0$$

- 矩阵乘法即线性变换——对向量进行旋转和长度伸缩，效果与函数相同；
- 特征向量指向只缩放不旋转的方向；
- 特征值即缩放因子；
- 旋转矩阵无实数特征向量和特征值。