6.2 The Geometry of Eigentheory and Computational Techniques

The Kernel as an Eigenspace

Theorem — Addenda to the Really Big Theorem on Invertibility:

Let *A* be an *n* × *n* matrix. Then, the condition that *A* is *invertible* is equivalent to the following:

23. *det*(*A*) is *not* 0.

24. $\lambda = 0$ is **not** an **eigenvalue** for A.

Projection and Reflection Operators

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The Integer Roots Theorem:

Let $p(x) = x^n + c_{n-1}x^{n-1} + \dots + c_1x + c_0$ be a polynomial with *integer* coefficients, and $c_0 \neq 0$. Then, all the rational roots of p(x) are in fact integers, and if x = c is an integer root of p(x), then c is a *factor* of the constant coefficient c_0 .

Example: What are the possible integer roots of:

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 3\lambda^2 - 34\lambda + 120?$$

The Rational Roots Theorem:

Let $q(x) = c_n x^n + c_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + c_1 x + c_0$ be a polynomial with *integer* coefficients, with $c_0 \neq 0$. Then, all the rational roots of q(x) are of the form x = c/d, where c is a factor of the constant coefficient c_0 and d is a factor of the leading coefficient c_n .

Example: What are the possible rational roots of:

$$p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - \frac{7}{4}\lambda^2 - \frac{13}{36}\lambda + \frac{5}{6}$$

Theorem (Descartes' Rule of Signs): The number of positive roots of a polynomial p(x) with **real** coefficients is equal to the number of sign changes in consecutive coefficients of p(x), or less than this number by an even amount. Similarly, the number of negative roots of p(x) is the number of sign changes in consecutive coefficients of p(-x), or less than this number by an even amount.

Theorem: Let p(x) be a polynomial with **odd degree**. Then p(x) has at least one **real** root.

Example:

Check: $p(\lambda) = \lambda^3 - 2\lambda^2 - 39\lambda - 72$

Read the precale stuffer your own