

# Derivatives of Eigenvalues

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Let's assume we work in a vector space with a non-degenerate symmetric bilinear pairing  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , and a differential operator  $d$  satisfying the usual Leibniz's rule. We will use  $A$  to denote linear operator/matrix in a basis  $A = (a_{ij})$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  for a vector  $w = (w_i)$ .

Assuming  $L$  is not defect at the considered eigenvalue (multiplicity = 1), we have two equations  $L\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{u}^\dagger L = \lambda\mathbf{u}^\dagger$ , where  $\lambda$  is the eigenvalue,  $\mathbf{v}$  is the (right) eigenvector, and  $\mathbf{u}$  the left eigenvector. (Note that a left eigenvector of a matrix  $A$  is a (right) eigenvector of the adjoint  $A^\dagger$ .)

Now differentiate the first (right) eigenvector equation gives us

$$\begin{aligned} d(\lambda\mathbf{v}) &= d(L\mathbf{v}) \\ d\lambda\mathbf{v} + \lambda d\mathbf{v} &= dL\mathbf{v} + Ld\mathbf{v} \end{aligned}$$

Pair the above with the left eigenvectors yields

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathbf{u}, d\lambda\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, \lambda d\mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, Ld\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \lambda\mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle \mathbf{u}, Ld\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle &= \langle \mathbf{u}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle + \langle L^\dagger\mathbf{u} - \lambda\mathbf{u}, d\mathbf{v} \rangle \\ d\lambda &= \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \rangle} \end{aligned}$$

Now if the operator  $L$  is self-adjoint (e.g. symmetric if we are over  $\mathbb{R}$ ), we then have  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$ , thus

$$d\lambda = \frac{\langle \mathbf{v}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle}{\langle \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{v} \rangle} = \langle \mathbf{v}, dL\mathbf{v} \rangle$$

Or in another notation, we have  $d\lambda = \mathbf{v}^\dagger dL\mathbf{v}$ .

Same principles apply for the generalized eigenvalue problem. If we again have left eigenvector  $\mathbf{u}$  and (right) eigenvector  $\mathbf{v}$  such that  $(L - \lambda M)\mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u}^\dagger(L - \lambda M) = 0$ , we can derive

$$\begin{aligned} d(L - \lambda M)\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ (dL - d\lambda M - \lambda dM)\mathbf{v} + (L - \lambda M)d\mathbf{v} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Pairing with  $\mathbf{u}$  returns

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}^\dagger(dL - d\lambda M - \lambda dM)\mathbf{v} + \mathbf{u}^\dagger(L - \lambda M)d\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{u}^\dagger(dL - d\lambda M - \lambda dM)\mathbf{v} &= 0 \\ \mathbf{u}^\dagger dL\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{u}^\dagger \lambda dM\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^\dagger d\lambda M\mathbf{v} \\ d\lambda \mathbf{u}^\dagger M\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{u}^\dagger dL\mathbf{v} - \lambda \mathbf{u}^\dagger dM\mathbf{v} \\ d\lambda &= \frac{\mathbf{u}^\dagger dL\mathbf{v} - \lambda \mathbf{u}^\dagger dM\mathbf{v}}{\mathbf{u}^\dagger M\mathbf{v}} \end{aligned}$$

Now if we assume both  $L$  and  $M$  to be self-adjoint, we will again have  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{v}$ . Then normalizing  $\mathbf{v}$  such that  $\langle \mathbf{v}, M\mathbf{v} \rangle = 1$  gives  $d\lambda = \mathbf{v}^\dagger dL\mathbf{v} - \lambda \mathbf{v}^\dagger dM\mathbf{v}$ .