

# Diagonalization

*Bioinformatics Degree*  
*Algebra*

Departament de Matemàtiques



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# Outline

Definition and examples

Long-term behavior

Stochastic matrices

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## Example: Population growth (Leslie model)

The Vollmar-Wasserman beetles (revisited)

- ▶  $x_1$  = number of youths (beetles 0 to 1 years old)
- ▶  $x_2$  = number of juveniles (beetles 1 to 2 year old)
- ▶  $x_3$  = number of adults (beetles 2 to 3 year old)

We put these numbers in a vector  $\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$ .

We want to study the number of youths, juveniles and adults in a certain year  $k$ , assuming that this year is  $k = 0$ .

We write  $x_i(k)$  for the quantity  $x_i$  in year  $k$ , and also write this information as a vector  $\mathbf{x}(k)$ :

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \\ x_3(k) \end{pmatrix}.$$

We know that:

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1(k+1) \\ x_2(k+1) \\ x_3(k+1) \end{pmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 4 & 3 \\ 0.5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.25 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_A \begin{pmatrix} x_1(k) \\ x_2(k) \\ x_3(k) \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{this is, } \mathbf{x}(k+1) = A\mathbf{x}(k)$$

## Definition

### Definition

A **homogeneous linear discrete dynamical system** is a matrix equation of the form

$$\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A \mathbf{x}(k), \quad k \in \mathbb{N},$$

where  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  square matrix, and

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1(k) \\ \vdots \\ x_n(k) \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

The vector  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  is called an **initial condition**.

A **solution** (or trajectory) is a collection of vectors  $\{\mathbf{x}(k)\}_{k \geq 0}$  such that each  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  satisfies the equation above.

# Solutions

## Lemma

The solutions to the system  $\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A\mathbf{x}(k)$  are  $\{\mathbf{x}(k)\}_{k \geq 0}$  with

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = A^k \mathbf{x}(0), \quad k \geq 1.$$

- ▶ There's a unique solution with given initial condition  $\mathbf{x}(0)$ .
- ▶ The constant solutions  $\mathbf{x}(k) = \mathbf{x}$  for all  $k$  are called **steady states**.
- ▶ If  $\mathbf{x}$  is a steady state  $\Rightarrow \mathbf{x} = A\mathbf{x}$ , so  $\mathbf{x}$  is either 0 or an eigenvector of  $A$  of eigenvalue 1.

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## Example

In the previous example, if  $\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 40 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$ , then:

$$\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 40 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x}(1) = A\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 220 \\ 20 \\ 10 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x}(2) = A^2\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 110 \\ 110 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{x}(3) = \begin{pmatrix} 455 \\ 55 \\ 27.5 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$$

The eigenvalues of  $A$  are 1.5,  $-1.31$ ,  $-0.19$  (0 is the only steady state in this case).

Will this population eventually survive?

- ▶ Study  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  when  $k$  tends to infinity; this is called the **long-term behavior** (or asymptotic behavior) of the system.
- ▶ As  $\mathbf{x}(k) = A^k\mathbf{x}(0)$ , we need to compute powers of matrices and study its limit when  $k$  tends to infinite.

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## Example (cont.)

In the previous example, if  $x(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 40 \\ 40 \\ 20 \end{pmatrix}$ , then:

$$x(10) = A^{10}x(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 4571.91 \\ 2162.37 \\ 238.50 \end{pmatrix}, x(20) = \begin{pmatrix} 301860.73 \\ 110036.15 \\ 16541.80 \end{pmatrix}, x(30) = \begin{pmatrix} 17971431.25 \\ 6129573.17 \\ 995030.54 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$$

it seems to go to infinite. But, the proportion between populations seems to stabilize:

$$s := x_1(10) + x_2(10) + x_3(10) \Rightarrow \frac{x_1(10)}{s} = 0.6558 \quad \frac{x_2(10)}{s} = 0.3100 \quad \frac{x_3(10)}{s} = 0.0342$$

$$s := x_1(20) + x_2(20) + x_3(20) \Rightarrow \frac{x_1(20)}{s} = 0.7046 \quad \frac{x_2(20)}{s} = 0.2568 \quad \frac{x_3(20)}{s} = 0.0386$$

$$s := x_1(30) + x_2(30) + x_3(30) \Rightarrow \frac{x_1(30)}{s} = 0.7161 \quad \frac{x_2(30)}{s} = 0.2442 \quad \frac{x_3(30)}{s} = 0.0397$$

## Example (cont.)

Also the rate between  $x(k)$  and  $x(k + 1)$  (the “growth rate”) seems to have a tendency:

$$\begin{array}{lll} \frac{x_1(31)}{x_1(30)} = 1.623 & \frac{x_2(31)}{x_2(30)} = 1.372 & \frac{x_3(31)}{x_3(30)} = 1.663 \\ \frac{x_1(41)}{x_1(40)} = 1.507 & \frac{x_2(41)}{x_2(40)} = 1.491 & \frac{x_3(41)}{x_3(40)} = 1.510 \end{array}$$

This is all related to eigenvectors and eigenvalues!

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## Diagonalizable matrices: long-term behavior.

Example:  $x(k+1) = Ax(k)$  where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0.65 & -0.15 \\ -0.15 & 0.65 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solutions:  $x(k) = A^k x(0)$ . To compute  $A^k$ : diagonalize  $A$ .

- ▶ The eigenvalues of  $A$  are 0.8 and 0.5 with respective eigenvectors and  $v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$  and  $v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ .
- ▶ We write  $x(0)$  in the basis  $v_1, v_2$ :  $x(0) = c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2$ . For ex., if  $x(0) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $c_1 = 2, c_2 = 1, x(0) = 2v_1 + 1v_2$ .
- ▶ As  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$ , we have:

$$x(k) = A^k x(0) = A^k (c_1 v_1 + c_2 v_2) = c_1 A^k v_1 + c_2 A^k v_2 = c_1 \lambda_1^k v_1 + c_2 \lambda_2^k v_2$$

$$x(k) = c_1 0.8^k \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} + c_2 0.5^k \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$



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## Diagonalizable matrices: long-term behavior

If the system is  $\mathbf{x}(k+1) = A\mathbf{x}(k)$  and  $A$  diagonalizes, to study the long-term behavior of the solutions  $\mathbf{x}(k) = A^k\mathbf{x}(0)$  depending on  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  we do:

- ▶ Compute and order the eigenvalues such that  $|\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \dots |\lambda_n|$ .
- ▶ Compute the corresponding basis of eigenvectors  $\mathbf{v} = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ .
- ▶ Compute the coordinates of  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  in the basis  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ :  $\mathbf{x}(0) = c_1 v_1 + \dots + c_n v_n$ .
- ▶ Then, as  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$ , the solutions  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  are:

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## As matrices

If  $A = PDP^{-1}$ ,  $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ ,  $P = A_{\mathbf{v} \rightarrow e}$

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{v}_n \end{pmatrix},$$

then  $A^k = PD^kP^{-1}$ . Given  $\mathbf{x}(0)$ , if  $P^{-1}\mathbf{x}(0) = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix}$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}(k) = PD^kP^{-1}\mathbf{x}(0) = P \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1^k & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \lambda_n^k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ \vdots \\ c_n \end{pmatrix} = P \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \lambda_1^k \\ \vdots \\ c_n \lambda_n^k \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 & \dots & \mathbf{v}_n \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \lambda_1^k \\ \vdots \\ c_n \lambda_n^k \end{pmatrix} = c_1 \lambda_1^k \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_1 \end{pmatrix} + \dots + c_n \lambda_n^k \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{v}_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Long-term behavior

We have  $|\lambda_1| \geq |\lambda_2| \geq \dots |\lambda_n|$  and

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note that:

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If there is an eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  that satisfies  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_j|$ , then  $\lambda_1$  is real and is called the **dominant** eigenvalue and the corresponding eigenvalue is called the **dominant eigenvector**.

- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $4 \times 4$  matrix are  $-4, -3, 1, 2$ , then  $\lambda_1 = -4$  is the dominant eigenvalue.
- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $4 \times 4$  matrix are  $-4, -3, 1, 4$ , then there is no dominant eigenvalue.

Note:

- ▶ If  $A$  has complex eigenvalues,  $|\lambda|$  refers to the modulus (or absolute value) of the complex number:  $|a + bi| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$
- ▶ As  $A$  is real, non-real eigenvalues appear in conjugate pairs  $(a + bi, a - bi)$  and have the same modulus
- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix are  $6, -1 + 2i, -1 - 2i$ , then  $6$  is the dominant eigenvalue.
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- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $2 \times 2$  matrix are  $-1 + 2i, -1 - 2i$ , then there is no dominant eigenvalue.

## Definition

If there is an eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  that satisfies  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_j|$ , then  $\lambda_1$  is real and is called the **dominant** eigenvalue and the corresponding eigenvalue is called the **dominant eigenvector**.

- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $4 \times 4$  matrix are  $-4, -3, 1, 2$ , then  $\lambda_1 = -4$  is the dominant eigenvalue.
- ▶ Example: if the eigenvalues of a  $4 \times 4$  matrix are  $-4, -3, 1, 4$ , then there is no dominant eigenvalue.

Note:

- ▶ If  $A$  has complex eigenvalues,  $|\lambda|$  refers to the modulus (or absolute value) of the complex number:  $|a + bi| = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$
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## Long-term behavior

If we have  $|\lambda_1| > |\lambda_2| \geq \dots |\lambda_n|$  ( $\lambda_1$  dominant) and

$$\mathbf{x}(k) = c_1 \lambda_1^k \mathbf{v}_1 + \dots + c_n \lambda_n^k \mathbf{v}_n,$$

then when  $k$  is large:

- ▶  $\lambda_1^k$  grows faster than  $\lambda_i^k$  so, if  $c_1 \neq 0$ ,

$$\mathbf{x}(k) \sim c_1 \lambda_1^k \mathbf{v}_1 \quad \text{for } k \text{ big, and}$$

- ▶ If  $|\lambda_1| < 1$ ,  $\mathbf{x}(k) \rightarrow 0$  when  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .
- ▶ If  $\lambda_1 = 1$   $c_1 \neq 0$ , then  $\mathbf{x}(k) \rightarrow c_1 \mathbf{v}_1$  when  $k \rightarrow \infty$ .
- ▶ If  $|\lambda_1| > 1$  and  $c_1 \neq 0$ , then  $\mathbf{x}(k)$  tends to a vector with infinite components in the direction of  $\mathbf{v}_1$ .
- ▶ the **growth rate** is given by  $\lambda_1$ :  $\frac{x_j(k+1)}{x_j(k)} \sim \lambda_1$ , so  
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Special things happen with initial conditions that have  $c_1 = 0$ .

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- ▶ Which matrices have a dominant eigenvalue?
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- ▶ Which matrices have a steady state ( $\mathbf{x}$  such that  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}$ ) different from  $0$ ? This is, which matrices have eigenvalue  $1$ ?

# Outline

Definition and examples

Long-term behavior

Stochastic matrices



# Stochastic matrices

## Definition

A (column) **stochastic matrix** is a non-negative  $n \times n$  matrix whose columns sum to 1.

A similar definition can be made for rows.

As columns sum to 1, if  $A$  is a stochastic matrix we have:

$$(11 \dots 1)A = (11 \dots 1)$$

$$A^t \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Thus, 1 is an eigenvalue of  $A^t$  and  $(11 \dots 1)^t$  is a positive eigenvector for  $A^t$ .

# Properties of stochastic matrices

- ▶ 1 is an eigenvalue of  $A$
- ▶ If  $x$  sums to 1, then  $Ax$  still sums to 1.

Non-negative vectors that sum to 1 are called **probability vectors** or **distributions**.

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## Stochastic matrices

### Theorem (Perron-Frobenius)

If  $A$  is a stochastic matrix, then 1 is an eigenvalue and  $|\lambda| \leq 1$  for any other eigenvalue  $\lambda$ . Moreover, if  $A$  is positive,

- ▶ 1 is the dominant eigenvalue
- ▶ 1 has a positive eigenvector  $v$  (a steady state)
- ▶ no other eigenvalue has positive eigenvectors.
- ▶ If we take  $v$  to sum to 1, then  $v$  is called the **stationary distribution** and

$$\lim A^k = (v \ v \ \dots \ v)$$

$$\text{and} \quad \lim A^k x = v$$

for any probability vector  $x$ ,

- ▶ and the distribution of  $x(k)$  tends to  $v$ :  $\frac{x(k)}{\sum_i x_i(k)} \sim v$ .

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