



# (ENKEMNA0302) Applied Linear Algebra

Dr. Gabor FACSKO, PhD

Senior Research Fellow

*facskog@gamma.ttk.pte.hu*

University of Pécs, Faculty of Sciences, Institute of Mathematics and Informatics, 7624 Pécs, Ifjuság útja 6.  
Wigner Research Centre for Physics, Department of Space Physics and Space Technology, 1121 Budapest, Konkoly-Thege Miklós ut 29-33.  
<https://facsko.ttk.pte.hu>

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# Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace I

- ▶ Definition: Let  $V$  be a vector space over  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\varphi : V \rightarrow V$  be a linear mapping. If for a nonzero vector  $\mathbf{a} \in V$  and a scalar  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , the equation  $\varphi(\mathbf{a}) = \lambda\mathbf{a}$  holds, we say that  $\mathbf{a}$  is an eigenvector of  $\varphi$ , and  $\lambda$  is the eigenvalue of  $\varphi$  corresponding to  $\mathbf{a}$ .
- ▶ Definition: Let  $L_\lambda = \{\mathbf{a} \in V : \varphi(\mathbf{a}) = \lambda\mathbf{a}\}$  be the set of eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ , along with the zero vector. The set  $L_\lambda$  forms a subspace, and it is called the eigenspace corresponding to  $\lambda$ .
- ▶ Definition: (Determination of Eigenvalues) The characteristic polynomial of a matrix  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n \times n}$  is defined as the  $n^{\text{th}}$ -degree polynomial

$$f(x) = |A - xE_n| = \begin{vmatrix} a_{11} - x & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - x & \dots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nn} - x \end{vmatrix}.$$

## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace II

- ▶ Definition: Let  $\varphi$  be a linear transformation acting on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{n \times n}$  be the matrix of  $\varphi$  with respect to the canonical basis. The characteristic polynomial of  $\varphi$  is defined as the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A$ .
- ▶ Definition: A number  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  is called a characteristic solution of the linear transformation  $\varphi$  if  $\lambda$  is a solution of the characteristic polynomial of  $\varphi$ .
- ▶ Thesis: A scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $\varphi$  if and only if it is a characteristic solution of  $\varphi$ .
- ▶ Statement: (Subspaces of Eigenvectors). If  $\mathbf{A}$  is a matrix and  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ , then the set of eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ , along with the zero vector, forms a subspace, which coincides with the null space of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}$ .  
Proof: A nonzero vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$  if and only if it satisfies the equation  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$ , that is, the equation  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} - \lambda\mathbf{x} = 0$ , or equivalently, if it is a solution to the homogeneous linear equation  $(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I})\mathbf{x} = 0$ . This precisely means that  $\mathbf{x}$  is an element of the null space of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}$ .

## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace III

- ▶ Definition: (Eigenspace). The subspace formed by the eigenvectors of a square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  corresponding to an eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , along with the zero vector, is called the eigenspace corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .
- ▶ Statement: (Eigenvalues of Triangular Matrices). The eigenvalues of triangular matrices, and thus also of diagonal matrices, are equal to the elements of their main diagonal.

Proof: If  $\mathbf{A}$  is a triangular matrix, then  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}$  is also a triangular matrix, and the determinant of a triangular matrix is the product of its diagonal elements.

Therefore, the characteristic equation of the triangular matrix  $\mathbf{A} = [a_{ij}]$  is

$$(a_{11} - \lambda)(a_{22} - \lambda) \dots (a_{nn} - \lambda) = 0,$$

whose roots are  $a_{ii}$  (for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ). Thus, these are the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace IV

- Statement: (Determinant, Trace, and Eigenvalues). If the eigenvalues of an  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  are  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}\det(\mathbf{A}) &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n \\ \text{trace}(\mathbf{A}) &= \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \dots + \lambda_n\end{aligned}$$

These values appear in the characteristic polynomial: the determinant corresponds to the constant term, while the trace is the coefficient of  $(-\lambda)^{n-1}$ .

Proof: The factorized form of the characteristic polynomial is:

$$\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda)(\lambda_2 - \lambda) \dots (\lambda_n - \lambda)$$

Substituting  $\lambda = 0$ , we obtain

$$\det(\mathbf{A}) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n.$$

The proof of the statement regarding the trace is trivial.

# Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace V

- Theorem: (Eigenspaces of  $2 \times 2$  Symmetric Matrices). Let  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$  be a symmetric matrix. Then:
1. Every eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$  is real.
  2.  $\mathbf{A}$  has two identical eigenvalues if and only if it is of the form  $a\mathbf{I}$ , in which case every vector in the plane is an eigenvector.
  3. If  $\mathbf{A}$  has two distinct eigenvalues, then its eigenspaces are orthogonal to each other.

Proof: The general form of a real symmetric  $2 \times 2$  matrix is  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ b & d \end{pmatrix}$ , where  $a, b, d \in \mathbb{R}$ . Its characteristic equation is  $\lambda^2 - (a + d)\lambda + (ad - b^2) = 0$ . The discriminant of this equation is  $D = (a + d)^2 - 4(ad - b^2) = (a - d)^2 + 4b^2 \geq 0$ . Thus, the roots, which are the eigenvalues, are real. This proves (1). The two eigenvalues are equal if and only if  $D = 0$ , which occurs only when  $a = d$  and  $b = 0$ , proving (2). The proof of (3) is trivial.

## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace VI

- ▶ (Determining All Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors of a Matrix) The eigenvalues and eigenvectors of a matrix can be determined in two steps:
  1. Solve the characteristic equation  $\det(\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}) = 0$ ; its roots are the eigenvalues.
  2. For each eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , determine a basis for the null space of  $\mathbf{A} - \lambda\mathbf{I}$ . The nonzero vectors of this subspace are the eigenvectors corresponding to  $\lambda$ .
- ▶ Theorem: (Matrix Invertibility and the Eigenvalue 0). A matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible if and only if 0 is not an eigenvalue.  
Proof: A matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is invertible if and only if  $\det(\mathbf{A}) \neq 0$ . This is equivalent to  $\det(\mathbf{A} - 0\mathbf{I}) \neq 0$ , which means that 0 is not an eigenvalue of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace VII

► Theorem: (Eigenvalues of Special Matrices). Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $n \times n$  real matrix. Then:

1. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric, all of its eigenvalues are real.
2. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is skew-symmetric, all of its eigenvalues are imaginary.

Proof: (1) and (2) Let  $(\lambda, \mathbf{x})$  be an eigenpair of  $\mathbf{A}$ . Multiplying both sides of the equation  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$  from the left by the adjoint (conjugate transpose) of  $\mathbf{x}$  gives:

$$\mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^H \lambda \mathbf{x} = \lambda |\mathbf{x}|^2.$$

Taking the adjoint (conjugate transpose) of both sides, and using the fact that since  $\mathbf{A}$  is real, we have  $\mathbf{A}^H = \mathbf{A}^T$ :

$$\mathbf{x}^H \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{x} = \bar{\lambda} |\mathbf{x}|^2.$$



## Eigenvalue, Eigenvector, Eigenspace VIII

Let  $\lambda = a + ib$ . If  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric, i.e.,  $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ , then  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ , meaning  $a + ib = a - ib$ . Thus, the imaginary part of  $\lambda$  is 0, so  $\lambda$  is real. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is skew-symmetric, i.e.,  $\mathbf{A}^T = -\mathbf{A}$ , then  $a + ib = -a + ib$ , meaning the real part of  $\lambda$  is 0, so  $\lambda$  is purely imaginary.

# Le Verrier-Souriau algorithm 1

## Algorithm [\[ edit \]](#)

objective is to calculate the coefficients  $c_k$  of the characteristic polynomial of the  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,

$$p_A(\lambda) \equiv \det(\lambda I_n - A) = \sum_{k=0}^n c_k \lambda^k,$$

where, evidently,  $c_n = 1$  and  $c_0 = (-1)^n \det A$ .

The coefficients  $c_{n-i}$  are determined by induction on  $i$ , using an auxiliary sequence of matrices

$$\begin{aligned} M_0 &\equiv 0 & c_n &= 1 & (k=0) \\ M_k &\equiv AM_{k-1} + c_{n-k+1}I & c_{n-k} &= -\frac{1}{k} \operatorname{tr}(AM_k) & k=1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} M_1 &= I, & c_{n-1} &= -\operatorname{tr} A = -c_n \operatorname{tr} A; \\ M_2 &= A - I \operatorname{tr} A, & c_{n-2} &= -\frac{1}{2} (\operatorname{tr} A^2 - (\operatorname{tr} A)^2) = -\frac{1}{2} (c_n \operatorname{tr} A^2 + c_{n-1} \operatorname{tr} A); \\ M_3 &= A^2 - A \operatorname{tr} A - \frac{1}{2} (\operatorname{tr} A^2 - (\operatorname{tr} A)^2) I, \\ c_{n-3} &= -\frac{1}{6} ((\operatorname{tr} A)^3 - 3 \operatorname{tr} A^2 (\operatorname{tr} A) + 2 \operatorname{tr} A^3)) = -\frac{1}{3} (c_n \operatorname{tr} A^3 + c_{n-1} \operatorname{tr} A^2 + c_{n-2} \operatorname{tr} A); \end{aligned}$$

etc.,<sup>[9][10]</sup> ...;

$$\begin{aligned} M_m &= \sum_{k=1}^m c_{n-m+k} A^{k-1}, \\ c_{n-m} &= -\frac{1}{m} (c_n \operatorname{tr} A^m + c_{n-1} \operatorname{tr} A^{m-1} + \dots + c_{n-m+1} \operatorname{tr} A) = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^m c_{n-m+k} \operatorname{tr} A^k; \dots \end{aligned}$$

Observe  $A^{-I} = -M_n / c_0 = (-1)^{n-1} M_n / \det A$  terminates the recursion at  $\lambda$ . This could be used to obtain the inverse or the determinant of  $A$ .

## Derivation [\[ edit \]](#)

The proof relies on the modes of the [adjugate matrix](#),  $B_k = M_{n-k}$ , the auxiliary matrices encountered. This matrix is defined by

$$(\lambda I - A)B = I p_A(\lambda)$$

and is thus proportional to the [resolvent](#)

$$B = (\lambda I - A)^{-1} I p_A(\lambda).$$

It is evidently a matrix polynomial in  $\lambda$  of degree  $n-1$ . Thus,

$$B \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \lambda^k B_k = \sum_{k=0}^n \lambda^k M_{n-k},$$

where one may define the harmless  $M_0=0$ .

Inserting the explicit polynomial forms into the defining equation for the adjugate, above,

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \lambda^{k+1} M_{n-k} - \lambda^k (A M_{n-k} + c_k I) = 0.$$

Now, at the highest order, the first term vanishes by  $M_0=0$ ; whereas at the bottom order (constant in  $\lambda$ , from the defining equation of the adjugate, above),

$$M_n A = B_0 A = c_0 I,$$

so that shifting the dummy indices of the first term yields

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda^k (M_{1+n-k} - A M_{n-k} + c_k I) = 0,$$

which thus dictates the recursion

$$\therefore \quad M_m = A M_{m-1} + c_{n-m+1} I,$$

for  $m=1, \dots, n$ . Note that ascending index amounts to descending in powers of  $\lambda$ , but the polynomial coefficients  $c$  are yet to be determined in terms of the  $M$ s and  $A$ .

This can be easiest achieved through the following auxiliary equation (Hou, 1998),

$$\lambda \frac{\partial p_A(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} - n p = \operatorname{tr} A B.$$

This is but the *trace of the defining equation for  $B$  by dint of [Jacobi's formula](#)*

## Le Verrier-Souriau algorithm II

This is but the trace of the defining equation for  $B$  by dint of Jacobi's formula

$$\frac{\partial p_A(\lambda)}{\partial \lambda} = p_A(\lambda) \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \lambda^{-(m+1)} \operatorname{tr} A^m = p_A(\lambda) \operatorname{tr} \frac{I}{\lambda I - A} \equiv \operatorname{tr} B.$$

Inserting the polynomial mode forms in this auxiliary equation yields

$$\sum_{k=1}^n \lambda^k (kc_k - nc_k - \text{tr } AM_{n-k}) = 0,$$

so that

$$\sum_{m=1}^{n-1} \lambda^{n-m} (mc_{n-m} + \text{tr } AM_m) = 0,$$

and finally

$$\therefore c_{n-m} = -\frac{1}{m} \operatorname{tr} AM_m.$$

This completes the recursion of the previous section, unfolding in descending powers of  $\lambda$ .

Further note in the algorithm that, more directly,

$$M_m = AM_{m-1} - \frac{1}{m-1}(\text{tr } AM_{m-1})I,$$

and, in comportance with the Cayley–Hamilton theorem

$$\text{adj}(A) = (-1)^{n-1} M_n = (-1)^{n-1} (A^{n-1} + c_{n-1} A^{n-2} + \dots + c_2 A + c_1 I) = (-1)^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^n c_k A^{k-1}.$$

The final solution might be more conveniently expressed in terms of complete exponential [Bell polynomials](#) as

$$c_{n-k} = \frac{(-1)^{n-k}}{k!} B_k \left( \operatorname{tr} A, -1! \operatorname{tr} A^2, 2! \operatorname{tr} A^3, \dots, (-1)^{k-1} (k-1)! \operatorname{tr} A^k \right).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \\
 M_0 &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} & c_3 &= & 1 \\
 M_1 &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} & c_2 &= & -\frac{1}{1}10 = -10 \\
 M_2 &= \begin{bmatrix} -7 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & -7 & 1 \\ 4 & 6 & -6 \end{bmatrix} & A M_1 &= & \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 1 & 5 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \\ 4 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \\
 & & A M_2 &= & \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 26 & -14 \\ -8 & -12 & 12 \\ 6 & -14 & 2 \end{bmatrix} & c_1 &= & -\frac{1}{2}(-8) = 4 \\
 M_3 &= \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 26 & -14 \\ -8 & -8 & 12 \\ 6 & -14 & 6 \end{bmatrix} & A M_3 &= & \begin{bmatrix} 40 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 40 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 40 \end{bmatrix} & c_0 &= & -\frac{1}{3}120 = -40
 \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,  $M_4 = A M_3 + c_0 I = 0$ , which confirms the above calculations.

The characteristic polynomial of matrix  $A$  is thus  $p_A(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 10\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 40$ ; the determinant of  $A$  is  $\det(A) = (-1)^3 c_0 = 40$ ; the trace is  $10 = -c_2$ ; and the inverse of  $A$  is

$$A^{-1} = -\frac{1}{c_0} M_3 = \frac{1}{40} \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 26 & -14 \\ -8 & -8 & 12 \\ 6 & -14 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.15 & 0.65 & -0.35 \\ -0.20 & -0.20 & 0.30 \\ 0.15 & -0.35 & 0.15 \end{bmatrix}.$$

An equivalent but distinct expression [\[edit\]](#)

A compact determinant of an  $m \times m$ -matrix solution for the above Jacobi's formula may alternatively determine the coefficients  $c_i$ .<sup>[11][12]</sup>

$$G_{n-m} = \frac{(-1)^m}{m!} \begin{vmatrix} \text{tr } A & m-1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \text{tr } A^2 & \text{tr } A & m-2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{tr } A^{m-1} & \text{tr } A^{m-2} & \dots & \dots & 1 \\ \text{tr } A^m & \text{tr } A^{m-1} & \dots & \dots & \text{tr } A \end{vmatrix}.$$

# The End

Thank you for your attention!