

# Iterative Techniques in Matrix Algebra

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## Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

Numerical Analysis (9th Edition)

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Beamer Presentation Slides

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# Outline

## 1 Introduction

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 The Characteristic Polynomial of a Matrix

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- 3 The Spectral Radius of a Matrix

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- 4 Convergent Matrices

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# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

## Matrix-Vector Multiplication

- An  $n \times m$  matrix can be considered as a function that uses matrix multiplication to take  $m$ -dimensional column vectors into  $n$ -dimensional column vectors.

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- A square matrix  $A$  takes the set of  $n$ -dimensional vectors into itself, which gives a linear function from  $\mathbb{R}^n$  to  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- In this case, certain nonzero vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  might be parallel to  $A\mathbf{x}$ , which means that a constant  $\lambda$  exists with

$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

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## Matrix-Vector Multiplication (Cont'd)

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- We will consider this connection in this section.

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- It is not difficult to show that  $p$  is an  $n$ th-degree polynomial and, consequently, has at most  $n$  distinct zeros, some of which might be complex.

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- It is not difficult to show that  $p$  is an  $n$ th-degree polynomial and, consequently, has at most  $n$  distinct zeros, some of which might be complex.
- If  $\lambda$  is a zero of  $p$ , then, since  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$ , we can prove that the linear system defined by

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

has a solution with  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$ .

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

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- If  $p$  is the characteristic polynomial of the matrix  $A$ , the zeros of  $p$  are **eigenvalues**, or **characteristic values**, of the matrix  $A$ .
- If  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  and  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  satisfies

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

then  $\mathbf{x}$  is an **eigenvector**, or **characteristic vector**, of  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda$ .

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

## Finding the Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

- To determine the eigenvalues of a matrix, we can use the fact that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if

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- To determine the eigenvalues of a matrix, we can use the fact that  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  if and only if

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- Once an eigenvalue  $\lambda$  has been found, a corresponding eigenvector  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  is determined by solving the system

$$(A - \lambda I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

## Example

Show that there are no nonzero vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with  $A\mathbf{x}$  parallel to  $\mathbf{x}$  if

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

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The eigenvalues of  $A$



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The eigenvalues of  $A$  are the solutions to the characteristic polynomial

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so the eigenvalues of  $A$  are the complex numbers  $\lambda_1 = i$  and  $\lambda_2 = -i$ .

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- A corresponding eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}$  for  $\lambda_1$

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- Hence if  $\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$ , then exactly one of its components is real and the other is complex.

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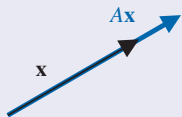
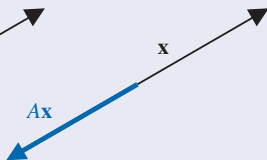
- Hence if  $\mathbf{x}$  is an eigenvector of  $A$ , then exactly one of its components is real and the other is complex.

As a consequence, there are no nonzero vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with  $A\mathbf{x}$  parallel to  $\mathbf{x}$ .

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

## Geometric Interpretation of $\lambda$

- If  $\lambda$  is real and  $\lambda > 1$ , then  $A$  has the effect of stretching  $\mathbf{x}$  by a factor of  $\lambda$  (see (a)).
- If  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , then  $A$  shrinks  $\mathbf{x}$  by a factor of  $\lambda$  (see (b)).
- If  $\lambda < 0$ , the effects are similar (see (c) and (d)), although the direction of  $A\mathbf{x}$  is reversed.

(a)  $\lambda > 1$ (b)  $1 > \lambda > 0$ (c)  $\lambda < -1$ (d)  $-1 < \lambda < 0$ 

$$A\mathbf{x} = \lambda\mathbf{x}$$



# Finding the Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors of $A$

## Example

Determine the eigenvalues and eigenvectors for the matrix

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

# Finding the Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors of $A$

## Solution (1/4)

The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is

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The characteristic polynomial of  $A$  is

$$\begin{aligned} p(\lambda) &= \det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 - \lambda & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 4 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -(\lambda^3 - 7\lambda^2 + 16\lambda - 12) \end{aligned}$$

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so there are two eigenvalues of  $A$ :  $\lambda_1 = 3$  and  $\lambda_2 = 2$ .

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## Solution (2/4)

An eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}_1$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 3$  is a solution to the vector-matrix equation  $(A - 3 \cdot I)\mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{0}$ ,

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 2 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

which implies that  $x_1 = 0$  and  $x_2 = x_3$ .



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Any nonzero value of  $x_3$  produces an eigenvector for the eigenvalue  $\lambda_1 = 3$ . For example, when  $x_3 = 1$  we have the eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}_1 = (0, 1, 1)^t$ , and any eigenvector of  $A$  corresponding to  $\lambda = 3$  is a nonzero multiple of  $\mathbf{x}_1$ .

# Finding the Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors of $A$

## Solution (3/4)

An eigenvector  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$  of  $A$  associated with  $\lambda_2 = 2$  is a solution of the system  $(A - 2 \cdot I)\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$ ,

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In this case the eigenvector has only to satisfy the equation

$$x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 0$$

which can be done in various ways.

# Finding the Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors of $A$

## Solution (4/4)

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- Hence  $\mathbf{x}_3 = (-2, 0, 1)^t$  gives a second eigenvector for the eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 2$  that is not a multiple of  $\mathbf{x}_2$ .
- The eigenvectors of  $A$  corresponding to the eigenvalue  $\lambda_2 = 2$  generate an entire plane. This plane is described by all vectors of the form

$$\alpha\mathbf{x}_2 + \beta\mathbf{x}_3 = (-2\beta, 2\alpha, \alpha + \beta)^t$$

for arbitrary constants  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , provided that at least one of the constants is nonzero.

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# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

## Definition: Spectral Radius

The **spectral radius**  $\rho(A)$  of a matrix  $A$  is defined by

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For the matrix in the previous example, namely

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

note that

$$\rho(A) = \max\{2, 3\} = 3$$

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for any natural norm  $\|\cdot\|$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

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## Proof (1/2)

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Note: It can be shown that this result implies that if  $A$  is symmetric, then  $\|A\|_2 = \rho(A)$ .

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

$$\rho(\mathbf{A}) \leq \|\mathbf{A}\|$$

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## Proof (2/2)

To prove part (ii), suppose  $\lambda$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  with eigenvector  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\|\mathbf{x}\| = 1$ .



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$$|\lambda| = |\lambda| \cdot \|\mathbf{x}\| = \|\lambda\mathbf{x}\| = \|A\mathbf{x}\| \leq \|A\|\|\mathbf{x}\| = \|A\|$$

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Thus

$$\rho(A) = \max |\lambda| \leq \|A\|$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

## Example

Determine the  $l_2$  norm of

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

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Note: We will apply part (i) of the theorem, namely that

$$\|A\|_2 = [\rho(A^t A)]^{1/2}$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

$$\|A\|_2 = [\rho(A^t A)]^{1/2}$$

## Solution (1/3)

We first need the eigenvalues of  $A^t A$ , where

$$A^t A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 6 & 4 \\ -1 & 4 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

$$\|A\|_2 = [\rho(A^t A)]^{1/2}$$

## Solution (2/3)

If

$$0 = \det(A^t A - \lambda I)$$

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## Solution (2/3)

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$$0 = \det(A^t A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 6 - \lambda & 4 \\ -1 & 4 & 5 - \lambda \end{bmatrix}$$

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If

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = \det(A^t A - \lambda I) &= \det \begin{bmatrix} 3 - \lambda & 2 & -1 \\ 2 & 6 - \lambda & 4 \\ -1 & 4 & 5 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \\ &= -\lambda^3 + 14\lambda^2 - 42\lambda \end{aligned}$$



# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Spectral Radius

$$\|A\|_2 = [\rho(A^t A)]^{1/2}$$

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then  $\lambda = 0$  or  $\lambda = 7 \pm \sqrt{7}$ .

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By part (i) of the theorem, we have

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 The Characteristic Polynomial of a Matrix
- 3 The Spectral Radius of a Matrix
- 4 Convergent Matrices**

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

In studying iterative matrix techniques, it is of particular importance to know when powers of a matrix become small (that is, when all the entries approach zero). Matrices of this type are called **convergent**.



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## Definition: Convergent Matrix

We call an  $n \times n$  matrix  $A$  **convergent** if

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (A^k)_{ij} = 0, \quad \text{for each } i = 1, 2, \dots, n \text{ and } j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

## Example

Show that

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

is a convergent matrix.

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

## Solution

Computing powers of  $A$ , we obtain:

$$A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{4} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{4} \end{bmatrix} \quad A^3 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{8} & 0 \\ \frac{3}{16} & \frac{1}{8} \end{bmatrix} \quad A^4 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{16} & 0 \\ \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{16} \end{bmatrix}$$

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and, in general,

$$A^k = \begin{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k & 0 \\ \frac{k}{2^{k+1}} & \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k \end{bmatrix}$$

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So  $A$  is a convergent matrix because

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \frac{k}{2^{k+1}} = 0$$

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

- Notice that the convergent matrix  $A$  in the last example has  $\rho(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ , because  $\frac{1}{2}$  is the only eigenvalue of  $A$ .

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

- Notice that the convergent matrix  $A$  in the last example has  $\rho(A) = \frac{1}{2}$ , because  $\frac{1}{2}$  is the only eigenvalue of  $A$ .
- This illustrates an important connection that exists between the spectral radius of a matrix and the convergence of the matrix, as detailed in the following result.

# Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors: Convergent Matrices

## Theorem

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The proof of this theorem can be found on p. 14 of Issacson, E. and H. B. Keller, [Analysis of Numerical Methods](#), John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1966, 541 pp.

Questions?