

Lecture 22: Powers of Matrices

Aim lecture See applications of diagonalisation to

Geometric interpretation of powers

E.g. 1 Consider $T = T_A : \mathbb{R}^2 \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ with e-basis $B =$

$$T^2 \mathbf{v}_1 =$$

$$T^3 \mathbf{v}_1 =$$

$$T^k \mathbf{v}_1 =$$

It's thus easy to compute powers of T wrt

If D repr

then T^k (wrt B) is repr by

Change of basis result of thm 1 lect 19 \implies

$$A^k =$$

Let's repeat this problem algebraically as opposed to geom.

Powers of matrices

Lemma The product of diagonal matrices is

Proof: Easy computation.

Prop 1) Consider the diagonal matrix

$$D =$$

Then $D^k =$

2) If $A = MDM^{-1}$ then

$$A^k =$$

Proof: 1) by

$$2) A^k =$$

=

e.g. 2 In e.g. 1 of lecture 20 saw

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -4 & 6 \\ -3 & 5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$

Find A^5 .

Example of decoupled dts

e.g. 3 Let

$x_1(k)$ = popn of elves

$$x_2(k) =$$

Suppose popn dynamics governed by recursion reln

$$x_1(k + 1) = 3x_1(k)$$

$$x_2(k + 1) = 2$$

Soln is

Can rewrite 2 eqns as

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) =$$

where \mathbf{x}

Q What if A is not diagonal?

Diagonalisation & decoupling dts

Let $\mathbf{x}(k) =$

Consider the following recurrence reln

$$(*) \quad \mathbf{x}(k+1) =$$

where $A \in$

This is another example of a

Note $\mathbf{x}(1) =$

$\mathbf{x}(2) =$

$\mathbf{x}(k) =$

Conclusion Can solve (*) by computing powers of matrices as in e.g. 2.

Alternatively, repeat analysis for cts to get

Thm Suppose $A = MD$

where $M = (\mathbf{f}_1$

The soln to $\mathbf{x}(k+$

$$(\dagger) \mathbf{x}(k) = \alpha_1 \lambda$$

Proof: As in lect 21 or directly by induction
on

$k = 0$: Pick α_1, \dots

$\mathbf{x}($

which is possible since $\{\mathbf{f}_1$

$k > 0$: Suppose (\dagger)

$$\mathbf{x}(k + 1) = A(\alpha_1$$

$$= \alpha_1 \lambda_1^k A$$

$=$

Example of dts

e.g. 4 Solve $\mathbf{x}(k)$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & -2 \\ -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

A Same matrix as in e.g. 1 lect 21 so $A = MDM^{-1}$

$$D =$$

$$\therefore \mathbf{x}(k) =$$

Second order dts

As for cts, can convert 2nd order difference eqn into 2 var recurrence reln.

e.g. 4 Solve $x(k+2) - 3x(k+1) + 2$

Ans: Let $x_1(k) =$

$$x_2(k) =$$

$$\therefore x_1(k+$$

$$x_2(k+$$

$$\mathbf{x}(k+$$

same matrix as in e.g. 4 lect 22 so $A = M$

$$\therefore \mathbf{x}(k) =$$

and $x(k) =$

N.B. Characteristic poly of A corresponds
to