

1 Gershgorin Disks

Let $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ be a matrix with entries a_{ij} for $i, j = 1, \dots, n$. Let $R_i := \sum_{j \neq i} |a_{ij}|$ be the sum of the absolute values of the non-diagonal entries in the i -th row. Moreover, let

$$D(a_{ii}, R_i) := \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid \|z - a_{ii}\| \leq R_i\}$$

be the disk of radius R_i and centre a_{ii} in \mathbb{C} . Prove the following theorem.

Theorem: Every eigenvalue of A lies within at least one of the Gershgorin disks $D(a_{ii}, R_i)$, i.e., $\forall \lambda \in \sigma(A) \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : \lambda \in D(a_{ii}, R_i)$.

Solution:

We show, that $\forall \lambda \in \sigma(A) \exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : \lambda \in D_i$

- Let $\lambda \in \sigma(A)$, then choose an eigenvector $v = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \vdots \\ v_n \end{pmatrix}$, so that

$\exists i \in \{1, \dots, n\} : v_i = 1$ and $|v_j| \leq 1 \quad \forall i \neq j$
 (choose any eigenvector \tilde{v} and then set $v := \frac{\tilde{v}}{\tilde{v}_i}$, $\|\tilde{v}\|_\infty = |\tilde{v}_i|$).

- We know: $Av = \lambda v$, in particular (componentwise)

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{(Av)_i}_{= \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}v_j = a_{ii} \cdot 1 + \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}v_j} &= (\lambda v)_i = \lambda \underbrace{v_i}_{=1} = \lambda \\ \Leftrightarrow |\lambda - a_{ii}| &= \left| \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}v_j \right| \stackrel{[\text{triangle inequality}]}{\leq} \sum_{j \neq i} |a_{ij}| \underbrace{|v_j|}_{\leq 1} \leq R_i \\ \Leftrightarrow \lambda &\in D_i \end{aligned}$$

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