

5.1 + 5.2 Eigenvectors, eigenvalues, and Characteristic equations

HW 21 + HW 22 due together

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad A\vec{x} \text{ is a transformation of } \vec{x}$$

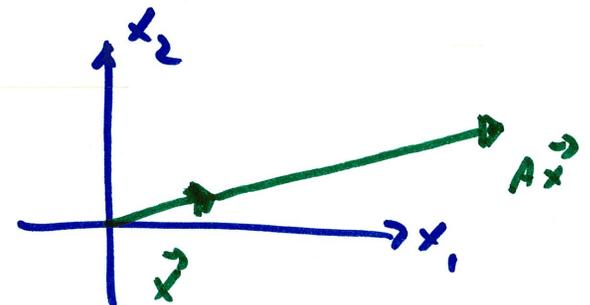
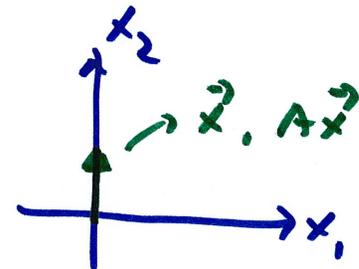
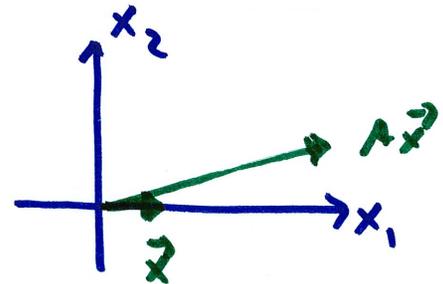
$$A \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

more than likely both magnitude and direction will change

however, some do not change direction

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix} = 5 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



these are called eigenvectors

the scaling factors after transformation are called eigenvalues

e.g. $\begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ is an eigenvector of $\begin{bmatrix} 5 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
with the corresponding ^{eigenvalue} value of 5

this means if \vec{x} is an eigenvector of A w/ corresponding eigenvalue λ , then $A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$

example Is $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ an eigenvector of $A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$?

$$A\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 4 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix} = -3 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\vec{x}}$$

$\lambda = -3$

How to find eigenvector if we know eigenvalue?

example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 4 \\ -3 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{eigenvalues: } 1, 5$$

eigenvector for $\lambda = 1$:

$$A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$$

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

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \Rightarrow \text{homogeneous eq.}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 7-1 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & -1-1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & -2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 6 & 4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

eigenvector $\neq \vec{0}$
must have nontrivial solution

$$x_2 \text{ free} \\ x_1 = -\frac{2}{3}x_2$$

$$\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2/3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} x_2$$

make this ANY convenient $\neq 0$

let $x_2 = 3$,

$$\boxed{\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = 1}$$

$$\lambda = 5$$

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

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ -3 & -6 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \sim \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_2 \text{ free } x_1 = -2x_2$$

$$\vec{x} = x_2 \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \lambda = 5}$$

is a vector space with basis $\begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

called eigenspace

↳ all multiples of eigenvector
and the zero vector

How to find eigenvalues?

Special case: if A is triangular, then the main diagonal elements are eigenvalues.

why?

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4-\lambda & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6-\lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

if λ is an eigenvalue, then $(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has nontrivial solutions (eigenvectors)

so λ must be equal to 1, 4, or 6 in above A
(to not have rank of 3)

eigenvector CANNOT be zero vector

eigenvalue CAN be zero.

if $\lambda = 0$, then $(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$ becomes

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \text{and} \quad (A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \text{has}$$

nontrivial solutions

$\Rightarrow A^{-1}$ does NOT exist (because $\det A = 0$, columns of A are not independent, etc)

also, all eigenvectors corresponding to distinct eigenvalues are linearly independent.

How to find eigenvalues in general case

$$A \vec{x} = \lambda \vec{x}$$

$$(A - \lambda I) \vec{x} = \vec{0} \quad \text{must have nontrivial solutions}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\det(A - \lambda I) = 0}$$

↳ solve for λ

example $A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \quad \lambda = ?$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 5 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 5 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = \overbrace{(5 - \lambda)^2 - 9} = 0$$

characteristic eq.
($n \times n$ matrix $\rightarrow n^{\text{th}}$ -degree polynomial)

$$(5-\lambda) = 3 \quad \text{or} \quad (5-\lambda) = -3$$

$$\lambda = 2 \quad \text{or} \quad \lambda = 8$$

2×2 $A \Rightarrow 2$, possibly repeated or complex λ

then find eigenvectors by following earlier example.

example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} -8 & -1 \\ 1 & -6 \end{bmatrix}$$

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

$$\begin{vmatrix} -8-\lambda & -1 \\ 1 & -6-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

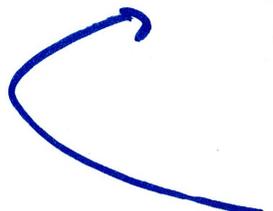
$$(-8-\lambda)(-6-\lambda) + 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 + 14\lambda + 49 = 0$$

$$\lambda = 7, 7$$

7 is repeated, shows up twice

algebraic multiplicity



example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 7 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

row reduction changes
eigenvalues

do NOT do ERO's before
finding λ 's

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

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1-\lambda & 0 & 1 \\ -3 & 2-\lambda & -2 \\ 0 & 7 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(1-\lambda) \begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & -2 \\ 7 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} + (1) \begin{vmatrix} -3 & 2-\lambda \\ 0 & 7 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(1-\lambda) [(2-\lambda)(-\lambda) + 14] + (-3)(7) = 0$$

$$\dots -\lambda^3 + 3\lambda^2 - 16\lambda - 7 = 0$$