

Course : Algebra 3
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Department of Computer Science

Chapter 3 : Endomorphisms

1 Properties of eigenvalues and of eigenvectors

Definition 1.1 Suppose that A is an $n \times n$ matrix and that

$$AX = \lambda X, \quad (1)$$

is a linear system where X is a nonzero vector. Then, λ is a so-called eigenvalue of the matrix A .

Definition 1.2 Let us assume that

$$AX = \lambda X, \quad (2)$$

is a linear system where A is an $n \times n$ matrix, X is a nonzero vector, and where λ is an eigenvalue. Then, X is called an eigenvector of A .

Definition 1.3 Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix and let

$$D = P^{-1}AP. \quad (3)$$

Then, we can say that D is similar to the matrix A if and only if the $n \times n$ matrix P is nonsingular and satisfies (3).

Theorem 1.1 Let A and D be similar such that

$$A = PDP^{-1}. \quad (4)$$

Then in the case where $D(P^{-1}X) = \lambda(P^{-1}X)$, we have

$$AX = \lambda X.$$

Corollary 1.1 Let λ be nonzero. Then, we find that the eigenvalues of the product $A^T A$, denoted by λ , are the eigenvalues of AA^T .

Theorem 1.2 Suppose that $p(\lambda)$ satisfies

$$p(\lambda) = |A - \lambda I| = \prod_{i=1}^n (\lambda_i - \lambda).$$

Then, we have

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

and

$$|A| = p(0) = \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda_i.$$

Theorem 1.3 Suppose that A is an $n \times m$ matrix and that B is an $m \times n$ matrix. Then, we have

$$(-\lambda)^{n-m} |BA - \lambda I_m| = |AB - \lambda I_n|, \text{ for } m \leq n. \quad (5)$$

Theorem 1.4 Let A be a diagonal matrix, an upper triangular matrix, or a lower triangular matrix. Then, λ must be the diagonal entries of this matrix.

Theorem 1.5 Let A and B be $n \times n$ matrices. Suppose that A and B are similar matrices. Then, we have that the eigenvalue of A is equal to the eigenvalue of B .

2 Characteristic polynomials

Definition 2.1 Let A be a square matrix and suppose that $p(\lambda)$ is the so-called characteristic polynomial of A where

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

Then, the roots of

$$p(\lambda) = 0$$

represent the eigenvalues of A .

Theorem 2.1 Assume that

$$p(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I),$$

where A is an $n \times n$ matrix. Then, we have

$$p(A) = 0.$$

Theorem 2.2 Suppose that A and B are square and similar matrices. Then, the characteristic polynomial of A is equal to the characteristic polynomial of B , i.e.

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

Theorem 2.3 Let A be a square matrix and let A^T denote the transpose of A . Then, the characteristic polynomial of A is equal to the characteristic polynomial of A^T , i.e.

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det(A^T - \lambda I).$$

3 Diagonalizable matrices

Definition 3.1 Suppose that U and V are K -vector spaces and that $f : U \rightarrow V$ satisfies, for $\alpha, \beta \in K$,

$$f(\alpha x + \beta y) = \alpha f(x) + \beta f(y), \text{ for } x, y \in U.$$

Then, f is said to be a homomorphism, in other words, a linear transformation.

Definition 3.2 Suppose that U is a K -vector space. Then, a K -endomorphism represents a K -linear transformation $U \rightarrow U$.

Theorem 3.1 Suppose that A is a matrix and that an endomorphism $f : U \rightarrow U$ is associated with A . Then, A is said to be diagonalizable if and only if the eigenvectors X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n must be linearly independent.

Remark 3.1 .

Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix and let D denote a diagonal matrix. In the case where there exists P with P is a square and nonsingular matrix such that

$$D = P^{-1}AP. \tag{6}$$

Then, A is said to be diagonalizable.

Theorem 3.2 Let A be an $n \times n$ matrix and let $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ be the eigenvalues of A . Under the condition that $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are distinct, then we can say that the matrix A is diagonalizable.

4 Systems of differential equations

A system of differential equations is given by

$$X' = AX, \quad (7)$$

where A is a coefficient matrix defined as

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix},$$

and where

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } X' = \begin{pmatrix} x_1' \\ x_2' \\ \vdots \\ x_n' \end{pmatrix}.$$

Under the condition that A is diagonalizable, it is possible to define a matrix P . Here, the product $P^{-1}AP$ leads to get a diagonal matrix which is denoted by D , i.e.

$$D = P^{-1}AP. \quad (8)$$

Moreover, the homogeneous system of differential equations

$$X' = AX, \quad (9)$$

can be solved by taking

$$X = PY.$$

Thus, we have

$$PY' = APY,$$

which yields

$$Y' = P^{-1}APY,$$

it follows from $D = P^{-1}AP$ that

$$Y' = DY.$$

This means, for $i = 1, \dots, n$,

$$y_i' = \lambda_i y_i. \quad (10)$$

Then, the solution of (10) is given by

$$y_i = C_i \exp(\lambda_i t), \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n.$$

The solution of (7) is $X = PY$ where

$$Y = \begin{pmatrix} C_1 \exp(\lambda_1 t) \\ C_2 \exp(\lambda_2 t) \\ \vdots \\ C_n \exp(\lambda_n t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

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