

# Derivatives of Eigenvalues

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Let's assume we work in a vector space with a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , and a differential operator  $d$  satisfying the usual Leibniz's rule. We will use  $\mathbf{A}$  to denote linear operator/matrix in a basis  $A = (a_{ij})$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  for a vector  $w = (w_i)$ .

Assuming  $\mathbf{L}$  is not defect at the considered eigenvalue (multiplicity = 1), we have two equations  $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{u}^\dagger\mathbf{L} = \lambda\mathbf{u}^\dagger$ , where  $\lambda$  is the eigenvalue,  $\mathbf{v}$  is the (right) eigenvector, and  $\mathbf{u}$  the left eigenvector. (Note that a left eigenvector of a matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  is a (right) eigenvector of the adjoint  $\mathbf{A}^\dagger$ .)

Now differentiate the first (right) eigenvector equation gives us

$$\begin{aligned} d(\lambda\mathbf{v}) &= d(\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v}) \\ d\lambda\mathbf{v} + \lambda d\mathbf{v} &= d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{L}d\mathbf{v} \end{aligned}$$

Pair the above with the left eigenvectors yields

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{u}, d\lambda\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, \lambda d\mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{L}d\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \lambda\mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{L}d\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{L}^\dagger\mathbf{u} - \lambda\mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda &= \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Now if the operator  $\mathbf{L}$  is self-adjoint (e.g. symmetric if we are over  $\mathbb{R}$ ), we then have  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$ , thus

$$d\lambda = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle} = \langle \mathbf{v}, d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} \rangle$$

Or in another notation, we have  $d\lambda = \mathbf{v}^\dagger d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v}$ .

Same principles apply for the generalized eigenvalue problem. If we again have left eigenvector  $\mathbf{u}$  and (right) eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$  such that  $(\mathbf{L} - \lambda\mathbf{M})\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}^\dagger(\mathbf{L} - \lambda\mathbf{M}) = 0$ , we can derive

$$\begin{aligned} d(\mathbf{L} - \lambda\mathbf{M})\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ (d\mathbf{L} - d\lambda\mathbf{M} - \lambda d\mathbf{M})\mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{L} - \lambda d\mathbf{M})d\mathbf{v} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Pairing with  $\mathbf{u}$  returns

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}^\dagger(d\mathbf{L} - d\lambda\mathbf{M} - \lambda d\mathbf{M})\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}^\dagger(\mathbf{L} - \lambda d\mathbf{M})d\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{u}^\dagger(d\mathbf{L} - d\lambda\mathbf{M} - \lambda d\mathbf{M})\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{u}^\dagger d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u}^\dagger \lambda d\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^\dagger d\lambda\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} \\ d\lambda\mathbf{u}^\dagger\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^\dagger d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} - \lambda\mathbf{u}^\dagger d\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} \\ d\lambda &= \frac{\mathbf{u}^\dagger d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} - \lambda\mathbf{u}^\dagger d\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{u}^\dagger\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}} \end{aligned}$$

Now if we assume both  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  to be self-adjoint, we will again have  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$ . Then normalizing  $\mathbf{v}$  such that  $\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} \rangle = 1$  gives  $d\lambda = \mathbf{v}^\dagger d\mathbf{L}\mathbf{v} - \lambda\mathbf{v}^\dagger d\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}$ .