

Lecture 1(b)

10. We have made a distinction between linear maps and matrices that represent them. Representations require choice of bases. The matrix elements determine what a linear map does to basis elements, sufficient to determine what it does to any other element of a vector space.

Given basis $S_V = \{v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n\} \subset V$ and basis

$S_W = \{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m\} \subset W$, we define

$S_{VW} \subseteq \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ as a basis for the vector space of all linear maps from V to W as follows:

Let $E_{ij} \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$ be defined by

$$E_{ij}(v_k) = \begin{cases} w_j & i=k \\ 0 & i \neq k \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} i=1, 2, \dots, m \\ k, j=1, 2, \dots, n \end{matrix}$$

where $\delta_k^j = \begin{cases} 1 & j=k \\ 0 & j \neq k \end{cases}$ denotes the

Kronecker symbol. For any $A \in \mathcal{L}(V, W)$, with matrix representation $\tilde{A} = [a_{ij}]$,

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} E_{ij} \right) (v_k) = \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} E_{ij}(v_k)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij} \delta_k^j w_i \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^m a_{ik} w_i \\
&= A(v_k) \quad k=1,2,\dots,n
\end{aligned}$$

This shows that $\{E_{ij}, i=1,2,\dots,m, j=1,2,\dots,n\}$
 $= S_{V,W}$ is a basis for $\mathcal{L}(V,W)$.

11. Invariants (or similarity invariants)

Associated to every ^{square} matrix \tilde{A} there is a resolvent matrix $(\lambda I - \tilde{A})^{-1}$ viewed as a function of a complex variable λ provided the inverse exists. The set of λ for which $(\lambda I - \tilde{A})$ is not invertible ~~is~~ is precisely the set

$$\{\lambda \in \mathbb{C} : \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) = 0\}.$$

Now $\chi_{\tilde{A}}(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A})$ is a polynomial in λ of degree n . It is a monic polynomial of the form:
 (We call it the characteristic polynomial of \tilde{A})

$$\chi_{\tilde{A}}(\lambda) = \lambda^n + p_{n-1}\lambda^{n-1} + p_{n-2}\lambda^{n-2} + \dots + p_1\lambda + p_0$$

where the coefficients p_i depend on the matrix elements of \tilde{A} .

Suppose the same linear map A has two different matrix representations \tilde{A} and \tilde{A}' corresponding to two different choices of bases, as in section 9 above. Then we can write

$$\tilde{A}' = P^{-1}\tilde{A}P.$$

Caution: the prime does not mean transpose here.

Then,

$$\chi_{\tilde{A}'}(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}')$$

$$= \det(\lambda I - P^{-1}\tilde{A}P)$$

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

$$= \det(P^{-1}(\lambda I - \tilde{A})P)$$

$$= \det(P^{-1}) \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) \det(P)$$

$$= \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) \quad (\text{since } \det(P^{-1}) = 1/\det(P))$$

We thus see that the characteristic polynomial $\chi_{\tilde{A}}(\lambda)$ is a property of the underlying linear map and not dependent on a particular choice of basis.

It follows that the eigenvalues, i.e. roots of the characteristic polynomial, are invariant to change of basis (or a similarity invariant).

We call the set $\{\lambda : \det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) = 0\}$ the spectrum of \tilde{A} . It can also be referred to as the spectrum of A the underlying linear map, from the discussion above.

The equation,

$$(*) \quad \tilde{A}x = \lambda x$$

has a solution $x \neq 0$ for a given complex number λ , iff (if and only if),

$$\det(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) = 0$$

iff

$$\lambda \in \text{spectrum}(\tilde{A}).$$

In that case x is an eigenvector

corresponding to the eigenvalue λ .

Verify: If \tilde{A} is a real matrix, then $\lambda \in \text{spectrum}(\tilde{A})$ iff $\bar{\lambda} \in \text{spectrum}(\tilde{A})$ where the overbar denotes complex conjugation.

Verify: If \tilde{A} is real and λ ~~is~~ an eigenvalue of \tilde{A} with $\text{Im}(\lambda) = \text{imaginary part of } \lambda \neq 0$, then for an eigenvector x corresponding to λ , $\text{Im}(x) \neq 0$.

There are other, related invariants of \tilde{A} that we can define. First, let $\text{trace}(\tilde{A})$ denoted by

$$\text{tr}(\tilde{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ii}$$

be the sum of diagonal element of \tilde{A} . Suppose $\tilde{B} = [b_{ij}]$ is another $n \times n$ matrix. Then, from the definition of trace,

$$\text{tr}(\tilde{A}\tilde{B}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{ki}$$

On the other hand,

$$\text{tr}(\tilde{B}\tilde{A}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n b_{ik} a_{ki}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{i=1}^n b_{ki} a_{ik}$$

(swapping i and k)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{ki}$$

(swapping order of sums)

$$= \text{tr}(\tilde{A}\tilde{B})$$

It follows that

$$\text{tr}(P^{-1}\tilde{A}P)$$

$$= \text{tr}(\tilde{A}PP^{-1})$$

$$= \text{tr}(\tilde{A})$$

Thus $\text{tr}(\tilde{A})$ is a similarity invariant.

Verify: For any positive integer k , $\text{tr}(\tilde{A}^k)$ is a similarity invariant.

12. Spectrum of \tilde{A} and solving an associated differential equation:

Consider the ordinary vector differential equation,

$$(**) \quad \dot{x} = \tilde{A}x$$

where \tilde{A} is an $n \times n$ constant matrix. We are interested in solving (**). Let us look for special solutions to (**) of the form,

$$x(t) = e^{t\lambda} x_0$$

for some complex number λ and vector x_0 . Necessarily, $x(0) = x_0 =$ initial conditions.

From the differential equation,

$$\lambda e^{t\lambda} x_0 = \tilde{A} e^{t\lambda} x_0.$$

Canceling $e^{t\lambda}$ from both sides we get

$$(\lambda I - \tilde{A}) x_0 = 0$$

i.e. (λ, x_0) constitute an (eigenvalue, eigen

vector) pair. Thus we see that the spectrum plays an important role in dynamics.

13. Inverse of a matrix

Given $\tilde{A} = [a_{ij}]$ an $n \times n$ matrix, we say that $\tilde{B} = [b_{ij}]$ another $n \times n$ matrix, is the inverse of \tilde{A} , denoted as \tilde{A}^{-1} provided $\tilde{A} \tilde{B} = I$ the identity matrix. Equivalently

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} = \delta_{ij}^k,$$

the Kronecker symbol.

Observe that,

$$\det(\tilde{A}) = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} C_{ik}$$

$$= \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} C_{ki}^T$$

where

$C = [C_{ik}]$ the matrix of cofactors of a_{ik} and $C^T =$ transpose of C .

From the previous page, if $\det(\tilde{A}) \neq 0$,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} \frac{C_{ki}^T}{\det(\tilde{A})} = 1$$

Further, for $j \neq i$,

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} C_{kj}^T = \sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} C_{jk}$$

$$= 0,$$

since the expression on the right is simply the determinant of a matrix in which the j^{th} and i^{th} rows are same.

Setting, $\tilde{B} = \tilde{C}^T / \det(\tilde{A})$, it follows that

$$\sum_{k=1}^n a_{ik} b_{kj} = \delta_j^i$$

\leftrightarrow

$$\tilde{A} \tilde{B} = \mathbf{I}$$

Hence the inverse

$$(\tilde{A})^{-1} = \frac{1}{\det(\tilde{A})} \tilde{C}^T$$

$$= \frac{\text{transpose of matrix of cofactors}}{\text{determinant}}$$

We call C the adjugate of \tilde{A}