

Linear Algebra

Lecture 8 - Linear Endomorphisms

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Endomorphism

Definition

Let V be a vector space and \mathcal{A} its (ordered) basis. A linear transformation $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ is called a **linear endomorphism**. The matrix $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$ is called matrix of endomorphism relative to basis \mathcal{A} . It is denoted in short $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$.

Example

The identity $id : V \longrightarrow V$ is a linear endomorphism and its matrix relative to any basis \mathcal{A} is the identity matrix

$$M(id)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R}),$$

where $n = \dim V$.

Example

Let

$$s : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$r : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$k : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2,$$

$$p : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2.$$

be linear endomorphisms of \mathbb{R}^2 defined as follows: s is a reflection of \mathbb{R}^2 about the x_1 -axis, r rotation about the origin of \mathbb{R}^2 (i.e. $(0,0)$) by $\frac{\pi}{2}$ radians (i.e. 90 degrees) counter-clockwise, k is scaling by -2 in all directions (also called uniform scaling) and p is projection onto the x_2 -axis.

Example (continued)

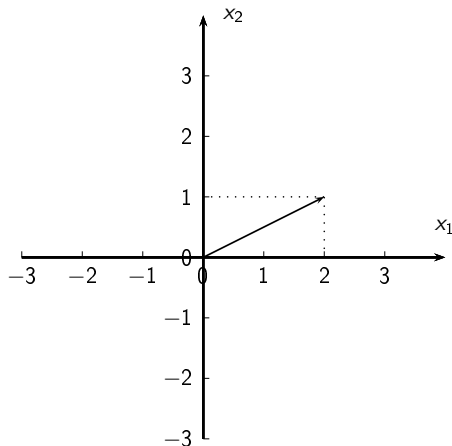
For example, if $v = (2, 1)$ then

$$s(v) = (2, -1), \quad r(v) = (-1, 2), \quad k(v) = (-4, -2), \quad p(v) = (0, 1).$$

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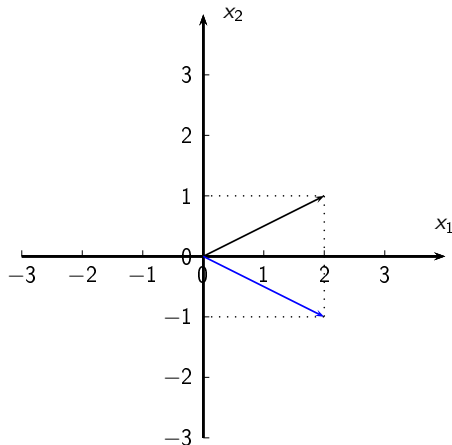
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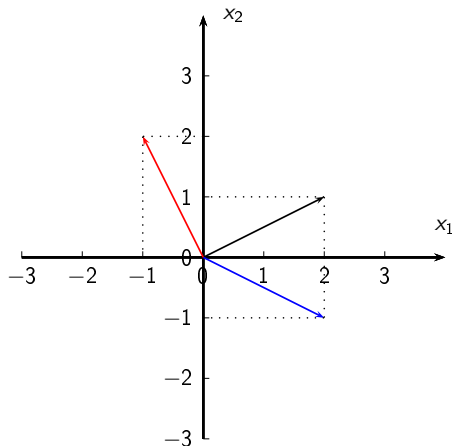


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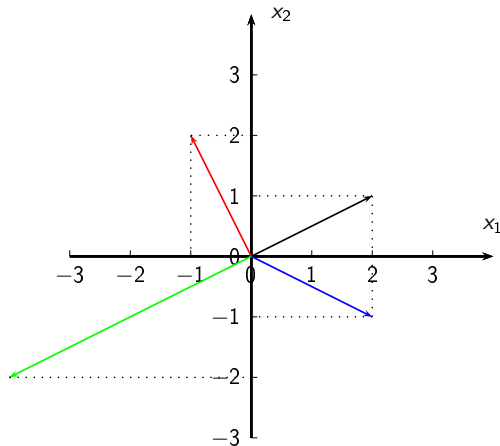
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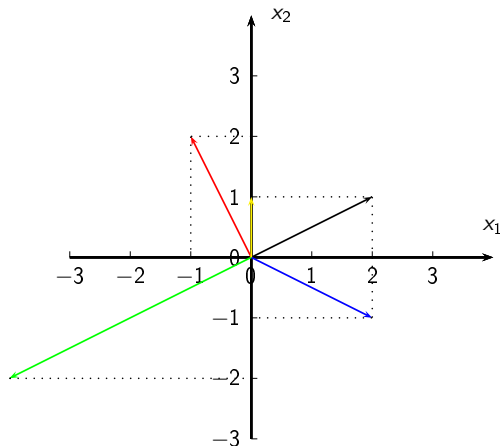
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The matrices of these endomorphisms relative to the standard basis $st = ((1, 0), (0, 1))$ look as follows:

$$M(s)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M(r)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$M(k)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M(p)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Take different basis, for example $\mathcal{A} = ((1, 2), (1, 1))$. The change-of-coordinate matrix is

$$M(\text{id})_{st}^{\mathcal{A}} = (M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{A}}^{st})^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Recall, $\mathcal{A} = ((1, 2), (1, 1))$ and $M(\text{id})_{st}^{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$.

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$$s(1, 2) = (1, -2) = -3(1, 2) + 4(1, 1),$$

$$s(1, 1) = (1, -1) = -2(1, 2) + 3(1, 1),$$

$$r(1, 2) = (-2, 1) = 3(1, 2) - 5(1, 1),$$

$$r(1, 1) = (-1, 1) = 2(1, 2) - 3(1, 1),$$

$$k(1, 2) = (-2, -4) = -2(1, 2) + 0(1, 1),$$

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$$M(s)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & -2 \\ 4 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M(r)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 \\ -5 & -3 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$M(k)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M(p)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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We see that matrices of simple linear transformations look 'nice' relative to some bases and 'not-that-nice' relative to the others. That aim of this lecture is to find a way of computing those 'nice' ones in the general case. Note that determinants and the ranks of corresponding matrices did not change.

Matrix Similarity

Definition

Two matrices $A, B \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ are called **similar** if there exists an invertible matrix $C \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ such that

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Proposition

Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism of a finite dimensional vector space V . For any two bases \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} of V the matrices $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$ and $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{B}}$ are similar.

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Proof.

$$M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}} = M(\text{id} \circ \varphi \circ \text{id})_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{B}} = M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathcal{B}} M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}^{\mathcal{A}} M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}.$$

Therefore

$$M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{B}} = C^{-1} M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}} C,$$

where $C = M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}$.

Example

Let $\varphi((x_1, x_2)) = (x_1 + x_2, 2x_1 + 3x_2)$ be a linear endomorphism $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$. Take $\mathcal{A} = st$ and $\mathcal{B} = ((-2, 1), (1, -1))$. Then

$$M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } C = M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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On the other hand,

$$\varphi((-2, 1)) = (-1, -1) = 2(-2, 1) + 3(1, -1),$$

$$\varphi((1, -1)) = (0, -1) = (-2, 1) + 2(1, -1).$$

Similar Matrices and Endomorphisms

Theorem

*Let V be n -dimensional vector space and let $A, B \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$.
Then*

*A, B are similar \iff there exists an endomorphism $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$
and bases \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} of V such that $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}} = A$ and $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{B}} = B$.*

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(\Leftarrow) was done before.

(\Rightarrow) there exists an invertible matrix $C \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ such that $B = C^{-1}AC$. Let \mathcal{A} be any basis of the vector space V and let φ be the unique linear endomorphism given by the condition $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}} = A$. If \mathcal{B} is given by the condition $C = M(\text{id})_{\mathcal{B}}^{\mathcal{A}}$ then $B = M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{B}}$. □

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Definition

Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism of a finite dimensional vector space V . A constant $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ is called **eigenvalue** of φ if there exists a non-zero vector $v \in V$ such that

$$\varphi(v) = \lambda v.$$

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Remark (geometric interpretation)

A vector $v \in V$ is an eigenvector of φ if and only if $\varphi(\text{lin}(v)) \subset \text{lin}(v)$ and $\text{lin}(v) \neq \{0\}$, i.e. v is a non-zero vector and the line spanned by v is mapped into itself.

Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors (continued)

Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism. For any eigenvalue λ of φ let $V_{(\lambda)}$ denote the set of all eigenvectors associated to λ together with the zero vector, i.e.

$$V_{(\lambda)} = \{v \in V \mid \varphi(v) = \lambda v.\}$$

Proposition

The subset $V_{(\lambda)} \subset V$ is a subspace of V .

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Proof.

Let $v, w \in V_{(\lambda)}$. Then

$\varphi(v + w) = \varphi(v) + \varphi(w) = \lambda v + \lambda w = \lambda(v + w)$. Hence $v + w \in V_{(\lambda)}$. For any $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ we have $\varphi(\alpha v) = \alpha \varphi(v) = \lambda(\alpha v)$. Hence $\alpha v \in V_{(\lambda)}$. □

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Example

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$$M(s)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad M(k)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix},$$

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Characteristic Polynomial

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Example

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$. Then

$$w_A(\lambda) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 4 - \lambda & 2 \\ 3 & 3 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = (4 - \lambda)(3 - \lambda) - 6 = \lambda^2 - 7\lambda + 6.$$

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Proposition

Let $A, B \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be similar matrices. Then $w_A = w_B$.

Proof.

There exists an invertible matrix C such that $A = C^{-1}BC$. But
 $w_A(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I_n) = \det(C^{-1}BC - C^{-1}\lambda I_n C) =$
 $\det(C^{-1}(B - \lambda I_n)C) = (\det C)^{-1} \det(B - \lambda I_n) \det C =$
 $w_B(\lambda).$

Characteristic Polynomial (continued)

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Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism of a finite dimensional vector space V . The characteristic polynomial w_φ of φ is the characteristic polynomial of matrix $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$ where \mathcal{A} is a basis of V .

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Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism of a finite dimensional vector space V . The characteristic polynomial w_φ of φ is the characteristic polynomial of matrix $M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$ where \mathcal{A} is a basis of V . By the previous proposition the characteristic polynomial of φ does not depend on the basis \mathcal{A} .

Finding Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

Theorem

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Theorem

Let $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ be a linear endomorphism of a finite dimensional vector space V .

- i) $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ is an eigenvalue of $\varphi \iff \alpha$ is a root the characteristic polynomial of φ ,
- ii) let $\mathcal{A} = (v_1, \dots, v_n)$ and $A = M(\varphi)_{\mathcal{A}}$. The vector $v = x_1 v_1 + \dots + x_n v_n$ is an eigenvector of φ associated to α if and only if

$$(A - \alpha I_n) \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Finding Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors (continued)

Proof.

Let $v = x_1 v_1 + \dots + x_n v_n$. Then $\varphi(v) = \alpha v$ if and only if

$$A \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} \iff (A - \alpha I_n) \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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From the previous lecture we know that there exists a non-zero solution of the latter if and only if $\det(A - \alpha I_n) = 0$, i.e.

$$w_A(\alpha) = 0.$$



Example

Let $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^3 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ be an endomorphism of \mathbb{R}^3 given by $\varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (4x_1 + 4x_2, -x_1, x_1 + 3x_2 + 3x_3)$. Its matrix in the standard basis is $A = M(\varphi)_{st} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

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

Hence $w_\varphi(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I) = (3 - \lambda)((4 - \lambda)(-\lambda) + 4) = (3 - \lambda)(\lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4) = (3 - \lambda)(2 - \lambda)^2$.

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$$V_{(2)} : \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example (continued)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & 0 \\ -1 & -2 & 0 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow[r_3+r_2]{r_1+2r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{r_1-2r_2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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Therefore $x_1 = 2x_3$, $x_2 = -x_3$, $x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e.

$$V_{(2)} = \{(2x_3, -x_3, x_3) \mid x_3 \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{lin}((2, -1, 1)).$$

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Therefore $x_1 = x_2 = 0$, $x_3 \in \mathbb{R}$, i.e.

$$V_{(3)} = \{(0, 0, x_3) \mid x_3 \in \mathbb{R}\} = \text{lin}((0, 0, 1)).$$

Example (continued)

Recall that

$$\varphi(x_1, x_2, x_3) = (4x_1 + 4x_2, -x_1, x_1 + 3x_2 + 3x_3),$$

$$V_{(2)} = \text{lin}((2, -1, 1)),$$

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and check those directly

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$$\varphi(2, -1, 1) = (4, -2, 2) = 2(2, -1, 1),$$

$$\varphi(0, 0, 1) = (0, 0, 3) = 3(0, 0, 1).$$

Remarks

- i) if $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ and $\dim V$ is odd then the degree of w_φ is odd therefore it has at least one real root so there exists an eigenvector of φ ,

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- i) if $\varphi : V \longrightarrow V$ and $\dim V$ is odd then the degree of w_φ is odd therefore it has at least one real root so there exists an eigenvector of φ ,
- ii) $\dim V_{(\alpha)} \leq \text{multiplicity of the root } \alpha \text{ in } w_\varphi$, cf. the last example (2 is a root of multiplicity 2 but $\dim V_{(2)} = 1$),
- iii) if $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ then $w_A(A) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix}$, i.e. matrix A substituted to its characteristic polynomial gives the zero matrix (Cayley-Hamilton theorem).

Example

Let $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ and $w_A(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 2\lambda - 2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} w_A(A) &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}^2 - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} - 2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 6 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 & -6 \\ -2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 \\ 0 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = \\ &\quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}. \end{aligned}$$

Cayley–Hamilton Theorem

Theorem

For any $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ and $w_A(\lambda) = \det(A - \lambda I_n)$

$$w_A(A) = 0.$$

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Let $B = \text{adj}(A - \lambda I_n)$ be the adjugate matrix of the matrix $A - \lambda I_n$.

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Proof.

Let $B = \operatorname{adj}(A - \lambda I_n)$ be the adjugate matrix of the matrix $A - \lambda I_n$. The entries of B are polynomials of degree at most $n - 1$. By separating monomials of the same degree one can write

$$B = \lambda^{n-1} B_{n-1} + \lambda^{n-2} B_{n-2} + \dots + \lambda B_1 + B_0,$$

where $B_i \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ for $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$.

Cayley–Hamilton Theorem (continued)

Proof.

By the matrix inverse formula

$$B(A - \lambda I_n) = w_A(\lambda)I_n = \lambda^n a_n I_n + \lambda^{n-1} a_{n-1} I_n + \dots + \lambda a_1 I_n + a_0 I_n,$$

where

$$w_A(\lambda) = \lambda^n a_n + \lambda^{n-1} a_{n-1} + \dots + \lambda a_1 + a_0,$$

is the characteristic polynomial of matrix A .

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where

$$w_A(\lambda) = \lambda^n a_n + \lambda^{n-1} a_{n-1} + \dots + \lambda a_1 + a_0,$$

is the characteristic polynomial of matrix A . Hence

$$\begin{aligned} B(A - \lambda I_n) &= \lambda^{n-1} B_{n-1} A + \dots + \lambda^2 B_2 A + \lambda B_1 A + B_0 A + \\ &\quad - \lambda^n B_{n-1} - \lambda^{n-1} B_{n-2} - \dots - \lambda^2 B_1 - \lambda B_0 = \\ &= -\lambda^n B_{n-1} + \lambda^{n-1} (B_{n-1} A - B_{n-2}) + \lambda^{n-2} (B_{n-2} A - B_{n-3}) + \dots + \\ &\quad + \lambda^2 (B_2 A - B_1) + \lambda (B_1 A - B_0) + B_0 A. \end{aligned}$$

Two polynomials with real coefficients are equal if and only if they have the same coefficients, therefore,

Cayley–Hamilton Theorem (continued)

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} -B_{n-1} &= a_n I_n, \\ B_{n-1}A - B_{n-2} &= a_{n-1} I_n, \\ &\vdots \\ B_1A - B_0 &= a_1 I_n, \\ B_0A &= a_0 I_n. \end{aligned}$$

Multiplying those equations on the right by $A^n, A^{n-1}, \dots, A, A^0 = I_n$ respectively one gets

$$\begin{aligned} -B_{n-1}A^n &= a_n A^n, \\ B_{n-1}A^n - B_{n-2}A^{n-1} &= a_{n-1}A^{n-1}, \\ &\vdots \\ B_1A^2 - B_0A &= a_1A, \\ B_0A &= a_0 I_n. \end{aligned}$$

Cayley–Hamilton Theorem – Proof

Proof.

This sums to

$$w_A(A) = a_n A^n + a_{n-1} A^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 A + a_0 I_n = 0.$$



Remark

There exist other conceptual proofs of the Cayley-Hamilton theorem (using abstract algebra of Schur decomposition).

Schur Decomposition

Proposition

*For any matrix $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{C})$ there exists a unitary matrix $U \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{C})$ (i.e. $U^*U = UU^* = I$, where $U^* = \overline{U}^T$) and an upper triangular matrix $T = [t_{ij}] \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{C})$ (i.e. $t_{ij} = 0$ for $i > j$) such that*

$$A = UTU^*.$$

The decomposition is not unique and the diagonal entries of matrix T are exactly (complex) eigenvalues of matrix A .

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Proof.

Omitted.



Cayley–Hamilton Theorem Alternative Proof via Schur Decomposition

Proof.

Let $UTU^* = A$. Then

$$w_A(A) = Uw_A(T)U^*.$$

Moreover, if

$$w_A(\lambda) = (\lambda - \lambda_1) \cdot \dots \cdot (\lambda - \lambda_n),$$

then

$$w_A(T) = (T - \lambda_1 I) \cdot \dots \cdot (T - \lambda_n I) = 0,$$

that is, the first k columns of the product

$$(T - \lambda_1 I) \cdot \dots \cdot (T - \lambda_k I),$$

are zero. □

Characteristic Polynomials of AB and BA

Proposition

Let $A \in M(m \times n; \mathbb{R})$ and let $B \in M(n \times m; \mathbb{R})$ where $m \geq n$. Then $AB \in M(m \times m; \mathbb{R})$, $BA \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ and

$$w_{AB}(\lambda) = \lambda^{m-n} w_{BA}(\lambda),$$

that is eigenvalues of AB and BA (up to $m - n$ zeroes) are the same. Moreover, the dimensions of eigenspaces corresponding to non-zero eigenvalues are the same.

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Proof.

Let

$$M = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} AB & 0 \\ \hline B & 0 \end{array} \right], \quad N = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 0 \\ \hline B & BA \end{array} \right], \quad C = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} I_m & A \\ \hline 0 & I_n \end{array} \right],$$

be $(m + n) \times (m + n)$ matrices.

Characteristic Polynomials of AB and BA

Proof.

Then

$$C^{-1} = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} I_m & -A \\ \hline 0 & I_n \end{array} \right], \quad C^{-1}MC = N,$$

i.e. the matrices are similar hence they have the same eigenvalues.

This holds as

$$MC = CN,$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c|c} AB & 0 \\ \hline B & 0 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|c} I_m & A \\ \hline 0 & I_n \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} I_m & A \\ \hline 0 & I_n \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c|c} 0 & 0 \\ \hline B & BA \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{c|c} AB & ABA \\ \hline B & BA \end{array} \right].$$

Characteristic Polynomials of AB and BA

Proof.

Alternatively, for $\lambda \neq 0$ the following linear transformations are inverse to each other hence invertible

$$\ker(AB - \lambda I) \ni v \mapsto \frac{1}{\lambda} Bv \in \ker(BA - \lambda I),$$

$$\ker(BA - \lambda I) \ni v \mapsto \frac{1}{\lambda} Av \in \ker(AB - \lambda I).$$

In particular $\ker(AB - \lambda I) \neq \{0\}$ if and only if $\ker(BA - \lambda I) \neq \{0\}$.



Nilpotent Matrix

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Proof.

Let $k \geq 1$ be any number such that $A^k = 0$. Let $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ be an eigenvector of A for the eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$(A^k)v = \lambda^k v = 0 \implies \lambda = 0,$$

since $v \neq 0$.



Nilpotent Matrix (continued)

Corollary

Matrix $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ is nilpotent if and only if its all eigenvalues over complex numbers are equal to 0 (i.e. the characteristic polynomial $w_A(\lambda) = (-1)^n \lambda^n$).

Companion Matrix

Proposition

For any $a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in \mathbb{R}$ where $n \geq 2$ if

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & -a_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -a_{n-1} \end{bmatrix},$$

then

$$w_A(\lambda) = (-1)^n (\lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1\lambda + a_0).$$

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then

$$w_A(\lambda) = (-1)^n (\lambda^n + a_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_1\lambda + a_0).$$

Proof.

Induction on n . If $n = 2$ then

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & -a_0 \\ 1 & -a_1 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \lambda^2 + a_1\lambda + a_0.$$

Companion Matrix (continued)

Proof.

For $n \geq 3$, by the Laplace formula for the first column and the inductive assumption

$$\begin{aligned} \det \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & -\lambda & \cdots & 0 & -a_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & -a_3 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -a_{n-1} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \\ = -\lambda(-1)^{n-1}(\lambda^{n-1} + \dots + a_2\lambda + a_1) - \\ - \det \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 & -a_0 \\ 1 & -\lambda & \cdots & 0 & -a_1 \\ 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 & -a_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 & -a_{n-1} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} = \\ = (-1)^n(\lambda^n + \dots + a_2\lambda^2 + a_1\lambda) - (-1)^n(-a_0). \end{aligned}$$

Companion Matrix (continued)

Corollary

Up to a sign, each monic polynomial of degree n is a characteristic polynomial of some matrix $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$.

Primitive and Irreducible Matrices

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Remark

If matrix A is primitive then it is irreducible. If matrix A is irreducible then matrix $A + I$ is primitive because $A^m \geq 0$ and

$$(A + I)^k = I + \binom{k}{1}A + \binom{k}{2}A^2 + \binom{k}{3}A^3 + \dots + \binom{k}{k}A^k,$$

for $k = \max\{k_{ij}\}$.

Perron–Frobenius Theorem

Theorem

Let A be an irreducible matrix. Then there exist $\lambda_{\max} \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda_{\max} > 0$ a positive eigenvalue of A such that

i) for any other eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ of matrix A

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iii) λ_{\max} is a simple root of $w_A(\lambda)$ (i.e $w_A(\lambda)$ is not divisible by $(\lambda - \lambda_{\max})^2$),

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Theorem

Let A be an irreducible matrix. Then there exist $\lambda_{\max} \in \mathbb{R}$, $\lambda_{\max} > 0$ a positive eigenvalue of A such that

i) for any other eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ of matrix A

$$|\lambda| \leq \lambda_{\max},$$

ii) $V_{(\lambda_{\max})} = \text{lin}(v)$ where $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ and $v > 0$ (i.e., all entries of v are positive),

iii) λ_{\max} is a simple root of $w_A(\lambda)$ (i.e $w_A(\lambda)$ is not divisible by $(\lambda - \lambda_{\max})^2$),

iv) if $w \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $w > 0$ and w is an eigenvalue of A then $w \in V_{(\lambda_{\max})}$.

Perron–Frobenius Theorem (continued)

Remark

If A is a primitive matrix then moreover

$$|\lambda| < \lambda_{\max},$$

for any eigenvalue $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ of A .

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof

Let $k \in \mathbb{N}$ be a number such that

$$B = (I + A)^k > 0.$$

Obviously

if $v \leq w$, $v \neq w$ then $Bv < Bw$.

Let

$$Q = \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid v \geq 0, v \neq 0\}, \quad C = Q \cap \{v \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \|v\| = 1\}.$$

For any $v \geq 0$ such that $v \neq 0$ let

$$L(v) = \max\{\lambda \in \mathbb{R} \mid \lambda v \leq Av\} = \min_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq n \\ v_i \neq 0}} \frac{(Av)_i}{v_i}.$$

It is clear that $L(\mu v) = L(v)$ for $\mu > 0$, in particular

$$L\left(\frac{v}{\|v\|}\right) = L(v) \text{ for } v \geq 0, v \neq 0.$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

For any $v \geq 0$ such that $v \neq 0$

$$\text{if } \mu v \leq Av \text{ then } \mu Bv \leq BAv = ABv,$$

which implies that (maximum over a larger set)

$$L(v) \leq L(Bv).$$

Moreover, if $Av \neq L(v)v$ then, by the definition,

$$L(v)v \leq Av, \quad Av \neq L(v)v, \quad \text{hence} \quad B(L(v)v) < B(Av).$$

This is equivalent to

$$L(v)Bv < ABv, \text{ i.e., } L(v) < L(Bv),$$

(i -th components of $L(v)A$ and Av are equal for some i).

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

By abuse of notation, let

$$B: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n,$$

denote the linear function given by the matrix B . Since the set C is compact then $B(C) \subset \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ is compact too and $v \geq 0, v \neq 0$ implies that $Bv > B0 = 0$. By the Weierstrass extreme value theorem, the function L (which is continuous as minimum of continuous functions and all components are non-zero) obtains its maximum on the set $B(C)$. Let

$$\lambda_{\max} = \max_{v \in B(C)} L(v),$$

$$v = \arg \max_{v \in B(C)} L(v).$$

By the above $v > 0$ and

$$Av = L(v)v = \lambda_{\max}v.$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Since $L(v) \leq L(Bv)$

$$\lambda_{\max} = \max_{v \in B(C)} L(v) = \max_{v \in C} L(v).$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Since $L(v) \leq L(Bv)$

$$\lambda_{\max} = \max_{v \in B(C)} L(v) = \max_{v \in C} L(v).$$

Beacuse

$$Av = \lambda_{\max} v,$$

$$A \geq 0, v > 0 \implies Av > 0,$$

it follows that

$$\lambda_{\max} > 0.$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Let $w \in \mathbb{C}^n$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ be such that

$$\lambda w = Aw,$$

i.e., for $i = 1, \dots, n$

$$\lambda w_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} w_j,$$

$$|\lambda| |w_i| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} |w_j|,$$

since $a_{ij} \geq 0$. This is equivalent to

$$|\lambda| |w| \leq A |w|,$$

where

$$|w| = (|w_1|, \dots, |w_n|) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

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where

$$|w| = (|w_1|, \dots, |w_n|) \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

By definition

$$|\lambda| \leq L(|w|) \leq \lambda_{\max},$$

i.e. λ_{\max} is a real eigenvalue with maximal modulus and positive eigenvector.

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

It is now enough to prove that v is a unique eigenvector for the simple eigenvalue λ_{max} and all other positive eigenvectors are multiples of vector v .

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

It is now enough to prove that v is a unique eigenvector for the simple eigenvalue λ_{\max} and all other positive eigenvectors are multiples of vector v .

As A^T is irreducible too there exists left eigenvalue $\mu_{\max} > 0$ and a positive eigenvector $w > 0$ such that $w^T A = \mu_{\max} w$. Then

$$\mu_{\max} w^T v = (w^T A) v = w^T (Av) = \lambda_{\max} w^T v,$$

hence $\mu_{\max} = \lambda_{\max}$ as $w^T v > 0$.

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Suppose that there exist $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$ and $u \geq 0, u \neq 0$ such that $Au = \eta u$. Then

$$\eta w^T u = (w^T A)u = w^T(Au) = \lambda_{\max} w^T u,$$

hence $\eta = \lambda_{\max}$ as $w^T u > 0$. If $v' \in \mathbb{R}$ is another eigenvector corresponding to λ_{\max} linearly independent with v then there exist $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that vector $v'' = \alpha v + \beta v'$ has some component equal to 0 and $v' \geq 0, v' \neq 0$. Then

$$0 < Bv' = (I + A)^k v' = (1 + \lambda_{\max})^k v',$$

which leads to a contradiction.

Therefore, in the Jordan decomposition of matrix A there exists a unique Jordan block corresponding to the eigenvalue λ_{\max} .

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Without loss of generality one may replace A by $\frac{A}{\lambda_{\max}}$ and assume that $\lambda_{\max} = 1$. Recall that

$$\|A\|_{\infty} = \max\{\|r_1\|_1, \dots, \|r_n\|_1\},$$

where r_1, \dots, r_n denote the rows of matrix A . Therefore (recall $A \geq 0, v > 0$)

$$\begin{aligned}\|v\|_{\infty} &= \|A^m v\|_{\infty} = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \langle r_i^{(m)}, v_i \rangle \geq \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|r_i^{(m)}\|_1 \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} v_i = \\ &= \|A^m\|_{\infty} \min_{1 \leq i \leq n} v_i,\end{aligned}$$

where $r_i^{(m)}$ denote the rows of A^m . Therefore for any m

$$\|A^m\| \leq \frac{\|v\|_{\infty}}{\min_{1 \leq i \leq n} v_i}.$$

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Let J be the Jordan matrix of A and let

$$J = C^{-1}AC,$$

then

$$\|J^m\|_{\infty} \leq \|C^{-1}\|_{\infty} \|A^m\|_{\infty} \|C\|_{\infty}.$$

If the size of the Jordan block J_1 corresponding to $\lambda_{\max} = 1$ is bigger or equal than 2 then

$$J_1^m = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & m & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix},$$

which gives a contradiction as then

$$\|J^m\|_{\infty} \geq 1 + m \longrightarrow \infty,$$

when $m \longrightarrow \infty$.

Perron–Frobenius Theorem Proof (continued)

Finally, assume that A is primitive. Take λ an eigenvalue of A such that $|\lambda| = \lambda_{\max}$. From the first part of the proof it follows that

$$|\lambda| = L(|w|) = \lambda_{\max}.$$

The inequality

$$|\lambda||w_i| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}|w_j|,$$

becomes equality only if all arguments of w_j for non-zero a_{ij} are the same. Applying the same argument to A^k , and dividing w by a unit complex number we get a real, non-negative, non-zero eigenvector corresponding to the eigenvalue λ_{\max} . Hence $\lambda = \lambda_{\max}$.

Application – Discrete Markov Chains

Let

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

be the transition matrix of some Markov chain (see Lecture 5). The eigenvalues of Q are $\frac{1}{6}, 1$ hence $\lambda_{\max} = 1$ (the vector $(1, \dots, 1)$ is an eigenvector of any transition matrix). Moreover

$$V_{(1)} = \text{lin}((1, 1)),$$

$$V_{(\frac{1}{6})} = \text{lin}((3, -2)).$$

$$Q^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{6^n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}^{-1}.$$

Application – Discrete Markov Chains (continued)

$$\begin{aligned}\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Q^n &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{6^n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{1}{5} & -\frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{1}{5} & -\frac{1}{5} \end{bmatrix} = \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix}.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore for any initial conditions $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, t_2) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^2$, $t_1 + t_2 = 1$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{t}^T Q^n = \left(\frac{2}{5}, \frac{3}{5} \right).$$

High Powers of a Primitive Matrix

Corollary

Let $A \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be a primitive matrix (i.e. $A > 0$). Let $v \in \mathbb{R}^n, v > 0$ be the (right) eigenvector of A for the eigenvalue λ_{\max} and let $w \in \mathbb{R}^n, w > 0$ be the (left) eigenvector of A for the eigenvalue λ_{\max} such that $w^\top v = 1$. Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{Q}{\lambda_{\max}} \right)^n = vw^\top.$$

High Powers of a Primitive Matrix (continued)

Example

For $Q = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix}$ we have $\lambda_{\max} = 1$ and $v = (1, 1)$, $w = \frac{1}{5}(2, 3)$,
i.e.

$$\frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{3} & \frac{2}{3} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

therefore

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} Q^n = vw^T = \frac{1}{5} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \\ \frac{2}{5} & \frac{3}{5} \end{bmatrix}.$$

Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix

Definition

Let $A = [a_{ij}] \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be a matrix such that $A \geq 0$. The directed graph given by A is a graph $G_A = G = (V, E)$, where

$$V = \{1, 2, \dots, n\},$$

and for any $i, j \in V$,

$$(i, j) \in E \text{ if and only if } a_{ij} > 0.$$

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Remark

Note that self-loops are allowed. The matrix G_A is closely related to the adjacency matrix of graph G .

Definition

A directed graph $G = (V, E)$ is **strongly connected** if for each $i, j \in V$ there exists a path joining i with j .

Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix (continued)

Proposition

Let $A = [a_{ij}] \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be a matrix such that $A \geq 0$. The following conditions are equivalent

- i) the matrix A is irreducible,*
- ii) the graph G_A is strongly connected.*

Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix (continued)

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Proof.

Follows directly from definitions.



Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix (continued)

Proposition

Let $A = [a_{ij}] \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be a matrix such that $A \geq 0$. The following conditions are equivalent

- i) the matrix A is primitive,*
- ii) the graph G_A is strongly connected and contains two cycles of relatively prime lengths.*

Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix (continued)

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Let $A = [a_{ij}] \in M(n \times n; \mathbb{R})$ be a matrix such that $A \geq 0$. The following conditions are equivalent

- i) the matrix A is primitive,*
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Proof.

i) \Rightarrow ii) let k be a number such that $A^k > 0$. Then $A^{k+1} > 0$ so there are cycles of lengths k and $k + 1$,

Graph of a Non-Negative Matrix (continued)

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- i) the matrix A is primitive,
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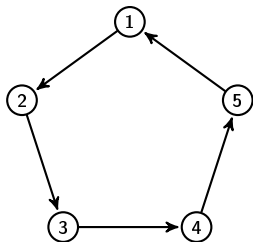
Proof.

i) \Rightarrow ii) let k be a number such that $A^k > 0$. Then $A^{k+1} > 0$ so there are cycles of lengths k and $k + 1$,

ii) \Rightarrow i) see S. Sternberg *Dynamical Systems*, Section 9.2, the problem reduces to a statement from arithmetic: if $\text{GCD}(a, b) = 1$ then there exists a $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$(\mathbb{N}a + \mathbb{N}b) \cap [N, +\infty) = \{N, N + 1, N + 2, \dots\}.$$

Example – Irreducible Not Primitive Matrix



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

$$A^5 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I_5, A^6 = A.$$

Example – Irreducible Not Primitive Matrix

In particular, if

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

then

$$w_A(\lambda) = \lambda^5 - 1,$$

hence $\lambda_{\max} = 1$, any other eigenvalue λ of matrix A is a 5–th root of unity and

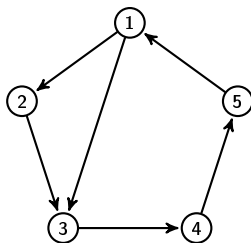
$$|\lambda| \leq \lambda_{\max},$$

moreover λ_{\max} has algebraic multiplicity 1 and $Av = v$, where

$$v = (1, 1, 1, 1, 1) > 0.$$

Incidentally, A is a particular case of a 5×5 circulant matrix with $c_{n-1} = 1$, $n = 5$ and all other c_i 's equal to 0.

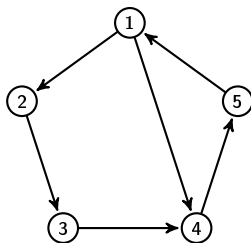
Example – Primitive Matrix



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

$$A^{17} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 1 & 2 & 4 & 6 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 6 & 4 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 4 & 6 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

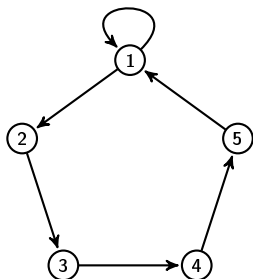
Example – Another Primitive Matrix



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

$$A^{14} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 & 1 & 6 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 1 & 3 & 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example – And Another Primitive Matrix



$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \dots$$

$$A^8 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 4 & 3 & 2 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Example – And Another Primitive Matrix (continued)

If

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

it can be checked that $w_A(\lambda) = \lambda^5 - \lambda^4 - 1 = (\lambda^2 - \lambda + 1)(\lambda^3 - \lambda - 1)$, with $\lambda_{\max} \approx 1.3247$, and $v \approx (0.6765, 0.2197, 0.2910, 0.3855, 0.5107)$.

Other eigenvalues have magnitudes smaller than λ_{\max}

