

# Similarity transform

Suppose that we have our favorite matrix `aa`. It is real and will have distinct real eigen values. We see that from the linear ODE problem, it would be nice to transform this problem into a simpler problem that has only diagonal elements. Can we do this? What values will be on the diagonal of the simpler matrix?

## ■ A typical matrix

```
aa = N[{{2, -1, 3}, {2, -4, -3}, {1, 2, 7}}]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2. & -1. & 3. \\ 2. & -4. & -3. \\ 1. & 2. & 7. \end{pmatrix}$$

```
evals = Eigenvalues[aa]
```

```
{7.2789, -2.44731, 0.16841}
```

```
evecs = Eigenvectors[aa]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.508836 & -0.135877 & 0.850072 \\ 0.358301 & 0.904957 & -0.229506 \\ -0.771134 & -0.571679 & 0.280241 \end{pmatrix}$$

We should verify that these are linearly independent and check to see if they happen to be orthogonal.

First, they are linearly independent.

```
Det[evecs]
```

```
0.470973
```

Now check the orthogonality

```
evecs[[2]] . evecs[[2]]
```

```
1.
```

```
evecs[[1]] . evecs[[2]]
```

```
-0.135743
```

```
evecs[[3]] . evecs[[1]]
```

```
-0.0764779
```

```
evecs[[2]] . evecs[[3]]
```

```
-0.85796
```

Now we understand that this transformation can be accomplished using a similarity transform where the form is  $P^{-1}AP$ . The matrix  $P$  is composed of column vectors that are the eigenvectors of  $A$ .

```
p = Transpose[evecs]
```

```
( 0.508836  0.358301 -0.771134 )  
( -0.135877  0.904957 -0.571679 )  
( 0.850072 -0.229506  0.280241 )
```

```
pinv = Inverse[p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.259892 & 0.162577 & 1.04679 \\ -0.950989 & 1.69461 & 0.840113 \\ -1.56717 & 0.894665 & 1.08108 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can then get back the eigenvalues of aa

```
Chop[pinv . aa . p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 7.2789 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -2.44731 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.16841 \end{pmatrix}$$

## ■ Now try a symmetric matrix

```
aa = N[{{1, 2, 3}, {2, 0, -3}, {3, -3, 1}}]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1. & 2. & 3. \\ 2. & 0 & -3. \\ 3. & -3. & 1. \end{pmatrix}$$

```
evals = Eigenvalues[aa]
```

```
{-4.69527, 4.22547, 2.4698}
```

```
evecs = Eigenvectors[aa]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.526837 & -0.605525 & -0.596475 \\ 0.54366 & -0.29937 & 0.784099 \\ -0.653358 & -0.737372 & 0.17148 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
evecs[[1]].evecs[[1]]
```

1.

```
evecs[[1]].evecs[[2]]
```

$-4.44089 \times 10^{-16}$

```
evecs[[1]].evecs[[3]]
```

$9.71445 \times 10^{-17}$

```
evecs[[2]].evecs[[3]]
```

$-2.77556 \times 10^{-17}$

```
p = Transpose[evecs]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.526837 & 0.54366 & -0.653358 \\ -0.605525 & -0.29937 & -0.737372 \\ -0.596475 & 0.784099 & 0.17148 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Inverse[p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.526837 & -0.605525 & -0.596475 \\ 0.54366 & -0.29937 & 0.784099 \\ -0.653358 & -0.737372 & 0.17148 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Chop[Inverse[p] . aa . p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4.69527 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4.22547 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2.4698 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Chop[Transpose[p] . aa . p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -4.69527 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 4.22547 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2.4698 \end{pmatrix}$$

## ■ The eigenvalues do not have to be real

```
aa = N[{{1, -1, 3}, {2, 0, -3}, {1, 1, 1}}]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1. & -1. & 3. \\ 2. & 0 & -3. \\ 1. & 1. & 1. \end{pmatrix}$$

```
evals = Eigenvalues[aa]
```

```
{2.75531, -0.377654 + 2.22227 i, -0.377654 - 2.22227 i}
```

```
evecs = Eigenvectors[aa]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.853586 & 0.055619 & 0.517975 \\ -0.143161 + 0.448655 i & 0.825076 + 0. i & 0.00842373 - 0.312078 i \\ -0.143161 - 0.448655 i & 0.825076 + 0. i & 0.00842373 + 0.312078 i \end{pmatrix}$$

**p = Transpose [evecs]**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.853586 & -0.143161 + 0.448655 i & -0.143161 - 0.448655 i \\ 0.055619 & 0.825076 + 0. i & 0.825076 + 0. i \\ 0.517975 & 0.00842373 - 0.312078 i & 0.00842373 + 0.312078 i \end{pmatrix}$$

**pinv = Inverse [p]**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.622246 + 4.21067 \times 10^{-18} i & 0.0988343 + 0. i & 0.894565 - 6.93889 \times 10^{-18} i \\ -0.020973 - 0.515825 i & 0.602673 - 0.0982883 i & -0.0301516 + 0.860597 i \\ -0.020973 + 0.515825 i & 0.602673 + 0.0982883 i & -0.0301516 - 0.860597 i \end{pmatrix}$$

**Chop [pinv . aa . p]**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2.75531 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -0.377654 + 2.22227 i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -0.377654 - 2.22227 i \end{pmatrix}$$

## ■ Now, what will happen if we do not have distinct eigenvalues.?

Recall our matrix that we used to calculate the generalized eigenvectors

**aa = {{2, -1, 2, 0}, {0, 3, -1, 0}, {0, 1, 1, 0}, {0, 1, -3, 5}}**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

The row matrix of the eigenvectors is

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & \frac{5}{9} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & \frac{2}{3} \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & \frac{5}{9} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**p = Transpose [R]**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2}{3} & \frac{5}{9} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**pinv = Inverse [p]**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1}{9} & -\frac{7}{9} & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

**simans = pinv . aa . p**

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

We see that the new matrix is much simpler than the original aa, but not exactly diagonal. This is the expected result for a matrix with repeated eigenvalues. However, there is a caveat.

Recall this matrix

```
mat={{2,2,1},{1,3,1},{1,2,2}}
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 & 1 \\ 1 & 3 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

We see that there is a repeated eigenvalue.

```
Eigenvalues[mat]
```

```
{1, 1, 5}
```

However, just calculate the eigenvectors and we have:

```
evs=Eigenvectors[mat]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus there was no need to construct a generalized eigen vector. Now try a similarity transform.

```
p=Transpose[%]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Inverse[p].mat.p
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$



**Here is a bonus, the matrix from the Lorenz equations.**

```
aa = {{-s, s, 0}, {1, -1, 0}, {0, 0, -b}}
```

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

```
MatrixForm[aa]
```

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

```
evals = Eigenvalues[aa]
```

```
{0, -b, -s - 1}
```

```
evecs = Eigenvectors[aa]
```

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

```
evecs = {{1, 1, 0}, {-s, 1, 0}, {0, 0, 1}}
```

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

```
evecs[[2]] . evecs[[1]]
```

```
1 - s
```

```
p = Transpose [evecs]
```

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

```
pinv = Inverse [p]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{s+1} & \frac{s}{s+1} & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{s+1} & \frac{1}{s+1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

We can then get back the eigenvalues of aa

```
pinv . aa . p
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\left(\frac{s}{s+1} + \frac{1}{s+1}\right)s - \frac{s}{s+1} - \frac{1}{s+1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -b \end{pmatrix}$$

```
Simplify[%]
```

```
aa = {{5, 4, 3}, {-1, 0, -3}, {1, -2, 1}}
```