

TUTORIAL 3

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Linear Systems

* These take the form: $A\bar{x} = \bar{b}$

where A is a matrix and \bar{x} and \bar{b} are vectors. we are solving for the unknown \bar{x} .

* An equivalent formulation is in terms of simultaneous equations:

$$\begin{array}{l}
 m \text{ linear equations} \\
 \text{in } n \text{ unknowns } x_1, \dots, x_n
 \end{array}
 \left\{ \begin{array}{l}
 (1) \quad a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\
 (2) \quad a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\
 \vdots \\
 (m) \quad a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m
 \end{array} \right.$$

* The matrix and simultaneous-equations formulations are entirely interchangeable!!

* Another matrix formulation is: $\bar{y}C = \bar{d}$
 where $C = A^T$, \bar{y} is the row vector equivalent of column vector \bar{x} (i.e. $\bar{y} = \bar{x}^T$) and \bar{d} is likewise the row vector equivalent of column vector \bar{b} .
 we are solving for the unknown \bar{y} .

* \bar{x} is unique $\Leftrightarrow A$ is non-singular
 $\Leftrightarrow |A| \neq 0$

* $\bar{x} = 0$ (uniquely) $\Leftrightarrow \bar{b} = 0$ and A is non-singular
 $\Leftrightarrow \bar{b} = 0$ and $|A| \neq 0$

* Two methods for solving linear systems are Gaussian elimination and the inverse-matrix method (Gaussian elimination may be thought of conceptually equivalent to rearrangement of simultaneous equations)

(NB) There are many other solution methods.

Relating Linear Systems and Eigen systems

* eigensystems take the form: $C\bar{x} = \lambda\bar{x}$
 where C is a matrix, \bar{x} is a vector and
 λ is a scalar.
 we are solving for the unknowns λ and \bar{x} ,
 where $\bar{x} \neq 0$.

* Note: $C\bar{x} = \lambda\bar{x}$
 $\Leftrightarrow C\bar{x} = \lambda I\bar{x}$
 $\Leftrightarrow C\bar{x} - \lambda I\bar{x} = 0$
 $\Leftrightarrow (C - \lambda I)\bar{x} = 0$

The first line in the note is in eigensystem form
 the last lines is in linear-system form.
 so, we can use the work done on linear systems
 to understand the solution method for eigensystems.

* we recall from the linear system write up that
 $\bar{x} \neq 0 \Leftrightarrow |C - \lambda I| \neq 0$
 $\Leftrightarrow (C - \lambda I)$ is non-singular.

so, this gives us a method for solving for λ .

* To solve for the \bar{x} vectors (there may be many
 of these) corresponding to a particular λ , we
 set $A := C - \lambda I$ and use Gaussian elimination
 or the inverse matrix method to solve for \bar{x} .

* (NB) The description above is actually of right-
 eigenvectors. We solve for left-eigenvectors
 in the same way $\bar{y}C = \bar{y}\lambda$. The λ values
 do not depend on left or right, but the eigenvectors
 do! the left ones are not necessarily equivalent to the
 right ones.

Two
Different
Settings
For
Matrices

* Linear Transformations

The examples you consider take a graphical form. Consider rotations and reflections. Also, if in a 2D settings, consider singular matrices which map planes to lines or points. If in 3D settings, consider singular matrices which map 3D spaces to planes or lines or points.

* Markov Probability Transition Matrices

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