

2a) Rational canonical form

$R = F[x]$, F a field, V a fin.-gen. R -module,

$T: V \rightarrow V$ the lin. trans. determined $T(v) = x \cdot v$.

Invariant factor decomp:

$$V \cong R^r \oplus R/(a_1) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(a_\ell),$$

$$a_1, \dots, a_\ell \in F[x], \deg(a_i) \geq 1, a_1 | a_2 | \dots | a_\ell.$$

Observations:

- If we assume all a_i 's are monic, then they are unique.

- V is a fin.-dim. v.s. over F , but $R = F[x]$ is inf.-gen. over F .

$\Rightarrow r = 0 \Rightarrow V$ is a torsion R -module ^{$= F[x]$}

i.e. $\forall v \in V, \exists f \in F[x]$ s.t. $f \cdot v = f(T)(v) = 0$.

- $\text{Ann}(V) = \{f \in F[x] : f \cdot v = 0, \forall v \in V\}$

is an ideal in R

$\Rightarrow \text{Ann}(V) = (m_T)$ for some monic $m_T \in F[x]$.

m_T is called the minimal polynomial for T .

From the inv. fact. decomp, $m_T = a_\ell$,

and $a_i | m_T, \forall 1 \leq i \leq \ell$.

- Each invariant factor corresponds to a T -invariant subspace (submodule obtained by projection onto that coordinate).

Now write

$$a_i(x) = \sum_{i=0}^k b_i x^i \quad (b_k = 1).$$

Then $\{1, x, \dots, x^{k-1}\}$ is an F -basis for

$F[x]/(a_i)$. w.r.t. this basis, the matrix

for mult. by x is:

$$C_{a_i} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & & 0 & -b_0 \\ 1 & 0 & & & -b_1 \\ 0 & 1 & & & \\ \vdots & 0 & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & & 0 & \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -b_{k-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Scratch work

$$1 \mapsto x$$

$$x \mapsto x^2$$

$$x^2 \mapsto x^3$$

\vdots

$$x^{k-2} \mapsto x^{k-1}$$

$$x^{k-1} \mapsto x^k = -b_0 - b_1 x - b_2 x^2 - \dots - b_{k-1} x^{k-1}$$

companion matrix of a_i

Choosing bases in an analogous way for each invariant factor, and reinterpreting this in terms of V and T , we can choose a basis for V s.t. the matrix for T is

$$\begin{pmatrix} C_{a_1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & C_{a_2} & 0 & 0 \\ \hline 0 & 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & C_{a_r} \end{pmatrix}$$

Rational canonical form for T .

By uniqueness of inv. fact. decomp., it is not difficult to show that rat. can. form associated to a lin. trans. is unique. Important facts:

- The rational canonical form is computable and has entries in F .
- The rational canonical forms of two lin. transformations on V are the same iff they are similar transformations.

2b) Jordan canonical form

Same setup, but use the elem. div. decomp. to write

$$V \cong R/(p_1^{a_1}) \oplus \dots \oplus R/(p_k^{a_k}), \quad (\text{as before, } r=0)$$

$p_i \in F[x]$ irreducible.

Assume for simplicity that each invariant factor from before factors in $F[x]$ as a product of linear factors.

Suppose $a_i(x) = \prod_{j=1}^s (x - \lambda_j)^{\alpha_j}$, $\lambda_j \in F$, $\alpha_j \in \mathbb{N}$,
 $\lambda_i \neq \lambda_j$ for $i \neq j$.

Then $R/(a_i) \cong R/(x - \lambda_1)^{\alpha_1} \oplus \dots \oplus R/(x - \lambda_s)^{\alpha_s}$.

(side note: this is how you get the elem. div. decomp. from the inv. fact decomp.)

Consider one of these factors, $\mathbb{R}/(x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i}$,

and choose the F-basis

$$(x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i-1}, (x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i-2}, \dots, (x-\lambda_i), 1$$

for the F-v.s. $\mathbb{R}/(x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i}$.

The matrix for mult. by $x = \lambda_i + (x-\lambda_i)$ w.r.t. this basis is:

$$J_i = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_i & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_i & 1 & & \\ & 0 & \lambda_i & & \\ & & 0 & \ddots & \\ \text{\textcircled{0}} & & & & \lambda_i \end{pmatrix}$$

Jordan block of size α_i w.r.t. λ_i

Scratch work:

$$\begin{array}{ll} x = \lambda_i + (x-\lambda_i) & \\ 1 & \mapsto \lambda_i \cdot 1 + (x-\lambda_i) \\ (x-\lambda_i) & \mapsto \lambda_i(x-\lambda_i) + (x-\lambda_i)^2 \\ (x-\lambda_i)^2 & \mapsto \lambda_i(x-\lambda_i)^2 + (x-\lambda_i)^3 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i-1} & \mapsto \lambda_i(x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i-1} \\ & (x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i} = 0 \end{array}$$

Doing this for each factor allows us to choose

in $\mathbb{R}/(x-\lambda_i)^{\alpha_i}$

a basis for V w.r.t. which the matrix for T is:

$$\begin{pmatrix} J_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & J_k \end{pmatrix},$$

where each J_i is a Jordan block. This mat. is unique up to reordering blocks.

Jordan canonical form for T

One more result:

Thm (Cayley-Hamilton Thm): $m_T \mid \chi_T$ ↖ char. poly. of T .

Pf: Choose basis s.t. T is in Jordan can. form.

Note that $\det \begin{pmatrix} x-\lambda_i & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & x-\lambda_i \end{pmatrix} = (x-\lambda_i)^{q_i}$. \square