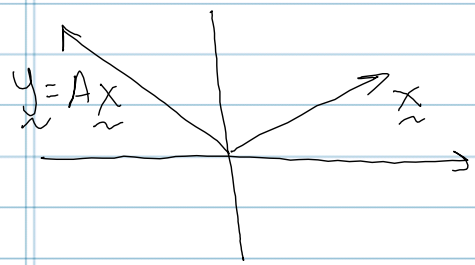


SESSION 7

Eigenvalues and eigenvectors;

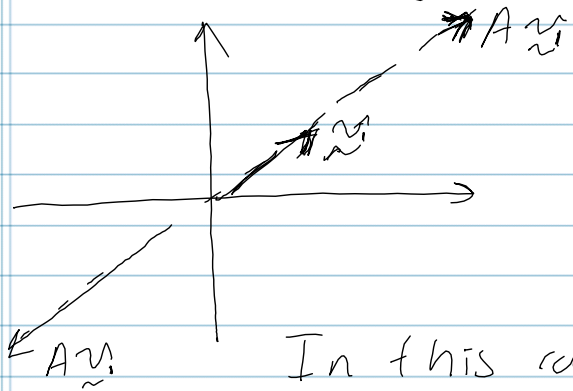
Let A be a 2×2 matrix. Let \vec{x} be a 2×1 vector, and let $\vec{y} = A\vec{x}$



A is known as a linear transformation.

If $|\vec{x}| = |A\vec{x}|$, A is "orthogonal"

Two special vectors, the "eigenvectors" of A do not change direction when multiplied by A .



The length of $A\vec{v}_i$ is $\lambda_i \vec{v}_i$. λ_i is called an "eigenvalue"

Eigen = German for "innate"

In this case, there are 2 e-vals and 2 evecs.

Stretching or compression is determined by the eigenvalues. In general, an $N \times N$ matrix has at most N families of eigenvectors and at most N distinct eigenvalues.

Algebraically, \vec{v} is an e-vec and λ an e-val if:

$$A\vec{v} = \lambda\vec{v}$$

If \underline{v} is an e-vec, then $c\underline{v}$ is an e-vec as well, so there is an entire family of e-vec associated with e-val λ .

Note that: $A\underline{v} = \lambda\underline{v}$
 $\Rightarrow (A - \lambda I)\underline{v} = 0$

The trivial solution \underline{v} preserves the equality, but it is uninteresting. We want to know what happens when $(A - \lambda I) = 0$.

There is a non-trivial solution iff $A - \lambda I$ is a singular matrix, i.e. $\text{Det}(A - \lambda I) = 0$. Solve this "characteristic equation" to find λ . Once λ is known, replace into $(A - \lambda I)\underline{v} = 0$ and solve for the e-vec \underline{v} .

Ex: Find eigenvalues and eigenvectors of:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Solve: $\text{Det}(A - \lambda I) = 0$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -5 \\ 2 & -3 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$\det \begin{pmatrix} 4 - \lambda & -5 \\ 2 & -3 - \lambda \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

$$(4 - \lambda)(-3 - \lambda) - (-10) = 0$$

$$= (12 + 4\lambda - 3\lambda - \lambda^2) + 10 = 0$$

$$\boxed{\lambda^2 - \lambda - 2 = 0} \quad \text{characteristic polynomial}$$

$$(\lambda - 2)(\lambda + 1) = 0$$

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \quad \lambda_2 = -1$$

For eigenvectors:

$$1) \quad \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -5 \\ 2 & -5 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0 \quad \left(\begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ \sim_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} v_2 \\ \sim \end{bmatrix} \right) \rightarrow \text{eigenvalue} = 2$$

$$2v_1 - 5v_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow v_2 = \frac{2}{5}v_1$$

v_1 is arbitrary ($\neq 0$)

Let $v_1 = 5$, then $v_2 = 2$

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ \sim \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 5 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{eigenvector associated with eigenvalue } 2$$

2) For eigenvalue -1 :

$$\begin{pmatrix} 5 & -5 \\ 2 & -2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = 0$$

(Note: $(A - \lambda_2 I)v_2 = 0$)

$$5v_1 - 5v_2 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow v_1 = v_2$$

v_1 is arbitrary ($\neq 0$)

$$\begin{pmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{eigenvector associated with eigenvalue } -1$$

Q.E.D.

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If eigenvalues are distinct (don't repeat), then eigenvectors are linearly independent. So; any vector in ~~the~~ N -Dim. space can be written as a linear combination of the N eigenvectors.

$$\underline{w} = C_1 \underline{v}_1 + C_2 \underline{v}_2 + \dots + C_N \underline{v}_N$$

for constants C_1, \dots, C_N