

Lec 35 Wednesday April 23

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## 7.5 Multiple eigenvalue Solutions

Given  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$

Consider system

$$\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X}$$

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_i = x_i(t) \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

Find gen solution.

Cases

$A$  is diagonalizable

$A$  arb

We did 7.3

today + Fri

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2Ex For functions

$$x = x(t), \quad y = y(t)$$

find the gen solution of

$$x' = -2x + y,$$

$$y' = -x - 4y$$

Sol Matrix form

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 \\ -1 & -4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix} \quad (*)$$

"                      "                      "  
"                      A                      X  
X'

Find the eigenvalues of A:

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} -2 - \lambda & 1 \\ -1 & -4 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= (-2 - \lambda)(-4 - \lambda) - 1$$

$$= \lambda^2 + 6\lambda + 9$$

$$= (\lambda + 3)^2$$

Eigenvalues are

$$-3, -3$$

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Find a basis for the eigenspace of A

for  $\lambda = -3$

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{GJ} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$  is basis for the eigenspace

So

$$Av_1 = -3v_1$$

So

$$x = e^{-3t} v_1$$

is a solution to  $x' = Ax$  (but not gen sol)

Need another sol that is lin indep of first one.

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Guess every sol to  $x$  has form

$$x = ae^{-3t} + bte^{-3t}$$

$$y = ce^{-3t} + dte^{-3t}$$

with scalars  $a, b, c, d$  to be determined

Plug form into orig system

$$x' = \frac{d}{dt} e^{-3t} (a + bt)$$

$$= e^{-3t} b - 3e^{-3t} (a + bt)$$

$$= e^{-3t} (b - 3a - 3bt)$$

$$y' = \frac{d}{dt} e^{-3t} (c + dt)$$

$$= e^{-3t} (d - 3c - 3dt)$$

Orig system becomes

$$b - 3a - 3bt = -2(a + bt) + 1(c + dt)$$

$$d - 3c - 3dt = -(a + bt) - 4(c + dt)$$



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Find meaning of  $v_2$

Recall  $Av_1 = \lambda v_1$   $\lambda = -3$

So  $(A - \lambda I)v_1 = 0$

Find  $(A - \lambda I)v_2$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = v_1$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_2 = v_1$$

Gen sol to \* is

$$a e^{\lambda t} v_1 + b e^{\lambda t} (t v_1 + v_2) \quad a, b \text{ free}$$

$\lambda = -3$

where

$$(A - \lambda I)v_1 = 0, \quad (A - \lambda I)v_2 = v_1, \quad v_1 \neq 0$$

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The sequence  $v_1, v_2$  is called a

chain of generalized eigenvectors for  $\lambda = -3$

Def Given any  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$

let  $\lambda =$  an eigenvalue of  $A$

A sequence of vectors

$$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$$

is called a chain of generalized eigenvectors for  $\lambda$

whenever

$$(A - \lambda I)v_1 = 0$$

$$v_1 \neq 0$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_2 = v_1$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_3 = v_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_k = v_{k-1}$$

[ In this case  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_k$  are linearly indep ]

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Ex For

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

Find a chain of generalized eigenvectors

Sol Find the eigenvalues of A

$$|A - \lambda I| = \begin{vmatrix} 0 - \lambda & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & -1 - \lambda & -5 \\ 4 & 1 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}$$

$$= -\lambda \underbrace{\begin{vmatrix} -1 - \lambda & -5 \\ 1 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix}}_{\lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 7} - 0 + 1 \underbrace{\begin{vmatrix} -5 & -1 - \lambda \\ 4 & 1 \end{vmatrix}}_{4\lambda - 1}$$

$$= -(\lambda + 1)^3$$

$$\lambda = -1, -1, -1$$



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Find basis for eigenspace of  $A$  for  $\lambda = -7$ 

$$A - \lambda I = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & 0 & -5 \\ 4 & 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve

$$(A - \lambda I) \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A - \lambda I$$

$$\downarrow \text{GJ}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -5 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z = t \text{ free}$$

$$y = 5t$$

$$x = -t$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} = t \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenspace has basis

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Hunt for a vector  $v_2$  such that

$$(A - \lambda I)v_2 = v_1$$

 $\lambda = -1$ 

Write

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Require

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & 0 & -5 \\ 4 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a + c = -1$$

$$4a + b - c = 1$$

take

$$a = -1 \quad b = 5 \quad c = 0$$

(many sols - just pick one)

$$v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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Hunt for vector  $v_3$  such that

$$(A - \lambda I) v_3 = v_2$$

$d = -1$

Write

$$v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix}$$

Require

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ -5 & 0 & -5 \\ 4 & 1 & -7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a + c = -1$$

$$4a + b - c = 0$$

Take

$$a = -1$$

$$b = 4$$

$$c = 0$$

$$v_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ 4 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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By construction, for  $\lambda = \rightarrow$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_1 = 0,$$

$$v_1 \neq 0$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_2 = v_1$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v_3 = v_2$$

So

$v_1, v_2, v_3$  is a chain of generalized eigenvectors for  $A$ .

Thm

For any  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$ ,

there exists a basis for the underlying vector space

that is a union of chains of generalized eigenvectors

Note

Above  $A$  is diagonalizable if and only if

each chain of gen eigenvectors has length 1

Ex Ref to prev example,

find the general sol to

$$\mathbf{X}' = A\mathbf{X} \quad \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \end{bmatrix} \quad *$$

Sol Let  $v_1, v_2, v_3$  be the chain of gen eigenvectors from prev ex.

We show the gen sol to \* is

$$\mathbf{X} = c_1 e^{\lambda t} v_1 + c_2 e^{\lambda t} (tv_1 + v_2) + c_3 e^{\lambda t} \left( \frac{t^2}{2} v_1 + tv_2 + v_3 \right)$$

$$\lambda = -1$$

scalars  $c_1, c_2, c_3$  free

\* Let  $\mathcal{V} =$  set of all sols to \*

$\mathcal{V}$  is vector space dim 3

One checks  $\mathcal{V}$  contains

$$e^{\lambda t} v_1, \quad e^{\lambda t} (tv_1 + v_2), \quad e^{\lambda t} \left( \frac{t^2}{2} v_1 + tv_2 + v_3 \right)$$

the elements are lin indep (set  $t=0$  to see this)

so they form a basis for  $\mathcal{V}$

□