

## Lecture 30: Quick review from previous lecture

- Consider a linear operator  $L : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $L[\mathbf{x}] = A\mathbf{x}$ . ,  $A_{m \times n}$ .

$\mathbb{R}^n$  with basis  $\{\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n\}$   $\longrightarrow$   $\mathbb{R}^m$  with basis  $\{\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_m\}$

$$\vec{\mathbf{x}}, (x_1, \dots, x_n)^T \qquad L[\vec{\mathbf{x}}], (y_1, \dots, y_m)^T$$

Then

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_m \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{T^{-1}AS}_B \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $T = [\mathbf{w}_1, \dots, \mathbf{w}_m]$  and  $S = [\mathbf{v}_1, \dots, \mathbf{v}_n]$ . The **matrix representation** of  $L$  in these bases is  $\underline{B} = T^{-1}AS$ .

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Today we will discuss

- Section 8.2 Eigenvalues and eigenfunctions.

- Lecture will be recorded -

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- HW 10 due ~~today~~ at 6pm. *next Monday at 6pm.*
  - The solutions, statistic, and grade for Exam 2 were posted on Canvas.
  - The University provides free **peer tutor service**, which can be found in <https://www.lib.umn.edu/smart> (SMART Learning Commons)

# Chapter 8 Eigenvalues and Singular Values

We will discuss 8.2, 8.3, 8.5, and 8.7.

## 8.2 Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

As we will see, eigenvectors are a natural basis for expressing the action of symmetric linear operators.

**Definition:** If  $A = A_{n \times n}$  is a square matrix, we say that a scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if there is a non-zero vector  $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$  satisfying

$$A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$



If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue, we say a vector  $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$  satisfying  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector.

**\*Important:** The zero vector  $\mathbf{0}$  is not allowed to be an eigenvector, by definition.

Here the action of a matrix  $A$  on the eigenvector mimic scalar multiplication.

### Properties:

- 1) In geometric terms, the eigenvectors of  $A$  are those vectors that are stretched or scaled by  $A$ . See also Lecture 29 Example 5.
- 2) The eigenvalue  $\lambda$  is the amount by which the eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$  is stretched.
- 3) Note that even though  $\mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$ , we may have  $\lambda = 0$ .  $A\mathbf{v} = 0\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

### Goal:

$$A \rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} * & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & * & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & * \end{pmatrix}$$

## § How to find eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

Let's rewrite the equations  $A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$  into

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}, \quad \text{where } I \text{ is the identity matrix.} \quad (1)$$

Clearly, it is a homogeneous linear system, and thus  $\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$  is a solution of (1).

**Q:** How to find its nonzero solutions (eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}$ )?

In other words, the eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v}$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda$  are the non-zero vectors in the kernel of  $A - \lambda I$ .

$$\mathbf{v} \in \ker(A - \lambda I)$$

Thus, we have the following fact.

**Fact 1:** A scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  if and only if  $A - \lambda I$  is singular ( ~~$\text{rank } A < n$~~ ).

↓

$$\underline{\text{rank}(A - \lambda I) < n.} \quad \text{NOT invertible.}$$

From Fact 1, we immediately have

**Fact 2:** A scalar  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  if and only if  $\lambda$  is a solution to the characteristic equation

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

## Summary:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda \text{ is an eigenvalue} &\iff \text{there is a nonzero vector } \mathbf{v} \text{ so that } A\mathbf{v} - \lambda\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0} \\ &\iff A - \lambda I \text{ is singular} \\ &\iff \det(A - \lambda I) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We define **characteristic polynomial** of  $A$  by

$$p_A(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I), \quad \text{polynomial with degree } n. \text{ if } A \text{ is } n \times n.$$

the eigenvalues of  $A$  are the **roots** of  $p_A(\lambda)$ , i.e. the values  $\lambda$  at which  $p_A(\lambda) = 0$ .

**Example 1.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

① Set up  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \det \begin{pmatrix} 1-\lambda & -1 \\ -2 & 0-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(-\lambda) - 2 \\ &= \lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 \\ &= (\lambda-2)(\lambda+1) \end{aligned}$$

$\lambda = 2, -1$  are eigenvalues.

② Find eigenvectors ( $\mathbf{v} \in \ker(A - \lambda I)$ )

$$\lambda = 2: A - 2I = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{row operations}} \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$x = -y. \quad \ker(A - 2I) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -y \\ y \end{pmatrix} \mid y \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Let  $y = 1$ .  $\mathbf{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = 2$ .

$$\lambda = -1: A + I = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\mathbf{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix}$  eigenvector corresponding to  $\lambda = -1$ .

or  $\begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$  are also okay.

**Remark:** If  $\mathbf{v}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ , then so is every nonzero scalar multiple of  $\mathbf{v}$ , that is,  $c\mathbf{v}$  for scalar  $c \neq 0$ .

**Example 2.** Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ . Find its eigenvalues and eigenvectors.

① Set up  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$

$$0 = \det \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 5-\lambda \end{pmatrix} = (2-\lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 5-\lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 5-\lambda \end{pmatrix} + 0 + 0.$$

$$= (2-\lambda) [(5-\lambda)^2 - 1]$$

$$= (2-\lambda) (\lambda^2 - 10\lambda + 24)$$

$$= (2-\lambda) (\lambda - 4) (\lambda - 6)$$

$$\left[ \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 5-\lambda \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\textcircled{3} + \frac{1}{5-\lambda} \textcircled{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 2-\lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5-\lambda & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5-\lambda - \frac{1}{5-\lambda} \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = (2-\lambda) (5-\lambda) \left(5-\lambda - \frac{1}{5-\lambda}\right)$$

$$= (2-\lambda) \cancel{(5-\lambda)} \frac{(5-\lambda)^2 - 1}{\cancel{(5-\lambda)}}$$

$\lambda = 6, 4, 2$  are eigenvalues.

② Find eigenvectors ( $v \in \ker(A - \lambda I)$ )

$$\underline{\lambda = 6}: A - 6I = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\textcircled{3} - \textcircled{2}} \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$y = -z; \quad x = 0$$

$$\ker(A - 6I) = \left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -z \\ z \end{pmatrix} \mid z \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

$$\text{Let } z = 1, \quad v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \#$$

$$\underline{\lambda = 4}: A - 4I = \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \#$$

$$\underline{\lambda = 2}: v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \#$$

**Fact 3:** Matrix  $A$  is singular if and only if  $A$  has a zero eigenvalue.

[To see this:]

$$\begin{aligned} A \text{ is singular } (\det A = 0) &\Leftrightarrow \ker A \neq \{0\} \\ &\Leftrightarrow 0 \neq v \in \ker A \\ &\Leftrightarrow Av = 0 = 0v \\ &\Leftrightarrow 0 \text{ is eigenvalue} \\ &\quad v \text{ is eigenvector.} \end{aligned}$$

**Fact 4:**  $A$  and  $A^T$  have the same eigenvalues.

\*However, the eigenvectors do not need to be the same.

[To see this:]

Characteristic equation for  $A$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \det(A - \lambda I) \\ &= \det(A - \lambda I)^T \quad \downarrow \text{ since } \det B = \det B^T \\ &= \underline{\det(A^T - \lambda I)} \quad \text{characteristic eqn. for } A^T. \end{aligned}$$

## § Basic Properties of Eigenvalues.

Let  $A$  is a  $n \times n$  square matrix. Recall that its **characteristic polynomial**

$$p_A(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I) = c_n \lambda^n + \cdots + c_1 \lambda + c_0$$

is a degree  $n$  polynomial, whose roots are the **eigenvalues** of  $A$ .

We can in principle factor  $p_A$  in the form

$$p_A(\lambda) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda) \cdots (\lambda_n - \lambda).$$

We say that the eigenvalue  $\lambda_j$  has **multiplicity  $k$**  if it appears  **$k$  times** in the factorization of  $p_A(\lambda)$ .

Let's observe a  $2 \times 2$  matrix  $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$  with eigenvalues  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$ . Then

$$p_A(\lambda) = \det \begin{pmatrix} a - \lambda & b \\ c & d - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = \lambda^2 - \underbrace{(a + d)}_{\text{tr}A} \lambda + \underbrace{(ad - bc)}_{\text{det}A} \quad \text{the same.}$$

$$p_A(\lambda) = (\lambda_1 - \lambda)(\lambda_2 - \lambda) = \lambda^2 - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)\lambda + \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

**Fact 5:** The sum of all the eigenvalues equals the trace of  $A = (a_{ij})_{n \times n}$ :

$$\text{tr}A = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} = \lambda_1 + \cdots + \lambda_n.$$

$\text{tr}A = a_{11} + \cdots + a_{nn}$

Furthermore, the product of all the eigenvalues equals the determinant of  $A$ :

$$\det A = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n.$$

Revisit **Example 2**. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$ . Check the following prop-

erties:

(1)  $\text{tr}A = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ .

$\lambda = 6, 4, 2$

$2 + 5 + 5 = 12$

$6 + 4 + 2 = 12$ .

the same

(2)  $\det A = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n$ .

$\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \lambda_3 = 6 \cdot 4 \cdot 2 = 6 \cdot 8 = 48$

$\det A : A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 5 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\textcircled{3} + \frac{1}{5} \textcircled{2}} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 + (-\frac{1}{5}) \end{pmatrix}$

**Example 3**. Let  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ . Check (1)  $\text{tr}A = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii} = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i$ .

$\det A = 2 \cdot 5 \cdot (5 - \frac{1}{5}) = 48$

(2)  $\det A = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n$ .

①  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ .

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

$= (2 - \lambda) \det \begin{pmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix}$

$\lambda = \underline{2}, \underline{2}, \underline{4}$ .

$\lambda = 2$ , multiplicity 2.

[ To be continued! ]