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- Eigenvalues and eigenvectors. [4.4, 8.8]
- Review
  - Permutation, determinant, minor, cofactor, Cramer's rule
  - $\det(AB) = \det(BA)$ ,  $\det(A) = \det(A^T)$
  - What can we say about  $\det(PAP^{-1})$ ?
  - What can we say about  $\det(P)$  for an orthogonal matrix  $P$ ?
- Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with real entries. Regard  $A$  as a linear operator on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , i.e., a linear transformation from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For all  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , we have  $A\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- A nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is said to be an **eigenvector** of  $A$  with **eigenvalue**  $\lambda$ , if there is a scalar  $\lambda$  such that  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$ . In other words, a scalar  $\lambda$  is called an eigenvalue of  $A$ , if there exists a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$ , called an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to  $\lambda$ , such that  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$ .
- Since  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$  is equivalent to  $A\mathbf{v} - \lambda\mathbf{v} = (A - \lambda I_n)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$ , nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$  if and only if  $\mathbf{v}$  is a nontrivial solution to homogeneous linear system  $(A - \lambda I_n)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ .
- Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix with real entries. The following are equivalent.
  - $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .
  - $A - \lambda I_n$  is singular.
  - $\det(\lambda I_n - A) = 0$ .

It follows that  $A$  is singular if and only if 0 is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

- For an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,  $\det(tI_n - A)$  in which  $t$  is a variable is called the **characteristic polynomial** of  $A$ . Notice that  $\det(tI_n - A)$  is a polynomial in  $t$  of degree  $n$  with real coefficients. The polynomial equation  $\det(tI_n - A) = 0$  is called the **characteristic equation** of  $A$ .
- For an  $n \times n$  real matrix  $A$ , the characteristic polynomial  $\det(tI_n - A)$  is a monic polynomial of degree  $n$  with real coefficients. Let  $p_A(t) = \det(tI_n - A)$ .
- $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if  $t = \lambda$  is a solution of  $\det(tI_n - A) = 0$ .
- Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$ . The null space of  $\lambda I_n - A$ ,  $\{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}\} = \{\mathbf{v} : (\lambda I_n - A)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}\}$ , is called the **eigenspace** of  $A$  corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . What can we say about the dimension of the eigenspace of  $A$ ?
- Examples.
  - Find the eigenvalues and eigenspaces for  $A$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p_A(t) = \begin{vmatrix} t-1 & -2 \\ -4 & t-3 \end{vmatrix} = (t-1)(t-3) - 8 = t^2 - 4t - 5 = (t+1)(t-5)$$

Eigenvalues:  $-1$  and  $5$

Eigenvectors for eigenvalue  $-1$ :  $A\mathbf{v} = (-1)\mathbf{v}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (-1) - 1 & -2 \\ -4 & (-1) - 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -2 \\ -4 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c \neq 0$$

Eigenspace for eigenvalue  $-1$ :

$$\left\{ c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Eigenvectors for eigenvalue  $5$ :  $A\mathbf{v} = 5\mathbf{v}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5-1 & -2 \\ -4 & 5-3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -2 \\ -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c \neq 0$$

Eigenspace for eigenvalue  $5$ :

$$\left\{ c \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

- Let  $p(t) = t^n + c_1 t^{n-1} + \dots + c_n$  be a monic polynomial of degree  $n$  with complex coefficients. By the fundamental theorem of algebra,  $p(t)$  factors over  $\mathbb{C}$  into linear factors,  $p(t) = (t - a_1)^{d_1} \dots (t - a_m)^{d_m}$  with distinct  $a_i$ 's.

If coefficients  $c_i$  are all real, then  $p(t)$  factors over  $\mathbb{R}$  into linear and quadratic factors.

- The characteristic polynomial  $p_A(t)$ . Let  $A$  be an  $n \times n$  real matrix.
  - If  $A = (a_{ij})$  is upper triangular, then  $p_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n (t - a_{ii})$ . Every  $a_{ii}$  is an eigenvalue.
  - If  $p_A(t) = t^n - c_1 t^{n-1} + c_2 t^{n-2} - \dots + (-1)^n c_n$ , then  $c_n = \det(A)$  and  $c_1 = \text{tr}(A)$ .
  - If  $p_A(\lambda) = 0$  for some  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\lambda$  is a complex( $\mathbb{C}$ ) eigenvalue but not a real( $\mathbb{R}$ ) eigenvalue.
  - If  $p_A(t)$  factors into linear factors over  $\mathbb{C}$ , i.e.,  $p_A(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n (t - \lambda_i)$  with  $\lambda_i \in \mathbb{C}$ , then  $\det(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$  and  $\text{tr}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ . In general,  $p_A(t)$  doesn't factor into linear factors over  $\mathbb{R}$ .
  - Which matrices  $A$  allow a factorization of  $p_A(t)$  into linear factors over  $\mathbb{R}$ ?
  - $p_{P^{-1}AP}(t) = p_A(t)$  for any invertible  $P$ .
- Find the eigenvalues and eigenspaces for  $A$ .

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

$$p_A(t) = \begin{vmatrix} t-3 & 4 \\ -4 & t-3 \end{vmatrix} = (t-3)^2 + 16 = t^2 - 6t + 25 = (t-3-4i)(t-3+4i)$$

Complex eigenvalues:  $3+4i$  and  $3-4i$

Complex eigenvectors for complex eigenvalue  $3+4i$ :  $A\mathbf{v} = (3+4i)\mathbf{v}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} (3+4i)-3 & 4 \\ -4 & (3+4i)-3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4i & 4 \\ -4 & 4i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = c \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad c \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$$

Complex eigenspace for eigenvalue  $3+4i$ :

$$\left\{ c \begin{bmatrix} i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

Do the same steps with complex eigenvalue  $3 - 4i$ .

Complex eigenspace for complex eigenvalue  $3 - 4i$ :

$$\left\{ c \begin{bmatrix} -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} : c \in \mathbb{C} \right\}$$

- Recall: Let  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  be a linear operator.  $\mathcal{S}$ : the standard basis.  $\mathcal{B} = \{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$ : an ordered basis for  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$P = [\text{id}]_{\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{B}} = [\mathbf{v}_1 \quad \mathbf{v}_2 \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{v}_n]$$

$$[T]_{\mathcal{S}} = P[T]_{\mathcal{B}}P^{-1}$$

$$[T]_{\mathcal{B}} = P^{-1}[T]_{\mathcal{S}}P$$

- We can define eigenvectors and eigenvalues for a linear operator  $T : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ . A real number  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $T$  if there is a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{v}$ , called an eigenvector, such that  $T(\mathbf{v}) = \lambda\mathbf{v}$ . In fact, the eigenvalues of  $T$  coincide with eigenvalues of  $[T]_{\mathcal{B}}$  for any ordered basis  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- Let  $\mathbf{v}$  be an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . If  $|\lambda| < 1$ , then  $\|A^k\mathbf{v}\| = |\lambda^k|\|\mathbf{v}\|$  approaches 0 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .
- If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to an eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then it is an eigenvector of  $p(A)$  for any polynomial  $p(x)$  in  $x$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $p(\lambda)$ .

Let  $p(x) = 3x^4 + x^2 + 1$ .  $p(A) = 3A^4 + A^2 + I$ .  $p(A)\mathbf{v} = p(\lambda)\mathbf{v} = (3\lambda^4 + \lambda^2 + 1)\mathbf{v}$ .