

Last time

Defined the characteristic polynomial $p_T(\lambda)$ of a linear map

$$T: V \rightarrow V;$$

$$p_T(\lambda) = \det(\lambda \text{id} - T) = \det(\lambda I - [T]_{\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}})$$

where \mathcal{B} is a basis of V .

Def A polynomial $p(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$ is monic if $a_n = 1$

Note $p(x) \in \mathbb{C}[x]$ is monic, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ roots of $p(x)$ (with multiplicities) \Rightarrow

$$p(x) = (x - \lambda_1)(x - \lambda_2) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$$

(in general if $h(x) \in \mathbb{P}[x]$ and $\deg h = n$, then

$$h(x) = c \cdot (x - \lambda_1) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$$

$$= c \cdot x^n + \text{lower order terms, } c \neq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow p(x) = x^n - (\sum \lambda_j) x^{n-1} + (-1)^n \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n.$$

Lemma 25.1 Let A be an $n \times n$ complex matrix, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$ corresponding eigenvalues (roots of $p_A(x) = \det(xI - A)$)

Then (1) $\prod_{j=1}^n \lambda_j = \det A$

(2) $\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j = \text{tr } A.$

Proof (1) $p_A(x) = \det(xI - A) = (x - \lambda_1)(x - \lambda_2) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$
 $= x^n + (-\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j) x^{n-1} + \dots + (-1)^n \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n$

$\Rightarrow p_A(0) = (-1)^n \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n.$

On the other hand $p_A(0) = \det(0 \cdot I - A) = \det(-A) = (-1)^n \det A$

$\therefore \det A = \lambda_1 \dots \lambda_n.$

(2) The key is to observe that the coefficient of x^{n-1}

in $p_A(x) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x - a_{11} & -a_{12} & \dots \\ -a_{21} & x - a_{22} & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$ is $-a_{11}x + a_{22}x + \dots - a_{nn}x$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{bii}}$

$$\det(b_{ij}) = \sum_{\sigma \in S_n} (\text{sgn } \sigma) b_{\sigma(1)1} \cdots b_{\sigma(n)n}$$

25.2

This works because to get x^{n-1} we need to pick $n-1$ diagonal terms. Say we picked $b_{11}, b_{22}, \dots, b_{n-1, n-1}$.

This forces the last term in the product to be b_{nn} .

$$b_{ii} = (x - a_{ii}) \Rightarrow \text{we set } x \cdot x \cdots x \cdot (-a_{nn})$$

$$\text{If we pick } b_{11}, b_{22}, \dots, b_{n-2, n-2}, b_{n, n}, \text{ we set}$$

$$\underbrace{x \cdots x}_{n-2} \cdot (-a_{n-1, n-1}) \cdot x \quad \text{etc.}$$

Definition A linear map $T: V \rightarrow V$ is diagonalizable if there is a basis B of V st $[T]_{BB} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$

for some scalars $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$.

A matrix $A \in M_{n,n}$ is diagonalizable if there is an invertible matrix S so that

$$SAS^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Exercise A matrix A is diagonalizable \Leftrightarrow the corresponding linear map A is diagonalizable.

Hint • $A = [A]_{SS}$, S standard basis.

$$\bullet [A]_{BB} = [id]_{BS} [A]_{SS} [id]_{SB}$$

Remark T is diagonalizable (in a basis $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_n\}$)

$$Tb_i = \lambda_i b_i \quad \forall i$$

$\Leftrightarrow B$ is a basis of eigenvalues of T .

Theorem 25.2 A sufficient condition for a linear map $T: V \rightarrow V$ to be diagonalizable is that T has $n = \dim V$ distinct eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$.

Wo 25.2 is a consequence of

Lemma 25.3 Suppose $T: V \rightarrow V$ is linear, $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k$ distinct eigenvalues. Then the set of corresponding eigenvectors $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ is linearly independent.

Proof Suppose not. Then a subset of size $r < k$ of $\{v_1, \dots, v_k\}$ is linearly independent. By renumbering v_i 's we may assume: $\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$ is linearly independent.

Then

$$v_{r+1} = a_1 v_1 + \dots + a_r v_r \quad \text{for some } a_1, \dots, a_r \text{ (not all zero)}$$

Apply T to both sides. We get

$$\lambda_{r+1} v_{r+1} = T(v_{r+1}) = T\left(\sum_{i=1}^r a_i v_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^r a_i \lambda_i v_i$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \lambda_{r+1} v_{r+1} - \lambda_{r+1} v_{r+1} = \lambda_{r+1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^r a_i v_i\right) - \sum_{i=1}^r (a_i \lambda_i v_i) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^r (\lambda_{r+1} - \lambda_i) a_i v_i.$$

Since $\{v_1, \dots, v_r\}$ is lin. independent

$$\left. \begin{aligned} (\lambda_{r+1} - \lambda_1) a_1 &= 0 \\ (\lambda_{r+1} - \lambda_2) a_2 &= 0 \\ &\vdots \\ (\lambda_{r+1} - \lambda_r) a_r &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

$$\lambda_{r+1} - \lambda_i \neq 0 \quad \text{for all } i=1, \dots, r. \Rightarrow a_1 = a_2 = \dots = a_r = 0$$

Contradiction. □

Remark The only eigenvalue of $\text{id}_V: V \rightarrow V$ is 1.

And in any basis \mathcal{B} , $[\text{id}_V]_{\mathcal{B}\mathcal{B}} = I$

So having distinct eigenvalues is not necessarily for diagonalizability.

Why diagonalize?

Ex 1 Suppose $A = B \Lambda B^{-1}$ where $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}$

Then

$$A^n = \underbrace{(B \Lambda B^{-1})(B \Lambda B^{-1}) \dots (B \Lambda B^{-1})}_n = B \Lambda^n B^{-1} = B \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^n & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_k^n \end{pmatrix} B^{-1}$$

So powers are easy to compute.

Ex 2 Recall $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$ (or $\forall x \in \mathbb{C}$)

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} x^n$$

For any $A \in M_{n,n}$ we define $e^A = I + A + \frac{1}{2!}A^2 + \dots = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n!} A^n$

$$(\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{1}{n!} A^n)$$

One can show: e^A exists for all $A \in M_{n,n}$.

Also $\frac{d}{dt}(e^{tA}) = A e^{tA}$

So $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $\forall A \in M_{n,n}(\mathbb{R})$ $f(t) := e^{tA} x$ solves

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d}{dt} f = A f \\ f(0) = x \end{cases}$$

If A is diagonalizable, e^{tA} is "easy" to compute!

if $A = B \Lambda B^{-1}$, where $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_k \end{pmatrix}$ then

$$\begin{aligned} e^{tA} &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} A^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} (B \Lambda B^{-1})^n = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} B \Lambda^n B^{-1} \\ &= B \left(\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{n!} \Lambda^n \right) B^{-1} = B \begin{pmatrix} \sum \frac{t^n}{n!} \lambda_1^n & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sum \frac{t^n}{n!} \lambda_k^n \end{pmatrix} B^{-1} \\ &= B \begin{pmatrix} e^{t\lambda_1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & e^{t\lambda_n} \end{pmatrix} B^{-1} \end{aligned}$$