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Commentationes Mathematicae Universitatis Carolinae, Vol. 6 (1965), No. 3, 387--392

Persistent URL: <http://dml.cz/dmlcz/105028>

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DETERMINATION OF EIGENVALUES AND EIGENFUNCTIONS OF BOUNDED
SELF-ADJOINT OPERATORS

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(Preliminary communication)

1. The problem of determining the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of self-adjoint bounded operators has been developed by many authors. L.V. Kantorovič [1] used the method of steepest descent to determine the largest eigenvalue, and the corresponding eigenfunction, of completely continuous self-adjoint positive definite operators in Hilbert space. Later M.A. Krasnoselskij [2] suggested ten methods for calculation of eigenvalues in n -dimensional spaces, but without proofs. These and Kostarčuk's [3] methods are simpler in comparison with [1]. The fifth method from [2] was investigated by B.P. Pugačev [4] under the assumption that the linear bounded operator is self-adjoint and positive definite. Wang Jin-ru [5] improved the fourth method from [2] and performed a comparison of some these gradient methods. Another method was proposed by W. Karush [6].

In this note we shall deal with two methods which were described in [7],[8]. We assume throughout that H is a real Hilbert space. The basic idea of these methods is the following. Let us consider the equation

$$(1) \quad Ax - \lambda x = 0,$$

where A is linear bounded operator in H , λ is a real parameter. Suppose that A is a positive self-adjoint operator in H (A is said to be positive if $(Ax, x) > 0$ for every $x \in H$, $x \neq 0$). We solve (1) by an iterative process

$$(2) \quad x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{n+1}} Ax_n,$$

where the parameters λ_n ($n = 1, 2, \dots$) are to be determined from the condition that the functional $\|Ax - \tau x\|^2$ for the given element $x = x_n \in H$ is to assume its minimum on the set \mathcal{R} ($\tau \in \mathcal{R}$) of all real numbers. Let us denote that value τ (dependent on n) by λ_{n+1} . Then we obtain that

$$(3) \quad \lambda_{n+1} = \frac{(Ax_n, x_n)}{\|x_n\|^2}$$

and

$$(4) \quad x_{n+1} = \frac{\|x_n\|^2}{(Ax_n, x_n)} Ax_n, \quad x_0 \neq 0, \quad x_0 \in H \quad (n = 0, 1, 2, \dots).$$

The second method was proposed by I.A. Birger [9] but without any assumptions or convergence proofs. His method is as follows: Let

$$(5) \quad y_{n+1} = (\mu_{n+1} Ay_n, \quad \mu_{n+1} = \frac{(Ay_n, y_n)}{\|Ay_n\|^2}, \quad y_0 \neq 0, \quad y_0 \in H.$$

Theorem 1 ([7],[8]). Let A be a non-negative [$(Ax, x) \geq 0$ for every $x \in H$] completely continuous self-adjoint operator in H , let N be the null set of A and let $x_0 \in H \ominus N$, $y_0 \in H \ominus N$ be not orthogonal to the eigenspace $H_{\lambda_1^*}$ corresponding to the first eigenvalue λ_1^*

of A . Then $\{\lambda_n\}$ is monotone increasing and converges to λ_1^* . The sequence $\{\mu_n\}$ is monotone decreasing and converges to $(\lambda_1^*)^{-1}$. Both sequences $\{x_n\}$, $\{y_n\}$ converge in $H \otimes N$ to one of the eigenfunctions corresponding to λ_1^* .

These methods were generalized by I. Marek [10] for linear bounded operators in Banach space, which have a dominant eigenvalue. Simultaneously with [1], the method (5) was investigated by H.F. Bückner [11]. The purpose of this note is to show that the sequences $\{\lambda_n\}$, $\{\mu_n\}$ also converge in the case when the greatest point of the spectrum $\sigma(A)$ of A is not an eigenvalue of A , to remove the condition that λ_1^* be an isolated point of $\sigma(A)$ and to give some estimates. The proofs are omitted and will be published later, together with further theorems.

2. Suppose that A is linear self-adjoint positive operator in H . Let $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ be the greatest element and m the smallest element of the spectrum $\sigma(A)$. The spectrum $\sigma(A)$ lies in the segment $\langle m, \tilde{\lambda}_1 \rangle$; where $m = \inf_{\|x\|=1} (Ax, x)$, $\tilde{\lambda}_1 = \sup_{\|x\|=1} (Ax, x)$, $m \geq 0$. (The class of self-adjoint positive definite operators ($m > 0$) is included in the class considered here.) Let $\{E_\lambda\}$ be the spectral family of A .

Theorem 2. Let A be a self-adjoint positive operator in H . Suppose $E_\lambda x_0 \neq x_0$ for $\lambda < \tilde{\lambda}_1$, (or that $E_\lambda y_0 \neq y_0$ for $\lambda < \tilde{\lambda}_1$,). Then $\{\lambda_n\}$ is monotone increasing and converges to $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ (and $\{\mu_n\}$ is monotone decreasing and converges to $\tilde{\lambda}_1^{-1}$).

Theorem 3. Under the assumptions of Theorem 2 let $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ not be an eigenvalue of A . Then both $\{x_n\}, \{y_n\}$ converge to \emptyset weakly in H .

Theorem 4. Let A be a positive self-adjoint operator in H and suppose that $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ (not necessarily an isolated point of $\sigma(A)$) is an eigenvalue of A , $H_{\tilde{\lambda}_1}$ is the eigenspace corresponding to $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ and that the projection of x_0 ($x_0 \in H$) on $H_{\tilde{\lambda}_1}$ is $\xi_1^{(0)} e_1$, where $e_1 \in H_{\tilde{\lambda}_1}$, $\|e_1\| = 1$, $\xi_1^{(0)} > 0$. Then

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k - N e_1\| = 0, \text{ where } N = \sup_{k=1,2,\dots} \|x_k\| < +\infty.$$

$$\text{Now set } \cos(x,y) = \frac{(x,y)}{\|x\| \|y\|}, \quad \sin(x,y) = \sqrt{1 - \cos^2(x,y)}.$$

Then the following theorem holds.

Theorem 5. Let A be a positive self-adjoint operator in H , $E_\lambda x_0 \neq x_0$ for $\lambda < \tilde{\lambda}_1$, and suppose $\tilde{\lambda}_1$ is an isolated point of $\sigma(A)$. Then there exists a real q , $0 < q < 1$ such that for n_0 sufficiently large,

$$\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \frac{(Ax_{n_0+p}, x_{n_0+p})}{\|x_{n_0+p}\|^2} \leq q^{2p} \left(\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \frac{(Ax_{n_0}, x_{n_0})}{\|x_{n_0}\|^2} \right),$$

$$\|x_{n_0+p} - e_1\| \|x_{n_0+p}\| \leq \sqrt{2} q^p [\|x_{n_0+p}\| (\|x_{n_0}\| - (x_{n_0}, e_1))]^{1/2}$$

$$\sin(x_{n_0+p}, e_1) \leq \frac{q^p}{(\tilde{\lambda}_1 - M)^{1/2}} (\tilde{\lambda}_1 - \lambda_{n_0+1})^{1/2},$$

where $m \leq \lambda \leq M < \tilde{\lambda}_1$, ($p = 1, 2, \dots$).

Theorem similar to theorems 4, 5 also hold for second method (5). The methods (4), (5) seem to be very simple and convenient for computation. They can also be used for finding the extreme values $m, \tilde{\lambda}_1$ of the spectrum $\sigma(A)$.

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(Received September 6, 1965)