

Lecture 4B Tues 7/11

congrats on finishing the QUEST!

Today is the last lecture of Module 1! (and of me!)

- How to find eigenstuff
- State transition steady state
- Module 1 overview

Let's start with a YouTube video.

Search "3Blue1Brown Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors" to find it.

We will watch the first 5 mins 17 seconds for a visual feel for what eigenstuff is visually.

Recall: Def. For an $n \times n$ matrix A , if

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v} \quad \text{for some } \vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n \neq \vec{0}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R},$$

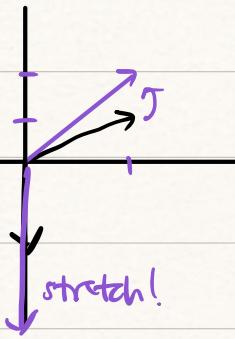
then \vec{v} is called an eigenvector of A with eigenvalue λ .

- eigenvectors define "special" directions along which the matrix A only stretches/squishes vectors
- everywhere else, vectors will get rotated somewhat

let's figure out some eigenstuff visually.

Ex 1. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

→ stretches y component by 2 times
keeps x component the same



Q. What are the eigenvectors of A ?

- what vectors are ONLY stretched/shrunk when A is applied?

A. Any vector on x -axis or y -axis!

Q. With what eigenvalues? How much are they stretched or shrunk?

A. $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ has $\lambda = 1$

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

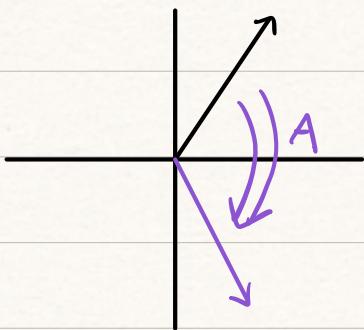
Notice: for each eigenvector, every vector along that line (in its span) is always also an eigenvector.

- we say that each eigenvalue is associated with an "eigenspace".

Also notice: diagonal matrix: can read off eigenvalues, and eigenvectors are normal basis vectors

$$\text{Ex 2. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{flips y component = reflection across x-axis}$$

tinyurl.com/1baeigen



Q. What is an eigenvector of this transformation?

- what vector isn't "knocked off its span"?

A. any vector on the x -axis!

Q. For what eigenvalue? How much are they stretched/squished?

A. $\lambda=1$. They stay the same.

Ok we're gonna go mechanical now.

Start with defining equation $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$ we want to find λ, \vec{v} that satisfy this equation.

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

want to factor out \vec{v} , but A is a matrix and λ is a scalar

- what's the matrix that scales \vec{v} by λ ?

$$\begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \lambda I$$

$$A\vec{v} - \lambda I\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$

Again: goal: find λ, \vec{v} that satisfy this equation.

- Notice: it's finding the nullspace of matrix $A - \lambda I$!

- Recall: eigenvectors have to be $\neq \vec{0}$.

\Rightarrow Need $A - \lambda I$ to have nontrivial nullspace!

- Recall: invertible matrix theorem said that

" P has a nontrivial nullspace" is equivalent to

" $\det(P) = 0$ " (or "P is not invertible", etc.)

\Rightarrow Eigenvectors only exist for the eigenvalues λ

that make $\boxed{\det(A - \lambda I) = 0}$

We will use this to solve for λ .

make sure all the logic makes sense!

$$\text{Ex. } A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 3-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (3-\lambda)(2-\lambda) - 0$$

$$(3-\lambda)(2-\lambda) = 0 \quad \text{"characteristic equation" of } A$$

$\Rightarrow \underline{\lambda = 2, 3}$

These are the λ 's for which eigenvectors exist!

Now how do we find those eigenvectors?

Well they satisfy $(A - \lambda I) \vec{v} = \vec{0}$
 ↗ for each λ

→ Plug in each value of λ and find the null space/
 solve the system of equations!

$$\lambda_1 = 2$$

$$A - \lambda_1 I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2-2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A - \lambda_1 I) \vec{v}_1 = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} \\ v_{12} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

How many solutions? infinite!

$$v_{11} + v_{12} = 0$$

$$v_{11} = -v_{12}$$

So any $\vec{v}_1 \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ is an eigenvector with eigenvalue $\lambda_1 = 2$!

Notice: $\lambda_1 = 2$ was the perfect value to subtract from diagonals to actually get a matrix with a nontrivial nullspace/infinite solutions to $(A - \lambda_1 I) \vec{v} = \vec{0}$.

↳ Think about: Why does $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ always either have infinite solutions or the unique solution $\vec{x} = \vec{0}$?

Now repeat for $\lambda_2 = 3$ (try it on your own)

$$A - 3I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2-3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A - 3I) \vec{v}_2 = \vec{0}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{21} \\ v_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v_{22} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \vec{v}_2 \in \text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$v_{21} = \text{free}$$

Here are the steps to find eigenstuff:

1. First find eigenvalues : solutions to equation $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$
2. Plug in each eigenvalue that you find to
 $(A - \lambda I) \vec{v} = \vec{0}$
Solve the system of equations for \vec{v} .
There will be infinite solutions = your eigenspace
for that eigenvalue
3. Repeat for all eigenvalues.

But WHY should I care about eigenstuff?

- it's a very valid question.
- I won't be able to answer it fully today.
- I will say that eigenstuff is THE linear algebra thing that comes up EVERYWHERE in science/engineering.
(it's a bit of a meme because of that)
- We're going to see one example today for dynamic systems
- The real answer is in the magic of "diagonalization", which you will learn in 16B. You can get a glimpse if you watch the rest of the YouTube video.

Back to the question of steady state convergence in state transition systems.

- if I run my pump for ∞ time steps, will I eventually converge to some steady state?

Recall: We said steady state is when

$$\vec{x}[t+1] = \underbrace{Q \vec{x}[t]}_{\text{system's state transition matrix}} = \vec{x}[t]$$

system's state transition matrix

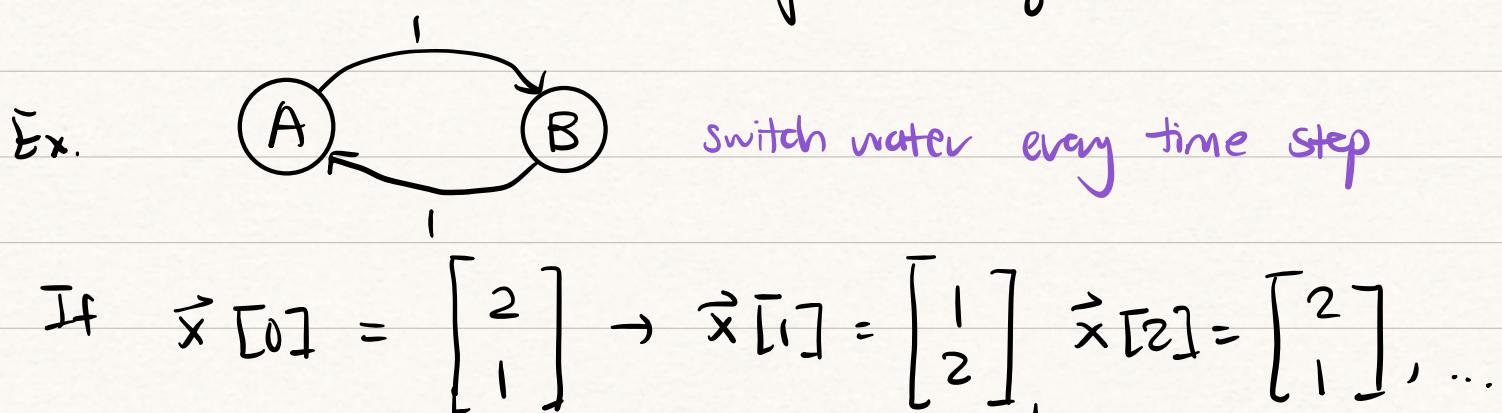
- advance one time step (with Q) but stay the same - every tank loses same water it gains

- in other words, steady state is the eigenvector of Q with eigenvalue 1.

So if we start at $\vec{x}[0] = \vec{x}_{ss}$, we will never change.

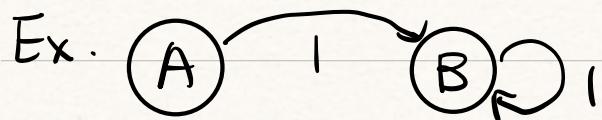
But how do we know we will actually converge to \vec{x}_{ss} from an arbitrary start $\vec{x}[0]$?

- turns out we won't always converge.



never converges!

But steady state exists: $\vec{x}[0] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ switching doesn't change anything



Steady state? $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ all water in B

Can we converge?

$$\vec{x}[0] = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \vec{x}[1] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and stays same forever after.}$$

Q. Can we predict if we will converge given an arbitrary starting state $\vec{x}[0]$?

A. Yes! And the way is EIGENSTUFF

Say we start at $\vec{x}[0] = \vec{v}_i$, an eigenvector of Q with eigenvalue λ_i .

$$\rightarrow \vec{x}[1] = Q\vec{x}[0] = Q\vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$$

$$\vec{x}[2] = Q\vec{x}[1] = Q(\lambda_i \vec{v}_i) = \lambda_i(Q\vec{v}_i) = \lambda_i^2 \vec{v}_i$$

:

$$\vec{x}[t] = \lambda_i^t \vec{v}_i$$

many matrix multiplications are so easy with eigenvectors!

$$\vec{x}[\infty] = ?$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \vec{x}[t] = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_i^t \vec{v}_i = \vec{v}_i \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_i^t \right)$$

what's the limit?

depends on λ_i !

- $\lambda_1 = 1 \rightarrow \vec{x}[\infty] = \vec{x}[0]$ ↪ converges
↑ steady state

- $|\lambda_1| < 1 \rightarrow \vec{x}[\infty] = \vec{0}$

- $|\lambda_1| > 1 \rightarrow \vec{x}[\infty] = \infty$

- $\lambda_1 = -1 \rightarrow \vec{x}[\infty]$ flips sign every step ↪ doesn't converge

OK but what about an arbitrary start $\vec{x}[0]$?

- Consider our example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$

We found $\lambda_1 = 2$, $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$, $\lambda_2 = 3$, $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$.

- Consider the set $\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\} = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

They're linearly indep & form a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 !

- An $n \times n$ matrix A can have up to n eigenvectors (spans) that can span \mathbb{R}^n .

- they won't always... when it doesn't is outside the scope of this class.

We will live in a world only with eigenvectors that form a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

- If they're a basis, any vector $\vec{x}[0]$ can be written as a linear combination of them!

Let's be concrete.

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

turns out has eigenvalue-eigen vector pairs:

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2}, \vec{v}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda_2 = 1, \vec{v}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$\{\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2\}$ are a basis for \mathbb{R}^2 .

Now let's say we start with $\vec{x}[0] = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

- there must exist $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\vec{x}[0] = \alpha \vec{v}_1 + \beta \vec{v}_2 \text{ because } \vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2 \text{ form a basis!}$$

Find α, β (you know how to do this!)

$$\vec{x}[0] = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} + \beta \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha + 0 \\ -\alpha + \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 + R_2 \rightarrow R_2} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & 0 & 2 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \alpha = 2 \quad \rightarrow \beta = 4$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}[0] = 2\vec{v}_1 + 4\vec{v}_2$$

Great. why did we do that?

- well we know what happens with each eigenvector after many time steps
- so maybe we can use that to figure out what's going on with $\vec{x}[0]$.

$$\vec{x}[0] = 2\vec{v}_1 + 4\vec{v}_2$$

$$\vec{x}[1] = Q\vec{x}[0] = Q(2\vec{v}_1 + 4\vec{v}_2)$$

$$= 2(Q\vec{v}_1) + 4(Q\vec{v}_2) \quad \text{whoa we skipped the matrix}$$

$$= 2(\lambda_1\vec{v}_1) + 4(\lambda_2\vec{v}_2) \quad \leftarrow \text{multiplication}$$

$$\vec{x}[2] = Q\vec{x}[1]$$

$$= Q(2\lambda_1\vec{v}_1 + 4\lambda_2\vec{v}_2)$$

$$= 2\lambda_1(Q\vec{v}_1) + 4\lambda_2(Q\vec{v}_2)$$

$$= 2\lambda_1^2\vec{v}_1 + 4\lambda_2^2\vec{v}_2$$

⋮

$$\vec{x}[t] = 2\lambda_1^t\vec{v}_1 + 4\lambda_2^t\vec{v}_2$$

Should've had to do $\underbrace{Q^t \vec{x}[n]}_{\text{terrible}}$, but we didn't!!

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \vec{x}[t] &= 2\vec{v}_1 \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_1^t \right) + 4\vec{v}_2 \left(\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lambda_2^t \right) ! \\ &\quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \\ &\quad (\frac{1}{2})^t \rightarrow 0 \quad (1)^t \rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$= 4\vec{v}_2$$

We just predicted the infinitely far future!!

- using eigenstuff!

1. Write $\vec{x}[0]$ as linear combo of eigenvectors of Q .

$$\vec{x}[0] = \alpha_1\vec{v}_1 + \alpha_2\vec{v}_2 + \dots + \alpha_n\vec{v}_n \quad \text{Find all } \alpha_i.$$

2. Terms corresponding to $\lambda_i = 1 \rightarrow \alpha_i\vec{v}_i$

$$|\lambda_i| < 1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$|\lambda_i| > 1 \rightarrow \infty \quad \leftarrow \text{entire sum can't converge}$$

$$\lambda_i = -1 \rightarrow \text{limit doesn't exist}$$

So... which starting $\vec{x}^{[0]}$ are the ones that will converge to the steady state?

- A. the ones that only contain components in the directions of eigenvectors with eigenvalues $\lambda=1$ or $|\lambda|<1$.
- in other words, the α_i on all the diverging terms has to be zero for the limit to exist.

My attempt to explain why eigenstuff shows up everywhere:

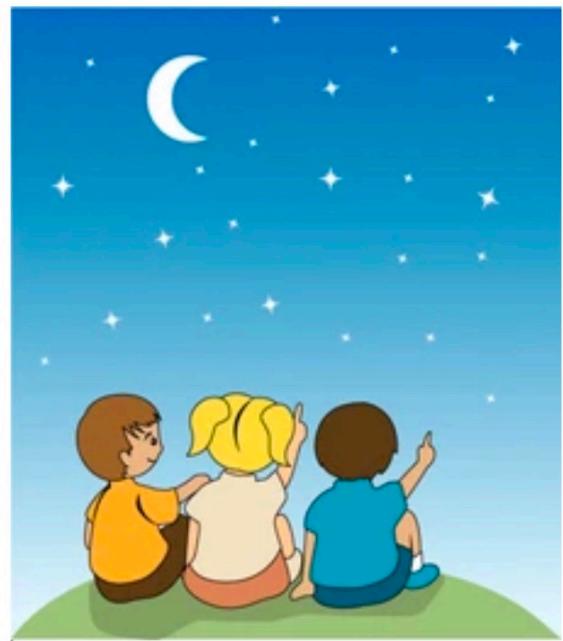
- The EIGENBASIS is the world where every matrix multiplication is a set of scalar multiplications.
 - Scalar multiplication is way easier than matrix multiplication
 - but more fundamentally, "changing to the eigenbasis"
 - ↳ write vector as lin comb of eigenvectors
- brings you to the true coordinate system of a matrix
(instead of the normal $[!]$, $[?]$ coordinate system)
- where a matrix can show you their true colors
 - ("diagonalization" is the name of this concept)
 - ↳ where every matrix becomes a diagonal matrix = scalar multiplication

Enough. I will let your futures convince you that eigenstuff is cool and important.

Let's take a look at everything we learned in Module 1!

You've come so far so quickly

- Tomography
- Linear systems of equations
- Gaussian elimination algorithm
- Vectors and matrices, "multiplying" them
- Span, linear independence, basis
- Proofs!
- State transition systems
- Matrix inversion
- Vector spaces
- Null spaces, column spaces
- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors
- Steady state convergence behavior



I'm proud of you ❤️

Linear algebra is one of the rare things that's both beautiful and useful.

Don't worry if you didn't get everything this time - I learned it at least 3 times before I felt like I knew it.

And thank you all for listening to me.

It's been a lot but also it's been a good time ❤️