



APPLICATIONS: STRETCHING OF AN ELASTIC MEMBRANE



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



Elastic deformation is when objects that can change due to stretching, twisting, compression and bending, but once released, they return to their original shape. But, inelastic deformation is when an object can be stretched but cannot return back to its original shape.



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



An elastic membrane in the x_1x_2 plane with boundary circle $x_1^2 + x_2^2 = 1$ is stretched so that a point P:

(x_1, x_2) goes over into the point Q: (y_1, y_2) given by

$$Y = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix} = AX = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \\ 3 & 5 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ in components}$$

$$y_1 = 5x_1 + 3x_2$$

$$y_2 = 3x_1 + 5x_2$$

Find the principal directions, that is, the directions of the position vector x of P for which the direction of the position vector y of Q is the same or exactly opposite. What shape does the boundary circle take under this deformation?



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



We know that $Y=AX$

NOW $Y= \lambda X$

Comparing $AX= \lambda X$

$$(A- \lambda I)X=0$$

The characteristics equation is given by $\lambda^2 - S_1\lambda+S_2 = 0$

Here, $S_1=10, S_2 = 16$

\therefore The characteristic equation is $\lambda^2 - 10\lambda+16= 0$

$$\therefore \lambda=2,8$$

To find Eigen Vectors:

$$(A-\lambda I)X = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 5 - \lambda & 3 \\ 3 & 5 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



When $\lambda = 2$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \text{ ----- (1)}$$

$$3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \text{ ----- (2)}$$

Since both are same equations,

The equation is reduced to a single equation

$$3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$$

$$X_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



When $\lambda = 8$,

$$\begin{bmatrix} -3 & 3 \\ 3 & -3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

$$-3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0 \quad \text{----- (1)}$$

$$3x_1 - 3x_2 = 0 \quad \text{----- (2)}$$

Since both are same equations,

The equation is reduced to a single equation

$$-3x_1 + 3x_2 = 0$$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



To find the principal direction:

If $\lambda = 8$,

$$\text{Then i) } \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1^2+1^2}} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right] = 45^\circ$$

$$\text{ii) } \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1^2+1^2}} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right] = 45^\circ$$

If $\lambda = 2$,

$$\text{i) } \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{1^2+(-1)^2}} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \right] = 45^\circ$$

$$\text{ii) } \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{-1}{\sqrt{1^2+(-1)^2}} \right] = \cos^{-1} \left[\frac{-1}{\sqrt{2}} \right] = 135^\circ$$



ELASTIC DEFORMATION



We thus obtain as eigenvectors of A , for instance, $[1 \ -1]^T$ corresponding to λ_1 and $[1 \ 1]^T$ corresponding to λ_2 (or a nonzero scalar multiple of the se). These vectors make 45° and 135° angles with the positive x_1 -direction. They give the principal directions, the answer to our problem. The eigenvalues show that in the principal directions the membrane is stretched by factors 8 and 2, respectively.

if we set, $x = r \cos\theta, y = r \sin\theta$ then a boundary point of the unstretched circular membrane has coordinates $\cos\theta, \sin\theta$.

Hence, after the stretch we have

$$x = 8 \cos\theta, y = 2 \sin\theta$$

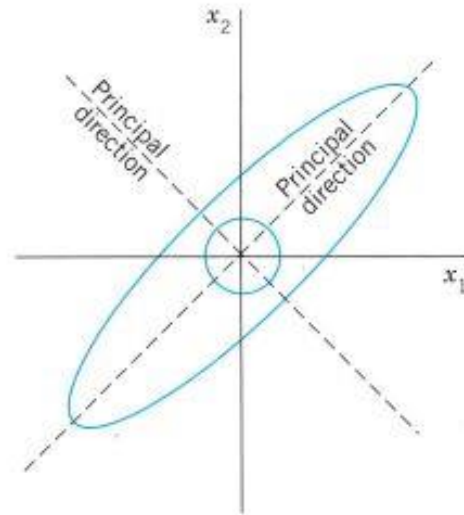


ELASTIC DEFORMATION



Since $\sin^2\theta + \cos^2\theta=1$,

$$\frac{x^2}{8^2} + \frac{y^2}{2^2} = 1$$



This shows that the deformed boundary is an ellipse.