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Gelfand spectral radius theorem

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For every self-consistent matrix norm,  $\|\cdot\|$ , and every square matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  we can write

$$\rho(\mathbf{A}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\mathbf{A}^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

Note:  $\rho(\mathbf{A})$  denotes the spectral radius of  $\mathbf{A}$ .

This theorem also generalizes to infinite dimensions and plays an important role in the theory of operator algebras. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a Banach algebra with norm  $\|\cdot\|$  and  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then we have

$$\rho(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|A^n\|^{\frac{1}{n}}.$$

It is worth pointing out that the self-consistency condition which was imposed on the matrix norm is part of the definition of a Banach algebra. A common case of the infinite-dimensional generalization occurs when  $\mathcal{A}$  is the algebra of bounded operators on a Hilbert space — the operators may be regarded as an infinite-dimensional generalization of the square matrices.