

Eigenvalues
Eigen Value (eigen e. values), Eigen Vectors and One of Their Applications

Eigenvectors

Reference: 北大《高等代数》, Sec 7.4, "特征值与特征向量".

$B = X^{-1}AX \Leftrightarrow$
A, B are the same transformation (linear) under diff bases.

Linear transformation \mathcal{L}

Motivation: "Can we find a 'good' basis to express \mathcal{L} in a diagonal matrix?"

① $\downarrow \det(\lambda I - A) = 0$

$\lambda \longrightarrow V_\lambda = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid Ax = \lambda x\}$

Diagonal Λ

③ $A \sim \Lambda \Leftrightarrow \sum_i \dim(V_{\lambda_i}) = n$

Benefit: e. values are the main diagonal entries (the same for block-diagonal matrices)

Note ①. Although we get λ by solving $\det(\lambda I - A) = 0$, the values of λ depends solely on \mathcal{L} (not the choices of basis and thus A).

Note ②. The eigenvectors correspond to λ is not a single one; they constitute a \mathbb{R} subspace V_λ of \mathbb{R}^n .

Note ③. Two important facts to prove:

- (a) If $v_1 \in V_{\lambda_1}, v_2 \in V_{\lambda_2}, \lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2 \Rightarrow v_1$ & v_2 are linearly independent.
- (b) $\sum_i \dim(V_{\lambda_i}) \sim (A \sim \Lambda)$.
↑
How to relate to