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Subject: Re: Eigenvalue problem

Posted by [Randall Skelton](#) on Fri, 05 Jul 2002 12:53:01 GMT

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Hi Georg,

I think I actually posted an answer to a similar question back in April.  
You may want to check the google group archive searching for 'Generalized Eigenvectors.'

Given that you have a positive definite, symmetric matrix you can convert to the tridiagonal form (TRIRED) and then use the QR procedure (TRIQL) to iteratively find the eigenvalues/vectors from the tridiagonal array.

IDL's eigenvector/value code is based on the Numerical recipes code (see the online text at [www.nr.com](http://www.nr.com)) and assumes that you wish to solve

$Ax = \lambda x$ .

Solving the semantic 'general' case,

$Ax = Bx$ ,

is equivalent to solving,

$(B^{-1} A) x = \lambda x$ .

which is what Matlab is doing. This is actually described under the 'Remarks' section of the mathworks page you listed.

Hope this helps,  
Randall

On Fri, 5 Jul 2002, Georg Wiora wrote:

> Hi!  
>  
> I have a mathematical problem with eigenvalues and -vectors. I need a  
> special solution for the usual eigenvalue problem  $A*x = \lambda*x$  where  
>  $x$  is a vector and  $A$  a positive definite and symmetric real matrix.  
> Using the EIGENQL function in IDL you can easily compute the  
> eigenvectors and eigenvalues for that equation.  
>  
> My problem is that I need a constrained solution in the form  
>  $A*v = B*v*D$   
>  $A$  is again the matrix to find the eigenvalues for,  $B$  is the constraint matrix and  $v$  is the vector of  
> eigenvalues and  $D$  the matrix of eigenvectors.

>  
> Matlab offers a function for that. Here is the excerpt from their online help:  
> [V,D] = eig(A,B) produces a diagonal matrix D of generalized eigenvalues and  
> a full matrix V whose columns are the corresponding eigenvectors so  
> that  $A*V = B*V*D$ .  
> (see <http://www.mathworks.com/access/helpdesk/help/techdoc/ref/eig.shtml> for the full  
documentation)  
>  
> Does anyone have an IDL-function that does the same job? Or does  
> anyone know how to do it with the IDL matrix tools?  
>  
> Thanx for any advice!  
>  
> Georg Wiora  
> DaimlerChrysler AG  
> Research and Technology  
> Ulm  
> Germany  
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