

9 Matrix spectra

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Last time we saw results about the matrices corresponding to normal operators under appropriate orthonormal bases. These theorems have matrix analogues.

For real matrices $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

Normal: $AA^T = A^T A$, $A = P D P^T$, P orthogonal,

Thm 16.8/16.18

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & D_p \end{pmatrix}, \quad D_j \text{ is } 1 \times 1 \text{ or } \begin{matrix} \lambda_j & -\mu_j \\ \mu_j & \lambda_j \end{matrix}, \quad \begin{matrix} \lambda_j, \mu_j \in \mathbb{R} \\ \mu_j > 0. \end{matrix}$$

Symmetric: $A^T = A$, $A = P D P^T$, P orthogonal,

Thm 16.9/16.19

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}, \quad \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Skew-symmetric $A^T = -A$, $A = P D P^T$, P orthogonal

Thm 16.10/16.20

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & D_p \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{matrix} D_j = [0] \\ \text{or} \\ D_j = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\mu_j \\ \mu_j & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mu_j \in \mathbb{R}, \mu_j > 0. \end{matrix}$$

eigenvalues are $\pm i\mu_j$ or 0.

Orthogonal $AA^T = A^T A = I_n$, $A = P D P^T$, P orthogonal

Thm 16.11/16.21

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} D_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & D_p \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{matrix} D_j = [1] \text{ or } D_j = [-1] \\ \text{or } \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_j & -\sin \theta_j \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \rho_p \end{pmatrix} \quad v_j = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } v_j = \begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta_j & -\sin \theta_j \\ \sin \theta_j & \cos \theta_j \end{bmatrix},$$

$$0 < \theta_j < \pi.$$

Eigenvalues are $\cos \theta_j \pm i \sin \theta_j$, 1, or -1.

For complex matrices $\mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$, (Thm 16.12 / 16.22)

normal: $AA^* = A^*A$, $A = UDU^*$, U unitary,
 D diagonal, $d_{ii} \in \mathbb{C}$

Hermitian: $A^* = A$, $A = UDU^*$, U unitary,
 D diagonal, $d_{ii} \in \mathbb{R}$

skew-Hermitian: $A^* = -A$, $A = UDU^*$, U unitary
 D diagonal, $d_{ii} = ir$, $r \in \mathbb{R}$.

unitary: $AA^* = A^*A = I_n$, $A = UDU^*$, U unitary
 D diagonal, $|d_{ii}| = 1$.

Rayleigh-Ritz and Eigenvalue interlacing

Define The Rayleigh ratio of a symmetric matrix A and nonzero vector x 's

$$R(A)(x) = \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} \quad \left(\text{or Hermitian matrix } R(A)(x) = \frac{x^* A x}{x^* x} \right)$$

This ratio is useful in characterization of eigenvalues of A .

(16.23)
 Prop. 16.11 (Rayleigh-Ritz) If $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ with eigenvalues $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$
 and if (u_1, \dots, u_n) is any orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of A ,
 where u_i is a unit eigenvector associated with λ_i , then

$$\max_{x \neq 0} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \lambda_n$$

with maximum attained for $x = u_n$, and

$$\max_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in \{u_{n-k+1}, \dots, u_n\}^\perp}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \lambda_{n-k} \quad (\text{with max at } x = u_{n-k})$$

Equivalently, if $V_k = \text{span}\{u_1, \dots, u_k\}$, then

$$\lambda_k = \max_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in V_k}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x}.$$

proof Note

$$\max_{x \neq 0} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \max_x \left\{ x^T A x \mid x^T x = 1 \right\}.$$

$$\text{and } \max_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in \{u_{n-k+1}, \dots, u_n\}^\perp}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \max_x \left\{ x^T A x \mid x \in \{u_{n-k+1}, \dots, u_n\}^\perp \wedge (x^T x = 1) \right\}.$$

$$\text{Letting } x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i u_i, \quad x^T A x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^2.$$

$$\text{If } x^T x = 1, \quad \text{then } \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow x^T A x = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i x_i^2 \leq \lambda_n \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2 \right) = \lambda_n.$$

$$\text{So } \max_{x^T x = 1} x^T A x \leq \lambda_n.$$

$$\text{Further, clearly } u_n^T A u_n = \lambda_n, \text{ so } \max_{x^T x = 1} x^T A x = \lambda_n.$$

$$\text{Similarly, } x \in \{u_{n-k+1}, \dots, u_n\}^\perp \text{ and } x^T x = 1 \text{ iff}$$

$$x_{n-k+1} = \dots = x_n = 0 \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^{n-k} x_i^2 = 1.$$

$$\text{Thus, } x^T A x = \sum_{i=1}^{n-k} \lambda_i x_i^2 \leq \lambda_{n-k} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-k} x_i^2 \right) = \lambda_{n-k}.$$

$$\text{Further, } u_{n-k}^T A u_{n-k} = \lambda_{n-k}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \max_{\substack{x^T x = 1 \\ x \in \{u_{n-k+1}, \dots, u_n\}^\perp}} x^T A x = \lambda_{n-k}.$$



Prop. 16.12 / 16.24 (Rayleigh-Ritz)

If A is a symmetric $n \times n$ matrix with eigenvalues $\lambda_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ and if (u_1, \dots, u_n) is any orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of A where u_i is a unit eigenvector associated with λ_i ,

$$\text{then } \min_{x \neq 0} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \lambda_1. \quad (\text{with minimum attained for } x = u_1)$$

$$\text{and } \min_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in \{u_1, \dots, u_{i-1}\}^\perp}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \lambda_i \quad (\text{with minimum attained for } x = u_i)$$

Equivalently, if $W_k = V_{k-1}^\perp$ denotes the subspace spanned by (u_k, \dots, u_n) (with $V_0 = \{0\}$), then

$$\lambda_k = \min_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in W_k}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x} = \min_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in V_k^\perp}} \frac{x^T A x}{x^T x}.$$

$$\lambda_k = \min_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in W_k}} \frac{\tilde{}}{x^T x} = \min_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in V_{k-1}^\perp}} \frac{\phantom{\tilde{x}}}{x^T x}$$

We can use these Rayleigh-Ritz theorems to compare eigenvalues of symmetric matrices A and $B = R^T A R$, where $R^T R = I$ and R is rectangular.

Define 16.5 Given symmetric $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and symmetric $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$, with $m \leq n$, if $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ are eigenvalues of A and $\mu_1 \leq \dots \leq \mu_m$ are eigenvalues of B , then the eigenvalues of B *interlace* the eigenvalues of A if

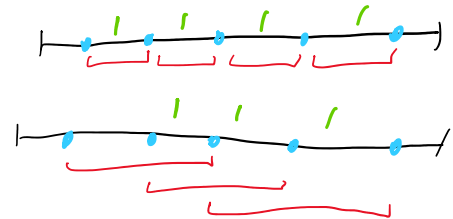
$$\lambda_i \leq \mu_i \leq \lambda_{n-m+i}, \quad i=1, \dots, m.$$

e.g. if $n=5, m=3$, then *interlacing* means

$$\lambda_1 \leq \mu_1 \leq \lambda_3$$

$$\lambda_2 \leq \mu_2 \leq \lambda_4$$

$$\lambda_3 \leq \mu_3 \leq \lambda_5$$



Prop. 16.13 / 16.25 Let $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ symmetric
 $B \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ symmetric, $m \leq n$
 $R \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ s.t. $R^T R = I$ and $B = R^T A R$.

Then the following properties hold:

(a) The eigenvalues of B *interlace* the eigenvalues of A .

(b) If $\lambda_1 \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n$ and $\mu_1 \leq \dots \leq \mu_m$ are eigenvalues of A and B respectively, and if $\lambda_i = \mu_i$, then \exists an eigenvector v of B with eigenvalue μ_i s.t. Rv is an eigenvector of A with eigenvalue λ_i .

proof. (a) Let (u_1, \dots, u_i) be an orthonormal basis of eigenvectors of A
 (v_1, \dots, v_m) " " " " " " " " " " B }
corresponding to resp. eigenvalues.

Let $U_j = \text{span} \{u_1, \dots, u_j\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

$V_j = \text{span} \{v_1, \dots, v_j\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

Note $\dim(V_i) = i$ and $\dim(R^T U_{i-1}) \leq i-1$.

Thus, $\exists v \neq 0$ s.t. $v \in V_i \cap (R^T U_{i-1})^\perp$ (since $\dim(R^T U_{i-1}) \leq m-i+1$)

Then $v^T \underbrace{R^T u_j}_{\in R^T U_{i-1}} = (Rv)^T u_j = 0$ for $j = 1, \dots, i-1$

$\Rightarrow Rv \in (U_{i-1})^\perp$ since Rv is orthogonal to $\overset{\text{all of}}{U_j}, j=1, \dots, i-1$.

By the Rayleigh-Ritz thm,

$$\lambda_i \leq \frac{(Rv)^T A Rv}{(Rv)^T Rv} = \frac{v^T B v}{v^T v}$$

And $\mu_i = \max_{\substack{x \neq 0 \\ x \in \{v_{i+1}, \dots, v_n\}^\perp}} \frac{x^T B x}{x^T x} = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{x^T B x}{x^T x}, x \in \text{span}\{v_1, \dots, v_i\}$

So $\frac{w^T B w}{w^T w} \leq \mu_i$ for all $w \in V_i$.

$\Rightarrow \lambda_i \leq \frac{v^T B v}{v^T v} \leq \mu_i$

But we can apply the same argument to $-A$ and $-B$, so

$-\lambda_{n-m+i} \leq -\mu_i$

$\Rightarrow \mu_i \leq \lambda_{n-m+i}, i=1, \dots, m$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda_i \leq \mu_i \leq \lambda_{n-m+i}, \quad i=1, \dots, m.$$

(b) If $\lambda_i = \mu_i$, then

$$\lambda_i = \frac{(Rv)^T A Rv}{(Rv)^T Rv} = \frac{v^T B v}{v^T v} = \mu_i$$

Therefore, v must be an eigenvector for B and Rv an eigenvector for A , both for the eigenvalue $\lambda_i = \mu_i$. □

Prop 16.14/16.26 (Poincaré separation thm) (applications to quantum mechanics)

Let A be a $n \times n$ symmetric (or Hermitian) matrix, let $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ with $1 \leq r \leq n$, and let (u_1, \dots, u_r) be r orthonormal vectors.

Let $B = (u_i^T A u_j)$ (an $r \times r$ matrix),

let $\lambda_1(A) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_n(A)$ be eigenvalues of A

$\lambda_1(B) \leq \dots \leq \lambda_r(B)$ be eigenvalues of B

Then $\lambda_k(A) \leq \lambda_k(B) \leq \lambda_{k+n-r}(A)$, $k=1, \dots, r$.

proof. Immediate corollary of prev. Prop. letting $R = (u_1, \dots, u_r)$.

We also have an immediate corollary of interlacing eigenvalues of matrix minors:

Let $P_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n-1}$ be defined by $\mathbb{I}_{n \times n} [1:n; 1:n-1]$, the identity minus the last col.

Then $P_1^T P_1 = \mathbb{I}$ and $B = P_1^T A P_1$ is $A [1:n-1; 1:n-1]$.

Then we get a genuine interlacing

$$\lambda_1 \leq \mu_1 \leq \lambda_2 \leq \mu_2 \leq \dots \leq \mu_{n-2} \leq \lambda_{n-1} \leq \mu_{n-1} \leq \lambda_n.$$

We get of course similar results for $B = A [1:r; 1:r]$,

We get of course similar results for $B = A[1:r; 1:r]$,

$$d_k \leq u_k \leq \lambda_{k+n-r}, \quad k=1, \dots, r.$$