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Oct 5, Symmetric matrices and diagonalization. [8.2, 8.3]

- **Equivalence relation**

Let X be a nonempty set. Let R be a relation on X , i.e., $R \subset X \times X$, and let xRy denote $(x, y) \in R$. The relation R is an *equivalence relation*, if it satisfies the following three properties:

- For any $x \in X$, xRx . (R is reflexive)
- For any $x, y \in X$, if xRy then yRx . (R is symmetric)
- For any $x, y, z \in X$, if xRy and yRz then xRz . (R is transitive)

- Row equivalence relation

Let \sim_r denote the relation on $m \times n$ matrices such that $A \sim_r B$ if and only if B can be obtained from A by applying a sequence of elementary row operations. This relation is an equivalence relation.

- Definition

Two $n \times n$ matrices A and B are said to be similar, denoted by $A \sim B$, if there exists an $n \times n$ invertible matrix P such that $B = P^{-1}AP$. This relation is an equivalence relation.

- 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 .

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

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

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

- Two square matrices are similar if and only if there are bases with respect to which the matrices represent the same linear operator.
- Any property that is shared by similar matrices is said to be a **similarity invariant**. Let A and B be $n \times n$ similar matrices.

- $\det(A) = \det(B)$
- $\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(B)$
- $p_A(t) = p_B(t)$
- A and B have the same eigenvalues λ . The dimension of the eigenspace corresponding to eigenvalue λ is the same for A and B .

Does $\text{tr}(A) = \text{tr}(B)$ imply $A \sim B$? Does $p_A(t) = p_B(t)$ imply $A \sim B$?

- Algebraic multiplicity, geometric multiplicity

Let λ be an eigenvalue of an $n \times n$ matrix A . The **algebraic multiplicity** of λ is the greatest integer d such that $(t - \lambda)^d$ divides $p_A(t) = \det(tI_n - A)$, and the **geometric multiplicity** of λ is the dimension of the eigenspace $\{\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n : A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}\}$. For any eigenvalue λ , the geometric multiplicity is at least one and is at most the algebraic multiplicity.

- Diagonal matrix and diagonalizable matrix

An $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ is called a **diagonal matrix** if $a_{ij} = 0$ for all $i \neq j$, and is said to be **diagonalizable** if there exists an invertible matrix P such that $P^{-1}AP$ is a diagonal matrix.

- If P diagonalizes A , $P^{-1}AP = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$, then for each i , the i -th column of P is an eigenvector of A corresponding to eigenvalue λ_i .

- Theorem

If $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k$ are eigenvectors of A of size $n \times n$ corresponding to distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k$, then $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof. There are several interesting proofs.

- Proof 1: Suppose $\sum_{i=1}^k c_i \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$. We will show that $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_k = 0$. For every $j = 0, 1, \dots, k-1$, we also have $\sum_{i=1}^k c_i A^j \mathbf{v}_i = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \lambda_i^j \mathbf{v}_i = \mathbf{0}$.

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 & c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 & \dots & c_k \mathbf{v}_k \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \lambda_1 & \dots & \lambda_1^{k-1} \\ 1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_2^{k-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \lambda_k & \dots & \lambda_k^{k-1} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}_{n \times k}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 & c_2 \mathbf{v}_2 & \dots & c_k \mathbf{v}_k \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}_{n \times k} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \lambda_1 & \dots & \lambda_1^{k-1} \\ 1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_2^{k-1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & \lambda_k & \dots & \lambda_k^{k-1} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \mathbf{0}_{n \times k}$$

It follows that $c_1 = c_2 = \dots = c_k = 0$.

- Proof 2: Suppose that $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots, \mathbf{v}_k\}$ is linearly dependent. Choose a linear dependence relation of the set involving the smallest number of \mathbf{v}_i 's, say $c_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_m \mathbf{v}_m = \mathbf{0}$ with $m > 1$ and $c_i \neq 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m$. Then we have $c_1 \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_m \lambda_m \mathbf{v}_m = \mathbf{0}$ and

$$c_1(\lambda_1 - \lambda_m) \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_{m-1}(\lambda_{m-1} - \lambda_m) \mathbf{v}_{m-1} = \mathbf{0}.$$

Since λ_i 's are distinct, the latter is a shorter linear dependence relation with $c_i(\lambda_i - \lambda_m) \neq 0$ for all $i = 1, \dots, m-1$, contradicting our choice of m .

- Theorem

If A is an $n \times n$ matrix, then the following are equivalent.

1. A is diagonalizable.
 2. A has n linearly independent eigenvectors.
 3. \mathbb{R}^n has a basis consisting of eigenvectors of A .
 4. The geometric multiplicity of each eigenvalue of A is the same as the algebraic multiplicity.
- If an $n \times n$ matrix A has n distinct eigenvalues, then it is diagonalizable.
 - Orthogonally diagonalizable matrix and symmetric matrix.
 - An $n \times n$ matrix $A = (a_{ij})$ is said to be **orthogonally diagonalizable**, if there exists an orthogonal matrix P such that $P^T A P$ is a diagonal matrix, i.e., $A = P D P^T$ for some diagonal matrix D .
 - Two matrices are orthogonally similar if and only if there exist orthonormal bases with respect to which the matrices represent the same linear operator.
 - Any orthogonally diagonalizable matrix A is (real) symmetric, i.e., $A^T = A$. Does the converse hold? Yes, any real symmetric matrix is orthogonally diagonalizable.
 - If P orthogonally diagonalizes A , $P^T A P = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$, then columns of P are eigenvectors of A and form an orthonormal basis for \mathbb{R}^n . Let $P = [\mathbf{v}_1 \ \mathbf{v}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{v}_n]$.

$$A P = P \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \ \dots \ \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n]$$

$$A = P \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n) P^T = [\lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \ \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \ \dots \ \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n] \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1^T \\ \mathbf{v}_2^T \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{v}_n^T \end{bmatrix}$$

The spectral decomposition of A (or the eigenvalue decomposition of A).

$$A = \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^T + \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 \mathbf{v}_2^T + \cdots + \lambda_n \mathbf{v}_n \mathbf{v}_n^T$$

$$A^k = \lambda_1^k \mathbf{v}_1 \mathbf{v}_1^T + \lambda_2^k \mathbf{v}_2 \mathbf{v}_2^T + \cdots + \lambda_n^k \mathbf{v}_n \mathbf{v}_n^T$$

- If A is symmetric and $\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2$ are eigenvectors of A corresponding to distinct eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 respectively, then \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 are orthogonal, i.e., $\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$.

Proof. $\lambda_1(\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2) = A\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = (A\mathbf{v}_1)^T \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{v}_1^T A^T \mathbf{v}_2 = \mathbf{v}_1^T A \mathbf{v}_2 = \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_1^T \mathbf{v}_2 = \lambda_2(\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2)$. Since $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$, we have $\mathbf{v}_1 \cdot \mathbf{v}_2 = 0$.

- **Cayley-Hamilton theorem**

For any $n \times n$ matrix A , $p_A(A) = \mathbf{0}_{n \times n}$, where $p_A(t) = \det(tI_n - A)$.