

Eigenvectors and Reconstruction

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Submitted: Jul 6, 2006; Accepted: Jun 14, 2007; Published: Jul 5, 2007

Mathematics Subject Classification: 05C88

Abstract

In this paper, we study the simple eigenvectors of two hypomorphic matrices using linear algebra. We also give new proofs of results of Godsil and McKay.

1 Introduction

We start by fixing some notations ([HE1]). Let A be a $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix. Let A_i be the matrix obtaining by deleting the i -th row and i -th column of A . We say that two symmetric matrices A and B are hypomorphic if, for each i , B_i can be obtained by simultaneously permuting the rows and columns of A_i . Let Σ be the set of permutations. We write $B = \Sigma(A)$.

If M is a symmetric real matrix, then the eigenvalues of M are real. We write

$$\text{eigen}(M) = (\lambda_1(M) \geq \lambda_2(M) \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n(M)).$$

If α is an eigenvalue of M , we denote the corresponding eigenspace by $\text{eigen}_\alpha(M)$. Let $\mathbf{1}$ be the n -dimensional vector $(1, 1, \dots, 1)$. Put $\mathbf{J} = \mathbf{1}^t \mathbf{1}$. In [HE1], we proved the following theorem.

Theorem 1 ([HE1]) *Let B and A be two real $n \times n$ symmetric matrices. Let Σ be a hypomorphism such that $B = \Sigma(A)$. Let t be a real number. Then there exists an open interval T such that for $t \in T$ we have*

1. $\lambda_n(A + t\mathbf{J}) = \lambda_n(B + t\mathbf{J})$;
2. $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_n}(A + t\mathbf{J})$ and $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_n}(B + t\mathbf{J})$ are both one dimensional;

*I would like to thank the referee for his valuable comments.

3. $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_n}(A + t\mathbf{J}) = \text{eigen}_{\lambda_n}(B + t\mathbf{J})$.

As proved in [HE1], our result implies Tutte's theorem which says that $\text{eigen}(A + tJ) = \text{eigen}(B + tJ)$. So $\det(A + tJ - \lambda I) = \det(B + tJ - \lambda I)$.

In this paper, we shall study the eigenvectors of A and B . Most of the results in this paper are not new. Our approach is new. We apply Theorem 1 to derive several well-known results. We first prove that the squares of the entries of simple unit eigenvectors of A can be reconstructed as functions of $\text{eigen}(A)$ and $\text{eigen}(A_i)$. This yields a proof of a Theorem of Godsil-McKay. We then study how the eigenvectors of A change after a perturbation of rank 1 symmetric matrices. Combined with Theorem 1, we prove another result of Godsil-McKay which states that the simple eigenvectors that are perpendicular to $\mathbf{1}$ are reconstructible. We further show that the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{1}$ onto higher dimensional eigenspaces is reconstructible.

Our investigation indicates that the following conjecture could be true.

Conjecture 1 *Let A be a real $n \times n$ symmetric matrix. Then there exists a subgroup $G(A) \subseteq O(n)$ such that a real symmetric matrix B satisfies the properties that $\text{eigen}(B) = \text{eigen}(A)$ and $\text{eigen}(B_i) = \text{eigen}(A_i)$ for each i if and only if $B = UAU^t$ for some $U \in G(A)$.*

This conjecture is clearly true if $\text{rank}(A) = 1$. For $\text{rank}(A) = 1$, the group $G(A)$ can be chosen as \mathbb{Z}_2^n , all in the form of diagonal matrices. In some other cases, $G(A)$ can be a subgroup of the permutation group S_n .

2 Reconstruction of Square Functions

Theorem 2 *Let A be a $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix. Let $(\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n)$ be the eigenvalues of A . Suppose λ_i is a simple eigenvalue of A . Let $\mathbf{p}_i = (p_{1,i}, p_{2,i}, \dots, p_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$. Then for every m , $p_{m,i}^2$ can be expressed as a function of $\text{eigen}(A)$ and $\text{eigen}(A_m)$.*

Proof: Let λ_i be a simple eigenvalue of A . Let $\mathbf{p}_i = (p_{1,i}, p_{2,i}, \dots, p_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$. There exists an orthogonal matrix P such that $P = (\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n)$ and $A = PDP^t$ where

$$D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then

$$A - \lambda_i I = PDP^t - \lambda_i I = P(D - \lambda_i I)P^t = \sum_{j \neq i} (\lambda_j - \lambda_i) \mathbf{p}_j \mathbf{p}_j^t.$$

which equals

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_{1,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{1,i}} & \cdots & p_{1,n} \\ p_{2,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{2,i}} & \cdots & p_{2,n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{n,i}} & \cdots & p_{n,n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda_i & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \widehat{\lambda_i - \lambda_i} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n - \lambda_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_{1,1} & p_{2,1} & \cdots & p_{n,1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \widehat{p_{1,i}} & \widehat{p_{2,i}} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{n,i}} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{1,n} & p_{2,n} & \cdots & p_{n,n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Deleting the m -th row and m -th column, we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_{1,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{1,i}} & \cdots & p_{1,n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \widehat{p_{m,1}} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{m,i}} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{m,n}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{n,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{n,i}} & \cdots & p_{n,n} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda_i & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \widehat{\lambda_i - \lambda_i} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 & \cdots & \lambda_n - \lambda_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} p_{1,1} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{m,1}} & \cdots & p_{n,1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \widehat{p_{1,i}} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{m,i}} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{n,i}} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ p_{1,n} & \cdots & \widehat{p_{m,n}} & \cdots & p_{n,n} \end{pmatrix}.$$

This is $A_m - \lambda_i I_{n-1}$. Notice that P is orthogonal. Let $P_{m,i}$ be the matrix obtained by deleting the m -th row and i -th column. Then $\det P_{m,i}^2 = p_{m,i}^2$ where $p_{m,i}$ is the (m, i) -th entry of P . Taking the determinant, we have

$$\det(A_m - \lambda_i I_{n-1}) = p_{m,i}^2 \prod_{j \neq i} (\lambda_j - \lambda_i).$$

It follows that

$$p_{m,i}^2 = \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{n-1} (\lambda_j(A_m) - \lambda_i)}{\prod_{j \neq i} (\lambda_j - \lambda_i)}.$$

Q.E.D.

Corollary 1 *Let A and B be two $n \times n$ real symmetric matrices. Suppose that $\text{eigen}(A) = \text{eigen}(B)$ and $\text{eigen}(A_i) = \text{eigen}(B_i)$. Let λ_i be a simple eigenvalue of A and B . Let*

$\mathbf{p}_i = (p_{1,i}, p_{2,i}, \dots, p_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$ and $\mathbf{q}_i = (q_{1,i}, q_{2,i}, \dots, q_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$. Then

$$p_{j,i}^2 = q_{j,i}^2 \quad \forall j \in [1, n].$$

Corollary 2 (Godsil-McKay, see Theorem 3.2, [GM]) *Let A and B be two $n \times n$ real symmetric matrices. Suppose that A and B are hypomorphic. Let λ_i be a simple eigenvalue of A and B . Let $\mathbf{p}_i = (p_{1,i}, p_{2,i}, \dots, p_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$ and $\mathbf{q}_i = (q_{1,i}, q_{2,i}, \dots, q_{n,i})^t$ be a unit vector in $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$. Then*

$$p_{j,i}^2 = q_{j,i}^2 \quad \forall j \in [1, n].$$

3 Eigenvalues and Eigenvectors under the perturbation of a rank one symmetric matrix

Let A be a $n \times n$ real symmetric matrix. Let x be a n -dimensional row column vector. Let $M = xx^t$. Now consider $A + tM$. We have

$$A + tM = PDP^t + tM = P(D + tP^tMP)P^t = P(D + tP^txx^tP)P^t.$$

Let $P^tx = q$. So $q_i = (\mathbf{p}_i, x)$ for each $i \in [1, n]$. Then

$$A + tM = P(D + tqqt)P^t.$$

Put $D(t) = D + tqqt$.

Lemma 1 $\det(D + tqqt - \lambda I) = \det(A - \lambda I)(1 + \sum_i \frac{tq_i^2}{\lambda_i - \lambda})$.

Proof: $\det(D - \lambda I + tqqt)$ can be written as a sum of products of $\lambda_i - \lambda$ and $q_i q_j$. For each S a subset of $[1, n]$, combine the terms containing only $\prod_{i \in S} (\lambda_i - \lambda)$. Since the rank of qq^t is one, only for $|S| = n, n - 1$, the coefficients may be nonzero. We obtain

$$\det(D + tqqt - \lambda I) = \prod_{i=1}^n (\lambda_i - \lambda) + \sum_{i=1}^n tq_i^2 \prod_{j \neq i} (\lambda_i - \lambda).$$

The Lemma follows. \square

Put $P_t(\lambda) = 1 + \sum_i \frac{tq_i^2}{\lambda_i - \lambda}$.

Lemma 2 *Fix $t < 0$. Suppose that $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n$ are distinct and $q_i \neq 0$ for every i . Then $P_t(\lambda)$ has exactly n roots $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_n)$ satisfying an interlacing relation:*

$$\lambda_1 > \mu_1 > \lambda_2 > \mu_2 > \dots > \mu_{n-1} > \lambda_n > \mu_n.$$

Proof: Clearly, $\frac{dP_t(\lambda)}{d\lambda} = \sum_i \frac{tq_i^2}{(\lambda_i - \lambda)^2} < 0$. So $P_t(\lambda)$ is always decreasing. On the interval $(-\infty, \lambda_n)$, $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow -\infty} P_t(\lambda) = 1$ and $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_n^-} P_t(\lambda) = -\infty$. So $P_t(\lambda)$ has a unique root $\mu_n \in (-\infty, \lambda_n)$. Similar statement holds for each $(\lambda_{i-1}, \lambda_i)$. On (λ_1, ∞) , $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} P_t(\lambda) = 1$ and $\lim_{\lambda \rightarrow \lambda_1^+} P_t(\lambda) = \infty$. So $P_t(\lambda)$ does not have any roots in (λ_1, ∞) . Q.E.D.

Theorem 3 Fix $t < 0$ and $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$. Let $M = xx^t$. Let l be the number of distinct eigenvalues satisfying $(x, \text{eigen}_\lambda(A)) \neq 0$. Choose an orthonormal basis of each eigenspace of A so that one of the eigenvectors is a multiple of the orthogonal projection of x onto the eigenspace if this projection is nonzero. Denote this basis by $\{\mathbf{p}_i\}$ and let $P = (\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n)$. Let

$$S = \{i_1 > i_2 > \dots > i_l\}$$

such that $(x, \mathbf{p}_i) \neq 0$ for every $i \in S$ and $(x, \mathbf{p}_i) = 0$ for every $i \notin S$. Then there exists (μ_1, \dots, μ_l) such that

$$\lambda_{i_1} > \mu_1 > \lambda_{i_2} > \mu_2 > \dots > \lambda_{i_l} > \mu_l$$

and

$$\text{eigen}(A + tM) = \{\lambda_i(A) \mid i \notin S\} \cup \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_l\}.$$

Furthermore, $\text{eigen}_{\mu_j}(A + tM)$ contains

$$\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j}.$$

Here the index set $\{i_1, i_2, \dots, i_l\}$ may not be unique. I shall also point out a similar statement holds for $t > 0$ with

$$\mu_1 > \lambda_{i_1} > \mu_2 > \lambda_{i_2} > \dots > \mu_l > \lambda_{i_l}.$$

Proof: Recall that $q_i = (\mathbf{p}_i, x)$. Since $(x, \text{eigen}_{\lambda_{i_j}}(A)) \neq 0$, $q_{i_j} \neq 0$. For $i \notin S$, $q_i = 0$. Notice

$$P_t(\lambda) = 1 + \sum_{j=1}^l \frac{tq_{i_j}^2}{\lambda_{i_j} - \lambda}.$$

Applying Lemma 2 to S , we obtain the roots of $P_t(\lambda)$, $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_l\}$, satisfying

$$\lambda_{i_1} > \mu_1 > \lambda_{i_2} > \mu_2 > \dots > \lambda_{i_l} > \mu_l.$$

It follows that the roots of $\det(A + tM - \lambda I) = P_t(\lambda) \prod_{i=1}^n (\lambda_i - \lambda)$ can be obtained from $\text{eigen}(A)$ by changing $\{\lambda_{i_1} > \lambda_{i_2} > \dots > \lambda_{i_l}\}$ to $\{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_l\}$. Therefore,

$$\text{eigen}(A + tM) = \{\lambda_i(A) \mid i \notin S\} \cup \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots, \mu_l\}.$$

Fix a μ_j . Let $\{\mathbf{e}_i\}$ be the standard basis for \mathbb{R}^n . Notice that

$$\begin{aligned}
& (A + tM) \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i \\
&= P(D + tqqt^t)P^t \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i \\
&= P(D + tqqt^t) \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{e}_i \\
&= P \left(\sum_{i \in S} \frac{\lambda_i q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{e}_i + t \begin{pmatrix} q_1 \\ \vdots \\ q_n \end{pmatrix} \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i^2}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \right) \\
&= P \left(\sum_{i \in S} \frac{\lambda_i q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{e}_i - \sum_{i \in S} q_i \mathbf{e}_i \right) \\
&= P \sum_{i \in S} \frac{\mu_j q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{e}_i \\
&= \mu_j \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Notice that here we use the fact that $P_t(\mu_j) = \sum_{i \in S} \frac{tq_i^2}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} + 1 = 0$. We have obtained that $(A + tM) \sum_{\lambda_i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i = \mu_j \sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i$. Therefore,

$$\sum_{i \in S} \frac{q_i}{\lambda_i - \mu_j} \mathbf{p}_i \in \text{eigen}_{\mu_j}(A + tM).$$

Q.E.D.

4 Reconstruction of Simple Eigenvectors not perpendicular to $\mathbf{1}$

Now let $M = \mathbf{J} = \mathbf{1}\mathbf{1}^t$. Theorem 3 applies to $A + t\mathbf{J}$ and $B + t\mathbf{J}$.

Theorem 4 (Godsil-McKay, [GM]) *Let B and A be two real $n \times n$ symmetric matrices. Let Σ be a hypomorphism such that $B = \Sigma(A)$. Let $S \subseteq [1, n]$, $A = PDP^t$ and $B = UDU^t$ be as in Theorem 3. For $i \in S$, we have $\mathbf{p}_i = \mathbf{u}_i$ or $\mathbf{p}_i = -\mathbf{u}_i$. In particular, if λ_i is a simple eigenvalue of A and $(\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A), \mathbf{1}) \neq 0$, then $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A) = \text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$.*

Proof: • By Tutte's theorem, $\text{eigen}(A) = \text{eigen}(B)$. Let $A = PDP^t$ and $B = UDU^t$. Since $\det(A + t\mathbf{J} - \lambda I) = \det(B + t\mathbf{J} - \lambda I)$, by Lemma 1,

$$\det(A - \lambda I) \left(1 + \sum_i \frac{t(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{p}_i)^2}{\lambda_i - \lambda} \right) = \det(B - \lambda I) \left(1 + \sum_i \frac{t(\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{u}_i)^2}{\lambda_i - \lambda} \right).$$

It follows that for every λ_i , $\sum_{\lambda_j=\lambda_i} (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{p}_j)^2 = \sum_{\lambda_j=\lambda_i} (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{u}_j)^2$. Consequently, the l for A is the same as the l for B . Let S be as in Theorem 3 for both A and B . Without loss of generality, suppose that $A = PDP^t$ and $B = UDU^t$ as in Theorem 3. In particular, for every $i \in [1, n]$, we have

$$(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})^2 = (\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})^2. \quad (2)$$

• Let T be as in the proof of Theorem 1 in [HE1] for A and B . Without loss of generality, suppose $T = (t_1, t_2) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^-$. Let $t \in T$ and let $\mu_l(t)$ be the μ_l in Theorem 3 for A and B . Notice that the lowest eigenvectors of $A + t\mathbf{J}$ and $B + t\mathbf{J}$ are in \mathbb{R}^{+n} (see Lemma 1, Theorem 7 and Proof of Theorem 2 in [HE1]). So they are not perpendicular to $\mathbf{1}$. By Theorem 3, $\mu_l(t) = \lambda_n(A + t\mathbf{J}) = \lambda_n(B + t\mathbf{J})$. By Theorem 1,

$$\text{eigen}_{\mu_l(t)}(A + t\mathbf{J}) = \text{eigen}_{\mu_l(t)}(B + t\mathbf{J}) \cong \mathbb{R}.$$

So $\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)}$ is parallel to $\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)}$. Since $\{\mathbf{p}_i\}$ and $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ are orthonormal, by Equation 2,

$$\left\| \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)} \right\|^2 = \left\| \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)} \right\|^2.$$

It follows that for every $t \in T$,

$$\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)} = \pm \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)}.$$

• Recall that $-\frac{1}{t} = \sum_i \frac{q_i^2}{\lambda_i - \mu_l(t)}$. Notice that the function $\rho \rightarrow \sum_i \frac{q_i^2}{\lambda_i - \rho}$ is a continuous and one-to-one mapping from $(-\infty, \lambda_n)$ onto $(0, \infty)$. There exists a nonempty interval $T_0 \subseteq (-\infty, \lambda_n)$ such that if $\rho \in T_0$, then $\sum_i \frac{q_i^2}{\lambda_i - \rho} \in (-\frac{1}{t_1}, -\frac{1}{t_2})$. So every $\rho \in T_0$ is a $\mu_l(t)$ for some $t \in (t_1, t_2)$. It follow that for every $\rho \in T_0$,

$$\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho} = \pm \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho}.$$

Notice that both vectors are nonzero and depend continuously on ρ . Either,

$$\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho} = \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho} \quad \forall (\rho \in T_0);$$

or,

$$\sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{p}_i \frac{(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho} = - \sum_{i \in S} \mathbf{u}_i \frac{(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})}{\lambda_i - \rho} \quad \forall (\rho \in T_0);$$

• Notice that the functions $\{\rho \rightarrow \frac{1}{\lambda_{i_j} - \rho}\}_{i_j \in S}$ are linearly independent. For every $i \in S$, we have

$$\mathbf{p}_i(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1}) = \pm \mathbf{u}_i(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1}).$$

Because \mathbf{p}_i and \mathbf{u}_i are both unit vectors, $\mathbf{p}_i = \pm \mathbf{u}_i$. In particular, for every simple λ_i with $(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1}) \neq 0$ we have $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A) = \text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$. Q.E.D.

Corollary 3 *Let B and A be two real $n \times n$ symmetric matrices. Suppose that $B = \Sigma(A)$ for a hypomorphism Σ . Let λ_i be an eigenvalue of A such that $(\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A), \mathbf{1}) \neq 0$. Then the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{1}$ onto $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$ equals the orthogonal projection of $\mathbf{1}$ onto $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$.*

Proof: Notice that the projections are $\mathbf{p}_i(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1})$ and $\mathbf{u}_i(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1})$. Whether $\mathbf{p}_i = \mathbf{u}_i$ or $\mathbf{p}_i = -\mathbf{u}_i$, we always have

$$\mathbf{p}_i(\mathbf{p}_i, \mathbf{1}) = \mathbf{u}_i(\mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{1}).$$

Q.E.D.

Conjecture 2 *Let A and B be two hypomorphic matrices. Let λ_i be a simple eigenvalue of A . Then there exists a permutation matrix τ such that $\tau \text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A) = \text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(B)$.*

This conjecture is apparently true if $\text{eigen}_{\lambda_i}(A)$ is not perpendicular to $\mathbf{1}$.

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