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Fundamental Theorem of Algebra

Recall that if we have an n^{th} degree polynomial with real (or complex) coefficients, then we have n roots counting multiplicity.

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where each $r_\ell \in \mathbb{C}$ and can be repeated!

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Example

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$. The eigenvalues are going to be the roots of

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Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix

Theorem

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, then if (λ, \mathbf{v}) is an eigenpair of A then $(\bar{\lambda}, \bar{\mathbf{v}})$ is also an eigenpair!

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Proof.

Let (λ, \mathbf{v}) be an eigenpair of $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

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Rotation-Scaling Matrices

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We also have that the eigenvalues are $\lambda = a \pm bi$

Eigenvalues Relating to Rotation-Scaling Matrices

Why do we care? Well, do we notice about A and how it relates to its eigenvalues?

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & -b \\ b & a \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda = a \pm bi$$

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Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ with a complex eigenvalue $\lambda \notin \mathbb{R}$ and \mathbf{v} be an eigenvector. Then $A = CBC^{-1}$ for

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) & \operatorname{Im}(\lambda) \\ -\operatorname{Im}(\lambda) & \operatorname{Re}(\lambda) \end{bmatrix} \quad C = [\operatorname{Re}(\mathbf{v}) \quad \operatorname{Im}(\mathbf{v})]$$

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Let A be given as below. Find the B and C in the previous theorem.

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Finally, we must compute an eigenvector associated with $\lambda = 1 + i$.

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Meaning,

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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So, (λ, \mathbf{v}) is an eigenpair of A !

A Special Similarity Transformation for Complex Eigenvalues

We can extend our Rotation-Scaling theorem to larger matrices! This is called the **Block Diagonalization**

Theorem

Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ suppose that for each eigenvalue (real or complex!) the algebraic and geometric multiplicities are equal, then $A = CBC^{-1}$ where B, C are as follows.

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- ▶ The columns of C form a bases for the eigenspaces for the real eigenvectors or pairs $(\operatorname{Re}(\mathbf{v}), \operatorname{Im}(\mathbf{v}))$.

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In other words, if we are in $\mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$, and have $\lambda_1 \in \mathbb{C}, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ as two eigenvalues ($\lambda_1 \notin \mathbb{R}$) of A , with \mathbf{v}_1 and \mathbf{v}_2 as their corresponding eigenvectors

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$$A = [\operatorname{Re}(\mathbf{v}_1) \quad \operatorname{Im}(\mathbf{v}_1) \quad \mathbf{v}_2] \begin{bmatrix} \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) & \operatorname{Im}(\lambda_1) & 0 \\ -\operatorname{Im}(\lambda_1) & \operatorname{Re}(\lambda_1) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Example 3×3

Let A be given below:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

which has characteristic polynomial $p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 4\lambda^2 + 6\lambda - 4$. Find a matrix B such that

$$A = CBC^{-1}$$

where C is

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 1

First, we need to find the roots of $p(\lambda)$. By plugging in the values of $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$ we will find that $\lambda = 2$ is an eigenvalue.

Next we would divide out the factor $\lambda - 2$ to get $\lambda^2 - 2\lambda + 2$, which we use the quadratic formula to find that $\lambda = 1 \pm i$ are the other eigenvalues.

Now we just need to find an eigenvector associated with $\lambda = 1 + i$ and $\lambda = 2$. We do the real one first

$$A - 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - 2 & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 - 2 & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 - 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 1

First, we need to find the roots of $p(\lambda)$. By plugging in the values of $\pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 4$ we will find that $\lambda = 2$ is an eigenvalue.

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Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 1

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Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 2

Now, we find an eigenvector for $\lambda = 1 + i$

$$A - (1 + i)I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - (1 + i) & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 - (1 + i) & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 - (1 + i) \end{bmatrix}$$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 2

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$$\xrightarrow{R_2 \leftrightarrow R_1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 - i & 1 \\ -i & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -i \end{bmatrix}$$

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Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 2

Now, we find an eigenvector for $\lambda = 1 + i$

$$A - (1 + i)I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - (1 + i) & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 - (1 + i) & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 - (1 + i) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -i & 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 - i & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -i \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$\xrightarrow{R_3 = R_3 + (1 - i)R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 - i & 1 \\ 0 & -1 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_1 = R_1 + (1 - i)R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & -1 & -i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{R_2 = -R_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -i \\ 0 & 1 & i \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So, an eigenvector is $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} i \\ -i \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 3

Next, we see that

$$\operatorname{Re}(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \operatorname{Im}(\mathbf{v}) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Which are the first 2 columns of C

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 3

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Which are the first 2 columns of C and the last column of C is \mathbf{x} .

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 3

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Which are the first 2 columns of C and the last column of C is \mathbf{x} . This means the block using the real and imaginary components must be in the first two columns of B

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Which are the first 2 columns of C and the last column of C is \mathbf{x} . This means the block using the real and imaginary components must be in the first two columns of B and the third column corresponds to our real eigenvalue. In other words, since

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Complex Eigenvalues of a Real Matrix Practice 3×3 Solution Part 3

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we have that

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$