

# Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

$$A_{n \times n} \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x} \rightarrow \text{EIGENVECTORS corresponding to this } \lambda.$$

$\downarrow$  your matrix       $\downarrow$  scalar  $\rightarrow$  EIGENVALUES

a square matrix

If a vector  $\vec{x}$  satisfying  $A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$  can be found,  
 $\Rightarrow \lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$ .

$$A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x} \Rightarrow A\vec{x} - \lambda\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

$$\Rightarrow (A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

$\downarrow$  matrix       $\downarrow$  scalar       $\downarrow$   $n \times 1$        $\downarrow$   $n \times 1$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{n \times n}$

If this system has a nontrivial solution for  $\vec{x} \Rightarrow \lambda$  is an eigenvalue.

$\Rightarrow$  When does such a homogeneous system has only the trivial solution?

$$A - \lambda I : \begin{bmatrix} | & 0 & | \\ | & 0 & | \\ | & \vdots & | \\ | & 0 & | \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{RREF}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 & | & 0 \\ & 1 & & | & 0 \\ & & \ddots & | & \vdots \\ & 0 & & 1 & | & 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{matrix} x_1 = 0 \\ x_2 = 0 \\ \vdots \\ x_n = 0 \end{matrix} \text{ the trivial soln.}$$

$\rightarrow \underbrace{(A - \lambda I)}_{\text{only if } \det(A - \lambda I) \neq 0} \rightarrow I_n$

**! WE DON'T WANT THIS!**

$\Rightarrow$  We should have the case where  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$  ← unknown

$\Rightarrow p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \rightarrow$  The characteristic polynomial of  $A$ .

$\Rightarrow$  The roots of this polynomial  $\rightarrow$  eigenvalues

$\Rightarrow$  Once you find an eigenvalue  $(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$   $\Rightarrow$  Find all solutions for  $\vec{x}$ .  
 (this is known)

$\Rightarrow$  Basis of the eigenspace  $\Rightarrow$  eigenvectors corresponding to that  $\lambda$ .  $\Rightarrow$  eigenspace corresponding to that  $\lambda$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Do the last 2 steps for each  $\lambda$ .

$\Rightarrow A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix}$  Find the characteristic polynomial.

Ex/  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Find the characteristic polynomial.

Find the eigenvalues and corresponding eigenvectors

$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 3 & -2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-\lambda & 2 \\ 3 & -2-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (3-\lambda)(-2-\lambda) - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow -6 + 2\lambda - 3\lambda + \lambda^2 - 6 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda^2 - \lambda - 12 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow (\lambda - 4)(\lambda + 3) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda_1 = 4}, \boxed{\lambda_2 = -3}$$

eigenvalues of A.

The characteristic polynomial of A  $\Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda^2 - \lambda - 12 = 0}$

For  $\lambda_1 = 4$ :  $(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$A - 4I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-4 & 2 \\ 3 & -2-4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -1 & 2 \\ 3 & -6 \end{bmatrix}}_{\det=0} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{Find nontrivial solutions.}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 3 & -6 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$x_1 - 2x_2 = 0$$

$$x_2 = r \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$x_1 = 2r$$

eigenspace for  $\lambda = 4$ :  $\text{span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$   $\xrightarrow{\text{a typical element}} \begin{bmatrix} 2r \\ r \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\rightarrow$  the eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = 4$ .

For  $\lambda_2 = -3$ :

$$A - (-3)I = \begin{bmatrix} 3+3 & 2 \\ 3 & -2+3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 2 \\ 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(A - (-3)I)\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad 3x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$(A+3I)\vec{x} = \vec{0} \Rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 6 & 2 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{cc|c} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} 3x_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ x_1 = r \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_2 = -3r \end{array}$$

$$\text{Eigenspace of } \lambda = -3 = \text{Span} \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{a typical element}} \begin{bmatrix} r \\ -3r \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{eigenvector corresponding to } \lambda = -3$$

ex

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

characteristic polynomial of A?  
eigenvalues of A? corresponding eigenvectors?

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-\lambda & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -\lambda & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$= (3-\lambda) [(\lambda^2 + \lambda) - 2] + 2(1+\lambda) - 4 + (-2)[-2 + 2\lambda]$$

$$-6 + 2\lambda + 4 + 4 - 4\lambda - 2\lambda + 2$$

$$(3-\lambda)\lambda - 2$$

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

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

$$-(\lambda^2 + \lambda - 6)$$

$$-(\lambda+3)(\lambda-2)$$

$$= (3-\lambda)\lambda(\lambda+1) - 2(3-\lambda) - 2(1+\lambda) + 4 + 4(1-\lambda)$$

$$= (\lambda+1)[(\lambda-2)(1-\lambda)] + 2(1-\lambda)$$

$$= (1-\lambda)[(\lambda+1)(\lambda-2) + 2] \quad \lambda^2 - 2\lambda + \lambda - 2 + 2$$

$$= (1-\lambda)[\lambda^2 - \lambda]$$

$$= (\lambda-1)\lambda(\lambda-1)$$

$$= \lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 + \lambda \rightarrow \text{characteristic poly of A.}$$

a repeated root

$$\boxed{\lambda_1 = 1}$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_2 = 0}$$

For  $\lambda_1 = 1$  :

$$(A - 1I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$$

The nontrivial solution?

$$A - 1I = \begin{bmatrix} 3-1 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1-1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} 2x_1 - x_2 - 2x_3 = 0 \\ x_1 = r \in \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 2 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = r \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_3 = s \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_2 = 2r - 2s \end{array}$$

$$\rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} r \\ 2r-2s \\ s \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + s \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑                      ↑  
eigenvectors      corresponding to  $\lambda_1 = 1$ .

For  $\lambda_2 = 0$  :

$(A + 0I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

$$A - 0I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 & -2 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} 3 \left| \begin{array}{cc} 0 & -2 \end{array} \right| + 1 \left| \begin{array}{cc} 2 & -2 \end{array} \right| \\ -6 + 2 + 4 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 3 & -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/3 & -2/3 & 0 \\ 2 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 2 & -1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\begin{array}{l} -2r_1 + r_2 \rightarrow r_2 \\ -2r_1 + r_3 \rightarrow r_3 \end{array} \quad \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/3 & -2/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 2/3 & -2/3 & 0 \\ 0 & -1/3 & 1/3 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & -1/3 & -2/3 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$x_1 - \frac{r}{3} - \frac{2r}{3} = 0$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x_1 - x_2/3 - 2x_3/3 = 0 \\ x_2 - x_3 = 0 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} x_3 = r \in \mathbb{R} \\ \Rightarrow x_2 = r \\ \Rightarrow x_1 = r \end{array}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} r \\ r \\ r \end{bmatrix} = r \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{eigenvector corresponding to } \lambda = 0.$$

1. Find the eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenspaces for each of the following matrices:

(a)  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ 4 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$       (b)  $\begin{pmatrix} 6 & -4 \\ 3 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(c)  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$       (d)  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & -8 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$

(e)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$       (f)  $\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

(g)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$       (h)  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(i)  $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & -5 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$       (j)  $\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$

(k)  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$       (l)  $\begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$