

Last time: Homogeneous Linear Systems $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$ (A is $n \times n$, real matrix)

- Looked for a solution of the form $\vec{x} = \vec{v}e^{\lambda t}$, where \vec{v} is a vector of constants. We got that such functions are solutions to the system, provided that $(A - \lambda I)\vec{v} = 0$, i.e. λ is an eigenvalue of A w/ eigenvector \vec{v} .

Case 1: A has n distinct real eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ w/ eigenvectors $\vec{v}_1, \vec{v}_2, \dots, \vec{v}_n$:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \vec{v}_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + c_2 \vec{v}_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + \dots + c_n \vec{v}_n e^{\lambda_n t}$$

(general solution).

Case 2: If A has a complex eigenvalue $\lambda = \alpha + i\beta$, with an eigenvector $\vec{v} = \vec{a} + i\vec{b}$, then the complex functions:

$$\vec{u}(t) = e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} \quad \& \quad \overline{\vec{u}(t)} = e^{\lambda t} \overline{\vec{v}}$$

are solutions. Extract the real-valued solutions $\text{Re } \vec{u}(t), \text{Im } \vec{u}(t)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{u}(t) &= e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} = e^{\alpha t + i\beta t} (\vec{a} + i\vec{b}) \\ &= e^{\alpha t} (\cos(\beta t) + i \sin(\beta t)) (\vec{a} + i\vec{b}) \\ &= e^{\alpha t} \left[\begin{aligned} &(\cos(\beta t) \vec{a} - \sin(\beta t) \vec{b}) \\ &+ i (\sin(\beta t) \vec{a} + \cos(\beta t) \vec{b}) \end{aligned} \right] \end{aligned}$$

=> In this case, we must add to our general (real) solution:

$$c_1 \vec{x}_1(t) + c_2 \vec{x}_2(t),$$

where:

$$\vec{x}_1(t) = \operatorname{Re} \vec{u}(t) = e^{\alpha t} (\cos(\beta t) \vec{a} - \sin(\beta t) \vec{b})$$

$$\vec{x}_2(t) = \operatorname{Im} \vec{u}(t) = e^{\alpha t} (\sin(\beta t) \vec{a} + \cos(\beta t) \vec{b})$$

We saw that for $\vec{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 8 \\ -1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x}$, we have complex eigenvalues:

$$\lambda = 2i, \text{ w/ an eigenvector: } \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + i \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\alpha=0, \beta=2$

So, general solution:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \left[\cos(2t) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} - \sin(2t) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] + c_2 \left[\sin(2t) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + \cos(2t) \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

Case 3: Repeated Eigenvalue

Example:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Char. Eqn. $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ yields

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1)^2 = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2$$

$$\lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -1$$

Double eigenvalue

$\Rightarrow -1$ is an eigenvalue w/
algebraic multiplicity 2.

Eigenvectors:

$$\text{for } \lambda_1 = 2: \vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{for } \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = -1: \vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{v}_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

-1 has 2 linearly indep. eigenvectors,
so -1 is an eigenvalue w/ geometric
multiplicity 2.

[Detailed calculations of all this @ the end] (★)

Generally: Let λ be an eigenvalue of the matrix A .

- the **algebraic multiplicity** of λ is the multiplicity of λ as a solution to the char. eqn. $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$.
 - the **geometric multiplicity** of λ is the dimension of its eigenspace (# of linearly indep. eigenvectors λ can have).
 - If $\text{alg.}(\lambda) = \text{geom.}(\lambda)$, we say the eigenvalue λ is **non-defective**.
Otherwise, if $\text{geom.}(\lambda) < \text{alg.}(\lambda)$, we say λ is **defective**.
A matrix which has a defective eigenvalue is called a **defective matrix**.
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Example 1: $\vec{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x}$

Char. Eqn.: $\begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow (2-\lambda)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2$ is a double eigenvalue
 $\text{alg}(\lambda=2) = \underline{\underline{2}}$

Eigenvectors?

$$(A - 2I)\vec{v} = \vec{0}$$
$$\downarrow$$
$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow this is always true ($\vec{0} = \vec{0}$)
no matter what \vec{v} does!

So: any $\vec{v} \in \mathbb{R}^2$ is an eigenvector

(\mathbb{R}^2 is 2-dimensional) $\Rightarrow \text{geom}(\lambda=2) = \underline{\underline{2}}$
 \Rightarrow matrix is non-defective

Choose for example $\vec{v}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ and $\vec{v}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$, and we have

two linearly indep. vectors, and lin. indep. solutions:

$$\vec{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{x}_2 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

=> general solution:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Example 2: $\vec{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x}$

Char. Eqn.: $\begin{vmatrix} 2-\lambda & 1 \\ 0 & 2-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0 \Rightarrow (2-\lambda)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2$ double eigenvalue

Eigenvectors? $(A - 2I | \vec{0})$

alg($\lambda=2$) = 2

$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow$ one restriction: $v_2 = 0$

\Rightarrow eigenvector: $\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

geom($\lambda=2$) = 1



defective
eigenvalue!

This only gives us one solution:

$$\vec{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So we only have $c_1 e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ to put in our general solution.

How do we find a second solution?

Suppose A is a 2×2 matrix and λ is an eigenvalue w/ algebraic multiplicity 2, and geometric multiplicity 1.

To solve $\vec{x}' = A\vec{x}$:

① Find an eigenvector \vec{v} corresponding to λ

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 = e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$$

② Second solution: a solution of the form:

$$\vec{x}_2 = t e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} + e^{\lambda t} \vec{w}$$

can be found, where \vec{v} is the same eigenvector as in ①, and \vec{w} is a vector that satisfies:

$$(A - \lambda I) \vec{w} = \vec{v} \quad (*)$$

General solution:

$$\vec{x} = c_1 \vec{x}_1 + c_2 \vec{x}_2$$

Pf: Let $\vec{x}_2 = t e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} + e^{\lambda t} \vec{w}$

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

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_2' = e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} + t\lambda e^{\lambda t} \vec{v} + \lambda e^{\lambda t} \vec{w}$$

$$\Rightarrow A\vec{x}_2 = t e^{\lambda t} A\vec{v} + e^{\lambda t} A\vec{w}$$

$\lambda\vec{v}$ b/c (λ, \vec{v}) is an eigenpair
by (*)

$$= t e^{\lambda t} \lambda \vec{v} + \lambda e^{\lambda t} \vec{w} + e^{\lambda t} \vec{v}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_2' = A\vec{x}_2$$



Back to example 2: $\vec{x}' = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x}$

We found the double eigenvalue $\lambda = 2$, and one eigenvector

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \vec{x}_1 = e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Find \vec{w} s.t. $(A - 2I)\vec{w} = \vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left(\begin{array}{cc|c} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow w_2 = 1$$

no restrictions on w_1

$\Rightarrow \vec{w}$ can be any vector of the form $\begin{pmatrix} c \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ with $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

Take, for example, $c = 0$:

$$\vec{w} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{x}_2 = te^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{General Solution: } \vec{x} = c_1 \vec{x}_1 + c_2 \vec{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 e^{2t} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c_2 t e^{2t} \\ c_2 e^{2t} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= e^{2t} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 + c_2 t \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



Detailed calculations for \star :

Find eigenvalues & eigenvectors: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Char. Eqn.: $\begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$

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

$$-\lambda(\lambda^2 - 1) - (-\lambda - 1) + (1 + \lambda) = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 + \lambda + \lambda + 1 + 1 + \lambda = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 + 3\lambda + 2 = 0$$

$$-\lambda^3 - \lambda^2 + \lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 2 = 0$$

$$-\lambda^2(\lambda + 1) + (\lambda + 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$(-\lambda^2 + \lambda + 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$(\lambda^2 - \lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1)^2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = 2 \quad \lambda = -1$$

double eigenvalue

$\lambda = 2$: $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\substack{R_2 \times 2 \\ R_3 \times 2}]{}$ $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & -4 & 2 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -4 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

$\xrightarrow[\substack{R_2 - R_1 \\ R_3 - R_1}]{}$ $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -3 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -3 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow[\substack{R_2: (-3) \\ R_3: (3)}]{}$ $\left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{array} \right)$

$$\begin{array}{l} \rightarrow \\ R_1 - R_2 \\ R_2 - R_3 \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right) \xrightarrow{R_1: (-2)} \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right)$$

$$\begin{cases} v_1 - v_3 = 0 \\ v_2 - v_3 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} v_1 = v_3 \\ v_2 = v_3 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} c \\ c \\ c \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{eigenvectors } \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\lambda = -1: \left(\begin{array}{ccc|c} +1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & +1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & +1 & 0 \end{array} \right) \Rightarrow \text{one equation: } \boxed{v_1 + v_2 + v_3 = 0}$$

\Rightarrow 2 of the values can be chosen arbitrarily, and the third is determined by them

$$\vec{v} = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ -c_1 - c_2 \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

\Rightarrow eigenvectors: $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$ linearly indep.