

# 14-Diagonalization

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```
In [23]: from latools import *
         from sympy import *
         init_printing(use_latex=True)
```

## 1 Diagonalization

### 1.1 Example 1

Let  $L : \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  be the linear transformation given by:

$$L \left( \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \right) = \begin{bmatrix} 9x - 18y + 6z \\ 6x - 11y + 2z \\ 2x - 6y + 5z \end{bmatrix}$$

Find, if possible, a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  that diagonalizes  $L$ , and the diagonalization of  $L$ .

*Solution:* We start by writing the matrix of  $L$  on the standard basis:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & -18 & 6 \\ 6 & -11 & 2 \\ 2 & -6 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have to determine if it is possible to find a basis of eigenvectors of  $M$ . We start by finding the eigenvalues:

```
In [24]: M = matrix_to_rational([[9, -18, 6],
                                [6, -11, 2],
                                [2, -6, 5]])
M
```

Out [24]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 9 & -18 & 6 \\ 6 & -11 & 2 \\ 2 & -6 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
In [25]: lbd = symbols('lambda')
         p = det(M - lbd*eye(3))
         p
```

Out [25]:

$$-\lambda^3 + 3\lambda^2 + \lambda - 3$$

In [26]: `factor(p)`

Out [26]:

$$-(\lambda - 3)(\lambda - 1)(\lambda + 1)$$

The eigenvalues of  $M$  are  $\lambda_1 = -1$ ,  $\lambda_2 = 1$  and  $\lambda_3 = 3$ . Next, we find a basis for each eigenspace:

**Eigenspace of  $\lambda_1 = -1$ :**

In [27]: `R = reduced_row_echelon_form(M - (-1)*eye(3))`  
R

Out [27]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The system for the RREF matrix is:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 - 3x_3 &= 0 \\ x_2 - 2x_3 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Letting the free variable  $x_3 = 1$  we get  $x_1 = 3$  and  $x_2 = 2$ , so we get following basis for the eigenspace  $E(-1)$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

**Eigenspace of  $\lambda_2 = 1$ :**

In [28]: `R = reduced_row_echelon_form(M - (1)*eye(3))`  
R

Out [28]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -3 \\ 0 & 1 & -\frac{5}{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The system for the RREF matrix is:

$$x_1 - 3x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 - \frac{5}{3}x_3 = 0$$

Letting  $x_3 = 3$  we get  $x_1 = 9$  and  $x_2 = 5$ , and the following basis for the eigenspace  $E(1)$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

**Eigenspace of  $\lambda_3 = 3$ :**

In [29]: `R = reduced_row_echelon_form(M - (3)*eye(3))`  
R

Out [29]:

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

The system for the RREF matrix is:

$$x_1 - 2x_3 = 0$$

$$x_2 - x_3 = 0$$

Letting  $x_3 = 1$  we get  $x_1 = 2$  and  $x_2 = 1$ , and the following basis for the eigenspace  $E(1)$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

**Summary:**

| Eigenvalue       | Basis of Eigenspace  |
|------------------|--|
| $\lambda_1 = -1$ | $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ |
| $\lambda_2 = 1$  | $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ |
| $\lambda_3 = 3$  | $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$ |

The sum of the dimensions of the eigenspaces is  $1 + 1 + 1 = 3$ , so we get a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^3$ :

$$B = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 5 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

It is guaranteed that these three vectors form a basis, because:

- They are linearly independent, since they are eigenvectors corresponding to different eigenvalues.
- Since the dimension of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  is 3, any set of three linearly independent vectors is a basis.

We conclude that the matrix is diagonalizable. To find the matrix of the linear transformation on basis  $B$ , we define the change of basis matrix:

```
In [30]: P = matrix_to_rational([[3, 9, 2],
                                [2, 5, 1],
                                [1, 3, 1]])
P
```

Out [30]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 9 & 2 \\ 2 & 5 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The matrix of the linear transformation on the new basis is:

```
In [31]: D = P**(-1) * M * P
D
```

Out [31]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

We get a diagonal matrix with the eigenvalues at the diagonal, as expected.

```
In [32]: D = matrix_to_rational([[1, 0, 0], [0, -1, 0], [0, 0, 3]])
D
```

Out [32]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

## 1.2 Example 2

Let  $L : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  be the linear transformation given by:

$$L\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -8x + 25y \\ -4x + 12y \end{bmatrix}$$

Find, if possible, a basis of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that diagonalizes  $L$ , and the diagonalization of  $L$ .

*Solution:* We start by writing the matrix of  $L$  on the standard basis:

$$M = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & 25 \\ -4 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have to determine if it is possible to find a basis of eigenvectors of  $M$ . We start by finding the eigenvalues:

```
In [33]: M = matrix_to_rational([[ -8, 25],
                                [-4, 12]])
        M
```

Out [33]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} -8 & 25 \\ -4 & 12 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
In [34]: lbd = symbols('lambda')
        p = det(M - lbd*eye(2))
        factor(p)
```

Out [34]:

$$(\lambda - 2)^2$$

The matrix has only one eigenvalue,  $\lambda_1 = 2$ . We next find a basis for the eigenspace of the eigenvalue:

```
In [35]: R = reduced_row_echelon_form(M - 2*eye(2))
        R
```

Out [35]:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{5}{2} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

The system corresponding to the RREF has a single equation:

$$x_1 - \frac{5}{2}x_2 = 0$$

Letting  $x_2 = 2$  we get  $x_1 = 5$ , which yields the following basis for the eigenspace  $E(2)$ :

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

This means that we have *at most one* linearly independent eigenvector, so it is not possible to have a basis of eigenvectors (because the dimension of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  is 2). We conclude that *this matrix is not diagonalizable*.

```
In [ ]:
```