

GTLA Lecture 20.06.2020

Let \mathbb{F} be a field.

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$.

The minimal polynomial of A $m_A(x)$ is the smallest degree monic (top coeff. is 1) polynomial such that

$$m_A(A) = 0.$$

The characteristic polynomial of A is $\det(x - A)$

Theorem (Cayley-Hamilton)

$\det(x - A)$ is a multiple of $m_A(x)$.

Example $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \det(x - A) &= \det \left(\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} x-1 & 0 \\ 0 & x-1 \end{pmatrix} = (x-1)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Plug in A:

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

$$m_A(x) = x - 1.$$

$$m_A(A) = A - I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0.$$

$$\det(x - A) = (x - 1)^2 = x^2 - 2x + 1$$

$$m_A(x) = x - 1.$$

Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$.

The matrix A is diagonalisable
over \mathbb{F} if there exist $P \in GL_n(\mathbb{F})$

($GL_n(\mathbb{F})$ is invertible matrices)

and $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{F}$ such that

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Write

$$\text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\det(D) = \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \cdots \lambda_n$$

If A is diagonalisable
then

$$\det(A) = \det(P)^{-1} \det(P) \det(D)$$

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$$= \det(P^{-1}) \det(P) \det(D)$$

$$= \det(P^{-1} P)$$

$$= \det(D) = \lambda_1 \cdots \lambda_n.$$

$$\det(x - D) = \det \begin{pmatrix} x & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & x \end{pmatrix} - \det \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$
$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} x - \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & x - \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= (x - \lambda_1)(x - \lambda_2) \dots (x - \lambda_n)$$

In this way we know, or calculate the characteristic polynomial of diagonalisable matrix.

How do we know if A is diagonalisable.

Theorem Let $A \in M_n(\mathbb{F})$. Then A is diagonalisable if and only if there exist n linearly independent eigenvectors of A .

Proof (Sketch) \Rightarrow

$$\text{Assume } P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

Then

$$AP = P \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{Let } p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} \\ \vdots \\ p_{n1} \end{pmatrix}, p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} p_{12} \\ \vdots \\ p_{n2} \end{pmatrix} \dots p_n = \begin{pmatrix} p_{1n} \\ \vdots \\ p_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A \begin{pmatrix} | & | & & | \\ p_1 & p_2 & \dots & p_n \\ | & | & & | \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & \dots & p_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n1} & \dots & p_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} p_{11} & \dots & p_{1n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n1} & \dots & p_{nn} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} p_{11}\lambda_1 & \dots & p_{1n}\lambda_n \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n1}\lambda_1 & \dots & p_{nn}\lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ \lambda_1 p_1 & \dots & \lambda_n p_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{So } Ap_j = \lambda_j p_j$$

The columns of P are the eigenvectors.

Use a theorem from before

$$\left\{ \text{bases of } \mathbb{F}^n \right\} \longleftrightarrow GL_n(\mathbb{F})$$

$$(p_1, \dots, p_n) \longmapsto \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ p_1 & \dots & p_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix} = P.$$

So P being invertible implies the columns are linearly independent.

This completes the proof of \Rightarrow . \square

Not diagonalizable over \mathbb{R}
but which is diagonalisable over \mathbb{C} .

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \det(x-A) &= \det \left(\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \right) \\ &= \det \begin{pmatrix} x & -1 \\ 1 & x \end{pmatrix} = x^2 + 1. \end{aligned}$$

There is no real number $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\lambda^2 + 1 = 0$.

So $\det(\lambda - A) \neq 0$ if $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

So $\ker(\lambda - A) = \{0\}$ if $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$.

So $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ has no eigenvectors in \mathbb{R}^n .

So A is not diagonalisable
over \mathbb{R} .

$$\det(x-A) = x^2 + 1 = (x-i)(x+i)$$

so i and $-i$ are roots of x^2+1 .
i.e. $i^2+1=0$ and $(-i)^2+1=0$

So over \mathbb{C} , there is an eigenvector
 p_1 of eigenvalue i ,
and another eigenvector p_2 of
eigenvalue $-i$.

Since i and $-i$ are distinct
then p_1 and p_2 are linearly
independent.

So if $P = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \end{pmatrix}$ then

$$P^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} P = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}$$

To find p_1 we want $Ap_1 = ip_1$
(can multiply p_1 by any nonzero
constant and still $A(\mu p_1) = i(\mu p_1)$)

So assume $p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix}$.

Want $Ap_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix} = c \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix} = cp_1$.

So $\begin{pmatrix} c \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = c \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix}$.

So $c = i$. So $p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}$.

To find p_2 , assume $p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ d \end{pmatrix}$.

Want $Ap_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ d \end{pmatrix} = (-c) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ d \end{pmatrix} = -cp_2$.

So $\begin{pmatrix} d \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -c \\ -cd \end{pmatrix}$.

So $d = -c$. So $p_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}$.

So $P = \begin{pmatrix} p_1 & p_2 \\ 1 & 1 \\ i & -i \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ i & -i \end{pmatrix}$.

and $P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & -i \end{pmatrix}$.

So A is diagonalisable over \mathbb{C} .

If $A \in M_n(F)$ is diagonalisable
over F then A has n linearly
independent eigenvectors in F^n .

2x2 matrix in $M_2(\mathbb{C})$ with only
one ^{lin. indep.} eigenvector in \mathbb{C}^2 .

Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \in M_2(\mathbb{C})$.

Then $A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$

So $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ is an eigenvector
of eigenvalue 1.

$A \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$.

So $\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ is not an eigenvector.

If $A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ then

$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix}$ So $\begin{pmatrix} 1+c \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \end{pmatrix}$.

So $1+c=1$. So $c=0$.

So only option for an eigenvector of eigenvalue 1 is $p_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$.

$$\det(x-A) = \det \left(\begin{pmatrix} x & 0 \\ 0 & x \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} x-1 & -1 \\ 0 & x-1 \end{pmatrix} = (x-1)^2.$$

So the only possible eigenvalue is 1. If $\lambda \neq 1$ then $\det(\lambda-A) \neq 0$.

Examples

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

not diag.
over \mathbb{R} but
is over \mathbb{C} .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

one eigenvector
only.

If $\det(\lambda-A) = 0$
then $\lambda-A$ is not invertible
and $\ker(\lambda-A) \neq \{0\}$.

If $\det(\lambda - A) \neq 0$

then $\lambda - A$ is invertible

and $\ker(\lambda - A) = \{0\}$.

$\ker(f) = \{0\} \Leftrightarrow f$ is injective.