

Last time: ORTHOGONAL MATRICES

$$A \in M_n(\mathbb{R}) \text{ with } \underline{\underline{A^{-1} = A^T}}.$$

Facts: If  $A$  is orthogonal, then: •  $A^T A = A A^T = I_n$ .

- Rows and columns of  $A$  are orthonormal bases of  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- $\|Ax\| = \|x\|$  and  $Ax \cdot Ay = x \cdot y$  for all  $x, y$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$   
(ie  $A$  preserves lengths of vectors (hence distances/angles))

## ORTHOGONAL DIAGONALIZATION

– Making process of diagonalization simpler

If  $A = PDP^{-1}$  with  $D$  diagonal,

then  $D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$  for  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$  eigenvalues of  $A$

and  $P = (\overset{|}{v}_1 \dots \overset{|}{v}_n)$  has columns the corresponding eigenvectors of  $A$

since (rearranging)  $AP = PD$  (so  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$  for each  $i$ )

Let's start with real matrices.

Def<sup>n</sup> We say that  $A$  (real matrix) is orthogonally diagonalizable if  $A = PDP^{-1}$  for  $D$  (real) diagonal &  $P$  orthogonal (i.e.  $P^{-1} = P^T$  so  $A = PDP^T$ ).

So what the reasoning above tells us is

Theorem  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $A$  is orthogonally diagonalizable exactly when  $A$  has an orthonormal set of  $n$  eigenvectors.

When does this happen?

Where can we hope to find  $A$  with an orthogonal diagonalization?

First suppose  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  has an orthogonal diag.

Then  $A = PDP^T$  for  $P$  orthogonal,  $D$  diagonal.

What is  $A^T = (PDP^T)^T = (P^T)^T D^T P^T = PD^T P^T = PDP^T = A$

i.e.  $A$  symmetric. In fact:

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## Theorem (Spectral Theorem for Symmetric Matrices)

$A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  is orthogonally diagonalizable exactly when  $A$  is symmetric

Goal: Find a procedure for finding an orthogonal diagonalization of a symmetric matrix  $A$ .

To do this we'll need:

Theorem If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  is symmetric, then

(i) the eigenvalues of  $A$  are all real numbers;

(ii) eigenvectors from different eigenspaces (i.e. eigenvectors corresponding to different eigenvalues) are orthogonal to one another.

[Proof] To prove this we need to enter the world of complex matrices/vectors:

Recall:  $A = [a_{ij}]_{i,j}$  then  $\bar{A} = [\bar{a}_{ij}]_{i,j}$

(This will play a big role later !!)

You should verify that  $\overline{(AB)} = \bar{A} \bar{B}$

the conjugate transpose of  $A \rightarrow A^T = \bar{A}^T$

↑  
The  
conjugate  
of  $A$

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$$\text{In } \mathbb{R}^n \quad x \cdot y = x^T y \quad . \quad \text{In } \mathbb{C}^n \quad x \cdot y = x^T \bar{y} .$$


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Here comes the proof:

(i) Let  $\lambda$  be an eigenvalue of  $A$ . We'll prove  $\lambda = \bar{\lambda}$ .

We know  $Av = \lambda v$  for some  $v \in \mathbb{C}^n$ .

We'll solve for  $\lambda$  by multiplying the equation by  $\bar{v}^T$ .  
 $\hookrightarrow$  taking dot product with  $v$

$$\bar{v}^T Av = \bar{v}^T \lambda v$$

$$= \lambda (\bar{v}^T v)$$

$$= \lambda (v \cdot v) = \lambda \|v\|^2 \quad \text{So } \lambda = \frac{\bar{v}^T Av}{\|v\|^2}$$

So now, enough to show  $\bar{v}^T Av$  is real.  $\xrightarrow{\text{real}}$   
 i.e.  $\overline{(\bar{v}^T Av)} = \bar{v}^T Av$ .

$$\overline{(\bar{v}^T Av)} = \overline{\bar{v}^T} \overline{A} \bar{v} = v^T A \bar{v} \quad (\text{as } A \text{ real})$$

$$= (\bar{v}^T A^T v)^T \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \text{just a number, so equal to its own transpose}$$

$$= \bar{v}^T A v \quad \text{as } A \text{ symmetric.}$$

(ii) Take  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  eigenvectors of distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \neq \lambda_2$  (i.e.  $Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$ ,  $i=1,2$ )

We want to show  $v_1$  &  $v_2$  orthogonal i.e.  $v_1 \cdot v_2 = 0$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 (Av_1) \cdot v_2 &= (Av_1)^T v_2 = v_1^T A^T v_2 = v_1^T A v_2 \\
 &= v_1 \cdot (\lambda_2 v_2) = \lambda_2 (v_1 \cdot v_2) \\
 (\lambda_1 v_1) \cdot v_2 &= \lambda_1 (v_1 \cdot v_2) \\
 \text{So } (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)(v_1 \cdot v_2) &= 0 \\
 \neq 0 & \quad \text{So } v_1 \cdot v_2 = 0. //
 \end{aligned}$$

Recap: How to diagonalize a matrix  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$ ?

1. Find eigenvalues of  $A$  (solve characteristic eq.)  
 $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$
2. Find eigenvectors corresponding to eigenvalues  $v_1, \dots, v_m$

Q: Are there  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors?

If yes, then

3.  $A = PDP^{-1}$  where  $P = \begin{pmatrix} | & & | \\ v_1 & \dots & v_n \\ | & & | \end{pmatrix}$  and  
 $D = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$  for  $\lambda_i$  eigenvalue corresponding to  $v_i$

So our procedure for finding an orthogonal diagonalization of a symmetric matrix  $A$  is as follows:

Step 1 Find the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

Step 2 Find a basis of eigenvectors for each eigenspace.

[So far this is exactly the same procedure as diagonalization. Here, since  $A$  symmetric ( $n \times n$  say) by Theorem, we definitely will get  $n$  linearly independent eigenvectors. The issue is, we need to "orthonormalize" them i.e. find an orthonormal set of  $n$  eigenvectors.]

Step 3 For each eigenspace/eigenvalue use Gram-Schmidt Process to find an orthonormal basis for each eigenspace in turn.

[By the above theorem, this is enough. Within eigenspaces, the basis vectors are orthogonal by Gram-Schmidt, and basis vectors from distinct eigenspaces are orthogonal by the theorem.]

Step 4 Form  $P$  with columns the vectors found from Step 3. [  $P$  is orthogonal &  $A = PDP^{-1}$  with eigenvalues of  $A$  on the diagonal of  $D$ . ]

Example Find an orthogonal diagonalization of

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \leftarrow A \text{ symmetric.}$$

Solution (skeleton)

Step 1 Find eigenvalues i.e. solve  $\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$

$$\text{i.e. } 0 = \det \begin{pmatrix} -\lambda & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -\lambda & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & -\lambda \end{pmatrix} = \dots = -(\lambda+1)^2(\lambda-2)$$

So eigenvalues are  $\lambda = -1, 2$

Step 2 Find eigenvectors for each eigenvalue.

i.e. solve system  $(A - \lambda I)v = 0$  for each  $\lambda$ .

$$\lambda = -1$$

i.e. solve  $(A + I)v = 0$

Augmented matrix

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[\text{red.}]{\text{row}} \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

So  $v_1 + v_2 + v_3 = 0$ . If  $v_2 = s$   
 $v_3 = t$

then eigenvectors have form  $\begin{pmatrix} -s-t \\ s \\ t \end{pmatrix}$   
 $= s \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} + t \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

So  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for the eigenspace of  $\lambda = -1$

$$\lambda = 2$$

i.e. solve  $(A - 2I)v = 0$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} -2 & 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & -2 & 0 \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow[\text{red.}]{\text{row}}$$

$$\left[ \begin{array}{ccc|c} 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{array} \right]$$

So  $v_1 = v_2 = v_3$ ; so if  $v_3 = s$

then eigenvectors have the form  $\begin{pmatrix} s \\ s \\ s \end{pmatrix} = s \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

So  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  is a basis for the eigenspace of  $\lambda = 2$ .

Step 3 "Orthonormalize" the basis for each eigenspace.

Run Gram-Schmidt on  
 $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\} \dots$

get  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3} \\ -1/\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3} \\ \sqrt{2}/\sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$

Run Gram-Schmidt on  
 $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \right\}$  i.e. normalize  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

get  $\left\{ \begin{pmatrix} 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$ .

Notice (or check!) that all 3 vectors are orthogonal

Step 4  $P = \begin{pmatrix} -1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 1/\sqrt{2} & -1/\sqrt{2}\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} \\ 0 & \sqrt{2}/\sqrt{3} & 1/\sqrt{3} \end{pmatrix}$ . Then  $P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$ .

Notice When an eigenspace is spanned by a single vector  
 Step 3 ("run Gram-Schmidt") is really easy—  
 just normalize the basis vector.

In particular, this will happen for every eigenspace  
 if  $A$  (symmetric) has  $n$  distinct eigenvalues.  
 $n \times n$



## Analogue (of orthogonal matrices) for Complex matrices

If  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{R})$  then  $A$  orthogonal i.e.  $A^{-1} = A^T$  has orthonormal columns & rows because of how the real dot product is defined.

(For columns  $v_1, \dots, v_n$ , say,  $\|v_i\| = 1$ ,  $v_i \cdot v_j = 0$ ,  $i \neq j$ .)

But in  $\mathbb{C}^n$ ,  $x \cdot y = x_1 \bar{y}_1 + \dots + x_n \bar{y}_n$  so the analogue to orthogonal matrix is

Def<sup>n</sup>  $A$  in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is unitary if  $A^{-1} = \overline{A}^T =: \underbrace{A^*}_{\text{conjugate transpose of } A}$

Theorem If  $A, B$  unitary then (i)  $A^*$  (ii)  $A^{-1}$  (iii)  $AB$  are all unitary.

(iv)  $\|\det(A)\| = 1$ .

Theorem For  $A$  in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  the following equivalent

- (1)  $A$  unitary
- (2) rows of  $A$  form an orthonormal basis of  $\mathbb{C}^n$  (wrt complex dot product)
- (3) columns of  $A$  " " " " " " " " " " " "
- (4)  $\|Ax\| = \|x\|$  for any  $x$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$
- (5)  $Ax \cdot Ay = x \cdot y$  for any  $x, y$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  (complex dot product)

Theorem  $[I]_{B', B} \leftarrow$  Any transition matrix between orthonormal bases  $B, B'$  of a complex <sup>inner product</sup> vector space is unitary.

We also have here the concept of unitary diagonalization.

Def<sup>n</sup>  $A$  in  $M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is said to unitary diagonalizable if  $A = PDP^{-1}$  where  $D$  diagonal &  $P$  is unitary ( $P^{-1} = \overline{P}^T = P^*$  so  $A = PDP^*$ ).

As in the orthogonal case, by the theorem above:

Theorem  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  has a unitary diagonalization exactly when  $A$  has orthonormal eigenvectors.

When do we have unitary diagonalization?

Just as in real case let's look at what  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  has to look like if  $A$  has a unitary diagonalization:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A &= PDP^{-1} & \text{So } \overline{P}^T &= P^* \\
 A^* &= \overline{A}^T = \overline{(PDP^{-1})}^T = (\overline{P} \overline{D} \overline{P}^{-1})^T & \swarrow & \overline{P}^T = P^* \\
 &= P \overline{D} \overline{P}^T & & \text{(as } \overline{D} = \overline{D}^T \text{)} \\
 &= P \overline{D} P^* = P \overline{D} P^{-1} & & \uparrow \text{diagonal}
 \end{aligned}$$

If all eigenvalues of  $A$  are real,  $D = \overline{D}$  and

then we know  $A = A^* = \overline{A}^T$ .

Important Definition :  $A \in M_n(\mathbb{C})$  is called Hermitian if  $A = A^*$ .

Aside on  
Def<sup>n</sup>s

Real  
A orthogonal:  $A^{-1} = A^T$

A symmetric:  $A = A^T$

Complex

A unitary  $A^{-1} = A^* = \overline{A}^T$

A Hermitian  $A = A^*$

→ Almost analogue of symmetric. Why "almost"?

Theorem If  $A$  is unitary diagonalizable, then  $A$  is Hermitian if all eigenvalues are real

(By argument above.)

But we do have:

Theorem If  $A$  is Hermitian, then  $A$  is unitary diagonalizable.

Observation about identifying Hermitian matrices:

$A = \overline{A}^T$  so "mirrored" entries are conjugate to one another and in particular diagonal entries are real.

e.g.  $A = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 2-i \\ 2+i & 5 \end{pmatrix}$

Go back argument above. Suppose  $A$  is unitary diagonalizable. We showed (from  $A = PDP^*$ ) that

$$A^* = P\bar{D}P^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now compute } AA^* &= (PDP^*)(P\bar{D}P^*) \\ &= (PDP^{-1})(P\bar{D}P^{-1}) \\ &= PD\bar{D}P^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } D\bar{D} = \begin{pmatrix} |\lambda_1|^2 & & 0 \\ & \ddots & \\ 0 & & |\lambda_n|^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Now compute } A^*A &= (P\bar{D}P^*)(PDP^*) \\ &= (P\bar{D}P^{-1})(PDP^{-1}) \\ &= P\bar{D}DP^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

but  $\bar{D}D = D\bar{D}$  so we get  $AA^* = A^*A$ .

Def<sup>n</sup> Matrices  $A$  with  $AA^* = A^*A$  are called normal.

In fact:

Theorem  $A$  is unitary diagonalizable exactly when  $A$  is normal.

Procedure for finding a unitary diagonalization of a Hermitian matrix is same as for finding an

orthogonal diagonalization of a symmetric matrix.—

Because of this theorem:

Theorem If  $A$  is Hermitian, then eigenvectors from different eigenspaces are orthogonal (don't forget : with respect to the complex dot product)