

Recall from lecture the way to compute a determinant of any 2×2 matrix is by using the following formula:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix} \quad \det(A) = ad - bc$$

$\det = 0 \iff$ L.D. columns
A is not invertible
A has a non-trivial nullspace

1. Mechanical Determinants

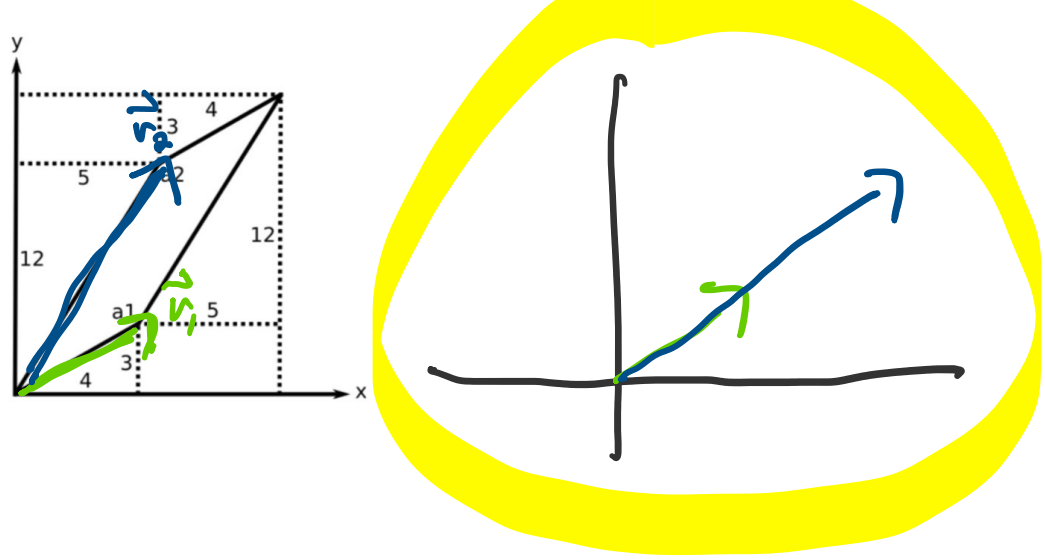
(a) Compute the determinant of $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\det(A) = ad - bc = (2)(3) - 0 = 6$$

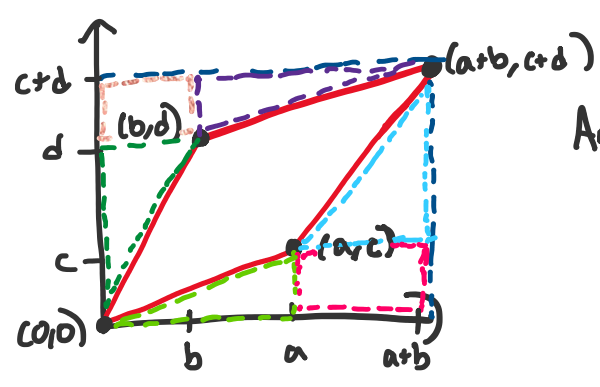
(b) Compute the determinant of $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$.

$$\det(A) = (2)(3) - (1)(0) = 6$$

(c) We know that the determinant of a matrix represents the multi-dimensional volume formed by the column vectors. Explain intuitively why the determinant of a matrix with linearly dependent column vectors is always 0.



Area of parallelogram = Determinant



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Area} &= (a+b)(c+d) - \left(\frac{ac}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{(a+b-d)(c+d-d)}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{bd}{2}\right) - \left(\frac{(a+b-a)(c+d-c)}{2}\right) - (a+b-a)c - b(c+d-c) \\ &= ac + ad + bc + bd - \frac{ac}{2} - \frac{ac}{2} - \frac{bd}{2} - \frac{bd}{2} - abc \\ &= ad - bc \quad \text{equivalent to determinant} \end{aligned}$$

2. Mechanical Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors

In each part, find the eigenvalues of the matrix M and the associated eigenvectors. State if the inverse of M exists.

(a) $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$

1. $M\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$ (eigenvalue)
 $(M - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$
 $\det(M - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} 0-\lambda & 1 \\ -2 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} -\lambda & 1 \\ -2 & -3-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = \lambda^2 + 3\lambda + 2 = 0$
 $(\lambda + 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = -2, \lambda_2 = -1$
2. $\lambda_1 = -2$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -3-(-2) \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0} \implies \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ -2 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0}$
 $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
eigenspace: span of the eigenvectors for given eigenvalue
 $\lambda_1 = -2$ span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} -1/2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$, $\lambda_2 = -1$ span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

(b) $M = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -4 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$

1. Find eigenvalues
 $\det(M - \lambda I) = \begin{vmatrix} -2-\lambda & 4 \\ -4 & 8-\lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$
 $(-2-\lambda)(8-\lambda) + 16 = 0$
 $\lambda^2 - 6\lambda + 0 = 0$
 $\lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 6$
2. Find eigenvectors
 $\lambda_1 = 0$
 $\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 4 \\ -4 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0}$
 $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\lambda_2 = 6$
 $\begin{bmatrix} -8 & 4 \\ -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0}$
 $\vec{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$
Any scalar multiple of the eigenvector is an eigenvector

(c) $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

1. $\det(M - \lambda I) = 0$
 $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -\lambda & 0 \\ 0 & -\lambda \end{bmatrix}$
 $(-\lambda)(-\lambda) - 0 = 0 \implies \lambda^2 = 0 \implies \lambda_1 = 0, \lambda_2 = 0$
2. $\begin{bmatrix} 0-0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = \vec{0} \implies \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \vec{0}$
 $x_1 = x_1, x_2 = x_2$
eigenspace: $\lambda = 0$ span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$

(d) (PRACTICE) $M = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(e) (PRACTICE) $M = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 9 \end{bmatrix}$

3. Eigenvalues and Special Matrices - Visualization

An eigenvector \vec{v} belonging to a square matrix A is a nonzero vector that satisfies $A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$

where λ is a scalar known as the eigenvalue corresponding to eigenvector \vec{v} . Rather than mechanically compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors, answer each part here by reasoning about the matrix at hand.

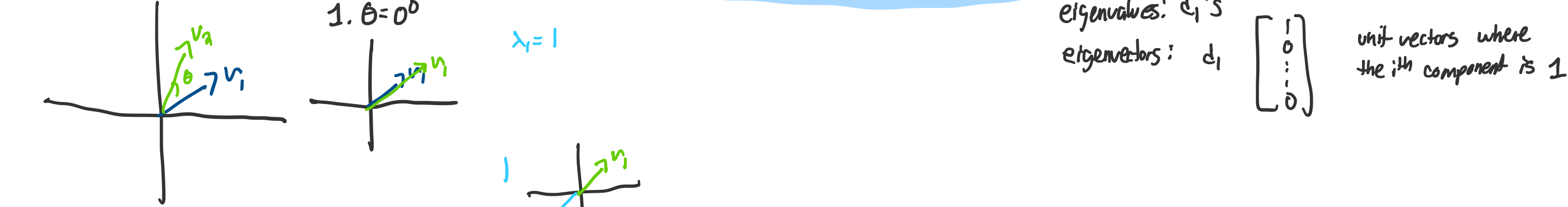
(a) Does the identity matrix in \mathbb{R}^2 have any eigenvalues $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$? What are the corresponding eigenvectors?

\mathbb{R}^2 : $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$
 $\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 1$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \vec{x} = 1 \cdot \vec{x}$
eigenvectors: $\lambda = 1$: span $\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}$
eigenbasis

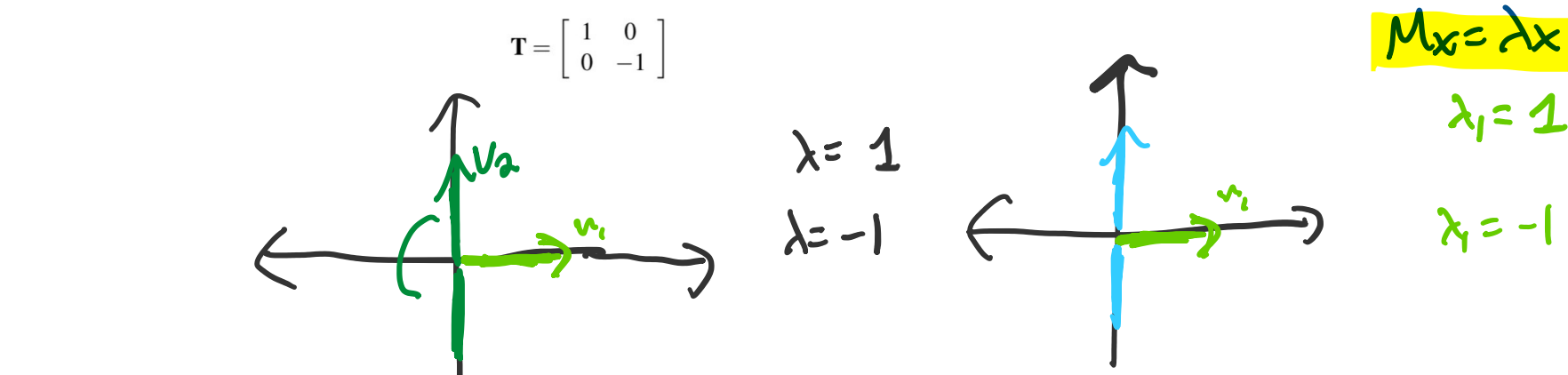
(b) Does a diagonal matrix $\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & d_n \end{bmatrix}$ in \mathbb{R}^n have any eigenvalues $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$? What are the corresponding eigenvectors?

corresponding eigenvectors?
 $\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & d_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \lambda \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$
eigenvalues: d_i 's
 $\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & d_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & d_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = d_i \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix}$
 $\vec{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

(c) Conceptually, does a rotation matrix in \mathbb{R}^2 by angle θ have any eigenvalues $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$? For which angles is this the case?



(e) Does the reflection matrix T across the x-axis in $\mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ have any eigenvalues $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$?



(f) If a matrix M has an eigenvalue $\lambda = 0$, what does this say about its null space? What does this say about the solutions of the system of linear equations $M\vec{x} = \vec{b}$?

$R = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) \end{bmatrix}$
 $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \lambda = 0 \implies (M - \lambda I)\vec{x} = \vec{0}$
 $\lambda = 0 \implies M\vec{x} = \vec{0}$
M has a non-trivial nullspace
(0, 0)

(g) (Practice) Does the matrix $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ have any eigenvalues $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$? What are the corresponding eigenvectors?