

Section 5.3: Diagonalization

Determine the eigenvalues of the matrix D^3 where $D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$D^2 = D D = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D^3 = D^2 D = \begin{bmatrix} 9 & 0 \\ 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 27 & 0 \\ 0 & -64 \end{bmatrix}$$

The eigenvalues of D^3 are $\lambda_1 = 27, \lambda_2 = -64$

Diagonal Matrices

Recall: A matrix D is diagonal if it is both upper and lower triangular (its only nonzero entries are on the diagonal).

Note: If D is diagonal with diagonal entries d_{ii} , then D^k is diagonal with diagonal entries d_{ii}^k for positive integer k . Moreover, the eigenvalues of D are the diagonal entries.

Powers and Similarity

Show that if A and B are similar, with similarity transformation matrix P , then A^k and B^k are similar with the same matrix P .

B is similar to A if $B = P^{-1}AP$ for some nonsingular matrix P .

Let's see that B^2 is similar to A^2 .

$$\begin{aligned} B^2 &= BB = (P^{-1}AP)(P^{-1}AP) \\ &= P^{-1}A(P P^{-1})AP = P^{-1}A I AP \\ &= P^{-1}A^2P \end{aligned}$$

Supposing $B^k = P^{-1} A^k P$ for some $k \geq 1$

Then

$$B^{k+1} = B^k B = (P^{-1} A^k P)(P^{-1} A P)$$

$$= P^{-1} A^k I A P$$

$$= P^{-1} A^{k+1} P$$

$$= P^{-1} A^{k+1} P .$$

Diagonalizability

Defintion: An $n \times n$ matrix A is called **diagonalizable** if it is similar to a diagonal matrix D . That is, provided there exists a nonsingular matrix P such that $D = P^{-1}AP$ —i.e. $A = PDP^{-1}$.

Theorem: The $n \times n$ matrix A is diagonalizable if and only if A has n linearly independent eigenvectors. In this case, the matrix P is the matrix whose columns are the n linearly independent eigenvectors of A .

Example

Diagonalize the matrix A if possible. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -5-\lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} -5-\lambda & -3 \\ 3 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} - 3 \begin{vmatrix} -3 & -3 \\ 3 & 1-\lambda \end{vmatrix} + 3 \begin{vmatrix} -3 & -5-\lambda \\ 3 & 3 \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (1-\lambda) \left[(-5-\lambda)(1-\lambda) + 9 \right] - 3 \left[-3(1-\lambda) + 9 \right] + 3 \left[-9 - 3(-5-\lambda) \right]$$

$$= (1-\lambda) (\lambda^2 + 4\lambda - 5 + 9) - 3(3\lambda + 6) + 3(3\lambda + 6)$$

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

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 1 \text{ or } \lambda = -2$$

Find associated eigen vectors:

$$A - 1I = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = x_3 \\ x_2 = -x_3 \\ x_3 \text{ free} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x}_1 = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A - (-2)I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 & 3 \\ -3 & -3 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{array}{l} x_1 = -x_2 - x_3 \\ x_2, x_3 \\ \text{free} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + x_3 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

we get two lin. ind eigenvectors

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$$

P exists. A P matrix is

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

By TI-89

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

Example

Diagonalize the matrix A if possible. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -6 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$

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

$$= (2 - \lambda) \left((-6 - \lambda)(1 - \lambda) + 9 \right) - 4 \left(-4(1 - \lambda) + 9 \right) \\ + 3 \left(-12 - 3(-6 - \lambda) \right)$$

$$= (2 - \lambda) (\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 3) - 4(4\lambda + 5) + 3(3\lambda + 6)$$

$$= (2-\lambda)(\lambda^2 + 5\lambda + 3) - 16\lambda - 20 + 9\lambda + 18$$

$$= 2\lambda^2 + 10\lambda + 6 - \lambda^3 - 5\lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 7\lambda - 2$$

$$= -\lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 + 4$$

$$-1 - 3 + 4 = 0, \quad 1 \text{ is a root.}$$

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

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

Finding eigenvectors

$$A + 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -4 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = -x_2$$

x_2 - free

$$x_3 = 0$$

$$\vec{x} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A - I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4 & 3 \\ -4 & -7 & -3 \\ 3 & 3 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{rref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = x_3 \\ x_2 = -x_3 \\ x_3 \text{ - free} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x} = x_3 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

We only have 2 linearly independent
eigen vectors.

A is not diagonalizable.

Theorem (a second on diagonalizability)

Recall: (sec. 5.1) If λ_1 and λ_2 are distinct eigenvalues of a matrix, the corresponding eigenvectors are linearly independent.

Theorem: If the $n \times n$ matrix A has n distinct eigenvalues, then A is diagonalizable.

Note: This is a *sufficiency* condition, not a *necessity* condition. We've already seen a matrix with a repeated eigenvalue that was diagonalizable.

Theorem (a third on diagonalizability)

Theorem: Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix with distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_p$.

- (a) The geometric multiplicity (dimension of the eigenspace) of λ_k is less than or equal to the algebraic multiplicity of λ_k .
- (b) The matrix is diagonalizable if and only if the sum of the geometric multiplicities is n —i.e. the sum of dimensions of all eigenspaces is n so that there are n linearly independent eigenvectors.
- (c) If A is diagonalizable, and \mathcal{B}_k is a basis for the eigenspace for λ_k , then the collection (union) of bases $\mathcal{B}_1, \dots, \mathcal{B}_p$ is a basis for \mathbb{R}^n .

Remark: The union of the bases referred to in part (c) is called an **eigenvector basis** for \mathbb{R}^n . (Of course, one would need to reference the specific matrix.)

Example

Diagonalize the matrix if possible. $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 3 \\ 4 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = (1-\lambda)(2-\lambda) - 12 = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda - 10 \\ = (\lambda - 5)(\lambda + 2)$$

$$\lambda_1 = 5, \quad \lambda_2 = -2$$
$$A - 5I = \begin{bmatrix} -4 & 3 \\ 4 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{ref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -3/4 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = \frac{3}{4}x_2 \\ x_2 \text{ - free} \end{array}$$
$$\vec{x}_1 = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3/4 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{4}x_2 \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A + 2I = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 4 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{ref}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = -x_2 \\ x_2 \text{ - free} \end{array}$$

$$\vec{x} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example Continued...

Find A^4 where $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$.

We know that

$$D = P^{-1}AP \text{ where } D = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Hence } D^4 = P^{-1}A^4P$$

$$D^4 = \begin{bmatrix} 625 & 0 \\ 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{so}$$

$$A^4 = P D^4 P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & -1 \\ 4 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 625 & 0 \\ 0 & 16 \end{bmatrix}^{\frac{1}{7}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} 277 & 261 \\ 348 & 364 \end{bmatrix}$$