

§ 5.2. MATRICES

An $n \times m$ matrix is a table of (real) numbers with n rows & m columns. It is denoted $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \dots & a_{nm} \end{pmatrix}$.
 a_{jk} = element in j -th row k -th column

Example: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 7 \\ 2 & 4 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$ is a 2×3 matrix

If $A = (a_{jk})$ then $a_{11} = 1, a_{12} = 3, a_{13} = 7$
 $a_{21} = 2, a_{22} = 4, a_{23} = -3$

Multiplying a matrix by a vector TECHNIQUE

If A is an $n \times m$ matrix and \vec{x} is a vector of length m , then $A\vec{x}$ will be a vector of length n .

To compute $A\vec{x}$:

j -th entry of $A\vec{x}$ is obtained by multiplying the entries of j -th row of A by the entries of \vec{x} and taking the sum.

Examples:

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 2 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \cdot (-1) + 2 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 3 \\ (-1) \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot 2 + 2 \cdot 3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 \\ 7 \end{pmatrix}$$

Helpful drawing: $(\begin{array}{ccc|c} \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} & \text{---} \end{array}) (\begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array}) = (\begin{array}{c|c} \text{---} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \text{---} \end{array})$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & -1 \\ -2+0 \\ -1+2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

§5.2.1. Matrices as linear maps

Let A be an $n \times m$ matrix.

Consider the map $T_A: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ defined by

$$(*) \quad T_A(\vec{x}) = A \cdot \vec{x} \quad \text{for all } \vec{x} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m$$

Then T_A is a linear map, i.e.

$$(1) \quad T_A(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = T_A(\vec{x}) + T_A(\vec{y}) \quad \text{for all } \vec{x}, \vec{y} \text{ in } \mathbb{R}^m$$

and
 (2) $T_A(c\vec{x}) = cT_A(\vec{x})$ for all \vec{x} in \mathbb{R}^m , c in \mathbb{R} .

(That is, $A(\vec{x} + \vec{y}) = A \cdot \vec{x} + A \cdot \vec{y}$ and $A \cdot c\vec{x} = c \cdot A\vec{x}$)

Theorem Assume that $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$

is a linear transformation (i.e. it satisfies (1)+(2) above). Then $T = T_A$ for some matrix A .

THEORY

That is, all linear transformations are given by matrices.

Given a linear map $T: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$, how to find

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the matrix A such that $T(\vec{x}) = A \cdot \vec{x}$?

Use the canonical basis $\vec{e}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{e}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \dots$

$A = (a_{jk})$ where a_{jk} (the element in j -th row & k -th column)

is equal to the j -th entry

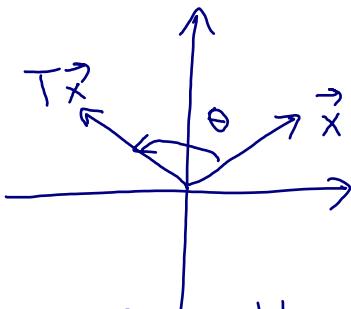
of the vector $T(\vec{e}_k)$

TECHNIQUE

Example $T: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ is the rotation

clockwise by angle θ .

PRACTICE



It is known that
 T is linear.

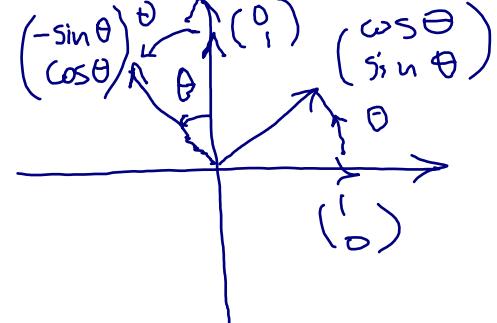
To find the matrix of T , we compute

$$T(\vec{e}_1) = T\left(\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta \\ \sin \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$T(\vec{e}_2) = T\left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin \theta \\ \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}$$

So $T(\vec{x}) = A \cdot \vec{x}$ where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} T(1) & T(0) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos \theta & -\sin \theta \\ \sin \theta & \cos \theta \end{pmatrix}.$$



§ 5.2.2. Operations with matricesIdentity matrix of size $n \times n$:

$$I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ e.g. } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ or } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \text{ etc.}$$

The corresponding linear transformation is the identity map: for \vec{x} in \mathbb{R}^n ,

$$T_I(\vec{x}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} I \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{x}.$$

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Matrix addition:

If A, B are matrices of the same size then $A+B$ is defined entry-wise

$$\text{e.g. } \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1+5 & 2+6 \\ 3+7 & 4+8 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 6 & 8 \\ 10 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

Multiplication by scalars:

As for vectors, this is done entry-wise:

$$\text{e.g. } 2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 4 \\ 6 & 8 \end{pmatrix}$$

Vectors as matrices:

We view any vector in \mathbb{R}^n as a column vector, i.e. an $n \times 1$ matrix.

Matrix multiplication:

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if A is an $n \times m$ matrix
 and B is an $m \times k$ matrix \leftarrow need # (columns of A)
 then AB is an $n \times k$ matrix # (rows of B)
 The j -th column of AB is obtained
 by multiplying A by the j -th column
 of B (using multiplication of a matrix
 by a vector)

Example: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $B = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$AB = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 1 & 1 \cdot 2 + 0 \cdot 1 + 1 \cdot 0 \\ 2 \cdot 1 + (-1) \cdot (-1) + 0 \cdot 1 & 2 \cdot 2 + (-1) \cdot 1 + 0 \cdot 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Helpful drawing: $\begin{pmatrix} \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} | & | \\ | & | \\ | & | \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} : & : \\ : & : \end{pmatrix}$

$$BA = \begin{pmatrix} 5 & -2 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{check at home if you have time})$$

Note: we have $(AB)C = A(BC)$ where
 A, B, C are any matrices and $I \cdot A = A \cdot I = A$ but
 in general $A \cdot B \neq B \cdot A$ (not even same size...)

What does matrix multiplication mean for the corresponding linear maps T_A ? We have

$$T_{AB}(\vec{x}) = T_A(T_B(\vec{x})),$$

that is $(AB) \cdot \vec{x} = A \cdot (B \cdot \vec{x})$.

THEORY

Multiplication of matrices

Composition of linear maps

§5.2.3. Linear systems & null space

Here we look at a matrix equation

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

where

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A is an $n \times m$ matrix

\vec{x} is an unknown vector of length m

\vec{b} is a given vector of length n

Note that this equation is equivalent to a system of n linear equations on the entries of \vec{x}

Example Write the matrix eqn.

$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \end{pmatrix}$ as a system of linear equations

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Solution

Step 1: write $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix}$

Note: \vec{x} has 3 entries because the matrix has 3 columns

Step 2: Use matrix-vector multiplication

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_2 + x_3 \\ x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Step 3: Write the system

$$\begin{cases} x_2 + x_3 = 3 \\ x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \end{cases}$$

Now we focus on the case $\vec{b} = \vec{0}$:

Definition Let A be a matrix. The null space of A is the set of all solutions \vec{x} to the homogeneous linear equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$

The null space of any matrix A contains the zero vector, as $A \cdot \vec{0} = \vec{0}$.

To see if it contains any other vectors we study the corresponding system of linear equations:



Exercise Do the following matrices have a nonzero vector in their nullspace? If so, find such a vector.

$$\textcircled{a} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \quad \textcircled{b} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solution \textcircled{a} Step 1: write as a linear system

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 3x_1 + 6x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Step 2: analyze the system

(more systematic procedure in Linear Algebra II later)
 $x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_1 = -2x_2$. Substitute into the 2nd eqn.:
 $3x_1 + 6x_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow -6x_2 + 6x_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow 0 = 0$, always true

So we just need to find a nonzero solution to

$$x_1 + 2x_2 = 0. \text{ Can take } x_2 = 1, x_1 = -2$$

Get $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$ a nonzero vector in the nullspace of A

$$\textcircled{b} \quad \underline{\text{Step 1}}: \text{ get } \begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ 2x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \end{cases}$$

Step 2: use the 1st eqn. to write

$x_1 = -2x_2$. Substitute into the 2nd eqn.:

$$-4x_2 + 3x_2 = 0 \Leftrightarrow x_2 = 0$$

Then also $x_1 = 0$.

The null space has no nonzero vectors.

§5.2.4. 2×2 matrices: determinant

Assume that A is a 2×2 matrix.

When does A have a nonzero vector in its nullspace?

[THEORY]

Theorem Let $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ be a 2×2 matrix.

Define its determinant

$$\det A = a \cdot d - b \cdot c.$$

Then the equation $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has a nonzero solution $\vec{x} \Leftrightarrow \det A = 0$.

Proof (optional)

We restrict to the case $a \neq 0$.

We have $A\vec{x} = \vec{0} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} ax_1 + bx_2 = 0 \\ cx_1 + dx_2 = 0 \end{cases}$

Use the 1st eqn. to write $x_1 = -\frac{b}{a}x_2$

Substitute into the 2nd eqn. to get

$$(d - \frac{bc}{a})x_2 = 0. (*) \text{ Note: } d - \frac{bc}{a} = \frac{\det A}{a}.$$

If $\det A = 0$ then $(*)$ is always satisfied.

So $x_2 = 1, x_1 = -\frac{b}{a}$ gives a vector $\vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix}$ in the null space of A

If $\det A \neq 0$ then $(*) \Rightarrow x_2 = 0 \Rightarrow x_1 = 0$.

So there is no nonzero vector in the null space. \square

Examples

$$\textcircled{1} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 6 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det A = 1 \cdot 6 - 2 \cdot 3 = 0$$

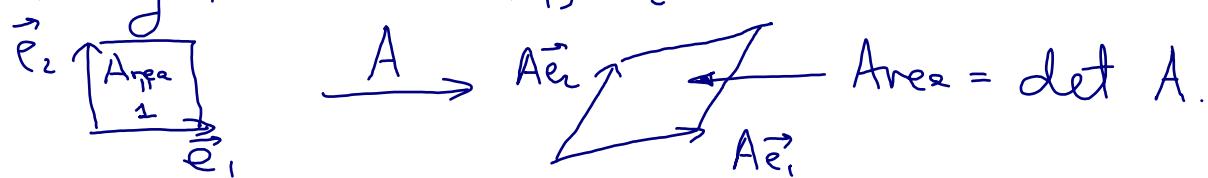
The eqn. $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has a nonzero solution

$$\textcircled{2} \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \det A = 1 \cdot 3 - 2 \cdot 2 = -1 \neq 0$$

The eqn. $A\vec{x} = \vec{0}$ has no nonzero solutions.

Geometric interpretation (optional): if $\vec{e}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{e}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

then $\det A = \text{Signed area of the parallelogram spanned by the vectors } A\vec{e}_1, A\vec{e}_2$



§5.2.5. 2×2 matrices: eigenvalues & eigenvectors

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Assume that A is a 2×2 matrix.

We study the eigen-equation

(*)

$$A\vec{x} = \lambda\vec{x}$$

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where \vec{x} is a vector (possibly with complex entries) and λ is a number (possibly complex)

Definition: We say λ is an eigenvalue of A

if (*) has a non-zero solution \vec{x} .

If λ is an eigenvalue, then we call the non-zero solutions \vec{x} to (*) eigenvectors of A associated to λ .

Our goal will be to find a basis of \mathbb{R}^2 (actually, of \mathbb{C}^2 because \vec{x} might be complex)

consisting of eigenvectors of A :

$$A\vec{x}_1 = \lambda_1\vec{x}_1, A\vec{x}_2 = \lambda_2\vec{x}_2,$$

\vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2 a basis (i.e. linearly independent)

Why? Because in this basis the matrix A will have a simple form & it will help us solve systems of 2 ODEs

Definition We call A diagonalizable

if there exists a basis of eigenvalues of A
 (Why diagonalizable? Because the matrix of the linear map T_A in the basis \vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2 will be the diagonal matrix $(\lambda_1, 0) \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \dots)$)

Finding eigenvalues

THEORY

We rewrite the eigen-equation (*) as

$$(A - \lambda I)\vec{x} = 0 \quad \text{where } I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \lambda I = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$$

From §5.2.4 we know that

λ is an eigenvalue $\Leftrightarrow \lambda I - A$ has a non-zero vector in its nullspace \Leftrightarrow

$$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{\det(\lambda I - A) = 0} \quad (***)$$

We call (***) the characteristic equation of A

The function $\boxed{P(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)}$

is a quadratic polynomial

called the characteristic polynomial of A

To recap:

$$\boxed{\text{Eigenvalues of } A = \text{Roots of } P(\lambda)}$$

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

Compute $P(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)$

$$= \det \begin{pmatrix} \lambda-2 & -2 \\ 2 & \lambda+3 \end{pmatrix} = (\lambda-2)(\lambda+3) - (-2) \cdot 2$$

$$= \lambda^2 + \lambda - 2.$$

$$\text{Roots } \lambda = \frac{-1 \pm \sqrt{1+2 \cdot 4}}{2} = \frac{-1 \pm 3}{2} = 1; -2$$

Useful formula: if $A = \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ then

$$\det(\lambda I - A) = \lambda^2 - (\text{tr } A)\lambda + \det A$$

where $\text{tr } A \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} a+d$ (called the trace of A)

$$\det A = ad - bc$$

Example above: $\text{tr } A = 2 - 3 = -1$

$$\det A = 2 \cdot (-3) - 2 \cdot (-2) = -2$$

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + \lambda - 2.$$

How to find eigenvectors corresponding to the eigenvalues?

Reduce to solving systems of linear equations.

Example: still $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 2 \\ -2 & -3 \end{pmatrix}$

Eigenvalues 1, -2 (computed before)

Eigenvector with eigenvalue 1:

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looking for nonzero \vec{x} such that

$$(A - I)\vec{x} = 0. \text{ Compute } A - I = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ -2 & -4 \end{pmatrix}$$

Write as linear system:

$$\begin{cases} x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ -2x_1 - 4x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \text{solution } x_2 = 1, x_1 = -2$$

Eigenvector $\begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$$(\text{Check: } A \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \dots)$$

Eigenvector with eigenvalue -2:

$$(A + 2I)\vec{x} = 0, \quad A + 2I = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 2 \\ -2 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} 4x_1 + 2x_2 = 0 \\ -2x_1 - x_2 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \text{can take } x_1 = 1, x_2 = -2$$

Eigenvector $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix}$

$$(\text{Check: } A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix} = -2 \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{pmatrix})$$

ALGORITHM for finding a basis of eigenvectors for a 2×2 matrix A

Step 1: Compute the characteristic polynomial $P(\lambda)$.

Can use the formulas $P(\lambda) = \det(\lambda I - A)$
or $P(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - (\text{tr } A)\lambda + \det A$
(the second formula is faster to use)

Step 2: Find the roots of $P(\lambda)$.

These are the eigenvalues of A .

Step 3(a): if there are 2 distinct eigenvalues λ_1, λ_2 (real or complex)

find eigenvectors \vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2 : nonzero solutions

$$\text{to } (A - \lambda_1 I) \vec{x}_1 = 0, \quad (A - \lambda_2 I) \vec{x}_2 = 0.$$

It is guaranteed that \vec{x}_1, \vec{x}_2 will form a basis and thus A is diagonalizable

Step 3(b): if there is only one eigenvalue λ
then either $A = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$

in which case A is diagonalizable because $A \vec{x} = \lambda \vec{x}$ for all \vec{x} (e.g. can take $\vec{x}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \vec{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$)

or $A \neq \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$

in which case A is not diagonalizable.

Example: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{tr } A = 0, \det A = 1$$

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^2 + 1$$

Eigenvalues $\boxed{\lambda_1 = i, \lambda_2 = -i}$; diagonalizable

$$\lambda = i: (A - iI)\vec{x} = 0; A - iI = \begin{pmatrix} -i & 1 \\ -1 & -i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} -ix_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ -x_1 - ix_2 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{Put } x_1 = 1, \text{ then } x_2 = i$$

$$\text{Eigenvector } \boxed{\vec{x}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ i \end{pmatrix}}, A\vec{x}_1 = \lambda_1 \vec{x}_1$$

$$\lambda = -i: (A + iI)\vec{x} = 0; A + iI = \begin{pmatrix} i & 1 \\ -1 & i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} ix_1 + x_2 = 0 \\ -x_1 + ix_2 = 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{Put } x_1 = 1, \text{ then } x_2 = -i$$

$$\text{Eigenvector } \boxed{\vec{x}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -i \end{pmatrix}}, A\vec{x}_2 = \lambda_2 \vec{x}_2$$

Example: $A = \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$

$\text{tr } A = 4$, $\det A = 4$

$$P(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 4\lambda + 4$$

Eigenvalue $\lambda = 2$ (multiplicity 2)

$A \neq \begin{pmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \text{not diagonalizable.}$

Why not? Look for eigenvectors:

$$(A - 2I)\vec{x} = 0, \quad A - 2I = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{cases} x_2 = 0 \\ 0 = 0 \end{cases} \rightarrow \text{eigenvectors have the form} \\ \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \text{ where } x_1 \neq 0$$

These are not enough to span \mathbb{R}^2 .