

Spectral Theorem and its Application

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Introduction

From the standpoint of engineering applications, eigenvalue problems among the most important problems in connection with matrices, and the number of research papers on computing numerical methods for computers is enormous. The basic concepts are as follows.

$A = (a_{ij})$ be a given square n -rowed matrix and consider vector equation $\lambda X \dots \dots \dots (1)$ where λ is a number.

value of λ for which (1) has a solution $X \neq O$ is called an eigenvalue or characteristic value of the matrix A .

corresponding solutions $X \neq O$ of (1) are called eigenvectors or characteristic vectors of A corresponding of that eigenvalue λ .

set $\{\lambda_i\}$ is called the spectrum of A .

$|\lambda_i|$ is called the spectral radius of A .

problems of this type occur in connection with physical and technical applications.

Theorem

Suppose A is a compact self adjoint operator on H (Hilbert space). There exist an orthonormal system $\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots$ of eigenvectors of A and corresponding eigenvalues $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots$ such that for all $X \in H$,

$$AX = \sum_k \lambda_k \langle X, \varphi_k \rangle \varphi_k = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda_k \langle X, \varphi_k \rangle \varphi_k \text{ or } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k \langle X, \varphi_k \rangle \varphi_k.$$

$\{\lambda_n\}$ is an infinite sequence, then it converges to zero.

$\{\varphi_n\}$ is an orthonormal basis for H , then the matrix corresponding to A and $\{\varphi_n\}$ is a diagonal matrix.

Application

$A = (a_{ij})$: Square n -rowed matrix, $AX = \lambda X$.

set $\{\lambda_k\}$ of the eigenvalues is called the spectrum of A .

the largest of the absolute values of the eigenvalues of A is called the spectral radius of A .

$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = C^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$: the vibrations of an elastic string, where $u(x, t)$ is deflection of the string.

$x=0, x=l$: fixed at the ends.

Boundary condition: (2) $u(0, t)=0, u(l, t)=0$ for all t .

Initial condition: (3) $u(x, 0)=f(x)$, (4) $\left[\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right]_{t=0}=g(x)$.

The form $u(x, t)=F(x)G(t)$: solution of (1)

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = FG'', \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F''G \Rightarrow FG'' = C^2 F''G \Rightarrow \frac{G''}{C^2 G} = \frac{F''}{F} = K.$$

$$\therefore (a) F'' - KF = 0$$

$$(b) G'' - C^2 KG = 0$$

From (2), $u(0, t)=F(0)G(t), u(l, t)=F(l)G(t)=0$ for all t .

(a) $F'' - KF = 0$: For $K = \mu^2, F = Ae^{\mu x} + Be^{-\mu x}, K = -p^2 \Rightarrow F'' + p^2 F = 0$

$F(x) = A \cos px + B \sin px$: general solution.

$F(0) = A = 0$ and the $F(l) = B \sin pl = 0$ ($B \neq 0$)

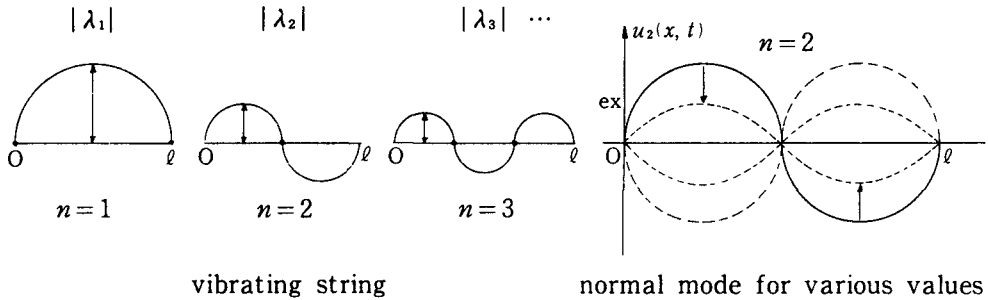
$$\therefore \sin pl = 0, pl = n\pi \text{ or } p = \frac{n\pi}{l}$$

Setting $B=1, F(x) = F_n(x), F(x) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l}$ ($n=1, 2, \dots$).

(b) $G'' + \lambda_n^2 G = 0$ ($\lambda_n = cn\pi/l$) $\Rightarrow G_n(t) = B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t$: general solution

$$\therefore u_n(x, t) = F_n(x) G_n(t) = \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} (B_n \cos \lambda_n t + B_n^* \sin \lambda_n t) \quad (n=1, 2, \dots)$$

The set $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots\}$ is called the spectrum.



$$(3) u(x, 0) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} = f(x) \quad \left(B_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l f(x) \sin \frac{n\pi}{l} x dx, \quad n=1, 2, \dots \right).$$

$$(4) \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_{t=0} = \left[\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (-B_n \lambda_n \sin \lambda_n t + B_n^* \lambda_n \cos \lambda_n t) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} \right]_{t=0} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n^* \lambda_n \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} = g$$

$$\text{For } t=0, B_n^* \lambda_n = \frac{2}{l} \int_0^l g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx.$$

$$\text{Since } \lambda_n = cn\pi/l, B_n^* = \frac{2}{cn\pi} \int_0^l g(x) \sin \frac{n\pi x}{l} dx \quad (n=1, 2, \dots).$$

References

1. Israel Gohberg, *Basic Operator Theory*.
2. Erwin Kreyszig, *Advanced Engineering Mathematics* (1979).
3. Walter Rudin, *Functional Analysis*.