

Goal: lay the groundwork & reminders for orthogonal diagonalization of symmetric matrices, show students this process in brief.

Class Q. If A is orthogonally diagonalizable then where do its eigen values live.

Section
5.4

lets do some recalling practice problems & a few proofs regarding symmetric matrices.

Recall: how do we diagonalize a matrix?

Ex. let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$ lets diagonalize it!

$$\begin{aligned} \det(A - \lambda I) &= \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 \\ 2 & -2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(-2-\lambda) - 4 \\ &= -2 - \lambda + 2\lambda + \lambda^2 - 4 \\ &= \lambda^2 + \lambda - 6 = (\lambda + 3)(\lambda - 2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \lambda_1 = -3 \quad \lambda_2 = 2$$

lets look for eigenvectors.

$$E_3 = \text{null} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad \text{by inspection } \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{ or span } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

$$E_2 = \text{null} \left(\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 2 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad \text{by inspection } \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \text{ or span } \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

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this means A is diagonalizable with

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \& \quad P^{-1}AP = D = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

what do we notice? ~~E_3~~ $E_3 \perp E_2$
coincidence? (foreshadowing 😊)

i.e. $\vec{P}_1 \perp \vec{P}_2$ if we normalize we get

$$\vec{u}_1 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{P}_1\|} \vec{P}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ -\frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \end{bmatrix} \quad \vec{u}_2 = \frac{1}{\|\vec{P}_2\|} \vec{P}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{\sqrt{5}} \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \end{bmatrix}$$

now if we take $Q = [\vec{u}_1, \vec{u}_2]$ we have
still that $Q^{-1}AQ = D$ but also Q is
an orthogonal matrix (i.e. $Q^{-1} = Q^T$)

\Rightarrow we say matrices ^{A} that ~~are~~ have such a
 Q which is orthogonal s.t. $Q^{-1}AQ = D$ are called
orthogonally diagonalizable

Symmetric matrices:

these are matrices for which $A^T = A$
 \Rightarrow symmetrical about the main diagonal.

Ex: $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ or I_n $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \\ b & a & b & c \\ c & b & a & b \\ d & c & b & a \end{bmatrix}$$

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Properties of symmetric matrices

Lemma: let A be a symmetric matrix w/ e. vals λ_1, λ_2 $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$ & $\vec{v}_1 \in E_{\lambda_1}$ $\vec{v}_2 \in E_{\lambda_2}$ then $\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2 = 0$ ($\lambda_1, \lambda_2 \neq 0$)
(i.e. eigen values of different eigenspaces here are orth)

Proof: Recall $A \vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$ for $i=1, 2$
i.e. $\vec{v}_1 = \frac{1}{\lambda_1} A \vec{v}_1$ & $\vec{v}_2 = \frac{1}{\lambda_2} A \vec{v}_2$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{consider } \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2 &= \left(\frac{1}{\lambda_1} A \vec{v}_1 \right)^T \vec{v}_2 && \text{(as matrices)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda_1} (A \vec{v}_1)^T \cdot \vec{v}_2 && ((AB)^T = B^T A^T) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \vec{v}_1^T A^T \vec{v}_2 && ((AB)^T = B^T A^T) \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \vec{v}_1^T A \vec{v}_2 && \text{(by symmetry)} \\ &= \frac{1}{\lambda_1} \vec{v}_1^T \lambda_2 \vec{v}_2 \\ &= \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \vec{v}_1^T \vec{v}_2 = \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} (\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2) \end{aligned}$$

note $\frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \neq 0, \neq 1$

$$(\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2) - \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} (\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2) = 0 \Rightarrow \left(1 - \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1}\right) (\vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2) = 0$$

$$\therefore \vec{v}_1 \cdot \vec{v}_2 = 0 \quad \vec{v}_1 \perp \vec{v}_2$$

□

Lemma: if A is real & symmetric then the eigen values of A are real

consider: z is real iff $z = \bar{z}$ i.e. $x+iy = x-iy$

Proof: suppose λ is an e. val for A and \vec{v} is e. vec. i.e. $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$

we can take complex conjugates & get

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~~Suppose~~ $A\vec{v} = \bar{A}\vec{v} = \underbrace{\overline{A\vec{v}}}_{\text{start here}} = \overline{\lambda\vec{v}} = \bar{\lambda}\vec{v}$

~~$A\vec{v} = \bar{A}\vec{v}$~~

we can also take the transpose to see

$$\vec{v}^T A = \vec{v}^T A^T = (\overline{A\vec{v}})^T = (\overline{\lambda\vec{v}})^T = \bar{\lambda} \vec{v}^T$$

lets look at

$$\lambda(\vec{v}^T \vec{v}) = \vec{v}^T (\lambda\vec{v}) = \vec{v}^T (A\vec{v}) = (\vec{v}^T A) \vec{v} = \bar{\lambda}(\vec{v}^T \vec{v})$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - \bar{\lambda})(\vec{v}^T \vec{v}) = 0$$

since $\vec{v} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 + ib_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n + ib_n \end{bmatrix}$ $\bar{\vec{v}} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 - ib_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n - ib_n \end{bmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{v}^T \vec{v} = (a_1^2 + b_1^2) + \dots + (a_n^2 + b_n^2) \neq 0 \text{ since } \vec{v} \neq \vec{0} \text{ on account of being an e.vec.}$$

hence we must have $(\lambda - \bar{\lambda}) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = \bar{\lambda}$
 $\therefore \lambda$ is real!



You will not be expected to do proofs like this

Thm: let A be an $n \times n$ real matrix. Then
 A is symmetric iff it is orthogonally diagonalizable.