

1. Diagonalization

One of the most powerful ways to think about matrices is to think of them in diagonal form¹.

- (a) Consider following three matrices: a matrix A , a matrix V whose columns are the eigenvectors of A , and finally a diagonal matrix Λ with the eigenvalues of A on the diagonal (in the same order as the eigenvectors (or columns) of V). From these definitions, show that

$$AV = V\Lambda$$

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

* $A\vec{v}_i = \lambda_i \vec{v}_i$

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}$$

¹Not all matrices can be put in this form but most can. The ones that can't be diagonalized can be put in a similar form called the Jordan form.

$$AV = A \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ A\vec{v}_1 & A\vec{v}_2 & \dots & A\vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 & \lambda_2 \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \lambda_n \vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

$$V\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \vec{v}_1 & \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ \lambda_1 \vec{v}_1 & \lambda_2 \vec{v}_2 & \dots & \lambda_n \vec{v}_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

Same ✓

$$\begin{bmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 v_{11} & \lambda_2 v_{12} \\ \lambda_1 v_{21} & \lambda_2 v_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} AV &= V\Lambda \\ AVV^{-1} &= V\Lambda V^{-1} \\ A &= V\Lambda V^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

- (b) By multiplying both sides on the right by V^{-1} , we get following expression: $A = V\Lambda V^{-1}$. This is called the diagonal form of A . Using this expression, we can consider the action of A on a coordinate vector $\vec{r}^{(u)}$ in the standard basis. Please interpret each step of the following calculation in terms of coordinate transformations and scaling by eigenvalues.

* recall change of basis:

$$\begin{aligned} V\vec{r}^{(v)} &= U\vec{r}^{(u)} = \vec{r} \\ \vec{r}^{(v)} &= V^{-1}U\vec{r}^{(u)} \\ \vec{r}^{(u)} &= U^{-1}V\vec{r}^{(v)} \end{aligned}$$

changing from u basis to v basis
from v basis to u basis

$$A\vec{r}^{(u)} = V\Lambda V^{-1}\vec{r}^{(u)}$$

* note: $\vec{r}^{(u)}$ is in the standard basis
 $U = I$

$$\vec{r}^{(v)} = V^{-1}I\vec{r}^{(u)} = V^{-1}\vec{r}^{(u)}$$

$$\vec{r}^{(u)} = I^{-1}V\vec{r}^{(v)} = V\vec{r}^{(v)}$$

$$A\vec{r}^{(u)} = V \underbrace{\Lambda V^{-1}\vec{r}^{(u)}}_{\substack{\text{coord of } \vec{r}^{(v)} \\ \text{in eigenvector basis}}} \underbrace{\quad}_{\substack{\text{scaling coord of } \vec{r}^{(v)} \\ \text{by eigenvalues}}}$$

transforming back to standard basis

2. Fibonacci Sequence

Learning Goal: This problem uses the famous Fibonacci sequence to show how writing a matrix in terms of its eigenvalues and eigenvectors can be used to analyze the matrix raised to a power.

- (a) The Fibonacci sequence can be constructed according to the following relation. The N th number in the Fibonacci sequence, F_N , is computed by adding the previous two numbers in the sequence together:

$$F_N = F_{N-1} + F_{N-2}$$

We select the first two numbers in the sequence to be $F_1 = 0$ and $F_2 = 1$ and then we can compute the following numbers as

$$0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34, 55, \dots$$

Explicitly write down the matrix A and its elements that can be used to compute the next value of the Fibonacci sequence, F_N , from the previous two values, F_{N-1} and F_{N-2} .

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_N \\ F_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} F_{N-1} \\ F_{N-2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_N \\ F_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_A \begin{bmatrix} F_{N-1} \\ F_{N-2} \end{bmatrix}$$

- (b) Construct a matrix P whose columns are the eigenvectors of A , and a matrix D whose diagonal elements are the corresponding eigenvalues of A .

P will have the form $\begin{bmatrix} \vec{p}_1 & \vec{p}_2 \end{bmatrix}$ where \vec{p}_1 and \vec{p}_2 are the first and second eigenvectors of A .

D will have the form $\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$ where λ_1 and λ_2 are the first and second eigenvalues of A .

Show your work and confirm that $A = PDP^{-1}$. (No need to provide a proof).

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \left(\begin{bmatrix} 1-\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda \end{bmatrix} \right) = (1-\lambda)(-\lambda) - (1)(1) = \lambda^2 - \lambda - 1 = 0$$

$$\lambda = \frac{+1 \pm \sqrt{1^2 - 4(1)(-1)}}{2(1)}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad (A - (\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2})I) \vec{p}_1 = \vec{0}$$

\leftarrow eigenvector

$$\star (\frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2})(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) = \frac{1 - 5}{4} = \frac{-4}{4} = -1$$

$$\frac{2 - 1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 - (\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) & 0 \end{array} \right] = \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{R_1 \leftrightarrow R_2} \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) & 0 \\ \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \left[\begin{array}{cc|c} 1 & -(\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 - (\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2})x_2 = 0 \\ x_2 = \text{anything} = \alpha \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} x_1 = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \alpha \\ x_2 = \alpha \end{array} \quad \vec{p}_1 = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_2 = \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \quad \vec{p}_2 = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\star \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{1}{ad - bc} \begin{bmatrix} d & -b \\ -c & a \end{bmatrix}$$

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} & \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad P^{-1} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ -1 & \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A = PDP^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} & \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1 - \sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \\ -1 & \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \right) = \dots = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \checkmark$$

(c) (Challenge): Consider now how to compute A^N using the result that $A = PDP^{-1}$. We can write $A^N = (PDP^{-1})^N = PD^N P^{-1}$. Can you justify that? Use that equation to confirm that

$$F_N = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-1} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-1}$$

is an analytical expression for the N th Fibonacci number.

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_N \\ F_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} F_{N-1} \\ F_{N-2} \end{bmatrix} = A^{N-2} \begin{bmatrix} F_2 \\ F_1 \end{bmatrix} = A^{N-2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$F_N = [1 \ 0] \begin{bmatrix} F_N \\ F_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} = [1 \ 0] A^{N-2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = [1 \ 0] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^{N-2}}_{P D^{N-2} P^{-1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \underbrace{F_N}_{F_N \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot F_{N-1}} &= [1 \ 0] \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} & \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{1 \times 2} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix}}_{2 \times 1}^{N-2} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1+\sqrt{5} \\ -1 & \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \right)}_{P D^{N-2} P^{-1}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} & \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-2} & 0 \\ 0 & \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} & \frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-2} \\ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1+\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-1} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \left(\frac{1-\sqrt{5}}{2} \right)^{N-1} \quad \checkmark$$

$$A^N = P D^N P^{-1}$$

$$\star \begin{bmatrix} F_3 \\ F_2 \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} F_2 \\ F_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_4 \\ F_3 \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} F_3 \\ F_2 \end{bmatrix} = A^2 \begin{bmatrix} F_2 \\ F_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(ABC) = A(BC)$$

3. (PRACTICE) Matrix Powers

One of the most powerful things about matrix diagonalization is that it gives us some insight into polynomial functions of matrices. Suppose we have some diagonalizable matrix $A^{n \times n}$.

(a) Write A^N using the diagonalization of A , simplify the matrix product as much as possible.

$$\begin{aligned} A^2 &= AA \\ &= (V \Lambda V^{-1})(V \Lambda V^{-1}) \\ &= V \Lambda (V^{-1} V) \Lambda V^{-1} \\ &= V \Lambda I \Lambda V^{-1} \\ &= V \Lambda \Lambda V^{-1} \\ &= V \Lambda^2 V^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} A^3 &= A^2 A \\ &= V \Lambda^2 V^{-1} V \Lambda V^{-1} \\ &= V \Lambda^3 V^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$A = V \Lambda V^{-1}$$

$$A^N = V \Lambda^N V^{-1}$$

(b) Given A^N in the simplified form as found above, explicitly write out the elements of the expression's matrix product of diagonal eigenvalue matrices Λ . What happens to the diagonal elements?

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda^N &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}^N \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^N & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^N & & \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n^N \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ex: } \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix}^2 &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

(c) Now that we fully understand the diagonal expansion of A^N , what if I told you that this formula works beyond natural numbers like $N = 1, 2, \dots$? Use this formula to express the inverse A^{-1} . Does this agree with what we have seen for inverses of matrix products? And what happens if $\lambda_i = 0$?

$$A^{-1} = (V \Lambda V^{-1})^{-1} = (V^{-1})^{-1} \Lambda^{-1} V^{-1}$$

$$= V \Lambda^{-1} V^{-1}$$

makes sense

$$\Lambda^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\lambda_1} & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{\lambda_2} & & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \frac{1}{\lambda_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\lambda_i = 0?$ $A^{-1} \frac{1}{\lambda_i} \rightarrow \infty$

can't diagonalize

$\lambda = 0 \rightarrow$ nontrivial nullspace
 \rightarrow not invertible

$A \vec{v} = \lambda \vec{v}$
 $A^{-1} A \vec{v} = A^{-1} (\lambda \vec{v})$
 $\vec{v} = \lambda A^{-1} \vec{v}$
 $\frac{1}{\lambda} \vec{v} = A^{-1} \vec{v}$

A^{-1} has same eigenvectors
but now $\lambda \rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda}$

$(ABC)^{-1} = C^{-1} B^{-1} A^{-1}$